



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 9.00am 7th September 2022

Present:

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

Apologies: Mayor Charlene Warren, Cr Simon Young

In attendance: Sid Gould

Welcome: A moment of private reflection was taken.

Agenda Item	
Actions from the last council sitting: - 17th August 2022	
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.	
EDF Solar Power Project Approval from Council of preferred supplier advised to PIO. Administrator and Division Manager Operation to work with Deputy Governor and PIO to forward proposal approved by council (Solarworx) to SPC, and report back to council. Action: Administrator, Division Manager Operation, Deputy Governor and PIO continue to work and update Council. Ongoing	
Update on status of Pitcairn's copper-wire Connectivity Motion made: "that council agrees that the reissue of the notification from Bill Haig regarding the Copper Phone line discontinuation is re-communicated to the community. Administrator to action. Ongoing	
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 with updates in PPS Report	
Media Requests Three requests circulated by Cr Heather Menzies to council. Action: Cr Heather Menzies to action the approved media requests, and progress work to complete business visas, council input and community awareness. Complete	
By-Election Council formally acknowledged the resignation of Sue O'Keefe and assigned By-Election date. Action: Island Secretary to arrange By-Election date approved by Council on Monday 5th September 2022.	

Complete

Coxswain

Proposed that Certificates for Coxswain are created and be displayed at the landing.

Action: Cr Michele Christian to create Certificates for Coxswain.

Ongoing.

Missing Minutes

Council made aware of blocks of missing minutes in the ISEC office.

Action: For Island Secretary to approach PIO to ask for records not held in office on island.

Complete

Marine Conservation Regulations

Two options for the Marine Conservation Regulations were tabled based on Council comments were proposed by the AG's office.

Action: Administrator to advise the AGs office of Councils decision of Option 1 to approve the Regulations.

Complete

Approval of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of the 18th August 2022

MOTION: Cr Leslie Jaques / Cr Michele Christian

"That the Minutes of Approval of the Regular Council Meeting of the 18th August 2022, as previously circulated with agreed amendments be approved."

All in Favour / Carried

PPS Report

Administrator Tim Moody submitted the following report upon his last three weeks since the last Council. The GPI focus has been on the following priorities:

- Implementing all recommendations from the annual internal Store audit, including ahead of an external audit of the Store and Treasury at the end of September;
- Revitalising work on our Settler Programme, including working with PIO to simplify shipping of personal effects and introducing on-island briefings and inductions, now borders are again open and we have a new settler;
- Securing \$30,000 funding from FCDO Blue Belt programme to develop a public information film on Pitcairn and the marine protected area and for a marine litter expedition to Henderson Islands; and

preparations for a science mission in early 2023, including to inaugurate the Science Base;

- Final preparations for the arrival of booster Covid vaccines on the Silver Supporter next week, including a comms plan of video and press release with Crown Agents;
- Full details of wider work are below in the DM updates.

Looking ahead, the next month is focussed on supporting the return of tourism and cruise ships, from the provision of further facilities to rolling out the vaccine boosters. Our Doctor rotates at the end of September, replaced by Dr Dixon and his wife Julie (returning to Pitcairn), and our Police rotates at the start of October, replaced by William Paniora (and wife Shelley). Family & Community Adviser interviews have also taken place this month, and we hope to announce the results and start date imminently.

It was fantastic to have an early Town Hall with the new Governor Iona Thomas, who really appreciated her first (virtual) face to face engagement with the community. She aims to visit in January 2023, dependant on tweaking the Silver Supporter's schedule.

Administrator Moody stated he was sure everyone would join him in thanking Councillor Leslie Jacques for his committed service to Pitcairn in various roles and as a longstanding member of the community, and wishing him well for his retirement in New Zealand from October.

The following sections cover divisional updates:

DM Communities

- Advertised Library and Museum position, held interviews and have filled the role;
- Had government auction at remand centre which brought in \$5,276.50, paid into the Treasury;
- Worked with policy review group on Health policy and related papers;
- Introductory meetings and orientation briefing held with new settler;

- School term 3 finished and term 4 started 6th September.

DM Environment/ Nature

- MPA Officer continues to work with Blue Belt on various activities and liaises with DM when required.
- The Operational plan has been reviewed and feedback has been provided to Blue belt. Blue Belt are still waiting on further information to be included into the operational plan.
- Blue Belt are in the process of developing comms material on the coastal regulations and as material comes through, we are reviewing and providing feedback. Once the whole comms package has been received the aim is to hold a community information night.
- Land Management Officer continues to consult with land holders in reviewing existing holdings this ensures land records are up to date and recorded.
- Copies of existing land holder files have come to a standstill, a list has been provided to the Land Court Registrar.
- The HoD of Bio Security is currently carrying out any quarantine documentation until the temp Quarantine officer returns in 2 weeks.
- The Department has provided people barriers to the Store and will be replaced by the F&E Division.
- Zoom call with SPREP and Invasive Species Consultant around further information on Pitcairns invasive plants.
- Zoom call with St. Andrews around phone app fish catch monitoring. Further information has been provided and is ongoing.
- Funds have been approved for a plastics clean up
- Funds have been approved for a short film on the MPA.

Following agreement of the MPA Conservation Regulations at the last Council, comments from the AG's office to bring the Fisheries Management Plan into line with the MPA Regulations need to be considered by Council and agreed so that the plan can be approved and implemented. These limited suggested tweaks will be shared on Monday 5 September.

Finance and Economics Division

The Store

Hopefully replacement stock on order will arrive on the next supply ship, there have been specific product supply issues from NZ. There is concern with inflation and increasing prices from NZ but it was agreed not to adjust store mark-ups.

All of the recommendations from the recent Internal Audit have been actioned. Meetings have been held with relevant personal and store staff. External Auditors arrive later this month and shall focus on the Store and GT.

The end of August Debtors Ledger shows outstanding debtors are now below \$100K. All customers with store debt above \$ 1K must pay cash for all purchases.

Miscellany

Nadine Faulkner has produced an excellent Miscellany which has been well received. She shall continue in this role until Simon Young returns in December. The publication now included "Pulau News" with Pitcairn's children showcasing their achievements.

The Post Office

The team are looking forward to visitors for the first time since early 2020.

We are awaiting a response from FCDO with regard to Pitcairn's request to join UPS which will hopefully allow the introduction of a mail tracking system in line with the rest of the world.

Hopefully too, a series of First Day Covers and new stamp issues will arrive on the upcoming supply ship.

Tourism

The Tourism team and the Community are looking forward to the return of cruise ships from September and onwards. Pathways and walkways have been cleared and tidied and signs around the Island cleaned and repaired.

Pitcairn's first home stay tourists since early 2020 arrive on the supply ship on 8 September.

General

- Passenger Service Relaunch initiated July 2022.
- Tourism website migration to Squarespace continues. Live by Oct 2022.
- Aug 9th Cruise Call Schedule updated and circulated
- Tourism Refresh - Public Meeting on 14th Aug and Services Coordination Public Meeting on 21st Aug
- Review of Dark Sky Sanctuary web content continues and branding and merchandise launch in review

- Silver Supporter Passenger Service: Sales to date: NZ\$39,000
- On-line Pitkern Artisan Gallery Sales & Marketing: Sales to Aug 31st 2022: NZ\$56,991.82

Actions for Sept

- Create fee-for-service contract for Aranui Fisher Coordinator.
- Install previously purchased ice machine for landed pax (DM)
- Create Banners/Flyers x 4 for On-island Service provision
- General overview of Tourism related Policy
- Set up remote monthly meeting schedule with incoming DM

Artisan Gallery

The Gallery continues to record good sales and is running a Christmas promotion. Sales for August \$ 1828.97

Loan Issues

Following the decision of a family not to return to Pitcairn steps are being taken to disburse the assets purchased under their GPI Loan Scheme to recover outstanding funds to GPI.

General

Simon Young took over as Divisional Manager on 1 September 2022, initially working remotely.

Operations Division

C.A.C DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly Grounds maintenance and cleaning was carried out during the month.
- Eco Trail received extra attention
- Square, Museum and School buildings and surrounds water blasted.

COMTECH DEPARTMENT

- Repair mains generator control panel.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

- Power meter reading.
- Repair electrical sockets and lighting.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- Service and maintenance work on power generators fuel.
- Service and maintenance to longboats.
- Repairs to saw mill.

LANDING DEPARTMENT

- Repair harbour and longboats fenders.

R.A.M DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly road maintenance was carried out during the month.
- Roads have been graded and ruts filled in at various locations including Highest Point, St Pauls etc.

WORKS DEPARTMENT

- Repair and service all stairs, rails and walk ways at scenic locations.
- Repair roof at the Square.
- Replace walk way decking at the museum.

PROJECTS

- Complete walls and roof structure for Marine Science Base.
- Install roofing on the Marine Science Base.
- Start building Public toilet buildings.

Copper

Updated notice to send around to all Telecom subscribers. Administrator and DM Operations working together to rectify connectivity issues before the notice is circulated to the community.

Ship to Shore.

Paper to be tabled at the next council proposed for new replacement ship to shore vessel by DM Operations and Administrator. Current vessel up for sale, with good prospects at getting the costs back. Tim advises he will be quite happy to bring the paper to the table in an early council with the new Administrator to keep everyone in the loop.

DM Finance & Economics

New DM has been employed and is working remotely under reviewed ad-hoc basis.

FCA recruitment has had elderly and community care and support factored into employing the new advisor.

<p>Concept Note – Solar Project</p>	<p>Administrator supplied information on the concept note which PIO, as project lead, gave to the SPC to request funding. The Administrator spoke on the concept note and feedback from SPC who appreciate the work done by PIO/Council to seek a tenderer, but will also have to due diligence regarding the supply of funding</p> <p>Discussion around the term solar farming in the concept document, as a councillor had thought the farm idea would not be feasible for the island.</p> <p>Noted that the project is still a work in progress and may go through many phases before a firm idea is set in stone.</p> <p>The Acting Mayor spoke a little about the project and ideas so far to clarify for the new councillor at the table, and the new councillor spoke on his concerns.</p> <p>Island Secretary to forward information to Cr Kevin Young regarding past discussions in council to update and inform him.</p>
<p>Council Paper – Remote Meeting</p>	<p>The Administrator provided a paper to council regarding how remote participation can work under Pitcairn Law, and upon the mayors return further drilling down on the subject could begin with all parties.</p> <p>A short discussion on current structure, requirements and interpretations was had, and the benefits of remote meetings.</p> <p>To be placed on the next month’s agenda for discussion.</p>
<p>PRC Covid-19 Policy</p>	<p>Cr Heather Menzies spoke on the GPI Covid-19 Policy. The updated and amended policy was brought up on screen and discussed.</p> <p>Noted that upcoming cruise ships will be asking for approval to stop with passengers who are vaccinated and unvaccinated. This led to discussion on unvaccinated passengers which may travel on other vessels – such as the Silver Supporter – and updating all policy to reflect accepting unvaccinated persons on island – tourist, resident or official visitor.</p> <p>Council recommended that the Doctor is approached to check with Public Health England to get their advice, and that a public meeting be held to get community feedback on relaxing the vaccinated/unvaccinated policy conditions.</p> <p>MOTION: Cr Heather Menzies / Cr Leslie Jaques</p> <p>“That council approve the draft GPI Covid-19 Policy subject to amendments from Pitcairn Island Doctor and noted council points.”</p>

	<p>All in Favour / Carried</p> <p>Action: Cr. Heather Menzies to liaise with the Doctor regarding council's recommendations.</p> <p>Cr Heather Menzies noted that the GPI Health Policy is being reviewed at present and consultation between PIO, Pitcairn Island Doctor and DM Community and FCDO before placing on the table for Council input.</p> <p>The GPI Employment Policies are also in the pipeline.</p> <p>Cr Kevin Young has been enlisted to step in to assist with Policy review as Cr Leslie Jaques steps away.</p>
Media Requests x 3	<p>Cr Heather Menzies spoke on three media requests that had been forwarded for councillors review and all the issues that were attached to each request. She recommended that the business visa be standard but other fees may be waived. Noted that this brings the media requests so far to six, and also noted as tourism increases, so may these media proposals. Media Management or Media Policy for Pitcairn may be something to consider in council for the future, as past unmanaged media voices have not always been favourable.</p> <p>Motion: Cr Heather Menzies / Cr Leslie Jaques "that Aranui is to continue to submit their media proposals, and to waive fees.</p> <p>All in favour / carried</p> <p>Consistency needed in fee waiving i.e.; cruise ship media vs other media. This can be managed with policy creation which all councillors favoured strongly. Councillors discussed widely the formation of a policy and what may be required to create a workable policy to Pitcairn's benefit.</p>
Cr Leslie Jaques formal resignation	<p>The Acting Mayor spoke on behalf of the Council, and the community and thanked Cr Leslie Jaques for all his work over the nineteen years he has been working for Pitcairn. The councillors in turn and acknowledged Cr Jaques passionate and constant efforts to work on Pitcairn's behalf. They noted the knowledge and value he has brought to the</p>

	<p>Councillor and International Relations role will be missed. On a personal note, his smile and ability to chat to his computer in a full office of available co-workers was appreciated.</p> <p>Cr Leslie Jaques thanked everyone for their kind words and noted he will miss working with everyone and indeed Pitcairn itself.</p> <p>Council broke for twenty minutes to celebrate Cr Leslie Jaques time on council with cake and coffee.</p>
<p>New Councillor Appointment – Kevin Young</p>	<p>Formal acknowledgment of Kevin Young as Councillor.</p>
<p>Land Court members Submissions</p>	<p>Council considered the list of people who had expressed interest in becoming Land Court members for the next two-year period.</p> <p>Kerry Young</p> <p>Kevin Young</p> <p>Steve Christian</p> <p>Torika Christian</p> <p>Shawn Christian</p> <p>Michele Christian</p> <p>Jay Warren</p> <p>Charlene Warren</p> <p>Simon Young</p> <p>Councillors felt that all who have expressed interest should be approved as members for possible calls to sit at the Land Court table on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Discussion around conflict-of-interest issues and how to appoint those land court members for each sitting to support the court in its operations. Each councillor spoke on the best solution in their view, working to keep personal issues off the table.</p> <p>It was suggested that all those whom put in expressions of interest are approved. The preference around the council table was for persons who then are appointed to each Land Court is decided by a mechanism of a set rolling roster process.</p> <p>Another preference was for those who had been appointed to sit at land court, that the other members, not appointed to sit still attend and observe from the gallery to ensure continuity.</p> <p>The minutes from each Land Court should be distributed to all members, not just sitting members.</p>

	<p>A meeting for new land court members with the AG to ensure knowledge of expectation for those sitting.</p> <p>Council decided to pre-approve the list of individuals who have expressed interest, because, as it was noted, some who have put their hands up to sit on court may not choose to stay on the list with the requirements that council has suggested.</p> <p>Once feedback has been collated this will be brought back to council for formal approval.</p> <p>Extension of Land Court members for the last period to end on September 30th, new Land Court members to begin on the 1st of October 2022..</p> <p>Crs Torika Christian and Michele Christian to work with the Land Court Registrar to format a draft process to follow to resubmit to council.</p>
Land Court	Acting Land President requested approval of a Land Court sitting on the 9am for continuation of last Land Court with members as of last meeting.
Matters Arising	
Fisheries Management Plan	<p>The Administrator spoke on small amendments to the Fisheries Management Plan to bring in line with the new MPA Conservation Regulations. Documents had been forwarded to all councillors for review.</p> <p>There were no issues. Administrator to advise DM of approval.</p>
Creating Local Funding	<p>Cr Heather Menzies spoke on a funding project from a person who has written books who would like to donate half the funds of their sales of books to the island. She advised she would like to delve deeper into this proposal but any ideas on creating a local fund or community fund would be a benefit for the island. She noted any advice or feedback from other councillors would be appreciated.</p> <p>The Administrator noted the benefits would be good for the community, but the execution would need to be quite rigid.</p>
Fishing unit	The Aranui proposed a fishing project for tourists, and between divisions – Natural Resources and Finance & Economics (Tourism) this is being looked at. With the MPA and its regulations this may not be feasible but the Divisions wanted council to be advised.
	The Acting Mayor paid his respects and thanks to the Administrator Tim Moody for his work both in the community and in Council as this is his last meeting.

	Although he is on island for a while yet, Councillors were very vocal in their appreciation.
Sustainability	Future of Pitcairn work will be a standing item going forward.
Date of next Regular Council meeting.	Wednesday 19 th October 2022
Date of next Workshop	
Closure of meeting.	The meeting closed at 11.45am
Minutes Approved 17/11/2022	Mayor. <i>Mansen</i>

