



**Torres Strait Island**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MINUTES**

**ORDINARY MEETING**

**Thursday 19 and Friday 20 May 2016**

Please find attached Minutes of the above meeting held on Thursday 19 May from 9:15am-6:07pm, Friday 20 May from 9:00am-11:57am at Torres Strait Island Regional Council Office, 46 Victoria Parade, Thursday Island.

## **THURSDAY 19 MAY 2016**

### **Present**

Cr Fred Gela, Mayor  
Cr Keith Fell, Deputy Mayor, Division 4 – Mabuiag Island  
Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu  
Cr Torenzo Elisala, Division 2 – Dauan Island  
Cr Laurie Nona, Division 5 – Badu Island  
Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community at Moa Island  
Cr John Levi, Division 7 – St Pauls Community at Moa Island  
Cr Mario Sabatino, Division 8 – Hammond Island  
Cr Getano Lui Jnr, Division 9 – Iama Island  
Cr Clara Tamu, Division 10 – Warraber Island  
Cr Francis Pearson, Division 11 – Poruma Island  
Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig Island  
Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar Island  
Cr Patrick Thaiday, Division 14 – Erub Island  
Cr Bob Kaigey, Division 15 – Mer Island  
Ms Dania Ahwang, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)  
Mr Chris McLaughlin, Executive Manager Corporate Services (EMCS)  
Mr David Abednego, Executive Manager Community Services (EMCoS)  
Ms Helen Tarrant, Executive Assistant (EA) (Minutes)

### **Apologies**

Cr Ron Enosa, Division 3 – Saibai Island  
Ms Melissa Barmettler, Executive Manager Financial Services (EMFS)  
Mr David Baldwin, Executive Manager Engineering Services (EMES)  
Ms Daisy Ketchell, Executive Officer (EO)

1. **9:15am-9:18am**                      **Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Meeting opened in prayer by Cr Levi.

**Mayor's Welcome and Opening Remarks**

The Mayor provided Councillors with a refresher on how to use the voting system and meeting procedures.

Cr Nai left the meeting at 9:16am.

The Mayor acknowledged native title holders of the community in which the meeting is held: Kaurareg families, Native Title holders and Kaurareg Aboriginal peoples. The Mayor further acknowledged Councillors and constituents, spiritual leaders and elders past and present.

2. **9:18am-9:19am**                      **Apologies**

Cr Enosa – Leave in advance

**RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr Nona*

That Council accepts the apology from Cr Enosa for his absence at this meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED**

3. **9:19am-9:26am**                      **Confirmation of April 2016 Ordinary Meeting Minutes**

Cr Sabatino requested that at the beginning of each Ordinary Meeting a standing agenda item is tabled asking Councillors to declare Conflict of Interest (COI) or Material Personal Interest (MPI) to any agenda item.

**Action Item**

**EA to include standing agenda item at the opening of each Ordinary Meeting declaring COI/MPI.**

Cr Sabatino declared an MPI on the SeaSwift Tender item as his family works with MIPEC.

Cr Nona noted he is chair of Mura Badulgal and requested advice of any agenda item relating to Badu.

EMCS asked Cr Pearson whether he was on the board of the Poruma resort. Whilst there is no specific agenda item today, the resort is noted on the list for future divestment.

**RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr Pearson*

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held April 2016 be adopted as true and accurate.

**MOTION CARRIED**

4. **9:26am-9:49am**                      **Action Item Summary From April Ordinary Meeting**

Cr Toby queried who is now responsible for updating the action items? The CEO noted each Executive is responsible for updating the register with the CEO and EA following up to ensure timely update.

The Mayor requested that indicative timeframe for completion is included in the Action register, rather than noting an item is 'ongoing'. If an Action item is not completed by its due date, the Executive must explain to Council why.

**Action Item**

**CEO/EA to ensure date for completion is included on each action and overdue items identified to Council.**

Previous Action Item 26 – Warraber Action Items Update

Cr Tamu queried the action item noted as complete regarding Warraber Action Items update. The CEO noted she would be happy to provide further details out of session.

**Action Item**

**CEO to contact Cr Tamu to brief her on Warraber Action Items update.**

Previous Action Item 6 – TSIMA presentation

Cr Fell queried why TSIMA had not been invited to this meeting as requested? The CEO noted that a whole raft of requests to present to Council had been received and the next available opportunity would be the July Ordinary meeting. The CEO further noted that where possible, requests to meet with Council are clarified and dealt with by the admin team.

**Action Item**

**EA to ensure time on the agenda at the July Ordinary meeting for the TSIMA presentation.**

Previous Action Item 10 – MSAO workplans

Cr Lui requested an update on assistance for Councillors from MSAOs. The CEO reported she had emailed the Executive Officer to consider. The In house Leaders' Forum in June will revisit 'separation of powers' and ensure administrative support for Councillors.

Cr Nona noted there was a need to educate the community re: separation of powers and felt this was best addressed by the Administration as he felt the community often blamed Councillors for lack of action without understanding the separation of powers. Cr Nona suggested that this presentation be delivered to each Division. The CEO noted the posters displayed on the noticeboard at Boigu as an example and would work with Councillors to establish their preference for a similar poster or presentation to be delivered by the Divisional Councillor or Administration as some Councillors may be more comfortable to do this than others.

**Action Item**

**CEO to provide information to each division on the separation of powers both as an information poster and a PowerPoint presentation and work with Councillors to establish their preference.**

Cr Lui suggested alternative language be used rather than 'separation of power'. Cr Nai noted this issue had arisen during the recent elections and there was a need to clarify the TSIRC entity – not just Councillors but Council.

Cr Bosun requested media allocation to further discuss so that we can educate the community regarding roles and responsibilities, explain policies and procedures and other relevant information. Many PBCs do not understand the separation of powers and it will assist in improving the relationship.

### Previous Action Item 9 – Kubin Enterprise Divestment

Cr Bosun requested an update on this action item. EMCS would provide a status update to Cr Bosun today out of session. Cr Sabatino felt the action item did not accurately reflect the required action and that it was a request for more detail on what had actually happened and how that divestment became available. There was no agreement in place but it was operating as an art centre and is a Council asset. EMCS noted Legal is following this up at the moment.

### Action Item

**EA to amend April Ordinary Meeting minutes to reflect discussion from April Ordinary Meeting re: Kubin Enterprise Divestment.**

Cr Nai returned to the meeting at 9:47am

### Previous Action Item 3 – Dauan Ferry Update

Cr Elisala queried why the vehicle is still being used when it is up for divestment? EMCS responded that Engineering is still using the vehicle until divestment is finalised. Cr Elisala noted the condition of the vehicle is poor and wondered whether it would be possible that the applicant get a new or repaired vehicle? EMCS confirmed that divestment is on an 'as is, where is' basis.

### Previous Action Item 26

Cr Tamu requested clarification as to whether the Fisherman's Association is proceeding with the divestment or not? EMCS noted they have 28 days to decide or it will go out for EOI.

## **5. 9:49am-9:58am Development Application – Mabuiag Lease H**

EMCS spoke to the report. The matter had been left laying on the table from the April Ordinary meeting in the absence of the Deputy Mayor.

Cr Nai and Cr Tamu declared a perceived Conflict of Interest (COI) as board member and employee of Queensland Health respectively.

Councillors agreed Crs Nai and Tamu should not vote but could remain in the room for the discussion.

Cr Nona queried what benefit the Mabuiag PBC was getting from this arrangement. EMCS noted that Council is not party to the ILUA but noted that the lease had already been approved and this resolution seeks approval to the Development Application. EMCS would provide further explanation out of session to Cr Nona.

### **RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr Elisala*

That Council issue a Development Permit for 'Reconfiguration of a Lot' with the inclusion of the following conditions:

1. *The development must be carried out generally in accordance with the following plan:*
  - a. *Survey Plan Number SP277161, titled 'Plan of Lease H in Lot 2 on SP242990' subject to any alterations;*
  - b. *found necessary by Chief Executive Officer at the time of examination of drawings or during construction of the works because of particular engineering or cultural requirements and to ensure the works comply in all respects with the requirements of FNQROC Development Manual and good engineering practice; and*
  - c. *to comply with project specific conditions.*

2. All works must be carried out in accordance with the approved plans, conditions and specifications, to the requirements and satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer.
3. This approval is valid for four (4) years. A plan of survey must be lodged with Council for endorsement within this time, otherwise the approval will lapse.
4. The applicant is responsible for the cost of providing any necessary services to the proposed lease area.
5. The Lease area is to be connected to water, sewer, power and telecommunications to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer. The cost of these connections is to be borne by the applicant.

**MOTION CARRIED WITH CR NAI & CR TAMU RECORDED AS VOTING AGAINST**

*Cr Nai and Cr Tamu declared a perceived Conflict of Interest (COI) as board member and employee of Queensland Health respectively and did not vote.*

**6. 9:58am-10:42am                      Information Technology Policy (PO13)**

EMCS spoke to the report and explained the difference between Policies and Procedures. Policy documents are adopted by Council, whereas, Procedures are dealt with by the Administration.

Councillors requested that two versions of this Policy be developed, one for staff and one for Councillors due to their diverse access requirements.

**Action Item**

**EMCS to revise current Policy and flesh out the Procedure and present to Council at the June Ordinary meeting for endorsement.**

**Action Item**

**EMCS to consider legality in presenting a report to Council on MSAO IT usage including a pie chart of usage to provide a true picture of the problem in the Divisions.**

**RESOLUTION**

*That Council adopt the Information Technology Policy (PO 13)*

**MATTER LEFT LAYING ON THE TABLE**

Cr Stephen blessed the Morning Tea

**10:40am-11:17am Morning Break**

**7. 11:17am-12:27pm                      Asset Management Plans**

EMCS spoke to the report and confirmed four Asset Management Plans (AMPs) were tabled for endorsement today with another five to the June Ordinary meeting: water, sewer, waste, transport, buildings community.

Cr Tamu enquired regarding Warraber stadium noting it is a big concern on Warraber and it is dangerous. \$95K has been quoted to repair the roof. However, if it is not repaired it will become a bigger issue with increased costs. Cr Tamu noted Regional Volleyball Carnivals are held there.

The Mayor discussed Council's Operational Plan 2016/17 presentations over the last few days and adoption of the 2016/17 budget at the June Ordinary meeting, noting there will be an opportunity to vote on how funds are allocated. The Mayor encouraged Cr Tamu to discuss Warraber stadium at that meeting and seek support from other Councillors.

Cr Tamu left the meeting at 11:43am

The CEO reminded Councillors that priority projects will be those that meet the aims of the Corporate Plan and Capital Works Matrix.

Cr Elisala noted playground equipment should be written off and knocked down as unsafe.

**Action Item**

**EMES to review playground at Dauan with a view to removing unsafe playground equipment.**

Cr Nona noted saltwater contamination and rust damage is an issue for assets in our region. Sustainability is key and sustainability of materials.

Cr Nona asked whether he could request a playground on Badu. The Mayor noted funding may be available through TSRA and further noted that if it is a priority for Badu, Council's Special Projects Officer Grants (SPOG) could seek grant funding.

**Action Item**

**EMCoS to talk to his team about separating courts from stadiums and creating a separate asset class.**

Cr Bosun requested that the SPOG meet with Councillors prior to the budget meeting and prioritise Councillors' projects. The Mayor reiterated the need to go through the Capital Works Matrix first and then get SPOG to identify funding opportunities.

The CEO added that Councillors' priority list will also need to be scoped and then costed. Council will then need to decide whether we have the available budget.

Cr Sabatino noted that it seems the problem in general with Asset Management Plans is not having funds. We are an evolving organisation and we need to start maintaining these assets ourselves through staff on the ground. The simple act of getting out there twice a week and hosing buildings down will reduce salt erosion problems, for example. Many officers are not extended to the maximum and could take on responsibilities for these maintenance tasks.

Cr Elisala noted the Dauan oval had not been used for some time and the grass required mowing and the Grandstand required repairs. How do we fund its maintenance? Should we charge sporting groups to use this space? The CEO noted that the Fees & Charges register did not include fees at present for use of ovals.

The Mayor suggested that Councillors over the coming days email the CEO with their critical assets priorities, for example Badu Grandstand or Warraber Stadium – both are considered critical asset as lack of maintenance could lead to fatal incidents. This is what makes them critical. Cr Sabatino noted that part of our Risk Assessment is to ensure our assets are safe.

The Mayor noted the Badu Grandstand is picked up in the report and stadiums are an important concern. The Mayor reiterated his advice to Councillors to advise the CEO as soon as possible of Council assets in their communities that have not been captured in the Asset Management Plans.

Cr Nona asked how we prioritise between Warraber and Badu. EMCS responded that discussions around the Capital Works Matrix is the time to elevate this issue. Councillors should review the other AMPs and email EMCS if anything is missing. Critical assets in particular.

EMCS continued that if your community's priority is not in the Sustainability Matrix that is cause for concern as the Sustainability Matrix is the document that will inform Council's investment.

Cr Sabatino noted that some hard decisions will need to be made. Some recommendations may result in demolition.

Cr Thaiday noted the Erub pump shed was in need of repair with iron rusted and hanging off the shed.

**Action Item**

**EMES to follow up on Erub pump shed.**

Cr Nona noted Badu Water Main access is restricted due to the creek crossing in certain seasons.

**Action Item**

**EMES to monitor Badu Water Main management by Engineering Team.**

The Mayor agreed and added that identified projects might not be replaced like for like, but may be demolished or made safe and then demolished when funds are available.

**Action Item**

**Councillors to review plans and advise EMCS by email if any critical assets in their communities have been omitted.**

Cr Pearson queried why some of these assets were not repaired when first reported? EMCS noted the simple answer was funds. The longer we wait the more costly the repairs are - or the asset needs to be demolished. Repairs should be undertaken as soon as deterioration is reported.

The Mayor added that even if many of the assets had been repaired at the time, the building is unsafe and it is surprising some ever passed building code checks. They were poorly built and inferior materials used.

Cr Nona asked whether Engineering has better systems in place now to ensure deterioration of Council assets is identified before it becomes a costly repair. Cr Nona suggested that if we do not we should change those officer's responsibilities.

**RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Sabatino, Seconded Cr Bosun*

*It is recommended that Council adopt the Recreation Buildings Corporate, Fleet and ITC Asset Management Plans.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Cr Kaigey blessed the Lunch  
**12:27pm-1:47pm Lunch Break**

Cr Tamu returned to the meeting at 1:47pm



8. **1:47pm-4:20pm** **Closed Business**

**RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Elisala, Seconded Cr Nai*

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

- (e) Contracts proposed to be made by it; 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.

**MOTION CARRIED**

1:50pm-2:00pm All staff present were asked to leave the meeting with the exception of the CEO and the EMCS.

**8.1. SARG Membership**

**8.2. Organisational Structure**

Cr Fell blessed the Afternoon Tea  
**3:05pm-3:33pm Afternoon Break**

Cr Sabatino left the meeting at 3:33pm due to a declared Material Personal Interest (MPI) for Preferred Supplier Arrangement – Sea Freight and Fuel Supply and did not vote.

**Closed Business Action Item**

**EMCS to forward a copy of the Resolution whereby Council resolved to seek a non-exclusive Arrangement for Sea Freight & Fuel Supply.**

Cr Lui left the meeting at 4:04pm.

**8.3. TSIRC 2016-87 Preferred Supplier Arrangement – Sea Freight and Fuel Supply**

**RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr Nona*

That Council move out of closed business.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Cr Sabatino returned to the meeting at 4:20pm

Cr. Lui returned to the meeting at 4:31pm

**8.1 SARG Membership**

**RESOLUTION**

*That in accordance with Council's Strategic Advisory Reference Group (SARG) Terms of Reference, Council appoint by nomination and resolution the Councillor members to the SARG membership.*

*Cr Sabatino was nominated by Cr Bosun and declined the nomination.*

*Cr Lui was nominated by Cr Toby and seconded by Cr Elisala. Cr Lui accepted the nomination.*

*Cr Tamu was nominated by Cr Fell and seconded by Cr Stephen. Cr Tamu accepted the nomination.*

*Cr Nai was nominated by Cr Toby and declined the nomination.*

*Cr Nona was nominated by Cr Levi and seconded by Cr Bosun. Cr Nona accepted the nomination.*

*Cr Kaigey was nominated by Cr Bosun and declined the nomination.*

*Cr Thaiday was nominated by Cr Fell and declined the nomination.*

*Councillors Lui, Tamu and Nona were thereby appointed to the Strategic Advisory Reference Group.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **8.2 Organisational Structure**

### **RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr Tamu*

*That Council endorse the Organisational Structure in accordance with s196(1) of the Local Government Act 2009 (Qld).*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Cr Sabatino left the meeting at 4:32pm

## **8.3 TSIRC 2016-87 Preferred Supplier Arrangement – Sea Freight and Fuel Supply**

### **RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Nai, Seconded Cr Pearson*

*That pursuant to section 233 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld), Council resolve to enter into Preferred Supplier Arrangements for the category of Sea Freight and Fuel Supply with: -*

- 1. Sea Swift Pty Ltd ABN 16 010 889 040; and*
- 2. MIPEC Pty Ltd ABN 31 108 258 019*

*for two (2) years with an option for extension at Council's discretion for a further two (2) years and delegate all power, financial and otherwise, to the CEO, to execute agreements and approve purchase orders in accordance with adopted Council budget.*

**ALL IN FAVOUR**

*Cr Sabatino left the room due to a declared Material Personal Interest (MPI) due to family employment with MIPEC Pty Ltd and did not vote.*

## **9. 4:39pm-4:48pm Risk Register**

Cr Sabatino returned to the meeting at 4:39pm

Cr Lui left the meeting at 4:40pm.

Cr Sabatino asked how often the Risk Register was tabled with Council. EMCS confirmed it was tabled annually. Cr Sabatino asked why the QTC modelling that stated Council would be insolvent by 2020 was not included. EMCS noted improvements had been made but concurred that it was still a risk. The CEO added it was a high managed risk and was noted under funding. Cr Sabatino felt this should still be included as it was a moderate to high risk.

Cr Sabatino noted that for the purposes of insurance and keeping our premiums down this report is perfect, but the reality was it was still a risk.

### **RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr Nona*

*That Council adopt the Risk Register as presented.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

10. **4:49pm-4:50pm**                      **Enterprise Divestment – Poruma Resort**

**RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Sabatino, Seconded Cr Fell*

*That, at the request of Cr Pearson, the Poruma Resort is added to Council's List of Assets for Future Divestment.*

**MOTION CARRIED WITH CR PEARSON RECORDED AS VOTING AGAINST**

*Cr Pearson declared a Conflict of Interest (COI) due to membership of the Board of a potential tenderer and abstained from voting.*

11. **4:50pm-5:11pm**                      **Meeting as Trustee**

**RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Nona, Seconded Cr Kaigey*

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**11.1. Torres Strait Regional Authority Ranger lease – Erub Lease A**

**RESOLUTION**

1. *That pursuant to the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 (Qld), the Trustee grant a lease to the Torres Strait Regional Authority over the below Lease area in part of Lot 4 on Crown Plan TS156 (Erub Island), for a multi-purpose facility as part of the Torres Strait Regional Authority's Land and Sea Ranger Program, namely: -*

<b>Plan/Document number</b>	<b>Lease Description</b>
<b>SP2484231</b>	<b>Lease A</b>

**MOTION LOST**

Cr Thaiday noted he was not happy to accept this proposal as is and felt we should work with TSRA to agree better terms for Council as Trustee.

The Mayor was not in favour of this proposal and suggested the terms set out in point four be offered and discussed further with TSRA.

Cr Sabatino was not in favour of this proposal.

Cr Thaiday requested that the matter was left laying on the table until Council can give the matter further consideration.

The Mayor disagreed and suggested rather than leave the matter laying on the table, that Council reject this offer and go back to TSRA renegotiate.

**Action Item**

**That Council write to TSRA and reject the offer currently tabled and renegotiate improved terms.**

## **RESOLUTION**

*Moved Cr Stephen, Seconded Cr Sabatino*

*That in accordance with Section 83 of Local Government Act 2009 (QLD) Management of Community Development of Grants in Trust, the meeting of the Trustee of Community DOGIT be concluded and the separate meeting of the Indigenous Regional Council resumed.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Mayor left the meeting at 5:12pm.

Cr Sabatino left the meeting at 5:12pm

### **12. 5:12pm-5:14pm Leave in Advance**

The following Councillors requested leave in advance of the June meeting:

12.1 Cr Nai

12.2 Cr Nona

12.3 Cr Bosun

12.4 Cr Tamu

12.5 Cr Toby

### **13. 5:14pm-6:07pm General Business**

Cr Nai left the meeting at 5:17pm

Cr Toby left the meeting at 5:20pm

#### **13.1 Blue Phone Erub**

Cr Thaiday advised that no housing maintenance and repair works had been carried out at Erub for 5-6 weeks. Some of the issues reported were electrical issues, water and sewerage and should therefore have been priorities. Cr Thaiday requested clarification. Deputy Mayor was presiding on behalf of the Mayor and noted this was an ongoing issue and suggested an alternative to the blue phone be explored. The CEO concurred and noted Housing Officers should work with tenants to log calls. The CEO further noted that as we are towards the end of the financial year, the Department will only respond to emergencies, using their own classification, as they are running out of funds. It is important to follow up in the new financial year. The Deputy Mayor noted it had been suggested that the Department waits until there are a number of issues on an island before they will come out. Cr Thaiday requested that the matter is looked into further. In his opinion, blue phones should be scrapped. Cr Nona noted the blue phone process is not working at Badu either.

#### **Action Item**

**CEO to follow up with the Department regarding Blue Phones and advise Councillors of outcome via email.**

Cr Nai returned to the meeting at 5:25pm

The Mayor returned to the meeting at 5:32pm

#### **13.2 Badu**

Cr Nona noted a number of issues provided to the EA by Mura Badulgal (TSI) Corporation RNTBC and requiring response from several departments of Council.

#### **Action Item**

**EA to follow up response from various Council officers and provide detailed response to Mura Badulgal via email, copying Cr Nona.**

Cr Nona noted the Badu community were concerned there are no traineeships with Council - administrative, construction, engineering.

**Action Item**

**EMCS to provide a response re: traineeships to Cr Nona via email.**

Cr Nona discussed the horse problem on Badu and the requirement for clamps on bins to stop horses rummaging through rubbish. He also noted a lack of rubbish bins in park areas and at the football oval. These matters had been previously raised with Engineering.

**Action Item**

**EMES to provide a response re: clamps on bins and additional bins for Badu to Cr Nona via email.**

Cr Nona discussed the Healthy Lifestyle Officer (HLO) positions and the programmes that they deliver. He requested further detail on how they are monitored on the ground and noted that many seem under occupied.

**Action Item**

**EMCoS to provide a response re: HLOs to Cr Nona via email.**

Cr Nona discussed safety hazards at Badu Stadium: the glass light globes have slipped and glass shattered on stadium. Cr Nona suggested that a different type of light cover was required and noted he had raised this matter two years ago.

**Action Item**

**EMCoS to provide a response re: replacement light globes for Badu Stadium to Cr Nona via email.**

Cr Nona requested further information regarding the application of Councillor Discretionary funding and whether it was at his discretion or he needed to seek approval from the Mayor. Cr Nona noted he would like to contribute funds towards a community school bus for hot weather and wet weather. The Mayor noted a revised policy would be tabled for adoption by Council at the June Ordinary meeting but until the end of the current financial year Councillors had a maximum of \$20K at their discretion. However, should Cr Nona want to put this amount towards a school bus, for example, a resolution of Council would be required as Council would then be responsible for its maintenance, etc. The Mayor further noted it would be possible to purchase a bus and donate it to the school but it would use all funds available to the Councillor for one year. The Mayor further noted that schools have budgets for such equipment and perhaps Cr Nona could discuss that with the school on Badu. For example, Education Queensland paid for the bus on Mer. Cr Nona queried the proposed amendments to Councillors discretionary funds and noted that whilst he understands the idea of spreading funds across the community, he was conscious that his term in office is only four years and he wanted to leave a legacy. His community has financial issues and he wants to assist in a meaningful way.

Cr Nona queried the proposed new house opposite the school at Badu which is facing the wrong way.

**Action Item**

**CEO to investigate the proposed new house opposite the school at Badu which is facing the wrong way and provide advice to Cr Nona.**

**13.3 Warraber**

Cr Tamu noted her husband, the PBC chair, was seeking to locate PBC funds, held by Council pre-amalgamation of \$30K (\$15K for Telstra and \$15K for Ergon).

**Action Item**

**EMCS to investigate Warraber PBC funds held by Council and provide a response to Cr Tamu via email.**

Cr Tamu sought advice from the meeting regarding subdividing leases and it was suggested she contact EMCS out of session for further advice.

**Action Item**

**The Mayor requested that BSU provide Cr Tamu with full scope of works of the Warraber Katter lease property at Lot 41 copying him.**

**The Mayor also requested that BSU provide scope and costs for the introduction of a ramp at Lot 41 and advise both he and Cr Tamu.**

Cr Tamu requested that the old water shed at Warraber be used as a Men's Shed.

**Action Item**

**EMES would investigate the possibility of using the old water shed as a Men's shed and advise Cr Tamu.**

Cr Sabatino returned to the meeting at 5:59pm

Cr Toby returned to the meeting at 5:59pm

**13.4 Dauan**

Cr Elisala requested information on the feasibility of introducing an early childhood programme on Dauan in conjunction with My Pathway.

**Action Item**

**EMCoS to include Dauan early childhood programme on Sustainability Matrix.**

Cr Elisala noted Dauan community members sought advice regarding whether they had a second water tank.

**Action Item**

**CEO to advise Cr Elisala re: second tank via email.**

Cr Elisala requested additional information regarding Katter leases on Dauan.

**Action Item**

**EMCS to provide advice to Cr Elisala re Katter leases out of session.**

Cr Elisala queried whether it was possible to reintroduce the helicopter subsidy for Dauan year round.

**Action Item**

**CEO to investigate the possibility of continuing the helicopter subsidy year round and advise Cr Elisala out of session.**

Cr Elisala noted there was still no nurse at the house released for Health and requested advice on next steps. Cr Tamu suggested Cr Elisala consider sharing this resource with another island.

**Action Item**

**CEO would follow up with Queensland Health and advise Cr Elisala out of session.**

**13.5**

### **Queensland Health**

The CEO confirmed Queensland Health (Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Public Health Programme) would be invited to the July meeting on Boigu.

### **Action Item**

**EA to include Queensland Health on agenda for July Ordinary meeting on Boigu.**

14. **6:15pm**                      **Meeting Closed in prayer by Cr Fell.**

## **FRIDAY 20 MAY 2016**

### **Present**

Cr Fred Gela, Mayor  
Cr Keith Fell, Deputy Mayor, Division 4 – Mabuiag Island  
Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu  
Cr Torenzo Elisala, Division 2 – Dauan Island  
Cr Laurie Nona, Division 5 – Badu Island  
Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community at Moa Island  
Cr John Levi, Division 7 – St Pauls Community at Moa Island  
Cr Mario Sabatino, Division 8 – Hammond Island  
Cr Getano Lui Jnr, Division 9 – Iama Island  
Cr Clara Tamu, Division 10 – Warraber Island  
Cr Francis Pearson, Division 11 – Poruma Island  
Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig Island  
Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar Island  
Cr Patrick Thaiday, Division 14 – Erub Island  
Cr Bob Kaigey, Division 15 – Mer Island  
Ms Dania Ahwang, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) (from 10:30am)  
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 Helen Tarrant, Executive Assistant (EA) (Minutes)

### **Apologies**

Cr Ron Enosa, Division 3 – Saibai Island  
Ms Melissa Barmettler, Executive Manager Financial Services (EMFS)  
Ms Daisy Ketchell, Executive Officer (EO)



15. **9:00am-9:05am**                      **Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Cr Stephen opened the meeting in prayer

16. **9:05am-10:10am**                      **MIP5 and MIP6**

*Mary Bani, Programme Manager, Culture, Arts and Heritage, Healthy & Safe Communities; Kerry Dixon, Project Manager, Healthy Communities Programme and Alex Harrington – Torres Strait Regional Authority*

Mary Bani delivered a brief overview of the Major Infrastructure Programme (MIP) and spoke to her presentation. Mary noted TSRA were waiting on confirmation of funding for MIP6 at present.

Cr Nona queried why waste management was not included as an environmental health infrastructure priority. Mary responded that following their Feasibility Study it was identified that waste management would cost too much and TSRA need to work more closely with councils to address in other ways.

Cr Nona felt that MIP funding should only be available to the Torres Strait region and noted that in his opinion TSIRC was the poor relation with the majority of funds going to TSC region. Cr Nona suggested TSRA review the rubbish dumps on the outer islands which are in desperate need of improvement.

The Mayor responded and noted Cr Nona was touching on history. There are now a greater number of recipients for this funding than originally.

The Mayor noted that this discussion was better continued with the TSRA Chair and CEO and State and Commonwealth representatives rather than the officer level.

Mary noted she would advise TSRA that TSIRC had raised waste management as a key concern.

Cr Bosun noted that it appeared that TSRA used statistics to award funding but the outer islands are in the most need.

Cr Pearson asked where funding programmes for removal of Asbestos were. Asbestos in old houses is a health hazard. Mary responded that she did not have the answer but would take the questions on notice and provide further details to EA via email for circulation amongst Councillors.

Mary spoke to slides outlined the structure of the MIP management committee.

Mary offered to provide quarterly updates to Council or to present quarterly to Council at its Ordinary meeting, subject to our preference.

The Mayor asked how MIP was moving forward: potential discussions/disputes and compensation over Native Title. Mary noted that the Native Title office had been looking at this and she would provide additional information out of session.

Cr Lui queried the use of the National Aboriginal Health Strategy (NAHS) model and asked whether the model had been reviewed and updated as it was used in his day only for the outer islands. Cr Lui asked how this model applied to other regions (ie TSC and NPARC).

The Mayor asked what the dollar value of training delivered in the region was and noted Commonwealth was currently immune from IEOP.

Mary noted TSRA had requested \$58.8m in funding for MIP5 but received \$20m and is still awaiting confirmation of budget for MIP6.

The Mayor queried whether the reporting level for the Seawalls project was comparable across the board for all TSRA funding projects or whether it was unique to the Seawalls project or to TSIRC. Mary noted that as TSIRC took on the project management role as well additional reporting was required. Alex responded that TSIRC was treated no differently, a lot of money has been provided to the Seawalls project and therefore detailed reporting was required.

Cr Bosun queried how greater demand on resources was considered by TSRA in funding provision, for example additional water has been required on some of the outer islands in the dry season for the past two years, there are ten new houses being built on Kubin and this will create additional demand on water supply. This should be considered by TSRA when providing funding.

The Mayor noted that this was being considered at the Technical Working Group (TWG) which included TSIRC, TSRA, Ergon and others.

Cr Stephen noted safe All Tide Access had been a priority for Ugar for the last 20 years and should be part of TSRA's vision and would improve health outcomes. Mary agreed and noted it was project TSRA would like to get money for. Mary suggested the matter be discussed further at the TSIRC/TSRA meeting on Monday 23 May. The Mayor noted the project was currently ineligible for TSRA funding but Mary would like to explore other methods of funding.

Councillors thanked Mary and her team for their presentation and looked forward to receiving additional information via email in due course.

**17. 10:10am-10:51am ABS Census 2016**

*Benny Mabo, Local Engagement Manager and Sere Stephen, District Manager*

Sere Stephen acknowledged Traditional Owners of the land and gave condolences to the Mayor and congratulations to all Councillors on their election.

Sere spoke to his presentation and noted Census night on Tuesday 9 August. However, the Census would be conducted in the Torres Strait and remote areas from late July to late August.

The CEO joined the meeting at 10:30am.

Benny discussed local opportunities for employment and encouraged Councillors to nominate people from their communities who are very capable and know the community well.

The Mayor requested data, once collected, on USB for each Councillor as it would be useful to Council in preparing submissions, etc.

Cr Toby blessed the Morning Tea  
**10:51am-11:19am Morning Tea Break**

**18. 11:19am-11:57am General Business**

The Mayor had a matter to attend to and the Deputy Mayor presided.

**18.1 Poruma**

Cr Pearson noted a number of items requiring attention in his community. Whilst he recognised some costs were involved he was keen for the matters to be resolved as soon as possible.

- Jetty: damaged by SeaSwift. All users had been informed many times re: safety. However, the barricade was removed. Previously pilot boats have damaged the jetty but have carried out repairs. SeaSwift have not.

**Action Item**

**EMES/EMCS to follow up damage claim with SeaSwift.**

- Kiosk: the cool room needs to be repaired or replaced.

**Action Item**

**EMCS to investigate divestment of Kiosk on an 'as is, where is' basis and inform Cr Pearson of options.**

- Fencing to workshop: Council vehicle is unsecured with children and other unauthorised persons accessing the space.

**Action Item**

**EMCS to run project through Sustainability Matrix.**

- Council office fencing: needs to be erected.

**Action Item**

**ENCS to run project through Sustainability Matrix.**

- Sporting facilities: amenities are very run down also interior doors. Need to be repaired and/or replaced.

**Action Item**

**EMCoS to run project through Sustainability Matrix.**

- Construction of a small boat ramp: Poruma community would like this facility. Most dinghies are on trailers and a small ramp would be well used by the community.

**Action Item**

**EMES to run project through Sustainability Matrix.**

- Fuel bowsers: currently users are required to pay at the office and then an Engineering officer has to go and fuel up. Anyone could steal the fuel if someone forgets to turn it off. Would like a self service system available 24 hours that would allow self service payment by card.

**Action Item**

**EMCS to run project through Sustainability Matrix.**

- Playground in front of the Council office: would like play equipment that would be safe for children instead of climbing the trees.

**Action Item**

**EMCoS to run project through Sustainability Matrix.**

**EA to coordinate response to Poruma matters.**

**18.2 Iama**

Cr Lui noted a number of items requiring attention in his community.

- Art Centre: air conditioning, lights and IKC computers require attention. Better security is required as air con has been vandalised by children, fluorescent lights would better than current lights and there is a problem with IKC computers.

**Action Item**

**CEO to follow up with EO.**

- Zenadth Kes: need to formally adopt this name or not use it.

**Action Item**

**EA to add to SARG agenda.**

- Norfolk Island: moving from self governing to Norfolk Island Regional Council. Take delegation to Norfolk Island and learn from their experience. Where did they go wrong. Special Projects Officer Grants Officer to apply for funding for this trip.

### **Action Item**

**Public Affairs Officer (PAO) to coordinate research project.  
EA to coordinate response to lama matters.**

#### **18.3 St Pauls**

- Cr Levi reported misuse of Council vehicles in the community by engineering staff. There appears to be a long standing culture of misuse of Council assets and Policies and Procedures. Could vehicles be locked up at 5pm so staff then find their own way home and all engineering vehicles locked in a compound at 5pm? The CEO noted current Council policy exists for Council vehicles to be locked up at 5pm but the policy obviously needs to be enforced. Few staff have after hours access for legitimate purposes. EMES noted an upcoming DEO team building workshop was taking place next week and he will raise this matter and make sure it is policed. Cr Nai agreed and noted that the engineering team are the most visible in communities. It is not a new issue but most damaging to Council's credibility. Cr Lui also agreed. Cr Pearson noted he keeps the keys of the only after-hours vehicle available and only gives the key to those he trusts for a specific purpose.

### **Action Item**

**EMCS to follow up on reported misuse of Council vehicles.**

- Local carpenter, Paul Ware, is obtaining a builder's license and asked GMBSU and Building Supervisor for a reference and they declined. There are lots of carpenters in the community but it is difficult to know what they are doing there. Who is monitoring them? Cr Sabatino agreed and noted it is an issue he has been highlighting for some time. Bring in a worker at an hourly rate and between jobs they are under utilised. The CEO noted Council was trying to address this.

### **Action Item**

**CEO to follow up on St Pauls building programme issues.  
EA to coordinate response to St Pauls matters.**

Cr Toby left the meeting at 11:40am

Cr Nona left the meeting at 11:40am

#### **18.4 Mer**

Cr Kaigey noted he had observed many of the issues noted above on Mer.

- Cr Kaigey noted concern for Council materials which are currently out in the open and exposed to weather potentially wasting money. Cr Kaigey noted he was exploring how he can organise a facility or build a shed. The CEO noted space had been negotiated with Mer Gedkem Le but it is only secure and not completely sheltered .

### **Action Item**

**CEO to follow up on Mer building materials storage issue.**

#### **19.5 TSIPSO**

Cr Lui sought clarification on TIPSO career path and promotion process. EMCS confirmed process for Community Police Officers when managed by Council.

Cr Sabatino returned to the meeting at 11:50am

### **19. Next Meeting**

28 & 29 June, Erub – Budget

### **20. 11:57am Meeting Closed in prayer by Cr Lui.**