



## **Minutes of the Legatus Group Ordinary Meeting**

**28 February 2020**

**Valleys Lifestyle Centre Main North Road Clare**

### **I Meeting Preliminaries**

#### **Present**

Board members: Mayor Peter Matthey OAM – Chairman (Goyder), Mayor Leonie Kerley (Barunga West), Mayor Wayne Thomas (Clare and Gilbert Valleys), Mayor Bill O'Brien (Light), Mayor Bim Lange (Barossa), Mayor Phillip Heaslip (Mount Remarkable), Mayor Peter Slattery (Flinders Ranges), Mayor Denis Clark (Northern Areas), Mayor Rodney Reid (Wakefield), Mayor Ruth Whittle OAM (Peterborough), Mayor Darren Braund (Yorke Peninsula), Acting Mayor Marcus Strudwicke (Adelaide Plains) and Deputy Mayor Margaret Pope (Copper Coast).

#### **In Attendance**

Crs. Brian Lockyer (Barunga West Council). Council CEO's Mr Graeme Maxwell (Barunga West), Dr Helen Macdonald, (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), Mr David Stevenson (Goyder), Mr Colin Byles (Northern Areas), Mr Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield), Mr James Miller (Adelaide Plains) and Mr Eric Brown (Flinders). Others Ms Katrina Borlace (Mount Remarkable), Ms Kelly- Anne Saffin (CEO RDA YMN), Mr Tony Fox (Northern and Yorke NRM), Ms Angela Ruddenklau (PIRSA), Ms Lisa Teburea (LGA) and Mr Simon Millcock (CEO Legatus Group).

State MP's Hon Stephan Knoll, Hon Dan van Holst Pellekann, Hon Tony Piccolo and Hon Geoff Brock along with Federal MP Rowan Ramsey also attended for sections of the meeting.

#### **Apologies**

Mayor Mark Wasley (Adelaide Plains), Mayor Kathie Bowman (Orroroo Carrieton), Mayor Leon Stephens (Port Pirie) and Mayor Roslyn Talbot (Copper Coast) . Council CEO's Mr Martin McCarthy (Barossa), Mr Brian Carr (Light), Mr Peter McGuinness (Peterborough), Mr Wayne Hart (Mount Remarkable), Mr Peter Ackland (Port Pirie), Mr Dylan Strong (Orroroo Carrieton) and Mr Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula). MP's Mr Fraser and Mr John Gee. RDA CEOs Ms Claire Wiseman and Ms Anne Moroney.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 10.30am.

The meeting was advised that the Legatus Group CEO had received written correspondence from the Copper Council that Mayor Roslyn Talbot is on leave from the Council and Deputy Mayor Margaret Pope is attending in her absence. Adelaide Plains Council advised that Cr Marcus Strudwicke is Acting Mayor. As such both Deputy Mayor Pope and Cr Strudwicke were the current principal members for their councils at the meeting.

### **2 Welcome to Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council**

Mayor Wayne Thomas welcomed everyone to the Clare Valley and provided an Acknowledgement of Country and he invited people to take the time to view the sculpture of an Aboriginal woman and

child, modelled and donated by renowned Australian artist Robert Hannaford which stands in the artists hometown of Riverton.

Mayor Thomas noted the impact of the drought for the region's grape growers plus to the town of Clare which is a regional service centre. The Federal drought funding was acknowledged and a focus has been on tourism and infrastructure and he also noted the State support (including for the Clare Classic 4-5 April). He discussed that new stores have opened in the main street of Clare but that retail continues to be tough. Drought funding is assisting with the Watervale Community Hub.

The councils is continuing with planning on storm water re flooding continues to be progressed along with open space policies.

Mayor Thomas congratulated the Clare Valley Wine Wineries for their continued international recognition as a premium wine region having just taken the Best of Show Australia title at the 26th annual Mundus Vini Grand International Wine Awards via the Clare Valley's Taylors Wines and Kilikanoon Wines receiving Best of Show Australia trophies.

### **3 Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on 29 November 2019 at Port Broughton.

Motion: That the minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on the 29 November 2019 at the Port Broughton Bowling Club be taken as read and confirmed with the amendment that Mayor Denis Clark seconded item 5.1.

Moved: Mayor Peter Slattery Seconded: Mayor Denis Clark

**CARRIED**

### **4 Presentations**

Mayor Peter Matthey called forward agenda item 5.1 Rating Equity prior to the presentations due to the relevance of the topic as both Ministers Hon Dan van Holst Pellekann and Hon Stephan Knoll were going to speak on this topic.

Item 5.1 Rating Equity

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda.

Motion:

1. That the Legatus Group receives and publishes the February 2020 report by AEC titled Rating Equity in South Australia and the Financial Impacts on Local Government's Ability to Support Growth.
2. That the Legatus Group supports the approach by SAROC to seek a commitment from the State Government to immediately commence working with local government on amendments to rating policy with regards to electricity generators.

Moved: Mayor Ruth Whittle Seconded: Mayor Rodney Reid

**CARRIED**

4.1 Hon Dan van Holst Pellekann MP Minister for Energy and Mining and Member for Stuart

The Minister spoke on two main topics:

- Mental health / wellbeing. He noted the meetings he has held with the Northern Legatus Group Councils including with the Premier and the strong advocacy that was being provided from the region through the leadership of Orroroo Carrieton Councils CEO Dylan Strong. He noted the strength of the proposal and the value of the support from all Legatus Group councils and that this has assisted in looking at how some of the \$21m being provided by the

SA Government for drought impacted communities could be adjusted. He noted that whilst the end project may be slightly different to the initial proposal the continued dialogue with PIRSA should lead to 2 roles being based out of councils. It is likely that the majority of the funding required will come from the State Govt.

- Rating Equity. He advised he was pleased to see the direction that the report had taken and that he was comfortable as Minister in the approach for the State Government and LGA to work together. Noted that this was an issue which bridged both his Ministerial role and that of Minister Knoll.

The Minister was advised of the issues re Borrow Pits which had been raised by the Legatus Group and that the SAROC Chair was writing to him on this topic. He acknowledged the concerns raised and looked forward to receiving the correspondence, whilst indicating there may be some funding available.

Hon Dan van Holst Pellekann then left the meeting.

4.2 Hon Stephan Knoll MP Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government and the Minister for Planning Minister and Member for Schubert.

The Minister spoke on three main topics:

- Local Government Reform and the productivity report which was acknowledged as a sensible approach and the report has been accepted and now keen to progress. Interest in the enterprise bargaining and working through collectives of councils. Benchmarking and looking at ways to reduce costs by working together. Draft bill to go to Cabinet in March and he committed to ensure everyone is able to look at this. Advised that Government is not bringing back the same Bill re Rate Capping but a different Bill based on feedback from the previous attempt.
- Planning Reform and he thanked Councils for their engagement and that the Government has decided to delay the implementation so Councils can test and trial before it goes live. This provides opportunities to update if needed.
- Rating Equity the Minister whilst noting the direction of the report as discussed by Minister Dan van Holst Pellekann he did pose some questions on what the specifics may look like whilst he is supportive of working with local government to consider approaches.

The Minister was asked questions from the floor on issues of

- Signage for the Clare Valley re the current work on Northern Express Way advising that this won't be an issue in the near future.
- Opening date for the Northern Connector advising that this is imminent.
- Regional Assessment Panels and insurance for panel members advising that this is being worked on.
- Performance benchmarking and impact for smaller councils advising that a this could best be done via a service by service approach designed by LGA.
- Enterprise bargaining and the variances across the State with regional and remote needing to attract and retain and the need for flexibility and the Minister acknowledged there are variances.

Mayor Matthey acknowledged the support from both Ministers in attending the meeting.

Hon Stephan Knoll then left the meeting.

#### 4.3 Hon Tony Piccolo Shadow Minister for Planning and Local Government, Housing and Urban Development, and Veteran's Affairs and Member for Light

The Shadow Minister thanked the LGA Secretariat for their assistance in supporting his office with awareness of issues facing local government. He spoke on the following topics:

- Planning Design Code – welcoming the Minister's announcement re delay to start and noted there are still issues which need to be addressed.
- Benchmarking was good to see the Government progressing with Local Government sector.
- Rate Capping being reintroduced raised previous concerns that these should be determined by councils and their communities and will wait to see the bill before forming a position.
- Drop in tourism numbers – the impacts from the bushfires and coronavirus with the book them out campaign not creating more tourist and the need to reinvest \$23m removed from tourism budget.
- Coastal Protection Boards are in need of being reviewed.
- Rating Equity and rates regarding community housing are topics which he is keen to engage with councils on.

#### 4.4 Hon Geoff Brock MP and Member for Frome.

Hon Geoff Brock addressed the meeting and discussed the following topics:

- Horrocks Highway and the dates for the upgrades are is something he is pushing with the Minister along with consultation and design for the duplication of Highway I which needs to start as soon as possible.
- Concerns around TAFE and its centralisation which means Regional TAFE is being decimated.
- In discussions with interested party re waste and a regional plant and he will follow up with Legatus Group CEO.
- Hopes to see development of the meat processing plant at Port Pirie commence.
- Mental Health continues to be topic requiring support with locals supporting each other.

#### 4.5 Rowan Ramsey MP Member for Grey

MP Rowan Ramsey addressed the meeting and discussed the following topics:

- Roads funding R2R has received an increase.
- Drought Communities Fund now available to all 15 Legatus Group Councils.
- Need to work on the roll over of the Special Local Roads funding as this was last year for the commitment.

MP Rowan Ramsey left the meeting.

#### 4.6 Tony Fox Regional NRM Manager

Tony provided the meeting with a presentation on the Landscape Reform which included:

- Boundary changes and loss of part of Flinders Ranges Council area and the pickup of parts of Goyder and Barossa, Light and Adelaide Plains to the new look Yorke Mid North.
- Complexities associated with water planning.
- Seeking nominations for the board with nominations closing 6 March 2020 and the plan is that in the future community will elect half of the members.
- Carolyn Schaefer is the Presiding Member.

#### 4.7 Regional Development Australia (RDA) - CEO Kelly-Anne Saffin RDA Yorke and Mid North

Kelly-Anne provided an update on:

- Support to 22 applications for the Building Better Regions Fund and that it is anticipated there will be advise soon on the outcomes.
- Clare Valley Digital Access Project – digital analysis of the tourism region.
- Yorke and Mid North Infrastructure Audit – current draft and case studies being finalised.
- Clare Valley Water Project – including business case for Northern Infrastructure Scheme.
- SA Freight Council – SA Freight Productivity Study.
- Regional Employment Trials – with 2 recently approved projects of Activate Mid North (modelled on Activate Port Pirie) and Seven Point Pork-employment Project. The NDIS Disability Project is oversubscribed and the Multi Trade Project graduated in December. Further funding may be available for this year.
- A submission was made to the Select Committee on Regional Australia.
- A response was also provided on the Future Drought Fund.

### 5 Business arising not otherwise on the agenda

#### 5.1 Rating Equity

Refer above item 4.

#### 5.2 Drought

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda and he provided an update from Dylan Strong regarding the Northern Alliance Wellbeing Project.

Motion:

1. That the Legatus Group Chair writes to the Hon. David Littleproud MP Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management acknowledging the support from the Australian Government for the Drought Communities Programme and for the inclusion of The Barossa Council being declared eligible.
2. That the Legatus Group continues to support the approach by the Yorke and Mid North Alliance in partnership with RDA Barossa, Light, Gawler, Adelaide Plains and RDA Far North to develop regional funding application/s for the Future Drought Fund based on the outcomes from the current Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment.

Moved: A/Mayor Marcus Strudwicke Seconded: Mayor Darren Braund

**CARRIED**

#### 5.3 Pit and Quarry Management

The meeting noted the CEOs report.

#### 5.4 State Planning Reform

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda and the meeting noted that they have listened to feedback provided.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report and writes to the Chair of the State Planning Commission and the Minister for Planning thanking them for taking into consideration the extension of timing for full implementation of the code.

Moved: Mayor Leonie Kerley    Seconded: Mayor Denis Clark

**CARRIED**

#### 5.5 Pigeon Control

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda including the response from NRM.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report and request the Legatus Group CEO to progress a report to SAROC re the pursuit for pigeons to be declared a pest species.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark    Seconded: Mayor Peter Slattery

**CARRIED**

### 6 Chairman's Report

Chair Mayor Peter Matthey advised that he had attended all the required SAROC and LGA meetings on behalf of Legatus Group along with attending the meeting with Premier and Minister re Wellbeing for the Northern Council Alliance. He noted that the meeting was covering most issues he was aware of.

### 7 Items referred by Councils

#### 7.1 Copper Coast – Cat Management Plan for SA

The report by Copper Coast was provided with the agenda and general discussions were held. Lisa Teburea confirmed recent approval by SAROC for a motion from Berri Barmera Council would be included at the LGA Ordinary General Meeting on this topic.

Motion: That the Legatus Group does not support the Cat Management Plan for South Australia as developed by RSPCA and AWL and in particular the action list.

Moved: Mayor Bim Lange    Seconded: D/Mayor Margaret Pope

**CARRIED**

#### 7.2 Copper Coast – Exemption from Solid Waste Levy

The report by Copper Coast Council was provided with the agenda and D/Mayor Margaret Pope moved motion that the Legatus Group writes to Minister for Environment and Water requesting that waste from NAWMA's material recovery facility be exempt from the solid waste levy.

The motion lapsed for want of a seconder.

### 8 Business Plan

#### 8.1 2019/2020 Project updates.

The Legatus Group CEO's report was provided with the agenda and the Chair invited questions.

Motion:

1. That the Legatus Group notes the report.
2. That the Legatus Group supports the Legatus Group CEO working with the Yorke and Mid North Regional Alliance in developing a new Climate Change Sector Agreement.
3. That the Legatus Group provides complimentary entry for one representative from each Constituent Council to the SA Regional Climate Ready Conference for Saturday 18 April 2020.
4. That the Legatus Group approves the establishment of a Legatus Group Visitor Information Services Advisory Group in line with the Terms of Reference for other advisory committees and that the Legatus Group CEO calls for nominations for the following positions: 1 Council CEO, Maximum 5 x Visitor Information Services Officers or equivalent from a member Councils and or Regional Tourism Organisations and 1 x delegate nominated from a Regional Development Australia Organisations.
5. That the Legatus Group supports subject to the Legatus Group 2020/2021 budget allocation and funding from Green Industries SA the development of a Legatus Group Regional Waste Action Plan to follow on from the SA Regional Waste Management Strategy and provide an update of the Central Local Government Regions Waste Strategy 2014-2020.

Moved: Mayor Ruth Whittle      Seconded: Mayor Rodney Reid      **CARRIED**

## **9      Audit and Risk Management Committee**

No report provided as no meeting held since last Legatus Group meeting.

## **10      Financial Report**

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda containing the: (1) the second quarter financial report, (2) Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss by Job and Profit and Loss Summary reports for period 1 July 2019 – 31 January 2020 and (3) Legatus Group CEO's credit card and reimbursement for November - December 2019.

Motion:

1. That the Legatus Group notes the acceptance of the 2019/2020 Budget Review by all constituent councils and as such adopts the revised budget.
2. That the Legatus Group notes the half yearly report for the period July – December 2019 summarising the financial position and performance of the Legatus Group against the Budget that was provided to all constituent councils.
3. That the Legatus Group notes the financial report for the period July 2019 – January 2020.
4. That the Legatus Group notes the Legatus Group CEO's credit card purchases.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark      Seconded: Mayor Rodney Reid      **CARRIED**

## **11      Legatus Group Regional Management Group**

Mr Colin Byles Chair of the committee provided a report with the agenda that included the notes of their meeting on 31 January 2020 and subsequent report from SA Water. He also welcomed new CEO Eric Brown (Flinders Ranges) and Acting CEO Graeme Maxwell (Barunga West) and acknowledged the great contribution of Andrew Cole (Barunga West) to the Legatus Group. He noted that CEOs Dylan Strong (Road and Transport Infrastructure) and Andrew MacDonald (CWMS) have confirmed their membership of Advisory Committees.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report and provides in-principal support for a Regional SA Water Liveability Program and for the Legatus Group CEO to continue dialogue with SA Water and Constituent Councils on a funding model for consideration in the 2020/2021 Legatus Group Business Plan.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark

Seconded: Mayor Wayne Thomas

**CARRIED**

## **12 Legatus Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee**

Dr Helen Macdonald the Chair of the committee provided a report with the agenda which contained the notes of the Legatus Group Legatus Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee meeting held 14 February 2020.

Motion:

1. That the Legatus Group approves Dylan Strong (Orroroo Carrieton), Michael McCauley (Yorke Peninsula), Steve Kaesler (Barossa), Tom Jones (Adelaide Plains), Stuart Roberts (Wakefield), Lee Wallis (Goyder), Kelly-Anne Saffin (RDA YMN) and Mike Wilde (DPTI) as members to the Legatus Group Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee for a period of two years to commence from 14 March 2020.
2. That the Legatus Group CEO calls for nominations for the vacant position.
3. That the Legatus Group acknowledges the valuable support of Trevor Graham (Yorke Peninsula), Peter Porch (Northern Areas) and Jo-anne Buchannan (RDA YMN) for their time as members of the committee.

Moved: Mayor Darren Braund

Seconded: Mayor Leonie Kerley

**CARRIED**

## **13 Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee**

The meeting noted the report by the Legatus Group CEO provided with the agenda and that the advisory committee has not met since the last Legatus Group meeting.

## **14 LGA and SAROC**

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda and Lisa Teburea provided an update from the LGA which included:

- Bushfires have been a major focus and she thanked those councils who helped with staff and plant and equipment there was support from 34 councils and 220 employees. The LGA Secretariat had 17 staff providing 24/7 coverage for the functional support group. Emergency responses are a big focus for LGA and for further discussions with councils.
- Advocacy currently active on Local Government Reform, Libraries funding with re-negotiating, Planning and Financial Assistance Grant re Road funding.

Motion: The Legatus Group approves the Legatus Group CEO to Chair the Regional LGA Executive Officers Group for the calendar year 2020.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid

Seconded: Mayor Denis Clark

**CARRIED**



## **15 Other Business**

### **15.1 Mainstreet SA**

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda on the approach by Mainstreet SA to sponsor the 2020 SA Conference in Clare. The Clare and Gilbert Valleys advised they had confirmed co-sponsorship.

Motion: That the Legatus Group provides a sponsorship to the amount of \$6,000 for the Mainstreet SA 2020 Conference to be held in the Legatus Group region.

Moved: Mayor Darren Braund    Seconded: Mayor Peter Slattery

**CARRIED**

### **15.2 Duke of Edinburgh Awards**

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda on the approach by the Development Manager SA Duke of Edinburgh Awards for Legatus to consider being a licenced organisation.

Motion: That the Legatus Group become a licenced organisation to run the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Moved: A/Mayor Marcus Strudwicke    Seconded: Mayor Darren Braund

**NOT CARRIED**

### **15.3 Relocation of Legatus Group Office**

The meeting noted the Legatus Group CEO's report.

### **15.4 Memorandum of Understanding with Universities.**

The meeting noted the Legatus Group CEO's report.

### **15.5 Murray Darling Association Region 8**

The meeting noted the report from the Legatus Group CEO which contained the minutes of the MDA Region 8 AGM. Cr Brian Lockyer the Chair of MDA Region 8 then presented a plaque to the outgoing Chair Mayor Denis Clark.

### **15.6 Legatus Group CEO's annual leave and disclosed outside interest.**

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes that the Legatus Group CEO continues to be a Committee member of the SA Economic Development Australia Committee.

Moved Mayor Peter Slattery    Seconded Mayor Denis Clark

**CARRIED**

## **16 Close of Meeting**

The dates for the next meeting is Friday 5 June 2020 to be hosted by The Flinders Ranges Council with a dinner being planned for night before.

The meeting agreed to change the date of the AGM to Friday 4 September 2020 so as not to clash with the LGA Roads Conference.

Meeting closed by the Chair at 1.15pm

Signed as a true and correct record by:

Chairman Mayor Peter Matthey

Date