



CONFIRMED MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting held on 14 June 2022



**SHIRE OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND
MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION**

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Shire of Christmas Island Council held at the George Fam Chambers at 7.00pm on Tuesday 14 June 2022

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UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Christmas Island held at the George Fam Chambers at 7.00pm on Tuesday 14 June 2022

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

- 1.1 The Shire President declared the meeting open at 7.01pm.
- 1.2 Shire President welcomed Heritage Consultant Helene BARTLESON

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE/DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

2.1 Record of Attendance

Shire President	Cr Gordon THOMSON
Deputy President	Cr Kee Heng FOO
Councillors	Cr Philip WOO
	Cr Kelvin Kok Bin LEE
	Cr Hafiz MASLI
	Cr Morgan Boon Hwa SOH
	Cr Farzian ZAINAL
	Cr Azmi YON
	Cr Vincent Cheng-Siew SAW
Chief Executive Officer	David PRICE
A/Manager Finance and Admin	Kevin WILSON
Manager Community/Recreation Services	Olivier LINES
A/Manager Works, Services & Waste	Ian DODDS
Manager Research, Policy, Governance & Grants	Chris SU
Minute Taker	Karin LWIN

2.2 **Leave of Absence**

2.3 **Apologies**

2.4 **Declarations of Financial/Impartiality/Proximity Interest**

3 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- 4.1 Cr Farzian ZAINAL - Why has Drumsite playground been removed and when will that facility be replaced?

Manager Community/Recreation Services Oliver LINES – Playground equipment removed due to deterioration, new one has been ordered.

- 4.2 CR Farzian ZAINAL requested an update to the removal of the traffic island adjacent to the mosque. CEO David PRICE advised he will follow up.

5 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

6 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS/BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7.1 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 May 2022

Members considered the unconfirmed minutes.

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr LEE

Seconded: Cr YON

Res. No: 49/22

That Council adopt the unconfirmed minutes of the 24 May 2022 Council Meeting.

Carried: 9/0

7.2 Business Arising from the Minutes of Previous Meetings

7.2.1 On the matter of freight and flight stresses raised in previous Council Meetings, Shire President THOMSON advised that a meeting with DITRDC Aaron O'NEIL on 27th April he was advised that there was no budget for additional flights. There has since been four cancellations or delays. One flight was turned around, with no recovery flight planned for it. Cargo was shifted to the next fortnight's freight plane. One other cancelled flight had a recovery flight executed for it.

Shire President THOMSON advised that Aaron O'NEIL updated that the Department will be engaging a logistics expert to resolve this systemic problem.

Shire President THOMSON advised that the Community Consultative Committee discussed the same freight stresses in the April, May and June meetings. The CCC had requested the Department to ensure that the logistics expert met with the community on Island, including with the CCC.

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION

8.1 President THOMSON advises that Manager of Works and Services Graeme HEDDITCH is ending his time on Christmas Island in the following weeks. Long-time waste tip staff member Yusof BAHARI is also ending his time at Shire with his retirement. A farewell was recently had for both valued members of the SOCI team.

A locum Works and Services manager Ian DODD has been engaged in the interim. The Shire CEO is beginning the hiring process for a new permanent Works and Services manager.

8.2 President THOMSON advises that a new Finance Manager has been engaged by the CEO, Mr Kim CHUA. He will arrive on the Island on 5th July.

8.3 President THOMSON informs Council that the Heritage Act (WA)(2018) will apply to Christmas Island from July 1st through an Ordinance and that there was a recent visit by Naomi MAXWELL, Amy NEALE and a support officer alongside their two heritage consultants from Eco-Australia to help create the necessary local government 'heritage list' that Council needs to be compliant with the Heritage Act (WA)(2018).

The Heritage Act (WA)(2018) in force on Christmas Island by an Ordinance will help facilitate the CISA completion.

8.4 President THOMSON informed the Council that himself, Cr YON, Cr MASLI, Town Planning Consultant Herve CALMY and CEO David PRICE will be heading to Canberra to meet the new Minister for Territories Kristy McBAIN and attend the Australian Local Government Association Conference 2022.

The major goal of the meeting is to find ways of implementing the Commonwealth's CISA through our strategic plans. Council will present plans that will support the execution of the CISA in respect to the delivery of land to investors.

The CI Strategic Assessment will assist land release through clearing red and green tape in heritage and environmental matters. Council's CI-Singapore Strategy will benefit from the conclusion of the CISA.

SOCI will be presenting options to the Minister on the releasing of land post CISA completion.

SOCI will also be informing the Minister of its support of the Australian Local Power Agency Bill 2021, a bi-partisan supported bill aimed at improving green energy production.

President THOMSON expresses his optimism on the way forward with the Commonwealth and Shire working collaboratively.

9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

10 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

10.1 Chief Executive Officer

10.1.1 UV Rates Setting

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr SOH

Seconded: Cr SAW

Res. No: 50/22

The Council adopts an Unimproved Valuation rate of 0.37c for the 2022-23 Budget.

Carried: 9/0

10.1.2 CEO Delegated Authority – Finance 22/23

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr YON

Seconded: Cr LEE

Res. No: 51/22

In accordance with Section 5.42 (1) and 5.44 of the Local Government Act 1995 (WA)(CI) Council delegates the following authority to the Chief Executive Officer for the financial year 22/23.

- To make payments on behalf of Council in accordance with Council Signatory/Authorization of EFT Procedure
- To sign cheques on behalf of council for an amount not exceeding \$100,000 s6.10 (d);
- To incur expenditure and to issue official orders not exceeding \$100,000 for non-capital expenditure s6.10 (d);
- To decide free of charge use of community facilities in accordance with CS2 – Use of Community Facilities Policy of Council;
- Power of entrance, etc. in relation to road works;
- To write off debts or rates incorrectly raised & other bad debts up to \$200;
- To approve budget variations/new budget items not exceeding \$100,000;
- To obtain reassessment of the value of ratable property in the event of property improvement or property subdivision;
- To invest money held by council not required for immediate use s6.14;
- To arrange appropriate insurance in respect of all council properties;
- To negotiate terms and conditions of property leases;
- To negotiate terms and conditions and enter into lease agreements on Shire Houses where the weekly rent does not exceed \$600 per week;
- To dispose of property with no book value;
- To reimburse to an owner or occupier where property is damaged through the performance of a function of the local government to the maximum amount of \$2,000;
- To give notice to an occupier and or owner requiring them to do something in relation to land

specified in Schedule 3.1 – Powers Under Notices to Owners or Occupiers of Land of the Local Government Act (WA) (CI) 1995

- To arrange for works to be carried out where the owner or occupier does not carry out required action in relation to land, and to recover the costs as a debt;
- To issue certificates of the local government pursuant to section 23 of the Strata Titles Act 1985 (WA)(CI).
- To change leases for the cost of insurance cover in respect to leased properties;
- As the principal Accounting Officer of Council, to prepare the annual financial reports;
- To affix the common seal of the Shire of Christmas Island as required; and
- In relation to recurrent expenditure, to pay amounts above the \$100,000 limit for:
 - o Wages and salaries
 - o Pay As You Earn taxation
 - o Fringe Benefits taxation
 - o insurance premiums
 - o Electricity charges
 - o Lease payments
 - o MRWA projects
 - o Superannuation
- To contract works or capital projects that have been previously approved by a resolution of Council
- Within the provisions of Section 3.50 (1) (1a) (2) (4) (8) of the Local Government Act 1995 (WA) (CI) to:
 - 1) To close any thoroughfare that the SOCI manages for the passage of vehicles, wholly or partially, for a period not exceeding four (4) weeks;
 - 2) To close any thoroughfare that the SOCI manages for the passage of vehicles, wholly or partially, for a period exceeding four (4) weeks

Carried: 9/0

10.1.3 Christmas Island Cemeteries Management Plan

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr WOO

Seconded: Cr LEE

Res. No: 52/22

That Council receives and endorses the Shire of Christmas Island Heritage Management Plan Cemeteries 2022-23 (the Plan) as prepared by Ms Helene Bartleson.

Carried: 9/0

10.2 Manager Finance & Administration

10.2.1 Schedule of Accounts – May 2022

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr FOO

Seconded: Cr SOH

Res. No: 53/22

That Council approves the expenditure as presented in May 2022 Schedule of Accounts.

Carried: 9/0

10.2.2 Financial Statements - May 2022

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr MASLI

Seconded: Cr LEE

Res. No: 54/22

That Council receives the Financial Statements of May 2022 for the Municipal Fund.

Carried: 9/0

10.3 Manager Community/Recreation Services & Training

10.4 Manager Works, Services & Waste

10.5 Manager Governance, Research, Policy & Grants

10.5.1 Christmas Island Town Site Designation

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr YON

Seconded: Cr FOO

Res. No: 55/22

That Council resolves to designate the 'Dog's Head' as the *Christmas Island Townsite* as per the attached map and inform the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.

Carried: 9/0

11 ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

12 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING

12.1 MOTION TO ACCEPT NEW BUSINESS – CHRISTMAS ISLAND LOCAL HERITAGE SURVEY

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr YON

Seconded: Cr MASLI

Res. No: 56/22

That the council receive new business regarding Christmas Island Local Heritage Survey.

Carried: 9/0

12.2 CHRISTMAS ISLAND LOCAL HERITAGE SURVEY

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr LEE

Seconded: Cr ZAINAL

Res. No: 57/22

That council advertises to the community the opportunity to nominate Christmas Island places which they consider to be of heritage significance for inclusion in the first Christmas Island Local Heritage Survey.

Carried: 9/0

13 BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

14 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Shire President closed the meeting at 8.12pm

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 26 July 2022