

FURNEAUX GROUP AVIATION SPECIAL COMMITTEE
Unconfirmed Minutes

DATE: Thursday 29th September 2015
VENUE: Rose Garden Room, FAEC, Whitemark
COMMENCING: 10.00am

PRESENT:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Mayor Carol Cox | Chair |
| Cr K Stockton | Council |
| Cr P Rhodes | Council |
| Noel Bowland | (Sharp Airlines) RPT Operator |
| Michael Buck | Flinders Island Tourism & Business Assoc. |
| Luke Gregory | Dept. State Growth (DoSG) (via phone) |
| Linda Nicol | Community Representative (via phone) |

APOLOGIES:

| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Jeff Grace | Airport Manager |
| John Loudon | Multi-Purpose Centre |
| Vacant | Charter Aircraft |
| Denise Gardner | Cape Barren Island |

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Raoul Harper | General Manager |
| Vicki Warden | Executive Officer (Minute Taker) |

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved: Cr P Rhodes **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton
That the minutes from the meeting held on the 29th January 2015 are a true record.

CARRIED**CORRESPONDENCE IN**

| | |
|------------|---|
| 2015.04.13 | T. Bird - Notice of change of DoSG representative |
| 2015.07.06 | Gordon Rorison - Resignation as Charter Aircraft Representative |
| 2015.09.01 | Stephen Douglas - Sharp Airlines terminal access |
| 2015.09.02 | Peter Barron - Nomination for Charter Aircraft Representative |
| 2015.09.07 | Michael Buck - New FITBA Representative |

CORRESPONDENCE OUT

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 2015.01.05 | Paul Hodgen - Sharp Airlines Terminal access and parking |
| 2015.01.30 | Linda Nicol – Recommendation of appointment as Community Representative to Council |
| 2015.01.30 | Planning Master – Submission on Launceston Airport Master Plan |
| 2015.02.20 | Stewart Atkinson - Sharp Airlines Terminal access and parking |
| 2015.02.24 | Linda Nicol – Ratification of appointment as Community Representative |
| 2015.04.09 & 23 | Island News advertisements calling for submissions |
| 2015.08.13 & 27 | Island News advertisements for Charter Aircraft Representative |
| 2015.09.03 | P Barron - Acknowledgement of application as Charter Representative |
| 2015.09.09 | Michael Buck – Welcome to committee |

Moved: Noel Bowland **Seconded:** Cr P Rhodes
That the correspondence in and out be noted.

CARRIED

AGENDA

Item 1: Welcome to New Committee Members

The meeting welcomed and noted the new committee members

- Luke Gregory as DoSG Representative;
- Linda Nicol as Community Representative; and
- Michael Buck as FITBA Representative;

and thanked the previous representatives Tessa Bird, Ken Stockton and Greg Dempster respectively for their input in the past.

Item 2: Flinders Island Tourism and Business Association Representative (FITBA)

The meeting welcomed and noted Michael Buck as the new FITBA Representative. The Chair tabled the FITBA AGM minutes and a formal letter appointing Michael Buck as their representative to the committee.

Item 3: Consideration of Peter Barron as Charter Aircraft Representative

Gordon Rorison resigned from the position on the 6th July 2015 and the vacant position was advertised in the 13th and 27th August 2015. One nomination was received.

Moved: Cr P Rhodes **Seconded:** Noel Bowland

That Peter Barron be recommended to Council to fill the Charter Aircraft representative position on the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee of Flinders Council.

CARRIED

Item 4: Submissions

The meeting noted that the request for submissions was advertised in the 9th and 23rd April 2015 editions of Island News and no submissions were received.

Item 5: RFDS – Transport Shed

The taxiway/standing area leading up to the RFDS changeover shed has been completed. It took some time for the shed to be used however it is fully operational now.

Item 6: Council's Aviation Policy

The Flinders Council Aviation Policy was last reviewed in April of 2014 and is due for review by April of 2016. Council will discuss the Policy at a workshop and a resultant draft will come to the Aviation Committee for comment as a part of the process of reviewing the Policy.

Item 7: Terms of Reference

A process needs to be put in place to undertake a review of the Terms of Reference and the Chair suggested that a subcommittee be developed.

Moved: Cr Ken Stockton **Seconded:** Linda Nicol

That a short term sub-committee be formed consisting of Mayor Carol Cox, Linda Nicol, Cr Peter Rhodes, and Cr Ken Stockton to review the Terms of Reference and bring recommended changes back to the next meeting of the committee.

CARRIED

Item 8: Airport Business Plan

The Plan itself is confidential however for the Committee's information the following motion was passed (in Closed Council) at the April 2015 Council meeting and brought into the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting,

"That the Flinders Island Airport Business Plan be received and Council endorse the following:

- 1. Council approves the development of storage facilities at the Airport subject to a nominal allocation of \$75,000 being approved in the 2016 financial year budget towards the project. Project and funding approval is subject to obtaining an adequate number of tenants to deliver a positive project Net Present Value and discounted payback period of 7 years or less, as assessed by Council's General Manager*
- 2. Proceed with further investigations into the feasibility of aircraft hangers and develop a detailed business case for Council's consideration.*
- 3. Proceed with further investigations into the feasibility of a coin operated wash-down bay at the airport and develop a detailed business case for Council's consideration.*
- 4. Defer future consideration of paid parking at the Airport until the 2017 financial year.*
- 5. Defer consideration of a 24 hour fuel depot at the Airport until the 2017 financial year."*

So far no funds have been allocated to the Capital budget for storage facilities. Council has been investigating options for aircraft hangers however further work on the hangers has had to be de-prioritised in order to focus on the runway issues.

Three operators are interested in hangers however the taxiway would have to be expanded to accommodate them at a cost of \$1 million. It was queried if the extended pavement work could be considered as part of the long term solution for the runway. Alternate options such as a gravel taxiway to service new hangars will also be explored.

Item 9: Airport Budget

The Operational and Capital airport budget estimates (as approved on the 24th September) were presented for the committee's information. An engineer's report in December 2014 reported that the runway was in good condition therefore no money was allocated to the runway in the 2015/16 Budget. Capital items have been added to meet the immediate need:

- \$280,000 for immediate runway repairs
- \$250,000 for the development of a Business Case

Council has put in for a RAAP (Regional Aviation Access Program) grant for \$250,000 to offset the costs of the business case and \$400,000 for priority repairs. Council will hear the results of the application in late November.

Item 10: Runway 14/32

The General Manager gave the following update on the long runway (14/32).

During a CASA inspection 3 weeks ago, two safety notices were issued – one on the state of runway 14/32 and one because a NOTAM should have been issued on the condition of the runway. That weekend, Council closed the runway and repaired the two main areas of concern however the whole runway surface is failing enabling water to seep into the seal. CASA has restricted take-off weights to a maximum of 5000kg and if more than 5mm of rain falls within a 24

hour period, the runway will be restricted to take-offs only or may be closed to both take-offs and landings subject to the safety of the runway and the amount of water pooling on the surface.

Sharp Airlines are aware of the limitations and are working on contingencies. A runway condition report is provided to Sharp at 7am each morning and another prior to the afternoon flight in order for them to plan accordingly.

Today a Council notice went out to update the community.

ACTION: Forward copy of the Council notice to committee members.

L Nicol requested a copy of the NOTAM which Cr Stockton agreed to forward to her.

Council's insurance position was discussed.

The Business Case development will not be let as a single tender; instead it will be dealt with as a group of smaller projects with the General Manager acting at the project manager and the Aviation Special Committee acting as the project reference group. The Business Case will assess all potential options with a final recommendation provided to Council for consideration.

The General Manager would appreciate input from Committee members on the Business Case methodology when it is finalised.

ACTION: General Manager to forward Business Case methodology to Committee members when finalised.

Item 11: Other Business

There was no other business.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting date for this Committee is set for the 2nd December at 10am.

Meeting Closed 10.35am