

**FURNEAUX GROUP SHIPPING SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**

**DATE:** Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2015  
**VENUE:** Rose Garden Room, FAEC, Whitemark  
**COMMENCING:** 2pm

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**PRESENT:**

Mayor C Cox	Chair
Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham	Council
Cr Peter Rhodes	Council
Rhys Cropper	TasPorts
David Madden	Commerce Representative
Jeff Phillips	Transport Representative
Scott Woods	Livestock Representative

**APOLOGIES:**

Steve Crawford	TFGA Representative
Denise Gardner	CBIAAI
Luke Gregory	DoSG

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Raoul Harper	General Manager
Vicki Warden	Executive Officer (Executive Officer)

**CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

**Moved:** D Madden    **Seconded:** J Phillips  
That the minutes from the meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015 are a true record.

**CARRIED**

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor M Cobham    **Seconded:** D Madden  
That the minutes from the meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015 are a true record, including the addition of reference to Scott Anderson as a Guest.

**CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE IN:**

2015.05.15    Luke Gregory – apology for non-attendance at May meeting  
2015.05.28    TasPorts – schedule of port charges 2015/16  
2015.06.15    Jeff Phillips – Correspondence  
2015.06.18    A Nikolic MP – Re 12nm Definition of Australian Waters for Biosecurity Purposes  
2015.07.01    John Johnston – Resignation as TasPorts Representative  
2015.08.16    Port & Coastal Marine - Addendum to proposal for Consolidated Shipping Services

**CORRESPONDENCE OUT:**

2015.03.15    Councillors – Shipping Contingency Funding  
2015.04.09 & 23    Island News advertisements calling for submissions

2015.05.15 Committee Members - Notification of meeting  
2015.06.15 A Nikolic – Re Commonwealth Biosecurity Bill alert  
2015.06.18 Committee Members - TasPorts Presentation  
2015.08.03 Committee Members - Port & Coastal Marine update

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor M Cobham    **Seconded:** S Woods  
That the correspondence in and out be noted.

**CARRIED**

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Item 1            Welcome to New Committee Members**

The meeting welcomed and noted Rhys Cropper (Tasports) and Luke Gregory (DoSG) (in absentia) and thanked the previous representatives John Johnston and Tessa Bird respectively.

### **Item 2            Submissions**

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

### **Item 3            Issues Raised by Jeff Phillips**

1. Notification of meeting – Unfortunately due to some staff being on holiday hard copies of emails sent to Committee members were not forwarded to Jeff as is the normal practice. Jeff has been given a personal apology and the system that was in place to alert senders of emails to the Shipping Committee that Jeff is to be sent hard copies has been amended to work for all staff, the Mayor and General Manager.
2. Jeff is correct in that the Terms of Reference require a Quorum of 6 and only 4 members were present. The reason for the meeting was as an information session for TasPorts to disseminate information on Ports Charges. The only decision made was to accept minutes and those minutes have been put to this meeting also for acceptance.
3. Addition of Scott to Guest List should be moved with ratification of minutes at this meeting.
4. The reason for the meeting was as an information session for TasPorts to disseminate information on Ports Charges. Other items mentioned have been added to this Agenda.
5. As for 4.
6. As for 4.
7. As for 4.

### **Item 4            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 P Rhodes    **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham  
That a short term sub-committee be formed consisting of Mayor Carol Cox, Cr P Rhodes and Dave Madden to review the Terms of Reference and bring recommended changes back to the next meeting of the committee.

**Item 5 Contingency Funding**

2014 Contingency Funding was allocated to TasPorts for paving in the Lady Barron Port area. A program of works was agreed at the time and a considerable amount of work has been completed. Council awaits an invoice from TasPorts for the completed works as per the agreed schedule.

**ACTION:** R Cropper to liaise with R Harper regarding outstanding invoices.

**Item 6 Update from TasPorts - re operations at the Lady Barron Port**

R Cropper provided an update on operations at the Port:

When Mike Wickham left TasPorts, Craig Bull took over as an interim manager. Brendan Meagher is now assistant operations supervisor and reports to Craig Bull on King Island. Garth Smith reports to Brendan Meagher. When John Johnston left TasPorts, Rhys Cropper took over responsibility for security and operations on the islands.

Current projects being undertaken at the Port are drainage works; paving near the transit shed and bounded area; new work on slipway and security fence. A new 3.5 tonne fork truck has been purchased for the yard.

Discussion ensued:

Permission was received to get gate access passes for a number of truck drivers however the application was withdrawn by TasPorts. Some drivers still need access passes. Could TasPorts please work on their relationship with the shipping company?

R Cropper has had recent conversations with Qube to try to understand how the operation of the wharf works.

The beginning of November is the renewal date for the agreement between Qube, Furneaux Freight and TasPorts. Continuity of service is vital.

There is no black water disposal system on the island and animal effluent from the Port is currently being collected in a tank and broadcast onto paddocks. Is TasPorts comfortable with that amount of effluent being broadcast and that it will have no environmental health impacts in the short or long term? Council seeks to develop a black water disposal system but it is costly. As effluent disposal is a potential risk for TasPorts, an opportunity exists for Council and the State Government to work together to find an acceptable solution.

**ACTION:** R Cropper to seek advice from their environmental expert and provide the General Manager with a response.

The new ladders in the port are difficult to move around on un-paved surfaces. Will the required area be concreted? Could TasPorts please talk to the transport industry before making decisions and purchasing such aids that are ineffective?

TasPorts is trying to put infrastructure in place that suits the trailers currently on island.

**Item 7 Note Port & Coastal Statement of Intentions**

The meeting noted that a public document has been distributed throughout the community at the request of Port & Coastal directors including distribution to committee members.

**Item 8            Other Business**

Shipping Containers

The four refrigerated shipping containers owned by Council have been damaged and are now in poor condition. The damage appears to have been caused by forklifts and poor handling practices. The rubber seals are starting to leak and the insulation is visible. The refrigeration systems are also overdue for a service. Once moisture is absorbed by the exposed insulation they will fail. There is potential risk in relation to food safety if action is not taken to fix the containers.

When comparing the condition of dry containers owned by the shipping company with those owned by Council, it is clear that the level of damage is well beyond normal wear and tear. These containers now need an assessment completed as to their serviceability and safety. Expectations are that they will require a major overhaul if they are to remain in service. This cost will be borne by the community via Council.

It was noted that Council has been reluctant to pay for the containers to be maintained knowing there is no agreement with the shipper to cover any further damage. There is no budget allocation in the 2015/16 Council Budget to repair them and the shipper has made it clear it has no desire to lease them and take responsibility of their maintenance. The current situation sees Council effectively subsidising the shipping of chilled and frozen goods on and off the island and receiving no compensation for the use of our capital equipment while being exposed to all of the maintenance costs. This is clearly not a sustainable situation.

**Moved:** Cr P Rhodes     **Seconded:** S Woods

That Council engage a container repairer to assess the current state of the four containers and provide Council with a list of prioritised repairs and a cost estimate to consider.

**CARRIED**

**ACTION:**            The Council engage a container repairer to assess the current state of the four containers and provide Council with a prioritised schedule of works required to return them to a serviceable condition. A cost estimate of the works required should also be provided. Once the estimate and schedule is provided to Council for consideration a decision on whether to fund the maintenance required to return them to a serviceable condition will need to be made.

The farmers group would like to present to the Shipping Committee once they have discussed the shipping of GAP eligible cattle with Greenhams.

**Next Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 2pm.**

**Meeting closed: 3.22pm**