

dorset
C O U N C I L

Ordinary Minutes

Council Meeting

18 November 2019

it's in the making

Contents

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|----|
| Item 179/19 | Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – 21 October 2019 | 3 |
| | Decision | 3 |
| Item 180/19 | Confirmation of Agenda | 3 |
| | Decision | 4 |
| Item 181/19 | Declaration of an Interest of a Councillor or Close Associate..... | 4 |
| Item 182/19 | Management Team Briefing Report | 4 |
| | Decision | 5 |
| Item 183/19 | Council Workshops Held Since Last Council Meeting | 5 |
| Item 184/19 | Councillor Applications for Leave of Absence | 5 |
| Item 185/19 | Public Question Time | 5 |
| Item 186/19 | Deputations | 7 |
| Item 187/19 | Councillor Question Time..... | 7 |
| Item 188/19 | Notices of Motion by Councillors | 10 |
| Item 189/19 | Dorset Council Strategic Plan 2019 - 2028..... | 10 |
| | Decision | 10 |
| Item 190/19 | Audit Panel Chairperson Appointment..... | 10 |
| | Decision | 10 |
| Item 191/19 | Schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings and Briefing Workshops 2020 | 11 |
| | Decision | 11 |
| Item 192/19 | Closure of Meeting to the Public..... | 11 |
| | Decision | 11 |
| CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS..... | | 12 |
| Time Meeting Closed: | 7.20pm..... | 12 |



Council Meeting Minutes 18 November 2019

Meeting Opened: 6.08 pm

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

General Manager: Tim Watson, Director – Community & Development: Rohan Willis, Director – Works & Infrastructure: Dwaine Griffin, Director – Corporate Services: John Marik

Apologies: Nil

Item 179/19 Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – 21 October 2019
Ref: DOC/19/11746

The Chair reported that he had viewed the minutes of the meeting of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 21 October 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 Chilcott | **SECONDED:** Cr Nichols

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

Carried Unanimously

Item 180/19 Confirmation of Agenda

Recommendation

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

The General Manager requests that late agenda item – 193/19 be admitted to the 18 November 2019 Council Meeting Agenda. Electricity tenders remain open for a short period of time with sign-off required by 25 November 2019. The report from Tasmanian Energy Brokers Pty Ltd was received Tuesday, 12 November with Council officers requiring a few days to conduct due diligence on the report as received.

Due to this late agenda item containing commercial in confidence tender pricing, this item is requested to be discussed in Closed Session in accordance with Regulation 15(2)(d) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Amended Recommendation

That Council confirm the Agenda with the addition of late closed session agenda item 193/19 and subsequent items 192/19 and 194/19 (to move in and out of Closed Session) and order of business for the 18 November 2019 Council Meeting.

***Voting Requirement | Absolute Majority**

Decision

MOVED: Cr Hughes | SECONDED: Cr Stein

That Council confirm the Agenda with the addition of late closed session agenda item 193/19 and subsequent items 192/19 and 194/19 (to move in and out of Closed Session) and order of business for the 18 November 2019 Council Meeting.

Carried Unanimously

Item 181/19 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 182/19 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 Stein | SECONDED: Cr Chilcott

That the Management Team Briefing Report be received and noted.

Carried Unanimously

Item 183/19 Council Workshops Held Since Last Council Meeting

6 November 2019 – Briefing Workshop

Item 184/19 Councillor Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

Item 185/19 Public Question Time

The following questions were received on notice on 2 November 2019:

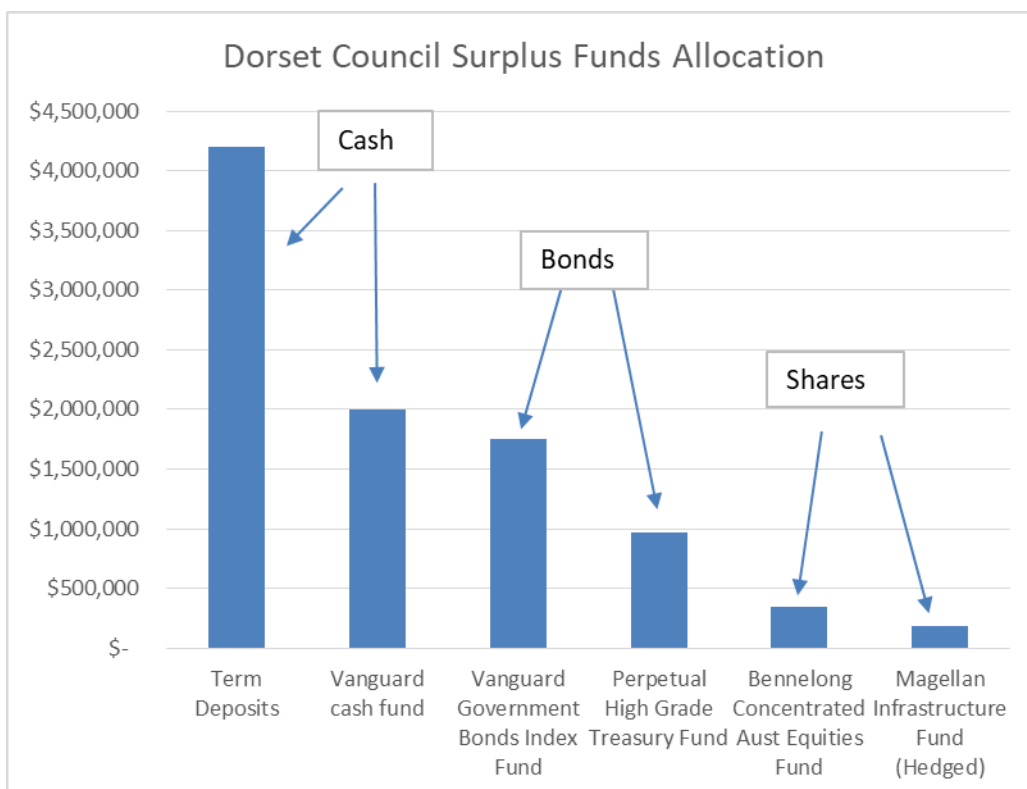
Len Gillett:

Council reported at last meeting that its invested \$1.6 million had achieved a 12% annualised income to 30 Sept. It was also noted that had this money been put into Term Deposits, the return would have been less than 1.5%. On a risk/return basis that means that those funds are potentially exposed to 8 times more risk than safe Term Deposits.

- 1. Is Council comfortable with this level of risk?*
- 2. Are all Councillors aware of the underlying investments?*
- 3. Does Council have a risk committee that assesses and monitors risks?*
- 4. Is there a term for this investment?*
- 5. How often is the investment reviewed and reported on to Council?*

Responses from Director – Corporate Services, John Marik:

- Council is comfortable with the level of risk and policy manages risk. Any change in cash management practices are workshopped extensively with Council and any change in strategy must be adopted by Council via changes to Policy 43 – Cash Management.
- The graph below highlights where the \$9.5m of Council surplus funds are invested:



The risk profile of the \$1.6 million that was invested in managed funds must be viewed in context of the total \$9.5m Council surplus funds which are invested as follows:

- 65% is held in cash
- 29% is held in Government bonds and investment grade bonds
- 6% is held in diversified shares (2% of this is in infrastructure investments)

Previous Council policy was to hold 100% of surplus funds in cash. This portfolio does not have 8 times the risk profile as suggested, but in fact diversifies Council's holdings further with an emphasis on Government bonds and investment grade bonds where principle and regular repayments are guaranteed.

There is a very low emphasis on the share market, however the low level that is invested must be highly diversified to protect Council's capital. The Cash Management Policy dictates chosen Fund Managers must have a proven track record over a long period of time in the management of client's money.

3. Council has an audit and risk committee with full oversight over the risk framework and setting of risk tolerance and appetite for Council.
4. While term deposits lock away money for anything from 3 months to years, all investments outside of term deposits are "at call" and can be retrieved within 3 business days.
5. The full cash position, including Council surplus funds, are reviewed weekly with oversight by Council at least quarterly.

Lawrence Archer:

What is the total amount of expenses paid by Council since it took responsibility for Aminya and the James Scott Wing in November 2015?

Question Taken on Notice

Item 186/19

Deputations

Nil

Item 187/19

Councillor Question Time

Councillor Leonie Stein:

Could Council please pressure clean the footpaths in front of the businesses in Main Street, Bridport?

Response from Director – Works & Infrastructure, Dwaine Griffin:

I will lodge a service request and see if Council can do this prior to the busy summer period.

Now that Jarvis Link is open to the public and motorists are coming into Bridport via the top of this hill which has an amazing view of the Bay, could we place a sign on Sandy Points Road prior to the crest of the hill that states photo opportunity ahead and they could stop in the car space already there for the walking track and get out and take a photo?

Response from Director – Works & Infrastructure, Dwaine Griffin:

Yes, I can investigate this.

How is the Bridestowe sign going as they motorists turn onto Golconda Road – are we doing anything about driving people into Scottsdale?

Response from General Manager, Tim Watson:

The sign has been installed for a couple of months now.

Deputy Mayor Dale Jessup:

In relation to the Scottsdale Irrigation Scheme:

- 1. Do you (Mayor) know what the latest is from Tas Irrigation as far as the date that the tap will be turned on?*
- 2. Of the original 1250 mL of water Council purchased, how much of that is still available for sale?*

Response from Mayor, Greg Howard:

Of the 1250mL purchased, there is 881mL left so when Council are required to pay, we only have to pay for what amount is left. Once the tap is turned on, some of that will disappear I would think as there is no benefit in people buying the water early as you still have to pay the same price.

In terms of the tap being turned on, this week Tas Irrigation were meeting with farmers to determine how much water will be needed in February, March and April of this coming year with the idea that the tap would be turned on in February. The Scheme won't be completed by February but it should be completed with the exception of the Headquarters Dam Road power station, and that is likely to be completed by May 2020. So complete commissioning of the Scheme will be May 2020. If you decided you wanted water in February, March or April you have to pay for your water by the end of January but if you don't need any water this year, as its not going to be compulsory as a large portion of the irrigation season will be over, you don't have to pay for your water until 30 April 2020.

Councillor Wendy McLennan:

There was a petition put up about bushfire clearing up the back of Bridport. With the current situation with bushfires in the State and the susceptibility of Bridport to bushfires are we doing anything about this?

Response from Mayor, Greg Howard:

There has been a fuel reduction burn undertaken from towards the end of Walter Street right along the back to Granite Point and it looks to have been quite successful. Certainly there is still a large amount to be undertaken, but they have burnt off quite a large portion.

Councillor Jan Hughes:

Having spoken to a few business owners in Scottsdale, who designates bus parking spaces? Is it the responsibility of Council or State Growth?

Response from Director – Works & Infrastructure, Dwaine Griffin:

Council make an application to State Growth for any designated spaces.

If business owners would like to see a change in that, they would address Council?

Response from Director – Works & Infrastructure, Dwaine Griffin:

Yes, Council can make application on their behalf.

Councillors Leonie Stein:

Can we contact State Growth in relation to where they have created new bus stops on Bridport Road for private buses to pull over and pick up/drop off school children? There is one in particular outside 1373 Bridport Road where there is a massive ditch right beside the pull off. Could we ask them to make this one safer?

Response from Director – Works & Infrastructure, Dwaine Griffin:

Yes, we can provide this feedback to State Growth.

Councillor Mervyn Chilcott:

Up the back of Derby a memorial to the founder of Brothers Tin Mine is grossly overgrown and access is difficult unless you are on the bike trail to get to it. Can we look at making a better track into there, or maybe potentially moving the memorial to a site with better access?

Response from Mayor, Greg Howard:

Officers can investigate but it is most likely located on Crown Land.

Mayor Greg Howard:

I just have one question for Councillor Powell. At the last meeting I asked about the fees and charges that were allegedly passed during the election and you said you were going to get back to me. I haven't heard anything and am wondering whether you had an answer?

Response from Councillor Edwina Powell:

I have prepared a short answer. I can understand your sensitivity over the matter but I did not appreciate the question which I thought was a form of gas lighting. But, yes there was one item that was brought forward during that very specific 8 September to 30 October period and that was the Wood Encouragement Policy that you moved as a motion.

The other matters that I refer to were introduced during that 2018 election year just prior to that particular election period and they were the Good Sports Program, removing all licence fees. I understand that was done in July by anyone in some sort of campaign would have kept in mind that it was an election year so that was why I made the reference that it was done in the election period. I perhaps should have used 'election year', but that's what my reference was so I won't be apologising or withdrawing that statement.

Item 188/19 **Notices of Motion by Councillors**

Nil

Item 189/19 **Dorset Council Strategic Plan 2019 - 2028**
Reporting Officer: Director – Corporate Services, John Marik
Ref: DOC/19/12452 | Strategic Plan: DOC/19/6554 | Submissions: DOC/19/11864 &
DOC/19/11866

Purpose

This purpose of this agenda item is for Council to receive and adopt the Dorset Council Strategic Plan 2019 – 2028.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the Dorset Council Strategic Plan 2019-2028.

Decision

MOVED: Cr Nichols | SECONDED: Cr Stein

That Council adopt the Dorset Council Strategic Plan 2019-2028.

Voting for the Motion: Mayor Howard, Deputy Mayor Jessup, Crs Stein, Nichols,
McLennan, Lade, Hughes, Chilcott

Voting Against the Motion: Cr Powell

Carried

Item 190/19 **Audit Panel Chairperson Appointment**
Reporting Officer: Director – Corporate Services, John Marik
Ref: DOC/19/12451 | Audit Panel Charter: DOC/19/7204

Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to appoint an independent Audit Panel Chairperson.

Recommendation

That Council appoint Mr Ian Wright as Chairperson of the Dorset Council Audit Panel for a term of two years.

Decision

MOVED: Cr McLennan | SECONDED: Cr Nichols

That Council appoint Mr Ian Wright as Chairperson of the Dorset Council Audit Panel for a term of two years.

Carried Unanimously

Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is for Council to adopt a schedule of dates for Ordinary Council Meetings and Council Briefing Workshops in 2020.

Recommendation

That the following Schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings and the Schedule of Council Briefing Workshops for 2020 be adopted.

Decision

MOVED: Cr Jessup | SECONDED: Cr Chilcott

That the following Schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings and the Schedule of Council Briefing Workshops for 2020 be adopted.

Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule, with meetings on the third Monday of each month at 6.00 pm (with the exception of April and June), at the Council Chambers, Scottsdale, except where an alternative location is specified.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday 20 January 2020 | Monday 20 July 2020 |
| Monday 17 February 2020 (Gladstone) | Monday 17 August 2020 |
| Monday 16 March 2020 | Monday 21 September 2020 |
| Monday 27 April 2020 (Winnaleah) | Monday 19 October 2020 (Ringarooma) |
| Monday 18 May 2020 | Monday 16 November 2020 (Bridport) |
| Monday 29 June 2020 | Monday 21 December 2020 |

Council Briefing Workshops Schedule, with workshops held on the first Tuesday of each month at 4.30 pm (with the exception of January), at the Council Chambers, Scottsdale.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Nil for January 2020</u> | Tuesday 7 July 2020 |
| Tuesday 4 February 2020 | Tuesday 4 August 2020 |
| Tuesday 3 March 2020 | Tuesday 1 September 2020 |
| Tuesday 7 April 2020 | Tuesday 6 October 2020 |
| Tuesday 5 May 2020 | Tuesday 3 November 2020 |
| Tuesday 2 June 2020 | Tuesday 1 December 2020 |

Carried Unanimously

Decision

MOVED: Cr Jesup | SECONDED: Cr Nichols

That the Meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, and that members of the public be required to leave the meeting room.

Time Meeting Closed to the Public: 6.40 pm

Carried Unanimously

Meeting Adjourned: 6.40pm

Reason: For tea break with members of the public

Meeting Resumed: 7.01pm

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

The following matter was listed in the Closed Session Meeting section of the Council Agenda in accordance with Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*:

Item 193/19 Small Electricity Connections Tender

The report on this matter was listed in the Closed Meeting section of the Council Agenda in accordance with Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* as the detail covered in the report relates to:

- Contracts and tenders for the supply of goods and services

Time Meeting Closed: 7.20pm

Minutes Confirmed: 16 December 2019

Minute No: 196/19

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Mayor