

**NORFOLK ISLAND
ELEVENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2007**

**NORF'K AILEN
DIISEM MENETS LARNEN WATHING HAEPN
INAA
LEWNTH LEJESLIETEW 'SEMBLE
WEDNESDAY 14 FEBYUWERI 2007**

1 The Legislative Assembly met at 10.04 am, the Deputy Speaker, Mr Tim Brown MLA, took the Chair and read Prayers

2 **CONDOLENCES**

Mr Tim Sheridan recorded the passing of –

**Ernest Pascoe Grube
Beryl Lorraine Robertson**

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members stood in silence

3 **QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

3A **LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR SPEAKER GARDNER**

Leave of absence from the meeting was unanimously extended to Speaker Gardner

4 **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

- 1) Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services – Inbound passenger statistics for January 2007
- 2) Mrs Jack, Minister for the Environment – Norfolk Island Hydrology Study January 2007
Mrs Jack moved –

THAT the House take note of the paper

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

- 3) Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services – Exposure draft of the Children and Young People Bill 2006
Mr Brown moved –

THAT the House take note of the paper

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

- 4) Mr Christian, Minister for Finance – financial indicators for January 2007
Mr Christian moved –

THAT the House take note of the paper

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

- 5) Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services – Gazette No. 8 of 9 February 2007 in which is published the new charges for Health Services under the Norfolk Island Hospital Act 1985
Mr Brown moved –

THAT the House take note of the paper

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

- 6) Mr Christian, Minister for Finance – First Draft Budget dated 13 February 2007 for 2007/2008; paper includes actual results for years ended 2004/2005 and 2005/2006; approved budget for year ending 30 June 2007 and monthly reporting against budget 2006/2007
Mr Christian moved –

THAT the House take note of the paper

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

5 STATEMENTS

The following statements were made –

- 1) Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services, reported under paragraph 34(2) of the Immigration Act 1980 that 23 declarations of residency were granted under section 33 of the Act during the year ended 31 December 2006
- 2) Mr Buffett, Chief Minister, advised of the three month appointment of Mr Ewan Wilson from Ozjet to the position of General Manager of Norfolk Air; Mr Wilson will be resident on the Island for the period of his engagement. Mr Buffett further reported on the commencement of a new service in May between Newcastle and Norfolk
Mr Nobbs moved –

THAT the House take note of the Statement

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

- 3) Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services, referred to the recent pay increase awarded to a sector of the nursing staff at the Norfolk Island hospital, which effectively resulted in their receiving 70% of the NSW mainland awards of basic pay. There had been some misunderstanding that the nurses had received a 70% pay increase
- 4) Mrs Jack, Minister for the Environment, provided a response to a question asked by Mr Tim Brown at the December sitting on a number of planning issues
- 5) Mr Buffett, Chief Minister, gave an update on the newly commissioned HMAS Sirius and its special relationship with Norfolk Island; HMAS Sirius is to pay a formal visit to the Island between 2 and 5 March 2007

6 MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Deputy Speaker reported **Message No. 49** from the Administrator dated 29 January 2007 advising that on 29 January 2007 he declared his assent to the Juries (Amendment) Act 2007

7 PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT ACT 2000 – APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mr Buffett, Chief Minister, pursuant to notice, move –

THAT this House recommends in accordance with section 38 of the Public Sector Management Act 2004 that Rhonda Wheatley be appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Public Service

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

8 IMMIGRATION ACT 1980 – SETTING OF QUOTA

Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services, pursuant to notice, moved –

THAT for the purposes of subsection 21(1) of the Immigration Act 1980, this Legislative Assembly resolves that it be determined by instrument in writing that 60 General Entry Permits be granted during the period 17 February 2007 to 16 February 2008

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices, Mr Nobbs dissenting

9 GOODS AND SERVICES TAX BILL 2007

Mr Christian, Minister for Finance, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for a tax on certain sales of goods and services and moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to in principle

Debate ensued

Debate adjourned (Mr Christian) and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day for a subsequent day of sitting

**The Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting at 12.40 pm until 2 pm
The House resumed at 2 pm, the Deputy Speaker taking the Chair**

10 CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2007

Mr Christian, Minister for Finance, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Customs Act 1913 and moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to in principle

Debate ensued

Debate adjourned (Mr Christian) and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day for a subsequent day of sitting (Mr Buffett was absent from the Chamber)

11 IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2007

Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to repeal the Immigration Amendment (Visa) Act 1994 and moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to in principle

Debate ensued

Debate adjourned (Mr Brown) and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day for a subsequent day of sitting

12 EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) Bill 2007

Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services, by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Employment Act 1988 and moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to in principle

Debate ensued

Debate adjourned (Mr Brown) and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day for a subsequent day of sitting

13 NORFOLK ISLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU (AMENDMENT) BILL 2006

Debate resumed (Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services) from 21 December 2006 on the question – That the Bill be agreed to in principle

Question put

Bill agreed to in principle on the voices

Leave granted to dispense with the detail stage

Mr Brown moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to

Question put

Bill agreed to on the voices

14 ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 2006

By request Bill not called on

15 DEPARTURE FEE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2006

Debate resumed (Mr Brown, Minister for Community Services) from 18 October 2006 on the question – That the Bill be agreed to in principle

Debate adjourned (Mr Brown) and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day for a subsequent day of sitting

16 BANKRUPTCY BILL 2006

Debate resumed (Mr Nobbs) from 18 October 2006 on the question – That the Bill be agreed to in principle

Mr Brown moved –

That debate be adjourned and the Bill be referred to the Impact of Bills Committee

Debate ensued

Question put and negatived on the voices, Mr Brown dissenting

Question – That the Bill be agreed to in principle - put

Bill agreed to in principle, Mr Brown dissenting

Leave granted to dispense with the detail stage

Mr Nobbs moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to

Question put

Bill agreed to on the voices, Mr Brown dissenting

17 FIXING OF THE NEXT SITTING DAY

Mr Tim Sheridan moved –

**THAT the House at its rising adjourn until
Wednesday 28 February 2007 at 10 am**

Question put and agreed to on the voices

18 ADJOURNMENT

Mrs Boudan moved –

THAT the House do now adjourn

Debate ensued with Mrs Boudan, Mr Christian, Mr Nobbs and Mr John Brown participating
Question put and agreed to on the voices

AND THEN the House at 3.10 pm adjourned until Wednesday 28 February 2007 at 10 am

Robin-Eleanor Adams
Clerk to the Legislative Assembly

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present except Mr Gardner, by leave