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## PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Public Hall Commencing at 9.00am 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016

**Present:**

Mayor Shawn Christian, Deputy Mayor Charlene Warren-Peu, Cr Lea Brown, Cr Darralyn Griffiths, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Brenda Christian, Cr Leslie Jaques, Temporary Administrator Robin Shackell, Administrator Nicola Hebb, Island Secretary Heather Menzies & Deputy Mayor Charlene Warren-Peu

**Apologies:** None

**Gallery:** None

**Opening Prayer:** Deputy Mayor Warren-Peu

**Welcome:** Mayor

Matters Arising from the Minutes of August 10 <sup>th</sup> and Public Meeting notes of Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> 2016	None
Record of Approval – Regular Council Meeting Minutes August 10 <sup>th</sup> 2016 and Public meeting notes of Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Motion: Cr D Griffiths / Cr B Christian “That the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of Aug 10 <sup>th</sup> 2016 and the Public Meeting notes of Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> , as circulated, be approved.” All in favour - Carried
Incoming Administrator	Outgoing Temporary Administrator Shackell formally introduced incoming Administrator Ms Nicola Hebb who requested Councillors briefly introduce themselves.
Pensions & Benefits Proposal	Temporary Administrator Shackell – thanked Councillors M. Christian & L Jaques and acknowledged the work undertaken on developing the Pensions and Benefits Proposal. He noted that they had followed Council’s instruction to develop the approved concept and to provide Council with relevant financial information and future proofed projections. He stated the that NZ\$30,000 was needed to implement the proposed scheme and the amount contributed by 3 Divisions, Finance and Economics, Operations and Environmental, Conservation & Natural Resources comes to just over NZ\$22,000 so there is definitely a shortfall. He then requested that Council advise him as to how it wishes him to proceed.  The Mayor followed, adding his appreciation of the work done. He said that given the shortfall an interim solution, between now and the next financial year, may be to roll out the child allowance and non-employed pensioner increases so as to ensure those who are most in need can receive immediate assistance.

Cr Jaques, asked whether the Community Services Division would be able to contribute to the scheme. Cr Lea Brown reported that yes the Division could manage to contribute this financial year but it would be unlikely, within the Divisions current budget allocation, that it would be able to do so going forward. She suggested that eliminating the Management role within the Community Development Division would free up funds for Pensions and Benefits. She stated that tasks, previously managed by that role, like Immigration/Repopulation, were no longer its responsibility and that such a move would enable the Division to contribute to the scheme going forward.

Temporary Administrator Shackell thanked Cr L Brown, as Community Services Division Manager, for the suggestion and stated that such a step would take time and require a more formal restructure review. He suggested that reducing the overall amount of the increase, for the time being, so as to fit within available funds, may be a possible solution. He added that the way forward at this point requires a political decision which must be made by Council.

Cr L Jaques said the scheme must be go ahead so as to ensure Council is taking responsibility for its most vulnerable community members. As such the decision to progress the scheme should not be delayed. Cr M Christian, said that Temporary Administrator Shackell's suggestion of reducing the overall amount of the increase is a good interim solution.

There ensued general discussion as to impact of restructuring the Divisional Management role. However, the Mayor stated that Council should not consider this option, at this time, as a solution to finding adequate funds to implement the scheme and that he believes it's important that non-working pensioners and the child allowance components of the scheme are implemented as soon as possible.

Cr L Brown said that the best the Community Services Division could contribute, this financial year, would be \$3,000.00 but stated that it is unlikely it could find funds for implementing the proposed increases going forward – given current budgetary constraints. She asked whether there was a possibility that the Pitcairn Island Office could cover the shortfall. The Administrator stated that this is unlikely particularly given the current level of expenditure for re instating and operating the Prison.

Cr B Christian added that the costs of re-instating the prison could have been used to offset to some degree by not having auctioned off the materials and furnishings previously in use.

Deputy Mayor Warren-Peu asked whether the Council Discretionary budget could be used to meet the shortfall.



	<p>Temporary Administrator Shackell acknowledged the thoughts and ideas which had been tabled and stated that it is clear that further discussion needs to be had before he would support the proposal being submitted DFID.</p> <p>Motion: Cr M Christian/ D Griffiths</p> <p>“That Crs L Jaques &amp; M Christian meet with Administrator Hebb to review and revise the Pensions and Benefits Budget, based on current funds available, with the intention of prioritising non-working pensions and child allowance payments.</p>
EDF10	<p>Cr Jaques outlined progress on the approved feasibility study for the renewable energy project, reporting that the Terms of Reference has been received and returned for further discussion.</p> <p>He added that he will be meeting with the Mayor later this week to scope EDF10 building projects, which include the General Store and new Administration/Community buildings. He noted that though there is still a lot of work to do in meeting the EU’s administration requirements generally relations are firm and on track.</p> <p>Temporary Administrator, Robin Shackell, added a word of caution regarding funding expectations post Brexit. He stated that exiting the EU will entail on going negotiation and outcomes, as they relate to the overseas territories will shift and change accordingly.</p>
Overseas Territories – Child Safe Guarding MOU	The Council approved MOU has been forwarded to Falkland Island London Office with suggested amendments
Archaeological Assessment	The current Archaeological Assessment – will be documented and catalogues. He will be working with Claudio Cristino to ensure this is implemented and covered within his outgoing report.

Date of Next Council Meeting: 10.30am Friday 2nd August

Meeting Closed: 10.30am

Mayor Shawn Christian: ..... *Shawn Christian* .....

Date: *13* / *9* / *2016* .....

