



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 9.30 15th July 2020

Present:

Mayor Charlene Warren-Peu, Deputy Mayor Kevin Young, Cr Ariel Harding, Cr Shawn Christian, Cr L Jaques, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Lea Brown, Island Secretary, Heather Menzies & Administrator Nick Kennedy

Apologies: None

In attendance: None

Welcome: The Mayor welcomed Council to the table and Cr L Jaques opened with a prayer.

Agenda Item	
Matters Arising / Actions from the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of 24 th June 2020	ACTION As requested, Cr L Jaques emailed PIO with Council's recommendations on revising the shipping schedule (24 th June 2020).
Approval of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of 24 th June 2020	MOTION: Cr M Christian / Cr S Christian "That the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of 24 th June 2020, as previously circulated, be approved." All in Favour / Carried
Formalising NZ as Pitcairn's medical pathway during Covid-19	MOTION: Mayor / Cr L Jaques "That Council and HMG agree that NZ is the medical Pathway for Pitcairn during the Covid-19 pandemic and that Tahiti will be the medical pathway for emergency medical evacuations only." All in Favour / Carried
Updating and Finalising Final SDP	The Next SDP workshop will be Tuesday 4 th Aug 2020. ACTION The Island Secretary will send agreed template to the Administrator
Revised and updated Pitcairn Islands Loan Scheme Policy formal sign-off	Cr L Jaques discussed the previously circulated policy and sought approval. MOTION: Cr L Jaques / Cr L Brown "That Council approve the new revised Pitcairn Islands Loan Scheme Policy as circulated." All in Favour / Carried ACTION Cr L Jaques will finalise and submit the Revised PI Loan Scheme policy documents to the Island Secretary and the Policy Review Committee for filing.

<p>Update DFID Pitcairn Islands Covid-19 Debt Support Package</p>	<p>The Administrator advised the DFID Pitcairn Island Covid-19 Support Package will be back dated to this financial year. It is to offset the loss of tourism related income caused by the Covid-19 pandemic so as to help adults, 18 years and over, meet their debt commitments. The support will be applied to areas such as utility costs, store debt, loan repayments etc.</p> <p>The Administer advised he still awaiting input from colleagues off-island and anticipates the package will be ready for Council review and approval for implementation by the end of July.</p> <p>It was noted the community will be notified of the DFID Pitcairn Islands Covid-19 Debt Support Package at a public meeting and Individual meetings will be held with all eligible recipients to ascertain requirements which will be managed on a monthly basis, via GT Office.</p>
<p>Formalising Council Approval of the Revised Guide for Visiting Vessels Policy July 2020:</p>	<p>MOTION: Mayor / Deputy Mayor</p> <p>“That Council accepts the ammendments suggested by the Attorney General’s office, in the Guide for Visiting Vessels, Fees and Levies Policy. It was agreed that the paragraph relating to filming will be deleted.”</p> <p>All in Favour / Carried</p> <p>The Administrator advised he has forwarded Council’s agreement and requested ammendments to the Attorney General’s Office and will provide the Island Secretary with the final policy once done</p> <p>It was noted Council needs to set a date for when the new policy and fees will apply.</p>
<p>Renewable Energy Project Phase 1 Tender</p>	<p>Cr L Jaques advised that the tender has gone out for phase 1 of the Renewable Energy Project - it closes 21st July. He advised that Gerhard Zeiroth, who did the initial study, has advised availability for the desk-based study.</p> <p>It was noted the first phase is now well underway after long delays and it is anticipated the desk-based study will be completed by Sept 2020 with the final tender for build, install and train going out by Oct 2020. All going to plan it is anticipated the project will be completed by mid-2021.</p>
<p>Update on the NZ to Pitcairn Shipping Schedule</p>	<p>The Administrator advised that Pitcairners travelling from PI to NZ will not be granted exemption from NZ’s new 14-day managed Quarantine requirements for arrivals. It was noted this will impact those currently onboard the Silver Supporter travelling to NZ.</p> <p>It was noted that these new NZ protocols will again impact the revision of the 2020/21 shipping schedule which continues.</p> <p>ACTION The Administrator will attempt to get an updated revision of the shipping schedule to Council by next week.</p> <p>ACTION The Administrator will report back to Council as to how the new NZ requirements will have impacted those currently travelling to NZ on the Silver Supporter.”</p>

<p>Pitcairn Islands Border Controls</p>	<p>MOTION: Mayor / Deputy Mayor. “That HMG and Council together agree that Pitcairn Islands’ current Border Controls will remain in place until March 31st 2021.” All in Favour Carried</p> <p>ACTION The Mayor will advise the community of the updated PI Border Controls at the next public meeting.</p>
<p>Set date for Pitcairn Islands Management Protocols meeting - July Review</p>	<p>There was general discussion about the need for Council to ensure current, evidenced based information is at hand before entering into its monthly Covid-19 Management Protocol Reviews. It was agreed that the workshop held today (15th July), with Medical Officer Dr Nguyen well informed planning and it was decided Council, Dr Nguyen and the Administrator, will meet with Public Health England (via teleconference) before holding its July Covid-19 Management Protocols review.</p> <p>ACTION It was agreed that the Administrator will set a date for a teleconference with PHE, Council and Medical Officer as soon as possible.</p> <p>ACTION The Pitcairn Islands Management Protocols meeting will take place after the PHE teleconference has taken place.</p> <p>ACTION The Mayor will keep the Medical Officer up to date with developments.</p>
<p>Formally record of discussions from 7th July informal meeting re: Potential Changes to the Current Passenger Shipping Contract/Service:</p>	<p>The Administrator advised that the current contract with the shipping company is 2 years +1 +1 + 1. We are approximately 1 ½ years into the contract and contract renewal discussions will soon be underway. It was noted that there is a contract deadline for these negotiations and Nick will advise Council of the timeframes.</p> <p>ACTION The Administrator will advise Council when the 2-year phase of the contract ends.</p> <p>The Administrator advised that DFIDs budget is usually based around .7% of the UKs income. The impact of the pandemic has changed this. This will see less money being available to overseas territories, including Pitcairn. As such, the cost of the shipping service, in its current form, will require review.</p> <p>There ensued general discussion about impact of this and it was noted that longer term international travel and border controls may well result in Pitcairn’s shipping service continuing to operate only between NZ and Pitcairn.</p> <p>The Administrator invited Council and the Community to participate in a consultation process so he can ascertain what the island considers to be the most important aspects of the shipping service, for Pitcairn’s present and future needs.</p>

	<p>The Administrator advised his position is that of spokesperson for Pitcairn. He wants to know what the community thinks is required so he can take these needs into negotiations/discussions with DFID/FCO. Ideally the Administrator would like Council to assist him to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn what is most important to the people of Pitcairn regarding the role and function of their passenger/shipping service going forward • Learn what people of Pitcairn think might be logistically possible within the financial constraints likely to be implemented by DFID • Evaluate these expectations against the financial constraints likely to be implemented by DFID • Argue the case for Pitcairn, broadly - from a position of trust i.e. he will advocate for a revised service that appropriately meets the needs and expectations of the people of Pitcairn. <p>It was noted there is a lack of trust between the Pitcairn Council/Community and HMG and a general breaking down of communication and respect for Pitcairn, its people and its Council so what assurance is there that HMG will adequately argue positively for the needs of Pitcairn.</p> <p>The Administrator suggested a Pitcairn/NZ VTC with the Governor be arranged and that the Mayor will liaise with HMG Ministers when possible.</p> <p>There was general discussion that Council and Pitcairn have experienced a low level of consultation when it comes to contract negotiations etc. It was noted Council (and Pitcairners) are granted little respect and this has resulted in people, who are working for the good of Pitcairn, to feel discouraged.</p> <p>It was agreed the matter will be discussed with the community going forward.</p>
GENERAL BUSINESS	
2019 AIR Document	Cr L Jaques advised the 2019 Pitcairn Island Annual Implementation Report has been completed and forwarded to the EU.
Revision of the Mayor's Salary	<p>The Deputy Mayor made a recommendation that the Mayor's salary be reviewed so as to become equivalent to that of a Division Manager, plus adjustment for additional work at the standard hourly rate of NZ12.</p> <p>It was noted there are sufficient funds within Council budget for this recommendation to be actioned. There ensued general discussion about the Council budget, its authority to manage its budget and the required procedure for approving this recommendation.</p> <p>The Administrator noted any change to the Mayor's salary could be considered within the scheduled over-all salaries and wages review he is planning to undertake by the end of the year. It was noted that Council has established a Pitcairn Islands Financial Services Review Committee which can work with the Administrator on this task.</p>

	<p>In the interim, it was noted that the Mayor's salary does not sufficiently cover the work required and that a review of this salary should take place now rather within the proposed over-all salary review. It was agreed the Deputy Mayor and DM F& E will provide the Administrator with the necessary information he needs to seek agreement from the Governor that the Mayor's salary be adjusted as recommended.</p> <p>ACTION Deputy Mayor and DM F& E will provide the Administrator with the necessary information he needs to seek agreement from the Governor that the Mayor's salary be adjusted as recommended, as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Establishing Hospital visit rotations going forward</p>	<p>With the possible changes being anticipated for Pitcairn's Shipping Service, the ask Council to consider the concept of establishing dedicated Hospital visit rotations, between PI to NZ rather than having only 1 or 2 patients travelling at any one time.</p> <p>There ensued general discussion about the feasibility of this approach and it was also noted that having travelling companions, for hospital visit passengers, provides both social and emotional support for what is now a long process.</p> <p>ACTION The Mayor will raise the concept of establishing dedicated Hospital visit rotations with the Medical Officer at the next Covid-19 Protocol Management Review meeting.</p>
<p>Update on the Report/Plan from Grant Pearce – Tonkin & Taylor re the EU Landing project.</p>	<p>The Mayor asked if there has been any incoming information from Grant Pearce following his review of the landing area for the EU project. It was noted nothing has been received on Pitcairn.</p> <p>ACTION The Administrator will ask for an update on the Report/Plan from Grant Pearce's visit to the island, re the landing project and report back to Council</p>
<p>Next Public Meeting deferred</p>	<p>It was noted that the next public meeting will not be held until Council has finalised its July Covid-19 Management Protocol review</p>
<p>Settlement Application - Markus Ruff</p>	<p>MOTION: Mayor/ Deputy Mayor</p> <p>“That Council recommends the Deputy Governor progresses the settlement application from Mr Markus Ruff, within the previously agreed time frames, and reports back to Council.”</p> <p>All in favour / Carried</p> <p>ACTION The Administrator will confirm what the previously agreed timeframes and protocols are for the Deputy Governor to progress live settlement applications and report back to Council.</p> <p>ACTION The Island Secretary will advise the Immigration Officer of Council's recommendation to the Deputy Governor.</p>

Donation of Community Massage Chair from out-going FCA Fran Smith.	The Mayor advised the outgoing FCA has donated a massage chair to the community, with the intention that it will be available for use at the medical Clinic. There was general discussion about ensuring the clinic was no longer promoted as an environment for social gathering and it was agreed a more suitable accessible location will be found.
Building Plans for Clinic	<p>There was general discussion about the agreed upon building plans for the clinic.</p> <p>ACTION Cr S Christian (as DM Ops) will circulate the previously agreed upon building plans for the Clinic to Council</p>
Child Safeguarding Adviser to Council - resignation	<p>The Mayor advised that Cr M Christian, has resigned from the role of Child Safeguarding Adviser to Council. The Mayor thanked Cr M Christian asked that any member interested in picking up this role let her know.</p> <p>It was noted the roles and responsibility for all current Council Advisory roles will be reviewed by Council going forward. This includes the Child Safeguarding Adviser role.</p>
Limiting Social Gatherings for 2 weeks	<p>Following Council's workshop with the Administrator and Medical Officer (15th July 2020) regarding the Medical Officer's recommendation that Council formally limit social gatherings for 14 days, because she is unable to currently confirm that Pitcairn is no longer Covid-19 free. This precaution having been recommended because she considers that the group of 5 recently returned travellers did not adequately adhere to isolation requirements whilst in NZ. Additionally, the MO reported she has had one or two patients coughing and sneezing and that internationally there is increasing evidence of asymptomatic carriers spreading infection.</p> <p>It was noted today's workshop with Dr Nguyen was valuable and she had raised several helpful points for developing Pitcairn's Covid-19 Management Control Protocols going forward.</p> <p>However, it was agreed that there is insufficient evidence to support Dr Nguyen recommendation that Council formally limit social gatherings for 14 days.</p> <p>This decision was based on the following points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) There is no evidence of Covid-19 on Pitcairn, as per the WHO and ECDC definitions of Covid-19- for probable cases. 2) The number of days since the Silver Supporter arrived at Pitcairn (after 14 days at sea) and landed the 5 passengers is now well beyond 14 days. 3) A large number of people on Pitcairn suffer from sinus allergies and hay-fever at this time of year. 4) PHE's recommends that conditions such as sinus allergies and hay-fever should be assessed and treated locally unless a patient meets the WHO and ECDC case definition for Covid -19 probable cases. 5) There has been insufficient clinical assessment of the 2 patients who presented with allergy/respiratory complaints.

	<p>6) Neither of the 2 patients concerned have reported any of the other symptoms which meet the WHO and ECDC case definitions for Covid -19 probable cases.</p> <p>ACTION The Mayor will advise the MO of Council's decision and invite her to attend the July Covid-10 Management Protocol Meeting.</p>
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Meeting Closed: 1.30pm
 Next Regular Council Meeting: Wednesday 12th 2020 9.00am
 Tuesday Check-in: 21st July 2020 9.30am
 Public Meeting: TBC
 SDP Meeting / Workshop: TBC

Mayor Charlene Warren-Peu: *Warren*

Date: *11* / *08* / *2020*



Approved