

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, DOUGLAS STREET, THURSDAY ISLAND
ON TUESDAY, 16 AUGUST 2011**

PRESENT

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

The meeting opened with a prayer by Mayor Stephen at 9.55am.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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

Frederick Daniel Mills, Ahboo Ah Wang & Chee Ketchell

APOLOGY: An apology was received from Cr. Napcia Bin Tahal for not attending this meeting.

Min. 11/08/1 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki
"That Council accept the apology received from Cr. Napcia Bin Tahal."

Carried

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Min. 11/08/2 Moved Cr. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. Ketchell
"That Council receive the Minutes of the Special Meeting of 29 June 2011 and confirm as a true and correct record of the proceedings."

Carried

Min. 11/08/3 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Mayor Stephen
"That Council receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 19 July 2011 and confirm as a true and correct record of the proceedings."

Carried

Min. 11/08/4 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki
"That Council receive the Minutes of the Special Budget Meeting of 22 July 2011 and confirm as a true and correct record of the proceedings."

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES Nil

MAYOR'S REPORT

LGAQ 115th Annual Conference 3-6 October 2011

The LGAQ promotes '*Dare to be Different*' as the theme for this year's conference and highlights five reasons why this conference is different:

1. All motions raised on 1 day – Wednesday; Council based group part day sessions on both Tuesday and Wednesday (i.e. SEQ, Coastal, Indigenous, Rural and Remote, Resource Regions); half day of tailored professional development opportunities on Thursday morning.
2. Speakers – Governor of Queensland, Penelope Wensley, John Tizard, advisor to current British Prime Minister on Local Government Reforms; Anna Bligh or Paul Lucas and Campbell Newman; Mayor of Christchurch Bob Parker will share how he is holding his community together and rebuilding his city; Australia's leading electoral strategists will present how to win next year's Council elections – Bruce Hawker, Ben Myers, 'Possum Pollytics' and Craig Johnstone; Joan Sheldon, LGAQ Ethics Advisor; and Murray Berghan from Make Communications on Local Government Image Campaign.
3. No hard copy agendas will be distributed. Instead, an iPad to be used for the entire Conference with all conference requirements, including voting applications – Australian first.
4. Greenest Conference in Australia – no paper and 100% powered by green energy.
5. Last chance to meet many colleagues and old friends before next election.

Invitation has been extended to the Council's delegates to attend Tidy Towns 2011 Awards. Dinner and Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland's 40th Birthday will be held on Monday October 3rd at the Jupiter's Hotel & Casino.

Indigenous Council Forum 3rd October 2011

The Forum will provide indigenous Councils with the opportunity to raise matters of concern and to map out how LGAQ might work in partnership to address our issues. The Mayor of Palm Island has encouraged all indigenous Mayors to attend the forum. LGAQ has offered to meet the flights and accommodation for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights of the conference.

Min. 11/08/5 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki

"That Council endorse the attendance of Mayor Stephen at the Indigenous Council forum on 3rd to 5th October, 2011"

Carried

2011 Biosecurity Bill

The notes from LGAQ Technical Working Group held with Biosecurity Queensland Staff have been circulated to councils for comments. The notes are intended to invite initial comments on the legislation and its implications for local government. LGAQ Legal Advisors King & Co has delivered their assessment of the Bill on 12 August. The Minister's office is yet to supply their response. The current due date for submissions is 19th August 2011. The contact person is Dorean Erhart, Principal Advisor – Natural Asset Management, NRM & Climate Change Advocate Stream – 0408774495.

Min. 11/08/6 Moved Cr. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That Council endorse the Chief Executive Officer to do an appraisal of the Biosecurity Bill and its implications to Council."

Carried

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd)

Proposal to Refurbish Council Owned Land

Department of Public Works has resurrected its proposal to undertake an upgrade to the area of Council owned land on the corner of Douglas and Hasting Street, adjacent to the new Government owned office building.

The proposal includes the construction of a shade structure, table and seating amenities on the site and installation of new landscaping. The project will also provide the opportunity for the inclusion of additional artwork or designs into or adjacent to the amenity. This could provide local emerging artists opportunities to design the art for the project.

The Department is seeking 'in principle' agreement in writing from Council to progress this proposed project. I have already sought advice from the Chief Executive Officer and the Engineer.

Min. 11/08/7 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That Council agree to offer an 'in principle' agreement to the Department of Public Works regarding the construction of a shade structure, table and seating amenities and the installation of a new landscaping at the corner of Douglas and Hasting Street."

Carried

Government Champion for Torres Strait

I tabled the request for a Government Champion for Torres Strait during my discussion with the Director General for Local Government, Mr. Jack Noye during his visit to Thursday Island early this year. Mr. Ron Weatherall, Director General and Wayne Briscoe, Executive Director from Indigenous Partnership and Coordination branch of ATSI Services Department of Communities has been tasked with the responsibility to enhance the discussion and action a Government Champion for Torres Strait.

Min. 11/08/8 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki

"That Council receive and endorse the Mayor's Report."

Carried

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REPORT

Common Seal Use

Min. 11/08/9 Moved Mayor Stephen, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

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

Date attached	Document Description	Signature
21/7/11	SP 227633 Clarke St – AW & CL Davidson	Mayor & CEO
28/7/11	TS Descent ID – Florence Athalia Drummond	Mayor "

Carried

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REPORT (cont'd)

- Min. 11/08/10 Torres Shire Operational Plan 2010-2011 (File 1-22-8)**
Moved Cr. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. Abednego
"That Council endorsed the Operational Plan 2010-2011 as at August 2011."
Carried
- Min. 11/08/11 Country Cabinet Meeting (File 1-51-12)**
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell
"That Council do a formal presentation to the Premier's Party officially to inform the Premier and Cabinet decision and policy on this region at the time of the Country Cabinet being held on Thursday Island 29 August 2011."
Carried
- Min. 11/08/12 Constitutional Recognition of Local Government (File 1-39-16)**
Moved Cr. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. Ketchell
"That Council develop an official submission to the Constitutional Panel."
Carried
- Min. 11/08/13 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Mayor Stephen**
"That Council receive and endorse the CEO's Report."
Carried
- Adjournment:** The Meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 10.40am and resumed at 10.50am with the presence of Mr Gus Yates, Director Engineering Services to present his report.

ENGINEERING SERVICES

REPORT

- Min. 11/08/14 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Mayor Stephen**
"That Council receive and endorse the Director of Engineering Services' Report."
Carried
- In the absence of Frank Darke, Director Planning & Environmental Services on Annual Leave, Gus Yates presented his report as follows.*

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

REPORT

- Min. 11/08/15 Milman Hill Development - Request to change the level of service of external roads**
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell
"That Council authorise the Mayor & CEO to make a decision on Nev Gold Pty Ltd Milman Hill Development application, conditional upon advice from the Director Planning & Environmental Services' full assessment of the application, of the external roadworks to be constructed to a six (6) metre wide sealed road with longitudinal earth drain on the high side of the road, rather than a sealed road with concrete kerbing and channelling and concrete footpaths."
Carried
- Min. 11/08/16 Moved Cr. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. Abednego**
"That Council receive and endorse the DPES Report."
Carried

Attendance: The Director of Engineering Services departed the meeting at 11.20am and Mrs Dalassa Yorkston, Director Corporate Services attended to present her report.

CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT

Attendance: The Director Corporate Services departed the meeting at 11.35am.

Min. 11/08/17 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

“That Council receive and endorse the Director Corporate Services’ Report.”

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr. Abednego

- Commented on on-going concern on the blind spot at cnr Hastings & Douglas Street including vehicles moving from the carpark area nearby and feeding into traffic at this intersection.
- Querying the ownership of 5 dogs out of control at the residence opposite his home at 68 Waiben Esplanade which requires follow up and action by the Dog Patrol Officer.

Cr. Ketchell

- Advised abandoned cars are not being processed to get rid of them.

Cr. Shibasaki

- Requests an appreciation letter be forwarded to George Ernst of John Street for his on-going plantings and improvements on Council verges in the community.
- Double lines on road at turning point into Bank carpark in Hasting Street is not sufficient and this State controlled road needs to be addressed by Main Roads.
- For Council to use the State Government initiative “Grow Stronger Region” to support and develop the Cultural Village.

Mayor Stephen

- Council should engage in a campaign against vandalism in our community.
- Roadside drain in Hastings Street between Douglas & John Streets should be similar and a continuation of the covered culvert between Douglas & Victoria Parade.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 20 September 2011 (*held 23 September 2011*)

CLOSURE: The meeting closed with a prayer by Cr. Shibasaki at 11.55am

Confirmed this *23rd* of *September* 2011



MAYOR