



Torres Strait Island
REGIONAL COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2019

MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING

Monday 9th December 2019: 9:05am to 5:06pm
Tuesday 10th December 2019: 9:10am – 12:00noon

TSIRC Office, Victoria Parade, THURSDAY ISLAND

Monday 9 December 2019

Present

Cr Fred Gela, Mayor
Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu
Cr Keri Akiba, Division 3 – Saibai
Cr Keith Fell, Division 4 – Mabuiag (Mabuiag – VC)
Cr John Levi, Division 7 – St Pauls Community, Mua Island
Cr Getano Lui Jnr, Division 9 – Iama
Cr Francis Pearson, Division 11 – Poruma
Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig
Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar
Cr Patrick Thaiday, Division 14 – Erub
Cr Bob Kaigey, Division 15 – Mer
Mr Bruce Ranga, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Ms Hollie Faithfull, Acting Chief Financial Officer (ACFO)
Mr Peter Krebs, Manager Legal Services (MLS)
Mr Luke Ranga, Head of Corporate Affairs and Engagement (HCAE)
Mr George Holland, Head of Engineering (HOE) (Cairns – VC)
Ms Ursula Nai, Senior Executive Assistant (SEA)
Mrs Kathy Cochran – Secretariat Officer (SO) (Cairns - VC)
Ms Naila Nomoa – Travel Officer (TO)

Apologies

Cr Torenzo Elisala, Division 2 – Dauan
Cr Laurie Nona, Division 5 – Badu
Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community, Mua Island
Cr Clara Tamu, Division 10 – Warraber
Mrs Jan Pool, Chief Operating Officer (COO)

1. **9:15am – 9:22am** **Opening Prayer by Cr Levi and Welcome by Mayor Gela**

Mayor Gela welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance and invited Cr Levi to open the meeting in prayer.

Council observed a minute silence for family in sorry business.

Mayor Gela acknowledged and paid respect to

- The traditional owners and elders past and present for the land on which we meet. The Kaiwalagal Kaurareg Nation
- Traditional owners across the whole of Zenadth Kes and Cairns

Mayor Gela paid tribute to David Abednego who has been a very valued staff member our Council. Mayor acknowledged David played a key role both in TSIRC and prior to amalgamation in the Island Coordinating Council (ICC). David has been a key interface between our communities and Council. Mayor Gela wished David all the very best in his new role with the Torres Shire Council and thanked him for his 26 years of service with ICC and TSIRC. Mayor Gela informed Council a dinner is being held tonight for David and he will provide an opportunity for Councillors and staff to share, in particular Cr Lui who have share the journey with David during the ICC days through until now.

2. **9:22am – 9:25am** **Apologies**

- Cr Clara Tamu, Division 10 – Warraber
Cr Tamu applied for leave of absence in advance at the November 2019 Ordinary Meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Nai; *Second:* Cr Levi

That Council accepts the apology from Cr Tamu for her absence at this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

- Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig
- Cr Nai is currently present at the meeting but will be leaving some time today for another commitment.
Cr Nai applied for leave of absence in advance at the November 2019 Ordinary Meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Levi; *Second:* Cr Stephen

That Council accepts the apology from Cr Nai for his absence at this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

- Cr Torenzo Elisala, Division 2 – Dauan
Cr Elisala applied for leave of absence in advance at the November 2019 Ordinary Meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Pearson; *Second:* Cr Akiba

That Council accepts the apology from Cr Elisala for his absence at this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

- Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community, Moa Island
Cr Bosun applied for leave of absence in advance at the November 2019 Ordinary Meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Pearson; *Second:* Cr Levi

That Council accepts the apology from Cr Nona for his absence at this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

- Cr Laurie Nona, Division 5 – Badu
Cr Nona applied for leave of absence in advance at the November 2019 Ordinary Meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kaigey; *Second:* Cr Pearson

That Council accepts the apology from Cr Nona for his absence at this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

3. 9:25am – 9:32am Declaration of Conflict of Interest (COI) or Material Personal Interest (MPI)

Mayor Gela advised Council and staff since the introduction of the Belcarra legislation everyone is now bound by this legislation and staff too need to declare any MPI or COI.

- Cr Nai declared a conflict of interest (COI) for Agenda item 11. CORPORATE – Joint Grant Application with Mirabou & Volt
 - COI details: Cr Nai’s uncle James William is a partner in Mirabou. Cr Nai advise he will leave the room when the paper is table due to public perception.

Mayor Gela encouraged Councillors and staff to make their disclosure at any time during the meeting.

4. 9:32am – 9:37am Confirmation of November 2019 Ordinary Meeting Minutes

- Note the minutes Mayor Gela was absent and currently travelling to Cairns and therefore will be joining the meeting later on in the day.
- Page 11 – Change “Island custom” to “Ailan Kustom”

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Lui; *Second:* Cr Stephen

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in November 2019 be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting taking into account the above amendments.

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Gela acknowledge and thanked Deputy Mayor Fell for Chairing the meeting in Cairns in his absence.

5. 9:37am – 9:56am Outstanding Strategic Ordinary Meeting Action Items

1. Saibai Church Lease – Update by Manager Legal Services – another meeting is scheduled for 8 January 2020.
2. MIP5 reports – Head of Engineering have supplied an information report in the December OM papers
3. Backhoe at St Pauls – Fleet Management to stream line to share week on week off between the two Divisions. Head of Engineering to take up with Fleet and is a new equipment is bought it needs to be the same.
4. Cr Akiba request for Manager Legal Services to attend consultation meeting at Saibai regarding Church lease. - CLOSE
5. Cr Thaiday request for support – tombstone of Late George Mye. CLOSE
6. DV conference – TI December. CLOSE
7. NQ Sports Foundation membership. Update – Change lead officer to Head of Corporate Affairs and Engagement
8. Crime stopper – Update – Change lead officer to Head of Corporate Affairs and Engagement. Letter to be drafted and sent.

9. Relationships Australia – Letter sent. CLOSE

10. Koppens – Community Trustee meeting are scheduled for this week at both Kubin 11/12 and St Pauls 12/12. CLOSE

6. 9:56am – 9:56am Standing Agenda Items

- Undocumented commercial land occupation project (verbal) – no changes or update.

7. 9:56am – 10:53am BUSINESS SERVICES – Budget Review 19/20

Acting Chief Financial Officer spoke to this report, the purpose of the report is to update Council on the current budget position and resolve for adoption the Amended Budget for the 2019-2020 Financial Year.

Over the past months at the direction of the Mayor, Officers have undertaken a comprehensive review of the 2019-2020 Original Budget. This review was to ensure that each department was tracking in-line with Original Budget expectations and identify any changes to the budget where necessary.

The budget review has been formulated from analysing current operating activities and incorporating new grant funding agreements. In addition, any known changes to Council's service delivery have also been considered.

The Budget and Register of Fees and Charges have been prepared in accordance with the aforementioned legislative requirements and are recommended for adoption.

Cr Pearson asked acting Chief Financial Officer to explain why Poruma and Saibai were in red when work has not yet commenced. Acting Chief Financial Officer provided Cr Pearson with an explanation.

ACTION: Mayor Gela request an update on the following be provided to Council;

1. WHS Audit on Emergency Work
2. Smart Meters
3. New trailers to transport gas bottles

ACTION: Chief Executive Officer to provide Council with a gantt chart on all projects with start date and estimated completion date.

Cr Toby suggests this should be applied to all projects and information sessions should be held in the respective community, so everyone is aware.

Mayor Gela expressed the need to keep track of these projects and department accountable for the delivery within expectant time frame and that we are not taking on too much work where we are not able to deliver on in a timely manner.

Head of Engineering to provided Council with an update on the Smart meters – the Tender to supply meters for all Division is going out this week. It is anticipated a paper to go to the February 2020 OM.

ACTION: Chief Operating Officer to provide Council with photos of the trailer, is this project still being rolled out and the timing for the rollout. The cost for each unit. Mayor has been advised the project has been put on hold. Mayor would like an explanation as funds have already been approved for this project.

Cr Toby asked about the expenditure and budget for temporary staff. Mayor suggested if the allocation hasn't been expended then notify Council so the funds can be redirected to other areas. A suggestion is made to maintain a casual pool.

Cr Thaiday asked about the Erub safe access \$150k and wanted clarity due to the figure of \$200k being mention.

Chief Executive Officer informed Council that he has just received a Gantt chart from the Chief Operating Officer with all the project and will circulate to all Councillors via email.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Toby; *Second:* Cr Levi

That Council adopts in accordance with s169 and s170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 an amended budget for 2019-2020 Financial Year as presented, incorporating:

- (i) The statement of financial position;
- (ii) The statement of cash flow;
- (iii) The statement of income and expenditure;
- (iv) The statement of changes in equity;
- (v) The long-term financial forecast;
- (vi) The relevant measures of financial sustainability;
- (vii) The total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget; and
- (viii) Capital budget.

10:27 – 10:53am – Morning Tea Break

8. 10:53am – 11:13am OCEO – Proposed Ordinary Meeting Dates - 2020

Chief Executive Officer spoke to this report, the purpose of this report is to allow Council to consider and discuss the proposed dates and venues for it Ordinary Meetings for the year 2020

In the current fiscal period 2020/2021, Council will hold six (6) face to face meetings. Council's budget for this period is for six face to face and six video conference;

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Fell; *Second:* Cr Bosun

That Council endorse the following dates and venues as Council's Ordinary Meeting dates for 2020;

Month 2020	Date	Venue/ Division
January	13	Video Conference
February	18 - 19	Video Conference
March	10 - 11	Video Conference
April	21 - 22	Face to face – Masig
May	18 - 19	Face to face – Cairns
June	23 - 24	Video Conference
July	21 - 22	Face to face – Erub
August	18 - 19	Video Conference
September	15 - 16	Face to face – Boigu
October	20 - 21	Video Conference
November	16 - 17	Face to face – Cairns
December	8 – 9	Face to face - Mabuig

MOTION CARRIED

9. **11:13pm – 11:49pm** **OCEO – Traditional Movements over 2019 Christmas period**

Chief Executive Officer spoke to this report. The purpose of the report is to seek Council's endorsement of the suspension of traditional visits over the Christmas period.

Councillors raised concerns and had a robust discussion regarding the water levels of TSIRC reservoirs as traditional visitors come over and take water back to their villages due to the shortages of their water supply, which in turn impacts on the percentage of water remaining for our constituents.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Toby; *Second:* Cr Akiba

That Council resolve that there will be no travel or visits under the Torres Strait Treaty for the period Monday 23rd December 2019 – Monday 6th January 2020.

MOTION CARRIED
Cr Fell Against

ACTION: Head of Corporate Affairs and Engagement - Mayor Gela suggested a letter under his hand be sent to the Federal Government requesting funds towards water infrastructure to increase our storage capacity or provide Aid funds to TSIRC to build our capacity to cater for our traditional visitors.

ACTION: Senior Executive Assistant - Send a letter to Department Foreign Affairs and Trade advising them of the temporary Border closure.

10. **11:49am – 12:17pm** **CORPORATE – Procurement and Ethical Sourcing Policy**

Head of Corporate Affairs and Engagement spoke to this report. The purpose of this Agenda Report is to present Council with a new revised Procurement Policy which aims to provide Torres Strait Island Regional Council with a procurement framework which is open and transparent and provides value for money in compliance with section 198 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

The Policy is aligned to Council's commitment to better target procurement activities to ensure local Indigenous businesses, within Council's jurisdiction, can equitably access the procurement opportunities that exist within Council and deliver improved economic, environmental and social outcomes for the Torres Strait region.

The Policy has been drafted to include all legislative requirements and to give an overview to both internal and external stakeholders of how Council will conduct its procurement activities. The Policy has a stronger focus on supporting local Torres Strait Islander businesses as well as a stronger focus on social and sustainable procurement.

Head of Engineering raised concerns regarding the use of the words "first preference to".

Mayor Gela explained first right of refusal in our BSU contracts.

Cr Lui would like to see periodic reviews throughout the project for tracking purposes.

Cr Toby asked for the Matrix used for our tenders is reviewed as well.

Mayor Gela also expressed the need for panel members to be well versed on this Policy and to be mindful of and look at the overall benefits for the Region when making assessments on tenders and contracts.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Pearson; *Second:* Cr Kaigey

That Council resolves to adopt the Procurement & Ethical Sourcing Policy; and delegate authority

to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to;

- 1. Enter into, negotiate, finalise and execute contracts up to a value of \$200,000 (ex.GST), in accordance with section 262(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 2009, and,**
- 2. Enter into, negotiate, finalise and execute contracts for recurring operational expenditure as identified in the Procurement & Ethical Sourcing Policy, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009.**

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION: Chief Executive Officer to ensure the team implement when assessing tenders and contracts

1. Panel members to be well versed in the Procurement and Ethical Sourcing Policy and be mindful of the overall benefits for the whole Region
2. Periodic review and tracking throughout the Projects
3. Matrix used for tenders be reviewed.

Chief Executive Officer thanked Head of Corporate Affairs and Engagement along with his team for the Policy.

11. 12:17am –12:27pm CORPORATE – Joint Grant Application with Mirabou & Volt

- Cr Ted Nai declared a conflict of interest (COI)
 - COI details: Cr Nai's uncle James Williams works for Mirabou.
 - How the Council proposed to deal with the COI: Cr Nai chose to leave the room.

Chief Executive Officer spoke to this report. The purpose of this Agenda Report is to present Council with an update on our Joint Grant Application to the Regional and Remote Communities Reliability Fund Micro grids 2019-20 to complete a 36 month feasibility study into setting up micro grids in each community.

Chief Executive Officer informed Council that SARG supported the proposal. Mirabou has requested a letter of support as they are the lead applicant on TSIRC's behalf.

12. 12:27pm – 12:37pm COUNCIL MOVE INTO CLOSED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Thaiday; *Second:* Akiba

That in accordance with section 275 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld) it is resolved for the meeting to go into closed session to discuss matters of the following nature:

- a) **Other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.**

Further the public in attendance were asked to leave.

MOTION CARRIED

13. 12:37pm – 12:37pm COUNCIL MOVE OUT OF CLOSED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Levi; Second: Cr Stephen

That Council move out of closed business and resume business as a Local Government authority.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Pearson; Second: Cr Akiba

That Council resolves to endorse the joint grant application and letter of support for Mirabou Energy and Volt Advisory Services.

MOTION CARRIED

12:37pm – 12:39pm - Cr Nai is back in the room. Cr Nai thanked Mayor, Councillors and staff on behalf of his Division - Masig, relayed his season greetings and excused himself for the rest of the meeting.

12:39pm – 1:30PM – LUNCH Break

14. 1:30am – 1:53am LEGAL – Development Application – CEQ - Erub

MLS spoke to this report. From the information provided in the report, the proposed development appears to be relatively consistent with the relevant legislative requirements and planning guidelines which apply to the site and therefore, from a planning perspective, should be supported by Council.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Thaiday; Second: Cr Levi

That Council issue a Development Permit for 'Material Change of Use (code)' with the inclusion of the conditions set out in Part 6 of the Agenda Report for Erub Supermarket, Caretakers Residence & Temporary Store, Erub QLD 4875.

MOTION CARRIED

15. 1:53am – 2:45pm LEGAL – Divestment of 2 Dongas on Lot 53 – Erub

- Cr Getano Lui declared a potential conflict of interest (COI) for this paper and the next paper – Strait Support
 - COI details: Cr Lui is a very close relative of the Walter Lui and uncle to Shane Lui.
 - How the Council proposed to deal with the COI: Cr Lui chose to leave the room for both papers and did not vote.

Manager Legal Services spoke to this report. The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council on the application for the transfer of two of its Dongas on Erub to Walter Lui and to remove them from the Social Housing Register.

Cr Stephen suggested the divestment should be advertised.

Council would be honouring an old agreement with Mr Walter Lui prior to amalgamation.

Mayor put it to Council they are only dealing with the asset (2 Dongas) in this report not the land.

ITEM LEFT LYING ON THE TABLE

ACTION: Manager Legal Services to write to the PBC to see if there's been any dispute with the land.

ACTION: Manager Legal Services to hold a public forum, dealing with the asset only and to ensure Council have done our due diligence in the process. Request any record of any other consultation process with traditional owners.

16. 2:45pm – 2:47pm LEGAL – Strait Support Pty Ltd - Erub

Manager Legal Services spoke to this report.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Thaiday; *Second:* Cr Fell

That Council resolves to enter into commercial licensing arrangement (at adopted General storage use rates) with Strait Support at Lot 91 Builders Shed, Erub.

MOTION CARRIED

2:47pm – Cr Lui re-joined the meeting.

17. 2:47pm – 4:27pm COUNCIL MOVE INTO CLOSED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Fell; *Second:* Cr Kaigey

That in accordance with section 275 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld) it is resolved for the meeting to go into closed session to discuss matters of the following nature:

- a) **Other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.**

Further the public in attendance were asked to leave.

MOTION CARRIED

18. **ENGINEERING – Major Project to Ministers**
19. **OCEO – Audit Committee**
20. **ENGINEERING – Backhoe St Pauls/ Kubin**
21. **HOUSING – Housing Funding in 2020**
22. **LEGAL – Trustee Meeting at Kubin and St Pauls**

23. 4:27pm – 4:27pm COUNCIL MOVE OUT OF CLOSED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Levi; *Second:* Cr Pearson

That Council move out of closed business and resume normal local government business.

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION: Head of Engineering to schedule information session for Poruma Seawall Projects that includes when the works will be taking place and the scope for each state. Adeah Kabai is requested to be present at the information session.

ACTION: Head of Engineering to circulate a project update regularly during the Boigu works to the community (target once a month).

ACTION: Head of Engineering to address the backhoe issue at Kubin/St Pauls

19. OCEO – Audit Committee Membership Renewal

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Fell; *Second:* Cr Stephen

That Council resolves to;

1. Renew the services of Mr Eric Muir as Chair of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council Audit Committee pursuant to section 235 (b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, given the specialised and confidential nature of the services sought, namely independent and objective Audit Committee membership, for a period of 2 years from the date of this resolution and

2. That Council renew the services of Mr Paul Shipperley as member of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council Audit Committee pursuant to section 235 (b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, given the specialised and confidential nature of the services sought, namely independent and objective Audit Committee membership, for a period of 2 years from the date of this resolution.

MOTION CARRIED

24. 4:27pm – 4:29pm Leave in Advance

The following Councillors applied for leave in advance for the December 2019 OM;

- Cr Lui
- Cr Toby
- Cr Kaigey
- Cr Levi and
- Cr Fell

25. 4:29pm – 4:35pm General Business

Cr Fell wanted to mention the preferential voting option at the next elections. Mayor explains this option to Council.

Annual Reports should be delivered to all Divisions this week.

Cr Fell gives his apologies for tomorrows meeting.

26. 4:35pm – 4:35pm Next Ordinary Meeting Date

Date: 13 January 2020

Venue: Video Conference – VMR #8 – 0299 165 402

Meeting Closed at 4:35pm - Prayer by Cr Fell

Tuesday 10 December 2019

Present

Cr Fred Gela, Mayor
Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu
Cr Keri Akiba, Division 3 – Saibai
Cr John Levi, Division 7 – St Pauls Community at Mua Island
Cr Getano Lui Jnr, Division 9 – Iama
Cr Francis Pearson, Division 11 – Poruma
Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar
Cr Patrick Thaiday, Division 14 – Erub
Cr Bob Kaigey, Division 15 – Mer
Mr Bruce Ranga, Chief Executive Officer
Ms Hollie Faithfull, Acting Chief Financial Officer
Mr Peter Krebs, Manager Legal Services
Mr George Holland – Head of Engineering
Ms Ursula Nai, Senior Executive Assistant
Mrs Kathy Cochran – Secretariat Officer
Ms Naila Nomoa – Travel Officer

Apologies

Cr Torenzo Elisala, Division 2 – Dauan
Cr Keith Fell, Division 4 – Mabuyag
Cr Laurie Nona, Division 5 – Badu
Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community at Mua Island
Cr Clara Tamu, Division 10 – Warraber
Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig
Mrs Jan Pool, Chief Operating Officer

27. 9:00am – 9:05am Opening prayer and welcome

Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Cr to open the meeting in prayer.

28. 9:05am – 10:13am PRESENTATION 1: MANY RIVERS Introduction - Rita Gutchen – Microenterprise Development Manager; Many Rivers Microfinance – Mr James Clampett – Head of Business Development.

Council agree to provide a letter of support to Many Rivers

ACTION: SEA to prepare a letter of support to Many Rivers.

Morning Tea – 10:13am – 10:40am

29. 10:40am – 11:55am PRESENTATION 2: DATSIP Master Planning Rollout - Mr John Conroy, Land Tenure Manager – Ms Maria Renault and Town Planner – Mr Gerhart Visa

ACTION: SEA to liaise with John Conroy to Chief Operating Officer to coordinate DATSIP'S visit to the Division with the respective Councillors for their Master Plan.

30. 11:55am – 12:15pm PRESENTATION 3: Queensland Biosecurity - Mr Michael Zitha

Council asked Michael to look at stricter controls and stronger emphasis place on freight coming to the Region from the South to minimise risk of pest being introduced to our islands (eg. Toads)

Mayor Gela informed Mr Zitha of a State deputation on a Pest and Weed eradication Strategy and highlighting concerns on the movements South to North. We will advocate for it to be legislated in both State and Commonwealth.

31. 12:15pm – 12:55pm Mayor Gela Update on Federal Deputations

Mayor Gela briefed Councillors on the Federal Deputations last month

1. Housing
2. Sec 24JAA
3. Border Protection
4. Marine Infrastructure

12:55pm- 2:00pm

32. 2:00pm – 3:08pm Introduction new Australian Federal Police appointment

Mayor Gela introduces Mr David McMinamin to Council as the new appointment to the Australian Federal Police on Thursday Island. Mr McMinamin is joined by Mr Sol Bin Juda – Border Force and Mr Clint ? – Customs

Mayor Gela raised the following issues;

1. Harboursing of traditional visitors
2. Water level issues of our top western Divisions and the Treaty villages across the border
3. Border Closure and traditional movements
4. Response time from Departments and resource available during the Christmas period

Mr Bin Juda explains the roles of the Border monitoring officers (BMO) on the outer islands

Mayor Gela suggested another joint facility hub in a more central location like on Masig.

33. 3:08pm – 5:00pm General Business

Cr Toby raised the following issues;

- Managing the permit process
- CEO to explain the Travel Policy
- Belcarra and the communication process through the Mayor to Administration

Cr Thaiday raised the following issues;

- Lagoon situation and blue algae
- Seaswift not delivering materials and contractors arriving to do the work but no materials.
- Priority freight – David Lennie to speak with Seaswift.
- Dump operation hours
- Mechanic visit – paying community members – work not getting down and payment received in advance
- Email re: Tombstone – Late George Mye. Last Seaswift boat leaves Cairns on Thursday 19 December.

ACTION: HOE to advise CEO in relation to the above questions particularly the blue algae issues.

ACTION: CEO to speak with HOE regarding the dumps operating and opening hours.

ACTION: CEO to review the mechanic's contract with TSIRC to see if it allows for servicing of community members vehicles

ACTION: CEO to liaise with CFO on funding for Tombstone Opening.

Cr Kaigey asked about the cemetery and another site on Mer and who's responsibility it is to manage.

HOE provides update on the following;

- water restriction on Badu
- MIP6/ ICCIP breakdown in all in the information report in the December papers
- Burnt pipes at Saibai – On Thursday's boat this week
- Gas Trailers – first one is going to Erub and explanation on why the production of the other trailers was placed on hold.

ACTION: CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER to provide explanation to Council on why the production on the other gas trailers was placed on hold.

CEO thanked Mayor, Councillors and Staff and expressed his pleasure in working with everyone throughout the year and our achievements for 2019. CEO wished everyone a happy festive season and expressed his gratitude to our valued staff and thanked them all. CEO also acknowledge David Abednego for his service to TSIRC and wish him well on his new journey.

Mayor Gela in closing thanked staff and asked CEO to circulate an email to all staff expressing his thanks and gratitude and how he values everyone and the work they do. Mayor Gela addressed his fellow Councillor and said what an honour and privilege to serve in this term and thanked them for their support. For those Councillors who are running in the next election, Mayor Gela also extends his support. Mayor Gela made a special mention and thanked David Abednego for his commitment to Council and wishes him well.

Meeting closed in prayer by Cr Levi – 5:00pm