



CONFIRMED MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting of the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) of the Shire of Christmas Island held at the George Fam Centre at 4.30pm Wednesday 6th December 2023

1 Declaration of Opening of Meeting / Announcement of Visitors

1.1 Chairperson Gordon THOMSON declared the meeting opened at 4.35pm

2 Record of Attendance/Apologies/Leave of Absence/Declarations of Financial, Proximity or Impartiality Interest

Attendees:

Community Consultative Committee

Shire President	Gordon THOMSON
Shire Planning, Governance and Policy	Chris SU
Shire CEO	David PRICE
Shire Councillor	Kelvin LEE
Shire Councillor	Hafiz MASLI
Phosphate Resources Limited	Zoe McMILLAN
Islamic Council of CI	Sultan SAYED
CI Neighbourhood Centre	Oliver LINES
Union of CI Workers	FOO Kee Heng
Chinese Literary Association	Mel HAN

Apologies

CI Women's Association	Jessica SEET
CI Christian Fellowship	Stephanie SAMBELL
Poon Saan Club	Suzane CHAN
Malay Association	Azmi YON
CI Tourism Association	Sarah COOTE

Absent

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

3.1 Confirmation of September 6th 2023 minutes

CCC Resolution –

Moved: Hafiz MASLI

Seconded: Kelvin LEE

Res. No: CCC12/2023

That the minutes of the September 6th 2023 Community Consultative Committee be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Carried 10/0

3.3 Action Items

	Action Item	CCC Meeting	Action Officer	Status
1.	DIRDC Community Engagement Protocol- DIRDC still has not responded to August 15th 2019 request by CCC Secretariat for copy of DIRC's Community Engagement Protocol.	August 2019	Chris Su	Still awaiting from DITCRD
2	DIRD Aged Care Business Case requested by Shire in April 2022. DIRD had seemingly rejected a Detailed Business Case for an Aged Care Facility on Christmas Island that was produced by their internal projects team and APP Architects who were engaged as consultants. SOCl made an FOI application in July 2023. Expected outcome in August 2023.	April 2022	Chris Su	See Agenda Item 4.1
4	CCC resolved in April 2023 meeting to support the public housing tenants' initiative to request consultation with the Minister on a new set of public housing rules, and resolved to have Hafiz Masli, Chris Su and Oliver Lines as CCC representatives to assist in any such consultation.	April 2023	Chris Su, Oliver Lines, Hafiz Masli	See Agenda Item 4.2
5	That the CCC requests the Shire of Christmas Island identifies each and every report the Commonwealth has created dealing with Christmas Island community matters and whether or not there were reports made available or other community follow up made.	April 2023	Chris Su	Ongoing.
6	Scope of works with Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation being developed	July 2023	Chris Su	Seeking strategic-level contact at JTSI to liaise with to develop scope for CCC to consider

4. Agenda Business

4.1 FOI request complete

Chris SU reports that the 4th July 2023 Freedom of Information request to the Department of Infrastructure for the *Christmas Island Residential Aged Care Detailed Business Case* was complete.

A copy of the FOI request was provided at the meeting, and an email pdf copy would be sent to members.

CCC Resolution –

Moved: Hafiz MASLI

Seconded: Oliver LINES

Res. No: CCC13/2023

That the CCC receive the Department of Infrastructure's Freedom of Information report for the Christmas Island Residential Aged Care Facility.

Carried: 9/0

4.2 Minister and Administrator Correspondences

CCC members presented with copy of letters from Territories Minister Mc Bain of 31/7/2023 addressed to the UCIW on public housing.

The Minister denied the UCIW's request to co-design a public housing policy for Christmas Island instead of using the WA public housing policy by default.

CCC members presented with copy of letter from Minister for Housing and Homelessness Julie Collins advising that Christmas Island was ineligible to participate in the '*national*' Social Housing Accelerator (SHA) program. The SHA program was announced in June 2023 to be a \$2b national spend on increasing public and social housing across '*all states and territories*.'

Zoe McMILLAN asked if Christmas Island could correspond with the WA Government pertaining to public housing provision?

CCC Chairperson Gordon THOMSON reviewed the Commonwealth-WA Govt arrangements for service delivery to Christmas Island and summarised that Islanders could not approach WA Government elected members or officials in the same way WA residents could.

CCC Chairperson Gordon THOMSON noted that WA officials and parliamentarians were cordial in receiving correspondence from Christmas

Island in the past, but consistently regretted the ability to interact with us in the same way they could people from their own electorates in WA.

CCC Chairperson Gordon THOMSON recounted the WA Senate had at one point considered an inquiry into its provision of services to the external territories funded by the Commonwealth.

Zoe McMILLAN had asked if relevant bureaucracy at Dumas House could be invited to Christmas Island to assess service delivery on the ground?
Chairperson noted that the Department of Infrastructure approves all state officers' travel to Christmas Island.

CCC Resolution –

Moved: Hafiz MASLI

Seconded: Kelvin LEE

Res. No: CCC14/2023

That the CCC receive copy of the letters from Territories Minister Mc Bain of 31/7/2023 to the UCIW on public housing, and Minister Julie Collins on 17/7/2023 on Christmas Island's ineligibility in national the Social Housing Accelerator program.

Carried: 9 / 0

CCC members reviewed Minister Julie Collin's correspondence noting her rationale that Federal funds could not be spent on Christmas Island as incongruous with their understanding of how the Commonwealth is the sole funder for the external territories.

The Commonwealth's federal financial framework prevents the Commonwealth from providing funds directly to external territories such as Christmas Island. The Federation Funding Agreement (FFA) schedule for the Accelerator payment was an agreement only between the Commonwealth and the States. As such, Christmas Island was not directly allocated any funds from the Accelerator.

- *Minister Julie Collin's correspondence 17/7/2023*

CCC Resolution –

Moved: Kelvin LEE

Seconded: Oliver LINES

Res. No: CCC15/2023

That the CCC write to Minister Julie Collins that it doesn't accept the reasoning that Christmas Island is not part of the federal financial framework for the disbursement of Social Housing Accelerator Funds.

Carried: 9 / 0

CCC provided with copy of Administrator Farzian ZAINAL's 20 October response to the CCC letter to her of 27 Sept 2023.

CCC Resolution –

Moved: Kelvin LEE

Seconded: Oliver LINES

Res. No: CCC16/2023

That the CCC receive the 20 October 2023 correspondence from Administrator Farzian ZAINAL.

Carried: 9 / 0

A significant part of the concerns the CCC had detailed in the correspondence to Administrator ZAINAL were to do with the logistics of luggage, mail and freight.

Chris SU advised the CCC that he was the local government assist for the Australian Electoral Commission for the Yes Referendum in October. The AEC failed to get its referendum material to Cocos (Keeling) Islands on the flight Friday 6th October even though they were classed as Category 1 and stickered as Priority. A great deal of communication happened between AEC and Virgin in the weeks leading to the 6/10/23 flight with Virgin assuring AEC that the referendum material would arrive.

Subsequently it did not, and CKI could not move with their early voting plan on the same weekend that CI did. Virgin transported the CKI referendum material on Tuesday 10th October which allowed CKI residents to participate in the referendum on national polling day 14th October.

The CI referendum material arrived early as planned.

The CCC recounted the baggage offload of that week; a member of the CCC had their luggage offloaded. Anecdotes of tourists not receiving luggage for extended periods of time shared.

CCC Chairperson Gordon THOMSON recounted the recent IOTRDO-CI Business Association logistics committee meetings on the matter; he will share the logistics committee's recommendations.

5. General Business:

6. Closure of Meeting: 6.15pm, next meeting TBA