



## PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Special Council Meeting – with H.E. Iona Thomas, Governor of the Pitcairn Islands Held at the Town Square, Adamstown Commencing at 11.00am, 21 September 2023

**Present:**

Her Excellency Iona Thomas – Governor of the Pitcairn Islands, Acting Mayor Shawn Christian, Administrator Fiona Kilpatrick, Cr Kevin Young, Cr Heather Menzies, Cr Kerry Young, Cr Charlene Warren, Cr Melva Evans


**Apologies:** Mayor Simon Young

**In attendance:** William Gordon – Island Secretary, Simon Mount – Attorney General, Administrator Stephen Townsend

**Gallery:** None

**Welcome:** A moment of private reflection was taken.

Items	
1. Opening of the Meeting of	Meeting Opened: 11.00am
2. Welcome all along with moment of reflection.	
3. Welcome from The Governor	The Governor offered thanks to the Council for organising the meeting in a reduced timeframe and expressed what a privilege it was to attend the coronation of H.M. The King on behalf of Pitcairn and to finally visit Pitcairn.
4. Introduction from Simon Mount, Attorney General	The Attorney General made a brief introduction and commented on his commitment to assisting with law reform as required.
5. Elder Care	<p>A general discussion was had about the need for elder care and support on Pitcairn, and the need to make adequate provisions for the aging population.</p> <p>Councillors discussed the need to approach this holistically, i.e. general capacity issues such as with crewing of the longboats.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Governor proposed looking into the costs for working out what is most suitable for Pitcairn's needs, the funding thereof, whilst also considering mental health care needs.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Administrator will advise Cr Heather Menzies of any proposals for future elder care provision.</p>
6. Internet Service and Communications	Council advised The Governor of the different issues affecting internet and communications including issues of the affordability of Starlink for some members of the community.

	The Governor graciously offered minor technical assistance from the I.T. department at the British High Commission in Wellington for fact checking purposes/advice.
7. Passenger Fares on Silver Supporter	<p>Council discussed the concerns some people have about the cost of passenger berths on the Silver Supporter, particularly in respect of the fares charged to family members of Pitcairn residents. The lack of a 'grab-a-berth'/last minute fares for sailings with unsold berths, close to departure, was also discussed.</p> <p>The Governor advised Council that HMG is not seeking to profit from the passenger fares charged for travel on the Silver Supporter and that the UK remains committed to ensuring that Pitcairn has a dedicated shipping service, although the UK does ultimately need to offset budgetary aid wherever possible and that tourist fares should not be subsidised.</p>
8. Land Survey of Pitcairn	<p>Council discussed the possibility of a complete land survey of the Pitcairn Islands on the recommendation of the Land Registrar.</p> <p>The Attorney General commented that the current land law is now about 20 years old agreed that this something that should be discussed further in due course.</p>
Meeting Closed –	12.10am
Meeting Approved	27 October 2023
Mayor:  Date: 9-11-2023	<i>Acting Mayor Sharon Christian</i>

