



ORDINARY MEETING
15 NOVEMBER 2024

MINUTES

Time: 9.36am

Venue: Bolands Centre Offices & Conference Centre, 14 Spence Street, Cairns

Meeting ID: 438 700 254 554 | Passcode: QDN5qk

PRESENT:

Mayor

Division 1 – Boigu

Division 2 – Dauan

Division 3 – Saibai

Division 5 – Badu / **Deputy Mayor**

Division 6 – Arkai (Kubin), Mua Island

Division 8 – Kirirri (Hammond Island)

Division 9 – Iama

Division 10 – Warraber

Division 11 – Poruma

Division 12 – Masig

Division 13 – Ugar

Division 14 – Erub

Division 15 – Mer

Cr Phillemon Mosby

Cr Dimas Toby – *joined meeting at 10.05am*

Cr Torenzo Elisala

Cr Chelsea Aniba

Cr Ranetta Wosomo

Cr Iona Manas

Cr Seriako Dorante

Cr Aggie Hankin

Cr Kabay Tamu

Cr Francis Pearson

Cr Ted Mosby

Cr Rocky Stephen

Cr Nixon Mye

Cr Bob Kaigey

APOLOGIES:

Division 4 – Mabuia

Division 7 – Wug (St. Pauls), Mua Island

Cr Keith Fell – *Prior commitments*

Cr John Levi – *Sorry Business*

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer

Executive Director Building Services

Executive Director Community Services

Executive Director Corporate Services

Executive Director Engineering Services

Executive Director Financial Services

DOGIT Transfer, Land Tenure and Native Title Advisor

Executive Assistant to the CEO

TSIRC Secretariat

TSIRC Secretariat Support

Mr James William

Mr Wayne Green

Mr Dawson Sailor

Ms Susanne Andres

Mr David Baldwin

Ms Hollie Faithfull

Ms Joanne Bryant

Ms Jessica Conway

Mr Darryl Brooks

Ms Julie Marino

A. WELCOME & QUORUM CONFIRMATION | ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | OPENING PRAYER | OBSERVANCES

At 9.36am, the Mayor welcomed Councillors to the Ordinary Council meeting for the month of November 2024, noting that a quorum of members were present.

The Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

- Our Heavenly Father for His awesome wisdom, knowledge, understanding, favour and blessings upon our lives, our families, our people – especially our Elders and our children, our region and our Council;
- The Traditional Custodians throughout the length and breadth of Zenadth Kes and Gimuy in Cairns where Council has been meeting for the past two weeks.

B. NOTING OF APOLOGIES

#C24-28/2024-11/B

CR ELISALA / CR TAMU

Council accepts the following apologies for the November 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

Division	Councillor/Reason
Division 4 – Mabuiag	Cr Keith Fell – <i>Prior commitments</i>
Division 7 – Wug	Cr John Levi – <i>Sorry Business</i>

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

The Mayor called for Councillors to declare any COI matters. No declarations were made. The Mayor also requested that if there are any legal matters involving Councillors, then Councillors should advise the Mayor as soon as possible.

D. LIVE STREAM

The Mayor advised Council that this meeting is being LIVE STREAMED on Council’s YouTube Channel and welcomed members of the general public who may be viewing proceedings.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (15 OCTOBER 2024)

#C24-28/2024-11/1

CR PEARSON / CR MOSBY

Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 October 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.1. ACTION ITEMS UPDATE

The Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) spoke to this item. Items noted as ‘completed’ during this update will be deleted from future reports. The update was noted by Council.

2. MAYORAL REPORT

The Mayor spoke to his report. The report was noted by Council.

The Mayor also encouraged Councillors to utilise information contained in the monthly Mayor and CEO reports to Council for their regular Divisional community meetings.

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

3.1. CEO Monthly Report (November 2024)

The Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) spoke to his report. The report was noted by Council.

Action:

The Chief Executive Officer to organise for a Council Communique to be distributed following each Monthly Council Meeting.

3.2. Adoption of Regional Infrastructure Advisory Committee (RIAC) Terms of Reference (TOR)

- *Prior to commencement of discussion, Cr Dimas Toby asked if Councillors were required to make any Conflict of Interest declarations in relation to this matter. There was general agreement amongst Council that such declarations were not required.*
- *Additional in-Council point also added to the officer's recommendation.*

#C24-28/2024-10/3.2

CR HANKIN / CR MYE

Council:

1. **adopts the Regional Infrastructure Advisory Committee (RIAC) Terms of Reference (TOR) as attached to the report;**
2. **appoints the Deputy Mayor as proxy to the RIAC for such occasions when the Mayor is unable to attend a meeting; and**
3. **requests the Chief Executive Officer to advise the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) of this decision prior to the TSRA Board Meeting on 19–20 November 2024.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- *Meeting suspended for morning tea break from 10.30am to 10.40am.*

4. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

5.1. TSIRC Representation on the Animal Management Taskforce

#C24-28/2024-11/5.1

CR PEARSON / CR TAMU

Council approves the appointment of the Housing, Families and Safe & Healthy Communities Advisory Committee Chairperson as Council's representative on the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' Animal Management Taskforce.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONFIRMED

6. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE**6.1. Community Grants Program Allocation (October 2024)**

#C24-28/2024-11/6.1

1. Council resolves to allocate Community Grants Program funding to the following applicant in accordance with the *Community Grants Policy*:

- CG2025-049 – SIMON NAAWI, YORKE for \$897.00, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR TAMU / CR STEPHEN

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Council resolves to not allocate Community Grants Program funding to the following applicant in accordance with the *Community Grants Policy*:

- CG2025-051 – WHITE DOVE MINISTRY, SAIBAI

MOVED/SECONDED: CR PEARSON / CR HANKIN

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Council resolves to not allocate Community Grants Program funding to the following applicant in accordance with the *Community Grants Policy*:

- CG2025-054 – GOSHEN MINISTRY INT, MER

MOVED/SECONDED: CR TOBY / CR KAIGEY

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Council resolves to allocate Community Grants Program funding to the following applicant in accordance with the *Community Grants Policy*:

- CG2025-055 – LETIA WAIA, SAIBAI for \$2,000.00, exclusive of GST;

MOVED/SECONDED: CR ANIBA / CR ELISALA

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Council notes the following:

- (a) zero (0) Community Grants applications were declined due to unavailable funds;
- (b) six (6) Community Grants applications were deemed ineligible for funding;
- (c) zero (0) conflict of interests (COI) were declared;
- (d) the grant applications processed out-of-cycle and funeral donations provided in October 2024.

MOVED/SECONDED: CR TOBY / CR MYE

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2. Funding Acquisition Report (October 2024)

#C24-28/2024-11/6.2

CR ELISALA / CR PEARSON

Council notes the report and its content.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3. Policy Review – Media Policy

#C24-28/2024-11/6.3

CR ELISALA / CR WOSOMO

Council resolves to:

1. **Adopt the Torres Strait Island Regional Council Media Policy; and**
2. **Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* to exercise the functions and powers assigned to the Chief Executive Officer under the new policy, including the power to make any further minor administrative amendments to the policy as they arise.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**6.4. 1st Quarter Report – Economic Growth Committee**

#C24-28/2024-11/6.4

Noted by Council.

6.5. TSIRC 2023-24 Annual Report

#C24-28/2024-11/6.5

CR HANKIN / CR WOSOMO

Council:

1. **Adopts the Annual Report for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 for the Torres Strait Island Regional Council in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009*; and**
2. **Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* to make minor administrative amendments and finalise all matters associated with publishing this**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**Action:**

1. Advice to be provided to Divisions on how to understand the annual report.
2. Minor typo corrections to be made for the 2023-24 TSIRC Annual Report (i.e. “Cr Kabay’s request” instead of “Cr Kabay Tamu’s request”, pp.18 and 26).

6.6. Operational Plan 2024-25 – Q1 Progress Report

#C24-28/2024-11/6.6

CR KAIGEY / CR WOSOMO

Council receives and notes the progress report on the implementation of the 2024–25 Operational Plan for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 September 2024 (Q1).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**Action:**

A simplified outcome report on the Corporate Plan to be prepared for each Division at the end of the financial year.

7. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

8. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE**8.1. Financial Dashboard Report (October 2024)**

#C24-28/2024-11/8.1

CR ANIBA / CR T. MOSBY

Council receives and endorses the monthly financial statements attached to the officer's report for the 2024-25 year to date, for the period ended 31 October 2024, as required under Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**Action:**

1. Executive Director Financial Services to organise training for Councillors to better understand the monthly financial statements and financial reporting generally.
2. List of successful/unsuccessful grants applied for to be developed for each Division.

8.2. Contractual Matter – Large Procurement Contracts Awarded Under Delegation

#C24-28/2024-11/8.2

CR PEARSON / CR STEPHEN

Council notes the report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.3. 2023-24 Financial Statements

#C24-28/2024-11/8.3

CR ELISALA / CR T. MOSBY

Council receives and adopts the 2023/2024 Torres Strait Island Regional Council Financial Statements.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Action:

1. Breakdown requested on TSIRC funding expenditure for each TSIRC Division.
2. Councillors to be provided details on Community Funds for their respective Divisions.

➤ *Cr Toby left the meeting and returned at 12.12pm.*

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

#C24-28/2024-11/9

CR ELISALA / CR PEARSON

The Council resolves to close the meeting to the public pursuant to section 254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* to allow the Council to discuss items listed on the agenda for closed discussion and for the reasons outlined under those items.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

11. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

12. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE**12.1. Green Fleet Procurement 2024-25**

[Reasons for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: This report is presented in the closed meeting of the Council under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012, to discuss matters of the following nature:

(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests or the local government.]

#C24-28/2024-11/12.1

CR ANIBA / CR PEARSON

Council:

1. Notes this report;
2. Retrospectively awards the purchase of 21 items of Green Fleet to QMAC Machinery for \$599,681.71 (exclusive of GST) under a Local Buy agreement (contract LB282) as per Attachment 1 to this report; and
3. Delegates power to the Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this purchase, including without limitation any options and/or variations as per Council's Procurement and Ethical Sourcing Policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE**13.1 Funding Matter – TSIRC.0035.2324P.REC Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement (DRFA)**

[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: This matter contains information on negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government".]

#C24-28/2024-10/13.1

CR HANKIN / CR TAMU

Council resolves to:

1. Enter into the proposed funding agreement for TSIRC.0035.2324P.REC for Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement (DRFA) & Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (REPA), administered by Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) in relation to Council's submission of TSIRC.0035.2324P.REC for a grant sum of up to \$3,625,476.84 (Excl. GST); and
2. Pursuant to Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer:
 - (i) power to make, amend or discharge the Funding Agreement; and
 - (ii) power to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this project and funding agreement including without limitation any options and/or variations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13.2 Information Report – Capital Works

[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: This matter contains information on negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government“.]

#C24-28/2024-11/13.2

CR WOSOMO / CR ELISALA

Council resolves to note this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13.3 Engineering Services On-Call Roster – TSIRC Annual Closedown 2024-25

[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: In accordance with section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012, it is recommended that this matter be considered by Council in Closed Business as it is “a matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State“.]

Noted by Council.

14. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

15. RESOLUTION TO RETURN THE MEETING TO OPEN DISCUSSION

#C24-28/2024-11/15

CR TAMU / CR STEPHEN

The Council resolves to move out of closed discussions pursuant to Section 254I of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Council formally resolved on the decisions taken in relation to Agenda Items 10-14 above.

17. MATTERS ARISING**(a) Technology Matters – TSIRC Footprint**

Cr Kabay Tamu recommended that the recent Telstra incident on Warraber highlighted the urgent need for advocating for updated and more reliable internet communications technology throughout the region.

(b) Dauan Community – Cancellation of October 2024 Council Meetings

Cr Torenzo Elisala relayed to Council the disappointment felt by the Dauan Community when a decision was taken by Council not to convene its October 2024 Meetings on Dauan, as the community was by that stage well advanced in preparations ahead of the meeting.

Council noted the community's sentiments on this matter and the Mayor indicated that he would personally write to the Dauan Community to express his apologies on behalf of Council. In noting that the Dauan Community was well advanced in preparing on-ground for the Council meeting (including catering orders such as food and accommodation), Council agreed that its standard financial donation to the Host Community for on-Island Council Meetings be approved for the Dauan Community.

Action:

1. Chief Executive Officer to authorise the payment of Council's standard financial donation to the Dauan Community as a result of Council's cancellation of the October 2024 Trustee and Ordinary Council Meetings on Dauan.
2. Chief Executive Officer to draft Mayoral correspondence to the Dauan Community in relation to Council's decision not to convene its October 2024 Trustee and Ordinary Council Meetings on Dauan.

(c) TSIRC Advisory Committee Support

At the request of Cr Chelsea Aniba, the Mayor sought the support of TSIRC Executives to work with their respective Advisory Committee Chairs to ensure that Advisory Committee meetings are held in accordance with their Council-endorsed Terms of Reference.

(d) Mayor – Reminder of the Five (5) Main Recommendations/Outcomes from the Torres Strait and NPA Joint Leaders' Forum at the November 2024 Council Workshop

The Mayor reminded Council of the five (5) main recommendations and outcomes from the Torres Strait and NPA Joint Leaders' Forum at the November 2024 Council Workshop as being:

Recommendation 1 – Independent Audit & Analysis

That the Joint Leaders Forum support an Independent Audit and Analysis of Government and Government Funded Services Delivered to the Torres Strait and NPA Region.

Recommendation 2 – Torres Strait & NPA Regional Conference/Summit

That the Joint Leaders Forum endorse to establish an annual Torres Strait & NPA Regional Conference/Summit coinciding with the Regional Report Card on 23rd August each year, held in the Region over four days with the first day distilling the Report Card and subsequent days determining action over relevant sector reports, jointly funded by State and Federal governments. The fourth day to be the community day to engage, inform and keep the community (people) we serve updated on the progress.

Recommendation 3 – Top 4 Regional Priorities

That the Joint Leaders Forum Formalise Top 4 Regional Priorities (short-term 6months) to present to the new Crisafulli Government and Opposition Leader.

Recommendations 4 – Leadership Recognition

That the Joint Leaders Forum acknowledges the enormous contribution and legacy of Napau Pedro Stephen AM, retiring Chair of TSRA, longest serving Mayor of Torres Shire Council and one of the longest serving Mayors of Queensland local government. A warrior for the communities of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula region, his advocacy for regional autonomy and preservation of kinship and culture has been unwavering. Courageous, persistent and visionary, the Leaders have determined that to mark Napau Pedro Stephen's lifelong leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, a leadership scholarship in his name is supported and each member of the Joint Leaders Forum will ensure support from their councils and entities for this initiative. The Joint Leaders forum places on the public record our enduring appreciation for his lifelong service and for his visionary leadership.

Recommendation 5

Regional Autonomy Reform Committee will consist of 3 x LG's and TSRA under the TSRA Board to drive the Regional Autonomy agenda.

18. INFORMATION REPORTS

- 13.4 BUILDING SERVICES – Building Services Report (October 2024)
- 13.5 COMMUNITY SERVICES - Community Services (October 2024)
- 13.6 CORPORATE SERVICES - Corporate Services Information Report (October 2024)
- 13.7 ENGINEERING SERVICES – Engineering Operations
- 13.8 ENGINEERING SERVICES – Water and Wastewater

Council noted the reports.

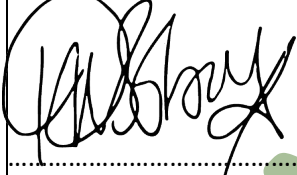
19. NEXT MEETING – 11 DECEMBER 2024 (Microsoft TEAMS)

Noted by Council.

20. CLOSE OF MEETING & PRAYER

The Mayor thanked Councillors, Executives and staff for their contributions and hard work over the previous two weeks in relation to the November 2024 Council Workshop and formally closed the meeting at 12.30pm. Cr Francis Pearson delivered the closing prayer.

MINUTES CONFIRMED – 11 December 2024



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Cr Phillemon Mosby
Mayor
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date: 11 December 2024



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James William
Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date: 11 December 2024