



dorset

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

18 February 2019

PIONEER HALL, Racecourse Road PIONEER

TIM WATSON
General Manager

Ref DOC/19/1718

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Council Meeting Minutes 18 February 2019

Meeting Opened: 6.05 pm

Present: Crs Greg Howard (Mayor), Dale Jessup (Deputy Mayor), Murray Lade, Edwina Powell, Wendy McLennan, Leonie Stein, Jerrod Nichols, Jan Hughes

General Manager Tim Watson, Director – Community & Development Rohan Willis, Director – Corporate Services John Marik

Apologies: Director – Works & Infrastructure Dwaine Griffin

Item 16/19 Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – 21 January 2019
Ref: DOC/19/645

The Chair reported that he had viewed the minutes of the meeting of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 21 January 2019, finds them to be a true record and recommends that they be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

Decision

MOVED: Cr Stein | SECONDED: Cr Nichols

That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Dorset Council Ordinary Meeting held on 21 January 2019 having been circulated to all Councillors, be confirmed as a true record.

Carried Unanimously

Item 17/19 Confirmation of Agenda

Decision

MOVED: Cr Jessup | SECONDED: Cr Stein

That Council confirm the Agenda and order of business for the 18 February 2019 Council Meeting.

Carried Unanimously

Item 18/19 Declaration of an Interest of a Councillor or Close Associate

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* and Council's adopted Code of Conduct, the Mayor requests Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have a pecuniary interest (any pecuniary interest or pecuniary detriment) or conflict of interest in any item on the Agenda.

INTEREST DECLARED

Nil

Item 19/19 Management Team Briefing Report

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Councillors and the community with a briefing on matters of interest dealt with during the past month by Council's Management Team.

Recommendation

That the Management Team Briefing Report be received and noted.

Decision

MOVED: Cr Hughes | SECONDED: Cr Nichols

That the Management Team Briefing Report be received and noted.

Carried Unanimously

Item 20/19 Council Workshops Held Since Last Council Meeting

5 February 2019 – Briefing Workshop

Nil

The following questions were received on notice from Tim Slade on 12 February, 2019:

1. The DHHS has recently advised me verbally that TasWater failed to apply the National Guideline Document for the Use and Installation of Rainwater Tanks. Subsequently, late last year, DHHS wrote to TasWater to instruct that they must apply this document to provide potable water for Pioneer.

- a. *As a member of the Owners' Representatives Group, would the Dorset Council like to make a comment about TasWater's obvious and serious failure to apply this National Guideline Document at Pioneer after six years?*

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

Any non-compliance issues are a matter for DHHS and TasWater. As Council is no longer responsible for water and sewerage Council does not involve itself in compliance issues. However, Council has been informed by TasWater that the Director of Public Health did not issue a directive to TasWater in respect to this matter and we understand further discussions are scheduled between TasWater and the Department of Health representatives.

- b. *Does Dorset Council have responsibilities to inspect and approve tank set-ups at Pioneer, with reference to this National Guideline Document?*

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

The water tanks were approved by Council as the Plumbing Permit Authority which is standard practice for plumbing works. Once a Certificate of Completion is issued Council has no further responsibilities.

- c. *What can Dorset Council do to make sure that this National Guideline Document is now applied at Pioneer, especially as it relates to lead-contaminations from roof paint and roofing materials?*

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

Refer to previous responses.

2. Dorset Council's main promise in the last meeting with residents at Pioneer, exactly seven months ago, on July 18, 2018, was to write to the Minister for Local Government, Mr Gutwein, to seek a commitment to help Pioneer.

- a. *What representations or written commitments has Mr Gutwein made to Dorset Council for the residents of Pioneer? (The new State-wide ownership model for TasWater has been approved, and Mr Gutwein has a new seat at the table for TasWater negotiations)*

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

Council is not aware of the Treasurer making a formal representation to TasWater on the Pioneer township water supply.

The Treasurer and the Mayor have however discussed this matter and considering the Tasmania Government is now a TasWater shareholder, it provides the opportunity for water issues relating to Pioneer to be addressed in TasWater's corporate planning process.

3. Deputy Mayor Jessup advised me last week that it is his understanding that, in the last council workshop with TasWater, TasWater promised to write to residents to formally survey our views about the potential for a mini-treatment plant.
 - a. *TasWater has failed to write to the residents of Pioneer to survey them. Has Dorset Council followed-up with TasWater?*

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

The Mayor has corresponded with TasWater on this matter and is informed that TasWater is of the understanding that it did not make a commitment to conduct such a survey. However, TasWater has indicated that they intend to engage with the Pioneer community following discussions with the Director of Public Health and are unsure whether Department of Health will conduct a survey or not.

4. Dorset Council was asked in writing to make representations to the Owners' Representatives Group (ORG), TasWater's owner and overseer, about Pioneer's drinking water, in relation to lead-painted roofs and a mini-treatment plant.
 - a. *What was the outcome of Dorset Council's representations to the Owners' Representatives Group (ORG)?*

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

The Owners' Representatives Group is not in a position to influence a corporate work plan of TasWater. Those decisions are made by management and therefore representations to the Owners' Representatives Group on an issue like this is a waste of time.

Tim Slade:

Can you read out the General Managers answers to the questions I submitted on notice?

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

The protocol for public questions on notice is that if we receive a question on notice, the relevant officers will provide answers and put them in the public domain. The Council agenda is there for any member of the public to view. It is my understanding that this is standard protocol in Local Government, however, we will take it on notice to investigate further.

Grant Elmer:

Do all Councillors enjoy coming to a meeting in Pioneer? They don't think it's a bit of a drama to come up here, because they get hit with so many questions.

Response from Mayor, Greg Howard:

We have a policy of going to every town in the North East over a period of time. So every year we three meetings outside of Scottsdale and we take it in turns of going around the towns. It was Pioneers turn, then back to Scottsdale and the April meeting will be held at Legerwood.

Further response from Deputy Mayor, Dale Jessup:

Speaking as one Councillor I certainly enjoy coming out to the country areas and getting out of Scottsdale. We get more members of the public turn up at the meetings outside Scottsdale generally than we do in Scottsdale. I think it's very valuable for the Council to get out into the towns. I for one think it's a good idea and will continue to do it.

Tim Slade:

Would any Councillor here please ask for the answers to those questions submitted on notice to be read out to those present here? Are there any Councillors here that will stand up and ask for Tim Watson's answers to be read out?

Response from Mayor, Greg Howard:

It appears the answer is no. The answers have been available in the Agenda since last Thursday and are on the screen here tonight also.

Grant Elmer:

Why did the Councillor resign the other day after just being elected?

Response from Mayor, Greg Howard:

As is listed in the agenda item, Max Hall resigned due to business commitments he feels he is unable to commit to being a Councillor.

Mary Schramm:

Did Max Hall live in Launceston when the election was called?

Response from Mayor, Greg Howard:

Yes, he is eligible because he is on the General Manager Roll. You can either be a resident or, you can be on the General Managers Roll which means you can live in other areas and can own property, be a ratepayer or be a representative of a company that owns land in the municipality.

As Max resigned, there will be a recount of who was unsuccessful in the 2018 election. Those candidates will receive a letter from the Tasmanian Electoral Commission notifying them that there will be a recount. Those that reply positively to that and do want to be involved, the Electoral Commission will recount and redistribute Max's votes only and preference them to these people.

Sally Warren:

We have a problem with greywater coming from the top side of the road, comes underneath the road, down open drains, down between my property (57 Main Road) and the Fire Station and then it just lays in a big open drain. It creates mosquitos, grows rushes, it smells, you name it. I would like the Council to consider putting pipes in and covering it over, so it's not open?

Question Taken on Notice

Item 23/19 Deputations

Nil

Councillor Wendy McLennan:

The odour from the Bridport sewerage pump stations at the Old Pier and behind Gofton's Beach are absolutely appalling and depending on the wind direction the smell from these pumps either affects the people of the beach or the people in the Caravan Park. Could Council please write to TasWater asking for an investigation into the smell and perhaps install smell diffusers like are used in Ulverstone?

Response from Mayor, Greg Howard:

Yes we can write to TasWater. My understanding is that TasWater's current 3 year work plan has a figure allocated to Bridport to upgrade the sewerage system.

The pedestrian crossing/speed hump in Main Street, Bridport. I know I've brought it up before and I know it has all the normal marking for a speed hump, but over the busy period visitors can't read what's on the footpath, which states that pedestrians have to give way to cars. There is a problem with the cars turning right out of Henry Street, there are people thinking they can cross over as they believe it is a pedestrian crossing. Can we either make it into a pedestrian crossing or do something with it?

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

This is a vexing issue. We have approached the Department of State Growth who are the road authority on numerous occasions (Councillor Stein has raised it I don't know how many times) and they won't let Council turn it into a zebra crossing, which is what Council have requested. Council have done a few things at the crossing to try and make it clearer to pedestrians. That is the history of the matter. Council will continue to work with the Bridport Councillors to see if a solution can be found.

Nil

Item 26/19 Resignation of Councillor Max Hall
Reporting Officer: General Manager, Tim Watson
Ref: DOC/19/1275

Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to note the resignation of Councillor Max Hall from Council.

Recommendation

That Council note the resignation of Councillor Max Hall.

Decision

MOVED: Cr Stein | SECONDED: Cr Nichols

That Council note the resignation of Councillor Max Hall.

Carried Unanimously

Item 27/19 Council Performance Benchmarking
Reporting Officer: General Manager, Tim Watson
Ref: DOC/19/1350

Purpose

The following report provides Councillors and the community with an overview of Dorset Council's performance benchmarked against Northern Tasmanian Councils and large rural Tasmanian Councils.

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the 2017 / 2018 Council Performance Benchmarking report.

Decision

MOVED: Cr Jessup | SECONDED: Cr Stein

That Council receive and note the 2017 / 2018 Council Performance Benchmarking report.

Carried Unanimously

Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is for Council to determine the allocation of the Scottsdale Waste Transfer Station Tip Shop takings to its preferred charities.

Recommendation

1. That Council approve the following allocation of Tip Shop Funds that were received from 13 August 2018 up to and including 31 December 2018:
 - a. 50% of the \$3,371, or \$1,685.50 to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).
 - b. 50% of the \$3,371, or \$1,685.50 to Rural Alive & Well Inc. (RAW).
2. That Council approve the Tip Shop Fund allocation process applicable from 1 January 2019:
 - a. Undertake a 6 monthly Expressions of Interest (EOI) from Dorset municipality charitable organisations.
 - b. Council select a new charity every 6 months.

Decision

MOVED: Cr Hughes | SECONDED: Cr Powell

1. That Council approve the following allocation of Tip Shop Funds that were received from 13 August 2018 up to and including 31 December 2018:
 - a. 50% of the \$3,371, or \$1,685.50 to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).
 - b. 50% of the \$3,371, or \$1,685.50 to Rural Alive & Well Inc. (RAW).
2. That Council approve the Tip Shop Fund allocation process applicable from 1 January 2019:
 - a. Undertake a 6 monthly Expressions of Interest (EOI) from Dorset municipality charitable organisations.
 - b. Council select a new charity every 6 months.

Carried Unanimously

Item 29/19

Variation to Annual Plan 2018 - 2019

Reporting Officer: Director – Community & Development, Rohan Willis

Ref: DOC/19/1346

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to remove Activity 15 from Council's Annual Plan 2018 - 2019 and progress the activity during preparation of Council's Local Provisions Schedule of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

Recommendation

That Council remove Item 15 from Council's Annual Plan 2018 - 2019 and progress the activity during preparation of Council's Local Provisions Schedule of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

Decision

MOVED: Cr Nichols | SECONDED: Cr Jessup

That Council remove Item 15 from Council's Annual Plan 2018 - 2019 and progress the activity during preparation of Council's Local Provisions Schedule of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

Carried Unanimously

Time Meeting Closed: 6.35pm

Minutes Confirmed: 18 March 2019

Minute No: 33/19

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Mayor