

**MINUTES OF A GOVERNANCE, FINANCE & COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING OF
THE DEVONPORT CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ABERDEEN ROOM, LEVEL 2, paranaple centre,
137 ROOKE STREET, DEVONPORT ON MONDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2019
COMMENCING AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT: Cr A Jarman (Chairman)
Cr J Alexiou
Cr G Enniss
Cr L Laycock
Cr S Milbourne
Cr A Rockliff

Councillors in Attendance:

Cr P Hollister
Cr L Murphy
Cr L Perry

Council Officers:

General Manager, P West
Deputy General Manager, M Atkins
Executive Manager Corporate Services, J Griffith
Executive Manager Organisational Performance, K Peebles
Community Services Manager, K Hampton
Convention and Arts Centre Manager, G Dobson
Finance Manager, J Jackson

Audio Recording:

All persons in attendance were advised that it is Council policy to record Council meetings, in accordance with Council's Audio Recording Policy. The audio recording of this meeting will be made available to the public on Council's website for a minimum period of six months.

1.0 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies received.

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3.0 PROCEDURAL

3.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

DOUGLAS JANNEY – 23 WATKINSON STREET, DEVONPORT

The chart at the right hand bottom corner gives actual 18/19 CAPEX as \$18.275 with a carryover of \$7.246M to 19/20. The carryover is some 28.4% of the total of \$25.52M.

Q1 What are the proportionate components of the factors that contributed to this huge underspend?

Response

The General Manager advised that on page 47 although there are no percentages there is information relating to what was carried forward and the reason why. If a breakdown in percentage terms is required there would be a need to take the question on notice. (Mr Janney indicated that was not necessary.)

and

Q2 What is being done in this financial year to avoid such a huge underspend?

Response

The General Manager advised looking at some of the carried forward projects, a large proportion is to do with the Waterfront Project, but also the modern burial system which is a staged process that has gone to tender, been awarded and is currently under construction. Council allocated the bulk of those funds in the 2018/19 financial year but due to the long timeframe for the actual manufacture of the equipment the bulk of the funds are carried forward.

There are also a number of other projects that actually note construction is underway, but due to the availability of contractors and other situations there has been some delay in getting some projects completed by 30 June. In other cases some of the carried forward amounts are actually related to projects that have got close to completion, or are completed, but at 30 June there had not been the final payment made to the contractor.

MALCOLM GARDAM – 4 BEAUMONT DRIVE, MIANDETTA

Q1 When does Council expect to receive any actual rental payment from Providore Place Devonport Pty Ltd?

Response

The General Manager advised that the first payment under the Lease Agreement was paid today.

Q2 With reference to Page 35 of the Agenda being item 4.3 – Unconfirmed Minutes – Shared Audit Panel – 14 August 2019, why is it that while unconfirmed Audit Panel minutes are regularly included with Council meeting agendas this particular set of minutes are deemed confidential?

Response

The General Manager advised there were items discussed at the Audit Panel which were confidential and unfortunately the minutes were completed as a single document. The items discussed have been summarised in the actual report. For future Audit Panel meetings where there are matters that are confidential the intent would be for those to be extracted out and attached in a separate document, so that the items that can be classed as available for public scrutiny, can then be attached to the open agenda report.

BOB VELLACOTT – 11 COCKER PLACE, DEVONPORT

Q1 Please confirm exactly how much rent was reprieved that is, was totally written off and as of today your latest assessment, what is the total amount now owing by Providore Place Devonport Pty Ltd?

Response

The Deputy General Manager advised that he did not have the exact numbers at the meeting, but details were as printed in the Advocate on Saturday. In response it was stated that about \$326,000 in total and of that around \$178,000, Council is yet to determine a position on.

Q2 Will Council make the necessary arrangements to ensure copies of both the previous and the new head lease agreements will be made available for public appraisal?

Response

The Chairperson stated that it cannot be made available because it is commercial in confidence.

DOUGLAS JANNEY – 23 WATKINSON STREET, DEVONPORT

Q3 I have a third question, it falls under Item 7.3, 1.5.1 Recruitment and on Page 111 Workers Compensation. For the year just gone it is a huge amount over \$20,000 per claim on average and for so far this year, one claim for \$60,000. What has happened with work practices that this sort of increase has occurred?

Response

The General Manager responded, that the right hand column of the table is the gross value incurred by the insurer, including estimates. Whenever a claim is submitted to the insurer, and while ever that claim has the potential for further costs to be incurred, the insurer will maintain an estimate. Therefore the figures are inflated by the fact there are estimates included identified by the insurer. Equally there were a couple of claims last year that were as a result of injuries which occurred within the workplace exacerbating previous injuries so they are an ongoing matter.

The actual process as far as work practices are concerned, in fact work practices are continually improving. The issue we currently having and I think every employer is going to have into the future, is the aging workforce and particularly injuries around strains and sprains and soft tissue injuries – these are the types of injuries that we are seeing an increase in. We are putting extra effort particularly training around manual handling and lifting and those types of activities to try and address some of these issues that we have identified as part of our workers compensation experience.

MALCOLM GARDAM – 4 BEAUMONT DRIVE, MIANDETTA

Q3 Just a follow up to Mr Vellacott's statements and the what I believe are totally unacceptable responses. It is totally unacceptable that the beneficiaries of public money have the sole discretion as to whether that will be disclosed, it is totally unacceptable and I'd suggest that Council is complicit in these confidential agreements, or confidentiality clauses and it is to cover your own tracks.

What is the overall amount Council expects to write off under the new Head Lease agreement being the disclosed non-payment of rent to date plus any other cash or in kind costs?

Response

The General Manager advised that the information that has been publicly released in relation to the amounts around the Providore Place lease, is the extent of information available.

The other matter in relation to the release of agreements that have been entered into, any person is at liberty to submit in accordance with the legislation, the proper process being a Right to Information Request which can then be duly considered through the appropriate channels rather than just being requested at a Council meeting in the form that it is being requested here.

BOB VELLACOTT – 11 COCKER PLACE, DEVONPORT

Q3 In regard to the new Head Lease agreement what operational and outgoing costs will Devonport ratepayers be now responsible for the building internally and externally, ie – Council and TasWater rates, power, gas, insurance, maintenance,

cleaning and any other costs. What is written in the lease, are we going to be stung for TasWater rates?

Response

The General Manager advised that the lease is a normal commercial lease arrangement, so the types of items referred to will be dealt with in the lease in accordance with the commercial arrangement in place. For the benefit of this meeting, this question was taken on notice with a written response to be provided.

3.2 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil

3.3 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

4.0 GOVERNANCE REPORTS

4.1 ELECTED MEMBERS EXPENDITURE REPORT JULY AND AUGUST 2019 (D614404)

GFC 51/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Laycock

SECONDED: Cr Enniss

That it be recommended to Council that the bi-monthly report advising of Councillor allowances and expenses be received and noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.2 ANNUAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT TO 31 AUGUST 2019 (D614405)

GFC 52/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Milbourne

SECONDED: Cr Rockliff

That it be recommended to Council that the 2019/20 Annual Plan Progress Report for the period ended 31 August 2019 be received and noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.3 UNCONFIRMED MINUTES - SHARED AUDIT PANEL - 14 AUGUST 2019 (D614608)

GFC 53/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Rockliff

SECONDED: Cr Alexiou

That it be recommended to Council that the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit Panel meeting held on 14 August 2019 be received and noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT REVIEW (D612490)

GFC 54/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Rockliff

SECONDED: Cr Milbourne

That it be recommended to Council that a submission be made in regard to the Local Government Act review in accordance with the comments outlined in this report.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.0 FINANCE REPORTS

5.1 CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDING - CARRIED FORWARDS 1 JULY 2019 (D592970)

GFC 55/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Milbourne

SECONDED: Cr Laycock

That it be recommended to Council that the report relating to the carried forward capital works for the year commencing 1 July 2019 be received and that Council in accordance with Section 82(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993* by absolute majority:

1. amend the 2019/20 estimates to adjust the carried forward capital works projects budget as listed in this report to the value of \$15,268,603; and
2. note this amendment results in a revised capital expenditure budget for 2019/20 of \$24,421,603.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2 FINANCE REPORT TO 31 AUGUST 2019 (D614933)

GFC 56/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Rockliff

SECONDED: Cr Milbourne

That it be recommended to Council that the Finance Report as of 31 August 2019 be received and noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORTS

6.1 ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY - YEAR ONE STATUS (D613394)

GFC 57/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Milbourne

SECONDED: Cr Laycock

That it be recommended to Council that the report of the Executive Officer Community Services be received and the status of actions listed in the Environment Strategy 2019-2024 be noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 DEVONPORT COMMUNITY HOUSE - PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (D612546)

GFC 58/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Laycock

SECONDED: Cr Alexiou

That it be recommended to Council that the report be received and noted and that Council authorise the General Manager to finalise a new partnership agreement with the Devonport Community House for a further period of three years, based on a financial contribution of \$18,000 per annum.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.0 INFORMATION REPORTS

7.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT - JULY AND AUGUST 2019 (D599135)

GFC 59/19 RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Rockliff

SECONDED: Cr Enniss

That it be recommended to Council that the Community Services report be received and noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2 ARTS AND CONVENTION REPORT - JULY AND AUGUST 2019 (D613897)**GFC 60/19 RESOLUTION**

MOVED: Cr Laycock

SECONDED: Cr Alexiou

That it be recommended to Council that the Arts and Convention report be received and noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.3 GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE REPORT - JULY AND AUGUST 2019 (D614344)**GFC 61/19 RESOLUTION**

MOVED: Cr Rockliff

SECONDED: Cr Milbourne

That it be recommended to Council that the Governance and Finance report be received and noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.4 MINUTES OF COUNCIL'S SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS AND ADVISORY BOARDS (D614446)**GFC 62/19 RESOLUTION**

MOVED: Cr Alexiou

SECONDED: Cr Milbourne

That it be recommended to Council that the minutes of the Devonport Maritime and Heritage Special Interest Group, and paranaple arts centre Special Advisory Committee be received and noted.

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Jarman	✓		Cr Laycock	✓	
Cr Alexiou	✓		Cr Milbourne	✓	
Cr Enniss	✓		Cr Rockliff	✓	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There being no further business on the agenda the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 5:57pm.

Confirmed

Chairperson