

Norfolk Island Regional Council

MEDIA RELEASE

16 NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

An Ordinary Meeting of Council was held on Wednesday, 16 November 2016. The following matters were resolved and carried.

- The minutes of the Waste Management Advisory Committee held on Monday 7 November 2016 were received and noted;
- Council noted the progress of activities in the Operational Plan 2016/17 for the quarter July to September 2016;
- Council noted the registration and associated costs for the Mayor to attend the Mayors' weekend seminar in Sydney 3-4 December 2016 including the visit and associated costs for the Mayor to view the Waste Management Systems of Ballina Shire Council and Lismore City Council;
- Council adopted the membership of both the Sustainable Energy and Heritage and Culture Advisory Committees;
- Council agreed to the formation of a Community Donations Committee to assess the Community Donations Program expressions of interest and the Committee will make a recommendation to Council. The Committee comprises of the Mayor, Cr Buffett and the General Manager;
- Council endorsed the Waste Management Strategic Plan 2015 (A Prince Consulting) for the Waste Management Committee to review; the Waste Management Centre staff to continue to implement recommendations from the Plan were practical and achievable to meet the July 2018 deadline without delay; the General Manager to commence investigation into the potential for grant funding for an incinerator and baling stations/equipment for recycling; that the Mayor and General Manager arrange for Waste Management public meetings to inform and consult with the community;
- Council noted the responsibilities and functions of the Norfolk Island Regional Council's Heritage Management section;
- The Quarterly Budget Review Statement and recommendations contained within were adopted;
- Council's investment report was received and noted;
- From 1 December 2016 all meetings of Council, including extraordinary meetings will be recorded and a copy of recordings to be available to members of the community on request. With effect from 1 February 2017 ordinary meetings of Council to be broadcast live over Radio Norfolk and re-broadcast at a time to be determined;
- The General Manager to provide a report on the recent road works carried out on Queen Elizabeth Avenue and Taylors Road, including footpath and retaining wall, outlining the cost of the works, metered length of reseal and issues encountered during operation; and

- In the Closed Session of Council telecommunications was discussed. Council has acknowledged that the financial viability of Telecom is in serious doubt. A business case for upgrade to 4G mobile network and Norfolk Island Telecom Services was noted and to be included in a grant funding application to the Commonwealth; If the grant application is successful a strategy will be developed including how to fund the anticipated losses of the O3b contract; lastly discussions with Senator Nash will commence with the aim of extending the *Telecommunications Act 1997 (Cth)* to the island as telecommunications is not a local government function and the Council is not in a position to fund shortfalls in this Commonwealth responsibility.

The full agenda, including reports on each item, and minutes for all Council meetings can be viewed at www.norfolkisland.gov.nf or in hard copy at Customer Care in the Telecom Building or the Library.

Lotta Jackson
General Manager

18 November 2016