



Torres Strait Island
REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER – TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

Please find attached Minutes of the above meeting held on Monday 21st September 1.55pm – 5.13pm, Tuesday 22nd September 9.15am – 12.57pm at the Boigu Island Community Sport and Recreation Hall.

MONDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 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 Phillemon Mosby, Division 11 – Poruma 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)

Ms Daisy Ketchell, Executive Officer (EO)

Ms Katherine Wiggins, Manager Performance and Advocacy (MPA)

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

Apologies

Cr Horace Baira, Division 5 – Badu Island

Mr David Abednego, Executive Manager Community Services (EMCoS)

Ms Melissa Barmettler, Executive Manager Financial Services (EMFS)

1. **1.55pm – 2.00pm** **Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Cr Fell 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

Mayor Gela acknowledged the traditional owners of the land, Cr Toby, Elders past and present, spiritual leaders and Councillors.

2. **2.00pm – 2.03pm** **Apologies**

RESOLUTION

Cr Baira – Carer's Leave

Moved Cr Enosa, *Seconded* Cr Sabatino

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

MOTION CARRIED

9. **2.05pm – 2.41pm** **Presentation – DATSIP Planning Scheme**

Robert Zigtermann from DATSIP and Jenny Rowan from Buckley Vann introduced themselves to Council and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land past and present.

Robert and Jenny provided background of the planning scheme and processes.

EMCS advised Councillors of the consultation period identified in the community engagement plan and the ability of Council to fine tune the Planning Scheme during the Cairns workshops 2 Nov. .

Jenny advised the plan currently moving into the public consultation period, with a statutory period of 32 business days to make comments or submissions.

Cr Sabatino noted the scheme as good for freehold communities and queried whether Council would advertise the consultation period on the Council website. Mayor Gela advised something would be placed on the website to notify community.

Action Item

EMCS to advise MPA when the consultation period is to be placed on the Council Website.

Cr Toby queried where community comments and submissions would be captured. Jenny advised a report will be collated at the end of the submission period for review.

Cr Toby queried whether the submission process is open to the wider community or limited to constituents of each community. Jenny advised that legally anyone can make a comment at any community consultation.

Mayor Gela noted community's greater control of process with the scheme in terms of determining use of area.

Cr Sabatino queried whether the document can be amended. Mayor Gela advised the document is living document and can be amended.

EMCS requested a report of issues raised by communities be provided to each Councillor for the 2 Nov workshop.

Robert discussed the opportunity to work with the Department of Education to include children in the process. Cr Fell suggested this happen on a community to community basis.

Cr Sabatino queried whether the scheme has scope to be adopted island by island, rather than have a blanket approach. Jenny advised DATSIP will need to consult with State Government on query.

Cr W Lui requested the removal of a Cemetery photo from the Warraber booklet.

Cr Toby requested the replacement of the Boigu scheme front page to a photo of Boigu Island.

Action Item

EMCS to ensure consultant reviews and updates the cover photographs of the community booklets.

Cr W Lui noted inaccuracies with three roads not noted in Community Network Survey map in Warraber booklet.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Sabatino, Seconded Cr Nai

That Council:-

- 1) Adopts the revised draft planning scheme for public consultation.
- 2) Agrees to release the draft planning scheme for 35 business days for public consultation from Monday the 5 October until and including Friday 20 November 2015.
- 3) Approves the TSIRC Community Engagement Plan

MOTION CARRIED

3. **2.41pm – 2.42pm** **Confirmation of Special Meeting Minutes**

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr W Lui, Seconded Cr J Gela

That the minutes of Special meeting held 10 August 2015 – be adopted as true and accurate.

MOTION CARRIED

4. **2.42pm – 2.43pm** **Confirmation of August 2015 Council Meeting Minutes**

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Sabatino, Seconded Cr W Lui

That the minutes of Ordinary meeting held August 2015 – be adopted as true and accurate.

MOTION CARRIED

5. **2.43pm – 2.46pm** **Action Item Summary From August Meeting**

Cr Fell requested Mabuiag and Mer jetty action item be created from the August Council Meeting.

Action Item

EMES - Mabuiag and Mer jetty to be considered for funding and completion

Cr Stephen queried whether Ugar mail service delivery action item still noted. CEO advised action item still noted.

7. **2.46pm – 2.48pm** **Hammond Community Survey Program**

EMCS presented the report to Council.

Cr Sabatino queried whether the resolution is for sub-division of Hammond Island DOGIT. EMCS advised the resolution only for reconfiguration of a lot.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Sabatino, Seconded Cr Bosun

That Council:

- *endorse Survey Plan SP248418;*

- *work with the Remote Indigenous Land and Infrastructure Program Office (RILIPO) to subdivide the Hammond Island DOGIT as shown on SP248418; and*
- *consent to any land administration actions incidental to and necessary to facilitate lodgement and registration of SP248418, including but not limited to applying to the Minister responsible for administering the Land Act 1994 for the surrender of part of the Deed of Grant in Trust in terms of section 55 of the Land Act 1994 for the purpose of dedicating those surrendered areas as road pursuant to section 94 of the Land Act 1994, with a total area of 2.2952ha.*

MOTION CARRIED

8. 2.48pm – 2.50am Warraber Community Survey Program

EMCS presented the report. W Lui noted his support. Cr W Lui expressed his endorsement of the resolution.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr W Lui, Seconded Cr Fell

That Council:

- *endorse Survey Plan SP270859;*
- *work with the Remote Indigenous Land and Infrastructure Program Office (RILIPO) to subdivide the Warraber Island DOGIT as shown on SP270859; and*
- *consent to any land administration actions incidental to and necessary to facilitate lodgement and registration of SP270859, including but not limited to applying to the Minister responsible for administering the Land Act 1994 (QLD) for the surrender of part of the Deed of Grant in Trust in terms of section 55 of the Land Act 1994 (QLD) for the purpose of dedicating those surrendered areas as road pursuant to section 94 of the Land Act 1994, with a total area of 1.6206ha.*

MOTION CARRIED

10. 2.50pm – 2.51pm Development Approval – Telstra Lease - Kubin

EMCS presented the report for the development application for reconfiguration of a lot.

EMCS noted this is the second time this application has been put to Council, with it being rejected the first time due to the application and lease not matching.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr Gaidan

That Council issue a Development Permit for 'Reconfiguration of a Lot' for Lease U on SP238257 (Part of Lot 5 on SP248095) with the inclusion of the conditions set out in the Agenda Report.

MOTION CARRIED

11. 2.51pm – 2.55pm LGAQ Financial Assistance Grants

MPA presented the report to Council, outlining the purpose of the report to gain endorsement from Council for advocacy measures to increase the possibility of Federal Government lifting the freeze on the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) indexation.

Mayor Gela advised Council the revenue from Financial Assistance Grants was technically being poured back into local government in the form of Roads to Recovery funding.

It was noted Cr Toby left room at 2.53pm

It was noted Cr Toby re-entered room at 2.55pm

Mayor Gela noted FAGs funding was broad funding and roads to recovery was specific funding.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr W Lui

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the importance of federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants program for the continued delivery of council's service and infrastructure
2. Acknowledges that Council received \$10,329,015 million in 2014-2015; and
3. Will ensure that this federal funding, and other funding provided by the Federal Government under relevant grant programs, is appropriately identified as Commonwealth grant funding in 2015/2016 Council publications, including annual reports, when in line with Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning Financial Statement templates.

MOTION CARRIED

12. 2.55pm – 2.56pm Closed Business

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Enosa, Seconded Cr Fell

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 local government's budget; or
- (b) Contracts proposed to be made by it; or
- (c) 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.

MOTION CARRIED

12.1 2.56pm – 3.16pm Draper Street Review

EMCS presented the report to Council.

12.2. 3.17pm – 3.23pm Tender Report for Desalination Maintenance and Support

EMES presented the report to Council.

3.23pm – 3.24pm Move out of Closed Business

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Nai, Seconded Cr Akee

That council move out of Closed Business.

MOTION CARRIED

Draper Street Review

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr Nai

It is resolved that Council: -

1. allocate capital budget at the November 2015 Budget amendment to refit level 3, 111-115 Grafton Street, Cairns (E\$100k) to accommodate 20+ staff; and
2. discontinue the Draper Street Lease effective upon transition of staff from Draper Street to level 3, 111-115 Grafton Street, Cairns in the 2015/16 Financial Year (expected 31 December 2015).

MOTION CARRIED

Tender Report for Desalination Maintenance and Support

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr Mosby

That Council award contract TSIRC2015-84 for Desalination Maintenance and Support Services to Northern Water Pty Ltd.

MOTION CARRIED

Afternoon Tea blessed by Cr Fell
3.25pm – 3.49pm Afternoon Tea

13. 3.49pm – 3.50pm Meeting as Trustee

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Enosa Seconded Cr Mosby
That Council convene as Trustee.

MOTION CARRIED

13.3. 3.50pm- 3.54pm Ugar Freezer Lease

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Stephen Seconded Cr J Gela

That pursuant to the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991* (Qld), the Trustee grant a Lease to Los and Abob Fisheries (Torres Strait Islander Corporation) ICN 7627 over the land and improvements shown in Schedule 1 of the Ugar Freezer Lease ILUA, comprising part of the Deed of Grants in Trust being lot 7 on CP TS174 for the purpose of operation of fish freezer and those purposes incidental thereto, subject to survey, Development Approval and Native Title validation.

MOTION CARRIED

13.1. 3.54pm – 3.55pm Hammond Community Survey Program

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Sabatino Seconded Cr Nai

That the Trustee:

- *work with the Remote Indigenous Land and Infrastructure Program Office (RILIPO) to subdivide the Hammond Island DOGIT as shown on SP248418; and*
- *consent to any land administration actions incidental to and necessary to facilitate lodgement and registration of SP248418, including but not limited to applying to the Minister responsible for administering the Land Act 1994 for the surrender of part of the Deed of Grant in Trust in terms of section 55 of the Land Act 1994 for the purpose of dedicating those surrendered areas as road pursuant to section 94 of the Land Act 1994, with a total area of 2.2952ha.*

MOTION CARRIED

13.2. 3.55pm – 3.56pm Warraber Community Survey Program

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr W Lui Seconded Cr Mosby

That the Trustee:

- *endorse Survey Plan SP270859;*
- *work with the Remote Indigenous Land and Infrastructure Program Office (RILIPO) to subdivide the Warraber Island DOGIT as shown on SP270859; and*
- *consent to any land administration actions incidental to and necessary to facilitate lodgement and registration of SP270859, including but not limited to applying to the Minister responsible for administering the Land Act 1994 (QLD) for the surrender of part of the Deed of Grant in Trust in terms of section 55 of the Land Act 1994 (QLD) for the purpose of dedicating those surrendered areas as road pursuant to section 94 of the Land Act 1994, with a total area of 1.6206ha.*

MOTION CARRIED

13.4. 3.56pm – 4.03pm Saibai Mekem Garden Shed Improvement

Cr Toby noted a COI and abstained from voting

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Enosa Seconded Cr W Lui

That the Trustee consent to the re-establishment and operation by Saibai Mura Buway (Torres Strait Islanders) Corporation RNTBC (“the PBC”) of the Saibai Mekem Garden on the area of land identified in Attachment 1 to this Report, within the Saibai Island Deed of Grant in Trust, including the construction of improvements including fencing (no higher than 2m) and a shed (in accordance with the building approval issued by All Construction Approvals) and other improvements of and incidental to that purpose, on the basis that:

- *the PBC has the consent of the Traditional Owners to the use of the identified land for this purpose; and*
- *the PBC owns and assumes responsibility for the improvements at the Saibai Mekem Garden; and*
- *the PBC assumes public and product liability for all Saibai Mekem Garden activities undertaken on the identified land, and entirely indemnifies and releases Council from any and all liability for loss and/or damage to person or property arising out of the operation of the area as the Saibai Mekem Garden.*

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Toby queried whether structure through this program are required to go through a development application. EMCS advised not in this case, with approval granted from PBC and building.

4.04pm – 4.08pm

Reconvene as Local Government

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr W Lui, Seconded Cr Stephen

That Council re-convene as Local Government

MOTION CARRIED

15. 4.08pm – 5.13pm

General Business

Cr W Lui urged Mayor Gela and Council to implement full animal management law on Warraber. Mayor Gela noted the control of animals and compliance as something that needs to be administered. CEO advised compliance notices to begin being issued between the October and November vet visits.

Cr Toby requested a turtle and dugong management sign be places at Boigu ramp. Cr Toby requested Community briefing tomorrow on Seawalls and Katter Leases.

Cr Sabatino noted a lack of services available during vet visits, other than spaying and euthanasiation and encouraged more investment and provision of animal care treatments for worms, fleas, ticks and mange.

Action Item

EMCoS to review possible provision of animal care treatments at the vet visits including treatments for worms.

Cr G Lui noted a perceived lack of after care for animals after being speyed and expressed concerns about pegs being used on animals after they have been desexed. Cr G Lui also noted issues with the vet desexing animals in view of children

Action Item

EMCoS to review animal treatment arrangements and animal aftercare treatment provision to ensure animals wounds are appropriately managed (specific example was pegging after castration).

Cr Sabatino raised displeasure with wording of the Compliance Notices as too legalistic requiring 'softening'.

Action Item

EMCoS to review Compliance Notice wording.

Cr G Lui noted his disappointment with sewerage issues at Iama.

Action Item

CEO to investigate response issues with Iama sewerage issues

Cr Bosun raised concern with staff using Council vehicles for personal purposes.

Action Item

CEO and EMES to investigate reported personal use of council vehicles

Cr Stephen queried whether the Christmas helicopter subsidy will be re-introduced for 2015/16. CEO advised community members from Ugar able to access Local Fare Scheme via Erub or Masig.

Action Item

EMCoS to provide report on Ugar helicopter subsidy to November budget adoption meeting

Mayor Gela requested a report on the recommencing Ugar Ferry operations

Action Item

EMCS to provide report on Ugar Ferry to November meeting

Cr Mosby queried the approval process for usage of Council facilities and whether community groups are able to seek an exemption. CEO advised local community organisations exempt from charges when hiring council facilities.

EMCS advised that Hire Agreements were in hard copy and available at each office.

Cr Fell invited Council to hold the February 2016 Council Meeting at Mabuia.

Cr G Lui requested an update on airport fencing and line marking.

Action Item

EMES to provide update on Iama Airport Fencing and Line Marking

Cr G Lui also requested an update on the Local Fare Scheme subsidy. Mayor Gela advised constituents of Hammond Island, Horn Island and Thursday Island able to access the scheme, with outer islands to follow. Cr Gela noted the trial for inner islands to run for 5 days before progressing the roll out to outer islands.

Action Item

EO to draft letter to Minister regarding delays to implementation of Local Fare Scheme.

Action Item

MPA to invite Translink and other Local Fare Scheme stakeholders to October Council Meeting.

Cr G Lui asked if details of the new Prime Minister's ministerial portfolio could be circulated

Action Item

MPA to circulate copy of new Prime Minister's ministerial portfolio

Cr Nai queried whether the subsidy will run for two years from the date of proposed roll out or physical roll out. Mayor Gela suggested flagging the query in a meeting with the department of Transport and Main Roads.

Cr Enosa queried the progress of the Saibai Seawalls project and the gazebo project.

Cr Enosa notified Council of a recent submerged dolphin at Saibai and reported that it had been knocked over by the barge delivering rock supply for the Seawalls Project.

Action Item

EMES to check with MSQ if submerged dolphin at Saibai has been reported.

Action Item

EMES to put up notice to advise of submerged dolphin at Saibai.

Cr G Lui advised lama wharf damage worsening.

Action Item

EMES to follow up on lama wharf damage.

Cr Fell requested an update on War Memorials. MPA advised Council currently working with Vanessa SeeKee, Torres Strait Heritage, to research enlistees from the Torres Strait.

MPA advised team also looking at submitting a TSRA grant submission to increase total funding

Meeting closed in prayer by Cr Mosby

5.13pm Council Meeting Close

TUESDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 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 Phillemon Mosby, Division 11 – Poruma 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)

Ms Daisy Ketchell, Executive Officer (EO)

Ms Katherine Wiggins, Manager Performance and Advocacy (MPA)

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

Apologies

Cr Horace Baira, Division 5 – Badu Island

Mr David Abednego, Executive Manager Community Services (EMCoS)

Ms Melissa Barmettler, Executive Manager Financial Services (EMFS)

14. 9.15am – 9.17am **Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Cr Enosa opened the meeting in prayer.

15. 9.18am – 10.50am **General Business**

Cr W Lui discussed the 'Big Red'. CEO advised conversations with EMES had in the previous week and report to be presented to the November or December Council Meeting.

Cr G Lui enquired whether MOA between Council and TSRA had been finalised.

Action Item

CEO to follow up with TSRA CEO to finalise MOA and sign off.

Cr Toby discussed PZJA representation. Mayor Gela advised Council wrote to PZJA for a standing invitation. Further, that a response was received apologizing for the oversight and a standing invitation received.

Cr Toby requested disposal of assets including vehicles and dinghies be progressed. EMCS advised Asset Audit will be included in Operational Plan for 15/16 from November.

Action Item

EMCS to progress disposal of unused assets.

Cr W Lui advised he would be unable to attend the LGAQ conference in Toowoomba.

Action Item

CEO to replace Cr W Lui on attendee list to LGAQ Conference in Toowoomba.

Cr Sabatino requested Council provide a firm view on whether Council assets being sold to the community are sold on a written down value or market value.

Action Item

EMCS to review disposal procedure regarding sale price of assets for disposal.

Cr G Lui discussed use of personal vehicles for work purposes. CEO advised a log must be kept when claiming back to the ATO.

Cr Toby requested an update on the Boigu Divisional Manager vacant position. CEO advised position advertised with no suitable applications. CEO discussed the implementation of a position ranking between MSAO and DM where staff can build themselves into the DM position.

Cr Toby also requested an update on Housing Officer and Labourer vacant positions.

Action Item

EMCoS to update Cr Toby on vacant Housing Officer position

Action Item

GMBSU to update Cr Toby on vacant Labourer position

Cr Nai queried the Seawalls project. Further, that the lack of a seawall is beginning to affect infrastructure on Masig due to erosion.

Action item

EMES to assess medium and long term strategies for addressing erosion as per email to CEO from Cr Nai eg. Dredging in shorter term, redesign of ramp in longer term

Cr Sabatino discussed the financial impacts of travel allowances on the budget.

Action Item

CEO to assess inclusion of travel allowance information in budget reports to Council.

Cr Sabatino requested further assessment of Dauan's septic pumping trailer relocation to Hammond noting that various challenges had been raised to date in relation to its relocation and bringing it back into service at Hammond.

Action Item

EMES/ EMCS to follow up on assessment of septic pumping trailer relocation to Hammond from Dauan.

Cr Sabatino also requested follow up as to whether Council is charging BAS contractors for septic effluent dumping on Hammond.

Action Item

EMES to follow up on charging BAS contractor for septic effluent dumping on Hammond.

Cr Sabatino enquired what was happening with yellow plant pool and whether it could be transferred to Hammond to conduct works. CEO informed that previous rotation of yellow plant pool was funded by NDRRA. As there is currently no funding, there is limited opportunity to rotate the yellow plant pool.

Action Item

EMES to review utilization rates for yellow plant pool and assess ability for rotation in communities within available budget and via backload on empty barges moving Seawalls, Housing and other project materials.

Cr Sabatino requested review of the replacement methodology for plant and that consideration be given to reward good plant management.

Action Item

EMCS to assess plant asset management procedures to incorporate rewarding of good behaviours in relation to plant management.

Cr Nai requested the removal of a derelict yellow plant from Masig. Cr Toby queried whether derelict yellow plants may be disposed of during the seawalls project.

Mayor updated that previous exemption may have been given by EPA for local burial of plant and fleet.

EMCS advised Manager Procurement and Fleet currently working on full audit of plant and fleet for removal and divestment of materials.

Action Item

EMCS to include full status update on derelict plant machinery in monthly report

Action Item

Fleet rationalization to be included as an agenda item for SARG meetings.

Cr Toby queried where Council's surplus is committed. CEO advised the surplus is a book figure and not a cash surplus and therefore cannot be committed to any project. Mayor further advised that this level of information has been communicated in various forums to various key stakeholders.

Cr Nai discussed derelict vehicles being brought into community. EMCS discussed the potential introduction of a permit where constituents would pay a premium to bring a derelict vehicle into the community to refurbish.

Cr G Lui enquired whether Council could investigate whether there is a regulator for quick loan facilities and further whether budgeting workshops for community members could be considered.

Action Item

EMCoS to contact ICAN for possible budgeting workshops for community members and also assess whether there is a regulator for quick loan facilities.

16. 10.50am – 11.43amm Presentation – RAATSICC

Peter Pilot, Manager Child Protection Unit and Emma Schuh, CEO from Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care presented to Council on RAATSIC's expansion from Cape York and Gulf, to now covering the Torres Strait Islands in their catchment.

Emma and Peter provided a brief history of RAATSICC and programs delivered by the sector.

Cr Toby suggested RAATSICC join forces with Education and Queensland Health. Emma Schuh advised while the sector does link to health, education and police, Port Kennedy Association is the funded and recognised entity in the Torres Strait. Further, that RAATSICC are simply advocating for the region.

Cr G Lui discussed the need for entities to work from the outer islands, working in consultation with communities, instead of working from the inner islands.

Cr Nai discussed the statistics presented to the Council, urging Councillors to become advocates for the cause.

Cr Kris queried what role RAATSICC play as an advocate.

Emma Schuh advised RAATSICC's role as not about telling other agencies what to do, but bring them to the communities to experience first-hand.

Mayor Gela thanked Emma Schuh and Peter Pilot for their presentation.

Action Item

MPA to confirm sexual and violent offending crime figures in the Torres Strait and correspond with relevant Ministers to improve service provision to reduce offending rates.

11.47am – 12.55pm Community Consultation

Cr Toby introduced Council to the community.

Cr Toby discussed 2 key topics for Council: Seawalls and Katter leases.

EMCS began by explaining the Katter lease process, noting Boigu Island as having 48 Katter leases to be granted with none having already been granted for the island.

EMCS provided a timeline to the Community for the Katter lease process, noting once community consultations complete and consultation period met, traction expected to happen by mid-2016.

Mayor Gela encouraged the community, stating the community are on the home stretch and Council can only go as fast as legislation permits.

Cr Toby queried the involvement of PBC in the process. Mayor Gela advised PBC only involved if boundary disputes arise. Mayor Gela advised Cr Toby discuss the process with Cr Stephen about the recent community consultation process held at Ugar.

Lack of housing upgrades and renovations on Katter lease houses was raised as a concern by a community member. Mayor Gela advised that subject to Council decision, State is deciding how much to spend to bring houses up to standard as Katter lease holders may become legal owner of property upon issue of the lease. Council is working with State to confirm the "standard" to bring the house up to. This "standard" will determine the budget allocated for the housing works.

Mayor Gela discussed the Seawalls project holdbacks, delivery, cost, and management.

Mayor Gela discussed claims of mis-management, noting a claim that Council wasted funds on off cement during the Saibai Seawalls project. Mayor Gela challenged these claims, noting that the funding works on a reimbursement basis and receipts for the alleged cement have not been submitted. Mayor Gela also challenged claims that the building of 2 cemetery walls at Saibai was an error, when in fact a front and back wall were built due to the area flooding in both directions.

Cr Toby queried the timeline for the Boigu Seawall project.

EMES noted a reduction in costs due to the reduction of renovation/upgrade works on the existing wall, drainage and structure impeding on the site for the wall. EMES advised the project is expected to commence in March or April of 2016, if budget permits.

Cr Toby thanked Council for its briefing and time.

Mayor Gela thanked the community for their consultation.

Leave of absence for next Council meeting registered by:

- Cr Bosun
- Cr Mosby
- Cr Nai
- Cr Toby

Cr G Lui closed the meeting and blessed lunch

12.57pm Council Meeting Close