

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE OFFICES, DOUGLAS STREET, THURSDAY ISLAND
ON TUESDAY, 17 JULY 2012**

PRESENT

Mayor Pedro Stephen (Chair), Cr. John Abednego, Cr. Allan Ketchell, Cr. Yen Loban, Cr. Willie Wigness, Ms Dalassa Yorkston (Chief Executive Officer) and Ms Nola Ward Page (Minute Secretary)

The meeting opened with a prayer by Mayor Stephen at 9.15am.

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:

Mrs Salu Sebasio

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Min. 12/07/2 Moved Cr. Loban., Seconded Cr. Abednego

"That Council receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 19 June 2012 and confirm as a true and correct record of the proceedings."

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Horn Island Airport – Security Screening Facility
Min 12/06/12 Update on Grants Revenue

MAYOR'S REPORT

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners, the Kaurareg People, on whose land we hold our Local Government office.

Appointment of the Chief Executive Officer

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Dalassa Yorkston on her new appointment to the position of Chief Executive Officer for the Torres Shire Council. Her appointment clearly demonstrates Council's commitment to its vision 'lead, provide and facilitate' leadership in Local Government. Au Esoau for accepting the appointment and I look forward to working with you in addressing the many challenges facing our 'grassroots' communities and region.

Public Housing Tenants Community Forum

A Community Forum conducted on the 5th and 12th July 2012 was held at the Port Kennedy Hall to discuss the long standing issues of Public Housing in the Torres Strait. There were over 100 participants attending these forums, expressing their concerns as tenants regarding the ongoing implementation of mainstream housing policy in our region without prior consultation with constituents. The forum resolved to invite the Member for Cook to facilitate an urgent meeting to honour the Liberal National Party's campaign commitment regarding housing matters. I received a copy of an email on the 13th July 2012 addressed to Hon. Bruce Flegg MP Minister for Housing and Public Works and copies to myself and Member for Cook to address the matters raised. Housing petitions collated and attached to the Housing Minister's letter highlighted 3 points:

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd)

- 1) Imposition inappropriate policy and procedures to force tenants to share homes or be subjected to rental increase
- 2) Punitive system that imposes a penalty of taking people to court arbitrarily for arrears without Natural Justice
- 3) Intellectual Property Right of information collected by proposed Rental Review and State Owned and Managed Survey as means of extracting private information from tenants for erroneous use in the public domain.

Action: That there be an emergency housing meeting held on Thursday Island for the community with the representative State and Commonwealth Ministers for Housing and Torres Strait Leaders to resolve these issues immediately.

The Housing Minister Hon Bruce Flegg confirmed in his latest housing press release on 11th July 2012 that Queensland public housing tenants will not be forced to share their homes with other people as part of a shake-up of the system.

Min. 12/07/3 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Loban

"That Council endorse a delegation lead by the Mayor to meet with the member of Cook, the Hon. David Kempton to address the long standing housing issue in the Torres Strait."

Carried

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 10.15am with an invitation extended to the Torres News local editor, Mr Corey Bousen to attend and record the signing of the contract of the new appointed Chief Executive Officer Mrs Dalassa Yorkston with Torres Shire Council. The meeting resumed at 10.45am.

Torres Shire Community Booklets

I wish to acknowledge the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Yen Loban's contribution to ensure the Community Booklets for Thursday, Horn and Prince of Wales Islands are completed. Officers from Torres Strait Regional Authority will include matters identified by Councillors and update the booklets to be presented back to Council for endorsement before printing.

Local Leaders Meeting

The Chair of Torres Strait Regional Authority Mr. Toshie Kris, Mayor Fred Gela of the Torres Strait Regional Council and I met on the Wednesday 11th July 2012 to discuss matters of regional significance including the establishment of the Health Hospital Service and the nomination of a Torres Strait representative on the Regional Development Australia Far North Queensland Board (RDA FNQ). The Leaders agreed to conduct a regular monthly meeting to discuss regional priorities and ensure our issues are not compromised by States, Territories and National agendas.

It is equally important that each organization is kept abreast of local or homeland challenges. I expressed my disappointment that Torres Shire Council was overlooked in being involved with Minister Simeon Crean's recent visit to the Torres Strait

Island Board Industry Service Membership

The Minister has invited Torres Shire Council to nominate two representatives to the IBIS Board.

Min. 12/07/4 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Loban

"That Council endorse the nomination of Mayor Napau Pedro Stephen and Councillor Allan Ketchell as representatives of Torres Shire Council to the Island Industry Board."

Carried

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd)

Roundtable Meeting with Senator Sue Boyce

The Chief Executive Officer, Dalassa Yorkston and I joined representatives from Torres Strait Island Regional Council and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council to meet the Senator and table specific issues relating to respective organisations on Monday 16th July 2012. This was facilitated by Torres Strait Regional Authority.

The two issues raised with the Senator for Torres Shire were:

- Future proposed Horn Island Airport Development
- Prince of Wales Safe Sea Transport Access

The Senator will take the opportunity to accompany Mayor Gela and visit Saibai and Boigu Islands regarding cross border issues.

Dugong and Turtle Consultation

Officers from Queensland Government will conduct a public consultation on animal cruelty at a meeting at Port Kennedy Hall commencing at 10.30am on Wednesday 18th July 2012. The request from local representatives to conduct cluster consultation as previously discussed was not supported. It is an insult to hold this consultation after the Government has already passed this racist legislation which clearly does not recognize traditional hunting as part of the Torres Strait Native Title Rights.

Min. 12/07/5 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Wigness

"That Council table its position on behalf of its constituents regarding the bill affecting the traditional and customary hunting practices of dugong and turtle in the Torres Strait at the public meeting being held at the Port Kennedy Hall on 18 July 2012."

Carried

Min. 12/07/6 Moved Cr. Loban, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

"That the Mayor's Report be received."

Carried

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REPORT

Common Seal Use

Min. 12/07/7 Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell

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

Date attached	Document Description
21 June 2012	TS Descent ID – Franceen Louise Ketchell
22 June 2012	TSRA Grant Funding Agreement \$1,000,000.00 Horn Island Airport - New Security Facility "

Carried

Horn Island Airport – New Security Screening Facility (File 1-605-45)

Min. 12/07/8 Moved Cr. Wigness, Seconded Cr. Loban

"That Council acknowledge the work achieved by the staff of the Engineering Department on the successful delivery of the Horn Island Airport new security screening facility in operation as from 1 July 2012."

Carried

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REPORT

- Min. 12/07/9** **Horn Island Airport – Grant Funding (File 6-1-7)**
Moved Cr. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. Abednego
“That Council acknowledge the grant funding from Torres Strait Regional Authority (MIP) of the amount of \$1M towards Stage 2 of Horn Island Airport Security Screening and note the Safer Skies in Regional Australia media statement allocating \$460,000.00 dollar for dollar as a contribution towards minor modifications of passenger terminal facilities at the Horn Island Airport.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/10** **Winds of Zenadth Cultural Festival (File 5-020-001)**
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Wigness
“That Council acknowledge the grant funding from Arts Queensland of \$85,000 to deliver the Winds of Zenadth Cultural Festival 2012.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/11** **Torres Strait NAIDOC Awards 2012 (File 1-68-007)**
Moved Mayor Stephen, Seconded Cr. Loban
“That Council appreciate and acknowledge the contributions made by Sea Swift Pty Ltd, IBIS, National Australia Bank, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multi-Cultural Affairs, PDR Engineers, Coral Sea Concrete, James Cook University, Torres Strait Regional Authority, Austek Communications and the Australia Bureau of Statistics as Major Sponsors for the Council's Torres Strait NAIDOC Awards 2012.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/12** **Councillor Portfolio and Advisory Committees (File 1-029-003)**
Moved Cr. Abednego , Seconded Cr. Ketchell
“That Council note the following scheduled committee meeting dates for
▪ Indigenous Advisory Committee –26 July 2012
▪ Kaurareg Traditional Owners Advisory Committee postponed until August
▪ MOU TSC/TSRA –12 September 2012
▪ Disaster Management Committee –17 August 2012
to be facilitated by their respected portfolios, and the first meeting dates for the Ngurupai Sports Complex Advisory Committee and Torres Shire Elders Advisory Committee are to be advised by portfolio members.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/13** **Change of date of September Ordinary Council Meeting (File 1-001-007)**
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell
“That Council approve to hold Council's Ordinary Meeting for September on Tuesday, 11th instead of 18th September which is the official opening of day one of the Winds of Zendath Cultural Festival 2012.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/14** **LGAQ Conference (File 1-039-007)**
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Loban
“That Council endorse Mayor Pedro Stephen, Dalassa Yorkston, Chief Executive Officer and Councillors Abednego, Ketchell, Loban and Wigness attend the 2012 Annual LGAQ Conference in Brisbane on 22-25 October 2012.”
Carried

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LATE ITEMS

- Min. 12/07/15** **Gab Titui Cultural Centre – removal of mango tree request**
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Wigness
“That Council confirms that the mango tree at the Gab Titui Cultural Centre has no cultural or historical significance and advise TSRA accordingly.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/16** **Code of Conduct for Employees**
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Mayor Stephen
“That Council adopt the Code of Conduct Version 2: 06/2012 for Torres Shire Council Employees.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/17** **Internet, Email & Computer Usage Policy**
Moved Cr. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. Wigness
“That Council adopt the updated Torres Shire Council Internet, Email and Computer Use Policy.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/18** **Delegations Register (File 1-001-017)**
Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Mayor Stephen
“That Council acknowledge the proposed project progression plan for the development of the Delegations Register as envisaged by King and Company, the consultants engaged to assist with the development of the Register.”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/19** **Moved Cr. Loban, Seconded Cr. Abednego**
“That the CEO Report be received.”
Carried

IN COMMITTEE

Aplin Road Storage Yard (File 1-45-108)

That Council discuss the above item ‘In Committee’ under the provisions of the Local Government (Operations) Regulation 2010 section 72(1) (f) starting or defending legal proceedings.

- Min. 12/07/20** **Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Loban**
“That Council go in Committee”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/21** **Moved Cr. Abednego, Seconded Cr. Ketchell**
“That Council come out of Committee”
Carried
- Min. 12/07/22** **Aplin Road Storage Yard (File 1-45-108)**
Moved Cr. Loban, Seconded Mayor Stephen
“That Council endorses the report presented by the CEO in relation to the Notice to Remedy Breach for Mr Elliot Treacy for the Aplin Road Storage Yard. “
Carried

IN COMMITTEE

Aboriginal Hostels Limited (File 1-12-24)

That Council discuss the above item 'In Committee' under the provisions of the Local Government (Operations) Regulation 2010 section 72(1) (d) rating concessions.

Min. 12/07/23 Moved Mayor Stephen, Seconded Cr. Loban
"That Council go in Committee"

Carried

Min. 12/07/24 Moved Mayor Stephen, Seconded Cr. Loban
"That Council come out of Committee"

Carried

Aboriginal Hostel Limited (File 1-12-24)

Min. 12/07/25 Moved Cr. Loban, Seconded Mayor Stephen
"That Council, in accordance with Section 93 (3) (h) of the Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulation Chapter 2 Part 2 S7 (A-E), grant this exemption of general rates effective from 1 July 2012 for the two properties owned by Aboriginal Hostels Limited on Thursday Island at 145 Douglas Street, in the amount of \$2,530 per annum and 60 Victoria Parade in the amount of \$2,380."

Carried

ENGINEERING AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

REPORT

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned for Lunch at 1.55pm and resumed at 2.25pm with the Acting Director Engineering Services, Keith Yorkston in attendance to present his report and departed at 2.55pm.

Carried

Min. 12/07/26 Moved Cr. Loban, Seconded Cr. Ketchell
"That the Acting DES Report be received."

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr. Loban

- Enquired on the progress of High School car-parking
- Querying who retains maintenance to sitting area in Douglas Street
- Safety concerns regarding concrete seating bench at Magala Street, Waiben
- Speed Limit signs required on Esplanade, POW
- Wasaga Hall

Mayor Stephen

- Maintenance required for eroding concrete along Victoria Parade
- Planting of coconuts trees requested along Victoria Parade

Cr. Ketchell

- Signage required at T-junction at Olandi Street & Stephen Street and TAFE & Aplin Road

Cr. Abednego

- Watertanks - Friday Island

Cr. Wigness

- Batching Plants on Horn Island
- Toilet facility at Sadies Beach
- Progress on pontoon at Rosehill
- Marking of old pedestrian crossing in main street needs to be erased completely

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 21 August 2012

CLOSURE: The meeting closed with a prayer by Mayor Stephen at 3.40pm.

Confirmed this

day of

2012

MAYOR