



MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting 19 July 2017

Menets

*f daa Ordeneri Kaunsl Miiten
orn 19 Julaii 2017*

**MINUTES OF NORFOLK ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE NORFOLK ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON WEDNESDAY 19 JULY 2017 AT 2:00PM**

PRESENT:

Cr Robin Adams (Mayor)
Cr John McCoy (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Rod Buffett (Councillor)
Cr David Porter (Councillor)
Cr Lisle Snell (Councillor)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lotta Jackson (General Manager),
Bruce Taylor (Group Manager Services)
Shane Nankivell (Acting Group Manager Corporate / Chief Financial Officer)
Joy Walker (Executive Manager Governance and HR)

1 WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed Councillors, Officers and the community to the meeting of the Norfolk Island Regional Council and opened the meeting at 2:00pm.

2 STATEMENT OF RESPECT

The Norfolk Island Regional Council promotes a climate of respect for all. We will endeavour to inspire in our community shared civic pride by valuing and protecting our unique culture and environment, both natural and built, for the current and future generations. We, the elected members and staff of the Norfolk Island Regional Council undertake to act with honesty and integrity, to conduct ourselves in a way that engenders trust and confidence in the decisions we make, and the actions we take on behalf of the Norfolk Island community. We acknowledge the Norfolk Island people, the traditional custodians of this Island.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

CONDOLENCES

Cr Adams recorded the passing of:

- Trevor James Smoother
- Frank A.R. Watson
- Toni Dudley Dodd
- Ena Kathryn Charlotte Wood

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Councillors stood in silence.

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

5 PUBLIC ACCESS

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**5.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28 JUNE 2017****RESOLUTION 2017/104**

Moved: Cr Rod Buffett

Seconded: Cr John McCoy

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 June 2017 be noted.

CARRIED

7 MAYORAL MINUTE**RESOLUTION 2017/105**

Moved: Cr Robin Adams

Seconded: Cr Lisle Snell

In acknowledgement that –

- a) The Community Strategic Plan 2016-2026, Strategic direction 02, adopted by Council on 21 September 2016 requires Council to advocate for a Preamble to the Norfolk Island Act;
- b) The Delivery Programme adopted by Council on 19 October 2016 at Strategic Direction 2 – “A proud, diverse and inclusive community” – Objective 3 Item 3.3 requires Council to advocate for a Preamble to the Norfolk Island Act in 2016/2017 year;
- c) The Norfolk Island Advisory Council in its Final Report of June 2016 to the then Federal Minister recommended the matter of a Preamble to the *Norfolk Island Act 1979* should be further considered by the Regional Council; and
- d) There is community concern that there is no longer legislative recognition of the Norfolk Island people, including the descendants of the settlers from Pitcairn Island and their desire to preserve their traditions and culture.

Council requests the Mayor in consultation with the General Manager and the President of the Council of Elders to report back to Council by December 2017 how best Council can fulfil its advocacy role for the re-instatement of a Preamble to the Norfolk Island Act that addresses the concerns of the Norfolk Island people.

CARRIED

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**8.1 MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RESERVES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2017****RESOLUTION 2017/106**

Moved: Cr John McCoy

Seconded: Cr David Porter

That:

1. The Minutes of the Public Reserves Advisory Committee Meeting held on 4 July 2017 be received and noted.
2. The Acting Manager - Local Services and Assets / Conservator report be noted.
3. The NIRC access and update the Vegetation Survey carried out by Kevin Mills in 2007 and investigate his sponsored return to the Island for that purpose.
4. That:
 1. The Public Reserves Advisory Committee meetings remain at one per month.
 2. Council makes a submission to the Norfolk Island National Parks regarding the Draft Management Plan to include access for a possible third landing site, remain through Selwyn Reserve.

CARRIED

8.2 MINUTES OF THE TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2017**RESOLUTION 2017/107**

Moved: Cr Lisle Snell

Seconded: Cr John McCoy

1. That the Minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held on 4 July 2017 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.
2. That the committee nominate Ms Beverley Wheeler as the Chamber of Commerce representative in place of Monica Anderson.
3. That the Report from the Team Leader Tourism and Economic Development be noted.
4. That all applicants (as below) be approved for the Cruise Ship Working Group:
 - Michele Cyster (Transam Argosy)
 - Bart Murray (Burnt Pine Travel)
 - Katie Walden (Burnt Pine Travel)
 - Janelle Blucher (Museums)
 - Rose Evans (Team Leader Tourism and Economic Development)
 - Representative from Chamber of Commerce
 - Heather McMillan
 - Grant Carrington
 - Noel and Margaret Morgan
 - Fenella Evans

CARRIED

9 REPORTS FROM GENERAL MANAGER**9.1 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2017**

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council in relation to the Mayor's and General Manager's attendance at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2017, held in Canberra, 18-21 June 2017.

RESOLUTION 2017/108

Moved: Cr Robin Adams

Seconded: Cr David Porter

That Council notes the information in this report in relation to the Mayor's and General Manager's attendance at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2017, held in Canberra 18-21 June 2017.

CARRIED

9.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - APPOINTMENT

The purpose of this report is for Council to note the contractual arrangement with Hindle Enterprise Group (Travis Bates and Mat Goddard) for the implementation of economic development strategies and the development of an Economic Development Implementation Plan.

RESOLUTION 2017/109

Moved: Cr Rod Buffett
Seconded: Cr David Porter

That Council notes the appointment of Hindle Enterprise Group, headed by Mr Travis Bates and Mr Mat Goddard, to address the Economic Development function of Council with a focus on implementation of economic development activities and the development of an ongoing Economic Development Implementation Plan.

CARRIED**10 REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE MANAGER GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES****10.1 GOOD GOVERNANCE IN ACTION - LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW**

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council in relation to the Executive Manager Governance and Human Resources attendance at the Good Governance Forum held in Sydney, 28 - 29 June 2017.

RESOLUTION 2017/110

Moved: Cr John McCoy
Seconded: Cr Rod Buffett

That Council notes the information in this report in relation to the Executive Manager Governance and Human Resources attendance at the Good Governance in Action Forum held in Sydney on 28 - 29 June 2017.

CARRIED**10.2 POLICY - POLICIES TO BE MADE OBSOLETE**

The purpose of this report is to make two transitioned policies obsolete.

RESOLUTION 2017/111

Moved: Cr David Porter
Seconded: Cr Rod Buffett

That the below two (2) transitioned policies from the Administration of Norfolk Island be made obsolete:

1. 2015/16 Secondary Employment
2. 2015/07 Goods Donated as Sponsorship for Local Events or Functions

CARRIED

10.3 POLICY - GRANT PROGRAMS POLICY

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the adoption of the Grant Programs Policy.

RESOLUTION 2017/112

Moved: Cr John McCoy

Seconded: Cr David Porter

That

1. Council adopts the Grant Programs Policy
2. Council makes the following policies obsolete:
 - a) 1.05 Community Donations Policy
 - b) 1.06 Sports Grant Funding Policy
 - c) 2004/08 Guidelines for Assessment of Sports Promotion Applications
 - d) 2015/09 Ex-gratia Payments

Recorded Against: Cr Lisle Snell

CARRIED

11 REPORTS FROM GROUP MANAGER COMMERCIAL HUB / CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**11.1 POLICY - PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES TO COUNCILLORS POLICY**

The purpose of this report is for Council to amend the policy titled *Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors*.

RESOLUTION 2017/113

Moved: Cr Robin Adams

Seconded: Cr John McCoy

That the amended Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors policy be adopted as Policy of Council.

CARRIED

11.2 INVESTMENT REPORT JUNE 2017

The purpose of this report is to report to Council the balance of investments held as at 30 June 2017.

RESOLUTION 2017/114

Moved: Cr David Porter

Seconded: Cr John McCoy

That the investment report be received and noted, with the Interest accrued on investments during the month of June 2017 being \$24,067 and the total deposits held being \$12,459,537.

CARRIED

12 REPORTS FROM GROUP MANAGER SERVICES**12.1 ELECTRICITY BUDGET 2017 - 2018**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the information required to make decisions in the areas of Tariff increases, grid access fee and photovoltaic user access fee.

MOTION

Moved: Cr John McCoy

Seconded: Cr David Porter

That

1. Council adopts Option 4 being tariff rate of \$0.68, implement General Infrastructure charge of \$48 per quarter and solar infrastructure access charge of \$64 per kwh of PV per quarter, and,
2. Council places the proposed new fees on public exhibition for 28 days, and if there are no significant submissions received, the fees be as adopted.

Cr Robin Adams vacated the Chair at 3:05pm.

Deputy Mayor, Cr John McCoy assumed the Chair and proceeded with the meeting.

Cr Robin Adams resumed the Chair at 3:22pm.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Cr Robin Adams

Seconded: Cr Lisle Snell

That

1. As an interim measure Council adopts that
 - A General Infrastructure Charge (Grid access) - \$37 per quarter;
 - A Solar Infrastructure Access and Development Charge (Photovoltaic access to grid fee) - \$26.00 per kW capacity per quarter;
 - The current usage tariff remains at the current rate of \$0.62.
2. The new fees and charges as listed above and in the draft Operational Plan 2017 – 2018, take effect as of 1 October 2017.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2017/115

Moved: Cr John McCoy

Seconded: Cr David Porter

That

1. As an interim measure Council adopts that
 - A General Infrastructure Charge (Grid access) - \$37 per quarter;
 - A Solar Infrastructure Access and Development Charge (Photovoltaic access to grid fee) - \$26.00 per kW capacity per quarter;
 - The current usage tariff remains at the current rate of \$0.62.
2. The new fees and charges as listed above and in the draft Operational Plan 2017 – 2018, take effect as of 1 October 2017.

CARRIED

12.2 STATUS REPORT - INSURANCE RENEWALS

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on 2017-2018 insurance renewals.

RESOLUTION 2017/116

Moved: Cr John McCoy

Seconded: Cr Rod Buffett

That the Insurance status report be received and noted, with the insurance premium costs for the financial year 2017-2018, being \$511,000.

CARRIED

12.3 STATUS REPORT - COMMUNITY TITLE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the implementation of Community Title.

RESOLUTION 2017/117

Moved: Cr David Porter

Seconded: Cr Rod Buffett

That the status report Community Title be received and noted.

CARRIED

12.4 STATUS REPORT - SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on proposed amendments to the *Planning Act 2002(NI)* for a Development Assessment Pathway for Significant Development.

RESOLUTION 2017/118

Moved: Cr John McCoy

Seconded: Cr David Porter

That the status report Significant Development be received and noted.

Recorded Against: Cr Lisle Snell

CARRIED

12.5 STATUS REPORT - WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT

The purpose of this report is to provide a Waste and Environment status update.

RESOLUTION 2017/119

Moved: Cr John McCoy

Seconded: Cr Rod Buffett

That the status report Waste and Environment be received and noted.

CARRIED

13 NOTICES OF MOTION

Cr Robin Adams vacated the Chair at 4:20pm.

Deputy Mayor, Cr John McCoy assumed the Chair and proceeded with the meeting.

13.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON PROPERTY VALUATIONS

I, Councillor Robin Adams, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on 19 July 2017, I intend to move the following motion:

RESOLUTION 2017/120

Moved: Cr Robin Adams

Seconded: Cr Lisle Snell

Council is required by both Commonwealth law and Norfolk Island law to raise revenue through land rates to provide services to the community. Taking into account this requirement, Council:

- (1) Acknowledges the petition titled "Response to community meetings 17 and 18 May 2017 Property Valuations" presented on behalf of 232 petitioners to the Mayor at the community meeting on 18 May 2017 in which the petitioners express their deep concern about the imposition of land rates on Norfolk Island;
- (2) Notes the motion endorsed by those present at the community meeting requesting the NSW Local Government Association advocate with the Federal Government on behalf of the Norfolk Island community as follows: –
 1. The imposed tax and land rates have not had impact assessment or modelling;
 2. Land rates in the Norfolk Island context are inequitable;
 3. Recent purchases of property by the Commonwealth inflate the value of property and will distort market value in the valuation process;
 4. Many Norfolk Island people regard the holding of traditional land important to reinforce the concept of belonging to the island and of Norfolk Island as their homeland;
 5. Land on Norfolk is not held for speculative reasons, but is held in trust for family;
 6. Much of the land on Norfolk Island is held by people who are asset rich and cash poor, therefore unable to pay high rates.
- (3) Requests the Mayor seek advice from the NSW Local Government Association on this issue.

CARRIED

14 URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

NIL

15 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

NIL

16 QUESTIONS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will take place on Wednesday 16 August 2017 held at the Norfolk Island Regional Council Chambers commencing at 2:00pm.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4:27pm.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true record of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday 19 July 2017.

Submitted to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday 16 August 2017.

Mayor Robin Adams

Date