

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY, 17 MAY 2011**

PRESENT Mayor Cr. P. Stephen (Chair), Cr. B. Shibasaki, Cr. A. Ketchell, Cr. J. Abednego, Mr. P. Mills (Chief Executive Officer) and Ms. N. Ward Page (Minute Secretary)

The meeting opened with a prayer by Mayor Stephen at 9.20am.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor acknowledged the traditional owners The Kaurareg People upon whose land we hold our meeting.

APOLOGY An apology was received from Cr. Bin Tahal who is unable to attend the meeting.

Min. 11/05/1 **Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki**
"That Council accept the apology from Cr. Bin Tahal."

Carried

CONDOLENCES: As a mark of respect, Council observed a minute's silence in memory of:

Daniel Stanley Reuben, Apea Miskin & Gilmore Levi

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Min. 11/05/2 **Moved Cr. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. Ketchell**
"That Council receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 19 April 2011 and confirm as a true and correct record of the proceedings."

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES Nil

MAYOR'S REPORT

**TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL POLICY IMPERATIVE: GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT
RELATIONSHIP**

**Australian Local Government Association's 2011 Regional Cooperation and
Development Forum (File 1-39-16)**

The Forum renewed focus on the importance for regional development and provides the opportunity to hear differing approaches to regional development and regional policy from the Federal Government and Opposition. The 2011 State of the Regional Report will be launched and examines the regional and economic outlook beyond the mining boom.

The Forum program includes two workshops designed to examine development opportunities and challenges in Australia from a State to State perspective as well as on the basis of the different types of regions which constitute Australia, including metropolitan regions, rural and resource regional and lifestyle regions. The Forum is an important part of local government's efforts to shape regional development policy so that it meets the needs of regional communities rather than political parties.

The Forum will be held in Canberra on 19th June immediately preceding the 2011 National General Assembly of Local Government.

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd)

Torres Strait Bi-Lateral Agreement (File 1-31-24)

A meeting has been scheduled with the Premier to reconstitute State and Local Government Formal Relationship such as the following agreement:

The Agreement between the Commonwealth Government, the Queensland Government, Torres Strait Regional Authority and the Island Coordinating Council for the Planning and Coordination of Housing and Infrastructure for Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal People living in the Torres Strait Region has lapsed and needs to be updated with relevant major stakeholders to include Torres Shire Council.

Min 11/05/3

Moved Cr. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That Council (1) note that the agreement between the Commonwealth Government, the Queensland Government, Torres Strait Regional Authority and the Island Coordinating Council for the Planning and Coordination of Housing and Infrastructure for Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal People has lapsed, and
(2) that Council write to the Commonwealth Government and State Government authorities with the intention of establishing a new multi-lateral agreement around the Major Infrastructure Program funding (MIP) and needs to be updated with relevant major stakeholders to include Torres Shire Council."

Carried

Future Horn Island Airport Development (File 6-1-9)

A meeting has been scheduled with Senator Jan McLucas to progress the development of the Airport Proposal under the Bio-Security and Airport Development Federal Policy initiatives. Senator McLucas recently visited Torres Strait on the 3 - 5 May 2011 to officially open new Resource Centres for Tagai State College.

Torres Shire Homeownership (File 1-30-10)

The Homeownership Proposal has been a longstanding issue which has certainly placed unnecessary burden amongst our constituents since the 80's.

Homeownership is an issue which the Council needs to adopt a policy to increase its rateable basis.

- 1 The Land Holding Act was legislated by Queensland Government for Transition of Deed in Grant in Trust (DOGIT) land as a Perpetual Lease to qualify for Home Ownership. Whilst this legislation is no longer valid a precedent has been set.
- 2 The new Legislation requires Native Title land to be transferred under a 30 to 40 year lease to a recognised corporation before the Government provides Public Housing.

2011 Governor of Queensland's Visit (File 1-51-12)

The Governor's office has confirmed the Governor of Queensland Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley, AC will visit the Torres Strait to coincide with the Queensland Music Festival performance of 'The Power of Song – Ailan Kores', which will be held on Thursday Island on Sunday 17th July 2011. Torres Shire Council will facilitate a meeting with Torres Strait Island Regional Council to develop a draft program and itinerary for the Governor's visit.

Min 11/05/4

Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That the Mayor's Report be received."

Carried

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 10.10am and resumed at 10.20am.

1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REPORT

Rates Review (File 1-12-24)

Torres Shire Council was re-valued by the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) in 2008, 2010 and 2011. The 2010 valuation resulted in large increases of varying percentages across the Torres Shire.

Council need to consider re-categorising our rating to ensure that the rating system is cost neutral and to ensure that Council maintains stability in revenue collection.

It is proposed that the differential rating categories be restructured to:

- Reduce the impacts of the revaluations between similar ratepayer classes
- Reduce the impacts on individual ratepayers
- Maintain the current revenue from individual ratepayer classes

Min 11/05/5

Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That Council restructure its differential rating categories to ensure that the rating system is cost neutral."

Carried

Min 11/05/6

Major Infrastructure Program

Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That Council endorse the Department of Local Government & Planning Far North Region to re-visit Torres Shire Council's priorities and reconcile the Cabinet's submission to reflect the total amount requested by the Council."

Carried

Min 11/05/7

Common Seal Use

Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That Council approve the use of the Official Seal by the Mayor and/or CEO as itemised below:

Date attached	Document Description	
15/4/11	TSRA Variation of Agreement – Horn Is Sports Complex Mural – 2011 Indigenous Language Puliima Conference	Mayor/CEO
15/4/11	TSRA Letter of Notification - – Horn Is Sports Complex Mural – 2011 Indigenous Language Puliima Conference	Mayor/CEO
15/4/11	TSRA Survey Plan Lot 41 on RP714508 Parish of Port Kennedy	Mayor/CEO
3/5/11	TSI Descent ID – Cameron Paul Benjamin	Mayor

Carried

Min 11/05/8

Moved Mayor Stephen, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki

"That the CEO report be received".

Carried

2. CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT

Attendance: Mrs Dalassa Yorkston, Director Corporate Services (DCS) arrived at the meeting at 11.45am to address her report. She also gave a verbal report on outstanding debts recovered to date and distributed a copy of the new Tourism map pad project to be launched at the Tourism Steering Committee on Wednesday, 18 May 2011.

Departure: Mrs Yorkston departed the meeting at 12.03pm.

Min 11/05/9

Moved Cr. Abendego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That the DCS report be received".

Carried

3. ENGINEERING SERVICES

REPORT

Attendance: Mr Gus Yates, Director Engineering Services (DES) and Mr Nicky Sabatino, Technical Officer-Utilities (TOU) arrived at the meeting at 12.06pm and the TOU gave his presentation of the SCADA telemetry system

Departure: Mr Sabatino departed the meeting at 12.25pm.

Departure: Mr Yates addressed his report and departed the meeting at 12.45 pm.

Min 11/05/10 **Moved Cr. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. Abednego**
"That the DES report be received".

Carried

4. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

REPORT

Attendance: Mr Frank Darke, Director Planning & Environmental Services (DPES) arrived at the meeting at 12.46pm to address his report.

Min 11/05/11 **Delegation for the granting of Development Approvals (File 1-1-17)**
Moved Cr. Shibasaki Seconded Cr. Abednego
"That Council grant delegated authority to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to approve applications under the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 as follows:

TSC Delegation of Development Approvals		
1	Application Approvals Not Delegated	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application with a recommendation for refusal
2	Application Approvals Delegated to Mayor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for reconfiguration of a Lot.• Application for Code Assessable Development or Impact Assessable Development where the applicant seeks to vary a provision of the Planning Scheme, Development Code or Planning Policy.• Application for Impact Assessable Development where a submission has been received from the general public or a government agency.• Applications where the activity includes an Environmentally Relevant Activity.
3	Application Approvals Delegated to CEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All other applications "

Carried

Departure: The DPES departed the meeting at 12.56 pm.

Min 11/05/12 **Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Mayor Stephen**
"That the DPES report be received".

Carried

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

2011 - Dates of Meetings, Conferences, Events, etc for Councillors' Attention	
May 18	Tourism Committee Meeting
May 21	Twilight Markets – Victoria Parade (<i>Dept of Communities</i>)
May 24	Audit & Finance Committee Meeting
May 29	TSI Flag anniversary (<i>Unveiling 1992</i>)
June 3	Mabo Day (20th Anniversary) – Bank Holiday
June 8	Vibe 3on3 Basketball & Hip Hop Challenge
June 13	Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday
June	TSRA -TSC MOU
June 18	Walk the Ilan (<i>Rotary & Qld Health</i>)
June 21	Council Ordinary Meeting
June 27	Special Budget Meeting
July 1	Coming of the Light - Bank Holiday
July 8	NAIDOC Awards Night
July 1 - 9	TSC Garden Competition
July 17	Queensland Music Festival
July 19	Council Ordinary Meeting
August 16	Council Ordinary Meeting
September 16	Multicultural Festival – Bank Holiday
September 20	Council Ordinary Meeting
October 3 - 6	115 th LGAQ Annual Conference (<i>Gold Coast Convention Centre</i>)
October	Audit & Finance Committee Meeting
October 18	Council Ordinary Meeting
November 15	Council Ordinary Meeting
December 13	Council Ordinary Meeting & Special Meeting (Aust Day)

6 **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cr. Abednego

- Requesting support for Council Elders Committee as part of his portfolio responsibility.

Cr. Ketchell

- Thanks the outdoor staff for all their work being undertaken in the community.

Cr. Shibasaki

- Complete removal of tree stump in Bowie Crescent.
- Maintenance required of road down to Rose Hill boat ramp including refilling of potholes
- Lights along the Victoria Parade need replacement before Saturday (21 May) in preparation of the Twilight Markets
- House numbering at 78 & 79 Albury Parade (Dept of Communities) & 49 Blackall St (Education) need adjustments
- Assistance in identifying funding options for Cultural Village
- Backfill required at Bayo Beach
- Querying the progress on the Community Garden project.

Mayor Stephen

- Acknowledging TSC Staff support for the 2011 ANZAC Celebrations - dawn service and main parade.
- Council assistance requested by Hon. Mike Reynolds A.M. Patron of YWAM Medical Ships Australia in working through operational details to operate out of TI to provide services to the Western Province PNG on approx. July 9th to 15th and July 30th to Aug 5th and Aug 20th to 26th and Sept 9th to 16th
- Mabo Day 3 June 2011 – Mrs Mabo & family wish to celebrate this occasion with the Torres Strait Leaders and Community on TI in advance of a major National celebration in 2012. (20th anniversary)
- Acknowledgment of first National Congress & Board Meeting 7-9 June 2011 and Congratulations to appointed delegates Abigail Harry, Angelina Akee, Francis Tapim, Kenneth Bedford, Napcia Bin Tahal, Michael Passi and Tanya Akee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 21 June 2011

CLOSURE: The meeting closed with a prayer by Cr. Shibasaki at 1.20pm

Confirmed this *21st* day of *June* 2011



MAYOR