

# **MINUTES**

# **SPECIAL MEETING**

Thursday, 26 March 2020

The Council Chambers 91 - 93 Bloomfield Street CLEVELAND QLD

# **Order Of Business**

1	Declaration of Opening			
2	Record of Attendance and Leave of Absence			
3	Declaration of Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest on any Items of Business			
4	Reports from Organisational Services2			
	4.1	COVID-19 Response	2	
5	Meeti	ng Closure	12	

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES 26 MARCH 2020

#### **SPECIAL MEETING**

# HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 91 - 93 BLOOMFIELD STREET, CLEVELAND QLD ON THURSDAY, 26 MARCH 2020 AT 9.30AM

#### 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.31am and acknowledged the Quandamooka people, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which Council meets.

The Mayor also paid Council's respect to their elders, past and present, and extended that respect to other indigenous Australians who are present.

#### 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cr Karen Williams (Mayor), Cr Wendy Boglary (Division 1), Cr

Peter Mitchell (Division 2), Cr Paul Gollè (Division 3), Cr Lance Hewlett (Deputy Mayor and Division 4), Cr Mark Edwards (Division 5), Cr Julie Talty (Division 6), Cr Murray Elliott (Division 7), Cr Tracey Huges (Division 8), Cr Paul Gleeson (Division 9), Cr

Paul Bishop (Division 10)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Nil

**EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM:** Andrew Chesterman (Chief Executive Officer), John Oberhardt

(General Manager Organisational Services), Louise Rusan (General Manager Community & Customer Services), Deborah Corbett-Hall (Chief Financial Officer), Andrew Ross (General Counsel), Amanda Daly (Head of People and Culture), Peter

Best (General Manager Infrastructure & Operations)

MINUTES: Danielle Bugeja (Acting Corporate Meetings & Registers

Supervisor)

#### **COUNCILLOR ABSENCES DURING THE MEETING**

Cr Tracey Huges entered the meeting at 9.32am (during Item 3)

Cr Julie Talty left the meeting at 10.40am and returned at 10.43am (during Item 4.1)

Cr Peter Mitchell left the meeting at 10.49am and returned at 10.51am (during Item 4.1)

# 3 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Nil

26 MARCH 2020

#### 4 REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES

#### 4.1 COVID-19 RESPONSE

**Objective Reference: A4471041** 

Authorising Officer: John Oberhardt, General Manager Organisational Services

Responsible Officer: John Oberhardt, General Manager Organisational Services

Report Author: Andrew Ross, General Counsel

Attachments: Nil

#### **PURPOSE**

To provide direction for a social and economic assistance package as a result of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

#### **BACKGROUND**

The world is currently facing a global pandemic associated with COVID-19. The virus is highly contagious with a high mortality rate compared to a standard seasonal influenza and there is currently no vaccine available.

COVID-19 is having an unprecedented effect on the economy and community of the Redlands Coast. The COVID-19 virus is rapidly escalating with new preventative and restrictive measures being developed almost daily, weekly with potential treatment and vaccine opportunities currently being investigated at a pace. However, any potential vaccine may not be available for some time. The management of the COVID-19 virus requires a holistic community approach that is flexible and adaptive to meet these challenges.

On 11 March 2020 Council resolved to note the ongoing review of the local Pandemic Management Plan and Business Continuity Plan. Officers continue to work through the Local Disaster Management Group and key industry and community stakeholders to ensure there is coordinated communications on the current situation, in particular for our island communities and local aged care facilities; to correspond with State and Federal Health Ministers requesting all steps be taken to ensure access to COVID-19 testing clinics, including access to telehealth facilities; to review Council infrastructure program to gain access to the Federal Government's commitment to generate economic activity; to encourage a cross boundary infrastructure submission with Brisbane City Council on the upgrade of Rickertt Road and to assess tourism and business incentives. These initiatives have been developed for the purpose of providing support to the community and sporting organisations that have cancelled events and programs, as well as ratepayers and the business community that have been affected by COVID-19. The response is ongoing and will be assessed and developed in accordance with existing financial and operational requirements, State and Federal Government financial support, with a further report being presented to a future Council meeting.

The impacts of this response will likely have a significant effect on our current and future budgets, given the spread of changes and associated impacts we are dealing with, noting the quantum is yet unknown. Council officers are forecasting an operating deficit for the 2019-20 financial year based on the impacts of the support package below.

#### **ISSUES**

#### **Governance and Service Status**

Council is adhering to information provided by Queensland Health, which is the leading source of accurate health information in Queensland. As a community, we do need to do all we can to stay well and prevent cross-infection.

Council has established a COVID-19 CEO Coordination Group, which is meeting regularly and is tasked with coordinating Council's collective effort in four key areas of action:

- Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) and Pandemic Planning: Coordinating effort, minimising and mitigating, where possible, the impact of the event on communities of Redlands Coast. Within the LDMG framework there are 4 multi-agency working groups tasked separately for Minjerribah; Southern Moreton Bay Islands and Coochiemudlo; Seniors, Aged Care and Disabilities and Economic Response and Recovery.
- Communications Group: Communicating consistently across the three tiers of government namely Federal, State and local aligned to the LDMG multi-agency working groups and internal and external departments to coordinate status updates across multiple communication channels with a single point of truth.
- Workplace Health and Safety and Industrial Relations: Keeping our employees safe and
  managing the workplace risks and interests associated with the specific activities Council is
  required to perform such as water and waste services; roads and operational maintenance to
  community volunteers and casual staffing arrangements.
- Business Continuity Planning: Preventative actions and contingency planning to maintain respond and where applicable restore Council services and related service providers, stores and sourcing arrangements.

The following services have been suspended to reduce the risk to the community:

- Redland Performing Arts Centre (RPAC) has closed until Thursday 30 April 2020 at this stage.
   RPAC box office employees are contacting patrons currently booked about rescheduling, refunding or crediting tickets.
- Redland Library has closed until further notice at all locations. All library loans are extended until 11 May 2020. There are no overdue fees for anyone who can't return borrowed items.
   Book return chutes remain open if borrowers wish to return items. Online services will continue to operate as normal.
- Redland Art Gallery has closed until further notice at all locations.
- The Redlands IndigiScapes Centre has closed until further notice. The IndigiCafe is closed and will not be offering takeaway services. Extension officers (Environmental Partnerships, Wildlife Officers, Bushcare and Schools Program) are contactable by phone for any questions the community may have.
- The RACQ Smart Shuttle autonomous vehicle on Karragarra Island has ceased operations until further notice.
- Contractor-operated Cleveland Aquatic Centre's gym and indoor pool, together with Russell Island Pool has closed until further notice. The pool cafe will continue to provide takeaway only.

- Contractor-operated RecycleWorld at Redland Bay Waste Transfer Station has closed until further notice. Follow@RecycleWorld on social media for updates.
- Events in Council run and operated community halls.

### **Industry and Economic Stimulus Package**

Council is already working with businesses, social enterprises, community groups, and sporting clubs impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to assist them with accessing information on available Federal and State Government Stimulus packages. The short to medium term impacts on local businesses include reduced trade, temporary or permanent business closures, supply chain interruptions and job losses. The most immediate impacts will be felt by businesses with cash flows that are managed on a weekly and monthly basis (predominantly small businesses) and businesses that have recently been restricted due to social distancing regulations.

Council is promoting the State Department of Employment, Small Business and Tourism's hot line for enquiries from impacted businesses. Council's business support officers continue to assist businesses and clubs to access both the State and Federal Government Economic Stimulus packages and direct enquiries to the relevant service areas. Council is funding and attempting to access external funding to appoint business consultants to provide one on one advice for businesses which require immediate, customised and individual advice to manage the impacts on their business and to be in a position to apply for State and Commonwealth funding.

As a further response, Council is looking to defer the current round of the community grants and sponsorship programs until an appropriate time within the following financial year (20/21) and repurpose the savings (\$288,170) from this program into a grants program that is targeted at both relief and recovery efforts for both small businesses and community organisations. This proposed measure would include provision for an innovation stream under the Advancing Regional Innovation Program. Council has commenced planning an initiative to assist restaurants, cafes and food businesses adapt to take-away and delivery service trade by trialling a reduction in the current parking limit to 15 minutes in proximity to these businesses, for select locations. This aligns with recommendations from a traffic and transport strategy for Cleveland to consider reducing parking times to stimulate more activity.

Council is investigating the expansion of Council Wi-Fi and local connectivity to assist business moving into online servicing, noting the improved servicing from the new Optus Telecommunications tower on Russell Island commenced this month for Optus members.

Council is working with our impacted businesses, to provide timely, flexible and compassionate support to enable them to adequately pivot their businesses during this emergency. This will include fast tracking through our regulatory frameworks as appropriate.

# **Local Laws and Compliance**

All residents, and in particular Island residents, that have a vehicle parked on the mainland or the islands, are encouraged to contact Council if they are required to self-isolate due to an official public health direction or as a result of returning from international or interstate travel. Residents need to provide their vehicle details including make, model, colour, registration details, where the vehicle is parked and the day they commenced self-quarantine. To validate this information, customers are requested to provide documentation confirming forced self-isolation such as a medical direction or certificate or flight itinerary. Information will be cross-referenced by field officers to prevent an infringement notice being issued. In the event a resident does receive an infringement notice, they have the ability to submit the relevant information to Council for

consideration of a waiver of the infringement. Regulated parking patrols will continue across the City with an emphasis on safety related issues consistent with public health directives.

### Rates and Utility Charges

It is acknowledged that the COVID-19 is having an effect on residents, businesses and community groups. To immediately assist with cash flow it is proposed to extend the due date for the April to June 2020 quarter rates notice, doubling the current time after the rates notice that payment is due, from 11 May to 11 June 2020. This means the rate notices issued in April will not be due for payment until 11 June 2020.

For ratepayers who are currently paying their rates by direct debit, Council can be contacted if resident need to change the frequency or amount, or discuss whether this is the best payment method for residents at this time.

Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* prohibits Council changing general rates, separate charges and utility charges during the financial year. The amounts are determined at the Special Budget Meeting and are set for the financial year. Council has a range of support available for those members of the community that cannot pay their rates and charges by the due date.

Council has an existing Financial Hardship Policy that was adopted on 6 November 2019 and to ensure those eligible ratepayers are aware of the assistance available, Council will promote the Hardship Policy to raise awareness due to the expected impact of the coronavirus. The Financial Hardship Policy and related Policy on Discounts and Waivers of Fees and Infringements will also be reviewed with the new Council as part of the 2020-2021 budget development process, in line with the annual review of other Key Finance Policies.

Council has an existing process to support property owners with overdue rates and charges. The process includes the opportunity for eligible ratepayers to request to enter into an arrangement with Council and to apply for the interest to be ceased on the overdue balance whilst they honour their arrangement. Council will work with eligible ratepayers to support them with arrangements.

If businesses across Redlands Coast are directly impacted and cannot provide goods or services property owners are encouraged to contact Council's rates team to ensure current charges are appropriate to the business model and any eligible credits can be applied to the account.

In addition to the measures above, for the April 2020 rates notice and into the future, Council will review ratepayers' situations on a case by case basis and will be more flexible and compassionate in extending the duration of arrangements during the Coronavirus pandemic.

# **Sporting and Community groups**

Sporting and community groups are the foundation of our community in running events and organised sporting activities. With the current limitation imposed on social gathering by the Federal Government, almost all events and regular club sports have had to be cancelled leaving the groups out of pocket, particularly when processing refunds that have already been expended. Council will not seek to recover any non-refundable expenditure made from Council grants or sponsorship for events that have been cancelled. In addition to the grants, it is proposed to refund the event application fees for organised events that have been cancelled and to align additional support within the broader community grants and sponsorship programs.

In addition Council proposes to make a one-off contribution to electricity network charges (excluding consumption charges) for clubs and associations registered under Council's community electricity scheme within Council assets, estimated at approximately \$15,000 in total. The contribution is proposed to be calculated at the next available levy date.

#### **Infrastructure Works**

Council has already reviewed its capital program to identify infrastructure projects that meet the Federal Government's commitment to generate economic activity during this time, in particular to nominate transport and road projects that can be brought forward and are eligible for the Federal Infrastructure Investment Program. These projects were submitted to the Federal Government on 19 March 2020 and include:

- Wellington Street and Panorama Drive Road Upgrade Stage 1, Services and Civil Works Acceleration
- Canaipa Point Drive Footpath Construction, Russell Island (between Oasis Drive to Keats Street)
- Greensealing of Roads on Russell and Macleay Islands (48 road lengths) to accelerate completion of road network
- Construction of priority trunk Cycle Paths (package):
  - Meissner/Moores Road Intersection and Esplanade, Redland Bay
  - o Pelican, Carter, Boat and Thompson Streets, Victoria Point
  - o Valley, Jacob, Musgrave and Roberts Streets, Wellington Point
- Accelerated delivery of Roads to Recovery road rehabilitation program:
  - Passage Street (Middle to Long), Cleveland
  - o Avalon Road (Ford to Campbell), Sheldon
  - o Degen Road (Mount Cotton to Ney), Capalaba
  - Queen Street, Redland Bay
- Road Resurfacing of Redland City Mainland local roads (32 road lengths)
- Wharf Street Ferry Commuter Car Park Resurfacing
- Teak Lane Footpath Construction, Victoria Point
- Mooroondu Road, William Taylor Sportsfield Carpark and Drainage Improvements, Thorneside
- Bay Street Road Widening, Cleveland
- Ziegenfusz Road Drainage Upgrade and Road Widening, Thornlands
- Lucinda Crescent Road and Drainage Upgrade, North Stradbroke Island
- Shore Street West Street Lighting and Pedestrian Crossing Upgrade, Cleveland
- Weippin Street Footpath link construction (320m) to complete pedestrian link to Mater Private Hospital and Redland Hospital, Cleveland
- Makaha Drive Footpath link construction to provide connection from Birkdale Road to parkland and esplanade, Birkdale
- Hamilton Street Footpath link construction and drainage rectification, Redland Bay
- Sturgeon Street, Fellmonger Park Carpark Upgrade, Ormiston
- Starkey Street Road Widening, Wellington Point
- Glendale Road Emergency Access Road Construction, Russell Island

Funding for any works proposed has not been approved by the Federal Government and no timeline or advice has been provided by the Federal Government in relation to projects that may receive federal funding.

#### **Local Preference and Procurement**

Council has written to over 3,000 suppliers and staff to emphasise the importance of buying locally and to continue to share information regarding the impacts related to public health directions to support the Redlands Coast business community. Officers are reviewing contract arrangements to extend local preference and contract arrangements and expedite payments to improve supplier cash flows.

#### **Council Meetings**

On 22 March 2020, the Australian Government announced the following restrictions:

- No non-essential gatherings of more than 500 people outside or more than 100 people inside.
- All non-essential indoor gatherings of less than 100 people must have no more than one person per 4sqm. All Australians should expect their local businesses to be following this rule.
- Where possible, keep 1.5 metres between yourself and others.

Historically, Ordinary Council meetings have been held in the Council Chambers at Redland City Council Administration Cleveland. Due to the size of the Council Chambers, these rooms would no longer be suitable to fully accommodate the council, operational officers, guests and the community.

The Redland Performing Art Centre (Events Hall) at 2 middle Street Cleveland is a suitable space to accommodate for social distancing restrictions.

Section 257 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 stipulates that: (3) All meetings of a local government are to be held—(a) at 1 of the local government's public offices; or (b) for a particular meeting—at another place fixed by the local government, by resolution, for the meeting.

A council resolution is required to change the location for local government meetings for the duration of the current pandemic restrictions.

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

#### **Legislative Requirements**

A local government has a power to do anything that is necessary or convenient for the good rule and welfare of its local government area under section 9 (1) of *Local Government Act 2009*. This broad power is however constrained by specific legislative requirements in particular the legal commentary by the Local Government Association of Queensland refers specifically to restrictions on setting rates and charges such that they can only be made at budget meetings each year and not varied during the financial year.

There are specific caretaker provisions before an election under section 90B of the *Local Government Act 2009* that prohibit major policy decisions, without ministerial approval, that involve entering in significant contracts or changes to the planning scheme or local laws. Likewise the recent changes to the *Public Health Act 2005* and social distancing principles of 1.5 metres from other people are all measures that will impact on our work to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

#### **Risk Management**

The economic assistance package is aligned to managing the community economic and social risks under the quadruple bottom line principles in Council's Corporate Plan 2018 to 2023.

#### **Financial**

The impacts of this response will likely have a significant impact on Council's budget, given the spread of changes and associated impacts we are dealing with, noting the quantum is yet unknown but officers are now forecasting an operating deficit in the 2019-20 financial year based on the support package to the Redlands community.

#### **People**

The economic assistance package can generally be delivered within existing operational structures acknowledging potential staffing level changes, remote working options already implemented.

#### **Environmental**

There are no direct environmental implications from the assistance package.

#### Social

The economic assistance package supports community and social outcomes.

#### **Human Rights**

Queensland's Human Rights Act 2019 protects 23 human rights in law.

### Alignment with Council's Policy and Plans

Corporate Plan 2018 to 2023

POL-3015 Financial Hardship Policy

POL-3120 Discounts and Waivers of Fees and Infringements Policy

PR-3040-055-071 Undertaking Council activities in a Pandemic Procedures

Redland City Council Disaster Plan

**Business Continuity Plan** 

# **CONSULTATION**

Consulted	Consultation Date	Comments/Actions
Local Disaster Management	23/03/2020	Benchmarking and consistency across lead regional Public
Group (LDMG)		Health, community and industry authorities
Local Government Association	23/03/2020	Benchmarking and consistency across Queensland Councils
of Queensland (LGAQ)		
COVID-19 CEO Coordination	23/03/2020	Briefing of key internal stakeholders
Group		
Business Australia	20/03/2020	Benchmarking and consistency across Australian Councils
Department of Employment,	23/03/2020	Support programs for business
Small Business and Training		
Department of State	23/03/2020	Support programs for business
Development, Manufacturing,		
Infrastructure and Planning.		
Chamber of Commerce &	23/03/2020	Confirm free membership for new businesses giving access to
Industry Queensland (CCIQ)		hotline support and available packages
Council of Mayors South East	23/03/2020	Coordinating regional response across SEQ Councils
Queensland (COMSEQ)		
Redlands Coast Chamber of	24/3/2020	Results of Redlands Coast business survey
Commerce		

#### **OPTIONS**

#### **Option One**

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note, support and endorse current and continuing council response to COVID-19.

#### 2. To decides to:

- a) Make available Business Support officers to support local businesses, social enterprises, community groups and sporting clubs to access the Federal and State Governments' Economic Stimulus packages.
- b) Request the Chief Executive Officer and council officers to help our business communities adjust to pandemic related impacts by expediting flexibly any council regulatory requirements as appropriate.
- c) Defer the current round of the community grants and sponsorship programs until an appropriate time within the following financial year (2020-21) and repurposing the savings from this program into a targeted grants program that is aimed at both relief and recovery efforts for both small businesses and community organisations. This proposed measure includes provision for innovation under the Advancing Regional Innovation Program.
- d) Promote POL-3015 Financial Hardship Policy and POL-3102 Discounts and Waivers of Fees and Infringements Policy and related guidelines and procedures to ensure those eligible ratepayers, businesses, community groups and clubs directly affected by COVID-19 can access hardship provisions to waiver, suspend or defer Council fees particularly fees like trade waste for cafes, restaurants, clubs and food premises that have been directly impacted.
- e) Investigate modified parking arrangements to facilitate local shopping and food takeaway services and transport hubs.
- f) Expedite the expansion of Council's Wi-Fi to assist businesses moving online and digital service platforms.
- g) Double the due date for the April to June 2020 quarter rates notice from 11 May to 11 June 2020.
- h) Making a one off contribution to network charges up to 30 June 2020 for clubs and associations directly affected by COVID-19 and registered under Council's Community electricity scheme.
- i) Strengthen Council's local preference as the first preference for contracting and procurement services and expedite payment terms to improve supplier cash flows.
- j) Bring forward infrastructure projects that meet the Federal and State Government's commitment to generate local economic activity during this time.
- k) That the Post-Election meeting for the 2020 Local Government Elections and Ordinary and Committee Meetings be held at the Redland Performing Arts Centre for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

#### **Option Two**

That Council resolves to note and amend this response.

#### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by: Cr Julie Talty
Seconded by: Cr Wendy Boglary

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note, support and endorse current and continuing council response to COVID-19.

#### 2. To decides to:

- a. Make available Business Support officers to support local businesses, social enterprises, community groups and sporting clubs to access the Federal and State Governments' Economic Stimulus packages.
- b. Request the Chief Executive Officer and council officers to help our business communities adjust to pandemic related impacts by expediting flexibly any council regulatory requirements as appropriate.
- c. Defer the current round of the community grants and sponsorship programs until an appropriate time within the following financial year (2020-21) and repurposing the savings from this program into a targeted grants program that is aimed at both relief and recovery efforts for both small businesses and community organisations. This proposed measure includes provision for innovation under the Advancing Regional Innovation Program.
- d. Promote POL-3015 Financial Hardship Policy and POL-3102 Discounts and Waivers of Fees and Infringements Policy and related guidelines and procedures to ensure those eligible ratepayers, businesses, community groups and clubs directly affected by COVID-19 can access hardship provisions to waiver, suspend or defer Council fees particularly fees like trade waste for cafes, restaurants, clubs and food premises that have been directly impacted.
- e. Investigate modified parking arrangements to facilitate local shopping and food takeaway services and transport hubs.
- f. Expedite the expansion of Council's Wi-Fi to assist businesses moving online and digital service platforms.
- g. Double the due date for the April to June 2020 quarter rates notice from 11 May to 11 June 2020.
- h. Making a one off contribution to network charges up to 30 June 2020 for clubs and associations directly affected by COVID-19 and registered under Council's Community electricity scheme.
- i. Strengthen Council's local preference as the first preference for contracting and procurement services and expedite payment terms to improve supplier cash flows.
- j. Bring forward infrastructure projects that meet the Federal and State Government's commitment to generate local economic activity during this time.
- k. That the Post-Election meeting for the 2020 Local Government Elections and Ordinary and Committee Meetings be held at the Redland Performing Arts Centre for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

26 MARCH 2020

#### AMENDMENT MOTION

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2020/107

Moved by: Cr Paul Bishop Seconded by: Cr Peter Mitchell

That the motion amends point b) and d) of the officer's recommendation as follows:

- b. Request the Chief Executive Officer and council officers to help our business communities adjust to pandemic related impacts by expediting flexibly of any council regulatory requirements as appropriate.
- d. Promote, review and update POL-3015 Financial Hardship Policy and POL-3102 Discounts and Waivers of Fees and Infringements Policy and related guidelines and procedures to ensure those eligible ratepayers, businesses, community groups and clubs directly affected by COVID-19 can access hardship provisions to waiver, suspend or defer Council fees particularly fees like trade waste for cafes, restaurants, clubs and food premises that have been directly impacted.

#### CARRIED 11/0

Crs Karen Williams, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Mark Edwards, Julie Talty, Murray Elliott, Tracey Huges, Paul Gleeson and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

The motion amendment motion was CARRIED. The motion with the amendment became the motion and was put as follows:

# COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2020/108

Moved by: Cr Paul Bishop Seconded by: Cr Peter Mitchell

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note, support and endorse current and continuing council response to COVID-19.

#### 2. To decides to:

- a. Make available Business Support officers to support local businesses, social enterprises, community groups and sporting clubs to access the Federal and State Governments' Economic Stimulus packages.
- b. Request the Chief Executive Officer and council officers to help our business communities adjust to pandemic related impacts by expediting flexibly of any council regulatory requirements as appropriate.
- c. Defer the current round of the community grants and sponsorship programs until an appropriate time within the following financial year (2020-21) and repurposing the savings from this program into a targeted grants program that is aimed at both relief and recovery efforts for both small businesses and community organisations. This proposed measure includes provision for innovation under the Advancing Regional Innovation Program.
- d. Promote, review and update POL-3015 Financial Hardship Policy and POL-3102 Discounts and Waivers of Fees and Infringements Policy and related guidelines and procedures to ensure those eligible ratepayers, businesses, community groups and clubs directly affected by COVID-19 can access hardship provisions to waiver, suspend or defer Council fees particularly fees like trade waste for cafes, restaurants, clubs and food premises that have been directly impacted.

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES 26 MARCH 2020

e. Investigate modified parking arrangements to facilitate local shopping and food takeaway services and transport hubs.

- f. Expedite the expansion of Council's Wi-Fi to assist businesses moving online and digital service platforms.
- g. Double the due date for the April to June 2020 quarter rates notice from 11 May to 11 June 2020.
- h. Making a one off contribution to network charges up to 30 June 2020 for clubs and associations directly affected by COVID-19 and registered under Council's Community electricity scheme.
- i. Strengthen Council's local preference as the first preference for contracting and procurement services and expedite payment terms to improve supplier cash flows.
- j. Bring forward infrastructure projects that meet the Federal and State Government's commitment to generate local economic activity during this time.
- k. That the Post-Election meeting for the 2020 Local Government Elections and Ordinary and Committee Meetings be held at the Redland Performing Arts Centre for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

#### CARRIED 11/0

Crs Karen Williams, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Mark Edwards, Julie Talty, Murray Elliott, Tracey Huges, Paul Gleeson and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

#### 5 MEETING CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 11.15am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the General Meeting of the Redland City Coun					
held on 29 April 2020.					
	•••••				
	CHAIRPERSON				