

3.6 Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Annual General Meeting 2017

Prepared By	Kathy Heffernan, Team Leader - Social Planning and Community Development
Authorised By	Director - Communities
Document ID	A9239909
Attachment(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting - 17 September 20172. The Chairperson's Report 20173. Financial Report to Annual General Meeting for year ending 30 June 20174. Visit to Timor-Leste 16 July to 30 July 2017 Report

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Timor-Leste (previously known as East Timor) Special Committee, held on 17 September 2017 and to acknowledge the appointment of the Executive Committee as detailed in the report.

BACKGROUND

The Mornington Peninsula Shire (the Shire), together with the Mornington Peninsula community, has had a special friendship relationship with Lospalos, Timor-Leste since 2000.

Council, at its meeting held in October 2004, established as a Section 86 Committee, The Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos East Timor Special Committee.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by all parties in 2008.

In 2015 the Timor-Leste Government through Local Government Victoria (LGV) invited key local government authorities with friendship relationships to formalise its assistance, advice and support as Timor-Leste moves to provide better services to their local population and to establish local government in its districts. The Municipal Cooperation Agreement was signed in January 2016 by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer and Timor-Leste Vice Minister of State Administration.

The current Committee consists of community volunteers, with Cr Hugh Fraser appointed as the Council representative and Cr Sam Hearn appointed as the substitute representative.

The Friends of Lospalos Committee is essentially a 'Community to Community' Committee with its focus being on fundraising for much needed community development projects recommended by the Lospalos community leadership and in accordance with the 2015 Municipal Cooperation Agreement.

The Instrument of Delegation and Rules of the Committee under which the Committee operates requires that following the AGM, a report be provided to Council. Attached to this report are the following documents:

- The Minutes of the AGM held on 17 September 2017 (Attachment 1);
- The Chairman's Report (Attachment 2);
- The Financial Report to the AGM for the year ending 30 June 2017 (Attachment 3); and
- Visit to Timor-Leste 16 to 30 July 2017 Report (Attachment 4)

3.6 (Cont.)

The Committee has requested that the Minutes of the AGM and associated documents be formally placed before Council pursuant to the Instrument of Delegation and to endorse the appointment of the Committee.

DISCUSSION

Positions on the Committee are declared vacant at the AGM and nominations called for. There were 10 positions for Executive places allocated. The Executive were declared elected and consisted of the following.

- Chairperson – Ms Xiao Li Ma;
- Deputy Chairperson – Mr Graham Pittock;
- Secretary – Ms Debbie Allum;
- Treasurer – Ms Linda Wimetel;
- Fundraising Convenor – Ms Cate Macmillan; and
- General Committee Members – Mr Wayne Ashdown, Ms Nic Kirkman and Mr Ollie Wimetel.

There are also two positions for Councillor Representatives to be determined by Council. Current representatives are Cr Hugh Fraser and substitute representative Cr Sam Hearn. The Committee is requesting that Council endorses the appointment of the Executive members outlined above.

ISSUES

Friends of Lospalos have a membership of some 260 people, local people and almost a thousand following its Facebook page. It works tirelessly each year to achieve fundraising to enable it to support projects based in Lospalos using a principled approach recognising key principles of community development practice such as:

- Respect and support for Timorese led decision making;
- Sustainable long-term assistance;
- Relationships are based on partnerships of mutual respect and collaboration;
- A community led development approach; and
- Implementing the 2015 Municipal Cooperation Agreement.

Fundraising in the past year has seen a number of projects completed and as noted in the Chairperson's report:

- Building of a small bridge for a village cut off from the main road each wet season by flood waters so that now children can get to school and goods can be taken to market etc;
- Renovations at Central Basic School in Maluro Village which had sustained considerable flood damage and building deterioration;
- English language advanced course for adults;

3.6 (Cont.)

- Baucau Teachers College sponsorship of two students to become primary school teachers;
- Building a public toilet at the Municipal Administration Office outside to enable people from all ten villages to utilise as they visit;
- Digging a well at the Municipal Administration Office to support the new toilet and enable the forty staff at the Office to have sufficient safe water throughout the week;
- Election Observer Role 2017 (Attachment 4);
- Inauguration ceremonies in Lospalos for both the Moto Lori Bridge completion and the Maluro School renovations; and
- Commission meeting with Election Observers cohort July 2017 and Secretary's visit September 2016.

Without the support of the Mornington Peninsula community, well known for its generosity and sense of justice and humanitarianism, these projects would not be able to be achieved.

OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

During the reporting period, two Shire officers had been nominated as Executive Committee members of the Friends of Lospalos. The Chairperson and the Treasurer were both employees of the Social Planning and Community Development Team.

CONCLUSION

The Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Timor-Leste Special Committee has fulfilled its obligation as a Special Committee appointed by Council under section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, by holding its AGM and forwarding the Minutes and associated documents to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receives and notes the report titled Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Annual General Meeting 2017.
2. That Council acknowledges the appointment of the 2017 Executive Committee as follows:
 - A. Chairperson – Ms Xiao Li Ma;
 - B. Deputy Chairperson – Mr Graham Pittock;
 - C. Secretary – Ms Debbie Allum;
 - D. Treasurer – Ms Linda Wimetal;
 - E. Fundraising Convenor – Ms Cate Macmillan; and
 - F. General Committee Members – Mr Wayne Ashdown, Ms Nic Kirkman and Mr Ollie Wimetal.
3. That Council thanks the Friends of Lospalos, its Executive Committee and Council officers for their excellent work for the people of Timor-Leste.

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr Fraser
Seconded: Cr Hearn

1. That Council receives and notes the report titled Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Annual General Meeting 2017.
2. That Council acknowledges the appointment of the 2017 Executive Committee as follows:
 - A. Chairperson – Ms Xiao Li Ma;
 - B. Deputy Chairperson – Mr Graham Pittock;
 - C. Secretary – Ms Debbie Allum;
 - D. Treasurer – Ms Linda Wimetel;
 - E. Fundraising Convenor – Ms Cate Macmillan; and
 - F. General Committee Members – Mr Wayne Ashdown, Ms Nic Kirkman and Mr Ollie Wimetel.
3. That Council thanks the Friends of Lospalos, its Executive Committee, retiring Chairperson, Mr Tim Rogers and Council officers for their excellent work for the people of Timor-Leste.

Carried Unanimously

3.7 Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Annual General Meeting 2018

Prepared By	Kathy Heffernan, Team Leader - Social Planning and Community Development
Authorised By	Director - Communities
Document ID	A9239492
Attachment(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting - 15 November 20182. The Chairman's Report 20183. Financial Report to the Annual General Meeting for year ending 30 June 20184. Visit to Timor-Leste 6 May to 16 May 2018 Report

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Timor-Leste (previously known as East Timor) Special Committee, held on 15 November 2018 and to endorse the appointment of the Executive Committee as detailed in the report.

BACKGROUND

The Mornington Peninsula Shire (the Shire), together with the Mornington Peninsula community, has had a special friendship relationship with Lospalos, Timor-Leste since 2000.

Council, at its meeting held in October 2004, established as a Section 86 Committee, the Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos East Timor Special Committee.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by all parties in 2008.

In 2015 the Timor-Leste Government through Local Government Victoria (LGV) invited key local government authorities with friendship relationships to formalise its assistance, advice and support as Timor-Leste moves to provide better services to their local population and to establish local government in its districts. The Municipal Cooperation Agreement was signed in January 2016 by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer and Timor-Leste Vice Minister of State Administration.

The current Committee consists of community volunteers, with Cr Hugh Fraser appointed as the Council representative with Cr Sam Hearn and Cr Julie Morris appointed as the substitute representatives.

The Friends of Lospalos Committee is essentially a 'Community to Community' Committee with its focus being on fundraising for much needed community development projects recommended by the Lospalos community leadership and in accordance with the 2015 Municipal Cooperation Agreement.

The Instrument of Delegation and Rules of the Committee under which the Committee operates requires that following the AGM, a report be provided to Council. Attached to this report are the following documents:

- The Minutes of the AGM held on 15 November 2018 (Attachment 1);
- The Chairman's Report (Attachment 2);
- The Financial Report to the AGM for the year ending 30 June 2018 (Attachment 3); and

3.7 (Cont.)

- Visit to Timor-Lest 6 – 16 May 2018 Report (Attachment 4).

DISCUSSION

Positions on the Committee are declared vacant at the AGM and nominations called for. There were 10 positions for Executive places allocated. The Executive were declared elected and consisted of the following.

- Chairperson – Ms Xiao Li Ma;
- Deputy Chairperson – Mr Graham Pittock;
- Secretary – Ms Debbie Allum;
- Treasurer – Ms Linda Wimetel;
- Fundraising Convenor – Ms Cate Macmillan; and
- General Committee Members – Mr Wayne Ashdown, Ms Nic Kirkman and Mr Ollie Wimetel.

There are also two positions for Councillor Representatives to be determined by Council. Current representatives are Cr Hugh Fraser and substitute representatives Cr Sam Hearn and Cr Julie Morris.

The Committee is requesting that Council endorses the appointment of the Executive members outlined above.

ISSUES

Friends of Lospalos have a membership of some 260 people, local people and almost a thousand following its Facebook page. It works tirelessly each year to achieve fundraising to enable it to support projects based in Lospalos using a principled approach recognising key principles of community development practice such as:

- Respect and support for Timorese led decision making;
- Sustainable long-term assistance;
- Relationships are based on partnerships of mutual respect and collaboration;
- A community led development approach; and
- Implementing the 2015 Municipal Cooperation Agreement.

Fundraising in the past year has seen a major capital works project completed and as noted in the Chairperson's report:

- Building the new school library 'Bibliothèque' at the EBF 30 de Agosto Fuloro School at a cost of \$7,480.31.

Without the support of the Mornington Peninsula community, well known for its generosity and sense of justice and humanitarianism, the project would not be able to be achieved.

3.7 (Cont.)**OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST**

During the reporting period, the Friends of Lospalos Treasurer was a Council Officer employed within the Social Planning and Community Development Team.

CONCLUSION

The Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Timor-Leste Special Committee has fulfilled its obligation as a Special Committee appointed by Council under section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, by holding its AGM and forwarding the Minutes and associated documents to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receives and notes the report titled Mornington Peninsula Friends of Lospalos Annual General Meeting 2018.
2. That Council acknowledges the appointment of the 2018 Executive Committee as follows:
 - A. Chairperson – Ms Xiao Li Ma;
 - B. Deputy Chairperson – Mr Graham Pittock;
 - C. Secretary – Ms Debbie Allum;
 - D. Treasurer – Ms Linda Wimetel;
 - E. Fundraising Convenor – Ms Cate Macmillan; and
 - F. General Committee Members – Mr Wayne Ashdown, Ms Nic Kirkman and Mr Ollie Wimetel.
3. That Council thanks the Friends of Lospalos, its Executive Committee and Council officers for their excellent work for the people of Timor-Leste.

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr Fraser

Seconded: Cr Hearn

That the recommendation be adopted.

Carried Unanimously