



Otorohanga Community Board

# MINUTES

10 May 2007

## OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

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Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 10 May 2007 commenced at 4.03pm.

### MINUTES

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## **PRESENT**

Mr GA Wilshier (Chairperson), Mrs EM Cowan, Mr CE Jeffries (attended 4.04pm), Mr TJ Jones, Mr B McNeil and Mr AG Ormsby (attended 4.08pm).

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

His Worship the Mayor, Mr DF Williams, Cr S Blackler, Messrs JL Pevreal (Chief Executive) (attended 4.09pm), DC Clibbery (Engineering Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager) and Mr CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader).

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 12 April 2007, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

### **Mrs E Cowan / Mr B McNeil**

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **MANIAPOTO STREET WALKWAY PROPOSAL**

The Engineering Manager reported verbal approval had been obtained from the ANZ Bank and Mr Warren King regarding the walkway proposal encroaching over their property. He suggested however, it would be desirable that the Board wait to receive written confirmation from these property owners. With regard to the concept being promoted by the Waitomo News it was agreed this could be carried out subject to the approval of the neighbouring property owners being obtained.

### **ANZAC DAY CEREMONIES**

His Worship reported a debrief of the ANZAC Day ceremonies had been held with Council staff and the RSA representative. He advised he had no idea why the lighting did not work for the Dawn service and acknowledged that due to the audience becoming larger the sound system may not be adequate. The Customer Services Team Leader advised it was intended to hold a 'trial run' within the next month to sort out some of the issues.

## **REPORTS**

### **Item-185 ROADING AND WATER CONTRACT AWARDING**

#### **Discussion**

The Engineering Manager presented his report on Council's Contracts for Road Maintenance and Operation and Maintenance of water services which have been awarded to Works Infrastructure and Excell Corporation Ltd.

The Chairperson reported Council had considered a similar report at its last meeting whereat a number of questions were asked however, the awarding of the Contracts appeared to be a positive move. Mr Jeffries referred to the successful Operation and Maintenance of water services Contractor and advised that the tender included the lowest price however, the non-price attributes were second to the worst. He suggested their performance be strictly monitored. The Engineering Manager replied the Contract includes performance bonuses.

#### **Resolved**

That the Engineering Manager's report be received.

### **Mr A Ormsby / Mr T Jones**

## **Item-186 MATTERS REFERRED FROM 12 APRIL 2007**

### **Discussion**

The Chairperson took Members through the Matters Referred.

### **DOMAIN SOCCER FIELDS**

The Engineering Manager reported there appeared to be some misunderstanding regarding the recent aeration of the Domain soccer fields however, arrangements have been made for the Contractor to come back to aerate the area that was not originally done at a cost of \$700. It was agreed this matter be deleted from Matters Referred.

### **KIWI-SOUTH END OF OTOROHANGA**

The Engineering Manager reported an Electrician has been approached for costings to light up the kiwi situated at the south end of Otorohanga. He said Transit did have some concerns as to whether this may cause distraction to traffic. It was agreed the matter remain on Matters Referred.

### **MANIAPOTO STREET WALKWAY PROPOSAL**

This item had been discussed earlier and it was agreed it be deleted.

### **PARKS & RESERVES**

The Chairperson referred to the recent tour of the Community and suggested this should be carried out twice yearly.

Mrs Cowan advised that the following trees require serious maintenance and/or removal –

- Mair Street/State Highway 31 - Walnut trees
- Domain/Soccer Club – Cottonwood trees
- Bob Horsfall Reserve – Japanese walnuts.

Mrs Cowan congratulated the Community Facilities Officer and his staff for the work they have carried out and reported the Landscape programme was well on target.

### **BELL LANE**

Members were informed there was a real safety issue with the pavers in Bell Lane due to the Melia trees growing there. Mr Ormsby queried whether, as these have been identified as a hazard, should the area be taped off. The Engineering Manager advised the removal of the Melia trees and repaving of the area could be funded next year from the Parks & Reserves Maintenance account.

### **Resolved**

That the Melia trees situated in Bell Lane be removed and the uneven paving be repaired this financial year.

### **Mrs E Cowan / Mr A Ormsby**

## **GENERAL**

### **Item-187 TRUCK WASH FACILITY**

#### **Discussion**

The Chairperson reported he had discussed the matter of the Truck Wash Facility with the President of the Otorohanga Carriers Association Mr Eric Tait. It was agreed they work with Council's Engineering Manager on some issues however, at the end of the day the Truck Wash Facility will be required to be removed if substantial improvements are not made. The Chairperson advised it will be necessary to work through a programme as Members are aware there are environmental issues with Environment Waikato. He said it had been agreed to convene an earlier meeting of the Otorohanga Carriers Association. The Engineering Manager reported he was concerned that, to date, no issues have been addressed. He said should the adjacent storm water drain be tested and show significant contamination then the required course of action would be to close the facility down. The Chairperson agreed the current situation was not acceptable and that the facility required at least, cleaning. His Worship suggested discussion be held with the Otorohanga Carriers Association and a date set from which time the facility needs to be upgraded. Mr McNeil agreed the issues should be attended to as these have a potential effect on the Community and an action date should be set. Mrs Cowan referred to the 'pool' of sludge and said she has concerns with this as it looks very dangerous. Following further discussion it was agreed that the matter of readdressing the Truck Wash Facility issues be placed on Matters Referred until they are resolved. Mr Jeffries suggested the Association be ordered to carry out the work they are supposed to do or cease the operation of the facility. He said there appears to be a lack of willingness from some of the partners involved. Mrs Cowan agreed, from a safety and environmental point of view the facility and surrounds were not acceptable. Mr Jones expressed the opinion that the life of the facility was coming to an end and that he did not feel it should remain within the town boundary. Mr Ormsby replied it was okay having the facility within the town boundary however there was a serious need that this be managed correctly and made to comply with the relevant regulations. Mr Wilshier suggested that consideration be given to the facility remaining where it is but with a major upgrad to the required standard.

#### **Resolved**

That the Engineering Manager contact representatives of the Otorohanga Carriers Association to arrange a meeting with them, Chairman of the Otorohanga Community Board and himself within the next month to progress the matter further.

#### **Mr CE Jeffries / Mrs E Cowan**

### **FORMER OTOROHANGA CROQUET CLUB AREA**

Mr Jones referred to the former Otorohanga Croquet Club grounds and suggested this be considered for redevelopment as a children's playground. Members agreed this suggestion could be investigated and discussed whether such a project could be assisted by the Lions or Rotary Clubs. Mr McNeil suggested that the Board obtain public opinion on what they feel would be the best use of the area concerned. The Chairman stressed the point Members need to give consideration to the on-going maintenance of any development. His Worship felt the suggestion would be best considered when the Otorohanga Zoological Society's proposal is known.

### **INTERSECTION STATE HIGHWAY 3/31 WORKS & WATER**

Discussion was held on possible improvements to the intersection of State Highway 3 and 31. The Engineering Manager reported that some form of improvement to this intersection will be notified by Transit within the next three to six months. Mr Jeffries queried whether consideration has been given to installing traffic lights. The Engineering Manager replied Transit did not see this suggestion as an option.

With regard to relocating the pedestrian crossing situated on Te Kanawa Street, the Engineering Manager reported that Transit was not comfortable with this. The Engineering Manager reported, Transit has a line marking concept proposed for State Highway 31/39 in an effort to reduce the traffic speed. Mr Wilshier referred to the pedestrian crossing on Te Kanawa Street and said this is a real safety issue for the Otorohanga South School children.

## **WATER TREATMENT STATION**

The Engineering Manager reported the Health Drinking Water Act is likely to be passed through parliament therefore the new water quality standards will need to be adhered to. The result of this will be that the Water Treatment Station will need to be upgraded. The Engineering Manager advised he has engaged a Consultant to arrive at a solution regarding the purity of water coming out of the facility. He said an initial figure to upgrade is in the vicinity of \$900,000. He said, in addition, to Council's existing treatment system a UV treatment system will be added on. The Engineering Manager confirmed he has provided a budget of \$500,000 towards the project and hopefully some subsidy will be available. Mr Ormsby expressed the opinion that there is a need to keep this issue progressing and for the Board to plan ahead with adequate storage and the growth of the Community being considered. The Engineering Manager replied the proposal will accommodate additional water treatment and storage capacity. Mr Jeffries suggested this matter should be highlighted to ratepayers as this is another incidence which is put back on Local Government with no assistance from Central Government.

## **SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES**

The Finance & Administration Manager circulated a schedule of Fees & Charges which is currently out for submission with the draft Annual Plan. He said the schedule was adopted by Council with the draft Annual Plan at its last meeting however, the Otorohanga Community Board could make a submission on any matter they were not happy with.

The Finance & Administration Manager reported that most fees and charges were simply rolled over however, two were highlighted. These being – Library Fees – the increase in the Gold Card subscription from \$30 to \$35 per annum and the re-introduction of the 'Out of the District' Membership fee of \$30 per annum. Cr Blackler said she raised the issue at the last Council meeting regarding the increase in the Gold Card Membership fee and said that people are actually paying less with the Gold Card than previously. Mrs Cowan said she would have been interested in the Library staff's input into the suggestion and stressed the need for these issues to be discussed. Cr Blackler replied that the District Librarian was in attendance at the Council meeting.

## **Item-188 JC & NA PRASAD**

### **Discussion**

The Engineering Manager read a letter received from Dix Koretz Millar on behalf of Mr & Mrs Prasad requesting permission to connect their property to the water supply for the Otorohanga township. The property is situated on State Highway 3, just south of the Mangapu River bridge at the south end of the Otorohanga township. Members expressed their sympathy to the family due to the incapacity of their daughter. Cr Blackler made the suggestion as to whether the Waipa Rural Water Scheme would be able to accommodate their request.

### **Resolved**

That the application from JC & NA Prasad to connect to the Otorohanga Community water supply be declined and the letter forwarded, for consideration, to the Waipa Rural Water Supply scheme.

### **Mr CE Jeffries / Mr T Jones**

### **STATE HIGHWAY 3**

Mr Jones advised he had received a complaint from a resident in McKenzie Avenue, Otorohanga regarding the time taken and problems with pedestrian access along State Highway 3 where road works are being carried out at the intersection of Harpers Avenue. The Engineering Manager replied he had inspected the site yesterday and found no viable access or safe route through. He reported he contacted Transfield who agreed the situation was unacceptable and acted immediately to ensure there was a viable walking path. The Engineering Manager confirmed that to-date the work has not run well.

### **HOUSES KAKAMUTU ROAD**

Mr Jeffries queried the situation regarding the relocated houses in Kakamutu Road. The Chief Executive replied the appropriate notices have been issued and that all the work has been carried out to the required standard except that relating to the landscape plan. He said the Applicant has 12 months to make the homes habitable.

### **ANNUAL PLAN**

His Worship informed Members that submissions to the Annual Plan will be considered by Council at its meeting to be held 5 June 2007.

### **MEETING CLOSURE**

The meeting concluded at 5.29pm.

**CHAIRMAN:**

**DATE:**

