



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held in The Square - Public Hall

Commencing at 8.30am on Wednesday 18 March 2015

Regular

Present:

Mayor Shawn Christian, Deputy Mayor Brenda Lupton-Christian, Cr David Brown,
Cr Charlene Warren-Peu, Cr Michele Christian Cr Darralyn Griffiths Cr Leslie Jaques,
Island Temp. Secretary – Linda Singer

Gallery:

Snr Constable John Singer, Sue O'Keefe, Melva Evans, Mr Andrew Schofield (RSPB)

Opening Prayer:

Cr Charlene Warren-Peu

Welcome:

Mayor Shawn Christian

Matters Arising: -

- Pitcairn Overseas Representative - EU Contract Update – Cr Jaques
- Pitcairn Island Internet – Cr Jaques

Minutes:

- 18 February 2015 Minutes
Matters Arising - *Nil*

Motion to Confirm Minutes as True and Accurate – Cr David Brown

Second – Cr Leslie Jaques

Approved

Mayor Shawn Christian - expresses Councils thanks and appreciation to Sue O'Keefe and Melva Evans for their hard work as temporary Councilors during past three months with the return of Councilors Michele Christian and Darralyn Griffiths resuming their roles.

Work Permit for Brandon Young:

Mr. Young arrived on Pitcairn on Claymore II March 2015 and plans to stay for an indefinite period.

Council had given prior verbal approval of the permit and is now asked to formally approve for recording of the Minutes. Recommendation was to approve the permit and waive the fee.

**All Agreed
Approved**

Request of Approval to Undertake Research – Joshua Nash

A letter of request was tabled from Joshua Nash seeking approval to research the Pitcairn Island language (Pitkern) in 2016 with his family including an infant daughter. A discussion took place and Council to recommend to Governor's Office that Mr. Nash and family come to Pitcairn as planned.

**All Agreed
Request Approved**

FCO Update: Cr Jaques

Council had recommended that a proposal be put to the Governor that Jacqui Christian remain in Brussels for a further 12 months to continue her work with the EU. DFID declined to fund it and the Governor's Office have offered to fund a further 3 months from the Governors Discretionary Fund. The FCO are looking at other funding streams. A contract to cover this further 3 months is currently under negotiation. Meantime Jacqui has offered to continue to work on a voluntary basis and will seek alternative funding.

Pitcairn Internet:

Cr Jaques spoke with Evan Dunn (PIO) who understood problems with the internet on island including the cost. It was suggested that Council might ask for a review and seek an extension of the lower rate from 2GB to 3GB. Cr Jaques is happy to draft a letter to HMG. A discussion took place and point made that there have been no salary increases in five years and internet costs are much higher on island than elsewhere in the world and is disproportionate to salaries. It was suggested that GPI must work within the existing budget so that DFID does not look elsewhere to recover costs. Decision to discuss further out of Council and bring proposal to next Council meeting.

Draft Ordinance:

Copies of Draft Ordinance – Same Sex Marriage/Civil Partnership to be distributed to Councilors by Island Secretary to read over and for Cr Michele Christian to notify community and collate any comments to finalize Draft and send back to Danielle.

Update to all Councilors:

- Notice of the retirement of Attorney General Paul Rishworth and Simon Mount has been appointed to this role.

- Alan Richmond's contract as Administrator has been extended until June 2016 and he is on leave at present until May 2015.
- Island Secretary to collate all relevant forms/applications/proposal from Mathieu Briand and his assistant Benjamin Speth requesting to come to Pitcairn in May 2015 and circulate to all Councilors prior to next Council Meeting.
- Mayor Christian to email Councilors a copy of a letter from Jonathon Sinclair re: Child Safety Review to be carried out this year which will be a desk top review off Island and Councilors to distribute to community.
- DFID have approved restructure and consolidation of roles will continue where possible. Budgets have been submitted and in process of being finalized for next year. Mayor to email Councilors a copy of email from Leslie Reid along with a copy of the approved Restructure document which kicks in 1st April. General discussion followed.
- Island Secretary responsible for posting Ordinances and FCA responsible for Child Safety during Administrators absence.

Brief from Andrew Schofield (RSPB)

Mr. Schofield introduced himself and spoke to Council explaining the work he is doing on Pitcairn at present. He sought approval to study, catch and monitor the Pitcairn Reed Warbler and band them to identify individuals - very little is known about them and findings would be useful for future research. Baseline data is being collected on breeding Sea bird populations and species which will be useful for future research/ eradications etc. Andrew will also be looking at native and invasive plant species and plans to spend some time working with DM Michele Christian to assist where he can. Andrew would like to try and raise awareness and profile what Pitcairn has and to show commitment from RSBP. Council consent sought to create a blog about his findings on Pitcairn which could be circulated to Conservation NGOs and RSPB.

General discussion followed about lack of sharing of findings from previous studies undertaken on Pitcairn and Andrew will endeavor to find copies of previous studies undertaken to send to PI Council and suggests that Council insists in future on obtaining copies of all study findings. Andrew welcomes/invites all to join him and show at any point what he does.

ZSL Document:

Document tabled via Pitcairn Islands Tourism Melva Evans from ZSL who seek Council approval to proceed with design and development concepts for improving visitors experience and enhancing tourism's delivery of services on Pitcairn following Anna Pintos visit in September 2014.

The proposal includes the provision of-

- Interpretation Board displaying essential information to visitors including map of the island and handout leaflet/brochure for self- guided activities,
- Board focusing on environmental projects and biological importance of endemic species, the development of self-guided walks focusing on providing adequate information for each walk/trail
- Introduction of clear route directions, distance/time for each

- Introduction of colour- coded way finders
- Museum development – cataloguing of items and introduction of database to give better understanding of History and Environment of Pitcairn Islands

Following a general discussion Council agrees to approve the concept of development.

Motion to Approve – Cr Leslie Jaques

Second – Cr Michelle Christian

Approved


Strategic Development Plan:

Council is to continue working on objectives. General discussion followed. Councilors to assist DM Michele Christian with Legal Policy updating.

Next Proposed Regular Council Meeting: (Restructure. SDP)

1st April 2015 8.30a.m.

Meeting Closed: 9.40a.m.

Mayor Shawn Christian..........

Date.....9 / 4 / 2015.....