

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE SHIRE OFFICES, DOUGLAS STREET, THURSDAY ISLAND  
ON TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2008**

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**PRESENT** Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen (Chairman), Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Cr. I. Shibasaki, Cr. A. Ketchell, Cr. J. Abednego, Mr. B. McCarthy (Chief Executive Officer), Mrs D. Yorkston (Director Corporate Services), Mr. C. Johnstone (Director Engineering Services) and Mrs. P. Wasaga (Minute Secretary)

The meeting opened with a prayer at 9:15am.

**APOLOGIES** Mr. P. Watton (Director Planning & Environment Services)

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

*Mr. Walter Nona & Mrs. Mamie Bowie*

**DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT...**Nil

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

*Confirmation of Minutes deferred until later in the meeting.*

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES...**Nil

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**Consultation on National Indigenous Representative Body (File 1-31-7)**

A public forum facilitated by FaCHSIA was held on the 29 August 2008 at the Port Kennedy Community Hall to consult and invite submissions regarding the Commonwealth Government's proposal for the establishment of a National Indigenous Representative Body. Participants included elders, leaders and Traditional Owners from across the region. I tabled a paper highlighting the region's call for Self Government in a form of commonwealth territory pursuant to the *1997 House of Representative Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Report* recommendations tabled in Parliament. The 1997 process of a 'New Deal' is still unresolved, awaiting the government's final response. Other papers were submitted from Mer and the Kaurareg representatives. Whilst there was general consensus to support the establishment of a National Representatives Body, participants raised concerns regarding cultural protocol breaches on matters relating specifically to individual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders perspectives. The forum has requested an extension to the closing date for the submission to allow for another visit to the outer islands communities.

**Min. 08/09/01 Moved Cr. J. Abednego, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

"That Council recommend community consultation be conducted through the Torres Shire Council regional governance portfolio gauging self determination."

**Carried**

## **MAYOR'S REPORT** (cont'd)

### **2008 LGAQ Conference (File 1-39-8)**

I attended the conference held in Cairns during 1–5 September with Councillors Bin Tahal, Shibasaki and the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Bernie McCarthy. The Opposition discussed their proposal on 'de-amalgamation' in the Torres Strait should they become successful at the next election. However, the Premier and Minister Pitt were both adamant that councils should now move on. Council's submission was tabled in our deputation with Minister Pitt and he has given positive and supported response to all of council's matters. As part of the reviewing of the Local Government Act, it is recommended that Elected Representatives are only responsible to appoint the CEO and he is responsible for all other staff appointments including the executive appointments. This recommendation is contrary to council's present executive staff appointments.

### **Min. 08/09/02 Moved Cr. I. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

"That Council submit its Local Government Review submission to Hon Howard Hobbs, Shadow Minister Local Government and lodge its objection to the proposed appointment of senior staff as part of the Local Government Act review."

**Carried**

### **Councillors Remuneration Review (File 1-29-9)**

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has agreed to review the remuneration for Indigenous Councils as well as Torres Shire and Cook Shire under a Special Councillor's Category. The Chief Executive Office, Mr. Bernie McCarthy, Councillor Bin Tahal and I met with Mr. Adrian Bloomfield on Wednesday, 10 September at the ATSIP-Department of Communities Conference room after his visit to the outer islands communities with Mayor Gela of Torres Strait Regional Council. Both Mayor Gela and I had a verbal presentation as to the extra roles of councils in the Torres Strait highlighting cultural protocols, border and other related matters. Mr. Bloomfield has requested that Council submit additional information regarding the Mayor's representation on other organisations. This information was forwarded on Monday, 15 September.

**Noted**

### **High Cost of Inquiry (File 5-35-7)**

Queensland Senator Sue Boyce tabled Council's request at the Senate on 28 August and has briefed members of the Senate Select Committee on Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities including the Chair, Senator David Johnston. The Committee was scheduled to meet during the first week in September and Senator Boyce will advise Council on its progress and decision.

**Noted**

### **Torres/NPA Area Consultative Committee Inc - Membership Recruitment (File 1-35-39)**

Mrs. Darlene Fell, Executive Officer, Torres/NPA ACC Inc. has invited Council to submit a representative from Council to the organisation's Management Committee. This was a recommendation as part of the organisation transition into Regional Development Australia (RDA).

### **Min. 08/09/03 Moved Cr. J. Abednego, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

"That Council nominate Deputy Mayor Cr. Napcia Bin Tahal to be Council's representative on Torres/NPA ACC Inc. and in her absence another Councillor attend as a proxy."

**Carried**

## **MAYOR'S REPORT** (cont'd)

### **Northern Australia Economic Development Forum (File 5-18-7)**

Council has received an invitation for representatives to attend the forum in Cairns on the 27 and 28 October 2008. The timing of the forum was to coincide with the creation of Regional Development Australia and the establishment of the office of North Australia.

#### **Min. 08/09/04 Moved Cr. J. Abednego, Seconded Cr. I. Shibasaki**

“That Council be represented at the Northern Australia Economic Development Forum being held in Cairns on 27/28 October 2008 by Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen and Deputy Mayor Cr. N. Bin Tahal.”

**Carried**

### **Engineers Wharf Pontoon (File 5-6-9)**

Mr. Andrew Kernan of Entrance Island has written to Council seeking support to lobby the appropriate authorities regarding the size and situation of the pontoon. It is a growing concern for the users both from the near by islands and the outer islands. He has witnessed families clambering over other boats to get to the pontoon with children and prams etc under their arms and returning laden with groceries and other purchases. It is only a matter of time before someone is injured if appropriate steps are not taken to address this growing Health and Safety concern within our community. It is obvious the pontoon's size and position is no longer meeting the demands of a growing population.

#### **Min. 08/09/05 Moved Cr. I. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. J. Abednego**

“That Council raise the concerns of Mr. A. Kernan of Entrance Island to the appropriate authorities (Ports Corporation Queensland and Queensland Transport) and highlight the inadequate size of the pontoon at the Engineers' Wharf to meet the increasing usage of this facility and the prevalent safety issues.”

**Carried**

## **OTHER MATTERS**

### **Withdrawal of Endeavour Shipping (File 1-99-7)**

There are growing concerns around higher freight (sea) costs with the withdrawal of Endeavour Shipping. No competition will exist to reduce freight charges.

#### **Min. 08/09/06 Moved Cr. I. Shibasaki, Seconded Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen**

“That Council express concerns to the Federal Member Hon. J. Turner and State Member Hon. J. O'Brien on the higher sea freight costs and the withdrawal of the services of Endeavour Shipping in the Torres Strait which will leave no competition to reduce freight charges, and the members be requested to lobby for fast tracking the Cairns to Seisia all weather road to enable road freight transport to Torres Strait.”

**Carried**

### **Management of Offenders released back into the Community (File 5-35-7)**

#### **Min. 08/09/07 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. J. Abednego**

“That a Council representative meet with the Police and the Community Justice Committee to formulate appropriate steps to ensure the safety of Shire constituents.”

**Carried**

Engagement Process undertaken by ATSIP, Office of Department of Communities for the TRAWQ Community Hall

**Noted**

## **MAYOR'S REPORT** (cont'd)

The Mayor presented Cr. A. Ketchell with a LGAQ Certificate of Service for his 17 years service in Local Government.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 11:15am and resumed at 11:35am.

## **LATE CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Indigenous Flexible Funding Pool - Torres Strait Free Thinking Symposium Committee (File 1-358-85)**

In my report to Council at the Ordinary Meeting in June 2008 I stated that in December 2007 I hosted the Torres Strait (T/S) Free Thinking Symposium which brought together T/S Elders and T/S academics to share their worldview from a Torres Strait perspective. I also advised that the Department of Education Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) announced the TSC was successful through the Indigenous Flexible Funding Programme to secure \$49,000 for the implementation of the Symposium's recommendations for the 'Zenath Kes Academy - Pathway towards Prosperity'.

Now Council's endorsement is sought to formalise the Zenadth Kes Academy - Pathway towards Prosperity Project as funded by DEEWR. As TSC is the grant recipient and retains all the associated responsibilities, Council at this stage needs to pass a resolution regarding how the management and execution of its obligations under the grant agreement is to be handled. The Torres Strait Free Thinking Symposium Committee is to be endorsed by the TSC to continue to carry out the management of the project as this Committee successfully lobbied government and secured the grant funding.

### **Min. 08/09/08 Moved Cr. J. Abednego, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

"That Council resolve to approve the following:

1. Council give the Torres Strait Free Thinking Symposium Committee delegation to select and appoint an appropriate consultant.
2. The Torres Strait Free Thinking Symposium Committee be responsible for (1) monitoring the project's progress, (2) preparing and lodging the final report, and (3) authorising progress payments of consultancy cost as required."

**Carried**

**Departure:** Cr. J. Abednego departed the meeting at 11:50am

### **Min. 08/09/09 Moved Cr. I. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. J. Abednego**

"That the Mayor's report be received."

**Carried**

## **1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

### **1.1. REPORT**

#### **Fig Tree, 100 Douglas Street, Thursday Island (File 5-5-7)**

A second request has been received from Mr Winston See Kee for the large fig tree outside his shop premises to be removed. Due to damage to his shop/office building and footpath, leaves continually blocking his roof drains, roots blocking the stormwater drains, Mr. See Kee requests that Council officers inspect the damage caused by the tree and assess the risks that the tree presents. (Please refer to DES Report, Section 3, Item No. 3.1.6 for further information).

#### **Min. 08/09/10 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. I. Shibasaki**

“That Council fully consider this request after the Director of Engineering Services and Director of Planning & Environmental Services present a comprehensive report to the October Council meeting.”

**Carried**

#### **Sook Hahn Soo See Kee, R & F Self Service Store, 52 Douglas Street (File 5-5-7)**

Thanking Council for the pro active step that it took in removing the large fig tree outside its premises at 52 Douglas Street, Thursday Island. She requests that the tree stump removal be undertaken as soon as possible and states that they have the opinion of many residents by emphasising the replacement and beautification aspect as a follow up to the recent removal.

#### **Min. 08/09/11 Moved Cr. A. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. I. Shibasaki**

“That Council note the contents of Sook Hahn See Kee’s correspondence, instruct Engineering Services to remove the tree stump, at 52 Douglas Street, as soon as is practical, and require Engineering Services to implement a suitable tree replacement program for Douglas Street and other appropriate areas.”

**Carried**

#### **Proposed Community Improvements – POW Island (File 5-6-4)**

A letter has been received from Dr. Robert Miller of Muralag. He objects to requested infrastructure developments, including power generation and a jetty for cargo and passenger access.

#### **Min. 08/09/12 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. I. Shibasaki**

“That Council advise Dr Miller that the Muralug Association was established by long term residents of Prince of Wales Island who support community development, particularly in relation to the safe access for their children travelling to school on Thursday Island, and they have the full support of the Torres Shire Council and that his concerns be best taken up with the Muralug Association.”

**Carried**

#### **Staff Appointments - Director Engineering Services (File 1-606-7)**

The applications for the re-advertised permanent position of Director Engineering Services closed on 29 August 2008. There was not one suitable application received. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and I discussed this recruitment problem with Logo Recruitment and others at the recent LGAQ Conference in Cairns. Recruitment of Engineering staff is a national problem with many engineers opting to work in the resources sector.

#### **Min. 08/09/13 Moved Cr. A. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. I. Shibasaki**

“That Council negotiate with the current A/Director Engineering Services, Mr. Chris Johnstone, an extension of his services.”

**Carried**

## **1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

### **1.1. REPORT**

#### **Staff Appointments - Works Engineer, Gary Wilson (File 1-606-7)**

Mr. Gary Wilson has tendered his resignation effective from 26 September 2008. The position has been advertised with applications closing 8 October 2008.

#### **Min. 08/09/14 Moved Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

“That Council interview suitable applicants for the position of Works Engineer on a suitable date and the Interview Panel comprise the Mayor, CEO, DES and HRO.”

**Carried**

#### **Finance Manager - Ms Leanne Camilleri**

Ms. Leanne Camilleri has tendered her resignation effective from 31 October 2008. The position has been advertised with applications closing 18 September 2008.

#### **Min. 08/09/15 Moved Cr. A. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. N. Bin Tahal**

“That Council interview suitable applicants for the position of Finance Manager on a suitable date and the interview panel comprise the Mayor, CEO, DCS and HRO.”

**Carried**

#### **Integrated Service Delivery for Torres Strait & NPA Planning Project (File 1-1-4)**

On 22 August 2008, the Mayor and CEO attended a meeting with TSRA, TSIRC, NPARC Mayors, CEOs and other officers. The main purpose was to discuss and sign off on the integrated service delivery project that is currently being undertaken. Mayor Pedro Stephen is a Project Co-sponsor while Bernie McCarthy, Chief Executive Officer, is the TSC representative on the Project Steering Committee.

The Mayor agrees with CEO that we should set time aside to discuss and assess existing community plans, such as Port Kennedy Association, Horn Island Ratepayers Association, Mura Kosker Sorority, Muralug Residents Association, etc. against Council's Corporate Plan. The Mayor believes that “the final Regional Development Plan should ‘influence’ all other service plans relating to the delivery of services in our region. But the most important part of this plan is to ‘influence’ the funding and resource formula or methodology used or adopted for our region allocation or distribution”.

Please note that community consultation for this planning project is scheduled for 13-14 October.

#### **Min. 08/09/16 Moved Cr. I. Shibasaki, Seconded Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen**

“That Council

- Provide adequate promotion for the conduct of this planning project within the Torres Shire
- Request all community organisations to submit their community plans so that they can be included in this planning process
- Community consultation be undertaken to include Horn Island, Prince of Wales and Thursday Island with the following being involved:
  - Torres Shire councillors & staff, DLGSR, TSRA and ATSIP officers

#### **Venues:**

Horn Island - Ngurupai Sports Complex

Thursday Island - PKA Hall, Tamwoy Hall and Council Chambers for POW residents”

**Carried**

## **1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

### **1.1. REPORT**

#### **LGAQ Annual Conference - Cairns (File 1-39-7)**

From 1–4 September, Mayor P. Stephen, Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Cr. B. Shibasaki and I attended this most interesting and beneficial conference, which included a number of inspiring speakers particularly Mr. James Strong, AO, and Ms. Karni Liddell, Paralympian.

Many newly elected members were attending for their first time. The opportunity to network with local government colleagues from across Queensland and elsewhere is greatly appreciated. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and I took the opportunity to meet with Hon. W. Pitt, Minister for Main Roads and Local Government, and raise current issues of this Shire and seek his assistance in resolving these.

**Noted**

#### **Councillor Requests (File 1-29-8)**

During the past 4 weeks, Cr Napcia Bin Tahal has submitted 4 requests, as listed below, on the appropriate form as previously approved.

- 10/08 – Election commitment of \$500K for airport runway extension to be followed up with Federal Member, Hon. Jim Turnour, MP. Another matter to be investigated is a local travel subsidy for ferry travel within the region.
- 11/08 - Information sessions for residents on HI sewerage system.
- 12/08 – Connection of services to Kevin Foster’s property at Horn Island.
- 13/08 – Private works to fix leaking pipe at Mrs. Mary Bowie property, Horn Island.

All requests have been resolved or are being pursued.

**Noted**

#### **Workplace Health & Safety Committee (File 1-602-3)**

**Min. 08/09/17 Moved Cr. A. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. I. Shibasaki**

“That Council receive and note the Minutes of the Workplace Health & Safety Committee Meeting held on 21 August 2008.”

**Carried**

#### **POW Garbage Services Survey (File 3-16-10)**

Following a request from Muralag Community Association, a review of garbage services was conducted for Prince of Wales Island residents. Twenty responses were received up to 31 August 2008. A summary of responses is circulated.

Some brief comments are:

- Despite 16 residents indicating that they have access to the garbage tip, only 6 indicated that they pay access dump fees. I will have our Rates Officer check this out.
- There were only 4 persons that indicated that they were not happy with services provided by the current contractor.
- 11 residents provided suggestions on how the garbage service can be improved. These will be referred to the Director Engineering Services to investigate.
- The final question responses are quite predictable; only 3 respondents indicate that they would pay more charges towards possible expanded garbage dump facilities, larger pit/s, fencing, licensing, grease trap refuse pond, etc. While 16 opposed any increased charges.

## **1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

### **1.1. REPORT**

#### **POW Garbage Services Survey (File 3-16-10) (cont'd)**

**Min. 08/09/18 Moved Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen, Seconded Cr. N. Bin Tahal**

“That Council note the results of this survey and refer to appropriate TSC officers for further consideration and possible action.”

**Carried**

#### **Department of Sport Recreation – Future Service Delivery of Community Sport and Recreation for Torres Strait Region (File 5-30-7)**

On 4 September 2008 Mrs. D. Yorkston, DCS, represented TSC at the DSR Regional Workshop at the TI Bowls Club while Mr. B. McCarthy, CEO, attended on 5 September. Please refer to circulated TSC Submission and Summary of all Organisations who presented submissions to the workshop.

Please note that after considerable discussion, the organizations attending the workshop agreed to request the DSR Officers to request the Minister of Police and Sport, Hon. Judy Spence, MP, to grant an extension (possibly to 30 June 2009) for the Torres Strait region to present a final submission on this important sport and recreation issue.

**Min. 08/09/19 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

“That Council approve the TSC submission to the Department of Sport Recreation on future Service Delivery of Community Sport and Recreation for the Torres Strait Region.”

**Carried**

#### **Annual Leave**

CEO will be absent from the Shire on annual leave from 17 September to 6 October.

**Noted**

## **2. CORPORATE SERVICES**

### **2.1 REPORT**

#### **Professional Development - Corporate Services (File 1-1-15)**

Corporate Services are currently undergoing a Training Needs Analysis assessment which will allow staff to pursue formal career development. Career pathway options and formal training/development conversations have commenced between management and staff. Personal Training Plans will be developed under an overarching Corporate Services Division Training Plan.

**Noted**

#### **Career Pathways Tour – Year 10 Students Tagai State College (File 5-45-10)**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2008, 20 Year 10 students took part in the Career Pathways Tour facilitated through Council's HR Department. Students were given tours at various Council workplaces.

**Noted**



## **2. CORPORATE SERVICES**

### **2.1 REPORT (cont'd)**

#### **Torres Shire Council Tourism Development Plan (File 1-78-8)**

Community consultations and stakeholder's interviews were conducted by Tony Charters and David Young from Tony Charters & Associates from 8 to 11 September 2008.

Consultations were held at various locations on Thursday Island during the week including Horn Island on Wednesday 10 September. **Noted**

#### **Thursday Island Cemetery Conservation Works Report (File 1-358-75)**

Gordon Grimwade, Heritage Consultant has prepared a report outlining the works carried out during the Japanese graves restoration project. Public viewing of this report is welcomed and a copy will be made available in the library for members of the community, visitors and other interested persons. **Noted**

**Torres Shire Tourism Steering Committee Meeting Minutes (File 1-78-11) **Noted****

**Cultural Festival Meeting Minutes (File 5-20-1) **Noted****

**Library, Youth, TI Child Care Reports **Noted****

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned for Lunch at 1:20pm and resumed at 2:20pm with the Finance Manager present.

#### **Finance Report**

##### **2007/08 End of Financial Year and Audit**

Council's Auditors were on-site on from Monday 8 September 2008, to conduct their end of year site visit. This visit involved 4 auditors for a period of 1 week. The audited accounts will be presented at Council Ordinary Meeting in October which will finalise the end of year process for 2007/08.

Sections 247 and 1193 of the Local Government Act 1993 require Council to hold and maintain a register of interests of Councillors, Executive Staff and any related persons. As part of the 2007/08 Audit site visit by Council's auditors KPMG, it was identified that the Register of Interests had not been updated since 2004.

In order to facilitate bringing the register back up to date, appropriate forms were provided to elected members and executive staff, together with copies of the last information held. To ensure this information was collected on a timely basis a period of 2 weeks was provided for return of completed forms.

It was reiterated to the meeting that the register was a perpetual document and required ongoing changes be recorded as necessary.

#### **Childcare**

Significant progress has been made on child-care collections with the balance as at 31 August 2008 being \$13,057, a 43% reduction in outstanding debt on July 2008. The Director of TI Child Care has provided a list of long outstanding debts she considers were unrecoverable as at 30 June 2008 due to debtors having left the Shire.

**Min. 08/09/20 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

"That Council approve the write-off of the unrecoverable debts for the TI Child Care Centre in the amount of \$1,397.50 which had been provided for in the 2007/08 financial year and to be written off in the 2008/09 financial year."

**Carried**

**Financial Reports**

**Noted**

## **2. CORPORATE SERVICES**

### **2.1 REPORT (cont'd)**

#### **Lip-Air Pty Ltd trading as Aero Tropics (File 1-365-10)**

A confidential report was submitted on this matter enclosed under separate cover.

#### **Min. 08/09/21 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

“That Council go into Closed Meeting in accordance with Section 463(1)(h) of the Local Government Act 1993 to discuss “Other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage”.

**Carried**

#### **Lip-Air Pty Ltd trading as Aero Tropics (File 1-365-10) (cont'd)**

#### **Min. 08/09/22 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. Shibasaki**

“That Council come out of camera.”

**Carried**

## **3. ENGINEERING SERVICES**

### **3.1. REPORT**

#### **Horn Island Sewerage Project Update (File 6-300-10)**

As at the date of writing Council’s advice is that the sewerage scheme will be fully functional as at 30 September. Residents will be able to connect to the network from this date onwards. Project managers, Maunsell Australia have been requested to ensure Council is kept up to date on any likely delays. Documentation is being prepared by the Works Engineer to declare the area as a sewered area.

The Project Managers advised the DES an extended completion date of 12 December 2008 has been submitted by QPD.

#### **Min. 08/09/23 Moved Cr. A. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. I. Shibasaki**

“That Council accept the Project Manager’s recommended completion date of 10 October 2008.”

**Carried**

#### **Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) visit**

IBA are enthusiastic that the proposed sub-division of 28 lots off Savage Street would be one of the most significant achievements the group has achieved. Any subdivision works will be in conjunction with the TSRA, Council would look at re-couping costs associated with any developmental works. The new Horn Island sewerage scheme has the main lines in the ground ready to accommodate this sub-division. Clarification on Native Title is being sought by Council, development will be in line with the ILUA.

**Min. 08/09/24** “That Council engage consultants to proceed with the detailed design & documentation of the proposed subdivision of 28 Lots off Savage Street, Horn Island and clarification on Native Title implications of the proposed sub division.”

**Carried**

#### **Proposed Dredging to Engineers Wharf (File 5-6-9)**

Queensland Transport have been advised of a suitable site for the placement of dredged fill from these works. This location is consistent with the Victoria Parade Beautification and should remove the depression across from the bakery. No timeframe has been confirmed by Queensland Transport as yet.

**Noted**

### **3. ENGINEERING SERVICES**

#### **3.1. REPORT**

##### **Horn Island Police Aircraft Hanger (File 6-30-35)**

Lease documents have been signed and returned to the Police Property & Facilities branch. Queensland Police have proposed the construction of a new aircraft hanger at the Horn Island Airport. DES have reviewed the proposed Tender documents compiled by the Project Services North Queensland office and have provided comments on area he believe they need to address.

**Noted**

##### **Review of Streetlight Security (File 2-30-7)**

Street-lighting inspection in conjunction with Queensland Police Service took place on Monday September 8. Areas identified by Councillors at the August meeting have also been included on the inspection route.

**Noted**

##### **Fig Tree to front of 100 Douglas Street (File 5-5-7)**

Council has received a letter from Mr. Winston See Kee regarding concerns over the damage that Mr. See Kee states the existing tree is doing to the footpath.

Council reviewed and discussed this letter in conjunction with item 3.1.7 and the Douglas Street Master plan.

**Noted**

##### **Tree Planting to Douglas Street (File 5-1-7)**

Council has spoken with Gary Barnes of Greening Australia regarding planting around powerlines plus proposed planting for the Douglas street beautification. Mr Barnes suggested some species that would be suitable for Douglas Street that will fit in with the Siteplan drawings of the street. These species will be easier to manage as they will drop less leaves, have smaller fruit and there roots should be less damaging to Council infrastructure then the species that are there now.

**Noted**

##### **Access to POW (File 5-6-4)**

Following on from the 2002 KBR report which identified three options on siting and type of facility, Council is proposing full concept plan be developed for the Option 3 proposal. Option 3 is a combined pier/landing at Pearl Harbour and in 2002 there was extensive consultation and analysis of tide and current movements in the area.

Council is re-costing these options for ultimate submission to the Minister for Funding under the 2009 RDA program.

**Noted**

##### **Laboratory Analysis of Chlorine content to water**

As per Cr. N. Bin Tahal's enquiry on Chlorine level's within the reticulated water system, Council is currently reviewing the network and focussing on leaks, potability and the reporting requirements of the Bureau of Meteorology.

**Noted**

##### **Cape York Helicopters (CYH) Lease Site issues (File 6-30-33)**

DES met on site with Yvonne Wallace of Cape York Helicopters to discuss a number of ongoing issues with there use of the lease site.

(1) Hanger was constructed outside the lease area. This is reportedly due (CYH) to the Council placed boundary markers being in the wrong location. Discussions between D Nielsen and Y Wallace of CYH have stalled over re-negotiated lease costs for the encroachment. Block has been resurveyed, Council has little to gain by a pedantic re-negotiation of the lease.

### **3. ENGINEERING SERVICES**

#### **3.1 REPORT**

##### **Cape York Helicopters (CYH) Lease Site issues (File 6-30-33) (cont'd)**

- (2) Access to the lease site is via gate that Council insists must be locked at all times when not in use. This is hampering the operations of the lessee whilst providing minimal increase in security benefit. DES have discussed with B. Ahmat and he agrees with the below recommendation

##### **Min. 08/09/25 Moved Cr. I. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

- “(1) That Council retain the current lease pricing and  
(2) that Council allow the access gate to Cape York Helicopters Hangar remain unlocked during operational hours of the airport and move signage to the edge of apron.”

**Carried**

- (3) Surface drainage to the CYH hanger and the adjacent lots is a problem during the wet season. DES discussed options on site with the Works Engineer and a drainage solution was proposed and plans and costings are also under way.

**Noted**

##### **Request for consideration to accept Sewerage from Hammond Island**

Council has been approached by project managers engaged on the MIP regarding the possible acceptance of raw sewage, via submarine pipeline, from Hammond Island into the Thursday Island treatment plant. Council has advised the issue will be tabled at the next Council meeting. Capacity wise the current TI treatment plant would not need to be increased in size although materials (consumables) use would be increased. Issues for discussion include:

- Will Council accept the sewerage ?
- If accepted what chargeable rate per kilo-litre be levied ?
- If accepted what annual headworks fee would be charged ?

##### **Min. 08/09/26 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

“That Council advise Maunsells of costs associated with sewerage for Hammond Island.”

**Carried**

##### **Horn Island Quarry Tender (File 2-71-9-7)**

Council will review documentation regarding the proposed lease prior to tender being advertised in the next few weeks.

**Noted**

##### **Horn Island Airport – Proposed runway extensions (File 6-1-10)**

Council has reviewed documentation regarding the proposed extension to the airport. The airstrip extension is required to enable the safe landing and takeoff of fully laden craft. Current restrictions on landing weight are based on airstrip pavement strength and take-off clearance over the hill on Council lease.

##### **Min. 08/09/27 Moved Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen, Seconded Cr. N. Bin Tahal**

“That Council obtain quotes from soil testers to carry out additional strength testing of the existing strip for the proposed runway extension to the Horn Island Airport.”

**Carried**

### **3. ENGINEERING SERVICES**

#### **3.1 REPORT (cont'd)**

##### **Regional Airports Funding Program (RAFP) (File 1-358-63)**

Council has still outstanding the design and installation of airport floodlighting, a tender document has been compiled and DES is reviewing prior to issue. Expected issue date of late September.

**Noted**

##### **Milman Hill 4 ML Reservoir - Progress Report (File 6-403-8)**

Reservoir is operational and all leaks appear to have been repaired satisfactorily sealing of access road will be carried out in conjunction with the Sailor-Bowie works. Austek personnel visited the site late August to check the performance of the outlet valve, they proposed Council to utilise a solenoid type opening mechanism to improve the performance. Austek will be providing a quotation for the works. New float valve to reservoir to be installed at no cost to Council.

**Noted**

##### **Sailor-Bowie Cres Road-works (File 2-71-01-8)**

Written approval of additional funding from MRD not yet received, hence Council cannot legally engage Contractor. In the interim clean up works to the backs of the houses are expected to commence late September.

**Noted**

##### **Lot B Lot 82 Waiben Rd (File 1-45-4)**

Access works to the lot are on-going, permanent crossing to seasonal creek included in scope.

**Noted**

##### **Airport Terminal Condition Assessment (File 6-1-7)**

PDR Engineers has completed a Condition Assessment on the Horn Island Airport Terminal and have forwarded a report on their findings. The report priorities repairs that should be made to Council over the next five years to allow this to be considered for future budgeting.

#### **Min. 08/09/28 Moved Cr. I. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

1. "That Council receive and note the Horn Island Airport Terminal Building Condition assessment report, and
2. that the Airport Manager review the Condition Assessment Report and prepares and submits to Council a 5 year program to carry out the necessary works which shall be used in Council's budget process."

**Carried**

##### **Solid Waste Disposal Contract (File 2-71-02-8)**

Tender closes 7 October, tender report and recommendation to be completed for submission to Council October meeting.

**Noted**

##### **Rosehill Pontoon (File 1-358-82)**

Installation waiting on EPA approval.

**Noted**

##### **Victoria Parade Beautification (File 1-358-66)**

Reclaimed soil dredged from Engineers Wharf to be deposited for bulk fill for the proposed reclamation works. Funding source confirmed, Council approaching Project Managers to co-ordinate works.

**Noted**

### 3. **ENGINEERING SERVICES**

#### 3.1 **REPORT** (cont'd)

##### **Water and Sewerage Planning Reports (File 1-358-107)**

DES advised that through Local Buy Council shall engage an appropriately qualified and experienced consultant to develop water and sewerage planning reports.

**Noted**

### 5 **LATE REPORT**

##### **Extension of Bicycle path intersection of Waiben Esplanade & Aplin Rd (File 5-1-7)**

Following concerns by Cr. J. Abednego extension of the bike path through the seasonal creek is under consideration with costing being prepared.

**Noted**

##### **Operational Reports**

Reports from Works Engineer, Quarry/Landfill Manager, Works Overseer, Workshop Supervisor, Technical Officer-Utilities and Airport Manager.

**Noted**

### 4. **PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

#### 4.1. **REPORT**

##### **Amendment to Decision Notice - IDAS 07/17 Impact Assessable Planning Development Extensions and Alterations to the Commonwealth Centre, cnr Victoria Parade & Hastings Street, Thursday Island (File IDAS 07/17)**

Council's resolution *Min. 08/08/16* approved IDAS 07-17 Impact Assessable Application submitted by John Dunsworth Design & Drafting Pty Ltd at last month's meeting, however amendments to Clauses 8 and 15 are required as follows:

##### **Clause 8 (as previously approved)**

All surface water from the driveway and car parking area is to be collected by drains and discharged to the approved point of discharge. A gross pollutant trap is to be provided prior the point of discharge, so as to prevent sediment and other rubbish discharging to the water way.

##### **Amended Clause 8**

**All surface water from the driveway and car parking area is to be collected by drains and discharged to the approved point of discharge.**

*Reason for amendment: Gross pollutant trap (GPT) not required as majority of stormwater will be from the roof.*

##### **Clause 15 (as previously approved)**

Headworks Charges

Water Contribution: 3.14 ET x \$10,262 = \$33,478.68

Sewer Contribution: 3.14 ET x \$ 8,000 = \$12,000.00

**TOTAL HEADWORKS CONTRIBUTION \$58,598.68**

#### **4. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

##### **4.1. REPORT**

**Amendment to Decision Notice - IDAS 07/17 Impact Assessable Planning Development Extensions and Alterations to the Commonwealth Centre, cnr Victoria Parade & Hastings Street, Thursday Island (File IDAS 07/17) (cont'd)**

###### **Amended Clause 15**

###### **Headworks Charges**

**Water Contribution 3.14 ET @ \$10,262 = \$ 32,222.68**

**Sewer Contribution 3.14 ET @ \$ 8,000 = \$ 25,120.00**

**TOTAL HEADWORKS CONTRIBUTION \$ 57,342.68**

*Reason for amendment: incorrect calculation.*

###### **Min. 08/09/29 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

“That Council approve the Amended Decision Notice in regard to Clauses 8 and 15 for IDAS 07/17 Commonwealth Centre submitted by John Dunsworth Design & Drafting Pty Ltd and the original document altered.”

**Carried**

###### **Building Inspections**

For the period 12 August – 5 September, 2008, there has been a total of 11 Building Inspections carried out.

**Noted**

###### **Animal Control**

The Animal Control Officer Jim Adidi has been very active in regard to impounding animals and conducting a door to door survey in both an educational process and counting the number of dogs within the shire. By 11 August, last a total of 180 dogs have been registered. This is an outstanding number considering the registration period for 08-09 only commenced on 1 July. A follow up utilizing data from Jimmy's survey will reveal which dogs are still unregistered.

**Noted**

###### **Cultural Festival**

Tenders have been let for electrical, supply of musical equipment, erection of stalls.

**Noted**

###### **Environmental Issues**

E.P.A have visited Thursday Island and P.O.W. re environmental issues, in particular Long Beach.

Queensland Tropical Health unit Manager George Hapgood will be discussing with Council Offices a strategy regarding active 2 species of the Dengue Mosquito. 40 potential sites have been located on T.I. and 4 at Long Beach. The mosquito located at Long Beach was thought to be only active in Papua, however it is more deadly than is counterpart located on T.I.

**Noted**

#### **4. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

##### **4.1. REPORT (cont'd)**

###### **Assessment of Tender No. 06-08 Lots 82B & D Waiben Esplanade - Clearing and removal of vehicles, rubbish and debris**

Tenders were advertised in the Torres News on 30 July 2008 for the abovementioned works and closed at 2pm on 20 August 2008. A total of three (3) tenders were received.

##### **Min. 08/09/30 Moved Cr. A. Ketchell, Seconded Cr. I. Shibasaki**

“That Council accept the tender of \$38,780 GST included submitted by John Ian Doyle trading as Torres Straits Indigenous Building Services for Tender No. 06-08 for the clearing and removal of vehicles, rubbish and debris at Lots 82B & D, Waiben Esplanade, Thursday Island.”

**Carried**

###### **Construction of Storage Shed**

The Director of Engineering Services is currently completing suitable sketches for the calling of tenders for the building.

**Noted**

#### **5 LATE REPORTS**

##### **3. ENGINEERING SERVICES**

###### **Purchase of Area 26 ATCO Hut and Steel Container (File 6-1-7)**

Council has been offered the existing ATCO hut and adjacent steel container for purchase from Cobham for a nominal sum of \$1.00.

Cobham will be having no future presence with the Horn Island Airport and are looking to divulge themselves of assets, CASA is currently renting space from Cobham on a month by month basis, no written lease agreement is in place between Cobham and CASA.

##### **Min. 08/09/32 Moved Cr. N. Bin Tahal, Seconded Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen**

“That Council accept the offer made by Cobham and purchase the ATCO hut and adjacent Steel Container located at Horn Island Airport for the nominal fee of \$1.”

**Carried**

#### **4. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

###### **IDAS 06/18 Milman Hill Reconfiguration of 78 Lots Amended Decision Notice (File IDAS 06/18)**

##### **Min. 08/09/33 Moved Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen, Seconded Cr. N. Bin Tahal**

“That Council request the Consultant Town Planner to provide further justification of proposed amendments, especially the minimum Lot sizes detailed in Condition 5. A Lot size of 450 sq.metres or less is not acceptable to Council.”

**Carried**



## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Cr. I. Shibasaki**

- Send a get well card to Mrs Mary Bowie and Mr Seaman Dan
- Double line on Hastings Street, near National Bank.
- Extension to jetty to cater for small boatcrafts
- Upgrade the all weather road up to Seisia
- Moving sullage

### **Mayor N.P. Stephen**

- A request was received from the Wongai Basketball Association (Julie Yorkston-Secretary) to donate the venue for the Wongai competition over a period of 6 days at the TI Sports Complex. **(File 1-331-7)**

### **Min. 08/09/33 Moved Mayor Cr. N. P. Stephen, Seconded Cr. N. Bin Tahal**

“That Council approves waiving the fees and should also stipulate to the Wongai Basketball Association the correct procedure which needs to be followed for the use of the TI Sports Complex for future hiring purposes.”

**Carried**

- Papua New Guinea-Australia Ministerial Forum – Senator the Hon., Jan McLucas
- Invitation of the MOU working partnership between Torres NPA ACC
- Donga buildings at the HI Airport have they been inspected by the DPES for tender of usage

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **Min. 08/09/34 Moved Cr. I. Shibasaki, Seconded Cr. A. Ketchell**

“That Council receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 19 August 2008 and confirm as a true and correct record of the proceedings.”

**Carried**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** 21 October 2008

**CLOSURE:** The meeting closed with a prayer at 5:05pm

*Confirmed this*

*day of*

*2008*

**MAYOR**