

## **ADMINISTRATOR AND HEAD OF PITCAIRN PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT FOR COUNCIL: 15 November 2023**

Notwithstanding the short period since Council in October, it has been a busy couple of weeks.

### **Election of Deputy Mayor**

The election was carried out with exemplary efficiency, and Charlene Warren will take up post on 1 January – our congratulations to her. Our thanks, too, to the current Deputy Mayor, Shawn Christian for all his work, and also to the Island Secretary, William Gordon, for making all the arrangements.

### **Future of Pitcairn**

We have had various meetings to start to build up a solid evidence base for the challenges facing Pitcairn – economic sustainability, attracting settlers and providing services for an ageing population. We are collecting data so that economist colleagues in FCDO, can try some forecasting, particularly on demographics, to underpin our future planning.

### **Budgets**

While our overall expenditure is within the 2023-4 budget total, there are pressures in a couple of areas which may require some realignment. We will be reviewing the figures with DMs in the coming weeks and start the process of drafting bids for the 2024-5 budget.

### **IT**

We are still waiting for reports from Speedcast and All Systems Go following their recent visit. We are also trying to identify a source of support in FCDO to advise us on how we can act as intelligent customers given our collective lack of expertise in negotiating contracts that benefit Pitcairners rather than the providers.

### **Health Funding**

Concerns have been expressed about entitlement to healthcare, and whether the current policy is being effectively applied. As you are aware, we have been working on a revised policy, and drafts have now been submitted to the Policy Review Committee.

### **PPS**

John Skerrit has been appointed as the Marine Permits Officer, and has also taken up a post in customer service in the Store. During the recruitment process we discussed potential improvements, and as a result DM F&E is now looking at ways to make sure price labelling is clearer.

### **Armistice Day**

Community gathered for a beautiful and moving act of remembrance on 11 November.

## **MPA**

ECNR team and Deputy Governor participating in Edinburgh University seminar “Beyond the Bounty” on 17 November, about the Redfish Expedition earlier this year.

We also had a positive meeting with the Deputy Governor, and Pitcairn and HMG colleagues) to discuss with the [Plastic Odyssey](#) team a proposed visit in February 2024 to **Henderson Island**, to assess options for removing the plastic stored there. This work is already fully funded by Plastic Odyssey’s partners, and they will subsequently follow up with their partners on future work to remove the plastic and conduct another clean-up. We will update Council as plans firm up.

## **DM Reports**

### Community

- Attend meetings throughout the month with various people
- New Social Worker now due to arrive on 19 December.
- Discussions on healthcare entitlement.

### Operations

- Regular monthly Grounds maintenance and cleaning was carried out during the month.
- Preparation work ongoing for roads maintenance.
- Discussions with SPC on EDF11 bids for solar array.
- Installation site for whale watching board agreed.
- Need for work on Post Office noted and will be addressed.
- Fuel store moved.
- Work to be carried out on MSB power line to ensure safety and security.

### ECNR

- Work with MMO on MPA Management Evaluation – completion due later this week. Ongoing work on the Biosecurity Manual.
- Induction of new MSB manager completed. Draft Governance Plan received from St Andrews University.
- Report from MMO on community workshops during their recent visit received and will be shared.
- Work continues on Land Management Register, with meeting planned with the Registrar and Land Court President.
- Project Blue has shared proposals for online Pitcairn MPA Community space.
- Work continues on preparation for 2024 Expedition.

### Finance and Economic

Attended the Tourism first day meeting in Papeete as it coincided with my time travelling through Tahiti.

Miscellany production and proof reading completed and sent out precisely on time.

Tourism Sales and Marketing all going exceptionally well.

Decision made to retain cost of first day covers as is the customary practice of price of stamps plus \$1.50 per envelope. Keeping costs as low as possible will ensure community members have an opportunity to make some revenue on resale.

Post Office going fine, but Post Master still working from the internal storage part of the post office.

Meetings with Dennis report no other issues. External Auditor seemed to go very smoothly.

Store. Meetings with Steve, Olive and Randy. Randy is stepping into Store Manager role temporarily until the 7th December. Emily has departed on a leave of absence which has been approved for up to 6 months. Job advertised, 3 applicants, John Skerrit appointed.

Orders have been placed for all departments including some late ones.

Emails and general correspondence performed throughout and all dealt with.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Kilpatrick', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Fiona Kilpatrick  
Administrator  
11 November 2023