

Torres Strait Island
REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES

HOUSING AND SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Date: 9th February 2021
Time: 1:05pm to 3:45pm
Venue: VMR #8 – 0299 165 402

Housing and Safe and Healthy Communities Committee

Tuesday 9th February 2021

PRESENT

Cr Keith Fell, Chair
Cr Francis Pearson, Member
Cr John Levi, Member

Ms Rachel Pierce, Acting Chief Operating Officer (Executive Support)
Ms Kathy Cochran, Secretariat Officer

APOLOGIES

Nil

Minutes

1. Welcome (Chair)

Cr Fell welcomed everyone one to the meeting and thanked for their time.

2. Opening Prayer

Cr Fell invited Cr Levi too to open the meeting in prayer.

3. Apologies

Nil

4. Conflict of Interest (COI) - Declarable / Prescribed

No declaration made. Cr Fell encouraged everyone to declare at any time.

5. Terms of Reference Discussion

Follow up on action item to add a dot point to the Terms of Reference.

ACTION: Secretariat to track Committee's suggested changes to TOR and Acting COO to send request to Mette to amend the TOR to include the extra dot point.

6. Action Items

Action item List updated. Acting Chief Operating Officer, provided Committee with a briefing paper addressing all actions on the list.

7. Standing Agenda Items Discussion

- Housing Authority

ACTION: ACOO to send Housing Authority Presentation from the November workshop to all members. This was completed during the meeting.

- Local Housing Plan

ACTION: ACOO to provide briefing on current Housing stock for the whole region. Committee discussed the idea of having a face to face meeting to develop and workshop short and long term list of priority and plan for the committee going forward.

Acting Chief Operating Officer suggested to the Committee that we focus on the things TSIRC already doing and have allocated funds to. Also consider looking at the Councillor's top 5 priorities and extract the ones that are relevant to the committee's portfolio.

Cr Pearson asked about paving the back road to the lodge as it is a health risk to community especially in the dry season with dust and community members with asthma.

ACTION: ACOO to send members list of Councillors 5 priorities till 30th June 2021. This was actioned during the meeting.

Standing Committee to influence existing TSIRC programs or projects in our portfolio area. Governance process for committee to influence SARG and Council.

ACTION: SO to start an Action items register

ACTION: ACOO to continue with the briefing notes as presented at today's meeting.

BREAK – 1:14PM – 1:54PM

8. Confirmation of Minutes – 22nd December 2020

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Pearson; *Second:* Cr Levi

That the Committee resolves to accept the minutes of the meeting on 22nd December 2020 as a true and accurate.

MOTION CARRIED

9. Meeting Dates for 2021

- April – June (22nd June 2021)
- July – September (24th August 2021)
- October – December (26th October 2021)

Committee accepts the above dates.

10. General/ Other Business (on notice)

Cr Pearson requested an update on the concrete under some houses in community.

Cr Levi asked about the Katter Lease properties without fences and the safety around horses.

Acting Chief Operating Officer briefs Committee on the Housing Authority presentation from the November 2021 Workshop and provided an update on Councils position.

Cr Levi noted that from a debt of \$15m have now be reduced to \$9m.

Cr Pearson raised the issue of asbestos in our communities.

ACTION: Secretariat to check \$5k professional development fund can be used for face to face workshop.

ACTION: ACOO to enquire about the use of HF Radios – disaster and power outage (safe communities) and monitor these radios bimonthly.

BRIEFING NOTE from ACOO

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Levi; *Second:* Cr Pearson

That the Committee accepts and notes the report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Pearson raised overcrowding in houses and houses with only one individual.

Cr Fell – Housing paper to SARG on dividing the \$14m and develop a list of priorities. Committee had a robust discussion around the allocations of the funds. The Committee suggested Council look at overcrowding and the register of needs. Develop a methodology to assist with making their decision for allocation per capita between all the Divisions.

ACTION: ACOO to provide briefing note on Housing and Safe and Healthy Communities Committee recommendation for Housing allocation.

Cr Levi would like to raise at next OM – the Caravans – where are they and an update on what Council plans are for them. ACOO informs Committee there is no budget

attached to them and have recommended they be handed to Community Service to managed the asset. No policy, no fees, and charges on register etc. Can be utilised in community as short term fixt to overcrowding/ emergency housing.

ACTION: _ACOO to include status update on caravans in actions briefing note for next meeting.

10. Next meeting date

- Tuesday 22nd June 2021

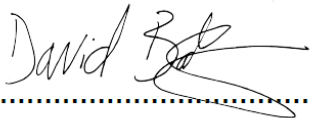
2. Closing Remarks and Prayer

Cr Fell thanked everyone for their input. The committee would like to hold an out of session discussion on 22nd June 2021 from 9am- 11am.

ACTION: Secretariat to place in outlook calendars of committee members and staff.

Cr Fell invited Cr Levi to close the meeting in prayer.

MEETING CLOSED – 3:45pm



.....
David Baldwin
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
21st September 2021



.....
Cr Phillemon Mosby
Mayor
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
21st September 2021