

**Torres Strait Island Regional Council (TSIRC)
Special Meeting
Held at the *Novotel Oasis Resort*, Cairns
Friday 1st October 2010
9.10am – 1.30pm**

Present: Cr. Fred Gela, Mayor
Cr. Kenny Bedford, Deputy Mayor, Division 14 - Erub
Cr. Ron Enosa, Division 3 – Saibai Island
Cr. Wayne Guivarra, Division 5 – Badu Island
Cr. Keith Fell, Division 4 – Mabulag Island
Cr. Willie Lui, Division 10 - Warraber
Cr. John Mosby, Division 12 – Yorke
Cr. Florianna Bero, Division 13 – Ugar
Cr. Ron Day – Division 15 – Mer Island
Cr. Raymond Soki, Division 2 – Dauan
Mr. John Scarce, Chief Executive Officer
Ms Dania Ahwang, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Anthony Bird, Executive Manager, Corporate & Finance
Mr. Pat McGuire, Executive Manager, Engineering Services
Mr. Lloyd Sunderland, Executive Manager, Communities
Mr. Noel Peters, Executive Manager, Human Resource Manager
Mr. David Abednego, Executive Officer
Ms Jess James, Public Relations & Media Officer
Mrs Tania Sailor, Executive Secretary,

Apologies: Cr. Nancy Pearson, Division 8- Hammond
Cr. Donald Banu, Division 1 – Boigu Island
Cr. Toshie Kris, Division 7 – St. Pauls
Cr. Phillemon Mosby, Division 11 – Poruma Island
Cr. Walter Mackie, Division 9 - Iama
Cr. David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin

9.10am: Meeting opened in prayer by Cr. Fell

ONE MINUTE SILENCE

There was a minute silence to pay respect to families who have lost their loved ones recently.

ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGY – COUNCILLORS ABSENCE

Moved Cr. Bedford, *Seconded* Cr. Fell that Council accepts the apology from Cr. Pearson, Cr. Kris and Cr. P. Mosby for their absence at the meeting.

Motion Carried

MAYORS OPENING REMARKS

- Will go into preliminary discussions prior to meeting with Commissioner of Police and Colleagues scheduled for after morning tea.
- Bearing in mind that time is of the essence when it comes to question time that we need to allow discussion to take place and not rush it.

LGOC BUILDING SERVICES

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr. Fell, Seconded Cr. Lui that Council:

- Undertakes further consultation with key stakeholders regarding the outcomes of the Public Benefit Assessment in accordance with s13 of Local Government (Beneficial Enterprises and Business Activities) Regulation 2010;
- Adopt a Local Government Owned Corporation Structure for its Building Services Unit in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009, with consideration to the results of the consultation;
- Authorises the CEO to begin preliminary set-up of the new entity including structuring administrative, governance and compliance obligations in accordance with the additional Corporatisation costs identified in the AEC Recommendations; and
- That a Corporatisation Committee be established consisting of five (5) persons, two (2) of which being Mr Fred Gela and Mr John Scarce with the remaining positions being filled with external people.

Motion Carried

DRAFT FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 09/10

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr. Bedford, Seconded Cr. Guivarra that Council adopt The DRAFT Torres Strait Island Regional Council Financial Report for the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, including amended comparatives for the period 15 March 2008 to 30 June 2009.

Motion Carried

COMMUNITY PLAN

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr. Bedford, Seconded Cr. Bero that Council adopt the Torres Strait Island Regional Council Community Plan 2009 – 2029 as attached.

Motion Carried

PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS ON POLICING ISSUES

Cr. Gela brief members that discussion needs to take place on Police issues in communities before the Commissioner of Police arrives for his presentation and handed the meeting over to the CEO for further discussions.

CEO advised:

- Since Warraber Meeting nothing has happened –need to get the Commissioner and the Minister together in the same room for discussions again.
- To access CDEP:
 - as of today all based on straight CDEP.
 - Minimum 30hrs a week (work experience)
 - Currently many Police Positions (32-40hr per f/n)

It was resolved that Council break for Morning tea at 10.30am

QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

- Mayor welcomed Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson and Colleagues.
- Police Commissioner acknowledged Traditional Owners of this land and introduced his colleagues, Brent Carter, Karen Adams, Tony Brown Project Officers, Paul Taylor, and also thanked Mayor and Councillors for the opportunity to meet with them.
- Discussions included:
 - New Police Aircraft based at Horn Island – can carry up to 6 passengers.
 - There will be lot more presence of Queensland Police in the Communities with proposed visible visits to the Communities.
 - Policing in the Torres Strait and Search and Rescue.
 - Status Report Police Station Badu Island, Commissioner advised:
 - With Lawyers at this time - Significantly way behind with this issue on Badu.
 - Prospective cannot be separated – needs to be a consistent position.
 - Need to get a hold of Government
 - Disappointed that it's been delayed.
 - TSI Community is very unique
 - Cost of building Police Station at Badu is \$11M

- Providing office, vehicle, accommodation – just don't have the money to that in the communities of the Torres Strait.
- The best Queensland Police can do is :
 - Provide regular visits
 - If there is an incident will try and get to the communities as soon as possible.
- Concept was to build Police stations at Masig and Saibai as well.
- Started exploring issues for Badu – can be revisited especially key islands.
- Provide level of transport/resources.
- Visit by QPS to also build relationships within communities or if there are particular events happening in the communities.
- Weed it out Program/Crime Stoppers in communities going very well QPS is pleased with this project.
- Community Policing under CDEP Mayor advised:
 - Council is not in a position to quarantine an amount because we don't have funding to do so.
 - State would not provide us funding to put Community Police in Communities.
 - CEA is the new CDEP Service Provider
 - Do not have money to negotiate 50/50
 - Had pure CDEP operating as Community Police, today there isn't any –now ceased. There are only a few in communities.
 - CDEP ceased 30th September 2010 and CEA took over as of 1st October 2010.
 - Those Community Police not employed in communities after CDEP ceased will be out of a job.
- Commissioner advised that his Projects Officers, Karen and Tony will follow up in obtaining information/details of those communities who have Community Police presence and those who haven't.
- Brent Carter advised he would be happy to meet with the Mayor in the Torres Strait.
- Mayor:
 - The CEO will be the Point of Contact for TSIRC on any feedback from the Commissioner or QLD Police Project Officers on the issues discussed today.
 - Perfect timing to look at a business case in conjunction with Queensland Police Service (QPS).
- Police Commissioner:
 - Enter into an agreement between QPS & TSIRC for Policing Model in the Torres Strait.
- CEO
 - Can QPS work with the Government and TSIRC work in partnership to achieve our own outcome away from political arena on this issue.
 - Want to get into the position of "this is the preferred model" put in front of the Minister in January/February.
- Police Commissioner:
 - Project Officers Karen and Tony to come up with something acceptable and put some \$ on it.
 - Look at options for the Torres Strait and put it to Government.
- It was noted to look at November in getting the Minister for Police and the Commissioner together at the Ministerial Roundtable in November 2010.
- Mayor invited the Commissioner and Colleagues to join Councillors for lunch.

It was resolved that Council break for Lunch at 12.30am

Meeting resumed at 1.30pm.

It was resolved that Agenda Items 6 – 9 be deferred to Council Meeting at Mabuiag.

MEETING CLOSED

1.35pm With no further discussions, Mayor thanked Councillors and staff for their attendance. Meeting closed in prayer by Cr. Day.


.....
Cr Fred Gela
Mayor


.....
Mr John Scarce
Chief Executive Officer