



Torres Strait Island
REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST – FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2015

Please find attached Minutes of the above meeting held on Thursday 20th August 9.22am – 4.10pm, Friday 21st August 9.16am – 1.49pm at the Masig Island Community Hall.

THURSDAY 20TH AUGUST 2015

Present

Cr Fred Gela, Mayor

Cr Keith Fell, Deputy Mayor, Division 4 – Mabuia Island

Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu Island

Cr Joel Gaidan, Division 2 – Dauan Island

Cr Ron Enosa, Division 3 – Saibai Island

Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community at Moa Island

Cr Toshie Kris, Division 7 – St Pauls Community at Moa Island

Cr Mario Sabatino, Division 8 – Hammond Island

Cr Getano Lui Jnr, Division 9 – Iama Island

Cr Willie Lui, Division 10 – Warraber Island

Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig Island

Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar Island

Cr Jimmy Gela, Division 14 – Erub Island

Cr William Akee, Division 15 – Mer Island

Ms Dania Ahwang, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Mr Chris McLaughlin, Executive Manager Corporate Services (EMCS)

Mr David Baldwin, Executive Manager Engineering Services (EMES)

Mr David Abednego, Executive Manager Community Services (EMCoS)

Ms Jessica Cox, Travel and Administration Officer (TAO)(Minutes)

Apologies

Cr Horace Baira, Division 5 – Badu Island

Cr Phillemon Mosby, Division 11 – Poruma Island

Ms Melissa Barmettler, Executive Manager Financial Services (EMFS)

Ms Katherine Wiggins, Manager Performance and Advocacy (MPA)

1. **9.22am – 9.25am** **Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Cr Nai opened the meeting in prayer. There was a minute silence to pay respect to families who have lost their loved ones recently.

Mayor's Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Mayor welcomed the Councillors to the meeting and acknowledged Cr Nai, and the Traditional Owners of the Land. Mayor Gela also thanked the administrative arm of the Council for their hard work in compiling this months' Information Reports.

It was noted Cr G Lui joined the meeting via telephone at 9.28am

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr Nai

That Council accept Cr G Lui's attendance via teleconference under the *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld).

MOTION CARRIED

It was noted Cr W Lui entered the meeting at 9.29am

It was noted Cr Toby entered the meeting at 9.29am

It was noted Cr Sabatino entered the meeting at 9.29am

2. **9.30am – 9.35am** **Apologies**

RESOLUTION

Cr Mosby – Forum Preparation

Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr Enosa

That Council accept the apology from Cr Mosby for his absence at this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION

Cr Baira – Bereavement

Moved Cr J Gela, Seconded Cr Stephen

That Council accept the apology from Cr Baira for his absence at this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Nai welcomed the Councillors to Masig Island and encouraged the Councillors to engage with Community. Cr Nai also went through basic housekeeping.

Mayor Gela spoke of the Seniors Week that commenced on Monday 17 August, including activities, the Walk the Straits Program and August 23 Celebrations. Mayor Gela encouraged Councillors to support the walking program in their communities.

3. 9.39am – 10.09am Action Item Summary From Previous Meeting

Previous Action Item 39 – Prime Minister Visit

Cr Toby queried the progress of action item 39, in particular how informed Council is of the PM's visit. Mayor Gela advised discussions to follow later in day.

Cr Gaidan requested an update on Dauan RN housing. CEO advised a General Tenancy Agreement signed with QLD Health for 3 years.

Previous Action Item 13 – Saibai Gazebos

Cr Enosa queried the progress of action item 13. EMCS advised project held up due to needing correct approval from My Pathway. EMCS advised Council working with My Pathway. Timeframes cannot be provided. My Pathway management was unaware of the project.

Action Item

EMCS to provide capital approval process to Cr Enosa.

Previous Action Item 1 – housing waiting list

Cr Toby queried progress of action item 1. EMCoS advised Housing officer in community to assist with the matter. Cr Toby mentioned the need to refresh the waiting list to include young families needing housing.

Previous Action Item 10 – War memorial funding report

Cr Kris queried progress of action item 10. CEO advised current funding not enough to provide memorials into all 15 communities. Council actively looking at further funding opportunities.

Previous Action Item 24 – Strategic Workforce Advisory Group

The progress of the strategic workforce advisory group was queried. It was advised the first meeting to be held in next couple of weeks.

Previous Action Item 30 – Warraber Stadium

Cr W Lui queried progress of action item 30.

Action Item

CEO to discuss with Cr W Lui Warraber Stadium out of session.

Previous Action Item 32 – Situational Crime

Cr Bosun requested an update on the action item.

Action Item

MPA to follow up Action Item 32 – Situational Crime, with Cr Bosun

Cr Kris queried who to liaise with to get hold of the names of those enlisted from each island re War Memorials.

Action Item

MPA to liaise with Warren Entsch Office and provide Cr Kris with list of those who enlisted from St Pauls community.

Previous Action Item 15 – TSRA Board Meeting – September 2015

Cr Fell queried progress of action item 15. CEO advised letter drafted and to be sent to TSRA once approved.

Action Item

CEO to deliver request for hearing to TSRA Board.

Previous Action Item 18 – Environment and Health Services Funding

Cr Kris queried progress of action item 18. CEO advised an assessment of funded vs. unfunded to be done and if unfunded Council would have to look at re-structuring of EHW's.

Previous Action Item 19 – Water Supply

Cr Kris queried progress of action item 19. EMES advised project in investigation phase as to what platform to use (Telstra vs. radio link).

3. 10.09am – 10.19am Confirmation of July 2015 Minutes

CEO noted on Page 10 the resolution for Regional Community Grants notes Cr Sabatino as against the motion, when Cr Sabatino abstained from voting due to a COI.

Action Item

TAO to amend page 10 of the July 2015 Council Meeting minutes to note Cr Sabatino as abstained from voting on the Regional Community Grants, instead of against.

Cr G Lui queried the legality and professionalism of the phrase “Matter left laying on the table” in the July 2015 Council Meeting minutes. EMCS advised that if Council refuse to table a resolution to a vote , it is left laying on the table. If a vote is called for, and it is not moved or seconded, the motion is lost.

Cr G Lui also queried the phrase "Motion Lost". EMCS advised when a motion is lost the minute taker must record those who voted for and against the motion for minute taking purposes. This is Council protocol.

Action Item

TAO to identify those Councillors voting against the motion in the minutes.

Cr Akee advised on page 8 Cr Mosby was concerned with bedroom numbers, not size.

Action Item

TAO to change minutes to reflect Cr Mosby's comment on bedroom numbers, not size on page 8 of the July 2015 Council Meeting minutes.

Cr Kris queried Council's Travel Policy, requesting itineraries be sent out earlier than currently being sent. CEO advised last minute amendments are holding up the distribution of travel itineraries. Council to discuss in General Business.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Kris, Seconded Cr Sabatino

That the minutes of Council meeting held July 2015 – be adopted as true and accurate, subject to amendment on Page 10.

MOTION CARRIED

6. 10.20am – 10.26am **Boigu Seawall Development Application**

EMCS presented the report to Council. EMCS advised the application is in accordance with the original plan, and shall be subject to change in specification.

Cr Toby requested that EMES brief the Councillors out of session. Mayor Gela advised further discussions to progress in closed business.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Toby, Seconded Enosa

That Council issue a Development Permit for 'Operational Works' (Prescribed Tidal Works and Clearing Marine Plants) with the inclusion of the conditions set out in Part 4 of the Agenda Report.

MOTION CARRIED

5. 10.27am – 10.34am **Enterprise Divestment, Warraber Kiosk**

EMCS provided the report to Council. Cr W Lui advised that he thought if there had been no delay, My Pathway would have approved in the prior financial year. EMCS advised this could not be verified. Cr W Lui expressed his support for the enterprise to be put up for divestment to entity outside the division and that the criteria on the advertisement be adjusted accordingly. Advertisement to occur in the Torres News as well as noticeboards.. Mayor Gela suggested opening up the divestment to the open market.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr W Lui, Seconded Cr J Gela

That Council remove the location-based eligibility condition for EOI for the Warraber Kiosk, and readvertise.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Fell blessed the Morning Tea

10.35am – 11.06pm Morning Break

7. 11.07pm – 12.10pm Business Arising from Information Reports

Mayor Gela directed Councillors attention to page 135 of the Information Reports – Housing Status. Mayor Gela queried the split between occupied houses and vacant houses. EMCoS advised Vacant houses as those with personal belongings still inside, unoccupied as no tenants or belongings.

Cr Toby discussed the need for an Occupational Therapist (OT). Mayor Gela advised of times when it has taken a year to do an OT assessment. Cr Toby advised of instances where it has taken over 3 years for an OT to do an assessment, driving elders to leave Island communities.

Cr Sabatino suggested we should lobby the State for an OT.

Cr Kris discussed bedroom yields in regards to the NPARIH program.

Mayor Gela discussed waitlist registers. EMCoS advised Council currently updating registers with the help of Housing Officers and Councillors. Mayor Gela requested that Councillors sign off on individual NPARIH program housing contracts to ensure bedroom yields are met.

Cr Kris discussed the concept of Council running its own housing authority. Mayor Gela advised of discussions had in Canberra for a bilateral agreement between Council and Government.

Cr Toby discussed the need for community members not living in communities to surrender their social housing. Mayor Gela discussed Cr Akee's recent housing road trip to Townsville and Mackay, where Council engaged with elders in an attempt to re-allocate social houses.

Cr Bosun noted issues with Traditional Owners not being tenants of proposed NPARIH houses on their land. Cr Bosun advised negotiations need to be arranged.

Cr Sabatino advised of community members on Hammond feeling victimized due to Council not actioning the re-allocation of all abandoned vacant houses on Hammond.

Cr Fell, Cr Sabatino, Cr G Lui, Cr Akee and Cr Kris all advised the issue of abandoned and vacant houses on their respective islands to be addressed immediately, with all other Councillors wishing to speak to their communities first.

Action Item

EMoCS to action abandonment processes for Mabuiag, Hammond, Iama, Mer and St Paul's communities expeditiously.

12.10pm – 1.28pm – Meet & Greet with Minister for Health team

Mayor Gela welcomed Bob McCarthy, Chair TCHHS Board, Michael Walsh, Director General, Jill Newland, Chief Executive HHS, Vonda Malone-Moore, Executive Director Primary Health Care, Nick Steele, Executive Director - Healthcare & Purchasing, Funding and Performance Management Branch QHealth, Ian Presley, Executive General Manager South, Marianna Serghi, Director Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health – QHealth, and Andy Marshall, Executive General Manager North.

Cr Stephen discussed health service delivery issues at Ugar. Andy advised of a property portfolio given to the Department listing accommodation at Ugar to commence over the next 2 years. Andy also noted a health accommodation to be built at Dauan. Mayor Gela expressed reservations over the comments made by Andy Marshall, Executive General Manager North.

Mayor Gela discussed OT services in the Torres Strait, noting it as a State Government matter.

Mayor Gela discussed the need for more morgue facilities on island. Mayor Gela advised the guests of the costs involved to charter bodies in and out of communities.

Mayor Gela discussed the proposed start of a freight equalization scheme in the Torres Strait, similar to that of Tasmania in the Bass Strait. Mayor Gela spoke of the link between subsidised produce and healthier living.

Ugar access issues, with a link to the limited service delivery, were discussed.

Michael Walsh, Director General noted the challenges with staffing and infrastructure in regards to the request for more morgue facilities.

DG expressed his pleasure in taking the issue of freight equalization to the Minister for Health to take Federally on behalf of Council. DG discussed the importance of diet in relation to health.

DG advised if Council has any issues with OT assessments to contact Andy Marshall or Jill Newland, Chief Executive HHS to follow up.

DG advised mortuary at Darnley to be replaced shortly.

Mayor Gela expressed his frustration in relation to Australia looking after PNG Nationals better than it's own people, detailing the fully funded charters and caskets for PNG Nationals who pass in Australia.

Cr G Lui discussed his frustration with short-term contracted remote nurses in communities. Jill Newland put forward the proposal of permanent relievers' base on Thursday Island for Communities.

9. 1.28pm – 2.14pm Presentation – Seaswift

Mayor Gela welcomed Fred White, CEO, Lino Bruce COO and Chris Shepard, to the meeting.

Fred White, CEO extended an invitation to Council to meet in Cairns to further discuss Seaswift's services.

Seaswift discussed the ACCC Toll/SeaSwift merger in detail. Mayor Gela queried why Seaswift are unloading Council materials if the market is only big enough for 1 full service supplier. Fred White advised Seaswift have had to reduce services due to other players in the market.

Cr Sabatino queried how Seaswift will recoup from a \$200,000 loss of profits in the Torres Strait. Chris Shepard advised by expanding to Darwin and other areas, as well as redundancies to assist.

Cr Stephen queried how Seaswift can provide a better service to Ugar and whether they will be crediting the community for sending their mail to Darnley.

Chris Shepard advised they are doing what they can and that the community of Ugar have been credited for the incident.

Mayor Gela suggested Council and Seaswift have further conversations around the Ugar access issues (eg. Small dumb barge).

Cr Sabatino suggested using an island in the Torres Strait as a distribution point. Fred White Advised Seaswift trying to use assets better rather than spread more assets out.

8. 2.15pm – 2.15pm Closed Business

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Kris, Seconded Cr J Gela

That in accordance with s275 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 it is resolved for the meeting to go into closed session to discuss:

- (a) The appointment, dismissal or discipline of employees; or
- (b) Industrial matters affecting employees; or

- (c) The local government's budget; or
- (d) Rating concessions; or
- (e) Contracts proposed to be made by it; or
- (f) Starting or defending legal proceedings involving the local government; or
- (g) Any action to be taken by the local government under the Planning Act, including deciding applications made to it under that Act; or
- (h) Other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

Further the public in attendance are asked to leave.

It was noted Cr G Lui confirmed confidentiality

8.1 2.15pm – 2.50pm Agenda Report – Enterprise Divestment

It was noted Cr Sabatino declared a Conflict of Interest and left the meeting at 2.37pm

It was noted Cr Toby left the meeting at 2.38pm unwell

It was noted Cr Fell left the room at 2.38pm

It was noted Cr Fell entered the room at 2.45pm

2.50pm – 3.45pm

Seawalls Discussions

Action Item

CEO and EMES to prepare response to John O'Halloran Email.

3.45pm – 3.46pm

Closed Business

Moved Cr Nai, Seconded Cr Akee

That Council move out of Closed Business.

MOTION CARRIED

3.46pm – 4.05pm

Enterprise Divestment

It was noted Cr Sabatino left the room due to declared Conflict of Interest

Hammond Island

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr W Lui, Seconded Cr Enosa

That in accordance with sections 227, 228 and 236 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld), Council enter into negotiations with the following entities with a view to those entities acquiring the following businesses and associated valuable non-current assets and staff (as applicable) on terms acceptable to the Chief Executive Officer of Council, and recommend to the Trustee, the grant of trustee leases to each entity over relevant land as presented:

Enterprise	Entity
Hammond Island Fuel Bowser	Kirriri Foundation (ATSI) Corporation
Hammond Island Arts Centre (including Nursery)	Kirriri Foundation (ATSI) Corporation

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Sabatino declared a conflict of interest and did not vote and remained out of the room whilst voting occurred.

St Paul's Community, Moa Island

RESOLUTION

Moved Nil, Seconded Cr Nil

1. That in accordance with sections 227, 228 and 236 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld), Council enter into negotiations with the following entities with a view to those entities acquiring the following businesses and associated valuable non-current assets and staff on terms acceptable to the Chief Executive Officer of Council, and recommend to the Trustee, the grant of trustee leases to each entity over relevant land as presented:

Enterprise	Entity
St Pauls Mechanical Workshop	Mr Mica Newie

MOTION LOST

Saibai Seawall

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr J Gela

Council seeks endorsement by the Project Governance Committee to revise scope and timing to include only the Saibai Seawalls project, and other projects subject to Council endorsed priority and available funding.

MOTION CARRIED

Against: Cr Kris

4.10pm Council Meeting Close

Meeting moved in to CEO KPI's Closed session

FRIDAY 20th AUGUST 2015

Present

Cr Fred Gela, Mayor

Cr Keith Fell, Deputy Mayor, Division 4 – Mabuiag Island

Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu Island

Cr Joel Gaidan, Division 2 – Dauan Island

Cr Ron Enosa, Division 3 – Saibai Island

Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community at Moa Island

Cr Toshie Kris, Division 7 – St Pauls Community at Moa Island

Cr Mario Sabatino, Division 8 – Hammond Island

Cr Willie Lui, Division 10 – Warraber Island

Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig Island

Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar Island

Cr Jimmy Gela, Division 14 – Erub Island

Cr William Akee, Division 15 – Mer Island

Ms Dania Ahwang, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Mr Chris McLaughlin, Executive Manager Corporate Services (EMCS)

Mr David Baldwin, Executive Manager Engineering Services (EMES)

Mr David Abednego, Executive Manager Community Services (EMCoS)

Ms Jessica Cox, Travel and Administration Officer (TAO)(Minutes)

Apologies

Cr Horace Baira, Division 5 – Badu Island

Cr Getano Lui Jnr, Division 9 – Iama Island

Cr Phillemon Mosby, Division 11 – Poruma Island

Ms Melissa Barmettler, Executive Manager Financial Services (EMFS)

Ms Katherine Wiggins, Manager Performance and Advocacy (MPA)

10. 9.16am – 9.32am Opening Prayer and Welcome

Cr Fell opened the meeting in prayer.

Mayor Gela introduced elected youth member for Cook, Isaac Ghee, sitting in on the Council Meeting.

Cr Toby apologised for his early departure on the previous day.

Mayor Gela went through PM's Torres Strait itinerary.

12. 9.32am – 10.21am Presentation – Department of Immigration and Boarder Protection, Traditional Adoption

Mayor Gela welcomed presenters, Mandy Sinclair, Regional Manager and Jeff Heath, Department of Immigration and Boarder Protection, to the meeting.

Jeff Heath provided an update to Council on the new Boarder Protection Force and structural and name changes to Customs.

Cr Toby queried the Departments shared facilities arrangements at Boigu. Mandy advised shared facilities still in transition, with the Department looking into amalgamating facilities with other Government agencies where possible. Cr Toby suggested all departments amalgamate under the one roof in order to strengthen relationships and outcomes.

Mandy Sinclair discussed the Departments 5 year strategy with Council, noting it as the Departments responsibility to "get it right at the boarder". Further, she discussed the implementation of some form of identity management for traditional visitors to the Torres Strait Islands. Cr Toby expressed the importance of including the community in discussions involving identity management.

Cr Stephen queried the filling of vacant positions on islands. Mandy Sinclair advised the Department will be advertising vacant positions in already identified communities soon.

Cr Bosun discussed the need for officers with power and authority on the ground and the ability to initiate arrest. Further, Cr Bosun suggested the Department reconsider who has authority to intervene, in real time, putting forward the suggestion of authorization from Thursday Island instead of Canberra.

Jeff Heath – Customary Adoption.

Jeff Heath began by discussing the customary adoption project, noting it as necessary to look into the scale of the matter in the Torres Strait. Jeff warned of the diverse views across the board in regards to customary adoption. Jeff advised the project is to look at resolving

the immigration status of the children already in the Torres Strait and not to deport the children in question.

Jeff Heath listed the reasons he has encountered as to why Torres Strait Islanders are entering into customary adoption arrangements:

- Impotence
- Gender Balance
- Economic issues

Mayor Gela advised of the correct criteria and conditions involved in customary adoption.

Cr Kris suggested the legalization of traditional adoption in the Torres Strait, advising the Department to fix the Torres Strait and PNG will fall into place.

Jeff advised Traditional Torres Strait Island adoption not currently in the scope of the project, with the Departments primary focus on the immigration status of PNG Customarily adopted children.

10.21am - 10.52am Morning Break

Cr Enosa suggested Jeff focus on interviewing Elders to give correct information on what traditional adoption is about.

Cr Bosun described the core values of traditional adoption, including the totemic structure. Further, adoption within clan/totem groups and the structure around land tenure.

Action Item

CEO to forward Geoff Heath's email on to Councillors: Geoff.heath@border.gov.au

Isaac Ghee blessed the morning tea

10.57am – 11.21am Morning Tea

13. 11.21am – 12.35pm Presentation – Manager Community Services Consumer Directed Care

Mary Gela, Manager Community Services and Sharon Latham, HACC Coordinator, presented the report on Consumer Directed Care (CDC) to Council.

Manager Community Services advised Council of HACC's name change to Commonwealth Home Support Programme.

Mayor Gela spoke on the need to secure an arrangement for IT service referrals.

Cr Toby discussed MyPathway participation to fill vacancies across the region. Manager Community Services advised initial discussions had with MyPathway Executive Team, to be discussed further with CEO and EMCoS.

15. **12.36pm – 12.37pm** **Meeting as Trustee**

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr J Gela, Seconded Cr Akee

That in accordance with Section 83 of Local Government Act 2009 (Qld), the meeting of the Trustee of Community DOGIT be convened and conducted as separate meetings from the Indigenous Regional Council.

MOTION CARRIED

15.1 **12.37pm – 12.40pm** **Masig Telstra Lease**

Action Item

CEO - Trustee and all resolutions to be held on day 1 of Agenda.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Nai, Seconded Cr Kris

That pursuant to the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991* (Qld), the Trustee:-

- 1. Consent to the surrender of existing Telstra Lease 'T' on Lot 10 Crown Plan TS179 on SP236908 ("Lease T") upon receipt of prescribed notice from Telstra seeking such surrender ; and*
- 2. Pursuant to the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 (Qld), grant a lease to Telstra Corporation Limited ACN 051 755 556 over 25,600m² (160m x 160m) of land that is South West of the Masig refuse tip, as shown on the attached drawing, comprising part of the Deed of Grant in Trust being on Lot 10 Crown Plan TS179, subject to:*
 - a) Survey;*
 - b) Development Approval; and*
 - c) CASA Approval; and*
 - d) Native title future act validation (if applicable).*

MOTION CARRIED

15.2 **12.40pm – 12.45pm** **Kubin Telstra Lease**

Cr Sabatino queried why lease is \$10,000 less. EMCS advised the amount was agreed on by Council previously.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr Sabatino

That pursuant to the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991* (Qld), the Trustee grant a Lease to Telstra Corporation Limited ACN 051 755 556 over land described as Lease U on Survey Plan 238257 comprising part of the Deed of Grant in Trust being lot 5 on CP TS158 for the

construction, operation and maintenance (including replacement, renewal and construction of improvements from time to time) of a Telecommunications Facility, subject to Native Title consent (as applicable), Survey and Development Approval.

MOTION CARRIED

12.45pm – 12.45pm **Re-convene as Local Government**

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Kris, *Seconded* Cr Fell

That Council re-convene as Local Government

14. 12.46pm – 1.49pm General Business

Cr Toby queried the progress of water logged fencing at Boigu.

Cr Toby advised backhoe and excavator at Boigu deteriorating.

Action Item

EMCS to follow up removal of Backhoe and Excavator at Boigu

Cr Toby suggested looking into training MyPathway to give support in operating the fuel service at Boigu.

Action Item

EMCS to follow up air-conditioner in RTC building and replacement of box air-conditioned in Councillor room.

Cr Toby suggested the construction of a fence around Boigu Council office to deter vandalism.

Cr W Lui thanked Council for its contribution towards IPad's for Warraber Campus Primary School.

Action Item

CEO to provide Cr Sabatino will full transaction listing for last financial year discretionary budget.

Cr Stephen requested an update on Ugar mail delivery, noting the community as having not received mail for 2 months. EMCoS advised information received from insurer for marine policy and CEO working on EOI for community members on Ugar or Erub.

Cr Enosa requested more information on the process for local employment in the building area.

Action Item

EMES to progress grounds keeping of Saibai oval

It was noted EMES entered room 12.59pm

Cr Fell thanked Council for its allocation of funds to replace the Mabuiag church roof.

Cr Fell advised Council of it's success with recent vet visits, with the dog situation improving greatly.

Cr Fell requested Council investigate leasing out Customs donga at Mabuiag as it is currently vacant.

Cr Stephen thanked CEO, EMCS and staff for its contribution towards traditional land meetings at Ugar.

Action Item

CEO to follow up removal of container at Boigu

Cr Kris discussed the current travel policy.

Mayor Gela discussed the establishment of residential fares in the Torres Strait, noting heavily subsidised fares from outer islands through to Cairns, with local booking agents being established at IBIS stores.

Action Item

CEO to email Cr Kris formal Regional Community Grants Application rejection email.

Isaac Ghee thanked Mayor Gela and Council for allowing him to sit in on the Council Meeting.

Councillors discussed their attendance at formal sit down with PM on Tuesday 25 August on Thursday Island.

Next Meeting Boigu – 23rd & 24th September.

Apologies for September Council Meeting:

- Cr Gaidan
- Cr Enosa
- Cr J Gela
- Cr Nai

Cr Gaidan closed the Council meeting in Prayer

1.49pm – Council Meeting Close