

Subject to Confirmation



**MINUTES
OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)
HELD AT THE SORELL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON TUESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2011**

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The meeting commenced at 7.01 pm with Mayor Torenus in the Chair.

1.0 OPENING OF MEETING, WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Torenus opened the meeting, introduced the newly elected Councillors and welcomed all others in attendance.

The General Manager Bill Costin and Manager Finance and Information Sue Charles summarised the year and then presented the financial statement.

2.0 ATTENDANCE

COUNCILLORS

Mayor C Torenus
Deputy Mayor B McDonald
Councillor J Dunbabin
Councillor K Degrassi
Councillor M Purdon
Councillor L White
Councillor K Vincent
Councillor C/r R Bunyan
Councillor G Evans

COUNCIL STAFF

Bill Costin, General Manager
Bill Hyndes, Manager Environment & Development
Steve Hodge, Manager Engineering Services
Robyn Watts, Manager HR & Community Services
Sue Charles, Manager Finance and Information
Betty Spaulding, Personal Assistant to the General Manager

ELECTORS

G P Gilbert, 59 Weston Hill Road, Sorell
Judy Young, 154 Arthur Highway, Dunalley
Sharon Fotheringham, 1253 Arthur Highway, Forcett

3.0 MEETING PROCEDURES

The Mayor advised that the meeting procedures were outlined in the Agenda.

4.0 ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011 – PRESENTATION and APPROVAL

Copies of the Annual Report had been issued to Councillors and were also available at the Annual General Meeting.

4.1 PRESENTATION BY MANAGER FINANCE & INFORMATION, SUE CHARLES – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (SEE ATTACHED)

1/2011 DEGRASSI/VINCENT

“That Council receive the General Purpose Financial Report for the year ended 2011.”

The Motion was put.

For: Evans, Dunbabin, Degrassi, Purdon, Vincent, White, Bunyan, McDonald and Torenus

Against: None

The Motion was carried **CARRIED**.

Mayor Torenus thanked Sue Charles for her input and invited any questions in relation to the Annual Report 2010/2011.

Clr Dunbabin asked if Council had a credit rating?

Sue Charles advised no. The Federal and State Government are rated. Local Government don't have their own constitution and thus are accountable to the State Government.

5.0 SUBMISSIONS FOR ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

The Mayor advised that no written submissions for issues to be discussed prior to the designated closing for submissions were received. Therefore, there were no submissions included in the Agenda.

6.0 QUESTIONS (from the Gallery)

Geoff Gilbert stated that Council were moving along well and were financially well managed. He asked if Council were supportive of the current amalgamation discussions happening and where did Council sit if this did happen?

The Mayor said it was an appropriate question. Other Councils were wanting to take us over. She said Council needed to have a discussion workshop and it did not have any decision on the issue at this stage. She had heard Clarence Council may be wishing to merge with Sorell.

Sharon Fotheringham

Sharon claimed she had put in a submission for the AGM, however it was not on the Agenda. It was explained to her that it did not appear as a Submission request, just a standard letter of request, therefore it was being dealt with accordingly. The matter was discussed at the AGM.

Her concern was residents living in houses for several years, not receiving Certificate of Occupancy approval and therefore avoiding paying correct rates on the property. She asked could Council do something as this needed discouraging. She just wants everyone to be paying the correct rates for their property.

Clr Evans asked how Sharon knew the people in question did not have a Certificate of Occupancy?

Bill Hyndes advised the rating issue had been dealt with approx. 3 years ago. Council could not force people to complete their homes. This issue is picked up with the revaluation process. He also said the financial issue had been dealt with.

Sue Charles advised that just because you do not have a Certificate of Compliance does not necessarily mean you are not paying the correct rates on your property.

Clr Dunbabin said he felt Council needs to have heart when dealing with some situations.

Clr Evans advised that the people (The Property Council) pushing amalgamation were the same groups who pushed for the Southern Water move. He said STCA had been talked into doing a survey on this issue.

Sharon Fotheringham said DIER treats Sorell as a minority for services. She asked can we expect some infrastructure assurance? DIER had indicated there would be no works in the next 10 years on main arterial structure. There was lack of funding and substantial growth caused more delays.

Bill Costin advised however that we had received funding for the Park & Ride Project.

Mayor Torenus also advised that the Minister had indicated that DIER had been instructed to look at the Midway Point and Airport roundabouts.

Sharon Fotheringham indicated that the roadwork improvements from Forcett to Primrose Sands were very rough and she felt it was now worse than the original condition.

Steve Hodge said DIER were doing repairs ready for possible re-sealing.

She also asked if anything was happening in relation to sewerage the Southern Beaches area?

Mayor Torenus said Southern Beaches were assured priority. Not sure how long it would take.

Clr Evans said it was the best Council Annual Report he had seen and was set out very well and thanked staff for its input.

7.0 CLOSE OF MEETING

Mayor Torenus thanked everyone for their attendance and Sue Charles and all staff for putting the Report together.

The meeting closed at 7.53 pm.

CONFIRMED

**MAYOR TORENIUS\
CHAIRPERSON
20 December 2011**