

## **Report on IAFC discussions with Indigo Shire Officers and other matters 10<sup>th</sup> April**

**Present:** P.Croucher, J.Johnston, R.Porter, M.Florence and T.Ierino

Unfortunately we did not have a quorum of Committee members so this is just a report on the discussion we had with Mark and Trevor plus some notes on other matters.

**Finance :**Bank Balance - \$25943

NB. Conundrum Holdings have decided to sponsor the construction of 2 toilets rather than a new student.

Article in next edition of Indigo Informer about Ratna and Crizanio and details of how to sponsor a student.

### **IAFC Relationship with Council and participation in the Local Government Timor Leste Network**

- Mark,Rob and Peter outlined the history of the relationship including the signing of the two MOUs for Trevor's information in particular.
- Mark reaffirmed the commitment of council to both the relationship with the Friendship Group now and in the future as an incorporated body. The councillors following the briefing on Tuesday decided there would be no change to their support.
- Mark confirmed the council's participation in the Local Government East Timor network and the continued involvement in State government sponsored activities with Timor Leste officials. He spoke about the Council hosted visits and his personal hosting and then subsequent visit to Timor Leste. He is interested in Atauro and Timor Leste in general and keeps an eye on what is happening. He raised the issue of the difference in scale between Dili district and Indigo Shire.Rob mentioned the possible change of Atauro from Dili sub-district to a Special Development Zone and how it could impact on future relationships .
- IAFC members raised a number issues around developing the council's participation in the relationship: Rather than attend the network meetings in person it is possible for council officers to participate by phone. Currently there is no mention of Council's commitment to the State Governments relationship with Timor Leste and the operation and support for the Friendship group in the Council's strategic plan. There was discussion about how this might be rectified following the transition from S86 committee to incorporation.
- Ways in which the council and it's officers could assist the Atauro community were mentioned. The areas of Tourism and Waste Disposal are priorities in Atauro. Requests for assistance are to come through the Friendship committee and then channelled to Council officers via Jess.

### **Transition to Incorporation**

Jess and Greg Pinkerton have been working on the issues that need to be resolved. The MOU between IAFA and council is nearly complete. This work will be completed in the near future. Jess plans to send out an email report once things are close to being finalised ready for our June meeting.

Some time ago I raised the idea of strategic review for the Friendship Group. Macedon Ranges completed one in 2017/18 and they said it reinvigorated their group. The idea got lost in the discussion about moving to an incorporated body. I think it is appropriate timing to raise it again given that our new structure is nearly in place .

Please give some thought to our Mission statement , how we can expand the membership of the Friends of Atauro and how we can sustain the leadership/management of the committee.

### **Meeting Schedule and Calendar:**

Jess was disappointed that she received little feedback regarding the publishing of a calendar. If you have ideas and or dates please let her know. At this stage she will publish the meeting dates in the Indigo Informer.

June 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting – 9 Glasgow St Rutherglen, August 14<sup>th</sup> – 33 Huon Rd Tangambalanga,9th October- AGM ,Shire Offices Beechworth ,11<sup>th</sup> December – Barnawatha Hotel

\*\*\*\*\*Please check your diaries regarding June12th date. Let me know if it does not suit. It is most important that we have as many committee members as possible in attendance to consider the final steps to incorporation .