



Brighton Council

MINUTES OF THE **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**
OF THE BRIGHTON COUNCIL HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES
OLD BEACH AT 5.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY,
10TH JUNE, 2014

PRESENT: Cr Foster (Chairperson); Cr Garlick; Cr Gray; Cr Jeffries and Cr Williams

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr Geard; Mrs J Banks (Governance Manager); Mrs G Browne (Corporate Executive) and Mrs K Hossack (Corporate Consultant)

1. APOLOGIES:

Cr Garlick moved, Cr Williams seconded that apologies be received from Cr Curran and Cr Owen.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Foster	
Cr Garlick	
Cr Gray	
Cr Jeffries	
Cr Williams	

2. QUESTION TIME & DEPUTATIONS:

There was no required for question time.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

In accordance with Part 5, Section 48 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Chairman of a meeting is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have an interest in any item on the agenda; and

Part 2 Regulation 8 (7) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2005, the Chairman of a meeting is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda.

Accordingly, Councillors are requested to advise of any interest they may have in respect to any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda, which the Council has resolved to deal with, in accordance with Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2005.

There were no declarations of interest.

4. BUSINESS:

4.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT AS AT 31 MAY 2014:

FILE REFERENCE: 0103

AUTHOR: Deputy General Manager
(Mr G Davoren)

Background:

The finance reports were submitted for consideration.

They comprised the summarised financial position and revenue and expenses of the Council for the first eleven months of the 2013/14 financial year.

Consultation:

Nil

Risk Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Not Applicable

Other Issues:

Nil

Assessment:

Nil

Options:

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Not receive the reports.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the reports be received.

DECISION:

Cr Garlick moved, Cr Williams seconded that the report be received.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Foster	
Cr Garlick	
Cr Gray	
Cr Jeffries	
Cr Williams	

4.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF AUDIT PANEL:

AUTHOR: Deputy General Manager
(Mr G Davoren)

Background:

Recent amendments to the Local Government Act 1993, proclaimed in February 2014, mandated the requirement for councils to establish and maintain an Audit Panel.

The ultimate aim of the Panel is to act as an advisory committee, making recommendations to Council on matters that require strategic attention based on a rigorous assessment of the councils performance including the accounting, internal control, anti-fraud, anti-corruption and risk management policies, systems and controls that the council has in relation to safeguarding its long-term financial position. The Mayor, General Manager or an employee of Council cannot be a member of the Audit Panel.

Membership of the Audit Panel is mandated by the Act and must have either 3, 4 or 5 members. If the panel has 4 or 5 members then at least 2 must be independent, if the panel has only 3 members then only 1 member needs to be independent.

The independent member must possess good business acumen and sound management and communication skills.

Consultation:

Other Tasmanian Local Governments

Risk Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Not Applicable

Other Issues:

Nil

Assessment:

The requirement to establish an audit panel is mandated under *Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014*.

The attached Charter, Work Plan and Meeting Procedures have been prepared to assist with the selection of the Panel members and to provide initial direction to the Audit Panel.

Options:

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Do nothing.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report by the Deputy General Manager concerning the establishment of an Audit Panel be received, and the Council;

- A. Appoint an Audit Panel comprising three members for a two year period;
- B. Adopt the Brighton Council Audit Panel Charter; Annual Work Plan and Meeting Procedures;
- C. That Cr. and Cr. be appointed as the two non-independent members;
- D. The Deputy General Manager appoint a Senior Financial Manager from within Local Government to act as the Chairperson and independent member to the Panel.

DECISION:

Cr Gray moved, Cr Williams seconded that recommendation A, B and D be adopted, with recommendation C to be discussed and non-independent members be appointed at the June Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Foster	
Cr Garlick	
Cr Gray	
Cr Jeffries	
Cr Williams	

4.3 SUSTAINABILITY ANALYSIS:

FILE REFERENCE:

AUTHOR: Deputy General Manager
(Mr G Davoren)

Background:

Brighton Council has been recognised by the Tasmanian Auditor General and Access Economics for its sound financial position and financial performance.

It is appropriate for Council to examine its financial performance not only for its year to date budget performance and financial year end results but also the longer term financial sustainability of Council.

Consultation:

Nil

Risk Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

As attached

Other Issues:

Nil

Assessment:

The attached report provides Council with a trend analysis of the key performance areas associated with sustainability. It identifies sustainability in trend terms against the desired benchmark and state local government average where figures are available.

Options:

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Not accept the sustainability analysis report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept the sustainability analysis report.

DECISION:

Cr Jeffries moved, Cr Garlick seconded that the report be received.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Foster	
Cr Garlick	
Cr Gray	
Cr Jeffries	
Cr Williams	

The meeting closed at 5.25 p.m.

Confirmed:

(Mayor)

Date:

17th June 2014