



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 2023

25 – 26 May 2023

Calvary Christian Church
108 Grafton Street, Cairns

CONFIRMED

COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
25 - 26 May 2023

PRESENT:

Cr Phillemon Mosby, Mayor
Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu
Cr Torenzo Elisala, Division 2 – Dauan
Cr Conwell Tabuai, Division 3 – Saibai
Cr Laurie Nona, Division 5 – Badu
Cr John Levi, Division 7 – Wug (St. Pauls), Mua Island
Cr Seriako Dorante, Division 8 – Kirirri (Hammond)
Cr Getano Lui (Jnr), Deputy Mayor - Division 9 – Iama
Cr Kabay Tamu, Division 10 – Warraber
Cr Francis Pearson, Division 11 – Poruma
Cr Hilda Mosby, Division 12 – Masig
Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar
Cr Jimmy Gela, Division 14 – Erub
Division 15 – Mer was not represented

PRESENT:

Mr James William, Chief Executive Officer
Ms Hollie Faithfull, Executive Director Financial Services
Mr David Baldwin, Executive Director Engineering Services
Mr Wayne Green, Executive Director Building Services
Mr Dawson Sailor, Head of Community Services
Mr David Kempton, Acting Executive Director Corporate Services
Ms Julie Marino, Senior Executive Assistant to the CEO
Ms Trudy Lui, Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Mr Darryl Brooks, Secretariat Officer

APOLOGIES:

Cr Lama Trinkoon, Division 6 – Arkai
Cr Keith Fell, Division 4 – Mabuiag

COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
25 - 26 May 2023

1. 10:53am Welcome

Our Mayor Mosby opened the Council's Ordinary Meeting for May 2023 at 10:53am and acknowledged, Councillors, Executive and Administration Staff.

Mayor Mosby being physically in Cairns at this time, also acknowledged the traditional Aboriginal custodians of Cairns, where the meeting is located; as well as:

- Cultural acknowledgements for the Torres Strait region across the length and breadth of Zenadth Kes and the Gimuy-walubarra yidi people – the traditional owners of the lands on which we are meeting;
- Our Heavenly Father for his awesome wisdom, knowledge and understanding; and
- All Elders, past, present and emerging.

Mayor Mosby welcomed our members of the public, Ms Alice Nona and Mr Joseph Stephen as guests.

Attendance

Mayor Mosby completed a roll call of Councillors to establish a Quorum.

2. Apologies

The following apologies were noted:

- Cr Lama Trinkoon, Division 6 – Arkai
- Cr Keith Fell, Division 4 – Mabuiag

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Hilda Mosby; Second Cr Francis Pearson

That Council accepts the apology for Cr Lama Trinkoon for the May 2023 Ordinary Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Conwell Tabuai; Second Cr Kabay Tamu

That Council accepts the apology for Cr Keith Fell for the May 2023 Ordinary Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS

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

Mayor Mosby requested that members make any relevant conflict of interest declarations and advise if any relevant legal proceedings were current pertaining to Council business to be considered at the meeting.

Mayor Mosby reminded Councillors to adhere to the Code of Conduct and not participate on conversations of Council Agenda Items and then disclose afterwards their Conflict of Interest.

COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
25 - 26 May 2023

4. Confirmation of Previous Minutes of Council Ordinary Meeting of 18-19 April 2023

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Jimmy Gela; Second: Cr Francis Pearson

That Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Council Ordinary Meeting of 18-19 April 2023, to be a true and accurate account of that meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Confirmation of Strategic Advisory Reference Group Committee Meeting Minutes of 7 March 2023

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Laurie Nona; Second: Cr Torenzo Elisala

That Council resolves to accept the minutes of Strategic Advisory Reference Group Committee Meeting Minutes of 7 March 2023, to be a true and accurate account of that meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Action Items from Previous Meetings

The Chief Executive Officer provided the Council with a verbal update on action items from the Ordinary Meeting held on 18-19 April 2023

A summary of the update on action items is provided is at Attachment A.

Council noted this report and its content.

7. Mayor Mosby's Report

Mayor Mosby's report is to provide Council with a monthly update on the Mayor's activities relating to Council and the Community – outlining key engagements, conversations and outcomes.

Mayor Mosby's monthly report is to become a Council Standing Agenda Item.

Mayor Mosby's movements since the previous Council meeting:

- Our Mayor Mosby met with Climate Warriors from Canberra on Thursday Island.
- Paving the Way – Mayor Mosby caught up with the Chief Executive Officer TTNQ and the Director of Indigenous Unit of the First Nations Training Strategy. This is part of the Queensland Government's plan to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' skills development and respond to local and community employment needs. Mayor Mosby commented that this is an initiative we must explore for the investment of the people of Community.
- Mayor Mosby also had a brief counsel with Andrew Berryman (Director, DFAT Torres Strait Liaison Office) on Australia-PNG Treaty matters- to discuss various issues across the Torres Strait Region.

COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
25 - 26 May 2023

- Mayor Mosby attended held community meeting on Mer Division and also with Mer Gedkemle and individual constituents on Mer to provide direction and information from Council. Mayor Mosby was accompanied by Regional Manager Community Services and Executive Assistant. Mayor acknowledged hospitality and attendance by TSRA Member for Mer, Mr Bob Kaigey. While Mer Staff appreciated Mayor's attendance, they also requested that Executives of Council visit Mer.
- Minister Mark Bailey met with Mayor Mosby to discuss \$80m investment on Marine Infrastructure. Minister Katherine King - \$40m will be allocated to TSIRC. Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director Engineering Services elaborated further.
- Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui (Jnr) spoke of 30th Anniversary of the Torres Strait Treaty.

This year we celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the commencement of the Torres Strait Treaty between Papua New Guinea and Australia. The Treaty is unique in character – facilitating cross-border movements for traditional inhabitants of the region.

Over the last 30 years, the Treaty's innovative framework has helped to preserve the traditional practices, cultures, livelihoods and personal connections between Torres Strait Islanders and coastal communities along Papua New Guinea's Western Province.

Through the Treaty, Papua New Guinea, Australia and traditional inhabitants have all worked together to protect the environment of the Torres Strait and address common challenges which affect the livelihoods of its inhabitants. The joint-management and implementation of the Treaty by Papua New Guinea and Australia is an example of the close and productive relationship that we have as neighbours.

It will be a privilege to attend this upcoming meeting and to speak Nation to Nation on Native Title.

Recommendation: All future meetings regarding Torres Strait Treaty to be reported as an Agenda Item at Monthly Council, Ordinary Meetings.

7A ACTION: Acting Executive Director Corporate Services and Secretariat to draft a reporting format for the Mayor's Monthly Report to Council.

7B ACTION: Acting Executive Director Corporate Services and Secretariat TSIRC to make submission to Minister McAllister proposing a model of investment and TSIRCs position.

7C ACTION: Executive Assistant to the Mayor to forward a completed account of Mayor Mosby's movements for Council's monthly meetings.

7D ACTION: Acting Executive Director Corporate Services (liaising with Cr Rocky Stephen – Chair of Economic Development Standing Committee) to arrange Deputation to Council for Chief Executive Officer TTNQ and the Director of Indigenous Unit of the First Nations Training Strategy as this could inform Councils Enterprise Development Strategy.

7E ACTION: Acting Executive Director Corporate Services to update for Council endorsement a policy in relation to processes for Deputations to Council meetings (including the utilisation of Council's Standing Committees for Deputation requests in the first instance).

7F ACTION: Mayor Mosby's office is to follow up with Minister Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts, Leanne

COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
25 - 26 May 2023

Enoch regarding Masig Statement being embedded into Legislation, and to seek clarity of our Sovereign Rights.

7G ACTION: Acting Executive Director Corporate Services to revisit the legal framework of Zenadth Kes Secretariat with the aim of tightening the Terms of Reference for consistency, include elected councillors from this term. Further, allow representation of Elder politicians and Youth.

8. Chief Executive Officer Report

Chief Executive Officer reminded Council to focus on the following: Strategy, Revenue and Cost to deliver to our region. He also spoke on our Budget, Corporate Services, Finance and our commitment to grow the business.

Big changes to Queensland Cabinet and Ministerial Directory, Meaghan Scanlon is now Minister for Housing – Minister is a strong supporter of our community. Minister Shannon Fentiman, Minister for Health and Ambulance Services also has a strong relationship with our community.

Chief Executive Officer thanked Councillors for their support and assistance to himself, his Executive Directors and staff in general as we all deliver on the business of Council. Thank you for your words of wisdom, contagious energy and inspiration.

Head of Community Services mentioned that this was all part of 'Legacy'. Chief Executive Officer praised Head of Community Services for this brave term. He went on to say the term 'Legacy' when used in the context of attending to current Council business - is often in reference to negative legacy issues inherited from past decisions. However, 'Legacy' is also something that should be used in the context of future legacy – what decisions and policies we make today – will end up as 'Legacy' for future generations. Our responsibility today as Council, Councillors and Administrative Officers is to ensure that our policies and decisions set up a positive legacy for future generations.

9. FINANCIAL SERVICES: 2023/24 Fees and Charges

Moved: Cr Conwell Tabuai; Second: Cr Rocky Stephen

That Council resolves to:

- i. Pursuant to Section 97(1) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, fix the cost-recovery fees set out in the attached 2023/24 Fees and Charges Schedule;
- ii Fix all other fees and charges set out in the attached 2023/24 Fees and Charges Schedule; and
- iii Adopt the 2023/24 Fees and Charges Schedule.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. FINANCIAL SERVICES: Financial Dashboard Report - April 2023

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Torenzo Elisala; Second: Cr Jimmy Gela

That Council receive and endorse the monthly financial statements attached to the officer's report for the 2022-23 year to date, for the period ended 30 April 2023, as required under Section 204 of *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Ordinary Meeting Minutes – May 2023
[Confirmed at June 2023 Council Meeting]

COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
25 - 26 May 2023

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. FINANCIAL SERVICES: Award Tender TSIRC 2023-404 Register of Prequalified Suppliers (RoPS) for Trade Services

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Francis Pearson; Second: Cr Laurie Nona

That pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)*, *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)* and Section 228 Tender Process, Council resolves to:

- i. **Approve Tender Acceptance of conforming responses to the Tender for the establishment of a Register of Prequalified Suppliers (RoPS) For Trade Services (TSIRC 2023-404) per attachment 1 for a term of three (3) years from the date of official commencement as specified in the Letter of Acceptance to the successful Tenderers. For each 12-month period of the Contract, there will be a renewal process for the Suppliers on the Register. Suppliers will be entitled to review and submit adjusted pricing for the second and third 12-month periods of the Contract.**
- ii. **Delegate power to the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to *section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009* to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this arrangement including without limitation any options and/or variations as per Council's procurement and ethical sourcing policy.; and**
- iii. **Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer to further engage with the non-conforming tenderers per Council's policies and procedures.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. FINANCIAL SERVICES: Revenue Policy

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Rocky Stephen; Second: Cr Laurie Nona

That Council resolves:

- i. **To amend and adopt the Torres Strait Island Regional Council's Revenue Policy previously adopted by Council, in the terms presented to Council at today's Ordinary Meeting; and**
- ii. **Delegates to the Chief Executive Officer to make any further minor administrative amendments as they arise.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. BUILDING SERVICES: Building Services Update May 2023

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Laurie Nona; Second: Cr Jimmy Gela

Council resolves to note the Building Services Report for April 2023.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
25 - 26 May 2023

14. CORPORATE SERVICES: Funding Acquisition Report

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Rocky Stephen; Second: Cr Conwell Tabuai

Council resolves to note this report and its content.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: Cr Conwell Tabuai and Cr Torenzo Elisala left the meeting prior to discussion of Agenda Item 15 due to conflict of interest.

15. CORPORATE SERVICES: Community Grants Program Allocation - May 2023

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Jimmy Gela; Second: Cr Kabay Tamu

Council resolves to allocate Community Grants Program funding to the following applicants in accordance with the Community Grants Policy:

Roxin Rugby League Football Club for the requested amount of \$8,358.00 exclusive of GST.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Francis Pearson; Second: Cr Jimmy Gela

Council resolves to decline Community Grants Program funding to the following applicant in accordance with the Community Grants Policy:

Mabuygiw Garkaziw Kupay TSI Corporation for the amount of \$3,204.00 as per recommendation by Cr Keith Fell.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: Cr Conwell Tabuai and Cr Torenzo Elisala rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of discussions for Agenda Item 15.

Note: For timeline purposes, this paper was tabled on Day 1 – minor amendments were required and the final resolution was endorsed on Day 2.

16. CORPORATE SERVICES: Seawalls Development Application 2023 (late paper)

Note: Paper was not submitted. Report will lay on the table until matter is resolved. Further amendment is required.

17. ENGINEERING SERVICES: TSIRC 2022-361 Iama Coastal Defence Works Tender Award (Separable Portion B) (to be discussed in Closed Business)

18. ENGINEERING SERVICES: Funding Matter – 2023/24 ATSI TIDS Funding: TMR Project Number 2787964, Masig Island Aerodrome Helipad Upgrade

RESOLUTION:

COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
25 - 26 May 2023

Moved: Cr Rocky Stephen; Second: Cr Kabay Tamu

Council resolves:

To enter into a funding agreement for 2023/24 ATSI TIDS Project No. 2787964 administered by TMR for the Masig Island Aerodrome Helipad Upgrade of \$1,719,277 (excl. GST) and;

Pursuant to Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer:

- power to make, amend or discharge the agreement; and
- power to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this funding agreement including without limitation any options and/or variations.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

19. MOVE INTO CLOSED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Tabuai; Second: Cr Elisala

That in accordance with Section 254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)* it is resolved for the meeting to go into closed business to discuss the following agenda items:

- 17. **ENGINEERING SERVICES: TSIRC 2022-361 Iama Coastal Defence Works Tender Award (Separable Portion B)**
- 20. **BUILDING SERVICES: Contractual Matter – TSIRC 2023-444 Design and Construct Contract, Iama Covered Sports Facility Upgrade Stage 2**
- 21. **BUILDING SERVICES: Home Ownership – Contract No. TSIRC2023_461**
- 22. **BUILDING SERVICES: Home Ownership – Contract No. TSIRC2023_482**
- 23. **ENGINEERING SERVICES: Submission of In-House Bid for Masig Seawall (Stage 1)**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24. MOVE OUT OF CLOSED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Laurie Nona; Second: Cr John Levi

That Council resolves to move out of closed business and resume in open business.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolutions from Closed Business Agenda items

17. ENGINEERING SERVICES: Award Tender No. TSIRC2022-361 Iama Coastal Defence Works (Stage 1, Separable Portion B)

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Francis Pearson; Second: Cr Laurie Nona

That Council resolves:

Subject to finalisation of Development Approvals and confirmation of project budget allocation, award Tender No. TSIRC2022-361 – Iama Coastal Defence Works (Stage 1) Separable Portion B to Gulf Civil Pty Ltd for the amount of up to \$6,998,392.00 excluding GST; and

Pursuant to section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer:

- **power to make, amend or discharge the Contract No. TSIRC2022-361; and**
- **power to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this project and contract including without limitation any options and/or variations.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

20. BUILDING SERVICES: Contractual Matter – TSIRC 2023-444 Design and Construct Contract, Iama Covered Sports Facility Upgrade Stage 2

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Torenzo Elisala; Second: Cr Jimmy Gela

Council resolves:

To award contract TSIRC-2023 - 444 - Design and Construct Contract, Iama Covered Sports Facility Upgrade Stage 2, to Paul Ware Constructions Pty Ltd for the amount of \$277,496.00 excluding GST; and

Pursuant to section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer:

- **power to make, amend or discharge the TSIRC-2023 - 444; and**
- **power to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this project and contract including without limitation any options and/or variations.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

21. BUILDING SERVICES: Home Ownership – Contract No. TSIRC 2023_461_

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Francis Pearson; Second: Cr Jimmy Gela

Council resolves to:

- i. **Submit Tender for Lot 26 Army Street, Boigu & Lot 86 Airport Road, Boigu Tender/ Contract No.: TSIRC 2023_461 proceeding with TI Concrete Works Tender Submission price of \$663,695.00 excluding GST; and**

ii. Once approved by QBuild, delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009:

- power to make, amend or discharge the contract entered into for the Home Ownership Works of Lot 26 Army Street, Boigu & Lot 86 Airport Road, Boigu Tender/ Contract No.: TSIRC 2023-461.; and
- power to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this project and agreement including without limitation any options and/or variations.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

22. BUILDING SERVICES: Home Ownership – Contract No. TSIRC 2023_482_

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kabay Tamu; Second: Cr Francis Pearson

Council resolves to:

Submit Tender for Lot 45 Douglas Street & Lot 22 Olandi Street, Poruma Tender/ Contract No.: TSIRC 2023_482 proceeding with TI Concrete Works Tender Submission price of \$627,013.81 excluding GST.

Once approved by QBuild, delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009:

- power to make, amend or discharge the contract entered into for the Home Ownership Works of Lot 45 Douglas Street & Lot 22 Olandi Street, Poruma Tender/ Contract No.: TSIRC 2023-482.; and
- power to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this project and agreement including without limitation any options and/or variations.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

23. ENGINEERING SERVICES: Submission of In-House Bid for Masig Seawall (Stage 1)

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Hilda Mosby; Second: Cr Francis Pearson

Council resolves to delegate power to the Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009 to:

- Submit an In-House Bid for Council's Civil Construction Crew to perform the construction of the Masig Seawall, Stage 1, for an estimated value of up to \$6,000,000 excl. GST
- Negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to this project and In-House Bid/contract including without limitation any options and/or variations, as per Council procurement policy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25. BUSINESS ARISING

Cancellation of Mirabou Energy Deputation for the May 2023 Council Meeting (Chief Executive Officer).

The Chief Executive Officer advised the meeting that unfortunately the Mirabou Energy deputation to the May 2023 Council meeting had to be cancelled due to a mechanical failure with the aircraft at Normanton.

The Chief Executive Officer spoke about Mirabou Energy and iOR and our strategic objectives. Expectation is to present a preliminary proposal to SARG for June 2023 meeting. Chief Executive Officer maintained that our job is to provide the best information to Council in order for Council to make an informed decision. Our primary objective is to lower costs and reduce carbon footprint for our community.

Chief Executive Officer also maintained that our job is to protect Council and provide to Council all the issues and complexities of both initiatives in order for Council to make a valued decision.

Cr Hilda Mosby would like both companies (iOR and Mirabou Energy) to sit down with Council and go over the process face to face in order for Council to “drill down” to see what we are really being committed to.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui (Jnr), commented that we have to look at alternative energy and we have to guarantee there is no conflict.

Acting Executive Director Corporate Services, agreed and added that we require a full Risk/Cost Analysis.

Chief Executive Officer suggests working step by step towards this initiative and compliance issue. We need a strategy partner to collaborate with as the Government has a monopoly on power and fuel. We must move into the phase of testing the rigor of their claim to see for ourselves whether this partnership is a viable fit for our community.

Noted: Cr Laurie Nona requests a policy to be drafted that protects Councillors that are not in attendance at Council to be informed on any matter critical to their island e.g. a Tendering Process. Mayor Mosby replied that we can only discuss tenders in Council. The law is the law.

26. STRATEGIC MATTERS

A. Clash of GBK and TSIRC Meeting Dates (Cr Francis Pearson).

Cr Francis Pearson noted that GBK meetings clash with TSIRC meetings. Both organisations do great work for the same community. GBK will not bend to change their calendar.

Cr Conwell Tabuai, Mayor Mosby and Deputy Mayor Cr Getano Lui (Jnr) agreed that both entities work for the same people, however, we cannot make a decision right now. The Deputy Mayor Cr Getano Lui (Jnr) spoke of the Council policy in reference to sitting fees – the question being is this clash of meetings “a reasonable excuse” for forfeiting one meeting for another re: Sitting Fees. It would be beneficial for Councillors to attend both meetings in order for the benefit of the community. Chief Executive Officer commented that we can look at our options and report back to Council. We may be able to change some dates – we will discuss the clashing dates with GBK and report back to Council.

ACTION: Chief Executive Officer will discuss with GBK the meeting schedules of GBK and the TSIRC in an effort to resolve the conflicting meeting dates.

B. Top 10 Priorities exercise completed at May Workshop (ED Corporate Services).

Acting Executive Director Corporate Services unpacked a summary of the Top 10 Priorities exercise completed at May Workshop.

Council's Top 10 priorities condensed to Top 5.

1. Regional Housing and Asbestos removal;
2. Regional Governance;
3. Marine and transport infrastructure;
4. Local Government funding; and
5. Coastal Defence and Resilience.

(a) ACTION: Acting Executive Director Corporate Services will prepare a full report on the Council May 2023 Workshop Exercise "Top 10 Priorities" for June 2023 Council Meeting.

(b) ACTION: Acting Executive Director Corporate Services will review all priorities of the May 2023 Workshop Exercise "Top 10 Priorities" and which Standing Committee they align with and present this listing to the June 2023 Council Meeting.

C. Aquaculture Project in the Philippines (Cr Rocky Stephen).

Cr Rocky Stephen advised the meeting that this recent trip to the Philippines was very informative and had provided him with practical first-hand knowledge that will be useful not only to his community's aquaculture projects but also for other Torres Strait Island communities as well, including in his role as Chairperson of the Council's Economic Growth Committee. The Mayor and Councillors congratulated Cr Stephen on his attendance and certification for the project.

D. Request for update on flights to Mabuiag & Repair Works on the Erub Football Stadium.

Cr Jimmy Gela raised requested an update on flight services to Mabuiag and on the Erub Football Stadium situation that was shut down due to disrepair. Cr Gela is anxious to have the Stadium repaired prior to the scheduled Council meeting in December 2023.

ACTION: Chief Executive Officer will discuss the current state of the stadium on Erub with Executive Director Engineering Services Head of Community Services (remuneration and time required for repairs).

E. Hammond Island Ferry (Cr Seriako Dorante).

Cr Seriako Dorante spoke of a feasibility letter which should come from Mayor Mosby regarding solving the Hammond Island Ferry run (Rebel) situation.

ACTION: Chief Executive Officer will gain feedback on ferry situation and report to the June 2023 Council Meeting.

F. Reduction in the use of Paper at Council Meetings (Cr Kabay Tamu).

Cr Kabay Tamu would like to see less paper used at Council meetings moving forward.

G. \$40m Funding Matter (Cr Torenzo Elisala).

Cr Torenzo Elisala asked about the \$40m resolution of support. He wishes to give feedback to his community.

ACTION: Chief Executive Officer on to deliver an update to Council at June OM on \$40m resolution – support to community.

H. Revise Council Meeting Dates to align with the Anniversary of the First Torres Strait Island Councillors' Meeting on 23 August (Cr Rocky Stephen).

Cr Rocky Stephen reminded the meeting that 23 August 2023 is the anniversary of the First Torres Strait Island Councillors' Meeting and that the Council meeting dates for August 2023 may have to be revised to coincide with that date.

27. DAY 1 - Closing Remarks & Prayer

Our Mayor Mosby once again thanked Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, Executive and Administration Staff for their support, leadership, participation and engagement over the last two weeks and invited participants to be upstanding as Cr Rocky Stephen closed the meeting in prayer.

The meeting closed at 3:50pm.

28. WELCOME DAY 2 Friday 25 May 2023

29. FINANCIAL SERVICES – 2023/2024 Asset Valuation Results (late paper)

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Torenzo Elisala Second: Cr Hilda Mosby

Council resolves to:

- a) note the percentage increase movements from the asset desktop indexation review conducted by Jones Lang Lasalle; and
- b) delegate the authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 to finalise the 2022/2023 asset desktop indexation review including but not limited to applying the indexation percentages identified in the Jones Lang Lasalle Report in TSIRC's financial records to the various asset classes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

30. DEPUTATION: The Torres Strait Treaty (Mr Andrew Berryman, Director Torres Strait Treaty Liaison Office)

The Mayor welcomed Mr Andrew Berryman, Director of the Torres Strait Treaty Liaison Office, to the Council meeting. Mr Berryman was accompanied by Ms Cheryl Halpin from the Australian Border Force on Thursday Island.

Mr Berryman provided Council with an overview of his work in the region and his eagerness to work more closely with the TSIRC and individual Torres Strait Island communities.

Ms Cheryl Halpin provided Council with an overview of her work within Australian Border Force, including her role to report on all border force issues in the region. Ms Halpin advised that her reports reach relevant action areas within the portfolios of Australian Border Force, the Australian Federal Police and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Councillors discussed the following issues with Mr Berryman and Ms Halpin:

- TSIRC has concerns with the current breaches being observed at community level (i.e. undocumented arrivals, overstaying permits, potential drug trafficking, illegal travellers, etc);

- TSIRC does not want the Torres Strait Treaty legislation to be abolished, but it does need to be reviewed;
- exploration around introducing 'penalties' for the host family on those visitors who overstay their permit;
- request for DFAT to undertake public awareness meetings throughout each relevant Torres Strait Island community on matters such as
 - what a 'breach' means
 - compliance requirements of visitors and host families
 - these public awareness meetings also need to occur with relevant traditional Papua New Guinea communities as well.
- need for longer-term placements for Australian Border Force, the Australian Federal Police and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade officials in the region. The quick turn-over of officials means that corporate knowledge is lost, working relationships/trust has to be rebuilt and officials are not required to 'own' their decision-making in the region.
- Australian Border Force, the Australian Federal Police and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade need to commit to succession planning for their representatives – with a clear commitment to the recruitment and retention of Torres Strait Islander senior staff in decision-making roles.
- TSIRC – because of its local government focus - needs to be at the forefront of communication and interaction between the Australian Border Force, the Australian Federal Police and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- Mr Berryman to organise a meeting in Canberra between relevant officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Australian Border Force and the Australian Federal Police (including at Ministerial level) and the Torres Strait Island Regional Council Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer to discuss ongoing concerns in relation to reviewing the Torres Strait Treaty legislation to improve its effectiveness in adhering to the original spirit of its establishment (traditional inhabitants).

31. DEPUTATION: Mirabou Energy (Ms Novita Pratignyo)

Cancelled. [Refer to Agenda Item 27A.](#)

32. Next Meeting

Council noted that its next meeting will be on 27-28 June 2023 by video conference.

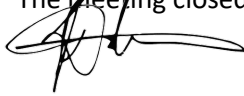
33. Closing Remarks & Prayer

Our Mayor Mosby thanked Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, Executive and Administration Staff for their support, leadership, participation and engagement over the last two days. Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui (Jnr) remarked that next month will be half the year completed. Council, Chief Executive Officer, Executive Directors and Administration Staff possess tenacity and resilience. We share good humoured banter as well as constructive disagreement. We are focussed and determined. That is the strength of this organisation. We are blessed to have qualified associates who come to work for us. Stay strong and keep the faith.

Chief Executive Officer thanked Mayor and Deputy and Councillors – and said, we continue to be inspired by Council. I feel we are more committed now than when I started. Tenacity and resilience – we have had some tough conversations. We are accountable to our community and thank you -from the Eldest to the Youngest Councillor. My Team is strong. Thank you all for being diligent and committed.

Mayor Mosby invited participants to be upstanding as Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui (Jnr) closed the meeting in prayer.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm.



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Mr James William
Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date: 28/6/2023



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Cr. Phillemon Mosby
Mayor
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date: 28/6/2023

CONFIRMED