



Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

14 June 2007

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

14 June 2007

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 14 June 2007 commencing at 4.00pm.

MINUTES

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PRESENT

Mr GA Wilshier (Chairperson), Mrs EM Cowan, Mr TJ Jones, Mr B McNeil and Mr AG Ormsby.

IN ATTENDANCE

His Worship the Mayor, Mr DF Williams, Messrs JL Pevreal (Chief Executive), DC Clibbery (Engineering Manager), and CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader).

APOLOGY

Resolved that the apology received from Mr CE Jeffries, be sustained.

Mrs E Cowan / Mr A Ormsby

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 10 May 2007, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Mr B McNeil / Mr T Jones

MATTERS ARISING

OTOROHANGA CARRIERS ASSOCIATION – TRUCK WASH FACILITY

The Chairman reported Council's Engineering Manager and himself attended a recent meeting of the Otorohanga Carriers Association. He said they were not impressed by the reception they received however, they indicated to Members that the Board was not happy with the Truck Wash facility and accordingly if the issues are not resolved the Board will have no option but to close the facility. The Chairman advised the Members of the Association will not acknowledge they have a problem with the facility. The Engineering Manager reported he explained to Members that the facility was not working correctly and that its state was not acceptable to the Board. He said the Association did finally get around to expressing the opinion they would not consider shifting the facility, it would have to be upgraded. The Engineering Manager reported that the Members of the Association were going to have discussions with Environment Waikato (EW) regarding an effluent dump. His Worship reported Council had expressed interest some years ago to EW regarding the provision of an effluent dump at a final cost of \$450,000. Mr Ormsby said his Company has to comply with EW conditions therefore the Carriers Association need to manage their system. Mrs Cowan queried whether the existing facility was large enough for current needs. She was advised comments have been received that the facility is not being used often enough. His Worship suggested the Association be given a date to which they need to comply otherwise the facility will be closed down. The Engineering Manager confirmed that the facility did not have a Resource Consent. He reported, during the last six months no discharge has gone into the sewerage system. He further advised a physical upgrade is required and a written agreement should be prepared, particularly to cover the matter of maintenance of the facility. If the Association does not comply with the Agreement then consideration must be given to closing it down. The Chairman suggested the Association also needs to be presented with a timeframe.

After further discussion it was agreed the Engineering Manager would prepare specifications for the operation of the Truck Wash Facility and that the Carriers be required to provide a plan outlining how these criteria will be satisfied by the end of August 2007.

REPORTS

Item-189 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Discussion

The Chief Executive referred Members to a report which summarises progress towards meeting the Community Outcomes formulated for the 2006 Long Term Council Community Plan. He reported at a recent meeting of Council, Members were presented with a progress report based on the three Community Groups. Council requested that the relevant Outcomes be forwarded to the Boards and Community Groups. He said the Outcomes will need to be reviewed after six years.

Resolved

That the Chief Executive's report summarising progress towards meeting the Community Outcomes formulated for the 2006 Long Term Council Community Plan be received.

Mr T Jones / Mr A Ormsby

CHIEF EXECUTIVE & FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The Chief Executive left the meeting at 4.30pm and the Finance & Administration Manager attended the meeting at 4.35pm.

Item-190 MATTERS REFERRED FROM 10 MAY 2007

Discussion

The Chairman took Members through the Matters Referred.

RE-DEVELOPMENT – KIWI HOUSE

His Worship informed Members the proposed re-development of the Kiwi House is taking its course with a meeting of the Working Party Members on Monday 18 June. He said this will include a summary of the proposed development and the Constitution. His Worship reported a presentation of the proposal was planned for early August.

KIWI – SOUTHERN END OF OTOROHANGA

The Engineering Manager reported he had obtained a quotation for \$2508 (plus GST) to light up the kiwi at the southern end of Otorohanga. He expressed the opinion this was very affordable. The Engineering Manager confirmed that Transit's permission was not required and that funding of the proposal will be from the Landscape Plan next year.

Resolved

That the Board accept the quotation of \$2508 (plus GST) to light up the kiwi situated at the southern end of Otorohanga.

Mrs E Cowan / Mr A Ormsby

WORKS & WATER COMMITTEE

Te Kanawa Street Pedestrian Crossing

Mr Ormsby reported the pedestrian crossing in Te Kanawa Street had been moved and the footpath extended to it.

State Highway 3 & 31 Intersection

The Chairman referred to the intersection of State Highway 3 and 31 and advised that since further discussion is being held by the public, the matter now has some urgency. The Engineering Manager replied Transit was looking into detailed designs however, no decision on the intersection has been made. He said it will be necessary to involve the Otorohanga Business Association. Mr Ormsby suggested the Engineering Manager contact Mr Tim Hughes of LTSA in Christchurch. The Engineering Manager advised that the final decision is Transits and they are well aware of Council's issues

Otorohanga Medical Centre

Mrs Cowan queried the outcome of a recent meeting with Doctors from the Otorohanga Medical Centre. The Chairman advised a meeting was held with them however this came to no conclusion. He said it was reasonable to assume that the Medical Centre will allow a drain to run down their driveway subject to this and their carpark being re-instated.

PARKS & RESERVES COMMITTEE

St John's Facility

The Chairman reported Mr Dave Ingham and himself had visited Members of the Senior Citizen's Association regarding the possibility of them considering to relocate to the proposed new St Johns Ambulance facility. He said since this meeting the Association has declined this proposal. The Chairman advised that due to the volume of pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic on Hinewai Street. The situation needs to be reconsidered, with an entry to the Otorohanga Kindergarten off Haerehuka Street and access through Windsor Park being a possibility.

Plunket Rooms

The Chairman outlined the situation regarding the Otorohanga Plunket Rooms and reported this could be an excellent start to the fundraising required for the St John's facility.

Domain Pavilion

Mrs Cowan reported that Mr Ormsby and herself had met with Mr Ken Fisher at the Domain Pavilion. Mrs Cowan suggested consideration be given to 'limbing up' the totara trees and that the scrub, etc, be cleared from under the other existing trees. She said it would be desirable not to plant out the embankment but to instead consider retaining it. Mrs Cowan reported there are plans to install wider steps up the embankment and that Council staff will undertake the proposed tree pruning.

Truck Wash Facility

The Engineering Manager referred to advice from Cr Jeffries that Mr John Harper was insistent there was an existing pipe from the Truck Wash to Lake Huiputea. The Engineering Manager said he was confident the pipe was closed off some years ago however, it had been suggested the pipe be dug up and checked. Mrs Cowan advised she was confident with the opinion of the Engineering Manager that the pipe was closed off therefore there is no need to have it dug up.

Wahanui Crescent

The Chairman referred to the work recently carried out in Wahanui Crescent and queried as to what point it was at. The Engineering Manager replied the trees have been removed and the existing pavers re-laid. He said there had been concerns expressed regarding the removal of the trees and suggesting that some other suitable trees be re-planted. Mrs Cowan undertook to speak to Mrs Rosemary Davison regarding the type of trees and to liaise with Council's Community Facilities Officer. His Worship queried whether Council has any long term plans regarding walkways for buses in the future. The Chairman replied, in his opinion, the only walkway required is the one that is currently there.

Proposed Walkway Upgrade

The Engineering Manager advised an allocation of \$110,000 had been made for the up-grade of the walkway from Maniapoto Street through to Bell Lane however, following an estimate of costs based on Builder's quotes, the probable cost appeared to be in the order of \$139,000. He said this would be financed by \$60,000 from the next financial year and \$50,000 from the following financial year. The Engineering Manager agreed to explore whether additional funding would be available through LTNZ and Environment Waikato.

Signage

The Engineering Manager reported a local Businessman had spoken to him regarding new slogans for entry signs into Otorohanga. He said an approach has been made to Transit NZ who advised that these signs are not to be erected on Road Reserve however, approaches can be made to private land owners. He said to date, this has not been carried out. The Engineering Manager then circulated a selection of proposed slogans for the entry signs. He advised funding may be available from LTNZ as they saw some road safety benefits from the proposal. It was agreed the Engineering Manager progress the matter further.

GENERAL

2007 COMMUNITY BOARD CONFERENCE

Mr Ormsby reported the main theme at the recent Community Board's Conference was 'leading to safer Communities'. Mr Ormsby came back with several ideas which he presented to the Board. He thanked Council for the opportunity to attend and said this was an excellent event.

PROJECT KIWIANA

Mrs Cowan requested clarification from Council regarding the funding of \$10,000 to promote the kiwiana theme via the Otorohanga District Development Board (ODDB). She said Members of the Project Kiwiana Committee were not happy with the wording in the Service Agreement between Council and the Development Board.

Mrs Cowan said Members requested clarification of the intention of the funding. She said her opinion was it was an operational grant for Project Kiwiana to carry out promotion of the Kiwiana theme. The Chairman agreed with Mrs Cowan's comments and confirmed it was an operational grant to Kiwiana. He said however, there is some confusion as to funding for other items such as the hanging baskets, events promotion, Christmas Parade, etc.

His Worship advised that ODDB has a Contract with Council to execute and that the Project Kiwiana Committee should take up any concerns with the ODDB. The Chairman agreed to have the situation clarified with Council's Chief Executive and Finance & Administration Manager.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The Finance & Administration Manager left the meeting at 5.27pm.

WESTRIDGE SUBDIVISION

Mr Jones reported, following sections sold or those under Contract, there remain four sections to be sold. He said there has been good progress and referred to one advertisement placed in a recent issue of the Waikato Times. He advised it was the intention to place a further advert in the Fieldays edition however this was not necessary.

Mr Jones reported consideration needs to be given as to whether one Lot can be subdivided to accommodate two 'spec' houses built on the site.

PROGRESS PARK

Mr Jones confirmed another Contract has been entered into for the sale of Lot 4 at its market price of \$195,000. He said two Lots remain to be sold.

THIRSTY WETA PROPOSAL

Mr Jones queried what progress was being made in respect to the outdoor extension of the Thirsty Weta proposal. His Worship replied no hold ups have been encountered however, it was the intention of the owners that this extension will be in place by Christmas.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

His Worship reported Habitat for Humanity have purchased a house in Te Kawa Street and have a subdivision plan in place to build on the rear of the section around October 2007. He said consideration may be given as to whether the old house on the front is renovated or sold off.

POWER COSTS

Mr Jones said he had concerns for those on lower incomes regarding the increase in power costs. He queried whether Council had any initiatives it could introduce to assist ratepayers.

MAYORS TASKFORCE FOR JOBS

His Worship reported on 25 & 26 June 2007 he will be attending the 2007 Youth Initiatives Forum in Hamilton. On Tuesday 26 June a delegation of Mayors and 'practitioners' will visit to observe the Youth initiatives in Otorohanga, ie Harvest Centre, Otorohanga Trade Training Centre, etc. He said delegates will be visiting these initiatives, and he extended an invite to Members to attend lunch at the Harvest Centre between 12.15 – 1.00pm.

ABSENTEES

His Worship reported he will be overseas from 30 June to 8 July and that the Chief Executive will be out of the Country for all of July.

HIS WORSHIP

His Worship left the meeting at 5.52pm.

MAIN NORTH ROAD – HARPERS AVENUE INTERSECTION

Mr McNeil referred to the recent upgrading of the Harpers Avenue/Main North Road intersection and expressed concern at the length of time this work had taken to complete. He also highlighted the fact that dirt, etc, had been brought into the main street. He also commented on the standard of the resealing. The Engineering Manager replied Transit NZ were not happy with the way the Contract was carried out. Mr McNeil queried whether it was worthy to make a public comment for the inconvenience to road users. The Engineering Manager felt the matter was best left alone as Transit NZ were well aware of this Council's feelings. Mr Ormsby suggested that 'tabs' be kept on the sub-Contractors involved with the work.

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting concluded at 6.00pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE:
