



PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL
Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 9.00am, Friday Aug 16th 2019

Present:

Mayor Shawn Christian & Cr Michele Christian, Deputy Mayor Charlene Warren-Peu, Temp Cr Lea Brown, Cr Kevin Young, Cr Sue O’Keefe, Isec Heather Menzies, Cr L Jaques & Administrator Nick Kennedy

In attendance: Governor Laura Clarke

Apologies: None

Welcome: The Mayor welcomed Council and Governor Clarke to the table and the Deputy Mayor opened with a prayer.

	Agenda Item - Governor Clarke’s visit to Pitcairn.
	<p>Governor Clarke warmly greeted Council expressing her pleasure at being on Pitcairn again. She opened with an overview of UK, BREXIT and politics and discussed the implications for Pitcairn. The new Prime Minister has stated Britain will leave the European Union on the 31st Oct regardless of a deal or not. There ensued general discussion about the ongoing time and resource requirements associated with BREXIT.</p> <p>HMG is opening 3 new High Commissions in the region; Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa and it was noted that climate change is a big focus for the region going forward. Protecting oceans, protecting against plastics pollution sits within this climate change focus. The success of the Henderson Island Plastics Expedition has shown that the Pitcairn Islands’, its Marine Reserve and International Dark Sky Sanctuary, though remote play an important role in this area. The Governor noted there is much interest and willingness throughout the South Pacific community in working with Pitcairn.</p> <p>The Governor commented on the new shipping service and spoke of the benefits its increased frequency offers, including; health care options, freight capacity and NZ based school arrangements. The Governor acknowledged and welcomed returning young people and new settlers to the island emphasising the importance inclusion, involvement, and responsibilities play in generating a sense of belonging and ownership for new settlers.</p> <p>Questions from the Gallery and Answers</p> <p>Q1: If Britain is investing in new postings in the Pacific why is it so difficult to get funds for new services?</p> <p>Governor: There is a constant need to make the case for funding. Geo political moves are necessary in the south Pacific i.e. UK re-joining SPC and this will continue in the Region.</p>

	<p>Q2: What is happening with diplomatic moves for the Silver Supporter to dock at the wharf at Mangareva?</p> <p>Administrator: Physical options for alternatives to docking are being explored.</p> <p>There was general discussion about the ship's docking capabilities. Many in the community stated they understand that the ship is physically able to dock at Mangareva but that it was not doing so due to a lack of diplomatic engagement between HMG and French authorities.</p> <p>It was agreed the Administrator will look into the matter and report back to the community.</p> <p>Q2: Can we be confident in HMG's guarantee to fund to value previously agreed upon EU projects post a no deal BREXIT?</p> <p>Governor: If we can show we have done all that is needed to make the case she is confident funding can be accessed.</p> <p>Q3: What is the current procedure for people to apply and gain Amateur Radio licences within the VP6 frequency?</p> <p>Administrator: I will look into the matter and refer back</p> <p>The Mayor raised his concerns that a regional and global focus may detract from the island's need to create economic opportunities for the local population. It is important that the benefits of Tourism benefit everyone and that government and private enterprise work together on this.</p> <p>There was general discussion about the islands commitment to Repopulation, climate refugees in the Region and the tensions and emotions associated with change.</p> <p>The Governor conveyed she will be meeting with as many people as possible whilst on island and looks forward to continued input from the community and Council going forward.</p> <p>The Mayor closed the meeting and thanked all for attending.</p>
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Meeting Closed: 9:45am
Special Council / Public Meeting: With Governor Clarke 16th August 2019 9:00am
Public Lunch for Governor Clarke: Sunday 18th 1:00pm

Mayor Shawn Christian: 

Date: 3 / 9 / 2019

