



MEDIA RELEASE

OVERVIEW OF COUNCIL MEETING

20 DECEMBER 2017

The last Ordinary Council Meeting for 2017 was held on 20 December 2017, some of the matters discussed are detailed below.

Council approved the engagement of Hydro Electric Commission t/a Entura and t/a Hydro Tasmania as the single source supplier to develop an energy policy and technical design solutions, including assisting with grant funding applications, for power generation on Norfolk Island.

Council approves Global Composting Solutions as the successful tenderer of the composting system for Norfolk Island.

Council approved an increase of data allowances under existing internet plans, for a trial period of three (3) months commencing 1 January 2018.

A 'Buy Local' Campaign was presented to Council, seeking their endorsement of the campaign to assist the local economy. For full details on this campaign, see the Media Release in this week's paper or visit <http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf/your-council/council-documents/media-releases>

Council approved the application for 'Waste Management Solution' including a composting system and metal baler to be submitted under the Infrastructure Projects Stream of the Building Better Regions Fund, this also means allocating \$426,125 from Council's cash reserves from the unrestricted cash fund as co-contribution as required under the guidelines for the application.

A Waste and Environment Status Report was provided, some of the items included were: On 23 November 2017, 6.5 tonnes of electronic waste (e-waste) was sent via a Norfolk Island Airlines freighter to Brisbane for recycling and disposal; Recently some pipework associated with the effluent drop off point was damaged. The pipework was uncovered and replaced; A sewer overflow of a manhole was identified on a property on Fletcher Christian Drive caused by a blockage from tree roots and rubble, water quality samples were taken in two downstream locations and very high e.coli and coliform counts were identified, follow up monitoring will be conducted; The successful application has been identified for the Argentine Ant detector dog handler and plans are currently underway to send the dog handler to New Zealand to undertake training; Treatment of weeds within Public Reserves across the island continues, with a particular focus on Ball Bay, Kingfisher Paddock, Cascade Reserve and roadsides across the island.

The Bookeasy Commission increase to 15% was adopted and will be implemented from 1 April 2018.

A Rates Levy Status Report was provided detailing that annual rates notices to the value of \$1,206,800 were levied on 13 July 2017 and as at the second instalment due date of 30 November a total of \$706,890.47 (59%) has been paid and \$34,237.50 rebated.

Six (6) Reports from Committees were presented:

- Minutes of the Heritage and Culture Advisory Committee held 3 November 2017
- Minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held 7 November 2017
- Minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held 5 December 2017
- Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held 28 November 2017
- Minutes of the Public Reserves Advisory Committee Meeting held 5 December 2017
- Minutes of the Rock Feed Source Advisory Committee Meeting held 7 December 2017

Statewide Mutual have advised Council that they are to receive rebates of \$27,185.95.

The Hindle Enterprise Group contract will be extended for a maximum of three (3) months to continue to conduct economic development facilitation on the Island including, but not limited to, the running of business workshops as identified by key stakeholders, the facilitation of establishment of the medicinal marijuana project, working with the Norfolk Island Central School and the Green Economy Project with the University of Newcastle.

An Investment Report was provided and noted, with the interest accrued on investments during the month of November 2017 being \$22,732 and the total deposits held being \$15,188,298.

A full report on the Water Quality in the KAVHA Catchment was provided, indicating levels of contamination of the fresh water creeks and within the recreational waters of Emily Bay. The highest reading has been found in Officers Bath, and upon investigation of the holding tank for New Military Barracks it was found that the tank was significantly undersized and likely to be the cause for the high contamination levels. Short term management measures have been put in place to manage this source of contamination and quotes have been obtained to replace the system with a suitable system for that location.

Council approved the lease of an area of airport land for Burnt Pine Travel to construct a freight shed.

The results of the Customer Service Survey was provided, unfortunately only 16 submissions were received however some valuable feedback was received.

Two Mayoral Minutes and two Notices of Motions were put forward, further details on these have been included in this week's Mayor's Update.

This media release provides a brief overview of some of the matters that were addressed at the Council meeting. For full details visit Council's website www.norfolkisland.gov.nf to view the meeting Agenda, Minutes or to listen to the recording of the meeting. Hardcopies of the Agenda and Minutes are available to view in hardcopy at Customer Care or the Library.

Council's values: Integrity, communication, accountability, respect and excellence

Lotta Jackson
GENERAL MANAGER

21 December 2017