

**WAGAIT SHIRE COUNCIL**

**Draft Minutes**

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**20 August 2013**

**PRESENT:** Cr Trish McIntyre (President)  
Cr Brad Irvine  
Cr Ian Crawshaw  
Cr Mat Prouse  
Cr Shenagh Gamble  
Michael Campaign (CEO)

**1. MEETING OPENING & WELCOME** - Cr Trish McIntyre declared the meeting open at 7.00pm, and welcomed everyone.

**1.1 APOLOGIES** – Cr Lisa-Marie Stones and Cr Peter Clee

**Resolution No. 2013/43**

That the apology of Cr Lisa-Marie Stones and Cr Peter Clee be accepted.

Moved: Cr Shenagh Gamble

Seconded: Cr Mat Prouse

Vote: AIF

**2.0 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Nil

**3.0**

**Resolution No. 2013/44**

**Cr Trish McIntyre moved to suspend the standing orders for a short time and welcomed Paul Victory, General Manager for Sealink, David Witzke, NT Operations Manager for Sealink, Paul Rajan, Executive Director, Department of Transport and Cathy Winslett, CEO, Belyuen Community**

**Vote: AIF**

**3.1** Sealink NT will begin operating the Cullen Bay to Mandorah Ferry Service on 1 September 2013. Fast Ferries will have their last run on Saturday 31 August. Sealink NT have 2 new vessels called MV James Grant and the Pacific Cat (1 x 220 seater vessel and 1 x 123 seat vessel)

and both are modern catamarans. Paul Victory informed us that their ferry will operate on the same schedule as the current service and all current Fast Ferries tickets will be honoured. Pensioners and school children will continue to travel at no charge. Sealink's contract with the NT Government is for a period of 5 years. Sealink will also introduce improved safety and OH&S practices.

Cr Brad Irvine moved to resume meeting at 7.30pm

#### **4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolution No. 2013/45**  
**That the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 16 July 2013, as amended be confirmed.**  
**Moved: Cr Brad Irvine**  
**Seconded: Cr Ian Crawshaw**  
**Vote: AIF**

#### **4.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Nil

#### **5.0 INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE**

Refer to Attached List (Inward Correspondence July 2013)

#### **6.0 OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE**

Refer to Attached List (Outwards Correspondence July 2013).

**Resolution No. 2013/46**  
**That the correspondence for the Month of July 2013 be confirmed.**  
**Moved: Cr Mat Prouse**  
**Seconded: Cr Ian Crawshaw**  
**Vote: AIF**

**6.1** Cr Trish McIntyre has asked that more detailed information on the inwards and outwards correspondence be included in the report. This will be improved for future council meetings.

#### **7.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT (Incorporating Work Supervisors Report)**

**7.1 HR – CEO** on leave from 15 to 18 August. There were two public holidays this period.

**7.2 Mawul Rom:** This was a successful program. The grounds and facilities at Cloppenburg Park were left in good condition and a large quantity of sand has been donated to the Council.

- 7.3 Emergency Services:** Training was held in the community hall on 20 and 21 July.
- 7.4 Recovery Meeting:** This was held on 17 July.
- 7.5 Audit:** Barry Hansen's audit officers commenced the audit in Council office on 22 July. This is still not complete. Auditor contacted the office and said that he would attempt to finish the audit before this meeting date.
- 7.6 Seniors Month** – All arranged for 27 August. A 25 seater bus and facilities have been booked. Council office has received 19 pax confirmation. Council staff will drive the hire bus and other staff will attend to assist the seniors.
- 7.7 TOPROC** – This was held at Litchfield on 15 August.
- 7.8 Rates** – All rates notices have been forwarded by the due date and payments are constant. Letters of demand x 15 have been sent to late payers with appropriate penalties. No answers as yet.
- 7.9 LGANT** – Constant communication received re YES vote. The vote is now cancelled due to the Federal Government's decision.
- 7.10 Noise Complaint** – A court petition made by 16 ratepayers was shown to the CEO with more to come re excessive noise at all hours caused by tenant in Dillon Place. Residents intend to take court action with this petition. A letter has been sent by CEO to the land owner and police spoken to. Person subject of complaint rang CEO, refuting all details of complaint. Actual phone call to CEO offensive and will be referred to Police. Landowner also called CEO and discussed the situation.
- 7.11 Insurance-** Insurance for 13/14 Financial Year has been paid - \$19,618.92.
- 7.12 Painting of Container** – This will be held on 31 August at Cloppenburg Park. Assistance has been asked by organisers from Council staff re preparation, BBQ and facilities on the day.
- 7.13 Council Vehicle** – The Council's old station wagon went to public tender and \$5,110 was obtained from the successful bidder.
- 7.14 Bike Path** – Cr Lisa-Marie Stones received a complaint from local resident who was concerned that the start of the bike path near the shop was dangerous. Upon inspection by the CEO it was decided that a contractor would be sent in to properly fix this problem. The sand area was soft, probably resulting from cars and trucks driving over this area taking short cuts. Posts have been erected by Council staff to stop vehicles from driving over this area.

**7.15 Sports & Rec** – two new sewing machines have been purchased for the Sports & Rec activity classes. Sewing classes are held every Monday evening in the Community Centre and there is a good turn out from both boys and girls attending this activity. Belyuen Sports & Rec have joined our Sports & Rec activities on Tuesday afternoons for a game of basket at the sports round. All the children seem to be enjoying this activity.

## **8.0 WORKS**

**8.1** The Council Works department secured some work during the running of Mawul Rom this year. Daily rubbish removal was undertaken and approximately 20 cubic metres of sand was removed from the sportsground and is being stored on the council grounds. With the purchase of rock and cement only, our needs for any concreting ingredients are now fulfilled for some time to come.

**8.2** It seems to be an impossibility for some people to deposit their items in the “household rubbish” only hole. Items are continually being left beside the hole. The message for these people is simple: “put your unwanted items in the hole”.

### **Duties performed during June:**

- Power Water Contractual obligations fulfilled
- Jetty Contract obligations fulfilled, including water blasting of boat ramp
- RUA Contract obligations fulfilled
- Council residence fence extension completed
- Two wild cross bred dogs have been trapped and destroyed
- Refill play ground area with sand
- Fill potholes at shop job
- Service tractor and kubota mower
- Whipper snippers oil changed
- 4 large dead trees have been removed from verge of Vangemann Street
- Toilet roll holder replaced in the community centre

### **Resolution No. 2013/47**

**That the officers' reports for July be received and accepted.**

**Moved: Cr Shenagh Gamble**

**Seconded: Cr Brad Irvine**

**Vote: AIF**

## **9.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

- 9.1 The audit being carried out by Barry Hansen's Chartered Accountant is still not completed so Council is unable to roll over the MYOB system into the new Financial Year period.

**Resolution No. 2013/41**

**That the Financial report for the month of July 2013 be received and accepted.**

**Moved: Cr Ian Crawshaw**

**Seconded: Cr Shenagh Gamble**

**Vote: AIF**

## **10.0 AGENDA ITEMS**

- 10.1 OH&S** – CEO has had a look at our requirements for OH&S and we do not seem to be at a good standard. OH&S Audit is to be carried out throughout the workforce by CEO and brought up to date.
- 10.2 Rate Letters to all residents** – These were sent to all residents on 1 August. Payment rate by rate payers is really good at the moment and most rate payers are paying online.
- 10.3 15 x letters of demand** – 15 of these have been sent to rate payers, 2 have been paid and 13 still outstanding. There is still a total of \$12,934.00 owing for overdue rates. Some of these rate payers have not paid their rates for up to 3 years and council have not received a response from them after numerous letters of demands sent. This list will be discussed at the next Council meeting to plan further action to be taken.
- 10.4 Memorial Garden** – CEO has received an email from Lyn Prouse as this has been going on for some time now and it seems we need someone to take ownership to lead the program. Council has received no response or information from the community after a notice was pinned on the boards asking for interest/volunteers. A local resident has spoken to the CEO with a plan dating back many years ago. Cr Shenagh Gamble will follow up on this.
- 10.5 Community Complaint re noise** – As discussed in CEO's report, some residents of Wagait Beach have lodged a complaint and this is going to court at the end of the month.
- 10.6 Darwin Harbour Clean Up** – Council has received a thank you letter and especially in reference to the children who participated.
- 10.7 Referendum YES Vote** – This has been thrown to the scrapheap. The referendum on recognising local government in the Constitution will not be held. President McIntyre advised this was discussed at TOPROC in consideration to return any funding remaining to Councils.

**10.8 Consultation on Proposed changes to Shire Council** – On 16 July Cr Trish McIntyre forwarded a letter to the Hon Adam Giles MLA regarding the recent consultations throughout the Northern Territory with shire councils and remote community residents in relation to future option for regional governance. A written reply from Dianne Hood from the Department of Local Government has advised us that there will be no changes in the legislative framework for the Wagait Shire Council arising from the review of regional governance.

**10.9 Car Tender** – Council received 3 tenders. Of these the vehicle was sold to a bidder who has paid \$5110.

**10.10 Great Northern Clean Up** – This will be held from 20 to 22 September. All that wish to be involved can contact the Clean Up Australia Team on 02 81973400.

**10.11 Cloppenburg Park** – A proposal to use Cloppenburg Park as a Camping ground has been forwarded to council by Chris Chaplin. Chris has requested that Council look into allowing campers use Cloppenburg Park grounds and facilities as a way to generate income for the Shire. Council to discuss at the next meeting after examining this proposal in detail.

**10.12 Sealink** – Sealink will start operating on 1 September, Fast Ferries will cease on 31 August.

**10.13 Tender for Security Services – Charles Point** – A tender for Security services at Charles Point has been submitted by the CEO to the Federal Government in Canberra. Council has 3 staff members with a security background.

**10.14 Aust Day Forum (Alice Springs)** – Pam from the Council office has been invited to attend the Australia Day Council Forum and Annual General Meeting in Alice Springs from 18 October to 19 October. She will be attending and this forum is being fully funded by Australia Day Council NT.

## **11.0 UPCOMING EVENTS**

**11.1 Federal Election** – The Electoral Commission has booked the Community Centre on September 7 for voting and the polling booth will be open from 8.00am to 6.00pm only. One staff member will be involved on the day.

**11.2 Seniors Outing** – This has now been arranged and organised. Council has hired a 25 seater bus to take seniors to Butterfly Farm in Batchelor on Tuesday 27 August. We have a total of 19 seniors who have booked to attend this event and this event will be assisted by some Council staff members on the day. The bus will be driven by Council staff. Arrangements have been made for those who require wheelchair access.

**10.2 Caravan Mural** – the painting of the sea containers will go ahead on Saturday 31 August at Cloppenburg Park. All children are invited to attend and there will be a sausage sizzle at the end.

#### **11.0 LATE ITEMS AND GENERAL BUSINESS**

**11.1 Mawul Rom** - A rate payer has passed a note to Cr Mat Prouse in support of the Mawul Rom project and appreciating council's involvement with this activity.

#### **12.0 IN-CAMERA ITEMS**

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#### **11.0 MEETING CLOSE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**11.1** President Trish McIntyre closed the meeting 8.45 pm

The next Council Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 17 September 2013