

# MAYORS UPDATE

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY INFORMED



## COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

‘Two Notice of Motions were proposed and unanimously agreed at the meeting of Council yesterday’, the Mayor said, ‘the first was proposed by me on Community Consultation -

“Acknowledging –

1. The October 2016 Councillor Handbook published by the Office of Local Government in NSW states that ‘the community engagement process needs to be robust, collaborative, inclusive and sustainable’ and provides “Tips for Effective Community Engagement” at Appendix 6;
2. People should have a say in matters that affect their lives, and that community engagement results in better planning outcomes;
3. Councils Community Strategic Plan 2016-2026 - Objective 9 - has the goal there be increased stakeholder participation in decision—making; and
4. The Community Engagement Strategy inherited by Council on 1 July 2016 states the following:

*“The Norfolk Island Regional Council promises to engage the community in an open, transparent and equitable way to make sure it understands the views and feelings of all community segments before it makes planning, funding or strategic decisions”,*

Council agrees that the Mayor in consultation with Councillors, the General Manager and the community –

1. Review the Community Engagement Strategy and how Council currently communicates with the community to assess whether Council’s community engagement process is robust, collaborative, inclusive and sustainable; and
2. Provide a Report and recommendations for consideration by Council on or before the December 2017 Council meeting.”

‘The second motion was proposed by Councillor McCoy on “Travel to New Zealand” -

That the Mayor and General Manager convene a meeting of relevant stakeholders including, Norfolk Island Airlines, Air Nauru, Air New Zealand, Norfolk Island Regional Council and Councillors, Eric Hutchison (Administrator), Accommodation and Tourism Association, Chamber of Commerce and representatives of the travel wholesale industry, to discuss present and future air services between Norfolk Island and New Zealand.’

## COMMUNITY MEETING ON WASTE MANAGEMENT

‘Around 35 members of the community meeting came along to the Paradise Hotel on Monday night a visual presentation was made on how we are managing our waste streams now; how they will be managed in the future and the problem areas we still have to resolve’, Mayor Adams said, ‘I believe of particular interest to attendees was the visual of the high-density baler and mini sort line that has been ordered which is a crucial piece of equipment for the Waste Management Centre. The baler will be capable amongst other things of baling aluminium, steel cans and certain scrap metals, PET plastics, and residual waste streams.

As Chair of the meeting I acknowledged that Council is very conscious of the support of many in the community for alternate means of dealing with our waste including ‘waste-to-energy’ solutions, vermiculture, biogas and biodynamic composting.

# MAYORS UPDATE

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY INFORMED



Whilst regrettably any assessment and implementation of any high level alternative technology cannot be achieved by June 2018; I ask the community to not lose heart on the possibility of alternative technology solutions as investigations will continue to determine the most appropriate long-term solutions; and the Council encourages people to send in detailed, peer reviewed reports on alternative waste disposal high level technologies for Council's consideration.

A copy of the visual presentation is up on the carousel (wait for the second slide) on the home page of Council's website [www.norfolkisland.gov.nf](http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf). I thank the attendees for their valuable interaction at the end of the presentation – both seeking further information as well as making positive suggestions which were just what we were after. It was obvious that for some there is a preference for an on-island incinerator to deal with residual waste rather than the costly process of sending it off shore; however for now the incinerator is not on Council's agenda. All in all, I believe it was a good meeting with people walking away better informed', the Mayor said.

Robin Adams

**MAYOR**

19 October 2017