



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

12 December 2006

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

12 December 2006

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 12 December 2006 commencing at 10.02am.

MINUTES

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PRESENT

Mr DF Williams (Mayor), Crs S Blackler, D de Haan, WH Earwaker, AL Gower, CE Jeffries and DM Pilkington.

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs JL Pevreal (Chief Executive), DC Clibbery (Engineering Manager) (attended 10.08am), G Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), Mrs J Meade Rose (Environmental Services Manager) and Mr CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader).

OPENING PRAYER

The Chief Executive read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGY

Resolved that the apology received from Cr GA Wilshier be sustained.

Cr Blackler / Cr de Haan

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL - 21 NOVEMBER 2006

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 21 November 2006, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr de Haan / Cr Pilkington

Matters Arising

Rally of New Zealand

Cr Pilkington referred to the matter of grading after the Rally and queried whether these costs are covered in the schedule of routine maintenance. The Engineering Manager replied the scheduled grading had been deferred and that as far as he knew, all the remedial work had been completed yesterday. Cr Pilkington referred to the Pirongia West Road and reported she had received comments that the repairs following the Rally were being carried out to a good standard. His Worship reported on discussions he had had with the Rally Organisers whereat he had informed them they will be receiving an account between \$3-4,000 to reinstate the roads. He said the Rally Organisers felt this was very reasonable.

Te Tahī Road

Cr Earwaker queried the situation regarding a subdivision on Te Tahī Road. The Environmental Services Manager replied the application was on hold pending further geotechnical information being obtained.

Walker Road

In reply to Cr Earwaker the Engineering Manager advised the proposed maintenance work would be carried out in the New Year.

REPORTS

Item-317 KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 30 NOVEMBER 2006

Discussion

KAWHIA RSA

Cr Pilkington referred to the item regarding the concrete wall to be erected in front of the RSA section of the Kawhia Cemetery and advised she had understood that the Board had granted approval for the Kawhia RSA to undertake the project up to the \$5,000 grant. The Chief Executive advised his understanding was for Engineering staff to follow up on the RSA's comments. Following further discussion it was agreed that the Kawhia RSA be granted approval to undertake the project up to a ceiling of the \$5,000 grant.

KAWHIA MAINTENANCE ISSUES

Cr Blackler referred to the matter of Council's Litter Control Officer visiting Kawhia every two weeks and expressed the opinion that she felt this was somewhat excessive. The Engineering Manager replied that the Litter Control Officer would not make a special trip to Kawhia, however, she would include Litter Control in Kawhia after completing the State Highway programme every two weeks.

Cr Blackler also endorsed the minutes that Council send an invoice to the Training Centre for the costs incurred in cleaning off graffiti.

Cr Jeffries congratulated the Engineers on the standard of the newly installed footpath and kerbing along part of Rosamond Terrace.

In reply to Cr Earwaker regarding additional people being focused on carrying out Community duties, and whether this will exceed the budget, the Engineering Manager advised additional time will be incurred and therefore there will be some extra costs.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 30 November 2006 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker

Item-318 ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES REPORT 1 JULY - 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager referred Members to the Animal Control Officer's report for July to September 2006. The Environmental Services Manager advised there was one issue which needs to be addressed and that is horses in urban areas. She said these appear to be a problem at times in Otorohanga, Kawhia and Aotea. The Environmental Services Manager advised there is a need to look at a Bylaw to control horses in the urban area and in particular, restitution for any damage.

On behalf of the Animal Control Officer, the Environmental Services Manager wished Members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He looked forward to reporting to them in the New Year.

Resolved

That the Animal Control Officer's report for July to September 2006 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Jeffries

Item-319 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT TO 31 OCTOBER 2006

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented the District Building Control Officer's report on Environmental Health/Liquor Licencing issues for the period August to October 2006.

His Worship wished the Environmental Health Officer a very speedy recovery from his illness and expressed his thanks to the Building team for taking care of his duties in his absence.

Resolved

That the District Building Control Officer's report on behalf of the Environmental Health Officer for the period August to October 2006 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr de Haan

Item-320 APPROVALS GIVEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO 30 NOVEMBER 2006

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented a report on Resource Consents given under Delegated Authority from 1 September to 30 November 2006.

Cr Jeffries referred to subdivisions in the Pirongia area and requested staff be very conscious of the implications of these, in particular, to roading. The Environmental Services Manager replied staff were aware to be cautious in dealing with these applications. Cr Jeffries queried if a problem is highlighted can Council promote its own change to the District Plan. The Environmental Services Manager replied Council would need to have good reasons to do this.

Resolved

That the Environmental Services Manager's report of Approvals given under Delegated Authority from 1 September to 30 November 2006 be received.

Cr Jeffries / Cr Earwaker

Item-231 MATTERS REFERRED

Discussion

His Worship took Members through Matters Referred which had been circulated to Members. Following discussion it was agreed both items will be covered later in the meeting therefore these can be deleted.

Item-326 CREATIVE COMMUNITIES ARTS SCHEME

Discussion

The Customer Services Team Leader presented a report on the applications received under the Creative Communities Arts Scheme.

Resolved

That Council approve the grants made under the Creative Communities Arts Scheme as detailed below -

Name	Grant	Purpose
Kio Kio School - Violin Group	\$700	Hireage of Violins
Otorohanga County Fair Assn	\$450	Country & Related music-part of County Fair
Project Kiwiana	\$1,000	Annual Festival-entertainment sound equipment
Barbara Jones	\$850	Hireage of sound equipment for adaption of the Christmas story
Tamarau Inc,	\$900	Showcase Maniapoto and their performance of Kapa Haka
Maihihi Playcentre	\$300	Purchase of Musical instruments
Total	\$4200	

The Customer Services Team Leader advised there remains a balance of \$6369 to distribute in March/April 2007.

Cr Jeffries / Cr Gower

Item-327 HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY MINUTES 061017

Discussion

The Customer Services Team Leader presented minutes of a meeting of the Housing for the Elderly Committee held on 17 October 2006.

His Worship reported Members of the Housing for the Elderly Committee carried out an inspection of Windsor Court and Elizabeth Place units last Friday. He said Members were impressed with the standard Tenants cared for the units and their gardens. He said, except for one unit, the standard of the facilities has certainly improved.

Resolved

That providing the Housing Initiative Funding is available, by way of a suspensory loan, the modernisation of the ten bathrooms in Elizabeth Place, Otorohanga be carried out.

Cr Jeffries / Cr Blackler

Item-322 CIVIL DEFENCE UPDATE

Discussion

Messrs Paul Blewman, Emergency/Community Safety Manager and Les Billcliff, Emergency Management Officer, both from Hamilton City Council, attended the meeting. Mr Blewman made a presentation updating Members on Civil Defence matters. Mr Blewman confirmed that Otorohanga was part of the Waikato Valley Civil Defence Emergency Management Group which had been established to carry out planning, training, operations and Community and public education. Mr Blewman then highlighted the five levels of Event Escalation and referred in particular, to welfare response which requires no declaration and the costs are picked up by Central Government.

Cr Pilkington referred to Civil Defence in the Kawhia area and requested that should any matters be organised then the group contact the Kawhia Community Board Chairman, Mr Alan RuBay.

Mr Billcliff advised he intended to be back in the Kawhia area in the New Year. Mr Blewman advised that Civil Defence was all about looking after the people and to manage the degree of 'want'. His Worship thanked the representatives for their presentation and wished them a very merry and emergency free Christmas.

Item-325 APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE - HAMILTON CAR CLUB - NGUTUNUI TARMAC HILLCLIMB 2007

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented the Engineering Support Officer's report on the application from Hamilton Car Club for the closure of Pekanui Road, to enable the Club to hold the Ngutunui Tarmac Hillclimb 2007. He said there had been general support for the application from the residents affected.

Resolved

That approval be granted for the following road closure:

Purpose: Ngutunui Tarmac Hillclimb 2007

Date: Sunday, 25 February 2007

Details of Closure: **PEKANUI ROAD** – entire length. Includes intersection with Scott Road (no exit)

Period of Proposed Closure: 9.00am to 5.00pm

With the following conditions imposed:

1. Persons will be allowed through in the event of an emergency.
2. Hamilton Car Club is to pay an application fee of \$400.00 towards administration of the road closure to Otorohanga District Council, payable no later than 10 working days prior to the road closure.
3. Public notice advertisements are to be published in the Waitomo News. Hamilton Car Club is to pay for all advertising costs.
4. Hamilton Car Club is responsible for obtaining public liability insurance (and paying the cost thereof) to a minimum value of \$2,000,000. This is required to indemnify Council against any damage to property or persons as a result of rally activities during the road closure period. Council requires that it is held covered under the terms of such policy and accordingly the policy is required to be in both parties' names on the form prescribed by Council.
5. Hamilton Car Club is to comply with the objection provisions contained in the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965.
6. Hamilton Car Club is to liaise, and provide evidence of liaison with all operators and businesses that may be affected by the road closures.
7. Hamilton Car Club is to consult with all residents of all properties on the road intended to be closed. Mail drops to residents are also to be carried out. All mail drops to residents are to be approved by Council staff before distribution to residents commences and must include the date that objections close with Council. The subsequent mail drop to be completed no later than ten full days before the proposed closures.
8. Hamilton Car Club is solely responsible for signposting and policing of the roads to be closed, to ensure that only vehicles connected with the event have access to the road closure areas. This includes arranging the delivery, erection and staffing of all road closure barriers and the removal thereof after closures. All gates and entranceways are to be taped and tape is to be removed thereafter.

9. Signs advising of the road closures are to be erected at the start and end of the closed portions of roads and on each intersecting road two weeks prior to the road closure. All signs are to be removed immediately after the closure. A Hamilton Car Club representative is to meet with Council Engineering staff regarding the required signs format, size, location and quantity of signs for approval before they are manufactured and erected.

Cr de Haan / Cr Earwaker

Item-323 OTOROHANGA DISTRICT SPORTS COORDINATORS REPORT FOR 1 AUGUST - 30 NOVEMBER 2006

Discussion

The District Sports Coordinator, Ms Robbie Matthews, attended the meeting and summarised her report for the period August to November 2006. Cr Pilkington, on behalf of Council, congratulated Ms Matthews on being the 'Sports Person of the Year' for the Waitomo District.

With reference to the Kawhia Medical Centre, Cr Pilkington endorsed the comments that the Centre was very pleased with its relationship with Sports Waikato and that it was extremely proactive in helping the needs of the Community.

Cr Blackler queried whether the Coordinator had received an approach for fundraising on behalf of former Otorohanga resident, Asha Prasad. She replied she had not been approached.

His Worship thanked Ms Matthews for her input and work during the year and hoped she enjoyed the Christmas/New Year break.

Ms Matthews reported that Sport Waikato were changing how they appraised their staff's work and questioned whether His Worship, on behalf of Council, would prepare a letter of support for her and the activities she organises throughout the District.

Resolved

That the Otorohanga District Sports Coordinator's report for the period August to November 2006 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr de Haan

Item-324 NON-RESIDENT LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP FEE

Discussion

The District Librarian attended the meeting and presented her report on the implementation of the \$60 Non-resident Library Membership fee. The Librarian advised the Non-resident Library Membership fee was introduced from 1 July 2006 and appears not to be working with only one person prepared to take up the option to pay the \$60 Membership fee. She said the introduction of the fee has mainly affected people from the Waitomo District. The Librarian referred to a recent meeting the Chief Executive, Finance & Administration Manager and herself had with a Consultant who was preparing a Strategic Plan for Te Kuiti Library Service. She said the Consultant said he would like to see a closer partnership between the local libraries.

His Worship reported on comments made by a local businessman that by applying the Non-resident fee, this has created a drop off in custom however no extra costs were incurred by encouraging out of the District users. The opinion was expressed that by introducing the fee this was eliminating a potential source of revenue for the Library. Cr Blackler reported she had received a verbal submission and suggested the proposed \$30 per annum Non-resident Membership fee be introduced. She said this would allow access to all the 'free' items. Cr Blackler expressed the opinion that this Councils' residents were subsidising the 'out of District' users. Cr Pilkington endorsed Cr Blackler's comments.

The Finance & Administration Manager advised that the Consultant also intended to approach the Waipa District Council. He encouraged Members to adopt Option 1 in the report that the Library Membership Fee be lifted altogether.

Cr Earwaker moved that the Non-resident Library Membership fee be reduced to \$30 per annum. This was seconded by Cr Blackler. When put, the motion was lost. Cr Jeffries felt Council was wasting its time if considering the proposal from a financial point of view as he queried what this was going to achieve and suggested the review be considered again at Estimates time.

Resolved

That the Non-resident Library Membership fee be lifted;

Cr Jeffries / Cr Pilkington

Item-321 DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW UPDATE

Discussion

Ms Dorothy Wakeling, District Plan Review Consultant, attended the meeting and presented a report updating Members on the District Plan Review.

Cr Jeffries referred to organisations 19, 20 of Ms Wakeling's Initial Consultation Schedule and reported these Organisations will wish to meet again regarding the District Plan Review. Ms Wakeling replied that these Organisations have many general issues and need to finalise specifics. She reported there will be matters which Council will require additional advice on and that it will need to pay for this information. His Worship suggested, further down the track, all Councillors will need to be available to attend workshop meetings. Ms Wakeling advised the workshop will have considerable information to debate and a whole day may be set aside to discuss one particular issue.

GENERAL

RALLY NZ

His Worship displayed a plaque presented to Council by Rally NZ. He then read a letter from the Rally Organisers thanking Council for its support and assistance during their recent event.

WAIKATO REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Members were circulated with a copy of the Waikato Regional Land Transport Strategy outlining the purpose, background, process, funding allocation process, funding profiles, RLTS technical funding team process and recommendations.

MAYORS TASKFORCE FOR JOBS

His Worship reported on his attendance at a Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs meeting last Tuesday whereat Mr Basil Morrison advised submissions will close during March 2007 on the Rating Review. He then referred to the 'FAR' template where consideration was being given for a funding assistance rate for capital and operational/maintenance for water/sewer infrastructure.

DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

His Worship reported an extension has been given to comply with the Drinking Water Standards while the Select Committee considers various issues.

TELECOM

His Worship referred Members to Telecom's Waikato Regional Update which included advice that major planned network projects include installing new cabinets to provide additional capacity for new subdivisions across the region including Otorohanga.

CENSUS RESULTS

His Worship reported on the final Census results which showed an increase of 111 people in the District.

COUNCIL/STAFF CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

His Worship congratulated Council's Social Committee on an exceptional night last Saturday.

SCHOOL PRIZE GIVINGS

His Worship reported he held a list of the various school prize givings for Members information.

MAYOR'S TASKFORCE TOOL KIT

His Worship displayed a Mayor's Taskforce Tool Kit. He reported Otorohanga was one of the leading District's in educating/providing employment opportunities for its young people by providing facilities such as Gateway, the Harvest Centre, Trade Training Centre, Apprenticeship Coordinator and Employment Shop. He acknowledged everyone's involvement and support and said the 'pay back' has been for the Community which was evident by the fact that there was very little graffiti.

2006/2007 CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

Members were circulated with a copy of the 2006/07 Christmas Closure hours and after hour contacts.

OTOROHANGA COLLEGE

The Finance & Administration Manager read a letter of thanks received from the Otorohanga College for Council's donation towards its annual prize giving.

MAYOR'S TASKFORCE FOR JOBS

The Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs video was shown for Members information.

MAKETU / RAKANUI MARAE

Cr Pilkington reported constructive meetings had been held with the Maketu and Rakanui Marae on Shore Futures and the District Plan Review. She further advised that a new Craft Gallery had opened in Oparau last Saturday.

DISTRICT FIRE BAN

Cr Earwaker queried why the District fire ban had been introduced so early. The Engineering Manager replied the recent strong winds had had a drying effect on the land. Furthermore, the matter had been discussed with the local Fire Brigade, and in order to keep in step with other Authorities, it had been suggested the ban commence prior to Christmas. Cr Earwaker requested staff come back to Councillors before imposing a restriction.

FEDERATED FARMERS

Cr de Haan reported on her attendance, along with her husband, at the Federated Farmers recent dinner. She referred in particular, to the short presentation made by Mr Jim Anderton where he had advised that the farmers are still the 'backbone of the country'. Cr de Haan said it was disappointing that Mr Anderton did not answer any particular questions.

WAIPARI ROAD

Cr Gower referred to the proposed power scheme on Waipari Road which he said appeared to be very viable. The Engineering Manager reported the proposal will impact on plans for the road and he had doubts as to whether this will formally be closed. He referred to objections received from one particular party regarding the proposed road closure and suggested that Council waits to see what comes from the proposed hydro scheme. Cr Gower reported the particular party wishes for the road to remain open for logging. He said the logging Contractor is happy to repair the road to their standard.

LUNCHEON ADJORNMENT

Council adjourned for luncheon at 12.40pm and resumed at 2.20pm.

MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

"THAT the Otorohanga District Council, pursuant to Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolves that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public."

Cr Earwaker / Cr Blackler

Item-328 HONIKIWI SCHOOL RECREATION RESERVE CONFIDENTIAL

Item-329 OTEWA ROAD PROPERTY CONFIDENTIAL

**Item-330 WAIKATO REGIONAL AIRPORT LTD - PAPER PLUS FRANCHISE
CONFIDENTIAL**

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 2.56pm.

MAYOR:

DATE:

