

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2011**

PRESENT

Mayor Cr. P. Stephen (Chair), Cr. N. Bin Tahal, 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 9.02am.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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

*Eveness (Rumus) Lewin, Benjamin Kris, Mrs Ethel King (nee Ah Wang)
and Mrs Mudulpa Bani (nee Kris)*

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT: Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Min. 11/11/1 Moved Cr. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That Council receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 18 October 2011 and confirm as a true and correct record of the proceedings."

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cr. Shibasaki General Business
Enquired ownership of Quarantine Wharf
Advised this facility is under DERM

MAYOR'S REPORT

Royal Visit to Queensland

Her Excellency, Ms Penelope Wensley, AC, Governor of Queensland extended an invitation for the Mayor to attend a Luncheon with other special guests held at Brisbane on 24th October 2011 on the occasion of the visit to Queensland by Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. I was honoured and humbled to part of the Queensland representatives to participate in this once in a lifetime experience.

Torres Shire Fluoridation Program

Mr. Colin Bishop has been persistent in lobbying support against the introduction of fluoridation into the Shire's water systems. I have requested that Dr. Maria McGowan present an information session to update councillors as soon as possible. An invitation has been extended to Dr. McGowan to attend the December meeting. Council must ensure that recurrent funding is secured for the operation and maintenance of fluoridation system before it is connected with the Council's water supply.

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd)

Integrated Service Delivery Meeting

The Torres Strait Regional Authority has proposed to hold the Inaugural meeting of the Integrated Service Delivery Board of Management at Cairns on 12th December 2011. An invitation will be extended to Mr. Finn Pratt Secretary of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Mr. John Bradley Director General of Department of the Premier and Cabinet to become permanent Commonwealth and Queensland Government representatives on the Integrated Service Delivery Board of Management.

Name Change from Torres Strait to Zendath Kes

The Premier Ms Anna Bligh MP has provided feedback regarding request from Leaders and Elders during the 28-29 August 2011 Country Cabinet to change the name of the region to Zendath Kes. To initiate a Place Naming activity, a formal application must be lodged with the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM). This request must have support of all local parties and organisations. One option for gauging this support is to hold a referendum that coincides with the March 2012 Local Government elections. The naming of the region could deter our aspirations for regional autonomy.

Tagai State College Strategic Directions

The Executive Officers of Tagai State College sought support from Torres Shire Council and other elected representatives for the College aspirations for Autonomous Schooling (Independent State Schools) and the development of students' accommodation on Thursday Island. Council has supported these strategic initiatives in the past and may reaffirm its political support with the appropriate government organisations/agencies.

Min. 11/11/2 Moved Cr. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That Council (1) endorse in principle Tagai State College formal request to become an Independent State School under the Autonomous Schooling to the State Education Minister, subject to a full evaluation of the State Education responsibilities and funding obligations to this region, as well as the College capacity to become an independent Education Institution;

and (2) that Council strongly encourage the Education Department to provide funding support for residential and hostel accommodation for students being relocated to Thursday Island for schooling."

Carried

Correspondence - Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council

Councillor Alf Lacey is seeking Torres Shire Council's support to erect a memorial to acknowledge the historic residents and their ancestors deported to Palm Island reserve from across Queensland. Cr. Lacey requests a rock/stone from communities where people originated from under the assimilation program and process. This rock on the memorial will not only symbolise the connection between the families and country but depict the strength of diversity of these families to continue to build strong community. I support this practical initiative to commemorate that community strength can emerge from suppression.

Min. 11/11/03 Moved Cr. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. Bin Tahal

"That Council support the Palm Island project and supply a rock/stone for a memorial from our Torres Shire community in acknowledgement of reconciliation "

Carried

Min 11/11/04 Moved Cr. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki

"That the Mayor's Report be received."

Carried

Attendance: Representative Shona O'Neill from the Office of Warren Entsch MP for Leichhardt arrived at the meeting at 10am. to address Council and seeking support to construct on Badu and Thursday Islands appropriate memorials to those aboard the Department of Immigration vessel "Malu Sara" who were tragically lost at sea on 14 October 2005.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 10.15am and resumed at 10.48am.

1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REPORT

Min 11/11/5 Moved Cr. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. Abednego
"That the Chief Executive Officer's report be noted and received."

Carried

2. CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT

Attendance: The Director of Corporate Services attended the meeting at 11.05am to present her report.

Min. 11/11/6 Water Consumption Concession Policy (File 1-12-24)
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki
"That Council adopt the tabled Water Consumption Concession Policy under the Local Government (Finance, Plans and Reporting) Regulation 2010, Part 10."

Carried

Min. 11/11/7 Asset Management & Services Plan & Asset Management Policy (File 1-12-24)
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell
"That Council adopt (a) the tabled Core Asset & Services Management Plan, and (b) the tabled Core Asset & Services Management Policy under Section 104 of LGA 2009; Sections 135-136 of LG Finance Plans and Reporting Regulation 2010."

Carried

Min. 11/11/8 Asset Revaluations (File 1-12-24)
Moved Cr. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki
"That Council accept the quote from APV for the amount of \$67,850 (excluding GST) to carry out the 2011-12 comprehensive asset revaluations (funded by excess Financial Assistant Grant Funds)."

Carried

Min. 11/11/9 Amendments to 2011-12 Budget
Moved Mayor Stephen , Seconded Cr. Bin Tahal
"That Council approve the amendments to the 2011-12 Budget to reflect the changes to Revenue and Expenditure items."

Carried

2. CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT

LATE ITEM

2010 -2011 Financial Statements (File 1-12-24)

Min. 11/11/10 Moved Cr. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki

“That Council adopt the Audited 2010-2011 Financial Statements and Management Certificate”

Carried

Acknowledgement

The Mayor & Councillors wishes to formally acknowledge the extensive and indepth work of the Finance and Corporate Service staff members in ensuring that the Council retains its credibility in obtaining an unqualified audit.

Thursday Island Child Care Centre (File 1-12-2)

Min. 11/11/11 Moved Cr. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki

“That Council adopt the tabled Thursday Island Child Care Centre Fee Policy.”

Carried

Draft Annual Report 2010-2011 (File 1-13-1)

Min. 11/11/12 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

“That Council (1) adopt the Draft 2010-2011 Annual Report including the 2010-2011 audited financial statement, (2) distribute the Annual Report to the required departments, agencies and individuals, and (3) place the Annual Report on public exhibition at the Council Office and on Council’s website.”

Carried

Min. 11/11/13 Moved Mayor Stephen., Seconded Cr. Bin Tahal

“That the Director of Corporate Services report be noted and received.”

Carried

Departure: The Director Corporate Services departed the meeting at 11.20am

3. ENGINEERING SERVICES

REPORT

Attendance: At 11.24am the Director of Engineering Services arrived at the meeting to present his report and departed at 11.40am.

Min. 11/11/14 Moved Cr. Bin Tahal, Seconded Mayor Stephen

“That the Director of Engineering Services’ report be noted and received.”

Carried

Attendance: At 11.42am the Director Planning & Environmental Services arrived at the meeting to present his report.

4. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

REPORT

Day Care Centre 30 Nawie St Horn Island– Land Ownership (Files 5-41-6 & 1-30-13)

Min. 11/11/15 Moved Cr. Bin Tahal, Seconded Abednego

“That Council accept the appointment as trustee for land described as Lot 20 on Plan CP851532 (30 Nawie Street, Horn Island) without conditions that no further development of the land will occur until Native Title rights and interests can be further investigated and appropriately addressed.”

Carried

Use of land at Airport for Concrete Block Making Plant (File No 6-30-7)

Min. 11/11/16 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Bin Tahal

“That Council agree to lease approximately 5000sqm of land on Airport Road being part of Lot 1 SP 142709 to the Horn Island Aboriginal Corporation for the purpose of a concrete block plant, subject to the entering of a lease for a period of up to 2 years and the issue of a Development Permit for the proposed use is to be at an agreed rental value.”

Carried

Attendance: At 12.48pm the Director of Planning & Environmental Services departed the meeting.

Min. 11/11/17 Moved Cr. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki

“That the Director of Planning & Environmental Services’ report be noted and received.”

Carried

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

Mayor Stephen

- Tabled a letter regarding 63 Douglas Street.
- Disappointment at Council’s commitment of the memorial wall & plaque which was to be in place at Anzac Park prior to 11 November 2011.

Cr Shibasaki

- Street Sweeper brochure produced for Council information.
- Property owned by Gary Miller in Blackall Street requires attention to stormwater drainage
- Still awaiting Council’s erection of the plaque approved for the pergola Mogi Trust Park
- Clarification required by the public on collection of out of date empty gas cylinders at the Council Transfer Station.

Cr. Bin Tahal

- Fining owners of unregistered dogs throughout the Shire should be more forceful.
- Lighting at Rosehill Ramp requires repair
- Ben Kropp documentary on misrepresenting Torres Strait islanders on managing turtle & dugong
- Rebel Marine donga at Horn Island - used as permanent staff accommodation which Council approved for site office
- Require progress report from Council on the Horn Island Playground shade structure and plaque
- Congratulations to Emma Beckley of Horn Island on her achievement of Undergraduate of Arts and her exhibition in Melbourne in November 2011
- Congratulations to Mrs Agnes Fox of Horn Island for progressing the Age Care facility for Horn Island.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 13 December 2011 followed by Special Meeting
to determine 2012 Australia Day Award recipients.

CLOSURE: The meeting closed with a prayer at 1.05pm

Confirmed this 13th day of December 2011

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'W. B. L.', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

MAYOR