



Confirmed Minutes
Ordinary Council Meeting
16th July 2015



FLINDERS COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

CONFIRMED MINUTES

DATE: Thursday 16th July 2015
VENUE: Flinders Art and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark
COMMENCING: 1.00 pm

PRESENT

Mayor Carol Cox
Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham
Cr Chris Rhodes
Cr Ken Stockton
Cr David Williams
Cr Gerald Willis

APOLOGIES

Cr Peter Rhodes

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Raoul Harper	- General Manager	1.00 – 2.26pm
Sophie Pitchford	- Corporate Services Coordinator	1.00 – 1.20pm
Vicki Warden	- Executive Officer	1.00 – 2.26pm

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

188.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton
That the Minutes from the Ordinary Council Meeting and the Closed Council Meeting held on the 18th June 2015 be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

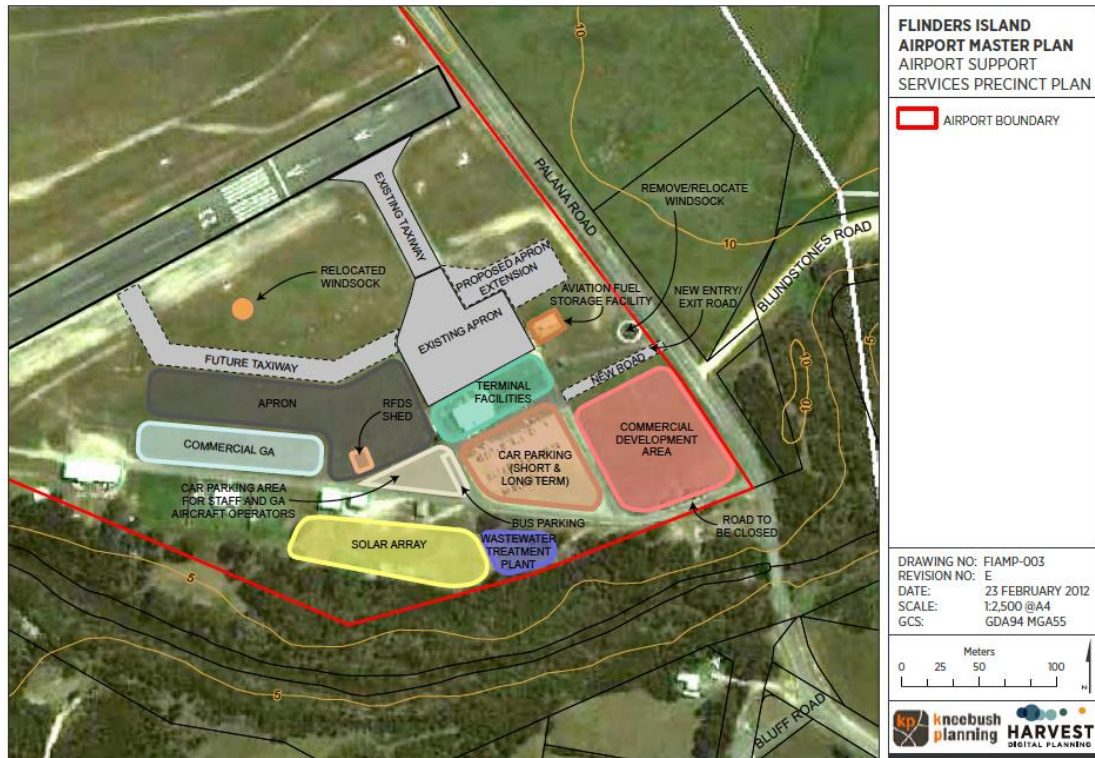
For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question 1: Dennis Cooper

Re: location of future private/charter operators' hangars and landing fees, would Council consider allowing the above hangars to be located on the northside of the strip – where two are already – and abolish landing fees for flights within the Furneaux Group? Note: the Islands' do already pay road rates; Airvan planes can better service islands than boats in most cases and it may help restore activity on islands – hard to have boats and farming talents.

Response from General Manager:



The adopted Flinders Island Airport Master Plan specifically sited the commercial operators' hangar development zone adjacent to the RFDS Shed with access to the recently completed stage 1 apron extension. The proposed stage 2 apron extension will provide for even further enhanced facilities for commercial general aviation operators with access to a dedicated taxiway.

The Airport Master Plan dedicated the northern side of the airport to general aviation hangar development not commercial operators. Commercial operators should be focused into the one area of the airport. Power, waste water disposal, access to car parking, the terminal building, fuel and the overall design and functionality of the airport rely on considered land use planning and development. Council has adopted the Airport Master Plan to guide the future use and development of the airport. A decision on the siting of commercial hangars has already been made and Mr Cooper makes no considered argument as to why this should be revisited in the question provided.

In relation to the request to waive landing fees for operators who work in the Furneaux Islands due to the fact they pay "road rates" the following applies:

1. Council owns and maintains the airport for the benefit of the entire community. This comes at a substantial cost to all ratepayers. Commercial operators who utilise the facility for profit should by right pay for that use. The current landing fee system does not discriminate

between commercial operators and those that utilise the facility are acutely aware of the fees and charges involved in its use to support their commercial operations. To subsidise commercial operators would see the community as a whole required to further cross subsidise the operation of the airport. Effectively this would see ratepayers cross subsidising a commercial operator and actively reducing funds from essential services to the cost of operating the airport.

2. The National Competition Policy binds Council and the manner in which it undertakes commercial activities.

Broadly, the National Competition Policy can be outlined as follows:

1. It separates the regulatory functions from the commercial activities of the business.
2. Extend the Trade Practices laws prohibiting anti-competitive activities (such as the abuse of market power and market-fixing) to all businesses, including government businesses.
3. Requires government to ensure 'competitive neutrality' so that privately-owned businesses can compete on an equal footing with those owned by Government.

Council must operate the airport on a commercial basis and not support or undertake activities that would see it breach its competitive neutrality requirements. Council must at all times apply full cost attribution to its commercial fees and charges. Waiving landing fees as outlined by Mr Cooper would see Council in breach of its competitive neutrality requirements and as such can't be supported. Council can consider alternative approaches to charging operators such as annual access fees and the like but these again must be entered into on a commercial basis where full cost attribution is still employed.

In short, the Airport Master Plan does not support commercial hangar development on the northern side of the airport and Council is required to charge commercial operators for the use of the airport.

Question 2: Deputy Mayor M Cobham on behalf of Annemarie Carnell and Karen Turner

We are asking if the proposed new public toilet at Killiecrankie will be sited at the large public open space on the right hand side of Killiecrankie Road, approximately 80 meters south of the BBQ area. There is an area there on the level high ground next to the road which is ideal for the toilet, away from any rocks and low lying damp ground. This area was also suggested by a previous Council Building Inspector and also by some plans drawn up in the past for this area. Given that this is the optimum choice geologically speaking for the new public toilet, could you tell us if this is where the toilet will be built?

Response from General Manger:

Tests were completed last week and it is most likely that the toilet will be sited in this location.

LATE AGENDA ITEMS

Nil

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Nil

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

PETITIONS

Nil

WORKSHOPS & INFORMATION FORUMS

File No: COU/0205

Council Workshop held on 2nd July 2015

Council held a Workshop on the following subjects:

- Item 1 WiFi Project – Elan
- Item 2 Bass Strait Islands Shipping Proposal
- Item 3 DRAFT 2015-16 Budget
- Item 4 DRAFT Strategic Plan
- Item 5 DRAFT 2015-16 Annual Plan
- Item 6 CONFIDENTIAL Planning update
- Item 7 CONFIDENTIAL Lady Baron Property
- Item 8 Australian Government Regional Telecommunications Review

Additional items discussed:

- Telstra proposal
- Running Display Cabinet

Councillors Present:

Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton and Cr Gerald Willis

Apologies:

Cr Peter Rhodes
Cr David Williams

Staff and Consultants Present:

Raoul Harper (General Manager) and Sophie Pitchford (Corporate Services Manager) (Item 3 only)

As workshops and information sessions are for information and discussion purposes only, no decisions are made or foreshadowed at these proceedings.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council Workshop held on 2nd July 2015 be noted.

DECISION:

189.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr C Rhodes
That the Council Workshop held on 2nd July 2015 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Nil

COUNCILLOR'S QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

COUNCILLOR'S QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

PUBLICATIONS/REPORTS TABLED FOR COUNCIL INFORMATION

Nil

REPORTS TO BE RECEIVED

Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee

File No: AME/0503

Annexure 1: Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee Special Meeting 8th June 2015 Unconfirmed Minutes

OFFICER'S REPORT (Raoul Harper, General Manager):

The unconfirmed minutes of the Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee Special Meeting held on Monday 8th June 2015 have been provided for consideration. The minutes outline what the committee has been working on to date and can now be received by Council.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The unconfirmed minutes of the Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee Special Meeting held on Monday 8th June 2015 be noted.

DECISION:

190.07.2015 Moved: Cr D Williams **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor M Cobham

The unconfirmed minutes of the Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee Special Meeting held on Monday 8th June 2015 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee

File No: AME/0503

Annexure 2: Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee Special Meeting 1st July 2015 Unconfirmed Minutes

OFFICER'S REPORT (Raoul Harper, General Manager):

The unconfirmed minutes of the Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee Special Meeting held on Wednesday 1st July 2015 have been provided for consideration. The minutes outline what the committee has been working on to date and can now be received by Council.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The unconfirmed minutes of the Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee Special Meeting held on Wednesday 1st July 2015 be noted.

DECISION:

191.07.2015 Moved: Cr D Williams **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor M Cobham

The unconfirmed minutes of the Lady Barron Hall & Recreational Special Committee Special Meeting held on Wednesday 1st July 2015 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Flinders Island State Emergency Service

File No: CSV/0400

Annexure 3: Flinders Island State Emergency Service Annual Report (1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015)

Annexure 4: State Emergency Service Auditor's Report 2014

OFFICER'S REPORT (Raoul Harper, General Manager):

The Flinders Island State Emergency Service Annual Report (1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015) and Auditor's Report have been provided for consideration. The report outlines the group's achievement over the 12 month period and can now be received by Council.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting resolves that the Flinders Island State Emergency Service Annual Report (1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015) and Auditor's Report be received and noted.

DECISION:

192.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton

That the meeting resolves that the Flinders Island State Emergency Service Annual Report (1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015) and Auditor's Report be received and noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Furneaux Community Health Special Committee

File No: CSV/0912

Annexure 5: Furneaux Community Health Special Committee Meeting 3rd June 2015 Unconfirmed Minutes

OFFICER'S REPORT (Raoul Harper, General Manager):

The unconfirmed minutes of the Furneaux Community Health Special Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd June 2015 have been provided for consideration. The minutes outline what the committee has been working on to date and can now be received by Council.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The unconfirmed minutes of the Furneaux Community Health Special Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd June 2015 be noted.

DECISION:

193.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham

Seconded: Cr G Willis

The unconfirmed minutes of the Furneaux Community Health Special Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd June 2015 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Furneaux (Emita) Hall & Recreation Ground Special Committee

File No: AME/0502

Annexure 6: Furneaux (Emita) Hall & Recreation Ground Special Committee Meeting 25th June 2015 Unconfirmed Minutes

OFFICER'S REPORT (Raoul Harper, General Manager):

The unconfirmed minutes of the Furneaux (Emita) Hall & Recreation Ground Special Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25th June 2015 have been provided for consideration. The minutes outline what the committee has been working on to date and can now be received by Council.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The unconfirmed minutes of the Furneaux (Emita) Hall & Recreation Ground Special Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25th June 2015 be noted.

DECISION:

194.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton

The unconfirmed minutes of the Furneaux (Emita) Hall & Recreation Ground Special Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25th June 2015 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Nil

Note: Deputy Mayor M Cobham submitted a report on the 'Coast to Coast' Conference which will be tabled at the August Ordinary Council Meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

ACTION	Information
PROPONENT	Mayor C Cox
FILE REFERENCE	COU/0600
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	Nil

REPORT:**APPOINTMENTS:**

18/06/15	Meeting Westpac Regional Manager, Tasmania with Council
18/06/15	Council Meeting
19/06/15	Rock - the exhibition
23/06/15	Met with community member re community grant allocation process
24/06/15	General Managers Performance Review
27/06/15	Lions Changeover Dinner
30/06/15	Met with the State Cabinet with Council
30/06/15	Community lunch with the State Cabinet
30/06/15	Afternoon tour with the Deputy Premier and Treasurer of School & Markarna Park
01/07/15	Lady Barron Hall Special Committee Meeting
02/07/15	Council Workshop
04/07/15	Junior Football

Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT)

Welcome new CEO, Katrena Stephenson. Katrena was previously the Policy Director for LGAT. Congratulations to the newly elected members of the General Management Committee (GMC) of LGAT. The Meander Valley Council Mayor, Cr Craig Perkins, is the elected GMC Representative for the Northern Councils with populations less than 20,000.

The LGAT Conference is being held in Launceston on the 23rd and 24th July. This is preceded by the Annual General Meeting and a General Meeting on 22nd July. This year the week has been turned into an extravaganza of events for Local Government Representatives. On Monday the 20th there is a pre-conference forum called - A Healthy Change, focusing on food security. LGAT has organised a Local Government Research Symposium on the 21st and on the 23rd there is a breakfast organised by the Northern Councillor's Group, C8 with guest speaker focusing on opportunities of the NBN. The week will also include a meeting of Northern Tasmania Development (NTD). This is the first time that the Conference has been preceded by forums and it makes for a full week of interesting Local Government orientated information and networking opportunities that Flinders Council representatives might not otherwise attend. I wish to thank LGAT for the Bass Strait Islands' subsidy they have applied to

the conference attendance fees. The Deputy Mayor, Cr Willis and myself will be your Councillor representatives at the Conference. We will also be taking this opportunity to network with other Councillors and staff.

State Government Cabinet Visit

I have been extremely privileged to welcome the full State Cabinet to the Island for a Cabinet Meeting. Councillors met with the Cabinet in the morning and also attended the lunch put on by the members for Bass, The Hon. Peter Gutwein MP, The Hon Michael Ferguson MP and Sarah Courtney MP. The Deputy Mayor then accompanied the Minister for Health and the Minister for Human Services on a tour of the Multi-Purpose Centre, the General Manager accompanied the Minister for Infrastructure and the Minister for Resources to view the Port, whilst I then accompanied the Minister for Education and the Treasurer to visit the School. The Premier and other Cabinet members visited with the Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Inc. and flew to Cape Barren Island. Those remaining on Flinders were hosted to afternoon tea at Markarna Park.

Both from my point of view and feedback from the visitors, this was a very successful visit. Council indicated that it is very appreciative of the dollars that have been spent on the Island in recent years and the support given in maintaining good sea access, highlighting that this assists Council in being proactive in maintaining and upgrading its own infrastructure. The major area that Council is working on now, and that causes the most angst in the community, is the limited and unreliable access to telecommunications, both as phone and data transfer, and that an upgrade of these is necessary for safety and to continue to grow the Islands.

I thank the Cabinet Members and Sarah for making the trip to Flinders for this historic event.

Local Government Reform

The Minister for Planning and Local Government has written outlining the next phase of the process for those Councils who have advised they will participate in discussions on amalgamation and resource sharing. Flinders Council has advised the Minister that it sees no advantage for its communities in the Council discussing amalgamation or a shared service model. The Council will be and is in contact with other northern councils on opportunities to resource share. Flinders already works with another Council in planning and building where it would cause exorbitant expense to the ratepayers to have staff with the required skill sets employed locally. In the letter received from the Minister on the 7th July, Minister Gutwein advised that *“a number of councils are now prepared to engage in feasibility studies at a regional level.”* and states that *“Given the potential benefits of a much broader, regional approach to resource sharing, it would be disappointing if there were a small number of councils in each region not participating in such major reform.”* and requests that Councils

who elected to stay out of the process reconsider on the back of the emergence of the significant proposals that are being considered in all three regions.” This is a matter that Council as a part of the northern region will need to consider.

Whitemark Boat Ramp

Thanks to the Recreational Boating Fund, (funded from boat licence revenue for the purpose of improving recreational boating infrastructure around Tasmania), the Whitemark boat ramp will be upgraded this financial year. The Council’s application for one to one funding to make improvements to the launching facility was successful, with \$42,500 being granted.

Federal Government Funding for Local Government

The Federal Government, whilst freezing the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to Councils, is increasing the amount of dollars available to Councils in other areas, such as roads in the form of Roads to Recovery funding. How much Flinders Council will be able to take advantage of these funding opportunities will very much depend on the regulations around each type of funding. For instance, for Roads to Recovery funding Council has to spend a substantial amount of its own money on roads, excluding the funding for roads that it receives in the form of FAGs. Application for and reporting on money available and received is time consuming and requires skill. The small council staff we have will be doing its best to take each and every opportunity as it arises, however there will be times when the staff capacity is stretched to the limit, particularly when you take into account the amount of regular reporting that is also required. Your Council staff are dedicated to working hard to achieve the best possible results for you, the rate payers, and community members in all areas of its activities.

Legislation

Two sets of remade and amended local government regulations came into effect on the 29th June - Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 and the Local Government (General) regulations 2015.

The major change that will be noticeable to ratepayers is that Council no longer has to advertise scheduled Ordinary Meetings of Council in the Examiner. One notice giving the set dates of the meetings for the year will suffice. Only changes to meeting dates than have to be advertised in the Examiner (as our daily paper). The list of dates will be on Council’s website and on the Notice Board at the Council entrance. Each Council Meeting will continue to be advertised in the Island News.

Strengthened Code of Conduct for Councillors legislation did not pass the upper house. This legislation was initiated by the Local Government Sector and has been some time in the making. The issue will be discussed further at the upcoming LGAT meetings.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

DATE	WHO	SUBJECT
01/06/15	Emita Hall Committee	Update and thank you
15/06/15	LGAT	Media release - New CEO
17/06/15	University of Tasmania	Children's University Tasmania - Launch Invitation
18/06/15	Tasmanian Audit Office	Change of Address
18/06/15	Sarah Courtney MP Office	Invitation to light luncheon on 30/6/15
18/06/15	LGAT	Election timetable for Election of President
18/06/15	C Narkowicz, Xderma Pty Ltd	Kunzea oil distillation
18/06/15	Minister for Planning & Local Government	Media Release on Local Government Reform
19/06/15	Flinders Lions Club	Invitation to Changeover Dinner 27/6/15
19/06/15	A Nikolic, MP	Changes to criteria for Black Spot Funding
19/06/15	Australian Property Institute	Excellence in Local Government Property Award - Victoria & Tasmania, closes 28/8/15
19/06/15	A Nikolic MP	Response to query on 12nm definition of Australian Territory for biosecurity purposes
22/06/15	Chair, Tasmanian Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast Executive	Invite - 10 th Annual Tasmanian Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast, 19/8/15
22/06/15	Australian Education Union Tasmanian Branch	TAFE Under Attack
23/06/15	Australian Bureau of Statistics	Your Invitation to the ABS Demography Roadshow - Hobart - 15/7/15
23/06/15	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Local Government Division	Amended local government regulations will take effect on 29 June 2015
23/06/15	Department of Police and Emergency Management	Emergency Services Medals Nominations
24/06/15	LGAT	Conference attendance confirmation with discount for Islands
25/06/15	Tasmanian Audit Office	Terms of Audit engagement for the Audit of the Financial Report of Flinders Council
25/06/15	C Griffin, CEO Tourism Northern Tasmania	New Tasmanian Visitor Survey Results ending March 2015
25/06/15	Chairman, Tourism Northern Tasmania	Invitation- informal dinner with the Board of Tourism North Tasmania - 20/6/15 (accepted)
25/06/15	Flinders Council	Householder - Waste Management

25/06/15	Deputy Prime Minister, Warren Truss	Media Release on fuel excise and extra money for roads
26/06/15	Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards	Nominations now open
26/06/15	K Stephenson, CEO of LGAT	Re Local Government (Code of Conduct) Amendment Bill not passing the Upper House
26/06/15	Hon Rene Hidding MP, Minister for Infrastructure	Advice of approval of MAST grant for improvements to Whitemark boat ramp
26/06/15	Biosecurity Tasmania	Biosecurity Advisory 17/2015 -First meeting of the Tasmanian Cat Management Reference Group
26/06/15	TasWater	Notice of General Meeting on 28 th July and Agenda
29/06/15	Tas Audit Office	Determination of Audit Fees
29/06/15	Tasmanian Electoral Office	LGAT President Election Timetable
29/06/15	Tasmania Taskforce	Employment, Education, Development and Growth
29/06/15	G Palmer, LGAT	Development of Tasmanian Cat Management Plan
30/06/15	M Wheatley	Mobile phone coverage Black Spot funding – 2 nd round
30/06/25	Primary Health Tasmania	Introducing Primary Health Tasmania
30/06/15	D Le Merchant, Northern Tasmanian Development (NTD)	Dorset Council meeting decision to withdraw from NTD
30/06/15	NTD	Latest update of the Northern Tasmania Regional Futures Plan
01/07/15	J. Johnston, TasPorts	Moving on from TasPorts
01/07/15	M Ferguson MP, Minister for Health	Update on health changes in Tasmania
01/07/15	LGAT	Invitation to “A Healthy Change” workshop 20/7/15 (accepted)
01/07/15	President, FITBA	Launceston airport
03/07/15	Dr K Stephenson, CEO, LGAT	Advance notice of Late Agenda Item re public access to TasWater test results for town water
03/07/15	Dr K Stephenson, CEO, LGAT	Consultation Draft Exposure Land Use Planning and Approvals (Tasmanian Planning Scheme) Amendment Bill 2015, LGAT consulting with Planners
06/07/15	Community Achievement Awards	Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards have been launched for 2015
06/07/15	The Hon Warren Truss MP	Outline of Federal Funding available to Local Governments and forward payment of FAG Grants

07/07/15	Peter Gutwein MP, Minister for Planning and Local Government	Next steps in considering either improved shared services and/or voluntary amalgamations as a way to improve benefits to ratepayers
07/07/15	Cr Tim Woinarski, Co-Ordinator C8 Working Group	Breakfast with Guest Speaker, George Fong 20/7/15
07/07/15	Co-ordinator, Greater Launceston District, Community Transport	Re access to Launceston Airport and pick up of clients
08/07/15	The Hon M.T. (Rene) Hidding MP, Minister for Infrastructure	State Government 2015-16 Budget allocated \$2.7 million to Dept. of State Growth to prepare for expiration of Various to Various Permits on the 31 December 2015
08/07/15	Katrena Stephenson, CEO LGAT	Outcome of General Management Committee elections
08/07/15	Sarah Courtney, MP	Thank you for warm welcome received by the Cabinet and herself.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

DATE	WHO	SUBJECT
17/06/15	A Nikolic MP	Query on 12nm definition of Australian waters for Biosecurity Purposes
18/06/15	S Gibson, ABC News	Response to query and comment on amalgamations
21/06/15	Councillors	Summary Report – Why Local Government Matters
21/06/15	Councillors	Australian Government Regional Telecommunications Review – submissions 15/7/15
24/06/15	Councillors	TasWater boil water alert and update to customers on treated water installations
29/06/15	Dorset Council, Deputy Mayor and Councillors	Re importance of NTD to region
30/06/15	M Wheatley	Re Black Spot funding 2 nd Round
30/06/15	Councillors	Forward Payment of 2015-16 FAGs
01/07/15	Councillors	Media Release Australian Bureau of Statistics
05/07/15	Mayor, King Island Council	Invitation to catch up at the LGAT Conference
09/07/15	Co-ordinator, Greater Launceston District, Community Transport	Response re query on pick up of clients at Launceston Airport

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayor's report be received.

DECISION:

195.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham

Seconded: Cr C Rhodes

That the Mayor's report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

A. CORPORATE SERVICES

Item A1: Schedule of Fees & Charges 2015-16

ACTION	Decision
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Sophie Pitchford, Corporate Services Manager
FILE REFERENCE	FIN/0701
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexure 7: DRAFT Fees & Charges Schedule 2015-16</i>

INTRODUCTION:

Under Section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council can impose fees and charges with respect of the listed activities within the Act. These activities include the use of any property or facility owned by Council; any application, licence, permit, or registration granted by the Council.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council Budget Workshops 1st & 2nd June 2015

OFFICER'S REPORT:

Annually Council sets fees and charges to reflect costs of providing services to the Municipality in the most cost effective manner obtainable. Therefore, these costs should reflect any CPI increase posted by the Federal Government for the forthcoming financial year.

The proposed fees & charges were discussed at a Budget Workshop by Councillors and Staff, prior to being presented for formal adoption.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT:

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

5. Corporate Governance and Intergovernmental Relations

5.1 Support the capacity and productivity of our organisation and a culture of professionalism, compliance, innovation and service.

5.1.3 Achieve a sustainable balance of income, investment and recurrent expenditure.

5.1.3.6 Deliver financial services including and not limited to creditors, debtors, rates receivables and investments.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Minimal

RISK/LIABILITY:

Maintaining a sound financial position is a critical function of a Council.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Absolute Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Pursuant to Section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993*; that Council adopts the Fees & Charges for the Financial Year 2015-16.

DECISION:

196.07.2015 Moved: Cr D Williams **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton

Pursuant to Section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993*; that Council adopts the Fees & Charges for the Financial Year 2015-16.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Item A2: Rates and Charges for 2015-2016

ACTION	Decision
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Sophie Pitchford, Corporate Services Manager
FILE REFERENCE	FIN/0701
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Nil</i>

INTRODUCTION:

Section 82 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, requires Council to prepare Budget Estimates of the Council's revenue and expenditure for each financial year.

As part of these Budget Estimates and pursuant to Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council can raise a general rate on all rateable land (excluding land which is exempt) within the Flinders Municipality, based on a cents in the dollar amount on the Assessed Annual Value (AAV) of the land.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council Budget Workshops 1st & 2nd June 2015

OFFICER'S REPORT:

Due to an increase in valuations, Council has decided not to increase the rate in the dollar for 2015-16. Below are the main areas of interest within the proposed 2015-16 rates resolution:-

Setting of General Rate

The proposed Budget Estimates for 2015-2016 provides for general rate revenue of \$1,280,659. This is represented by a rate in the dollar of 9.4704 cents in the AAV which together with some growth revenue, other income and cash reserves will provide an operating expenditure budget of \$5.7 million.

In line with Section 89B of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the relevant percentage for the purpose of minimum amounts must be set at 35% of the total rateable properties. Hence, Council's minimum amount is set at \$435 to be compliant.

Fire Service Contribution

Pursuant to Part 5, Division 3 of the *Fire Service Act 1979*, Council is required to collect funds for firefighting services throughout the State and for 2015-16 year it will be 0.3296 cents in the dollar in respect of General Land.

The State Fire Commission has notified Council that the minimum levy has increased from \$37.00 to \$38.00 per assessment.

Waste Management

Under Section 93 (1)(d) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a council may make a service rate for rateable land for waste management.

Council provides waste management services to all land within the Municipality which comprises waste disposal areas, waste transfer stations and other related waste management facilities such as recycling bins.

Council will be increasing their focus on waste management during 2015-16 by carrying out ongoing site improvements at Whitemark and the continuation of the introduction of recycling.

To accommodate this focus as well as meeting all statutory and environmental requirements involved, it is proposed to increase the waste management service fee from \$148 to \$152 per property.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT:

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

5. Corporate Governance and Intergovernmental Relations

5.1 Support the capacity and productivity of our organisation and a culture of professionalism, compliance, innovation and service.

5.1.3 Achieve a sustainable balance of income, investment and recurrent expenditure.

5.1.3.3 Deliver the new Budget Estimates for the proceeding financial year.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The adoption of these Estimates provides the necessary funds for the implementation of the Annual Plan 2015-16 and to achieve Council's strategic outcomes detailed in Council's draft Strategic Plan.

RISK/LIABILITY:

Maintaining a sound financial position is a critical function of Council. Failure to be financially accountable has significant implications for Council.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Absolute Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

That in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council adopts the Rates and Charges for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 in accordance with the resolutions which follow:-

1. General Rate:

- 1.1** Pursuant to Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council makes the following general rate on all rateable land (excluding land which is exempt pursuant to the provisions of Section 87) within the Municipal Area of Flinders for the period commencing 1 July 2015 and ending 30 June 2016, namely a rate of 9.4704 cents in the dollar on the assessed annual value of the land.
- 1.2** Pursuant to Section 90(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council sets a minimum amount payable in respect of the general rate of \$435.

2. Service Rates and Service Charges:

Pursuant to Sections 93, 93A, 94, 94A and 95 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council makes the following service rates and service charges on all rateable land within the Municipal Area of Flinders (including land which is otherwise exempt from rates pursuant to Section 87 but excluding Crown Land to which Council does not supply any of the following services) for the period commencing 1 July 2015 and ending on the 30 June 2016, namely:-

2.1 Waste Management:

Service charges for the making available of Waste Management Services to all land within the Municipal Area comprising waste disposal areas, waste transfer stations and related waste management facilities of \$152.

2.2 Fire Service Contribution:

Pursuant to Section 93A of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council makes the following service rates in respect of the Fire Service contributions it must collect under the *Fire Service Act 1979* for the rateable parcels of land within the Municipal Area as follows:-

<i>District</i>	<i>Cents in the Dollar of AAV</i>
General Land	0.3296

Pursuant to Section 93(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council sets a minimum amount payable in respect of this service rate of \$38.

3. Separate Land:

- 3.1** For the purposes of these resolutions the rates and charges shall apply to each parcel of land which is shown as being separately valued in the valuation list prepared under the *Valuation of Land Act 2001*.

4. Adjusted Values:

- 4.1.** For the purposes of each of these resolutions any reference to assessed annual value includes a reference to that value as adjusted pursuant to Section 89 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

5. Instalment Payment:

- 5.1** Pursuant to Section 124 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council:-

- (a)** Decides that all rates are payable by all rate payers by two instalments which must be of approximately equal amounts.
- (b)** Determines that the dates by which instalments are to be paid shall be as follows:-
 - (i)** The first instalment on or before 21 October 2015; and
 - (ii)** The second instalment on or before 17 February 2016.
- (c)** Where a ratepayer fails to pay any instalment within 21 days of the date on which the rates are due, the full amount owing becomes due and payable in accordance with Section 124 (5) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

6. Discount:

Pursuant to Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council offers to all of the ratepayers who are liable to pay rates and charges a discount of 2% if the rates and charges are paid by one payment on or before 21 October 2015.

7. Penalty and Interest:

- 7.1** Pursuant to Section 128 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, if any rate or instalment is not paid on or before the date it falls due then:-

- (a)** There is payable a penalty of 10% of the unpaid rate or instalment; and

- (b) There is payable a daily interest charge of 0.025616 (9.35% per annum) in respect of the unpaid rate or instalment for the period during which it is unpaid.

8. Words and Expressions:

Words and expressions used both in these resolutions and in the *Local Government Act 1993* or the *Fire Service Act 1979* have in these resolutions the same respective meanings as they have in those Acts.

DECISION:

197.07.2015 Moved: Cr D Williams **Seconded:** Cr C Rhodes

That in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council adopts the Rates and Charges for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 in accordance with the resolutions which follow:-

1. General Rate:

- 1.1 Pursuant to Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council makes the following general rate on all rateable land (excluding land which is exempt pursuant to the provisions of Section 87) within the Municipal Area of Flinders for the period commencing 1 July 2015 and ending 30 June 2016, namely a rate of 9.4704 cents in the dollar on the assessed annual value of the land.
- 1.2 Pursuant to Section 90(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council sets a minimum amount payable in respect of the general rate of \$435.

2. Service Rates and Service Charges:

Pursuant to Sections 93, 93A, 94, 94A and 95 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council makes the following service rates and service charges on all rateable land within the Municipal Area of Flinders (including land which is otherwise exempt from rates pursuant to Section 87 but excluding Crown Land to which Council does not supply any of the following services) for the period commencing 1 July 2015 and ending on the 30 June 2016, namely:-

2.1 Waste Management:

Service charges for the making available of Waste Management Services to all land within the Municipal Area comprising waste disposal areas, waste transfer stations and related waste management facilities of \$152.

2.2 Fire Service Contribution:

Pursuant to Section 93A of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council makes the following service rates in respect of the Fire Service contributions it must collect under the *Fire Service Act 1979* for the rateable parcels of land within the Municipal Area as follows:-

<i>District</i>	<i>Cents in the Dollar of AAV</i>
General Land	0.3296

Pursuant to Section 93(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council sets a minimum amount payable in respect of this service rate of \$38.

3. Separate Land:

- 3.1 For the purposes of these resolutions the rates and charges shall apply to each parcel of land which is shown as being separately valued in the valuation list prepared under the *Valuation of Land Act 2001*.

4. Adjusted Values:

- 4.1. For the purposes of each of these resolutions any reference to assessed annual value includes a reference to that value as adjusted pursuant to Section 89 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

5. Instalment Payment:

- 5.1 Pursuant to Section 124 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council:-

- (a) Decides that all rates are payable by all rate payers by two instalments which must be of approximately equal amounts.
- (b) Determines that the dates by which instalments are to be paid shall be as follows:-
 - (i) The first instalment on or before 21 October 2015; and
 - (ii) The second instalment on or before 17 February 2016.
- (d) Where a ratepayer fails to pay any instalment within 21 days of the date on which the rates are due, the full amount owing becomes due and payable in accordance with Section 124 (5) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

6. Discount:

Pursuant to Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council offers to all of the ratepayers who are liable to pay rates and charges a discount of 2% if the rates and charges are paid by one payment on or before 21 October 2015.

7. Penalty and Interest:

7.1 Pursuant to Section 128 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, if any rate or instalment is not paid on or before the date it falls due then:-

- (a) There is payable a penalty of 10% of the unpaid rate or instalment; and
- (b) There is payable a daily interest charge of 0.025616 (9.35% per annum) in respect of the unpaid rate or instalment for the period during which it is unpaid.

8. Words and Expressions:

Words and expressions used both in these resolutions and in the *Local Government Act 1993* or the *Fire Service Act 1979* have in these resolutions the same respective meanings as they have in those Acts.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Item A3: Budget Estimates 2015-2016

ACTION	Decision
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Sophie Pitchford, Corporate Services Manager
FILE REFERENCE	FIN/0701
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexure 8: DRAFT Budget Estimates 2015-2016</i>

INTRODUCTION:

Section 82 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), requires Council to prepare Budget Estimates of the Council's revenue and expenditure for each financial year.

The Budget Estimates are to contain details of the following information:-

- the estimated Revenue of the Council;
- the estimated Expenditure of the Council;
- the estimated Borrowings by the Council;
- the estimated Capital Works of the Council; and
- any other details required by the Minister.

In accordance with the Act the Budget Estimates must be adopted by Council before 31st August each year, but cannot be adopted more than one month before the start of the financial year to which they relate.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council Budget Workshops 1st & 2nd June 2015

OFFICER'S REPORT:

Due to an increase in valuations, Council has decided not to increase the rate in the dollar for 2015-16.

The development of a Long Term Financial Plan in the year ahead will be critical if Council is to maintain sustainable and compliant service delivery and asset standards to the community.

Council has budgeted for a total deficit of \$696,830 after taking into account Capital Grants & Contributions. The budgeted deficit includes a \$1,470,356 provision for depreciation and a \$2,043,999 Capital Works Program. This is in line with Council's continued push to increase its asset renewal ratio and invest in the upgrade and maintenance of its capital assets.

Within the 2015-2016 Budget Estimates the following have be established under legislative requirements or listed to provide further detail of their components:-

Capital Works Program

This budget provides for expenditure on Capital Works projects with a program totalling \$2,043,999. The following major projects of significance will be commenced and/or completed during the 2015-2016 financial year:-

PROJECT NAME	ESTIMATE \$
Road Reseals	651,544
Road Resheeting	77,120
Lughrata Quarry Development	70,000
Plant & Equipment	31,000
Town Maintenance	904,383
Airport	23,690
Waste Management	141,262
Office Computer Systems & Records Storage	25,000

Commonwealth Grants

Council continues to direct attention towards improving its share of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants available to Tasmanian Councils and has persisted with its request for the State Grants Commission to review the various disability and/or isolation factors which form part of our assessment.

The amount budgeted for the year 2015-2016 is \$1,693,016 which represents Council's full yearly allocation, excluding a CPI increase which has been frozen by the Federal Government. This will be apportioned as follows:-

CATEGORY	AMOUNT \$
Road / Bridge Funds	1,019,541
General Purpose Funds	673,475

Conclusion

The previous agenda item 'Rates and Charges for 2015-16' if adopted will form part of the 2015-16 Budget Estimates under Item 2.

I now submit the Budget Estimates 2015-2016 for consideration and adoption by Council.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT:

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

5. Corporate Governance and Intergovernmental Relations

5.1 Support the capacity and productivity of our organisation and a culture of professionalism, compliance, innovation and service.

5.1.3 Achieve a sustainable balance of income, investment and recurrent expenditure.

5.1.3.3 Deliver the new Budget Estimates for the proceeding financial year.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The adoption of these Budget Estimates provides the necessary funds for the implementation of the proposed Annual Plan 2015-16 and to achieve Council's strategic directives detailed in Council's draft Strategic Plan.

RISK/LIABILITY:

Maintaining a sound financial position is a critical function of Council. Failure to be financially accountable has significant implications for Council.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Absolute Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

That in accordance with the provisions of Section 82 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 be adopted.

DECISION:

198.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton

That in accordance with the provisions of Section 82 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 be adopted along with the amendments as outlined below:

Increase Roads to Recovery Funds for 2015/16 from \$394,137 to \$563,093
Increase Employee Cost – Training, Conferences and Seminars for the Airport from \$1,500 to 10,000.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

B. GOVERNANCE

Item B1: Draft Strategic Plan

ACTION	Decision
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Raoul Harper, General Manager
FILE REFERENCE	ADM/0500
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexure 9: DRAFT 2015-2019 Strategic Plan</i>

INTRODUCTION:

Flinders Council has completed a draft Strategic Plan and community consultation is now required before it can be finalised.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Nil

OFFICER'S REPORT:

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to undertake the following in relation to a Strategic Plan:

"66. Strategic Plan

- (1) A council is to prepare a strategic plan for the municipal area.*
- (2) A strategic plan is to be in respect of at least a 10 year period.*
- (3) In preparing a proposed strategic plan, a council is to consult with the community in its municipal area and any authorities and bodies it considers appropriate.*
- (4) The general manager is to make a copy of a proposed strategic plan available for public inspection at the public office during ordinary office hours."*

Flinders Council has now completed a draft Strategic Plan that accords with the requirements of the Act. The Strategic Plan should now be made available for community consultation and inspection.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT:

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

5.0 Corporate Governance and Intergovernmental Relations

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Minimal

RISK/LIABILITY:

Minimal

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the Draft Flinders Council Strategic Plan be made available to the community for comment, consideration and inspection from 30th July 2015 for a four week period.

Council directs the General Manager to make the draft Strategic Plan available on the Council website, notify the community via the 30th July edition of the Island News and via a "householder". A copy is also to be made available for public inspection at the Council Offices.

Council also requests the Mayor make specific reference to the consultation process and timeframe in her 30th July report in the Island News.

DECISION:

199.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr G Willis
That the Draft Flinders Council Strategic Plan be made available to the community for comment, consideration and inspection from 30th July 2015 for a four week period.

Council directs the General Manager to make the draft Strategic Plan available on the Council website, notify the community via the 30th July edition of the Island News and via a "householder". A copy is also to be made available for public inspection at the Council Offices.

Council also requests the Mayor make specific reference to the consultation process and timeframe in her 30th July report in the Island News.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Item B2: 2015-2016 Annual Plan

ACTION	Decision
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Raoul Harper, General Manager
FILE REFERENCE	ADM/0200
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexure 10: DRAFT 2015-2016 Annual Plan</i>

INTRODUCTION:

Section 71 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to prepare an Annual Plan for the municipal area each financial year. An Annual Plan is to be consistent with the Strategic Plan and include a statement of the manner in which Council is to meet the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan. A summary of the major strategies to be used in relation to its public health goals and objectives is also required.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Annually

OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Annual Plan is the document upon which Council's operations and service delivery will be based for 2015/2016. The Plan sets out actions, tasks and projects to be undertaken in the year ahead and how these relate to Council's Strategic Plan.

Of utmost importance is that this document forms part of the budget process. The Annual Plan identifies Council's significant service delivery activities and provides the link between the budget, strategic objectives and measurement tools to track achievements towards these outputs.

The 2015/2016 year will see Council continue to provide cost effective and community focused service provision combined with the development and implementation of important strategic documents to guide the Council, community and service provision in the years ahead.

Council has a statutory requirement to align its services and operations with a Strategic Plan. This Plan is critical to ensuring the goals and aspirations of the Municipality are taken into account when Council sets its annual priorities, operational plans and budget allocations.

Adoption of the Annual Plan is recommended.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT:

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

4: Strategic, Efficient and Effective Organisation

- Ensure Council meets its statutory obligations and manages corporate and community risk.
- Annual Plans and Reports prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*.
- Prepare and deliver an Annual Plan and Annual Report.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Minimal

RISK/LIABILITY:

No foreseen risks.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Absolute Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives and adopts the Flinders Council Annual Plan 2015/2016 and directs the General Manager to:

1. Make a copy of the Annual Plan available for public inspection at the Council office during ordinary business hours; and
2. Provide the Director and the Director of Public Health with a copy of the Annual Plan.

DECISION:

200.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr G Willis

1. That Council receives and adopts the Flinders Council Annual Plan 2015/2016 with the following changes:

Page 4, the following changes to the Summary of Estimates:

- Estimated Revenue of the Council \$5,610,140
- Estimated Expenditure of the Council \$5,775,871

Add under Strategic Focus Area 2; Output – Recreational and community facilities upgraded as recommended...; the following 4 actions:

- Implement the Whitemark Foreshore improvements to enhance public access to the Whitemark Foreshore and increase public amenity (page 16).
- Whitemark Show Ground Maintenance requirements identified and completed to budget (page 16).
- Upgrades to Emita Hall completed to budget (page 16).
- Public Toilet Revitalisation Amenity Project (PTRAP) - Public Toilets at Killiecrankie, Whitemark Foreshore, Lady Barron and Yellow Beach installed to budget (page 16).

Page 17, Output – Asset Management Plan implement; the following change:

- Replace linoleum covering in the Airport Terminal.

Delete from Strategic Focus Area 2 (page 18):

- Output – Upgraded onsite wastewater systems on all public amenities.
- Action – Upgrade public amenities and associated wastewater disposal systems in accordance with budget allocations.

2. That Council directs the General Manager to:

- Make a copy of the Annual Plan available for public inspection at the Council office during ordinary business hours; and
- Provide the Director of Local Government and the Director of Public Health with a copy of the Annual Plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Item B3: Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) General Meeting

ACTION	Information
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Raoul Harper, General manager
FILE REFERENCE	COU/0303
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexure 11: LGAT Annual General Meeting Agenda 22 July 2015</i> <i>Annexure 12: LGAT Annual General Meeting Attachments 22 July 2015</i>

INTRODUCTION:

The LGAT General Meeting will be held on the 22nd July 2015. The meeting Agenda and attachments are provided for elected members as Annexures 11 & 12.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council considers the LGAT Annual General Meeting Agenda at the Ordinary Council meeting prior to the LGAT Annual General Meeting to allow Council to inform the Mayor of what position it wishes the Mayor to take in relation to voting on specific matters.

OFFICER'S REPORT:

A number of items and motions where decisions are sought are included in the LGAT Annual General Meeting Agenda. Council provides direction to the Mayor in relation to voting. The agenda can be accessed at the LGAT website through the following link: <http://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/page.aspx?u=333>

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT:

Nil

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

5.0 Corporate Governance and Intergovernmental Relations
5.4 Actively participate in local government, industry and regional organisations.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

No known budget implications at this time.

RISK/LIABILITY:

Minimal

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the Local Government Association of Tasmania 2015 Annual General Meeting Agenda and provides the Mayor with direction in relation to the following items listed for a decision:

Items for Decision		
1	PRESIDENT'S REPORT	That the President's report be received.
2	MINUTES OF 102ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	That the Minutes of the 102nd Annual General Meeting, held 23 July, 2014 be confirmed.
3	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 30 JUNE 2014	That the Financial Statements for the period 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 be received and adopted.
4	PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT HONORARIUMS	That the President's and Vice President's allowance for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 be adjusted in accordance with the movement in the Wages Price Index.
5	SUBSCRIPTIONS 1 JULY 2015 TO 30 JUNE 2016	That subscriptions be increased by 2.48% to meet the operating costs of the Association.
6	BUDGET FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS 1 JULY 2015 TO 30 JUNE 2016	That the Meeting adopts the Budget as presented.
7.1	TERM OF OFFICE OF PRESIDENT COUNCIL - DERWENT VALLEY	That the Local Government Association of Tasmania Rules 27 Regarding Term of Office of President, be amended that in the event that the President vacates office, the Vice President is to hold the position of President until the next election.
7.2	MOTION - VOTING ENTITLEMENTS COUNCIL - DERWENT VALLEY	That the Local Government Association of Tasmania Rules Regarding Conduct of General Meeting be amended by deleting from rule 16 voting by population categories and replacing it with one (1) vote per Council.
7.2	LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CODE OF CONDUCT) AMENDMENT BILL	A: That the Meeting agree that Mayors will write to MLCs in support of the Local Government (Code of Conduct) Bill, noting the significant consultation that has occurred with councils since 2010. B: That the Meeting vote on the following recommendations (the recommendations relate to the numbered items in the background section): 1. That the single Code of Conduct Panel be able to investigate, hear and determine code of conduct complaints. 2. Provide for some flexibility for councils to expand upon core elements in the Regulated (Model) Code of Conduct. 3. Only allow for complaints regarding

		<p>incidents/matters that have happened in the preceding 90 days.</p> <p>4. That there continue to be a requirement to pay a fee to lodge a complaint, noting that the fee is reimbursed if the complaint is upheld.</p> <p>5. That there remain an ability to withdraw a complaint.</p> <p>6. That given the need to contain costs and to deal with complaints expeditiously, legal representation not be allowed in Standard Panel Hearings</p> <p>7. That the legislation allow for a Code of Conduct complaint to be submitted locally to the General Manager to check that proper procedure has been adopted before forwarding to the Standards Panel.</p> <p>8. That the one month suspension sanction be changed to allow for up to three months suspension in order to offer and effective deterrent for bad behaviour.</p> <p>9. That the holding of an AGM is optional, to be determined by Council.</p> <p>10. That the Council be able, through a majority vote, to direct the General Manager to provide complete information (not redacted or removed) that the General Manager has withheld on the basis of deeming it private and confidential information relating to a person.</p>
8	REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES	<p>(a) That the reports from representatives on various bodies be received and noted.</p> <p>(b) That Conference acknowledges the time and effort put in by all Association representatives on boards, working parties, advisory groups and committees etc.</p>

DECISION:

201.07.2015 Moved: Cr D Williams **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor M Cobham
That Council discuss this item, under Section 22 (9) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2005.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

202.07.2015 Moved: Cr D Williams **Seconded:** Cr G Willis
That Council notes the Local Government Association of Tasmania 2015 Annual General Meeting Agenda and provides the Mayor with direction in relation to the following items listed for a decision:

Items for Decision			Decision
1	PRESIDENT'S REPORT	That the President's report be received.	yes
2	MINUTES OF 102ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	That the Minutes of the 102nd Annual General Meeting, held 23 July, 2014 be confirmed.	yes
3	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 30 JUNE 2014	That the Financial Statements for the period 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 be received and adopted.	yes
4	PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT HONORARIUMS	That the President's and Vice President's allowance for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 be adjusted in accordance with the movement in the Wages Price Index.	no
5	SUBSCRIPTIONS 1 JULY 2015 TO 30 JUNE 2016	That subscriptions be increased by 2.48% to meet the operating costs of the Association.	yes
6	BUDGET FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS 1 JULY 2015 TO 30 JUNE 2016	That the Meeting adopts the Budget as presented.	yes
7.1	TERM OF OFFICE OF PRESIDENT COUNCIL - DERWENT VALLEY	That the Local Government Association of Tasmania Rules 27 Regarding Term of Office of President, be amended that in the event that the President vacates office, the Vice President is to hold the position of President until the next election.	yes
7.2	MOTION - VOTING ENTITLEMENTS COUNCIL - DERWENT VALLEY	That the Local Government Association of Tasmania Rules Regarding Conduct of General Meeting be amended by deleting from rule 16 voting by population categories and replacing it with one (1) vote per Council.	Yes
7.2	LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CODE OF CONDUCT) AMENDMENT BILL	A: That the Meeting agree that Mayors will write to MLCs in support of the Local Government (Code of Conduct) Bill, noting the significant consultation that has occurred with councils since 2010. B: That the Meeting vote on the following recommendations (the recommendations relate to the numbered items in the background section): 1. That the single Code of Conduct Panel be able to investigate, hear	A: yes B: 1. yes 2. yes 3. yes 4. yes 5. yes 6. yes 7. yes 8. yes 9. not optional

		<p>and determine code of conduct complaints.</p> <p>2. Provide for some flexibility for councils to expand upon core elements in the Regulated (Model) Code of Conduct.</p> <p>3. Only allow for complaints regarding incidents/matters that have happened in the preceding 90 days.</p> <p>4. That there continue to be a requirement to pay a fee to lodge a complaint, noting that the fee is reimbursed if the complaint is upheld.</p> <p>5. That there remain an ability to withdraw a complaint.</p> <p>6. That given the need to contain costs and to deal with complaints expeditiously, legal representation not be allowed in Standard Panel Hearings</p> <p>7. That the legislation allow for a Code of Conduct complaint to be submitted locally to the General Manager to check that proper procedure has been adopted before forwarding to the Standards Panel.</p> <p>8. That the one month suspension sanction be changed to allow for up to three months suspension in order to offer and effective deterrent for bad behaviour.</p> <p>9. That the holding of an AGM is optional, to be determined by Council.</p> <p>10. That the Council be able, through a majority vote, to direct the General Manager to provide complete information (not redacted or removed) that the General Manager has withheld on the basis of deeming it private and confidential information relating to a person.</p>	10. yes
8	REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES	<p>(a) That the reports from representatives on various bodies be received and noted.</p> <p>(b) That Conference acknowledges the time and effort put in by all Association representatives on</p>	yes

		boards, working parties, advisory groups and committees etc.	
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CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Item B4: Regional Resource Sharing

ACTION	Decision
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Raoul Harper, General Manager
FILE REFERENCE	ADM/0500
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexure 13: Letter 6th July - Minister for Local Government</i>

INTRODUCTION:

Flinders Council has received a letter from the Minister for Local Government requesting that Council consider being involved in regional discussions and potential feasibility study into regional resource sharing.

Council has previously informed the Minister it is not supportive of voluntary amalgamation. Flinders Council has been utilising resource sharing for many years and in many ways is already at the forefront of this approach to service delivery. As resource sharing with other Council's is already in place, Council should consider if being involved in a regional assessment of future opportunities could add value to the work already being undertaken.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Nil

OFFICER'S REPORT:

Flinders Council has shown that resource sharing can deliver improved service standards, lower costs and minimise risk to the organisation and the community. Currently Flinders Council utilises the services and expertise of other Council's for the support and/or delivery of planning, building, rates modeling, asset management and at times corporate services. This approach has supported a major shift in the organisational outputs and maturity of systems that support not only Council service delivery but the sustainability of the organisation as a whole.

Resource sharing is a viable alternative to amalgamation if efficiency and cost reduction is the primary driver of the Government's reform agenda. A collective approach at a regional level (or State level) to resource sharing could deliver major cost reductions and improve or at least maintain service standards across all Councils without impacting on local representation and advocacy.

As a General Manager I have attempted to champion such an approach at a regional level for many years and the current discussions around assessing opportunities for regional resource sharing is to my mind a very positive step forward and one that Council should consider as an opportunity not a threat.

Beyond the opportunities at a regional level, Flinders and West Tamar Council already have a very functional resource sharing model that could be assessed for further expansion as part of the reform process. With State funding support, a project could be developed that looked into how building, planning and permit authority functions could be further streamlined with the integration of property management and rating systems. This has significant potential to add value at not only a development services level but also at a corporate services level. If Council is serious about driving efficient service delivery and minimising costs, then these “back office’ functions are areas where expanded resource sharing and new delivery models have potential to create major savings.

The value of jobs and employment to our small community can’t be forgotten in this drive for efficiency and cost reduction. If new service delivery models can be discovered and implemented it may not necessarily lead to staff reductions but could see staff costs reallocated to other areas of service delivery such as infrastructures and private works. By building staff capacity in areas that generate revenue Council may well maintain staff levels but move to a more revenue positive operating position. The key point is that the reform agenda and regional willingness to explore opportunities does hold some potential to at least consider alternatives to the current models employed by Councils to deliver a range of services.

Council has previously written to the Minister for Local Government outlining the following:

“I write in answer to your request for Councils to voluntarily consider the issue of Amalgamation and/or a Shared Services Model. I advise that Flinders Council has considered the issue and is firmly of the opinion that Amalgamation or a Shared Service Model serves no purpose for Flinders Council and thus Flinders Council will not be partaking any further in the process.

The Community has been openly encouraged to talk to Councillors about how they feel about Amalgamation; Council Staff have as a unit considered it; as have the Councillors. All see no benefit in Council amalgamating or committing to a Shared Service arrangement. Flinders CURRENTLY buys in, from other Councils, services where it does not have LOCAL expertise, and we are very keen to keep the flexibility of obtaining the required service from the Council that offers the best deal that suits our needs.”

Council has taken a hard line in expressing no desire to consider voluntary amalgamation but the statement also precludes consideration of shared services models. To my mind it is this unwillingness to consider involvement in exploring refinements or expansions to shared service arrangements that needs to be reconsidered by Council. In essence we are involved and already committed to shared service arrangements. If we are committed to the concept of “obtaining

the required service from the Council that offers the best deal that suits our needs” then involvement with the reform process and any regional assessment of opportunities and expansion and/or refinement of our existing arrangements with State Government support should be supported.

Ultimately, the stance taken by Council in response to the State Government’s reform agenda is a matter for elected members. From an Officer perspective the current stance of no engagement at all carries significant risk and will exclude Flinders from exploring options that may have potential to enhance the sustainability of the organisation as a whole and the sector more broadly. Shared service delivery and/or resource sharing has been and continues to be a strength in the delivery model employed by Council and the ability to engage with the reform process holds opportunities that are worthy of at least exploring.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT:

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

5.0 Corporate Governance and Intergovernmental Relations

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Failure to explore models that could deliver improved services and reduce costs could expose Council to increased costs or decreased service standards.

RISK/LIABILITY:

Failure to engage with the reform process on any level does expose Council to risk.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Simple Majority

OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayor write to the Minister for Local Government expressing that:

- 1) Flinders Council has for many years been at the forefront of utilising resource sharing.
- 2) Flinders Council will continue to explore how these can deliver improved services and cost efficiencies for our community.
- 3) With funding support provided by the State Government, Flinders Council confirms a willingness to explore other models of sharing resources either within our existing agreements or at a regional level.

DECISION:

203.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr D Williams

That the Mayor write to the Minister for Local Government expressing that:

- 1) Flinders Council has for many years been at the forefront of utilising resource sharing.

- 2) Flinders Council will continue to explore how these can deliver improved services and cost efficiencies for our community.
- 3) With funding support provided by the State Government, Flinders Council confirms a willingness to explore other models of sharing resources either within our existing agreements or at a regional level.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Item B5: Council's 4th Quarterly Report

ACTION	Information
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Raoul Harper, General Manager
FILE REFERENCE	COU/0600
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexure 14: Council's 4th Quarterly Report (April - June 2015)</i>

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update of the various actions taken by the whole of Council for the fourth quarter of the financial year.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Previously provided as via departmental quarterly reports.

OFFICER'S REPORT:

Please read Annexure 14 – Council's 4th Quarterly Report (April – June 2015).

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council's 4th Quarterly Report (April – June 2015) be received and accepted by Council.

DECISION:

204.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr G Willis
That the Council's 4th Quarterly Report (April – June 2015) be received and accepted by Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Note: The Chair congratulated staff on the work achieved for the 12 months to the end of June. For a small staff, a considerable amount was achieved.

Item B6: Councillor Resolution Report

ACTION	Information
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Raoul Harper, General Manager
FILE REFERENCE	COU/0600
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexure 15: Councillor Resolution Report July 2015</i>

INTRODUCTION:

This report identifies the actions taken to implement resolutions passed by elected members up to July 2015 that did not form part of the Annual Plan 2014/2015.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

The report is presented on a monthly basis.

OFFICER'S REPORT:

Please read Annexure 15 – Councillor Resolution Report July 2015.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the Councillor Resolution Report July 2015 be noted.

DECISION:

205.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr G Willis

That the Councillor Resolution Report July 2015 be noted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Mayor Carol Cox called a break in the meeting at 1.54pm and resumed the meeting at 2.06pm.

C. CLOSED COUNCIL

Items C1 & C2: Closed Council Items

ACTION	Decision
PROPONENT	Council Officer
OFFICER	Raoul Harper, General Manager
FILE REFERENCE	GOV/0600
ASSOCIATED PAPERS	<i>Annexures 16-18: For Elected Members Only</i>

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

July 2015 Budget Workshop

REASON FOR CLOSED COUNCIL:

Items C1 and C2 are **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 15(2) (b) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council move into Closed Council.

DECISION:

206.07.2015 Moved: Cr G Willis **Seconded:** Cr C Rhodes
That Council move into Closed Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Council moved into Closed Session at 2.06pm.

Council moved out of Closed Session at 2.22pm.

Closed Council discussed two items relating to projects to improve telecommunications for the Islands.

210.07.2015 Moved: Cr G Willis **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton

That the discussions held in Closed Council remain confidential but the motions from items C1 and C2 be made public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Item C1

207.07.2015 Moved: Mayor C Cox **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton

1. That Flinders Council acknowledges and is deeply concerned about the limitations and issues that exist with the current telecommunication systems on the Islands and recognises that these are a significant impediment to the community, business, education, health service provision, emergency services, population growth and economic activity on the Islands.

That Flinders Council directs the General Manager to engage Elan Projects, a company with specialist experience in relation to the delivery of WiFi internet services and infrastructure, to:

- Undertake a comprehensive technical and logistical scoping activity, determining the most effective way to bring sustained improved internet access to Flinders Island's black and grey spots.
- Produce a complete technical scoping document outlining potential approaches, associated costs and timelines for each option. This document will provide Flinders Council with the capability to produce a Request for Tender for a potential full Flinders Island WiFi Project.
- Present findings to Council and other relevant stakeholders to inform decision making for the next stage of the Flinders WiFi Project.
- That the cost as quoted be expended from the current 2015-16 budget allocation.

2. That Flinders Council prints the decision in the minutes of the ordinary meeting and also releases the decision to the public in the form of a statement in Island News.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Item C2

208.07.2015 Moved: Deputy Mayor M Cobham **Seconded:** Cr K Stockton

1. Flinders Council recognises the limitations and issues that exist with the current telecommunication systems on the Islands' and that these are a significant impediment to the community, business, education, health service provision, emergency services, population growth and economic activity on the Islands.

Flinders Council directs the General Manager to commission a detailed feasibility study as a matter of urgency, utilising funds provided by the State Government to support telecommunications improvements on the Islands.

2. That Council prints the decision in the minutes of the ordinary meeting and also releases the decision to the public in the form of a statement.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

For: Mayor Carol Cox, Deputy Mayor Marc Cobham, Cr Chris Rhodes, Cr Ken Stockton, Cr David Williams and Cr Gerald Willis.

Meeting Closed 2.26pm