



## **PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL**

**Public Meeting held in The Square - Public Hall**

**Commencing at 9.00am on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2015**

### **Present:**

Mayor Shawn Christian, Deputy Mayor Brenda Lupton-Christian, Cr David Brown,

Cr Charlene Warren-Peu, Cr Darralyn Griffiths, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Leslie Jaques, Administrator Alan Richmond, Director Overseas Territories Peter Hayes, and Financial Controller Evan Dunn

Island Temp. Secretary – Heather Menzies

Members of the public

### **Welcome**

Mayor opened and welcomed the community to the public meeting. He expressed his thanks to those who had participated in the fishing and preparing of the fish fry on Friday evening and acknowledged and thanked those who had assisted with dousing the fire. He then handed the meeting over to Peter Hayes.

Mr Hayes gave thanks and expressed his pleasure at having been able to visit the island first hand saying there is no substitute for being able to meet and talk with people – and getting a sense of how the place feels. Noting that it is important to remember Pitcairn's situation is not only about numbers and money. He has very much enjoyed the opportunity to engage with everyone and experience this extraordinary and beautiful island.

He went on to say Pitcairn continues to be faced with very real challenges but he is very much encouraged by the more cooperative spirit displayed by Council and the community. He noted he is very pleased to see this phase of working together and encourage this to continue. He commended the Council's development of its recent Mission Statement stressing that it is important for Pitcairn to be for all Pitcairners – and this is the time we have to all work together, to use our time and effort effectively so as to come together as a community and as partners..

Mr Hayes also said a special thanks Alan and Iseabal Richmond for their wonderful hospitality – noting he believes Pitcairn is fortunate to have Alan and Iseabal in their roles – working alongside Pitcairners - they are great advocates of the island.

Mr Hayes stated that access continues to be one of the island's greatest challenges – for both sustainable tourism, and the community's social and medical needs. He is committed to exploring more frequent voyages and more cost effective fares for residence, visitors and officials.


Vaine Peu – asked Evan’s opinion as to how he sees PIPCO operating at this time. Evan referred Vaine to Mike Lupton, PIPCO Chairperson but conveyed he is available to share information about the honey industry. Leslie Jacques conveyed that one of the SPC trainers scheduled to visit later this year will be entirely focused on training small business and local cottage industry.

There ensued general discussion about identifying the barriers to small business development, in particular the challenges associated with managing international exports via the island’s bond store (Shuttle) and getting products through the NZ postal system.

Evan agreed that this has been a problem and expressed that he will continue to take steps to resolve these issues. In particular he noted there is a need for a specific import/export dealer to manage honey exports.

The Mayor pointed out the Shuttle was not primarily contracted to support exports – but rather for managing shipping to and from the island. As such we should be mindful of this.

Council Closed 9.30pm

Mayor Shawn Christian.....

Date.....11...../.....6...../.....2015.....

