

14/6/17

Ipswich Inc

The ALP Links:

- Paul Pisasale is widely known in Ipswich Labor Party circles as having leaked information about campaigns/funding and resources of Rachel Nolan and Wayne Wendt to the LNP as he believed they were going to win the 2012 election and wanted to build relationships. ALP Branch and members in the seat of Ipswich wrote to the State Secretary of the ALP about front page articles of the Qld Times endorsing Campbell Newman by Pisasale and asked for disciplinary action, but no action was taken.
- Pisasale hurt the career of former Ipswich MP and Qld Treasurer David Hamill by entering a deal with Don Livingstone (Ipswich West MP and former ICC Councillor) and disgraced paedophile former MP Bill Darcy over the Net Bet affair in which they would have profited from inside knowledge of the Legislation to approve on line gambling in Qld. Hamill retired early.
- Don Livingstone and Paul Pisasale worked backroom deals within the ALP to stop a unanimous decision of Ipswich Branches to run a Labor Party ticket at Pisasale's successful mayoral election. The Municipal Electoral Committee of the ALP has not met since that time despite being a breach of ALP rules. ALP Head Office has repeatedly refused to intervene despite being a breach of rules. This has allowed Pisasale to fundraise his own election campaigns using his well known membership of the ALP without the operational and guidance of ALP Rules on fundraising. He has used a loophole in the Local Government Act to keep any funds raised but not spent on elections for himself. He has bragged at raising hundreds of thousands of dollars over consecutive elections.
- When local Ipswich MP Jo-Ann Miller successfully lobbied the Beattie State Government for a Remuneration Tribunal for Councils who had previously had the power to set their own rates of pay and entitlements she was threatened in preselection of the ALP by Cr Victor Attwood and Cr Paul Tully;
- The Ipswich Police Communication Centre Campaign against the State Govt over relocation: Pisasale has been using a staff member Cate Carter as a trusted leak to provide information on Police Activities including police raids, arrests and accidents over a number of years. He used this information to advise media outlets, to discuss crimes and get footage from safe City Cameras for publicity. Pisasale worked closely with the Qld Police Union who wanted to pressure the Govt over the appointment of the Police commissioner. The Mayor was concerned a Police Minister in his area and known to be not a supporter of his. The Mayor subsequently assisted Cate Carter in her Ipswich City Council election campaign and organised positive stories in the QT.
- Many ALP Branches from across the City have written to various State Secretaries and approached State Govt Ministers, disgusted by the antics of Pisasale both in perceived or real corruption and dodgy dealings, attendance at LNP Fundraisers, attacks on State MPs, disruptive behaviour in Federal campaigns of Shayne Nuemann, the lack of an MEC, lack of accountability, etc... but never has any action or result occurred from these considerable concerns being raised;
- Pisasale would help arrange drastically reduced car deals with politicians , with Llewlyn Motors, Boettcher Motors, and other car dealers. Introductions like this helped him build political allegiances and silence.

The newspaper links:

- Pisasale has always had an unhealthy relationship with the local paper, the Qld Times, often referred to in the community as the "Pisasale Times". He would wine and dine successive Editors and Reporters. This included colluding with the LNP to run stories about Labor MPs. One Editor was rewarded with the job as Campbell Newman's Media Communications Director. Another Reporter, Adam Davies, worked closely with Pisasale and Jarrod Belijie and now works for the LNP. Previous controversial editor, Peter Chapman, left the Qld Times quickly in a cloud but ended up as the Media and Marketing Manager for Bob Ells, a developer who worked with Pisasale on controversial projects in Ipswich like the Riverlink Shopping Centre; Peter Chapman has since phoned candidates at the last Council elections and others threatening them that if they mentioned his name during CCC investigations that he still had media power and would get them dealt with.

Washing Money links:

- Maxine Norsgard was a Paul Pisasale Electorate Officer when he was a Councillor and a Mayoral staff member. She started a company called Community One. This company won numerous contracts for new developments to undertake community consultation without tender. This company was used to wash money from developers and businesses of Ipswich. It's understood their relationship was more than professional leading to a public altercation between her and the Mayoress at a Community Ball for the Jacaranda Festival;
- There is an unresolved controversy over the transfer of land from Springfield Land Corp to ICC to approved sporting complex for the Brisbane Lions AFL Club that was rejected by ICC staff when lodged by Springfield Land Corp but approved within 24 hours when ICC lodged same application. A week later a \$15,000 donation went to Pisasale's campaign fund and the Springfield Land Corp saved \$25,000 in lodgement fees;
- ICC entered an Arrangement with the Newman LNP Govt for car parking for the Springfield Rail Station in which a tender by then CEO Carl Wulff was unlawfully awarded for the road works to a company he was associated with; This is known as the Road 10 scam
- Ipswich City Council owns several development companies which are developing a number of projects throughout the City including the CBD development. This is done with no transparency and it is unclear whether they are trading insolvent as ICC has had to write off funds associated with them. The Boards of these companies are made up of Mayor Paul Pisasale, Cr Paul Tully, Cr Andrew Antenolli, CEO Jim Lindsay and the CFO. It is unknown if they take Directors fees, meeting allowances and expenses, etc but it is known that they have travelled overseas extensively under the guise of these companies travelling First class and sometimes hiring private jets; There is no public reporting on these matters.
- There is a conflict of interest to be both the developer and the approving body of developments. ICC staff will not contradict their bosses in refusing a town planning application. Councillors who are also these company Directors do little to remove any conflict of interest in Council Chambers apart from acknowledging any conflict of interest. The standard response is that the decisions are made under delegation. But it is delegation by the Councillors and Directors to Council officers that can be changed at any time. These practices are highly unethical to say the least.
- Jim Lindsay the current CEO and Carl Wulff the previous CEO both purchased units off the plan from the same building company that won contracts with the ICC owned Ipswich City Developments. This led to Wulff resigning from Council when he rented out that unit for a friend from Melbourne whom he appointed to undertake flood recovery work. The rent was paid for by ICC and other government agencies.

- George Cheik is a developer in Ipswich that has had several bankruptcies and charges for cocaine possession. He bought a house adjacent to Council Offices known as Colliers Restaurant from Paul Pisasale, Cheik then resold the property to ICC for them to extend their car park a short time later. This house was moved to YUPI/Challenge Employment at Redbank, was refurbished using State government money, and has been sitting empty for many years.
- It's well known that Pisasale, and other Councillors, pressure local businesses for freebies from hair cuts to meals, drinks to electrical goods, for them and their families.
- Ipswich Council has a program of funding community groups that is completely haphazard that relies not on any needs analysis or consideration of process but on Councillors patronage. Community groups are then often pressured into giving Pisasale or the Councillors time to speak to the crowd and announce their donation. The community group is then later asked to submit paperwork to lawfully receive the funds they had already been given by cheque.
- It's known the Council staff are upset at the auditing process of goods purchased by Pisasale at community functions eg signed football jerseys or other memorabilia that are then not asset registered as owned by ICC. These assets have been found to have been raffled off or sold at Pisasale fundraisers and moneys used for his reelection.
- Council staff are also upset that funds provided for 2011 Flood Relief for infrastructure was used on unflooded roads. These funds were redirected to fulfil promises made by Councillors at previous elections. Auditor General was notified.
- Council staff are also concerned that the minutes of Council meetings are deliberately misleading and difficult to find, track and understand on decisions of development applications, hence the ratepayers give up trying to find out the scope and impact on the local community like traffic increases and water runoffs; The Scott family of Ripley were aghast at ICC proposals in relation to their land.
- It's widely known that if residents write disparaging or negative Letters to the Editor to the Qld Times they are phoned up and abused and/or have Councillors turn up on their doorstep very early in the morning intimidating and threatening them to cease.
- Pisasale has been known to engraft himself with politicians of other levels of Government by assisting and holding fundraising dinners and thought to include State Government Ministers and Federal MPs Shayne Nuemann, Bernie Ripoll and Milton Dick. Club 59 was instrumental in this.
- Pisasale is well known to offer lunches and dinners, tickets to sporting events, corporate boxes etc to Public Servants to find out Departmental information for his public use including pressuring for funding.
- Pisasale has been using the Marketing Dept of Council to cover the expenses of dinners, travel, marketing gimmicks, advertising, and other costs not able to be claimed as Councillor expenses. He has done this by taking a Council officer with him to events who holds a corporate credit card to pay for the expenses.
- It is known the considerable numbers of staff have been paid out by Council to cover up inappropriate behaviour of male Councillors to female staff, or staff raising concerns about accountability and asset management. This includes a former Chief of Staff of Pisasale who took indefinite sick leave unable to handle the stress. Council staff have had to access stress leave or have simply left.
- Pisasale is known to have ordered the knocking down of an historic church in Goodna and then claimed to have tried to save it. He sent intermediaries to try and stop the people

involved exposing the truth with the offers of endorsements or alternatively legal action. Carl Wulff was one intermediary.

- The overall cost of the Councillors, with the Mayor, a car, a driver, a Chief of Staff, a Media Officer, a "fixer", and administration staff, each of the ten Councillors each having a rented electorate office, advertising, staff member, vehicles, phones, home offices etc costs a fortune. Clearly this is an excessive cost out of a rate base of \$190 million income. Some Councillors have rented offices from Developers and other they have relationships with (Cr Paul Tully and Manos Developments, Cr David Morrison with Raynuha Sinnathamby, previously Cr Trevor Nardi from his Father in Law)
- It is known that Councillors have attended a Local Government Seminars primarily for Councils which have local aerodromes. Ipswich Councillors claimed their local aerodrome was RAAF Base Amberley even though it was Commonwealth controlled.
- It is known that Cr Paul Tully's wife worked for Manos Developments whilst he was Planning Chair of ICC overseeing developments of that company without a declaration of interest. Corrupt staff of ICC have washed similar dirty money by employing wives and other family members of developers and successful tenderers as that's how it's done in Ipswich.
- Pisasale was publically exposed as arranging for his wife to be paid by Council for driving him around when staff could have undertaken the same role.
- Pisasale is also known to have purchased a unit he owned with the wife of developer Steven Williams of Wingate Properties and Seiki Seui House. He sold it quickly when found out.
- It is known in the marketing industry that on certain days of the week it was always beneficial to visit Gambaros Restaurant in Brisbane after 3pm as Pisasale would have had few under his belt and that he would order quantities of marketing gadgets and trinkets like "I'm an Ipswich Fan" Fans, pens, pins, etc....;
- Pisasale is known to use litigation and threats of litigation to try and silence people critical of him or the Council or people who have run against him or other Councillors including pressuring peoples employers;
- It is also known that Pisasale has used Council resources to visit mistresses throughout Qld by arranging speaking engagements to visit places such as Cairns, Gold Coast and Brisbane to meet up with women.
- Council staff are often disgusted by Pisasale and other Councillors general lack of regard or inappropriate use of Council processes, culture of bullying/sacking and silencing staff who raise issues