

FURNEAUX GROUP SHIPPING SPECIAL COMMITTEE

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

DATE:	Friday 1 st August 2014
VENUE:	FAEC, Whitemark
COMMENCING:	2pm

PRESENT:

Mayor C Cox	Chair
Cr Gerald Willis	Council
Tessa Bird	Dept. of State Growth (via teleconference)
Darren Grace	Livestock Representative (2.44 – 3.01pm)
Raoul Harper	General Manager, Flinders Council
John Johnston	TasPorts
Kevin Moore	TasPorts
Jeff Phillips	Transport Representative
Andrew Poole	Dept. of State Growth (via teleconference)

APOLOGIES:

Deputy Mayor David Williams	Council
Steve Crawford	TFGA

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Vicki Warden	Executive Officer (minute taker)
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Chair Carol Cox welcomed Jeff Phillips to the Committee as the new Transport Representative.

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved: Cr Gerald Willis Seconded: John Johnston
That the minutes from the meeting held on the 18th March 2014 are a true record.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE IN

21.04.2014 Jeff Phillips – Nomination for Transport Representative
12.05.2014 TasPorts – Schedule of Ports Charges 2014/2015
14.07.2014 David Madden – Nomination for Commerce Representative
10.06.2014 Grant Deed – Port Pavement Upgrade

CORRESPONDENCE OUT

23.04.2014 Comments on the Draft – Furneaux Review of Essential Shipping Services
19.06.2014 Update to members - Contingency Grant Deeds June 2014
10.06.2014 Mr J Phillips – Thank you for nomination (via phone).

- 15.07.2014 Mr D Madden – Thank you for nomination.
- 24.07.2014 Unconfirmed Minutes – to members.
- 20.05.2014 Farmers groups re wharfage changes and introduction of cattle levy.
- 23.07.2014 Mr J Phillips – Confirmation of appointment to committee

AGENDA ITEMS

Item 1 Membership Update

The Committee considered an application from Dave Madden for the position of Commerce Representative.

Moved: Cr Gerald Willis Seconded: Jeff Phillips
That Dave Madden’s nomination as Commerce Representative be recommended to Council.

CARRIED

Item 2 Submissions

The request for submissions was advertised in the 27th March and 10th April editions of Island News and no submissions were received.

Noted.

Item 3 Update on Lady Barron Port Redevelopment Project from John Johnston

The wharf is essentially complete with the only remaining works being the addition of five piles around the wharf. The road inside the working area was completed today. The last of the logs are about to be removed which will enable the yard to be cleaned up. The stock yards are almost complete. A meeting with a representative from Roberts today identified some issues yet to be addressed around drainage and gates. There is concern that the slam locks that are currently on the gates may not be the safest option. Cattle get excited in the pens and a safe method of closure that doesn’t require putting your hand through the gate is required. John will look into this and seek advice.

The wharf and ramp are up to specification. The clean-up will start today and it is expected that some unevenness in the pavement will be identified where the logs have been stored. Paving and sealing will be done to flatten and finish all areas. A funding agreement, re via the shipping contingency funds, has been signed with the Department of State Growth to support pavement works to ensure a flat working surface across the whole of the working port area.

Cr Willis informed the Committee that the community landscaped the area at the port entrance, where the memorial to Fishermen lost at Sea will be placed, as part of National Plant a Tree Day. The relationship between TasPorts and Council regarding site access and work safety went smoothly and was very much appreciated. TasPorts also received a letter of thanks from the National Plant a Tree Day Committee.

Item 4 Ongoing Development - Next Stage General Discussion

The next stage of works will include upgrading the pavement areas. With transportation of logs now complete, quotes will be sought to reinstate the fencing in that area and the double gates will be redone. Jeff Phillips noted that the double gates blow out in windy weather so that vehicles are unable to access the wharf. TasPorts will upgrade these and ensure they can be adequately secured.

Fencing will go around the TasPorts office area to open up access to the toilets, meaning the office will be outside the port area. Off street parking bays will be added outside the freight area, in front of the office. TasPorts intend to upgrade the workshop and get the private refrigerated containers undercover before next year's mutton bird season. The transit shed will be used solely for freight. An environmental scientist has been engaged to determine how best to deal with the effluent tanks.

Five piles still to be driven and a terminal pile will be placed at the end of the wharf for navigation lighting. A mooring bollard will be placed by the ramp so that Furneaux Freight can tie off.

CC Is the expansion of the stockyards longer term?

JJ Will do some planning around this and consult customers so that it is designed correctly.

JP Is it possible to include a 3rd loading ramp?

JJ It might be too tight but will look at it as part of the planning.

GW The flood lights are still attracting mutton birds and many juveniles are getting caught and killed. Can the lights be turned off during the season - between 25th April and 4th May?

JJ The red navigation light is on the same circuit as the flood lights. An electrician will be fitting a solar panel to the navigation light so the flood lights can be turned off independently.

JP Does the port area need to be lit up so much?

JJ The lighting has been designed to meet Australian Standards for stevedoring, and security requirements out of hours. However, as Port security has improved and environmental concerns have been raised with the Mutton Birds, TasPorts will look at turning the lights off in the working area at night.

Item 5 Contingency Fund Projects

Current projects are all underway. Some funding has been kept in abeyance in case of contingency prior to the release of the State Government budget (see Item 6).

Noted.

Item 6 Furneaux Islands Shipping Contingency Funds

Committee members were advised in an email that the change to the contingency fund projects had been approved, with the exception that some of the fund had been kept in abeyance in case of need for a contingency prior to the release of the State Government

budget, which has been delayed and will be finalised 28th August this year. If not used, the reserve funding will become available at that time.

Item 7 Shipping Container Maintenance

Council needs to make a formal application to the Department of State Growth to use any contingency funding that becomes available to undertake maintenance of the existing shipping containers. It would be helpful if the Committee supported the application. The most favourable time for the government to consider an application would be after August.

Moved: Cr Gerald Willis

Seconded: John Johnston

That the committee recommends to Council that if any further contingency funds become available, they be used to undertake the maintenance and repairs of the council owned fridge freezer containers.

CARRIED**Item 8 Stock Transporting Issues**

No additional issues to report.

Carol Cox informed the Committee that Darren Grace has resigned as the Livestock Representative and that Scott Woods has been recommended as his replacement. This nomination will be recommended to Council.

Item 9 Update on Fuel transfer options – Mayor Carol Cox

A motion was passed by Council directing Council Officers to work with TasPorts to work out how to reduce costs of fuel. An investigation into transportation of fuel has been conducted by an independent consultant and the report is almost complete. TasPorts always acknowledged that the supply change was clumsy and as the fuel supply contract between TasPorts and a commercial fuel provider had recently come to an end, it was timely to do this review. As the report contains commercial-in-confidence information, the full report will go to closed council and an edited public version will go to the community via a Council Meeting.

Item 10 Other Business

Tessa Bird provided an update on the shipping analysis that was undertaken by consultants GHD. The report has been completed and they are awaiting formal government endorsement before it's released. No major issues or changes are expected.

Cr Gerald Willis reported that the Captain Bill has been sold.

Jeff Phillips reported that comments have been made that tourists coming off the Matthew Flinders have no shelter. Is TasPorts planning to provide any as part of the redevelopment? John Johnston replied that TasPorts' responsibility is to ensure passengers cross the port and leave the site safely. A recent risk management

compliance audit identified that the safe egress of passengers across the port and off the site was an issue. Marked walkways and personnel gates will be added to the area. It is not TasPorts responsibility to provide a shelter within the port.

Mayor Carol Cox reported that representatives of the livestock producers agents and farmers group met with John Johnston and Kevin Moore to discuss the levy introduction. TasPorts has agreed to talk with livestock producers prior to changes next year. Mayor Cox thanked John & Kevin for making themselves available for the meeting.

Mayor Carol Cox thanked Darren Grace for his years of dedication to the Committee and attendance at meetings as the Livestock Representative. His input has been very much appreciated. Darren Grace responded by thanking the Chair for the opportunity to be on the Committee and by acknowledging the importance of the Committee to the shipping future of the island and his wish that the Committee continues to move forward.

Andrew Poole advised the Committee that the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources is now known as the Department of State Growth and asked that future agendas and minutes reflect this change.

Meeting closed 3.01pm