

**Torres Strait Island**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

# Minutes

## HOUSING AND SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

**Date:** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Time:** 10:00am to 12:00pm

**Venue:** Video Conference

## **PRESENT**

Cr Keith Fell – Chair

Cr John Levi – Committee Member

Dawson Sailor – Acting Executive Director, Community & Building Services

May Mosby – Recruitment Officer

Naila Nomoa – Travel Officer

## **Apology**

Cr Francis Pearson – Committee Member

**1. Welcome (Chair)**

Cr Keith Fell welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their time.

**2. Opening Prayer**

Cr Keith Fell invited Cr Levi to open the meeting in prayer

**3. Apologies**

Cr Francis Pearson – Committee Member

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest (COI) (Prescribed and Declarable)**

No Declaration made.

Cr Keith Fell encouraged committee members to declare at any time during the meeting.

**5. Confirmation of previous minutes – 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021 (Ratified at September OM)**

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved:* Cr John Levi *Second:* Cr Keith Fell

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021 is a true and accurate account.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6. Action Items List**

Cr Fell invited Acting Executive Director Community & Building Services to go through action items.

- Information report on HF Radios from Engineering.
- Divisional Managers carryout HF Radio testing on ground.

**Action:** Information report from engineering on HF Radio on each division. Acting Executive Director, Community and Building Services to refer to October OM Engineering Info Report and work with Divisional Admin with view to increase monthly checks and address concerns with Eunice (Disaster Coordinator) considering approaching festive season.

**Action:** Acting Executive Director, Community and Building Services to work with Operations to circulate a list of emergency contacts i.e. State Emergency; Divisional Engineering Officers and Divisional Managers etc to households for power outage and emergencies in each division

**Action:** update on the Audit of lighting Footpaths; blind spots and pedestrian safety to be raised in November Ordinary Meeting. Acting Executive Director, Community and Building Services to liaise with Engineering dept

**Action:** Acting Executive Director, Community and Building Services to distribute list of Caravans to Committee members. Considerations by Committee to discuss potentially upgrade and sell the assets if funds permit. Matter to go to future Ordinary Meeting once committee discusses approach further.

## **7. Housing within Torres Strait Region – Verbal**

Acting Executive Director Community & Building Services provided a verbal update.

- Inventory in relation to the region's housing stock
- Katter leases

## **8. Katter Leases – Verbal**

Cr Keith Fell provided a verbal update.

Most properties have been transferred across and renovations are being carried out. Committee questioned status of upgrades for identified Home Ownership properties.

**Action:** Acting Executive Director, Community and Building Services to compile information and notify Committee (include in Housing stock information).

## **9. COVID 19 – Verbal**

Cr Keith Fell gave a verbal update.

- Expressed concerns when the borders open and people moving freely.
- Contractors and essential services travelling into divisions.
- Are facilities identified on ground for isolation in divisions.
- TSIRC Employees being vaccinated. Is it compulsory?

Cr John Levi

- Current statistics suggests Torres Strait is 50% vaccinated
- Local Disaster Management group have not provided any update/media releases
- Repeat concerns of Cr Fell if compulsory that TSIRC employees are

vaccinated for work purposes

#### **10. Sports and Rec Activities – Verbal**

Cr Keith Fell gave a verbal update.

Cr John Levi suggested a one size fits all model for healthy lifestyle officers moving forward. Have a working plan to run programs throughout the year. HLOs to partner with stakeholders so to continue delivery of program due to limited work hours or if on leave.

Cr Keith Fell

- Holiday programs for children to run throughout the year.
- Follow through Manager of Health & Wellbeing, Ella Kris for feedback to see what's working and what's not.
- Expressed concerns of no activities due to vacant HLO position ie Mabuiag.
- Keen to provide support and enhance program delivery

**Action:** Acting Executive Director, Community and Building Services to provide list of Healthy Lifestyle Officers in the divisions.

#### **11. TSIRC Top 5 Priorities – Verbal**

Cr Keith Fell advised that top 5 priorities for Councillors will be discussed in Ordinary meeting.

#### **12. Lighting within Torres Strait Region – Verbal**

Cr Keith Fell spoke to this topic. Item was covered in the Action Items discussions.

#### **13. Asbestos – Verbal**

Cr Keith Fell spoke to agenda topic and advised that this matter is ongoing.

#### **14. Seawalls Project Update – Verbal**

Cr Keith Fell spoke to agenda topic and advised that this matter is ongoing and will be discussed at Ordinary Meeting.

#### **15. Domestic Violence within Torres Strait Region – Verbal**

Cr Keith Fell spoke to this report to bring up with Queensland Health

## **16. Animal Management Update – Verbal**

Acting Executive Director, Community & Building Services

- Manager Environment and Health put together a road map approach on the Animal Management plan
- Acting Chief Operating Officer to send plan through on enforcement before next Council Meeting.

**Action:** Acting Executive Director, Community and Building Services to circulate draft plan to Committee members.

## **17. Footpath Program within Torres Strait Region – Verbal**

Cr John Levi spoke to this report.

Safety concerns for children riding their bikes to and from school. Lot of heavy vehicles running through the community. No footpaths for them to ride their bicycles. Needs to be addressed.

Cr Keith Fell stated other communities are in the same predicament and he will bring up at next week's Council Meeting.

## **18. General/ Other Business (on notice)**

Cr. Keith Fell

- Laydown storage on Moa – Committee unsure of this topic mentioned in last Committee meeting. Topic to be raised at Ordinary Meeting  
Could be for Telstra to store their equipment

Cr John Levi

- Community Hall – hire fees - Should fees be waived
- Expressed concerns that Policy/Procedural change are not communicated to on- ground teams
- Schedule for Committee meeting to be one week prior to Council Ordinary meeting in 2022
- Raised possibility of Reports being presented at Committee prior to Ordinary Meeting, when possible.
- Expressed the need for Councillors; Divisional Managers and Divisional Engineering Officers to have mutual understanding of Separation of Powers
- Updated the Committee on Housing crisis discussed at recent LGAQ meeting. Possibility of TSIRC undertaking an independent review of housing services; what is/what isn't working – a similar process as Mornington Island council. Matter to be raised at Council Ordinary Meeting
- Possibility of Divisional Managers to be involved in May / November Council workshop or Council meeting so they are aware of Councillors

direction.

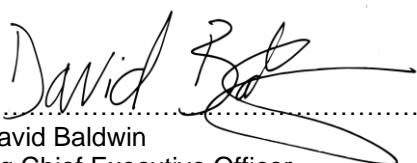
- Year 12 graduates returning back to Divisions with no aspiration of undertaking further studies etc, in turn create/increase social problems due to lack of activity or opportunities in the Divisions.

**19. Next meeting date**

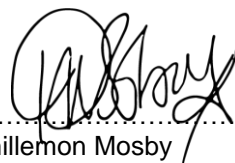
To be confirmed

**20. Closing Prayer**

Cr Keith Fell thanked everyone for their time and invited Acting Executive Director, Community & Building Services to close with a word of prayer.



.....  
Mr David Baldwin  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
7<sup>th</sup> December 2021



.....  
Cr Phillemon Mosby  
Mayor  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
7<sup>th</sup> December 2021