



MINUTES

Special Council Meeting

Friday, 19 June 2020

**MINUTES OF MAPOON ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE MASC COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON FRIDAY, 19 JUNE 2020 AT 9.00AM**

PRESENT: Mayor Aileen Addo (Chair of LDMG), Deputy Mayor Dawn Braun, Cr Margaret Mara

IN ATTENDANCE: Naseem Chetty (Chief Executive Officer), Royleen Wolski (Minute Taker)

Apologies: Cr Cameron Hudson, Cr Daphne de Jersey

1 OPEN MEETING

The meeting was opened at 9.35am.

2 APOLOGIES

Cr Cameron Hudson

Cr Daphne de Jersey

3 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

3.1 MAPOON COMMUNITY STORE FUNDING

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval from council to reallocate funding approved for the Environmental Centre to the Mapoon Store Complex.

Mayor Addo: Righto then we will declare the meeting open for the Special Meeting

Naseem Chetty: Just through the Chair, I have got a report over the COVID period we had to suddenly go into lockdown which means we suddenly had to cater for 370 people through our little corner store. We currently do not have enough stock on hand or space to store stock to cater for that level of demand. During the immediate response to the COVID lock down, we experienced many problems due to the small area of the store and the restricted space available for stock. We could only have a maximum of five people allowed into the store as customers because we have three staff in the store. There were times we had to close the store to restock the shelves, and use extra staff from other areas in Council. We had to reduce the variety of groceries from what we really wanted to carry, because we did not have enough shelf space to display them. We do not have a big floor space like Woolworths in Weipa, but we had to service all the people who usually go to Weipa to buy weekly groceries. People were not happy, we had upset customers. Often abusive customers.

Part of the resignation from Wayne is what he had to deal with, and the way we are going, we are going to be losing most of our store staff. Another store staff member has resigned too. I have been advised that she was abused as well. This sort of stress on staff is not acceptable. We had some positive Social media coverage but we also had unwarranted criticism in social media. People contacted Warren Entsch's Office with all sorts of unreasonable complaints. Added to the stress of the COVID event itself it has been terrible on management and staff. I have presented

the Plans for the new Mapoon Shopping Centre to Council a few days ago at the Ordinary Council Meeting.

We have spoken to the Department, and spoken to DMRE , to DATSIP, to the Department of Local Government, so far we have not had any luck because we only

Council has allocated \$500,000 for the Environmental Centre which I am asking for that to be reallocated to the store so we can start immediately. Unless and until you can show you can finish the build we cannot go forward. We did exactly the same as that for the airport, and if we can reallocate that \$500,000 because the community need for a reasonable sized store is the far greater need. They are saying that Council can get the necessary funding so I am asking Council to reallocate these funds and let the project move forward. I am very confident that this will be a successful project.

Mayor Addo: We have to rescind the resolution for the original motion also.

RESOLUTION C122/20

Moved: Cr Margaret Mara

Seconded: Cr Dawn Braun

That Council

1. Receive and take note of this report.
2. Rescind Resolution Number 24/2020 re the allocation of \$500,000 for funding of the Environmental Centre and re-allocate that funding to the new Mapoon Store Build

CARRIED AT 9.44AM

4 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

5 NEXT MEETING DATE

Proposed date for next meeting: 21 July 2020

6 CLOSE MEETING

The Meeting closed at 9.48am

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council held on 21 July 2020.

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CHAIRPERSON