



Otorohanga District Council

# MINUTES

10 July 2007

# OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 10 July 2007 commenced at 10.00am.

## MINUTES

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## **PRESENT**

Mr DF Williams (Mayor), Crs S Blackler, D de Haan (attended 10.11am), WH Earwaker, CE Jeffries, DM Pilkington and GA Wilshier.

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Messrs GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager) and Mr CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader).

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Cr Jeffries read the Opening Prayer.

## **APOLOGIES**

**Resolved** that the apologies received from Cr L Gower, Messrs J Pevreal (Chief Executive), DC Clibbery (Engineering Manager), and Cr de Haan for lateness be sustained.

### **Cr Jeffries / Cr Earwaker**

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 26 June 2007, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

### **Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker**

## **MATTERS REFERRED**

### **Kawhia Medical Centre**

Cr Pilkington again reported that the exterior of the Kawhia Medical Centre was looking somewhat 'tatty' and queried whether details of the Lease Agreement had been investigated to ascertain who is responsible for minor maintenance of the building. The Finance & Administration Manager undertook to look into the matter.

### **Truck Wash Facility**

Cr Jeffries referred to an item in General, in particular to the comments from the Engineering Manager that the Carriers Association has been given a clear message as to what is required for the facility. Cr Wilshier reported the Engineering Manager had undertaken to write to the Carriers Association however, his Company had received a letter from Bailey Ingham on behalf of the users of the Truck Wash, acknowledging receipt of the information and advising they will be calling a meeting of Association Members in the near future.

### **Housing NZ**

Cr Jeffries referred to the attempted removal of a Housing NZ house from Waiwera Street, Kawhia and voiced his concerns at the proposal. He said there appeared to be a very poor lack of consultation between the parties involved however, complimented His Worship on his response and the Waitomo News item on the issue. His Worship reported Housing NZ have lodged a Consent to remove the house, irrespective of the Community's response. He referred to a public meeting to be held on 26 July 2007 whereat the Community will be given the opportunity to express their concerns. He said it is up to the locals to take part in the Application process. His Worship said there did not appear to be a high level of understanding as to the Application process to occupy a Housing NZ house. Cr Pilkington expressed the opinion it was

up to Housing NZ to inform the people of the process and how they go about applying. Cr Jeffries expressed concern that Housing NZ has attempted to carry out this removal once, therefore will they do it again? He queried how many other Housing NZ houses are located in Kawhia.

The District Building Inspector, who was in attendance at the meeting, advised that an Application has been issued to demolish the one bedroom building. He had been advised informally that Housing NZ may replace it with a three bedroom house.

### **Maniapoto Street Walkway**

Cr Earwaker referred to the comment recorded that Cr de Haan disputed why this proposal should be funded from the Roothing Account and advised this should read, 'part funded'.

## **REPORTS**

### **Item-409 BUILDING CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT TO 29 JUNE 2007**

#### **Discussion**

The District Building Control Officer presented his report for the period 24 March to 29 June 2007. He advised the number of Building Consents was down compared to last year however, the values had increased substantially.

With regard to the issuing of Code Compliance Certificates (CCC) His Worship suggested, as it is a collective responsibility between the property owner and Council to have the CCC signed off, that an article be placed in Council's next newsletter highlighting the issue.

Cr Jeffries felt it would be appropriate to create a graph in relation to Building Consents going back over the previous three years and into the new year as well.

His Worship expressed Council's appreciation to the Building Control Officers for their work and the results obtained so far with accreditation.

#### **Resolved**

That the Building Control Officer's Report for the period 24 March to 29 June 2007 be received.

#### **Cr Pilkington / Cr Jeffries**

### **Item-410 PLANNING REPORT MARCH - MAY 2007**

#### **Discussion**

The Environmental Services Manager presented a report on Resource Consents granted under Delegated Authority from 1 March to 31 May 2007, and the Shore Futures Project.

#### **Resolved**

That the Environmental Services Manager's Planning report from 1 March to 31 May 2007 be received.

#### **Cr Wilshier / Cr de Haan**

## **Item-411 ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES REPORT APRIL - JUNE 2007**

### **Discussion**

The Environmental Services Manager referred Members to the Animal Control Officer's report for the period 1 April to 29 June 2007. He advised two dog tags are being used for the 2007/08 year, one is the normal registration tag that is renewed every year, the other being a microchip exemption tag which is only issued once and is a 'life tag'.

### **Resolved**

That the Animal Control Officer's report from 1 April to 29 June 2007 be received.

### **Cr Jeffries / Cr Blackler**

## **TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER**

Engineering staff member Mr Roy Chadwick attended the meeting at 10.38am.

## **Item-412 MATTERS REFERRED - 26 JUNE 2007**

### **Discussion**

#### **Reserve Area – Lake Waipapa**

Members were advised no further progress has been made on investigations for the possible sale of the Reserve area at Lake Waipapa.

#### **Control of Horses**

The Environmental Services Manager referred to s353 of the Local Government Act 1974 and reported that Council can make and serve notice for safety provisions to require a property to be fenced off. Alternatively, he said, Council could consider putting in place sections under the Public Places Bylaw. He said both would give Council authority to carry out the work and to recover costs from the offending land owner. The Environmental Services Manager advised that for Council to proceed in establishing a Bylaw, it would be necessary for it to demonstrate that a Bylaw is actually necessary.

His Worship referred to horses escaping from a Merrins Avenue property and suggested the Environmental Services Manager discuss with Council's Animal Control Officer whether the problem still exists. Members were informed that the item had also arisen from persons riding horses on Community Streets and along road reserves. His Worship also suggested this be discussed with the Animal Control Contractor. It was agreed the item remain on Matters Referred.

#### **Maniapoto Street Walkway Proposal**

The Technical Services Manager reported the complete Maniapoto Street walkway proposal would be spread over two years however, a shortfall of approximately \$30,000 had been identified. He said staff were giving consideration to creating some form of programme for the work in an effort to look at recovering the costs. In reply to Cr Jeffries, the Technical Services Manager advised the original costs had been based on a concept however, staff were now basing the estimated costs on a design. Cr Blackler expressed the opinion it may be necessary to reduce the content of the project. It was agreed both items relating to the Maniapoto Street walkway proposal remain on Matters Referred.

## **Roadside Spraying**

The Technical Services Manager reported the matter of roadside spraying, in particular to the area being sprayed around marker pegs had been discussed with Council's Contractor, Works, and the point stressed that they do not spray more than is necessary. The Technical Services Manager advised there is still the requirement for the marker pegs and the roadside edges to be kept clear. He reported the renewal of the weed spraying Contract for roadside vegetation outside the Road's Maintenance Contract will be advertised next month. It was agreed this item be deleted from Matters Referred.

## **GENERAL**

### **SHORE FUTURES**

Cr Earwaker reported on his attendance at a Choosing Futures Waikato Community Outcomes meeting at Waikato Stadium, which he said comprised of mainly Councillors, Council staff and representatives of Government Departments.

### **ROADING**

Cr Pilkington reported she had received complimentary remarks regarding the maintenance work carried out recently on Hauturu Road.

### **PIRONGIA WEST ROAD**

Cr Pilkington reported she had attended an on-site meeting on Pirongia West Road to consider options available to take water off the road. She said Mr Lew Pulman was working on protocols regarding re-fencing following an area of road works being undertaken.

### **WAIKATO RIVER MANAGEMENT**

Cr Blackler reported on her attendance at a recent Waikato/Tainui meeting where ideas were outlined regarding the co-management of the Waikato River. She said it was expected that Maniapoto would submit their issues regarding the Waipa River. Cr Blackler reported it was envisaged eight people would form a Committee, comprising four Tainui representatives, three appointed by Government Ministries and one representative on behalf of Environment Waikato. She reported the major issue was that of costs and whether the area was already covered by Project Watershed.

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE**

His Worship reported the Local Government Conference is to be held next week and that he, along with Crs Blackler and Pilkington, will be attending.

### **MARAEROA C BLOCK**

His Worship informed Members of a presentation regarding a tourism venture to be made on 7 August 2007.

### **NZ POLICE**

His Worship reported he will be holding a 'catch up' meeting with the local Police.

### **CAREERS EVENING**

His Worship informed Members the College Careers Evening will be held on 31 July 2007 commencing at 7.00pm.

### **2007/08 RATE DEMANDS**

The Finance & Administration Manager reported the first installment of the 2007/08 rates will be posted out next week. He said accompanied with these will be a Civil Defence document. The

Finance & Administration Manager informed Members he did have some concerns regarding the areas brought into the Communities by changes in boundaries. He referred, in particular, to five properties situated in Otewa Road, Otorohanga which will incur a significant rate increase. He then referred to the revaluation of the District being carried out later this year and said that in due course Quotable Value will make a presentation to Council.

#### **Item-414 SPARC FUNDING**

##### **Discussion**

The Customer Services Team Leader reported Sport & Recreation NZ (SPARC) had invited Council to participate in the SPARC Rural Travel Fund for the 2007/08 year. He advised a sum of \$9000 plus GST had been allocated for this year.

##### **Resolved**

That Council agree to participate in the SPARC Rural Travel Fund for the 2007/08 year.

**Cr Earwaker / Cr Pilkington**

#### **STAFFING MATTER**

The Technical Services Manager reported Council's Services Engineer, Mr Jon Fields, has resigned from Council, effective 27 July 2007. He said Council's Contract Engineer (Roading), Mr Martin Gould, will take over as Services Engineer and advertisements have been placed for a new Contracts Engineer (Roading).

#### **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 de Haan / Cr Blackler**

#### **Item-413 PROPOSED INCREASED REFUSE CHARGES      CONFIDENTIAL**

##### **MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting concluded at 11.45am.

**MAYOR:**

**DATE:**

