



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 8.30am Wednesday Feb 13th 2017**

Present:

Mayor Shawn Christian, Cr Leslie Jaques, Cr Lea Brown, Cr Darralyn Griffiths, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Brenda Christian, Administrator Nicola Hebb, Island Secretary Heather Menzies.

Apologies: Deputy Mayor Charlene Warren-Peu.

Gallery: None

Opening Prayer: Cr L Jaques

Welcome: Mayor

Matters Arising from the Minutes of
Feb 1st 2017

EU Brexit:

Cr L Jaques wished to respond to the minute from the Administrator regarding EU-Brexit in the minutes of Wednesday 1st Feb and asked that he include an update on recent Brexit developments at the same time. He stated he was worried and concerned at the Administrators statement that,

“...it was important to note that Brexit has not yet started. Until negotiations are further progressed we do not know what HMG’s position will be with regard to HMG replacing funding currently received under EDF.”

Cr Jaques said he felt this statement goes against the spirit of what we are collectively trying to achieve. He briefed Council in general terms on the recent meeting in London on February 7th and reported on comments made by Ministers, who all spoke positively about the developing relationship with all of the overseas territories.

Lord Bates, the DFID Minister, stated during the meeting that the UK would have more flexibility over its aid allocation on leaving the EU and was optimistic that good arrangements could be reached. He went on to say that the UK remained committed to getting to a point where all the OT’s were sustainable and he was optimistic about the future and the flexibility which leaving the EU will bring.

Cr Jaques said he felt Council should not accept an implication that there is no obligation to fund Pitcairn and asked that Councillors trust the process, trust in HMG, trust in our Ministers, take a positive and optimistic view and word our minutes accordingly.

The Mayor stated though all the OTs are working together it is still not entirely clear how things will develop going forward. The Administrator agreed that it is a mutual process which will take time to clarify.

<p>Cruise Ship Communications:</p>	<p>Cr B Christian, as Police and Immigration Officer, provided feedback from the Cruise Director and Purser of the Artania, which stopped at Pitcairn on February 3rd. Cr B Christian reported that a misunderstanding about Pitcairn's landing fee requirements, had been clarified on the day. She added that she had been told that had sea conditions permitted, the ship intended to land its passengers, via its own tenders, throughout the day, regardless of the Tourism Department's request that it do so within a predetermined time-frame. Cr B Christian stated that we should be careful how what is communicated to visiting ships wishing to both land passengers and have locals go on-board and set up an on-board market as she had been told that the ship had considered not stopping at all.</p> <p>Cr L Jaques, as DM Finance & Economics, clarified that the landing options communicated to the ship had been based on visitor health and safety requirements and the need to ensure that the population is actually on-island when large numbers of cruise passengers land.</p> <p>It was agreed that Pitcairn's 'Guide for Visiting Vessels' policy should be highlighted that the fact that Pitcairn landing fees are compulsory.</p> <p>ACTION: Cr M Christian will revise the Guide Visiting Vessels policy to emphasise that landing fees are compulsory.</p>
<p>Record of Approval of Minutes of Feb 1st 2017</p>	<p>Motion: Cr D Griffiths / Cr B Christian "That the regular Council Meeting Minutes of Feb 1st, as circulated, be approved." All in favour - Carried</p>
<p>2013-2016 Council Achievement Paper (formal approval)</p>	<p>Council acknowledged receipt of the revised paper and it was agreed that will also include an acknowledgement the contributions undertaken by previous Councils.</p> <p>Motion: Cr L Jaques / Cr D Griffiths "That Council approve the amended Council Achievement Paper." All in Favour - Carried.</p> <p>Cr L Jaques inquired as to whether the Council Achievement Paper and the Council Bulletin will be circulated beyond Pitcairn i.e. to DFID, PIO etc. There was general discussion about the purpose of the document and it was agreed that sharing Council's achievements with DFID and other stakeholders was a positive step.</p> <p>ACTION: Cr M Christian will circulate the wording for acknowledging contributions of past Councils and revise the document.</p>
<p>New migrants being able to access PI loan scheme.</p>	<p>Cr L Jaques, as DM Finance and Economic, tabled the concept of new migrants, who have been formally approved for settlement, being able to access the Pitcairn home loan scheme. Currently, applicants must be permanent residents – i.e. they have been on-island for 2 years.</p>

	<p>There ensued general discussion about new settlers now being able to access land prior to becoming permanent residents and it was agreed the concept was worth of further exploration.</p> <p>ACTION: Cr L Jaques will develop a paper for Council and further discussion with DFID and FC, Evan Dunn.</p>
New Settler – Governor’s Approval	Cr B Christian reported that the Governor has approved Mr William Rowe’s settlement application. The Deputy Governor, Robin Shackell has notified Mr Rowe that his application has been approved.
LTV Approval	<p>Motion: Cr B Christian/ Cr D Griffiths “That Council approve the Long Term Visitor Visa application, as submitted.”</p> <p>All in favour – Carried</p> <p>ACTION: Cr B Christian, as Immigration Officer, will notify the applicant that the application has been approved.</p>
Rescheduling the Council Repopulation Workshop	It was agreed that next Council workshop will be tentatively scheduled for 8.30 Monday 20 th . It was noted this date may change following receipt of the Governor’s letter to Council which will clarify his position on dealing the legacy of past abuses and Operation Unique.
GENERAL BUSINESS	
Passenger/Shipping Service Contract	In response to an enquiry from Cr B Christian the Administrator reported, Evan Dunn, recently meet and discussed the new shipping service with DFID in Scotland. She anticipates that there will something more tangible to report by the end of the week.
Temporary Island Secretary Role	The Mayor reported two applications had been received for the temporary Island Secretary role. One, from Mr Simon Young, had been formally withdrawn and the other applicant, Ms Nadine Christian, has been appointed. For the record, the Mayor added he would not have participated in the interview process as Ms Christian is a family member. Ms Christian will pick up the role when she returns to the island next month.
Cr M Christian	The Mayor reported that Cr M Christian will be departing to work overseas for 3 months as DM Environment, Conservation and Natural Resources. Ms Christian will continue to be active as Councillor and will undertake tasks related to her role as legal advisor whilst overseas. Cr M Christian will also work on tidying up Pitcairn’s Business Registrations - in both instances she will be liaising with the assistant Attorney General.

Meeting Closed: 10.00am

Date of Next Council Meeting: 2017 8.30am

Mayor Shawn Christian:

Date: ..16.. / ..3.. / ..2017..

