



# Draft Minutes

## TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEETING

### 5 March 2024

**PRESENT:**

**Councillors**

**Mayor**

Division 1 - Boigu  
Division 2 - Dauan  
Division 3 – Saibai  
Division 4 – Mabuiag  
Division 5 – Badu  
Division 6 – Arkai  
Division 7 – Wug (St Pauls), Mua Island  
Division 8 – Kirirri  
Division 9 - Iama  
Division 10 – Warraber  
Division 11 – Poruma  
Division 12 – Masig  
Division 13 - Ugar  
Division 14 – Erub  
Division 15 – Mer

Cr Phillemon Mosby  
Cr Dimas Toby  
Cr Torenzo Elisala  
Cr Conwell Tabuai  
Cr Keith Fell  
Cr Ranetta Wosomo  
Cr Lama Trinkoon  
Cr John Levi  
Cr Seriako Dorante  
Cr Getano Lui (Jnr) AM ( **Deputy Mayor**)  
Cr Kabay Tamu  
Cr Francis Pearson  
Cr Hilda Mosby  
Cr Rocky Stephen  
Cr Jimmy Gela – *by TEAMS*  
not represented

**Officers:**

Chief Executive Officer  
Executive Director Building Services  
Executive Director Community Services  
Executive Director Corporate Services  
Executive Director Engineering Services  
Executive Director Financial Services  
Executive Support Coordinator  
Executive Assistant to the Mayor  
Secretariat

Mr James William  
Mr Wayne Green  
Mr Dawson Sailor  
Ms Susanne Andres – *by TEAMS*  
Mr David Baldwin  
Ms Hollie Faithfull  
Ms Sharon Russell  
Ms Trudy Lui  
Darryl Brooks – *by TEAMS*

**APOLOGIES:**

Nil

## 1. Welcome | Quorum Confirmation | Opening Prayer

The Mayor formally opened the March 2024 Trustee meeting at 9.25am, noting that a quorum of members were present.

The Mayor welcomed attendees to the final Trustee Council meeting for this term and made the following acknowledgements:

- Our Great Creator for his awesome wisdom, knowledge, understanding and favour and blessings throughout our lives and our families;
- All Traditional Custodians throughout Zenadth Kes - and here on Iama - and the communities and constituents that Council serves;
- The Traditional Custodians of the Cairns region which hosts Council's Cairns footprint on Country.

The Mayor also conveyed to those members of the Torres Strait Islander community – both here in the homelands and on the Australian mainland – who may be mourning the loss of their loved ones at this time, the thoughts and prayers of Council are with them during their bereavement.

**Cr Keith Fell** delivered the opening prayer and the Mayor invited participants to observe a minute of silence for remembrance purposes.

The Mayor acknowledged that this would be the final meeting of Council before the local government elections on 16 March 2024. He commended all current Councillors for their contribution, commitment, determination and passion during the deliberations of Council during the past term.

The Mayor also acknowledged that Councillors have taught him so many valuable lessons and a greater insight into the world of regional leadership through their wealth of knowledge and experience.

The Mayor also acknowledged the work of Council's Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) and the changes experienced during his stewardship, including changes to the corporate governance structure and a focus on aligning the organization towards strategic outcomes.

The Mayor congratulated those Councillors who will now be returning in uncontested Divisions and he extended best wishes for those other Councillors contending on election day.

The Mayor also acknowledged the full attendance of all members of Council for this last meeting and conveyed special thanks to them for making themselves available at a very important period in the lead-up to the elections. The attendance of all Councillors – as individual representatives of your people, your communities, your elders and your leaders past - is the greatest sign of respect for Council's outgoing Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor then invited the Deputy Mayor – Cr Getano Lui (Jnr) AM – to say a few words.

The **Deputy Mayor** said it has been an honour and a privilege to have served alongside this particular membership of Council since 2020. He will leave Council confident that the right seeds have now been planted – and the watering now needs to keep going – because Council has so much work to do for our people. He urged Councillors to always be mindful that this work that needs to be undertaken is not about Council – it is about who we represent.

The Deputy Mayor also acknowledged and thanked the Chief Executive Officer and his Executive Directors for their commitment to Council.

The Mayor also asked Councillors and senior staff to exercise patience and restraint when confronted by negative social media which tends to circulate throughout the community during the election period. This is to be expected – but great care needs to be observed when

responding to these negative reports. The Mayor advised Council that he will be visiting as many Divisions as possible prior to the elections and he urged respective Councillors to invite other candidates and their supporters from their Divisions to come to the Mayor's campaign meetings so that the entire community can hear both sides of the story at the same time.

**2. Apologies**

Nil.

**3. Conflict of Interest (COI) - Declarable/Prescribed**

The Mayor invited Councillors to make any relevant conflict of interest declarations and to also advise if they were currently involved in any legal proceedings which pertain to the Trustee Council business to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

**4. Confirmation of Council Trustee Meeting Minutes – February 2024**

**RESOLUTION**

*Moved: Cr Lama Trinkoon*

*Second: Cr Conwell Tabuai*

**Trustee Council confirms that the Minutes for the Council Trustee Meeting held on 20 February 2024 are a true and accurate record of that meeting.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**5. Action Items from Previous Trustee Council Meetings**

The Trustee Council noted the verbal update provided by the Chief Executive Officer on the status of Action Items arising from the previous meeting.

- *A general discussion around the attendance of a TSIRC legal advisor and a TSIRC Information Technology officer at all Council meetings was held.*

**Action:**

Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director Corporate Services to consider the attendance of a TSIRC legal advisor and a TSIRC Information Technology officer at all future Council meetings.

**6. BUSINESS ARISING**

**Focus on Church/Heritage Listed Buildings/Leases**

Cr Keith Fell raised the possibility of utilizing funds from the Community Grants Program as an option to renovate high-use community buildings, suggesting that each Division could contribute a certain amount annually for the renovation/repair of these buildings (i.e one building per year).

Citing the current and complex issues surrounding repair work required for the Saibai Island Church (leasing issues, health and safety issues, heritage listed building requirements, etc), Council suggested that should the incoming Council elect to retain the CALH Committee, that the Committee's TOR be amended to have portfolio responsibility for church/heritage listed buildings/leases.

**7. Next meeting: TBA**

The Trustee Council noted that the next meeting date will be set by the incoming Council.

**8. Closing remarks and Prayer**

The Mayor closed the Trustee Meeting at 10.30am.

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Mr James William  
Chief Executive Officer  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
Date:

.....  
Cr Phillemon Mosby  
Mayor  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
Date: