



CONFIRMED MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of the Shire of Christmas Island held at the **George Fam Chambers** at
7.00pm on Tuesday 22 March 2016

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

1.1 Shire President declared the meeting open at 7:03pm

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

2.1 Record of Attendance

Shire President
Deputy President
Councillors

Cr Gordon **THOMPSON**
Cr Kee Heng **FOO**
Cr Azmi **YON**
Cr Rosnah **PAL**
Cr Hafiz **MASLI**
Cr Kelvin **LEE**
Cr Philip **WOO**

Chief Executive Officer
Manager Finance and Admin
Manager Works and Services
Manager Community Services

Kelvin **MATTHEWS**
So Hon **GAN**
Terry **CLARKE**
Boon Beng **Chew**

Minute Taker

Chris **SU**

2.2 Leave of Absence

2.3 Apologies

Councillor
Councillor
Manager Recreation Services and Training Officer
Manager Planning Building & Health

Cr Vincent **SAW**
Cr Nora **KOH**
Mr Oliver **LINES**
Mr Colin **WHEADON**

2.4 Declarations of Financial/Impartiality/Proximity Interest

Cr **PAL** declared an impartiality interest in item 10.3.2 advising the reason that she is an employee of the Christmas Island District High School who are the applicant for funding request from Council subject for consideration by Council in item 10.3.2.

Crs **THOMPSON, FOO, LEE, WOO, MASLI, YON** and **PAL** declared a Financial Interest in Item 10.5.1 having completed the necessary Declaration of Financial Interest Form with the CEO as required. Ministerial exemption was provided in accordance with section 5.69(1) of the Local Government Act (WA) (CI) 1995 by the Minister for Major Projects, Territories and Local Government (the Hon Paul Fletcher MP) to Crs **THOMPSON, LEE** and **YON** only in accordance with his written advice to the CEO dated 18th of March 2016, thereby allowing Crs **THOMPSON, LEE** and **YON** to participate in the item.

3 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

4.1 Cr Azmi **YON** asks for possibility of reinstating skip bins in Silver City and Kampong, where they were formerly present until recently. Kelvin **MATTHEWS** updates that as builders were filling up several of the skip bins with construction waste, the decision was made to take them away. These operators are supposed to purchase waste tip disposal vouchers at SOCI and not utilise the skip bins, which are for green waste and household inert only.

Cr Azmi **YON** proposes monitoring a reinstated skip bin. Cr Gordon **THOMSON** suggests that signage be put alongside each skip bin to stipulate that it is for green waste and household inert only. Proposes that the sign reference to any local regulations with any applicable fine to a situation where the skip bins are not utilised in the proper manner.

4.2 Cr Azmi **YON** raises a safety concern at the Kampong Padang and other playground fences in Poon Saan. Kelvin **MATTHEWS** updates Council that SOCI was successful in receiving an IOTRDO Community Development Grant of \$18,000 for the erection of a new 3m tall replacement perimeter fence at the car park side of the Kampong Padang. Council notes that this Padang is a Commonwealth area of responsibility.

4.3 Cr Rosnah **PAL** asks for the possibility of water blast cleaning on the footpaths in Drumsite and Kampong. Kelvin **MATTHEWS** will relay the request to the works and services team who have an in-house water blaster.

4.4 Cr Gordon **THOMSON** informs Council of constituents' queries on the Aged Care Report released in 2015. Advises Council that there are currently two residents 'immobilised' on the third storey of their Poon Saan unit accommodations and projects another 15-20 in three to five years' time.

Cr Gordon **THOMSON** puts to Council that Council should develop a response to the Aged Care Report.

4.5 Cr Gordon **THOMSON** raises a resident's concern about veterinary access. SOCI has a cat law that stipulates domestic cats are permitted if they are desexed. Cr Azmi **YON** asked if SOCI has any plans to bring in a vet to cater to residents' needs. Cr **THOMSON** replied that there are no such plans, but that any option to do that will have to be after the matter is discussed and resolved in a council meeting.

5 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

5.1 Cr LEE – Leave of Absence

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr YON

Seconded: Cr WOO

Res. No: 10/16

That the leave of absence application submitted by Cr Lee (28/03/2016 to 06/05/2016) be approved.

Carried: 7/0

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 2 February 2016

Members considered the unconfirmed minutes.

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr FOO

Seconded: Cr LEE

Res. No: 11/16

That Council adopt the unconfirmed minutes of the 2 February 2016 Council Meeting.

Carried: 7/0

7.2 Business Arising from the Minutes of Previous Meetings

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION

8.1 Cr Gordon **THOMSON** informs the Council that three Year 12 graduates from the class of 2015 created a PDF book that has received wide recognition nationwide and internationally, notably receiving positive feedback from the former Prime Minister of Australia, the Hon. Julia Gillard and the current Prime Minister of Canada, the Hon. Justin Trudeau. Council notes the achievement of the local students and seeks to explore the creation of a print version of the book for the public library.

8.2 Cr Gordon **THOMSON** welcomes Mr **ANG Ah Him**, President of the Seniors Association of Christmas Island who presents a gift from his daughter, Dewi ANG to the new CI Seniors Association Centre, a framed self-made needlework welcome sign. Mr ANG also presents a painting for the CI Seniors Association Centre from his family as a gift.

9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

10 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

10.1 Chief Executive Officer

10.1.1 Local Government Compliance Audit Return 1 Jan 2015 to 31 Dec 2015

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr YON

Seconded: Cr WOO

Res. No: 12/16

Council adopts the 2015 Local Government Compliance Audit Return and instructs the Chief Executive Officer to forward the Return to the Director General, Department of Local Government and Communities, and Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development by 31 March 2016.

Carried: 7/0

10.1.2 Budget Review

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr FOO

Seconded: Cr LEE

Res. No: 13/16

Council adopted its annual budget in July 2015. Council officers conducted a budget review on 10 March 2016. The aim of the review was to identify budget items that were either over or under budget and to identify areas where funds were required but had not been allocated. Proposals for variations to the budget were then formulated.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 (WA) (CI) and the Financial Management Regulations (WA) (CI) 2007, Council must consider and decide any proposal for the allocation of funds to items not allocated in the annual budget. Budget variations should also be referred to Council for approval.

The Chief Executive Officer is required to forward a copy of any review and Council's resolution to the WA Department of Local Government within 30 days of any decision.

Carried: 7/0

10.1.3 ALGA National Conference Attendance

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr MASLI

Seconded: Cr PAL

Res. No: 14/16

That Council –

1. confirm registration to attend the 2016 Australian Local Government Association National Assembly conference scheduled for 19 to 22 June 2016 in Canberra,
2. nominate Crs Thomson, Yon, Lee and the CEO to attend the conference for the purpose of registration, travel and accommodation arrangements,
3. advise the CEO of any Motions that Council may want to have included in the Conference Agenda Papers and,
4. confirm Cr Yon (x 1) and Cr Lee as proxy (x 1) as the voting delegates for the conference.

Carried: 7/0

10.1.4 Australian Small Islands Forum Norfolk Island Conference Report

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr MASLI

Seconded: Cr PAL

Res. No: 15/16

That Council receive the report and approve hosting the Australian Small Islands Forum on Christmas Island in 2018.

Carried: 7/0

10.1.5 University of WA Cultural Study

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr YON

Seconded: Cr PAL

Res. No: 16/16

That Council approve the proposal by the University of Western Australia as outlined in this report to undertake an anthropological cultural study of Christmas Island and approach the Indian Ocean Territories Administration and other potential sponsors to assist meeting the study cost.

Carried: 7/0

10.1.6 Christmas Island Seniors Citizenship Centre Opening Day

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr MASLI

Seconded: Cr LEE

Res. No: 17/16

That Council nominate the 18th of July 2016 as the preferred date to request the Minister for Major Projects, Territories and Local Government to formally attend the opening of the Christmas Island Seniors Centre Opening Ceremony with alternate dates being the 20th of July 2016 or the 24th of July 2016 and advise the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development in accordance with the fifty six day lead time requirement in the Funding Agreement.

Carried: 7/0

10.2 Manager Finance & Administration

10.2.1 Schedule of Accounts – January & February 2016

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr WOO

Seconded: Cr FOO

Res. No: 18/16

That Council approves the expenditure as presented in January 2016 and February 2016 Schedule of Accounts

Carried: 7/0

10.2.2 Financial Statements – January & February 2016

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr LEE

Seconded: Cr FOO

Res. No: 19/16

That Council receives the Financial Statements of the 31 January 2016 and 29 February 2016 for the Municipal Fund.

Carried: 7/0

10.3 Manager Community Services

10.3.1 Representation on Council Committees

Council Resolution

Moved: Cr MASLI

Seconded: Cr LEE

Res. No: 20/16

That Council endorse the following nominees as members of the following committee and reference group:

1. Community Consultative Committee

Nominee

Mr Azmi Yon / Mr Norezuan Melan
Mr Oliver Lines
Mr Albert Ng

Name of organisation

CI Malay Association
Union of Christmas Island Workers
Poon Saan Club

2. Community Cultural Planning & Heritage Reference Group

Nominee

Mr Azmi Yon / Mr Norezuan Melan
Mr Olivier Lines

Name of organisation

CI Malay Association
Union of Christmas Island Workers

Carried: 7/0

Cr **PAL** left the meeting at 8.29pm in accordance with the declaration she made and returned at 8.31pm.

10.3.2 Community Assistance Grant Request

Council Resolution		
Moved:	Seconded:	Res. No:
That Council agree to the request from the Christmas Island District High School for the amount of \$4,000 from Councils 2015-16 Community Assistance Fund for the ANZAC 2016 Tour.		
Item Lapsed due to no Mover or Seconder		
Moved: Cr YON	Seconded: Cr FOO	Res. No: 21/16
That Council agree to the request from the Christmas Island District High School for the amount of \$1,500 from Councils 2015-16 Community Assistance Fund for the ANZAC 2016 Tour.		
Carried: 6/0		

10.3.3 Celebrating 2016 Seniors Week

Council Resolution		
Moved: Cr YON	Seconded: Cr MASLI	Res. No: 22/16
That the Shire of Christmas Island coordinates the celebration of 2016 Seniors Week from 18 to 24 July 2016 and invites sponsorship from community organisations to assist in facilitating this annual event.		
Carried: 7/0		

10.4 Manager Works & Services

Crs **FOO, WOO, MASLI** and **PAL** left the meeting at 8.40pm in accordance with the declaration they made and the written advice from the Minister for Major Projects, Territories and Local Government (the Hon Paul Fletcher MP) that disqualified them from participating in the item. Crs **THOMSON, YON** and **LEE** were exempted from disqualification in accordance with the written advice from the Minister for Major Projects, Territories and Local Government and remained in the meeting. However due to the absence of disqualified Councillors, and Councillors who subsequently declared an interest and Crs **Koh** and **Saw** who were apologies for the meeting, there was no quorum and the item lapsed. Crs **FOO, WOO, PAL** and **MASLI** returned to the meeting at 8.44pm.

The CEO will again be required to request exemption of Councillors in order to participate in the item when resubmitted to the 26 April 2016 ordinary meeting.

10.5 Manager Planning, Building & Health

10.5.1 Application for Planning Approval 09/2015 Lot 3022 Murray Rd Drumsite

Council Resolution		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	Res. No: /16
RECOMMENDATION		
That Council acting in accordance with Schedule 2 Part 4 clause 27 (2) (a) & (b) of the Planning Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 advise the applicant with regard to development upon Lot 3022 by Phosphate Resources Limited (PRL) the following:		
1. That SOCI grants planning approval re DA 09/2015 specifically for the new modular mining laboratory facility and its associated loading dock and 120 square metres of landscaping only and does so without requiring the submission by PRL of a 'Structure Plan';		

2. That further SOCI provides this approval without prejudicing itself in that a 'Structure Plan' may need to be provided by PRL in future in SOCI achieving compliance with the Planning Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 Schedule 2 Part 4 clause 15 (a) (i) (ii); (b) or (c) where same is deemed applicable;
3. PRL are to submit a Certified Application for Building Permit;
4. PRL are to have the local WA Water Corporation assess, sign and stamp the building plans prior to submission to SOCI for approval; and
5. PRL are to have the landowner of Lot 3022 being DIRD to sign off on the DA.

Carried: /0

10.6 Manager Recreation Services

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 Item of new business to be heard by Council.

Council Resolution:

Item of new business to be heard by Council.

Moved: Cr YON

Seconded: CR Lee

Res. No: 23/16

That the Shire of Christmas Island hears an item of new business.

Carried: 7/0

- 12.2 Shire of Christmas Island CEO Kelvin **MATTHEWS** and Heritage Advisor Helene **BARTLESON** inform Council that the Christmas Island Cemeteries Restoration Program that SOCI has undertaken from 2011 to present has won a State Award for the preservation and restoration work on CI's three heritage cemeteries. Kelvin **MATTHEWS** presents the plaque and shield for the award to Council; it will be displayed at the George Fam offices appropriately.

13 BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

14 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Shire President closed the meeting at 8.46pm

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 26 April 2016