



C
a
s
e
y

General Purposes Committee Meeting

14 March 2017

Notice and Agenda of Meeting
to be held in the Council Chamber
Magid Drive, Narre Warren

Commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Chairperson: *Councillor Rosalie Crestani*

Members: *Mayor Cr Sam Aziz*
Councillor Geoff Ablett
Councillor Rosalie Crestani
Councillor Rex Flannery
Councillor Milla Gilic
Councillor Tim Jackson
Councillor Damien Rosario
Councillor Susan Serey
Councillor Wayne Smith BJ, JP
Councillor Amanda Stapledon

Chief Executive Officer: *Mike Tyler*

ORDER OF BUSINESS

“The City of Casey acknowledges that we are on the traditional land of the Bunurong and Wurundjeri People and pays respect to all elders past and present”

1. Apologies

- 2. Declaration by Councillors of any Conflict of Interest or Personal Interests pursuant to Sections 79 and 79B of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) in any items on the Notice Paper. (Note that Section 79(2)(a)(i) of the Act requires Councillors to disclose the nature of a Conflict of Interest or a Personal Interest immediately before the relevant consideration or discussion). Section 79B also requires that the Councillor declaring a Personal Interest must seek consent from the Committee to be exempt from voting on the item.**

3. Officers' Reports

Item	Subject	Council Plan Ref.	Page
3.1	Friends of Ermera Inc.	5.1	1

Services for Casey's Community



Community Life Active Communities

Friends of Ermera Inc.
James Rouse

14 March 2017
Item 3.1

Council Plan Reference: 5.1

Purpose of Report: For the Friends of Ermera Inc. to present to the General Purposes Committee in response to Notice of Motion No. 2914.

Background

At its meeting on 3 March 2015 Council, in adopting Notice of Motion No. 2914, moved by Cr Morland, resolved in part:

That the Friends of Ermera be invited to present on an annual basis in March at a General Purposes meeting on the work and needs of the Friends of Ermera for 20 minutes.

Arrangements have been made for Mr David Ellis, President and Mr Rob Daniel, Secretary of the Friends of Ermera to address the Committee in relation to work of the Friends of Ermera during the 2016/2017 year and a request for funding to be considered in Council's 2017/2018 budget.

Council has had a formal friendship city relationship with the District of Ermera, East Timor since 2004. More recently in 2016, Council signed a Municipal Cooperation Agreement with the East Timor State Administration, formalising the desire to develop and strengthen cooperation between Timorese and Victorian municipalities and their communities.

Council has for a number of years financially supported projects facilitated by the Friends of Ermera in the Ermera District of East Timor. These funds have been allocated towards continued employment of a Community Development Worker in the Ermera District, and to support professional development opportunities for key district representatives. These initiatives are integral to the work of the Friends of Ermera in building capacity and advancing the self-sufficiency of the people of Ermera.

Funding details

The table below outlines Council's contribution to the Friends of Ermera for the 2016/2017 period and the amount to be requested by Friends of Ermera for 2017/2018. The Friends of Ermera request funding in US dollars as this is the main currency in East Timor and transactions are in US dollars.

Expenditure item	2016/2017	2017/2018
Community Development Worker annual salary	US\$3,900	US\$4,200
Community Development Worker annual allowances	US\$2,600	US\$2,600
Professional development opportunity for two people	US\$4,500	US\$4,500
Total in \$US	US\$11,000	US\$11,300



The Friends of Ermera has requested an increase of US\$25 per month for the Community Development Worker annual salary which equates to an additional US\$300 per annum. The worker, Lola Maia, is now fully tertiary qualified, undertook intensive professional development in Casey in April 2016 and capably carries out her role in Ermera.

Conclusion

Council has provided financial and other support to the Friends of Ermera for several years to respond to needs identified by the East Timorese people. The Friends of Ermera have utilised Council's funding to support these efforts, with significant benefits for the people of the Ermera District and for members of the Casey community.

Recommendation

1. That Mr David Ellis and Mr Rob Daniel representatives of the Friends of Ermera be thanked for their presentation.
2. That the request for funding from the Friends of Ermera be referred to the 2017/18 budget deliberations for consideration.