

Councillors: Cr M Armstrong
G Bagnall
B Longland
K Milne
C Byrne
W Polglase
P Youngblutt



TWEED
SHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes

Extraordinary Council Meeting Thursday 19 September 2013

held at Murwillumbah Cultural and Civic Centre
commencing at 4.45pm

COUNCIL'S CHARTER

Tweed Shire Council's charter comprises a set of principles that are to guide Council in the carrying out of its functions, in accordance with Section 8 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Tweed Shire Council has the following charter:

- to provide directly or on behalf of other levels of government, after due consultation, adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community and to ensure that those services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively;
- to exercise community leadership;
- to exercise its functions in a manner that is consistent with and actively promotes the principles of multiculturalism;
- to promote and to provide and plan for the needs of children;
- to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development;
- to have regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions;
- to bear in mind that it is the custodian and trustee of public assets and to effectively account for and manage the assets for which it is responsible;
- to facilitate the involvement of councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and council staff in the development, improvement and co-ordination of local government;
- to raise funds for local purposes by the fair imposition of rates, charges and fees, by income earned from investments and, when appropriate, by borrowings and grants;
- to keep the local community and the State government (and through it, the wider community) informed about its activities;
- to ensure that, in the exercise of its regulatory functions, it acts consistently and without bias, particularly where an activity of the council is affected;
- to be a responsible employer.

The Meeting commenced at 4.45pm under the Chairmanship of the Acting General Manager, Mr Troy Green as Returning Officer for the Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

IN ATTENDANCE

Cr M Armstrong, Cr G Bagnall, Cr C Byrne, Cr B Longland, Cr K Milne, Cr W Polglase and Cr P Youngblutt.

Also present were Mr Troy Green (Acting General Manager), Mr Ken Holdsworth (on behalf of the Acting Director Technology and Corporate Services), Mr Patrick Knight (Director Engineering and Operations), Mr Vince Connell (Director Planning and Regulation), Ms Jane Lofthouse (on behalf of the Director Community and Natural Resources), Mr R Adams (Manager Business and Economic Development), Ms Fran Silk (Journalist), Mr Neil Baldwin (Manager Corporate Governance/Public Officer) and Mrs Meredith Smith (Minutes Secretary).

ABORIGINAL STATEMENT

The Acting General Manager acknowledged the Bundjalung Aboriginal Nation with the following statement:

"We wish to recognise the generations of the local Aboriginal people of the Bundjalung Nation who have lived in and derived their physical and spiritual needs from the forests, rivers, lakes and streams of this beautiful valley over many thousands of years as the traditional owners and custodians of these lands."

PRAYER

The meeting opened with a Prayer by Council's Chaplain, Pastor Andrew McCartin (Church of Christ).

"I want to thank each of you for the honour of opening this meeting in prayer. I also wanted to challenge you with these words on prayer:

"Something like this happened in the State Minnesota in 1877. The economy of the state was, for the most part, based on agriculture. The year before, grasshoppers had very nearly destroyed the Minnesota economy, eating up much of the crop, and leaving many very nearly destitute.

The situation was so very serious that the State Governor, John S Pillsbury, took the unusual step of proclaiming a state-wide day of prayer and fasting. Pillsbury issued an edict that on April 26, 1877, every business, shop, school, and office close to seek the mercy of heaven to stop the grasshoppers from destroying the crop. Every man, woman, and child in the State was urged in that proclamation to ask God to prevent that terrible scourge from returning. The records indicate that a reverent, quiet hush fell over all the state.

The next day dawned bright and clear. Temperatures soured to what they ordinarily were in midsummer, which was very peculiar for April in that part of the country. Minnesotans were devastated as they discovered billions of grasshopper larvae wiggling to life. For three days the unusual heat persisted, and the larvae hatched out. It appeared that it wouldn't be long before they would start feeding and destroying the wheat crop.

On the fourth day, however, temperatures plummeted to well below freezing; the night a very harsh killing frost covered the earth. That frost was so severe that it killed every one of the grasshopper larvae as surely as if poison or fire had been used. Grateful farmers never forgot that day. It went down in the history of Minnesota as the day God answered the prayers of the people. There is tremendous power in corporate prayer for daily bread. What it requires is a shared commitment and a mutual surrender to the Lordship of Jesus. It requires that the people of God be agreed and committed to continued agreement for the Lord to intervene."

- Adapted from Power Praying (Hearing Jesus' Spirit by Praying Jesus' Prayer) by David Chotka.

My challenge today is to seek the God as to His heart for this region and the possibilities for abundant life for our local citizens when we humble ourselves and pray.

The bible says:

¹⁴if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14(NIV).

This is my challenge as a pastor, and for the local church: note that the scripture said "if my people... humble themselves... So, as you seek to lead Murwillumbah from the position of council, we will endeavour to serve you in prayer and supplication. Who knows what may happen...?"

Let's Pray..."

APOLOGIES

Nil.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil.

ITEMS TO BE MOVED FROM ORDINARY TO CONFIDENTIAL - CONFIDENTIAL TO ORDINARY

Nil.

REPORTS THROUGH THE ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

REPORTS FROM THE ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

1 [GM-CM] Method of Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Period Ending September 2014

The Acting General Manager advised the methods available to Council for the Election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the period ending September 2014.

576

Cr B Longland
Cr K Milne

RESOLVED Council determines that the procedure for electing the Mayor/Deputy Mayor be ordinary ballot by way of open voting which is in accordance with Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

The Motion was **Carried**

FOR VOTE - Unanimous

2 [GM-CM] Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Period Ending September 2014

The Acting General Manager requested advice from the Public Officer, Mr Neil Baldwin, on nominations received.

Mr Baldwin advised that two nominations had been received for Mayor:

- Cr Longland (nominated by Crs Armstrong and Milne); and
- Cr Polglase (nominated by Crs Polglase and Byrne).

The result of the ballot by way of open voting (show of hands) for Mayor was as follows:

Voting for Cr Longland for Mayor:

Cr M Armstrong, Cr K Milne, Cr G Bagnall, Cr B Longland

Voting for Cr Polglase for Mayor:

Cr P Youngblutt, Cr W Polglase, Cr C Byrne

The Public Officer advised that two nominations had been received for Deputy Mayor:

- Cr Armstrong (nominated by Crs Longland and Milne); and
- Cr Youngblutt (nominated by Crs Polglase and Youngblutt)

The results of the ballot by way of open voting (show of hands) for Deputy Mayor was as follows:

Voting for Cr Armstrong for Deputy Mayor:

Cr M Armstrong, Cr K Milne, Cr G Bagnall, Cr B Longland

Voting for Cr Youngblutt for Deputy Mayor:

Cr P Youngblutt, Cr W Polglase, Cr C Byrne

Based on the voting, the Acting General Manager/Returning Officer declared the following:

1. Mayor for the period ending September 2014 - Cr B Longland.
2. Deputy Mayor for the period ending September 2014 - Cr M Armstrong

There being no further business the Meeting terminated at 4.55pm.



**Minutes of Meeting Confirmed
at the Council Meeting held on
xxx**

Chairman