



CONFIRMED MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting held on 27 June 2023



**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 27 June 2023

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CONFIRMED MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Christmas Island held at the George Fam Chambers at 7.00pm on Tuesday 27 June 2023

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

1.1 The Deputy Shire President declared the meeting open at 7.00pm.

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

1.2 Record of Attendance

Deputy President
Councillors

Cr Kee Heng **FOO**
Cr Kelvin Kok Bin **LEE**
Cr Hafiz **MASLI**
Cr Morgan Boon Hwa **SOH**
Cr Vincent Cheng-Siew **SAW**

Acting Chief Executive Officer /Minute Taker
Director Community/Recreation Services
Director Works, Services & Waste

Chris **SU**
Olivier **LINES**
Troy **DAVIS**

2.2 **Leave of Absence**
Councillors

Cr Philip **WOO**

2.3 **Apologies**
Shire President

Cr Gordon **THOMSON**
Cr Azmi **YON**
David **PRICE**

CEO

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

3 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

4.1 Cr LEE asked on behalf of Upper Poon Saan Road residents on the removal of a green skip bin that was previously assigned Upper Poon Saan Road.

Director of Works, Services and Waste Troy DAVIS to follow up and report.

5 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

5.1 Leave of Absence – Cr WOO

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr LEE

Seconded: Cr SAW

Res. No: 38/23

That the leave of absence application submitted by Cr Philip WOO (20/06/2023) to (02/07/2023) be approved.

Carried: 5/0

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 27 June 2023

Members considered the unconfirmed minutes.

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr SAW

Seconded: Cr MASLI

Res. No: 39/23

That Council adopt the unconfirmed minutes of the 27 June 2023 Council Meeting.

Carried: 5/0

7.2 Business Arising from the Minutes of Previous Meetings

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION

8.1 Council team met with the following parties in Canberra, and attended the ALGA conference from 11th-16th June.

The Hon. Marion Scrymgour MP on 15th June to discuss electorate matters. Particular focus on the CISA media release from Minister McBain of 13th June advising the community that the CISA program is temporarily ceased.

The 13th June 2023 Media Release from Minister McBain was presented to the meeting for the record.

The Immigration Minister the Hon. Andrew Giles on 15th June on Christmas Island matters. The IDC reports to continue into the foreseeable future at the present numbers.

First Assistant Secretary Sarah Vandenbroek and Assistant Secretary Kim Forbes from the Dept of Infrastructure on 16th June. CISA again dominated the conversation, with the Dept. of Infrastructure informing Council that they were progressing a way forward in terms of assessing land for release even with the CISA paused. They asked Shire to send a list of land parcels it would consider a priority for assessment with this new regime.

The other major action item from the meeting with the Department of Infrastructure was on the Local Government Reforms that will impact the October 2023 elections. The Shires of Cocos (Keeling) and Christmas Island have discussed this matter jointly. This and a resolution will be discussed in Urgent Business.

The ALGA conference was as always a good opportunity to meet fellow local government colleagues and learn about the latest developments.

Attachment: Media Release '*Update on Christmas Island Strategic Assessment*', Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, 13.6.2023

9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

10 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

10.1 Chief Executive Officer

10.1.1 Update to Finance Policy

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr MASLI

Seconded: Cr SAW

Res. No: 40/23

That the updated Significant Financial Policy be adopted.

Carried: 5/0

10.2 Director Finance & Administration

10.2.1 Schedule of Accounts – May 2023

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr LEE

Seconded: Cr SAW

Res. No: 41/23

That Council approves the expenditure as presented in May 2023 Schedule of Accounts.

Carried: 5/0

10.2.2 Financial Statements – May 2023

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr MASLI

Seconded: Cr SOH

Res. No: 42/23

That Council receives the Financial Statements of May 2023 for the Municipal Fund.

Carried: 5/0

10.3 Director Community Recreation Service & Training

10.3.1 Seniors Week

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr SOH

Seconded: Cr LEE

Res. No: 43/23

That the Shire of Christmas Island coordinates the 2023 Seniors Week celebration from the 17th to 23rd July 2023 and invites sponsorships from community organisations to assist in facilitating this annual event.

Carried: 5/0

10.4 Director Works, Services & Waste

10.5 Director Planning, Governance & Policy

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 New business to be introduced

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr LEE

Seconded: Cr MASLI

Res. No: 44/23

That new business of an urgent nature be introduced to the meeting.

Carried: 5/0

12.2 Local Government Reforms Ordinance 2023

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr MASLI

Seconded: Cr SAW

Res. No: 45/23

That the Shire of Christmas Island proposes the Commonwealth's Ordinance provides for:
the continuation of nine councillors including the President; first past the post method of election;
that only the councillors whose four year terms end in 2023 shall have their seats up for election; no

wards; no direct election of president and that the terms of Councillors elected for four year terms in 2021 shall not be reduced.

That this proposal be presented for community consultation with closing date for comment 4pm Friday 14th July 2023.

Carried: 5/0

13 BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

14 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Deputy Shire President closed the meeting at 7.21 pm

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:25 July 2023