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PITCAIRN ISLAND COUNCIL
Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held at the Public Hall
Commencing at 3pm, 4th January 2022

Present:

Mayor Charlene Warren, Deputy Mayor Shawn Christian, Administrator Mark Tomlinson, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Heather Menzies and Cr Simon Young, Island Secretary Nadine Faulkner.

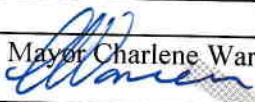
Apologies: Cr Sue O’Keefe, Cr Torika Christian

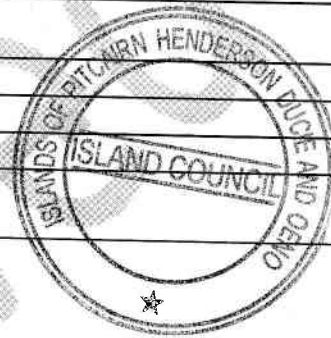
In attendance: To speak on issues surrounding Covid-19, Dr Morgans Poppe, Mrs Darralyn Griffiths

Welcome: The Mayor welcomed Council to the table. A moment of private reflection was taken.

Agenda Item	Tabled by
Covid-19 – Omicron Variant/Isolation issues	<p>Doctor Poppe spoke on issues he felt important regarding the new variant of Covid-19, Omicron. The doctor felt that due to the contagiousness, ease of passing the infection and late rate of positives upon testing, that the current seven-day isolation status should be extended to ten days beginning immediately.</p> <p>He also recommended that there should, instead of the current requirement of one PCR test, that there should be two – one at sixth day of isolation, the second on the 9th day.</p> <p>The doctor advised that the boosters and vaccines which was at first thought to be able to be shipped to Pitcairn on the January rotation, would more likely be on the February passage. Delays were attributed to the Christmas and New Year period.</p> <p>A designated medical freezer recommended by Council for the Silver Supporter has been sourced and quoted.</p> <p>Council discussed the issues brought to the table by Dr Poppe at length.</p> <p>Motion: Mayor Charlene Warren / Cr. M. Christian</p> <p>“that the Administrator would approach his contact at PHE for more medical recommendations around the Omicron variant and isolation protocols and advise Council as soon as information is at hand.”</p> <p>“that Council recommends that passengers on Voyage 50 will go into isolation on the 9th of January as planned.”</p> <p>“that Council has agreed to extend the isolation to ten days if the Omicron variant becomes widely spread in NZ, in consultation with PHE.”</p>

	<p>“that Council has agreed not to extend the isolation to ten days until consultation and recommendation with PHE.”</p> <p>All in favour / Carried</p> <p>The Doctor thanked Council for allowing him to air his concerns. He advised that there may be a requirement for a Tahiti Medical ship. This may impact already set shipping schedules he noted. Council noted that if there is a requirement for one patient to seek medical attention in Tahiti, then any other patients requiring medical treatment should be approached to also take this chance to seek medical intervention.</p> <p>Action: Administrator to reach out to his contact at PHE for advice.</p> <p>Action: Cr. H Menzies to draft a letter to passengers on Voyage 50 to employ vigilance around Covid-19 prevention practices pre-isolation and pre-boarding of Silver Supporter. Passengers will be kept up to date if any changes are to be made.</p> <p>Action: Administrator to convey Councils decision to the Doctor.</p>
Request for an extension of exemption	<p>An email was tabled from the Harding family requesting an extension to the exemption of non Covid-19 vaccinated passengers. The request was discussed at length with consideration of all issues around the Harding’s request. Council unanimously agreed that an exemption upon an exemption, and going against both a Council decision, and a community vote for a second time was not recommended. It was noted that no person is unwelcome to return to Pitcairn and no one is being refused access.</p> <p>It was stressed that the Harding’s need to be aware of the grave issues that may impact them in the future living on Pitcairn and being unvaccinated for Covid-19, i.e.; difficulty in travel back off island for any medical treatment as the Silver Supporter requires all passengers are vaccinated (as do most airlines, cruise ships etc), and the immense difficulty of treating anyone who did contract Covid on island with only basic medical facilities compared to what was required for a person, or persons who is incredibly ill.</p> <p>Motion: Mayor Charlene Warren / Cr. H Menzies “that Council unanimously decide that a request for a further extension to the exemption will not be granted. All in favour / Carried</p>
Resignation	<p>Cr. L Brown resigned her position of Councillor dated 17th of December 2021. It was unclear if Cr. Brown intended for the</p>

	<p>resignation to cover just the 2019-2021 period or also to include the new 2022/2024 term. Island Secretary to write to Cr. L Brown and get confirmation. Noted that if indeed this is a resignation for the current new term of Councillor a replacement needs to be found. This would mean a By Election.</p> <p>Action: Island Secretary to contact Cr. L Brown for clarification, and to look into By Election dates and advise at the 12th of January 2022, Regular Council meeting.</p>
Formal Communication	Noted that all formal communication needs to be managed through the Island Secretary for record keeping purposes.
Meeting Closed	Meeting closed at 4.45pm
Next Meeting.	
Approved <u>16/02/2022</u> .	<p>Mayor Charlene Warren.</p> 



Approved