



# CONFIRMED MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting held on 27 August 2024



**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 August 2024**

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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 August 2024

#### 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

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

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

1.2 Record of Attendance

Shire President

Deputy President

Councillors

Cr Gordon **THOMSON**

Cr Azmi **YON**

Cr Philip **WOO**

Cr Hafiz **MASLI**

Cr Vincent **SAW (7.03pm)**

Cr Kelvin Kok Bin **LEE**

Cr Kee Heng **FOO**

Cr Steve **PEREIRA (7.03pm)**

Cr Swee **TUNG**

Chief Executive Officer

Director Planning, Governance & Policy/Minute Taker

Director Community/Recreation Services

Director Works, Services & Waste

Assistant Director of Finance and Corporate Services

David **PRICE**

Chris **SU**

Olivier **LINES**

Troy **DAVIS**

Wei **HO**

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 Azmi YON passed his congratulations to the SOCI Community Services team for a successful 2024 Christmas Island Marathon on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August. Thanked Director for Community/Recreation Services Oliver LINES and team members Wei HO, Cheau LING, Suzane CHAN, Garry FOO, Darren MARSH, Chris SU and the many community volunteers who assisted at the event.

Cr Azmi YON thanked the Civil Works team for efforts on East-West baseline and the progress to date.

4.2 Cr Mel TUNG raised an item discussed at the Indian Ocean Territories Health Service Community Advisory Committee (IOTHS CAC) regarding the island's rat population. Cr Mel TUNG noted that Parks at SOCI provide rat baits to the community and requested information to be produced to teach persons how to utilise rat baits safely. Cr Mel TUNG also requested initiative from Council to inform residents how to keep their premises as clear as possible from rat infestation.

CEO David PRICE advised that SOCI had a meeting that day 27<sup>th</sup> August 2024 with IOTA regarding such matters in the Flying Fish Cove precinct. SOCI is considering removal of debris in areas to the rear of some Flying Fish Cove housing that would be prone to rat habitation. SOCI has endorsed an additional \$30,000 for control methods in the 2024/2025 budget to help address rat management in the lead up to the wet season when fruiting trees and crab remains provide easier food sources that increase the rat population. CEO David PRICE advised that in two Islander issues following a joint Commonwealth-SOCI notice will be made to advise on the joint rat and chicken control program between the agencies.

CEO David PRICE noted that education of debris management was key, as is handling of food waste.

- 4.3 Cr TUNG asked how can a member of the public arrange for an abandoned car to be removed? CEO David PRICE advises that members of the public should report abandoned cars to SOCI.

Cr Kelvin LEE notes that the rear of Block 408, an immigration block, had a number of abandoned vehicles there possibly from former Island residents employed at the Immigration Detention Centre.

- 4.4 Cr TUNG asked for an update on the repair works at the Foreshore Padang. CEO David PRICE advises that some of the ordered lights have arrived. The splash pad has been tested and found to be in functional order; shade sail cloths for the splash pad are due to arrive. CEO advised that the necessary astroturf is due to arrive on the next ship but noted that the supplier could not get sand ordered in time for the same ship; the sand will arrive the ship following. The astroturf cannot be installed until the sand arrives. The aluminium skatepark equipment is due to arrive December and will be installed then.

- 4.5 Cr PEREIRA requested an update on any plans for a vet to visit Christmas Island. Director of Policy Chris SU advised that SOCI had contacted the vet and vet office that the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands (SOCKI) engaged for their 2022/2023 vet visits, Dr Ian MCDOWELL of Riseley Veterinary Centre, Perth.

Dr Ian MCDOWELL summarised the SOCKI engagement and the scope of works performed on Cocos. Chris SU advised that the scope of works proposed on Christmas Island would be similar – to chip and desex cats in an organised program to facilitate cat ownership under the local cat laws.

Director Chris SU advised Dr Ian MCDOWELL of the joint SOCI-Parks invasive species management efforts, including the targeting of wild cats and unlicensed cats. Dr Ian MCDOWELL supported this control initiative. Dr Ian MCDOWELL advised that his vet surgery would require two persons to travel to Christmas Island, a vet and a nurse technician and could schedule time in the first quarter of 2025.

Dr Ian MCDOWELL is to write to SOCI formally to follow up with proposed costs, and a formal plan be submitted to Council for consideration by Director Chris SU.

- 4.6 Cr PEREIRA asked about SOCI's waste recycling practices and what is SOCI doing to provide additional waste recycling support around e-waste?

Director Troy DAVIS provided that SOCI has not provided any additional waste recycling support for e-waste at present. Director Troy DAVIS provided background on the new legislative requirements around local government handling of e-waste from 2025; all e-waste is to be delivered from council pickups and sent to nominated facility within 12 months of pickup.

Director Troy DAVIS advised that this was achievable in metro WA where the e-waste sorting centre will be, and where the bulk of the population in WA are. The legislative requirements however extend across the entire state and also the Indian Ocean Territories. The IOT local governments will be required under the legislation to collect, separate, store and eventually ship e-waste to the mainland. SOCI noted a 12 month window for waste to have to be sent once received.

Director Troy DAVIS advised Council that the financial impost of this unfeasible for Council to do given the expected volume and shipping costs to the mainland. Council has written to the responsible authorities to request an exemption from the legislation.

The Council waste tip team is still accepting and segregating e-waste received.

- 4.7 Cr PEREIRA asked about SOCI's media projection into the island community, who the responsible officers were at Council for this, and if there was an officer dedicated to getting news to the community outside the Islander?

CEO David PRICE advised that SOCI projected information into the community via an email list, the website and the Islander in translation. It also uses post office box drops and the emergency SMS service as needed. There is no specific 'media person' although there is the editorial committee of The Islander and staff who update the website and sends email blasts.

CEO David PRICE advised that a static Facebook page was being considered to deliver public notices online as an additional outlet for communications.

**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 23 July 2024**

Members considered the unconfirmed minutes.

<b>Council Resolution</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr LEE</b>	<b>Seconded: Cr FOO</b>	<b>Res. No:</b>	<b>56/24</b>
That Council adopt the unconfirmed minutes of the 23 July 2024 Council Meeting.			
<b>Carried:</b>	<b>9/0</b>		
<b>For:</b>	Cr Gordon THOMSON	Cr Azmi YON	Cr FOO Kee Heng
	Cr Hafiz MASLI	Cr Phillip WOO	Cr Vincent SAW
	Cr Steven PEREIRA	Cr Mel TUNG	Cr Kelvin LEE
<b>Against:</b>			

**7.2 Business Arising from the Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING MEMBER WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

**9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

9.1 Minutes of Fisheries Management Committee

<b>Council Resolution</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr YON</b>	<b>Seconded: Cr SAW</b>	<b>Res. No:</b>	<b>57/24</b>

That Council receive -

- Confirmed Minutes of the 19 February 2024 FMC Meeting
- Confirmed Minutes of the 5 June 2024 FMC Meeting
- Draft Unconfirmed Minutes of the 12 August FMC Meeting

**Carried: 9/0**

**For:** Cr Gordon THOMSON Cr Azmi YON Cr FOO Kee Heng  
Cr Hafiz MASLI Cr Phillip WOO Cr Vincent SAW  
Cr Steven PEREIRA Cr Mel TUNG Cr Kelvin LEE

**Against:**

## 10 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

### 10.1 Chief Executive Officer

#### 10.1.1 RFQ 04-2024 Supply of Sealing Aggregate

##### Council Resolution

**Moved: Cr YON** **Seconded: Cr MASLI** **Res. No: 58/24**

That Council

1. Accepts the submission by Bitumen Surfacing for the unit price of \$218.75 per tonne in response to RFQ 04-2024 Supply of Sealing Aggregate.
2. Endorses the lump sum price of \$970,875 for the supply and delivery of 900 tonnes of sealing aggregate to the Shire landfill.

**Carried: 9/0**

**For:** Cr Gordon THOMSON Cr Azmi YON Cr FOO Kee Heng  
Cr Hafiz MASLI Cr Phillip WOO Cr Vincent SAW  
Cr Steven PEREIRA Cr Mel TUNG Cr Kelvin LEE

**Against:**

#### 10.1.2 Community Assistance Grants

##### Council Resolution

**Moved: Cr YON** **Seconded: Cr LEE** **Res. No: 59/24**

That Council grant the CI Robbers \$1200 towards the cost of their community project from the Community Assistance Grant fund 2024/2025.

**Carried: 9/0**

**For:** Cr Gordon THOMSON Cr Azmi YON Cr FOO Kee Heng  
Cr Hafiz MASLI Cr Phillip WOO Cr Vincent SAW  
Cr Steven PEREIRA Cr Mel TUNG Cr Kelvin LEE

**Against:**

## 10.2 Director Finance & Administration

### 10.2.1 Schedule of Accounts – July 2024

<b>Council Resolution</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr FOO</b>	<b>Seconded: Cr SAW</b>	<b>Res. No:</b>	<b>60/24</b>
That Council approves the expenditure as presented in July 2024 Schedule of Accounts			
<b>Carried:</b>	<b>9/0</b>		
<b>For:</b>	Cr Gordon THOMSON	Cr Azmi YON	Cr FOO Kee Heng
	Cr Hafiz MASLI	Cr Phillip WOO	Cr Vincent SAW
	Cr Steven PEREIRA	Cr Mel TUNG	Cr Kelvin LEE
<b>Against:</b>			

### 10.2.2 Financial Statements – July 2024

<b>Council Resolution</b>			
<b>Moved: Cr YON</b>	<b>Seconded: Cr MASLI</b>	<b>Res. No:</b>	<b>61/24</b>
That Council receives the Financial Statements of July 2024 for the Municipal Fund.			
<b>Carried:</b>	<b>9/0</b>		
<b>For:</b>	Cr Gordon THOMSON	Cr Azmi YON	Cr FOO Kee Heng
	Cr Hafiz MASLI	Cr Phillip WOO	Cr Vincent SAW
	Cr Steven PEREIRA	Cr Mel TUNG	Cr Kelvin LEE
<b>Against:</b>			

## 10.3 Director Community/Recreation Services & Training

## 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

## 13 BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

## 14 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Shire President closed the meeting at 7.37pm

## 15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 24 September 2024