



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held in The Square - Public Hall

Commencing at 8.30am on Wednesday 22 April 2015

Regular

Present:

Mayor Shawn Christian, Deputy Mayor Brenda Lupton-Christian, Cr David Brown,
Cr Charlene Warren-Peu, Cr Darralyn Griffiths, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Leslie Jaques,
Island Temp. Secretary – Linda Singer

Apologies:

Administrator Alan Richmond

Gallery:

Snr Constable John Singer

Opening Prayer:

Cr Charlene Warren- Peu

Welcome:

Mayor Shawn Christian

Matters Arising:

Added to Agenda today – Council/Development of a Charter - Cr Jaques/Mayor S. Christian

Minutes – 01 April 2015:

Amendments:

- The current Business Visa Fee is \$300pp and the Landing Fee is \$50.
- Re Same Sex Marriage/Civil Partnership Draft Ordinance – proposed recommendation to HMG to merge into one Ordinance was seconded by Cr B. Lupton- Christian
- Minutes read that Mayor S. Christian would email HMG with Councils concerns about Mr Briand's proposal.

Mayor Christian advised Council that after consultation with Tourisms Heather Menzies and upon receipt of a revised proposal from Mr Briand concerns were allayed therefore HMG was not contacted about the matter but were advised of the outcome.

FILE COPY

Motion to Confirm Minutes as True and Accurate – Cr Darralyn Griffiths

Second - Cr David Brown

Approved

Business Visa – Mr Dennis Gastmann arriving to Pitcairn 27 August 2015 -31 August 2015.

Mr Gastmann had requested to undertake literary research for a travel book. Council were all in favour therefore the application was

Approved

Business Visa – Mr Briand and Mr Speth

Application was provisionally approved at last Council Meeting 1 April 2015. Mr Briand had since fully outlined his intentions therefore Council were all in full favour of his application.

Approved

Mayor Christian commented that there are two components to Business Visa applications - the Immigration aspect and a Work Proposal outlining intentions of what the applicant will undertake while on Island. In terms of securing berths to travel to Pitcairn most applicants have been booked by the travel coordinator due to limited berths on the Claymore II and the timeframes of the applicants and then await final approval from Council. Mayor Christian reiterated that applicants are still able to come as tourists if they are not granted approval to work and noted the importance of continuing to generate economy through tourism to keep people coming to Pitcairn.

It was also noted that a demand has been created for people to come to Pitcairn but that it has exceeded the capacity on the Claymore II – a bottleneck situation.

Work Permit - Rhiannon Adam

A request was circulated to Councillors via email seeking approval of a work permit for R. Adam for the remainder of her stay on Pitcairn. Unanimous approval was given and for the purpose of formalising for the Minutes

All in favour

Approved

Long Term Visitor Visa Applications – Fredy Taputu/Chantal Taputu

Travel had been booked for June 2015 for the Pastor and his wife who plan to stay on Pitcairn for 12 months. Applications were circulated to Councillors via email seeking approval. Unanimous approval was given and for the purpose of formalising for the Minutes

All in favour

Approved

Business Proposal – Katie Killeen

A letter was submitted by K. Killeen seeking approval to visit Pitcairn to film a documentary following new migrants as they move to Pitcairn and embark on their new life.

No date had been specified for travel to Pitcairn and there are no new migrants at this time. There are now two companies wanting to do the same kind of filming therefore Mayor Christian asked that the proposal be deferred for discussion about possible sensitivities about the nature of the filming, with Administrator Alan Richmond on his return to Pitcairn. Council to relay to K. Killeen that further discussion with the community and HMG required regarding her proposal. **All Agreed**

GPI Policy Review Update – Cr M. Christian

Cr M. Christian with Cr D. Griffiths had identified that

- Some policies could be amalgamated from three or four documents into one and will work on all Council documents making amendments and the merger of those documents to be submitted for Councils consideration.
- Most GPI policies are for internal use and not applicable to worldwide viewing therefore could come off the website and recommend for Councils consideration that internal GPI Policies are made available to GPI, PIO, HMG and the community and that any other relevant policies remain for worldwide viewing. Bill Haigh had been contacted about possible options.

The Government webpage for policies would have a button for worldwide viewing and a separate area for internal users to access.

Mayor S. Christian advises for Councils consideration that any Policy amendments identified can be made outside of Council therefore minimising band width and circulated for approval by email and brought to next Council to formalise for the Minutes. General discussion followed.

Royal Birth –

Mayor S. Christian had circulated an email to Councillors from HMG notifying Council that Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's second child is expected in late April and that HMG will advise of the birth at the same time as the Kensington Palace press release. The Queen has commanded that flags be flown fully raised on the day of the birth to celebrate the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's child.

GPI will fly the flag at the applicable time as per email.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge do not want to encourage gifts on the occasion of the birth of their second child but feel that any generosity of spirit felt by individuals should be directed to those more in need. They would be grateful if those wanting to offer a gift to

them could be encouraged to support a local children's organisation by way of marking the birth.

GPI through HMG will convey a message of congratulations to Their Royal Highnesses on the occasion of the birth.

St Andrews Pitcairn Partnership and Corporate Services Industry Pitcairn were both deferred from today's Agenda until further notice/consultation from Kevin Lynch (HMG). Council advised to keep working on development St Andrews Partnership concept and discussion to be had with Administrator Alan Richmond on his return.

A general discussion and explanation of the term Purdah followed.

SPC

Cr Leslie Jaques advised Council that he and Cr M. Christian had been working with SPC on bringing two experts to Pitcairn to hold workshops focusing on areas of Agriculture and Economics. The Governor has kindly provided funds from his discretionary fund to facilitate this.

A letter has been written to SPC Deputy Director General two passages have been provisionally booked on Claymore II – to arrive 26 November – 8 December 2015.

Pitcairn Council convey their gratitude to Governor Sinclair and Kevin Lynch who have been most supportive.

SDP – Cr Jaques

Cr Jaques and Cr Griffiths have completed the Health section for the SDP and it is now included in the document and a revised copy will be circulated shortly. Some additions will mean Council will be able to seek funding under EDF11.

Mayor Christian noted the importance of keeping on track with SDP and remodelling Councils monthly report to put more focus on the objectives of the Divisions.

Henderson Expedition

Mayor S. Christian advised Council that NO ALCOHOL is permitted on Henderson, Ducie or Oeno Islands without exception. It was reported that in the previous expedition alcohol was taken on to Henderson. Mayor Christian advised that he will ensure a letter is sent to the Governor and Deputy Governor stating what he had been told occurred in the previous expedition and will be asking permission for the Police to undertake a full search of all baggage and boxes prior to loading the longboats at the landing for the upcoming expedition and requesting PIO to notify Stony Creek Shipping for the Claymore II crew not to participate in any activities involved in taking alcohol onto Henderson. The issue is less about the consumption of alcohol on Henderson Is. but more the safety and insurance aspects of a medevac should the need arise. Alcohol poses a heightened risk in that

environment and poses a risk to life of longboat crews from Pitcairn who would in the event be required to facilitate a medevac.

It was noted by a Councillor that they had not seen the vacancy for the Henderson Is. project advertised. Cr M. Christian advised that she had circulated via email to Councillors that RSPB had been left with 24 hours to confirm who was being contracted from Pitcairn to work on Henderson Is. which was too short notice for the vacancies to be advertised this time and that phase two of the project will be advertised. A general discussion followed.

Council Internal Review – Cr Jaques

Council reviewed progress for its term to date. There were initial difficulties but Council feels it has settled down and is achieving its objectives. Externally Council is working collaboratively with HMG after years of orchestrated conflict which got us nowhere. In any peace process there will be challenges but we are pursuing a bigger picture from which trust and real partnership will come. Pitcairn is already seeing the benefits of this.

Internally Council is taking steps to discuss understand and address our xenophobia and our attitudes to each other. We are starting to believe we can live in a society where everyone counts, putting aside the past for the promise of a future. We are addressing the issues which arose from the Diaspora survey.

The SDP has been re written into something achievable and evolving as we develop our awareness. The administrator role has freed up councilors to each take responsibility for driving key areas and making them happen.

Internationally we have reestablished relationships with key players like SPC after years of neglect and working with the EU at a senior level in tandem with HMG.

So all in all Council feels it is on the right track and should not be troubled by criticism leveled by some members of the community. Perhaps it's time to respond.

In terms of developing interpersonal relationships on Island it was decided to develop a code of behavior; A Pitcairn Charter; which would begin with the words "Pitcairn Is for Everyone". That everyone has a right to be valued as an individual and to be treated with respect and dignity. Mayor Christian and Cr Jaques offered to take this forward.

Mayor Christian thanked Councilors for their continuing good work and the Island Secretary for taking on the role and becoming a part of the team.

Visit of Head of OTD.

Council to prepare an agenda for Peter Hayes visit in May and there will be a public dinner in the square.

Next Proposed Regular Council Meeting: Wednesday 13 May 2015

Meeting Closed: 9.40am

Mayor Shawn Christian.....

Date.....7/6/2015.....