



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL

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Public Meeting Notes:
VTC with Governor and Deputy Governor,
Held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 12.00am Thursday Sept 24th 2015

Present:

Mayor Shawn Christian, Acting Deputy Mayor Cr Charlene Warren-Peu, Cr David Brown, Cr Darralyn Griffiths, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Leslie Jaques, Acting Councillor Melva Evans and Administrator, Alan Richmond.

Temp Island Secretary – Heather Menzies

Apologies: Deputy Mayor Brenda Christian

Gallery: Pitcairn Island community members

Welcome: Mayor Shawn Christian

Item	Discussion
Governor Sinclair's Opening Notes –	<p>The Mayor welcomed the Governor and Deputy Governor</p> <p>The Governor opened, commenting that it had been a while, since the last VTC meeting and that he would like the next to take place in 2 months. He went on to say he is delighted with the positive reports he is receiving from both the Administrator and the Deputy Governor on a host of things, which indicate the general direction of the island is heading in the right direction. He added that as long we continue focusing on key areas, such as development, access and child safeguarding and continue to do these things well we should be in a better position to attract more people to the island and secure its future. This is testament to people on the island, the Mayor, Council and everyone else involved working together. The future can only be secured by everyone pulling together in the right direction. He also thanked and acknowledged the contracted professionals.</p>
	<p>Governor Sinclair reported he will be travelling to London in October. He plans to have meetings with relevant ministers and anticipates time with Grant Shapps, the current Minister of State at the Department for International Development, and Foreign Office Minister.</p> <p>He added that the bilateral JMC meetings, which will be attended by Cr Leslie Jaques, and the Deputy Governor will also be of great importance as to the way forward under what is now a purely conservative government.</p> <p>The Governor said he hopes to be able to soon name the next Administrator, who will replace Alan Richmond next year. And, HMG is now also beginning the appointment process for replacing the current Deputy Governor, Kevin Lynch, next December.</p> <p>In response the Mayor noted that he too believed the community and council were working together more and noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Council had reviewed the most recent JMC Communique and anticipated enhanced collaboration with other overseas territories moving forward. ● Council had established a Repopulation Steering Group (RSG) to the review the systems, processes and barriers associated with successfully implementing the

island's repopulation strategy. The RSG's preliminary report and proposed activities will be discussed at Council later in the day.

- The 2015 Child Safety Review (CSR) report has been accepted and all the recommendations have been approved by Council. It will be shared with the community and a Public Meeting will be to share information and discuss the CSR and other matters, in the coming weeks.

The Governor, acknowledged the links between the child safety practices, tourism and immigration _ stating that these aspect all fit together and that access, development and child safety are one virtuous circle.

He added he is very keen to hear any thoughts people may have to take things even further.

He said he is aware that some have issue with notices to ships. He said that we have to realise that until actually everyone on the island has fundamentally changed - these things are essential. The climate in London, not just because of issues which have arisen in St Helena or Monserrat, but because of other various investigations, there are extraordinarily levels of scrutiny in place – whereby any sense of back-sliding will be noted.

He stressed that the good news here is that Pitcairn is moving in the right direction. And we just need to continue to do that. Everything the island can do come up with demonstrate what we can do to continually improve child safety measures will position us in a good place for the 2016 on-island CSR which will present us with an opportunity to strengthen the island's position. The Mayor agreed that the next review date, being 2016, provides good lead in time for the community and Council to embrace and enhance the island's child safety measures. If done properly he wants this to be the last generation faced with having to deal with these types of issues. He added he is committed to ensuring all is done to support such initiatives.

The Governor thanked those concerned for the work done to date on the EDF10 application. He added HMG is working on reducing the burden on bureaucracy for Council and support people.

He also thanked those involved for their assistance and cooperation in working with the Auditors. He also acknowledged work done to date with the Darwin Initiative and its projects leaders.

The Mayor conveyed that the Natural Resources Department is currently drafting Terms of Engagement for NGOs and it is anticipated that this will clearly set in place a framework for NGOs and associated parties too successfully.

Progress re
Accessibility

The Governor and the Deputy Governor conveyed that accessibility continues to be considered an important component of Pitcairn's social and economic development. We all want greater accessibility and it is possible that this may look like a more regular/frequent boat service. He added that his UK superiors are sympathetic to this need and he will be discussing this with them when he is in the UK later this year.

The Deputy Governor added that he and (FC) Evan Dunn, who will be managing the tender process had received feedback from the community and Council. All will be taken

	<p>into consideration as the tender requirements develop and consultation continues. He also cautioned against anyone setting their heart on an airport/airfield as a solution to the problem of accessibility.</p> <p>Cr Darralyn Griffiths added it is important that resident's medical needs are also factored into the equation. People need to be able to access treatment, in Tahiti, with ample time for appointments and recuperation.</p> <p>The Governor agreed frequent services are critical to development and will add value not only for tourism but also assist in managing our government equities including schooling options and medical requirements.</p>
EDF10 Investment	The Mayor told the Governor that though it is hoped that the Deputy Governor is successful in his request that the EU minimise its bureaucratic requirements for Pitcairn, Council is prepared to persevere should we be required to meet prescribed criterion.
Alternate harbour update	The Mayor briefly updated on the Western Harbour – which has been paused due to weather. However the project is continuing with coastal road - 1000 metre over the last 3 days.
2030 Road Map	The Mayor added that the Draft 2030 roadmap is in process and will be shared with the community for further input. It is anticipated that it will be completed in time for the JMC in November.

Meeting Closed: 1.00pm

Next VTC to be confirmed.

Mayor Shawn Christian.....

Date...13/10/2015.....

APPROVED