



# Confirmed Minutes Special Council Meeting

8 September 2020



# Table of Contents

<b>Item</b>	<b>Page</b>
1 Acknowledgment of Country .....	1
2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest .....	1
3 Conflict of Interest .....	1
4 Governance .....	2
4.1 Northern Tasmania Development Corporation Membership Agreement .....	2
5 CLOSED COUNCIL .....	4
5.1 Closed Council Item – State Government COVID-19 Initiative Trial .....	4

# Flinders Council Special Meeting – Confirmed Minutes

## Tuesday 8 September 2020

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<b>Venue</b>	Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark
<b>Commencing</b>	9.00am
<b>Attendees – Councillors</b>	Mayor Annie Revie Deputy Mayor David Williams Sharon Blyth Aaron Burke Vanessa Grace Rachel Summers
<b>Not in Attendance</b>	Peter Rhodes
<b>Apologies</b>	Nil
<b>Attendees – Staff</b>	Warren Groves   General Manager (9.00am – 9.32am) Vicki Warden   Executive Officer (Minute Taker) (9.00am – 9.32am)

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### 1 Acknowledgment of Country

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The Mayor began by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we met today, the palawa people of the trawulwai Nation. She recognised their continuing connection to the land, waters and culture of this island, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

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### 2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

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None declared

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### 3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

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None declared

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## 4 Governance

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### 4.1 Northern Tasmania Development Corporation Membership Agreement

<b>Action</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>Proponent</b>	Council Officer
<b>Officer</b>	Warren Groves   General Manager
<b>File Reference</b>	COU/0305
<b>Annexures</b>	4.1.1 Members Agreement 2020-2023

#### INTRODUCTION

The Northern Tasmania Development Corporation (NTDC) is currently funded by seven Northern Councils, of which Flinders Council is one member. Amongst their stated aims is “to facilitate significant improvement in prosperity in North and North-East Tasmania.” The NTDC was established in February 2017 “to achieve the targets set out in the Northern Regional Futures Framework and is committed to move to a new era of collaborative, innovative and sustainable economic growth in the region.” In general terms, the NTDC identifies ways to “continually boost economic output, increase investment, create more jobs, and raise average wage levels.”

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

133 and 134.7.2020 28 July 2020  
157 and 158.8.2020 25 August 2020

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

14 July 2020 Council Workshop  
1 September 2020 Council Workshop

#### OFFICER’S REPORT

At the July and August Council Meetings, Council considered whether to pay the annual contribution or subscription fee for NTDC for the 2020/21 financial year, as well as a contribution to the Population Program for the same period. At the August meeting, Council passed the following motion no.158.8.2020:

*“That Council pays the 2020/21 Northern Tasmania Development Corporation annual contribution to the sum of \$7,595.”*

Following this resolution, there remains the matter of continuing membership of NTDC. The rationale behind membership of NTDC is that it works on behalf of the seven northern councils, funded by their collective contributions, on agreed programs, to the mutual benefit of the councils from within the Northern Region. The strength of any subscription or contribution-funded organisation is the relative, and in some cases subjective, collective value or benefit to individual members, as compared to what they could potentially achieve individually.

Council’s previous Members Agreement (the agreement) with NTDC concluded in June 2020 and a new Members Agreement for 2020-2023 has been received (Annexure 4.1.1). Given that Council’s current resolution specifies the payment of the 2020/21 year only, and the agreement is for three years, there is some potential conflict between the Council decision and the term of the agreement. There is no current NTDC mechanism for less than a three year membership without an NTDC Board resolution. Membership of NTDC confers voting rights to each Council. In the event of a specific Council requesting a single year of membership, an appropriate motion would need to be approved by both Council and the NTDC Board.

Meander Valley Council is currently pursuing an NTDC resolution to approve a one year membership, per the following resolution passed at its June Council Meeting:

*“1. Approves Council committing to the Northern Tasmania Development Corporation (NTDC) Members Agreement for the three year term of the Agreement (2020-23) but with a twelve month review provision.”*

In order to progress this matter, a more specific motion is requested to clarify Council’s intent with respect to the three year Members Agreement and annual subscription payment.

#### **STATUTORY REQUIREMENT**

*Local Government Act 1993*

#### **POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

#### **BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Committing to a three year membership will require a budget allocation for the remaining two years.

#### **RISK/LIABILITY**

Low

#### **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

This is a matter for Council to decide.

#### **DECISION**

**165.09.08 Moved: Cr R Summers    Seconded: Cr S Blyth**

**That Council suspends the operation of Regulation 22 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, in accordance with Regulation 22 (9) to discuss this item.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)**

**For: Mayor A Revie, Deputy Mayor D Williams, Cr S Blyth, Cr A Burke, Cr V Grace and Cr R Summers.**

**Moved: Cr A Burke    Seconded: Cr R Summers**

**166.09.08 That Council agrees to the terms and conditions of the Northern Tasmania Development Corporation Members Agreement 2020 – 2023 and approves the signing of the Agreement accordingly.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)**

**For: Mayor A Revie, Deputy Mayor D Williams, Cr S Blyth, Cr A Burke, Cr V Grace and Cr R Summers.**

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## 5 CLOSED COUNCIL

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### 5.1 Closed Council Item – State Government COVID-19 Initiative Trial

<b>Action</b>	<b>Information</b>
<b>Proponent</b>	Council Officer
<b>Officer</b>	Warren Groves   General Manager

#### REASON FOR CLOSED COUNCIL

5.1 is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 15(2) (b) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

#### VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council moves into Closed Council.

#### DECISION

**167.09.08 Moved: Cr Deputy D Williams    Seconded: Cr V Grace**  
That Council moves into Closed Council.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

**For: Mayor A Revie, Deputy Mayor D Williams, Cr S Blyth, Cr A Burke, Cr V Grace and Cr R Summers.**

*Council moved into Closed Session at 9.20am*

*Council moved out of Closed Session at 9.32am*

*The following motion for the Open Minutes was passed in Closed Council:*

***“169.08.08 Moved: Cr R Summers    Seconded: Cr V Grace  
That for Agenda Item 5.1 State Government COVID-19 Initiative Trial, the discussions held and motions passed in Closed Council remain confidential because of commercial-in-confidence regarding a proposed government travel incentive scheme.”***

*Mayor Annie Revie declared the meeting closed 9.32am.*

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### Meeting Closed 9.32 am

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