



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 9.00am 17th August 2022

Present:

Acting Mayor Shawn Christian, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Heather Menzies, Cr Torika Christian, Cr Leslie Jaques, Administrator Tim Moody, Island Secretary Nadine Faulkner

Apologies: Mayor Charlene Warren, Cr Simon Young

In attendance: Kevin Young

Welcome: The Acting Mayor welcomed Council and Administrator Tim Moody to the table. A moment of private reflection was taken.

Agenda Item
<p>Actions from the last council sitting: - 20th and 24th of July 2022</p> <p>Remote meeting participation for councillors. Mayor to work with AG's office re possible amendment of ordinance to make this possible. Action: Deferred until Mayor returns.</p> <p>EDF Solar Power Project Proposals put forward and discussed on the 20th/24th of July. Action: Administrator and Division Manager Operation to work with Deputy Governor and PIO to forward proposal to SPC, and hope to hear back soon. Ongoing – see discussion in minutes of today.</p> <p>Update on status of Pitcairn's copper-wire Connectivity Clarify rumour and conversation within the community around misinformation of copper-wire communications status. Ongoing: Public notice to be arranged by the Administrator. Ongoing – see discussion in minutes of today.</p> <p>Ship to Shore Vessel plans. Current vessel to be sold as unsuitable for Pitcairn, new, more suitable vessel to be sought. Ongoing: No major change. Unusable vessel going up for sale, and will continue working on improving landing, and or discussing need on replacing longboats if required or to use the Silver Supporter/ship to shore arrangement. To work with Operations DM to get correct information. To continue to be a standing item for discussion. Ongoing – see discussion in minutes of today.</p> <p>JMC Agenda Agenda for the JMC submitted to Councillors for their input. Complete</p> <p>Summary Offences (Penalties) Amendment Ordinance Cr Heather Menzies asked Council to approve the Ordinance as discussed during the month of June/July via email chain. Complete</p> <p>Land Court</p>

<p>Land court to sit 31st July 2022. Problems with available members to sit at this time, so Island Secretary to call and ask the community for submissions of interest of those willing to sit on Land Court. Results of call to be presented to Council for approval. Complete</p>	
<p>Approval of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of the 20th of July 2022.</p>	<p>MOTION: Action Mayor Shawn / Cr Heather Menzies</p> <p>“That the Minutes of Approval of the Regular Council Meeting of the 20th of July 2022, as previously circulated with agreed amendments be approved.”</p> <p>All in Favour / Carried</p>
<p>Approval of the continuation of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes 24th July 2022.</p>	<p>MOTION: Action Mayor Shawn / Cr Heather Menzies</p> <p>“That the Minutes of Approval of the Special Council Meeting of 24th July 2022, as previously circulated with agreed amendments be approved.”</p> <p>All in Favour / Carried</p>
<p>New Governor Iona Thomas</p>	<p>Newly sworn-in Governor, Iona Thomas, is keen to meet the whole community via a virtual Townhall meeting on Thursday at 4.30pm on the 18th of August.</p> <p>A Bio about the new Governor has been posted on the noticeboard.</p>
<p>PPS Report</p>	<p>Administrator Tim Moody spoke on the PPS report but, first wanted to thank Council and Community for the warm welcome so far.</p> <p>He noted that Stephen Thwaites visit drew on his deep experience of Pitcairn and leadership via the Financial Aid programme. He is now even better placed to support Pitcairn from his role in the UK</p> <p>The Administrator stated that his priorities are: to ensure the ambitious list of live projects are completed in a prioritised manner by the end of 2022 (with the Marine Science Base as top priority to formally launch early in 2023); and maintaining vigilance around Covid, helping Pitcairn open up to vital tourism via the upcoming cruise-ship season. Tim will strive to be respectful at all times, and strongly hope to see this reflected back and across Pitcairn’s community.</p> <p>The Marine Protected Area, and associated Science Base, are vital new pillars to support Pitcairn’s future. They will attract new tourists and scientists at a critical global moment for the protection of the biodiversity of an exceptional and fragile marine environment. Supporting this work in the waters around Pitcairn will complement the</p>

existing opportunities on-island, such as more traditional tourism.

The next batch of (Moderna) Covid vaccines will arrive on the Silver Supporter on 8 September. The Clinic will then be rolling these out, as either first or second boosters
The Pitcairn Island teacher will not be replaced at the end of the current term, until or unless there are new students.

DM Environment/ Nature

Overall, the Division is functioning according to workload and priorities.

- MPA Officer continues to work with Blue Belt on various activities and liaises with DM when required;
- Land Management Officer continues to consult with land holders in reviewing existing holdings this will ensure land records are up to date and recorded;
- Department has reviewed the draft Bio Security Legislation; feedback has been provided to the DM. Next step is for the HoD and DM to discuss the feedback;
- The vacant position (temp Biosecurity officer) within the department has been filled;
- On Projects, DM liaising with NGO's especially those who have been awarded Darwin Plus funding for projects; and DM liaising with SPREP and consultant in regards to the invasives species project.

Operations Division

Contracts and Cleaning DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly Grounds maintenance and cleaning was carried out during the month.

COMTECH DEPARTMENT

- Reconnect ADSL and local phone line to 1 premises.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

- Complete installation of 6 Government solar systems.
- Complete installation of 1 residential solar system.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- Repair to mobile crane belt.
- Service and maintenance work on power generators fuel.
- Change over mains generator electronic controller unit.
- Service and maintenance to longboats.

LANDING DEPARTMENT

- Pax transfer form Silver Supporter.
- Return mail and empty containers to Silver Supporter

R.A.M DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly road maintenance was carried out during the month and prep work for the concreting of roads.

PROJECTS

- Finalise draft EU solar concept and costing for Pitcairn.
- Complete walls structure for Marine Science Base.

DM Finance and Economics

DM stands down as DMFE at the end of August to retire, replaced on a temporary basis on a 6-month contract by Simon Young, following recruitment. Simon will do the role remotely initially

The Post Office dispatched a number of parcels and general mail on the departing supply ship. Honey and the Artisan Gallery are the biggest customers. There have been global delivery problems caused by covid-19 which has impacted on customer relationships on and off Island. We are awaiting confirmation from HMG on Pitcairn's application to become members of Universal Postal Union, which should give access to appropriate mail tracking systems. The Administrator has formally submitted the request.

We are awaiting delivery of latest stamp issues and first day covers from Tower Mint. The current almost ad-hoc process is not unacceptable and needs urgent revision. The internal audit process is being moved from a monthly to three monthly cycles. Sales are anticipated to pick up with Aranui and other cruise ships scheduled to call from September on.

The Store has experienced some supply chain problems with orders not being fulfilled and some empty shelves. Generally, there has also been a push to reduce stock levels in some areas. New staff are fitting in well. Grateful to the GT for his support/processing work during recent absences.

	<p>Following the recent audit, a number of changes have been introduced. These are working well and all should be in place ahead of external auditors visiting in September.</p> <p>Miscellany Has a temporary editor with Nadine Christian taking the role on a 5-month fee for service contract while Simon Young is away.</p> <p>Tourism continues to be the mainstay of Pitcairn’s income generation. Tourism website migration to Squarespace continues. Accommodation provider options adjusted and promoted. Accommodation Allocation data base reviewed and operational. Covid Free to Covid Safe messaging adjusted to reflect current status. Updated GPI Covid-19 Travel & Quarantine policy circulated to cruise market & travel trade. Cruise Call Schedule updated and circulated.</p> <p>MPA & Conservation Marketing Activities continue, including Review of DSS web content, Blogged School Trip to Outer islands, DSS SQM Solar equipment successfully installed and operating and DSS branding and merchandise development continues.</p> <p>Silver Supporter July Sales were NZ\$33,500. On-line Pitkern Artisan Gallery Sales & Marketing sales since Established Sept 2020 to July 31st 2022: NZ\$54,947.68</p> <p>On-island Service Coordination including Pre arrival comms: Aranui & Azmara Cruises, Welcoming Activities for SS landed pax and yachts revised and operational.</p> <p><u>DM Community</u> Focus to include support and guidance for new settler.</p> <p>Social Protection assistance to the writers of the report tabled today.</p> <p>Other information to note:</p> <p>Mr Derek Lavery has been appointed to the FCDO desk</p> <p>External Auditors due to arrive on Pitcairn on the 29th of September to focus on Store, GT and Post Office.</p>
Environmental Papers	<p>Three related documents requiring Council agreement have been circulated separately by the Administrator:</p> <p><u>(i) Marine Conservation Regulations; (ii) FAQs; (iii) Fisheries Management Plan</u></p>

On (i), Council needs to agree the final aspect (section 38) following previous agreement of the rest of the Marine Conservation Regulations. Two options based on Council comments have been proposed by the AG's office, related to the size and make-up of the review committee. DM Nature favours Option 1. Once agreed, the draft FAQs (ii) can be tweaked to reflect the final regulations.

Council spoke at length around the options put forth and discussed problems that may arise for each. The recommendation from council came down to the fact that any representative considered to sit on the review committee would be aided by guidance from Council and the Administrator to the Governor to appoint person or persons.

MOTION: Cr Torika Christian / Cr Heather Menzies

"That the Marine Conservation Regulations be approved with Option 1 being agreed by council."

All in Favour / Carried

Action: Administrator to advise the AGs office of Councils decision to approve the Regulations.

On (iii), comments from the AG's office on the Fisheries Management Plan need to be considered and agreed so that the plan can be approved and implemented.

The Administrator spoke around the ongoing work to bring the plan in line with the regulations was given by the Administrator, and then he noted once this had been done with track changes the plan will be brought back to council for final approval.

One document was shared for information and optional action – to consider RSPB's letter regarding Bio Security Border Protection. This can then be taken forward jointly with the Governor's Office and FCDO as part of future contracts/renewals for the supply ships. Council agreed that this should be factored in.

Motion: Acting Mayor Shawn Christian / Cr Torika Christian

'that council supports the recommendation from RSPB that the vessel operator agrees to adhere to the Vessel Risk Management Plan and the new biosecurity legislation of the Pitcairn Islands in any further contract negotiations.

	<p><u>Darwin Plus - Bio Security Project (RSPB)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pitcairn & Henderson Rat Eradication Feasibility Study & Explanatory Note documents: The feasibility study is for Council information. As explained in the covering letter, the document is a guide for RSPB some of the activities may change depending on how they execute them and or new technology comes to the fore. • <u>Pitcairn Reed Warbler & Honey Risk Assessment.</u> As part of the Darwin Plus RSPB project a study of the Pitcairn Reed Warbler will be conducted on island over a three-month period. This will take place towards the end of the year. <p>Once these two proposed projects had been fleshed out further, then they will be brought back to the Council table for approval.</p> <p>A requirement for a vet visit was provisionally tabled, and council agreed that this could also be looked into.</p>
Operations Division Work & Projects Plan	<p>The Administrator spoke on the projects plan and proposed work as noted below. He has worked closely with the DM Operations to flesh out plans and dates.</p> <p>A question was raised around cruise ship season, and the need for workers to have time to do private jobs and projects. Councillors noted the pressure on workers to complete and aid project work being done on time and getting other things done.</p> <p>The Administrator noted that this was thought about in priorities and timing, plus the view that hopefully work will be complete by Christmas.</p> <p>Councillors asked how they could support DM Operations to get the Projects complete to proposed finish dates. The Acting Mayor explained that meetings have been held and teams will be brought together to work on items to get those jobs done.</p> <p>1 Marine Science Base [complete by 1 October 2022]: The foundations have been finished and the structure is coming together, with main walls in place. This is our top priority until further supplies are needed from the supply ship (complete up to roof level, <u>by 15 August</u>)</p>

2 Tourist projects [complete by 19 August]

Install new Duncans and Gazebos ahead of cruise ships season in September. Materials ready, installation and digging to begin w/c 15 August.

3 Road Concreting [complete by 1 October]

To continue now staffing, materials and weather allow. The next priority is extending the road to the school and Administrator's House (by 5 September), then to the Marine Science Base (by 1 October).

Councillors asked if the road to Pulau School and the Marine Science Base was more urgent than other roads that the community may see as more important. The DM has considered road priority by state of the roads and need for repair and or upgrade.

4 Clinic and Community Centre [complete by 1 November]

These works, which are largely internal, will continue part-time on days when weather means Marine Base works are not possible. We plan full time work on the Community Centre and Clinic to begin once the Marine Base is complete. Community Centre will take one month focussed work, Clinic will take three weeks. Clinic to be prioritised over Community Centre.

5 Harbour repairs [complete by 1 November]

We have cancelled plans for the ship to shore vessel. We are currently focussed on getting the best price for the existing boat and looking at options for buying a smaller vessel that can also be used for medivacs. Meanwhile, we will begin work to improve and repair the slipway.

6 Solar Panels

We have now submitted a plan to purchase solar panels with European funds that will encompass GPI buildings and community use. Any panels purchased will be owned by GPI and there will be a charge for any energy used (though the charge will be substantially less than current prices). One remaining set of solar panels to be installed on the satellite/telecoms unit by 1 September.

<p>Coxswain</p> <p>Training Programme</p> <p>List of Coxswain</p>	<p>The Administrator noted that there was no live list of Coxswain for the Island Longboats. He also asked that training program could be implemented.</p> <p>Acting Mayor Shawn Christian noted that Dave Brown and himself has been certified as coxswain by Council in minutes for 2008 and 2009.</p> <p>This brought up the issue of missing minutes in the Island Secretary's records. This was discussed as some community members have copies that are not in government hands, and options to get that paperwork.</p> <p>Minutes that are not available to the Island Secretary, the Acting Mayor has advised he can get copies of, however it was pointed out that PIO/BHC should have records on file in NZ.</p> <p>Action: For Island Secretary to approach PIO to ask for records not held in office on island.</p> <p>Historically, approved coxswain on island currently is Shawn Christian, Randy Christian, Dave Brown, Jay Warren. However, Dave Brown and Jay Warren are past 58 and therefore considered retired by law, but to negate any discrimination, should be seen as back-up if required and not stood down from coxswain duties in full.</p> <p>Currently there are three in training, but there was noted that this needs to be more formally put in place. The DM Operations to approach those with training and development options.</p> <p>Proposed that Certificates for Coxswain are created and be displayed at the landing.</p> <p>Action: Cr Michele Christian to create Certificates for Coxswain.</p>
<p>Resignation of Councillor – Sue O'Keefe</p> <p>By-Election Discussion</p>	<p>The Acting Mayor and Mayor have accepted the resignation of Cr Sue O'Keefe.</p> <p>Council formally acknowledged the resignation.</p> <p>Action: Island Secretary to arrange By-Election date approved by Council on Monday 5th September 2022.</p>

<p>Work Permit Application – Kim Admore</p>	<p>Council formally approved the Work Permit for Kim Admore. The \$50 fee has been paid to the GT office.</p> <p>The Administrator advised that the Police Officer currently seconded on island is working on the site as a community service on a voluntary basis. Council noted their appreciation and asked the Administrator to pass on those thanks.</p>
<p>Sustainability Paper</p>	<p>Council discussed the paper and stepped through the work done by Cr Leslie Jaques and Cr Michele Christian.</p> <p>This paper was written in two parts, an overview of the current situation followed by priorities which the two Councillors felt needed to be addressed.</p> <p>The paper stated that currently Pitcairn, across the board, is dealing with serious capacity issues. We are a small community of less than 50. We have a rapidly ageing population demographic; we are a divided community.</p> <p>The questions were asked, how, as the population ages are we going to maintain essential services? What is the minimum number required to maintain essential services? How are we going to survive without new people coming? But not everyone wants new people to come.</p> <p>46.4% of the population is now over 60 years old.</p> <p>36.6% are over 65. In this category 8 of those over 65, that's 19.5 % of the population continue to work.</p> <p>Only 24.4% of the population is under 45 years of age.</p> <p>(Source Dec 2021 Census)</p> <p>The paper hypothesized two top priorities that require immediate consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medical and Aged Care Requirements. 2. Governance <p>Councillors felt that there is a new awareness and openness to look at ideas outside the box both on Council and in the community to create a sustainable future. The consensus that for such an important topic, that maybe a workshop needs to be held or further consideration and thought on the valid and important facts put forward in the sustainability paper. The infusion of thoughts from a Council workshop and feedback/input from HMG needs to be melded into a working solution to solve some of the issues raised.</p> <p>Councillors noted that answers are required for some of the points raised – especially noted that the current over 65</p>

	<p>population are working hard to ensure the community still functions.</p> <p>Noted strongly that the retired are unable to enjoy their retirement because they feel they have to continue to work or essential services won't get done to support the community.</p> <p>Noted strongly that the elderly must continue to work to support themselves as they cannot afford to live on retirement wage. Solution could be that the person unable to financially support themselves applies for assistance.</p> <p>Noted that if a person does choose to retire, and there is a gap which cannot be filled on island, then off island assistance needs to be looked into.</p> <p>A long discussion was held on what was working, and not working at present. Consideration on change of infrastructure and a deeper look at social development, agreeing that a shift in thinking and bringing HMG in on that dialogue of creating that desired sustainability for the island.</p> <p>The Administrator commended the council for their work and consideration on the situation, and advised that a tight and focused recommendation to the future requirements of Pitcairn is encouraged.</p> <p>Council recommended that a workshop be held to discuss and break down the observations put on the table by the paper's authors at a local level, to challenge fresh dynamic thought for a broader sustainable future.</p> <p>Sustainability Workshop date set for 7th September 2022 after Council.</p>
<p>PRC Team</p> <p>GPI Social Protection Policy</p> <p>Annex GPI Social Support Request</p> <p>GPI Covid-19 Travel & Quarantine Policy</p>	<p>Cr Heather Menzies spoke on the Policy and Annex tabled.</p> <p>Cr Leslie Jaques asked if you have external assets, but struggle to live on island with a monthly wage, would you be penalised if asking for support.</p> <p>The Administrator advised the form is to support any open and honest request for support and will be considered on a case-by-case basis and the formula is help in making those decisions.</p> <p>Clarification on some points was made around how the support was given – financial or otherwise.</p> <p>Council was happy to approve policy and form.</p> <p>MOTION: Cr Heather Menzies / Cr Leslie Jaques</p> <p>“That the GPI Social Protection Policy and Annex GPI Social Support Request be approved”</p>

	<p>All in Favour / Carried</p> <p>Cr Heather Menzies noted that the current GPI Covid-19 Travel & Quarantine Policy has been approved by the doctor on island with no change.</p>
Aranui Breadfruit Interpretation Board	<p>Cr Heather Menzies drafted the Breadfruit interpretation board for the gifted Aranui Breadfruit Trees and requested a proof and quote that was circulated to all councillors for their approval.</p> <p>Given the cost of the interpretation board and in order for the planting to have context Cr Menzies advised she has used the signage opportunity to tell the story of the Bounty, the Breadfruit and the Mutiny.</p> <p>Cost was agreed to be split 50/50 between Tourism and Council budget.</p>
Land Court date approval 18 th August 2022.	<p>Council approved Land Court for the 18th August 2022.</p> <p>Expression of Interest to be called for Land Court Members for 2022 to 2024.</p>
<p>Media Requests</p> <p>Tony Cavanaugh – The Island</p> <p>Aranui – Polynesie la 1ere</p> <p>Application film permit Dutch TV crew</p>	<p>Three requests circulated by Cr Heather Menzies to all of council.</p> <p>She noted that hands on management should be considered, with past media requests and visits as an example, and recommends this kind of management is put in place again. This ensures a favourable outcome.</p> <p>She gave an overview of past protocols that Tourism Administration had put in place when media arrived onshore and mediation of the interaction between community and film crew.</p> <p>The Administrator and all of council agreed that the full intent is outlined by the media who wishes to film and then the narrative is framed in the positive.</p> <p>Council felt that all three requests, plus the further fourth American film crew onboard the Aranui coming on the 15th of September, be accepted. Council also felt continued interaction is needed with each media request as it progresses – the proposal from Tony Cavanaugh in particular.</p> <p>Action: Cr Heather Menzies to action the approved media requests, and progress work to complete business visas, council input and community awareness.</p>

Matters Arising	
Drone Policy Registration Form Annex	<p>With consultation with the Island Police, an annex was tabled to Council to support the Drone Policy.</p> <p>MOTION: Cr Heather Menzies / Cr Leslie Jaques</p> <p>“That the GPI Drone Policy Registration Form with agreed amendments be approved”</p> <p>All in Favour / Carried</p>
Copper Phone Line	<p>Acting Mayor recommended that the wording used to explain the Copper phone line discontinuation via Bill Haig which was emailed with all Telecom bills, and placed in each pay packet to be communicated</p> <p>Motion: Acting Mayor Shawn Mayor / Cr Leslie Jaques</p> <p>“that council agrees that the reissue of the notification from Bill Haig regarding the Copper Phone line discontinuation is re-communicated to the community.</p> <p>All in Favour / Carried</p>
EDF Solar Panels Funding	<p>Council requests formal proposal for the Solar Panel winning bid be continued to be updated with Council, but remove from the Standing Items list.</p>
Ship to Shore vessel	<p>Discussions between DM Operations and Administrator regarding Ship to Shore vessel, Council asked to continue to be involved in progress and approval on for options for a new vessel.</p>
Date of next Regular Council meeting.	Wednesday 7 th of September 2022
Date of next Workshop	Sustainability Workshop 7 th of September 2022 after Council sitting.
Closure of meeting.	The meeting closed at 1.00pm
Minutes Approved 4 /10/ 2022	Mayor. <i>Warren</i>

