



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 8.30am Wednesday Feb 24th 2017**

Present:

Mayor Shawn Christian, Deputy Mayor Charlene Warren-Peu, Cr Leslie Jaques, Cr Lea Brown, Cr Darralyn Griffiths, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Brenda Christian, Administrator - Nicola Hebb, Island Secretary - Heather Menzies

In Attendance: Alex Cameron - Head of Falklands and Southern Oceans Department and Emma Harber - Senior Policy Advisor, Foreign & Commonwealth Office's Overseas Territories Directorate,

Apologies: None

Gallery: None

Opening Prayer: Cr L Jaques

Welcome: Mayor

Welcome and Introductions	<p>The Mayor welcomed Alex Cameron and Emma Harber to the meeting. Councillors introduced themselves and outlined their roles within Council and the GPI Divisions.</p> <p>Administrator Hebb noted that this is the first visit by OTD officials since Peter Hayes' visit almost 2 years ago. She conveyed the purpose of this visit is to aid understanding of what life is like on Pitcairn and to hear the views, ideas and thoughts, from Pitcairners themselves, about how Council and HMG can work together to overcome challenges and make the most of opportunities to secure the island's future.</p> <p>Mr Cameron reported this visit will signify the beginning of an on-going conversation between the FCO and Pitcairn, noting arrangements are underway for people to meet with him and Ms Harber, over the next few days. He emphasised that the FCO is interested in firmly establishing dialogue with Pitcairn going forward so as to ensure everyone is 'on the same page'.</p> <p>Mr Cameron noted it was clear steady progress has been made in recent years and Council conveyed it is keen to access support and expertise from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office going forward.</p> <p>There ensued general and informative discussion about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the relationship between DFID, the FCO and the overseas territories• repopulation and the community's readiness to accept new migrants from around the world
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • child safety and the need to ensure that Pitcairn’s history of past abuses is acknowledged and its child safeguarding practices and policy maintained • accessibility, contracting procedures and the impact of delays • telecommunications • economic and social sustainability • human and intellectual capacity and community development. • strategic planning <p>When discussing strategic planning, Mr Cameron said the fundamental question before Pitcairn is to clarify what success might look like in terms of repopulation and socio economic sustainability. Pitcairn must work out how it can take its plans forward and what support it needs to accomplish objectives. Additionally, he said, work must similarly be done on future planning should Council’s aspirations for repopulation prove to be unsuccessful. He noted work of this nature will take time and but it is essential that a realistic ‘Plan B’ is developed because support from HMG will be required should the repopulation strategy not succeed.</p> <p>In conclusion Mr Cameron reiterated this visit signals the beginning of an on-going conversation so as to develop closer ties with Pitcairn.</p>
<p>20th February Council Workshop – Agreements and Motions relating to child safe guarding and the legacy of Operation Unique</p>	<p>At the Council workshop of 20th February the following motions were moved and approved:</p> <p>Motion: Mayor / Cr L Jaques “That Council will develop its strategy to progress its child safeguarding programme for 2017 - as agreed with the Governor in his correspondence to the Mayor 17 February.”</p> <p>All in favour – Carried</p> <p>Motion: Cr M Christian / Cr B Christian ‘That Council will work with HMG in recognising the history of past abuses on Pitcairn Island. Council will not diminish the importance of child sex abuse and will ensure child safeguarding remains a priority for all.’</p> <p>All in favour – Carried</p> <p>Motion: Mayor/Cr D Griffiths “That Council will refrain from using or referring to the term ‘convicted men’ when discussing issues relating to Pitcairn’s history of abuses.”</p> <p>All in favour – Carried.</p>

	The administrator confirmed the Deputy Governor, Robin Shackell will be on-island in May representing HMG and will be participating in the proposed facilitated workshop(s).
Community Survey	At the workshop of May 20 th Council agreed it would develop a survey to get a sense of how the community might respond to proposed activities within the 2017 Child Safeguarding Strategy. A first draft survey was circulated for further input from the FCA and the Administrator. It was noted that the current FCA will be leaving the island on Sunday 26 th Feb. The Mayor advised that the FCA should get his feedback to Council before departing on Sunday 26 th of February.
Meeting with the proposed child safeguarding workshop Facilitator	Cr L Jaques suggested that whilst the Island Secretary is in NZ, as PI Travel Coordinator, she could meet with Auckland based psychotherapist, Kathern Barriball, Ms Barriball . who has been offered the child safeguarding facilitator contract by HMG. Should she accept the contract, and given the proposed time frames for the workshop, it was agreed that such a meeting would be useful. The Administer will pass the suggestion on to the Deputy Governor and report back to Council. It was noted Ms Menzies will arrive in Auckland March 2 nd .
Visiting EU OCTA Innovations Consultant	Cr Leslie Jaques reported that Gerhard Zieroth is on-island for 11 days to research Pitcairn's renewable energy requirements He reminded Council that Pitcairn signed a document in Brussels committing to do be fossil fuel free by 2020. Mr Zieroth will be meeting with locals and relevant Divisions to evaluate Pitcairn's renewable energy needs and intends to delivery his preliminary report within 6 weeks of departure. He will also be speaking at the public meeting scheduled for Monday 27 th February.

Meeting Closed: 10.30am

Date of Next Council Meeting: Wednesday March 8th 8.30am

Mayor Shawn Christian:

Date: 16 / 3 / 2017

