



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 9.00am 14th April 2021

Present:

Mayor Charlene Warren, Deputy Mayor Kevin Young, Cr Shawn Christian, Cr Leslie Jaques, Cr Lea Brown, Administrator Mark Tomlinson, Cr Michele Christian, and Cr Ariel Harding, Nadine Faulkner (Temp Secretary to Council)

Apologies:

In attendance: None

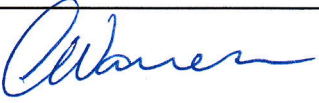
Welcome: The Mayor welcomed Council to the table and Cr M Christian opened with a prayer.

Agenda Item	Tabled by
ACTIONS / Matters Arising from Regular Council Meeting of 17 th of February 2021	<p>As per the Agenda, taken from meeting held 17th February 2021</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Financial Review committee: Deputy Mayor to follow up with FCDO. Progressing/On-going. Deferring any comment on this today, in lieu of a workshop scheduled for next Wednesday.2. Covid-19 Support Package: Support package yet to be advised, with the Administrator working with London around possible options being discussed. On-going. Administrator working in tandem with Deputy Mayor and DM Finance.3. Administrator to investigate passenger fees for the Silver Supporter between NZ and Pitcairn. Update: The Governor is happy with Council's decision to open borders with NZ in assurance Covid regulations are adhered with. A Public Meeting is to be held to discuss with the public. Council noted vaccinations/negative PCR test to and from the island need to be considered. It was suggested that at this Public Meeting the Covid Support Package should be discussed with the community as locals have been approaching council members with questions. Council discussed the best steps to take to keep the community aware of progress, and agreed that the update to the public in the public meeting would clear up any questions. Actions to be carried forward.4. The Deputy Mayor will populate the template provided by the AGs Office with all relevant government fees and circulate to all Councillors before submission to the Governor. On-Going.

	<p>Child Safeguarding Audit. Council will hold a closed workshop as soon as the report is available to discuss its findings and recommendations. Update – Meeting this month, April 2021.</p>
Approval of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of 17 th March 2021	<p>MOTION; Cr S Christian /Cr L Jaques “That the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of 17th March 2021 as previously circulated, be approved. All in favour / Carried</p>
Guiding Principles, Code of Conduct.	<p>The Mayor advised that these documents have been sent to the AG, and awaits reply.</p>
HM the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee	<p>Cr. L Jaques spoke on the plans for HM the Queen’s plans for this celebration. There are plans for an online Zoom afternoon tea, and noted the all the OTs will contribute to a gift to the Queen.</p> <p>Approved: Cr L Jaques Seconded: Mayor C Warren All in favour.</p>
Covid Vaccine Update	<p>The Mayor advised that a few in the community are asking when and how COVID-19 vaccines are going to be made available. The Administrator advised that plans have been made for delivery of the vaccines to Pitcairn in May. Every endeavour has been made to get this medication to Pitcairn as soon as possible, noting that other OTs who have had their doses delivered have easier access i.e., airports/location, and he drew attention to the fact because of our isolation and COVID-19 free status, luckily our urgency is less in comparison.</p>
Covid Support Package	<p>Cr L Jaques updated council on the request to HMG for further support package. DM Community and F&E have been working together to support the community and most vulnerable. He noted that the Store Debt programme is working well and will continue. Other debts or owing’s that are of concern to locals will and have been worked on with individuals as needed.</p> <p>Noted that the Support Package request and Council working on a Living Standard are two different issues. The Support Package is for immediate support to the community, the Living Standard is to support the concept of the community functioning economically long term.</p>
Divisional update – Administrator	<p>The Administrator updated the Council on the updated supply ship schedule. The Silver Supporter will depart NZ on 3 May, be at Pitcairn around 17-23 May and return to NZ around 7 June. The rotation will be shorter - only 2 months - with the ship departing NZ on 9 July and being at Pitcairn around 23-29 July. The aim now is to have five rotations this financial year rather than four. The third rotation is due to be September to November, with a proposed scientific</p>

	<p>expedition to the outer islands in October. The fourth rotation will then be in December and the fifth in February/March.</p> <p>On divisional activities the Administrator updated the Council on the various videoconference meetings, including with the Pitcairn Environment Group the Blue Belt Team and the Deputy Governor. The new MPA Officer has started work and recruitment of the new Communications Officer to be completed shortly. Operations are progressing work on the Clinic extension, the roof of the Community Centre and possibly starting the concreting of the roads previously prioritised by Council. The Finance Division recorded just under \$1,500 of sales through the Artisan Gallery for March, a gradual reduction in Store debt and work with the Administrator and DM Communities to assess the impact of the cessation of the HMG COVID support package and options for helping those who might run into financial difficulties. Otherwise on community issues, the FCA will be departing at the completion of his contact in May and recruitment is underway for a replacement. The Doctor has also proposed a further reduction in the length of the pre-boarding isolation period in Tauranga from 10 to 7 days, which the Council agreed to put to the community in a Public Meeting later in April.</p>
<p>Progress Update on Living Standards Work</p>	<p>The Deputy Mayor advised progress on the living standard work he had been doing. He proposed a workshop for the 21st of April 2021 to discuss and progress.</p>
<p>General Business Matters</p>	
<p>Lands Court</p>	<p>The Island Secretary role as Land Court Registrar was confirmed by the AG as referred in the Pitcairn Island Law. The Administrator read the advice from the AG to council and shared copy of the law for their perusal.</p> <p>A question was raised on how the Governor would appoint an employee – such as Island Secretary.</p> <p>It was explained that the job would be appointed to the most competent employee with the ability to complete the job. Expressions of Interest or Job Applications would support the appointment as well as recommendations from the Administrator and Council.</p> <p>Motion: Council approves the draft amendments made to the Lands Court (Court Registrar) Amendment Ordinance as put forward by the AG.</p> <p>Approved: Mayor Charlene Warren. Seconded: Deputy Mayor Kevin Young</p> <p>All in favour</p>

MPA Management Plan	Slides and a document to be presented to Council and discussed after the workshop on Wednesday the 21 st of April.
Law Reforms/Policies	<p>The Deputy Mayor spoke on issues he felt was not being followed by council as per Pitcairn law.</p> <p>Liabilities that may befall the island for not working by the law, and he asked if we are not complying, are we as council working as we should.</p> <p>Questions were asked such as transparency, accountability financial responsibility and capacity, are we meeting our obligations?</p> <p>Could council meet a performance evaluation and does ground work need to be done to ensure council now will help the council and community for the future.</p> <p>He advised that he would list his concerns further and, in more detail, and circulate to all councillors for the meeting on Wednesday.</p> <p>It was agreed that Council holds at present all of the people that run the island outside of council itself, and still Council cannot seem to make things work or work together to run the island as a team. It was also agreed that the capacity of the island and availability of people to get the work done is at a critical stage.</p> <p>A long discussion was had around priorities, best scenario, planning for the long term, and other issues including council working for the best interests of the community. Project work, normal everyday GPI work and future status of workers after project work ends was discussed.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that work needs to be done to ensure best practice in undertaking work for the community and long-term focus on what will help support the future.</p> <p>Noted that council elections have degenerated down to a vote of popularity, not a vote of confidence on who can do the job. It was asked how can we as a council work for the community when as a community we cannot work together. It was also asked if we as a community or council capable of governing ourselves. It was asked if an independent review should not be put in place.</p> <p>Some councillors noted there is no work to do. That some felt like they were not informed of essential information. It was agreed that being divided was not working at all.</p> <p>Discussion revolved around questions on uniting council and community, and what could be done to fix not only the financial or economic issues, but emotional problems too.</p>
Bonus Payments	<p>The Mayor asked the Administrator to give an update on the bonus payments. The Administrator advised that discussions are still being held around this bonus or holiday payment. He is continuing to work with Division Managers to put a process in place and make payment.</p>

	A discussion was had around other calculations that could be used to base or apply a holiday pay equivalent. Holiday Pay vs Bonus/Performance pay was discussed.
Public Meeting	The Mayor asked if Council would be happy to set a Public Meeting for the 20th April 2021, 10.00am. This would be to discuss the various issues that Council have been working on over the past few weeks and to get the community's feedback.
\$15 Hour job rate.	A question was raised about the new jobs advertised on the noticeboard and the hourly rates stated. Discussion was had over other GPI Employees hourly rate compared to the new positions, jobs that are currently at the base rate of \$10 and that could be reconsidered, and others that are slightly higher. It was noted that this issue may be raised at the public meeting.
Island Secretary	An expression of interest will be called for applicants to apply for the position.
Meeting Closed	Meeting closed at 11.15 am
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Next Meeting.	Next meeting set for 9.00 am Tuesday 12 th May 2021
	Workshop reviewing the Cost-of-Living report. Wednesday 21 st April 2021. 9am Public Meeting 20 th April 2021 10am
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Approved 12/05/2021.	 Mayor Charlene Warren.

