



Otorohanga Community Board

# MINUTES

12 July 2007

## OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

12 July 2007

Minutes of an 12 July 2007 meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 12 July 2007 commenced at 4.02pm.

### MINUTES

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## **PRESENT**

Mr GA Wilshier (Chairperson), Mrs EM Cowan, Mr TJ Jones, Mr B McNeil and Mr AG Ormsby (attended 4.05pm).

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

His Worship the Mayor, Mr DF Williams, Messrs GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager) R Chadwick (Technical Services Manager) and CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader).

## **APOLOGY**

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

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

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 14 June 2007, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

### **Mr T Jones / Mr B McNeil**

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **Truck Wash Facility**

Mr Wilshier advised Council's Engineering Manager had written to the Otorohanga Carriers Association on 18 June 2007 outlining the issues. He said the only response he was aware of had been made by Bailey Ingham to Members of the Association enclosing a copy of Council's Engineering Manager's letter. He said, once the Members have had an opportunity to read the letter, a further meeting will be held to discuss and draw up a plan. The Technical Services Manager advised the proposed plan outlining how the specifications for the operation of the Truck Wash Facility will be satisfied is required by 31 August 2007. Mr Wilshier undertook to discuss this with the Engineering Manager.

### **Kiwi – South end of Otorohanga**

Mr Wilshier reported a resident had contacted him regarding the lighting of the Kiwi at the southern end of Otorohanga and queried whether this could be turned around so that its beak is facing the State Highway. His Worship reported the kiwi was a Project Kiwiana initiative and it would be up to Members of the Project Kiwiana Committee whether they wished to have the kiwi to be turned around. Mr Ormsby expressed the opinion it would be desirable for the suggestion to be considered. Mrs Cowan raised the matter of the costs that would be incurred as the kiwi is mounted on a triangular base and would require another support pad. It was agreed Mrs Cowan and Mr Ormsby approach Project Kiwiana Committee to obtain their approval and estimated costs of the proposal for report back to the Board.

### **Otorohanga Zoological Society – Proposed Upgrade**

His Worship informed Members a meeting to discuss the proposed upgrade of the Otorohanga Kiwi House is to be held on 3 August 2007 at 1.00pm in the Council Chambers. He advised a Consultant along with the Committee will make a presentation to representatives of the Otorohanga District Council, Otorohanga Community Board, Otorohanga District Development

Board and Otorohanga Zoological Society Inc. His Worship said, each organisation will consider the presentation and should all the groups support the proposal then it will be put out for public submission. Mrs Cowan suggested whether, prior to the next meeting of the Board, that an additional meeting be held to consider the proposal. Mr Wilshier undertook to arrange an appropriate time.

### **Wahanui Crescent Tree Removal**

Mrs Cowan referred to the recent removal of trees in Wahanui Crescent/Bell Lane area and advised she had been in contact with Mrs Rosemary Davison regarding their replacement. Mrs Davison had advised that the beds need to be refreshed and placed with new topsoil. She also suggested that any remaining stumps should be removed with a stump grinder. Mrs Davison had suggested two Acer Rubrum per bed and 95 Agapanthus 'Streamline' per bed be used to replenish the beds.

## **REPORTS**

### **Item-191 DISTRICT LIBRARIAN'S QUARTERLY REPORT APRIL - JUNE 2007**

#### **Discussion**

The District Librarian attended the meeting and presented her quarterly report for the period April/June 2007. The Finance & Administration Manager reported the Library's annual revenue was slightly down on the previous year however, the different categories varied up and down. He said, with the increase to \$35 for a Gold Card Membership and additional new Members, the income should be brought back into line. In reply to Mrs Cowan regarding the proposed upgrade of the Library software, the Finance & Administration Manager advised he was on an advisory group which meet every two weeks regarding the proposal. He said five Council's are involved with negotiations for a new system these comprising, Hamilton City Council, Waikato District Council, South Waikato District Council, Matamata/Piako District Council, Waitomo District Council and this Council. The Finance & Administration Manager advised the group have employed a Contract Negotiator and Project Manager who are currently working through the final costings. Following this he will present these to Council and the Board in approximately three to four weeks.

The Finance & Administration Manager further advised that consideration as to whether the proposal proceeds will be subject to the costs involved. A further issue being, it is proposed the Hamilton City Council will host the server however, they have not yet made a firm decision to be part of the proposal.

#### **Resolved**

That the District Librarian's quarterly report for the period April – June 2007 be received.

**Mr T Jones / Mrs E Cowan**

### **Item-192 OTOROHANGA SECURITY PATROL**

#### **Discussion**

The Customer Services Team Leader presented a report on the request from the Otorohanga Business Association that further consultation and discussion be held on the proposal to extend the compulsory coverage area to include Progress Park and part of Otewa Road. The Customer Services Team Leader reported that the Otorohanga Business Association did not wish to be seen to be approving a proposal that the property owners had not been contacted about. They therefore suggested Council obtain feedback as to whether the Property Owners are interested in

becoming part of the scheme. Members were further informed that the Association felt Progress Park had not developed enough, there were too many vacant Lots. His Worship expressed the opinion that should the 'outer areas' be approached to become part of the scheme, he was sure a considerable number of them would say no, therefore the commitment and cost of the scheme falls back on the ratepayers of the compulsory area. Mr McNeil advised the Security Patrol scheme used in Te Kuiti was a user pays system however, he felt that being compulsory as it is in Otorohanga this works a lot better. Mr Ormsby expressed the opinion that the cost of the scheme should be spread evenly over those receiving benefit. Following further discussion it was agreed an invitation be extended to representatives of the Otorohanga Business Association to the next Board meeting to be held 9 August 2007 to discuss the matter further.

### **Resolved**

That the Customer Services Team Leader's report on the Otorohanga Security Patrol be received.

### **Mr B McNeil / Mr A Ormsby**

## **Item-193 MATTERS REFERRED FROM 14 JUNE 2007**

### **Discussion**

The Customer Services Team Leader took Members through Matters Referred.

### **Redevelopment – Kiwi House**

It was agreed this item remain on Matters Referred.

### **Operation Grants – Kiwiana**

The Finance & Administration Manager circulated and then presented an analysis of District/Community District Development Board grants. Mr Wilshier advised that the information had also been presented to a meeting of Council held on Tuesday.

Mrs Cowan advised the Project Kiwiana Committee are sending out, in the near future, a survey of the Community and District to obtain comments on the value of kiwiana, suggestions, etc.

### **Truck Wash Facility**

It was agreed this item under the Engineering Manager remain on Matters Referred.

### **Walkway – Maniapoto Street to Wahanui Crescent**

The Technical Services Manager reported the proposed upgrade of the walkway from Maniapoto Street through to Wahanui Crescent had originally been costed on a 'concept' plan over a two year period. He said since this time some design work has been carried out which has shown a \$30,000 shortfall on the original estimate over the two year period. He said staff were currently preparing a programme in an attempt to ascertain what can be carried out within the allocation.

Mr Wilshier reported a letter had been received from the Otorohanga Business Association regarding the proposed upgrade, wherein it voiced some concerns in particular, to the seating proposed and the problems that could be encountered. The letter also referred to the upgrade of the Otorohanga signs and in both matters the Association asked to be kept informed. Mrs Cowan reported the seating concept had been developed to provide seating for visiting school children. She said it was intended that the seats could be 'put up' and locked. With regard to the proposed slogans for the Otorohanga signs, staff were requested to have these prepared for consideration at the next meeting of the Board. It was agreed that the matters of security, proposed walkway and sign slogans be discussed with representatives of the Association at the next Board meeting.

Mr Jones said he had been approached regarding the cleanliness of the walkway area and queried whether the costs need to be reviewed in order to provide a higher standard. Mr Wilsher replied he was aware the area was given a good clean once or twice a year prior to special events however he would take the matter up with Council's Engineering Manager.

## **GENERAL**

### **ROADWAY SEALING**

Mr Wilshier reported he had received an approach regarding fire hydrants being sealed over following recent road sealing in Te Kawa & Haerehuka Streets. Mr Wilshier expressed the opinion he understood these would have been inspected by the local Fire Brigade. The Technical Services Manager advised Council's Services staff were checking the hydrants as new ones had been installed and accordingly old ones could be sealed over. Mr Ormsby said the matter did not only relate to Haerehuka and Te Kawa Streets and he expressed concern at the quality of the roadway seal, in particular that on Domain Drive. He said this might be remedial work which Council is not paying for but it still requires a first class job. The Technical Services Manager referred to the hydrants and said these had been raised in order that they were flush with the new seal. He said staff agreed that the Domain Drive work was not a good job as it was carried out too late in the year. He said however, the Contractor will come back and repair the situation following winter. Mr Wilshier said it is necessary for Council staff to ensure a level of supervision is carried out at the appropriate time.

### **COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES**

The Finance & Administration Manager reported the first installment of the 2007/08 rates will be posted out within the next two to three days. He said however, those properties that have recently come into the Community, a number of these will receive a substantial rate increase. He circulated draft letters which will be forwarded to those affected and a separate letter to the five commercial properties affected on Otewa Road. The Finance & Administration Manager said the letter will outline what the rates will be and the reasons behind the change. Attached to the letter will be a plan highlighting the changes to the boundaries. His Worship expressed the opinion the main reason behind the charge is that those properties incurring a substantial increase have been undercharged in previous years.

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Mrs Cowan raised the matter of the Committee Meetings and suggested these be re-instated to be held between the monthly Board meetings. It was agreed the Customer Services Team Leader circulate proposed Committee meeting dates for August and September, at 4.00pm on a Thursday.

### **CAREERS EVENING**

Mr McNeil reported a Careers Evening will be held at the Otorohanga College on 31 July 2007 between 7.00-9.00pm. He said the evening has been coordinated by Mrs Fiona Prescott and to date, will involve 27 local businesses. Mr McNeil informed Members the evening is not supported by Management and staff of the Otorohanga College. His Worship confirmed he was able to obtain some funding for the evening from the Mayor's Taskforce. He suggested that organisations such as the Otorohanga Business Association, Otorohanga District Development Board, Otorohanga College and the Otorohanga Employment Shop should allocate some funding and time to this event.

### **MAIN NORTH ROAD – STATE HIGHWAY 3**

Mr Jones reported that one pot hole has already been created in the new roadworks at the Harpers Avenue intersection.

His Worship advised there was a further issue with the crown of the road being raised which has created problems for vehicles going in and out of their properties. The problems have occurred due to the scope of work being extended however, this was being worked through.

### **STRATEGIC WORKSHOP**

Mrs Cowan reminded Members of the Board's proposal to hold a workshop for strategic planning and thoughts for the future.

### **MANIAPOTO STREET PEDESTRIAN GARDENS**

Mrs Cowan reported on a recent accident where a vehicle had hit the surrounds of one of the pedestrian gardens and queried how well these were anchored. She expressed some concern that the bricks may be used by vandals to smash windows. His Worship expressed the opinion that bricks and other suitable objects could be found in close proximity anywhere along Maniapoto Street.

### **NZ POLICE**

His Worship reported he will be meeting with local police on Wednesday 25 July 2007 at 9.00am and asked Members to contact him should they wish to have any issues raised.

### **JOB EXPO**

Mr McNeil reported a 'Job Expo' will be held 8/9 December 2007 which is a combined effort by the Otorohanga and Waitomo Districts to attract people to the King Country.

### **STATE HIGHWAY BRIDGES**

Mr Ormsby reported there was a broken slab on the northern bridge approach into Otorohanga and advised Council staff had carried out temporary repairs. It was also suggested whether this particular bridge be provided with handrails along the side of the footpath. Mr Ormsby also reported that the southern bridge needs a good 'clean up'.

### **BUILDING/COMMUNITY**

Mr Ormsby reported he had been approached by a resident regarding the recent erection of a farm-like building in the Community. The Environmental Services Manager replied it was obvious the building complied with the District Plan and accordingly nothing could be done about the situation. His Worship said the District Plan review is an appropriate time for those concerned to suggest rules and regulations that should be applied to these situations to satisfy their concerns. In reply to Mrs Cowan, His Worship outlined the background to the District Plan and said that its current review is being headed by Consultant Ms Dorothy Wakeling. The Environmental Services Manager reported there was growth happening within the District and that policies and regulations need to be installed to manage this growth.

### **CI MUNRO**

Mr Ormsby informed Members Caravans International Munro's property has been advertised for sale with occupancy March 2008.

### **MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

"THAT the Otorohanga Community Board, 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."

**Mrs E Cowan / Mr B McNeil**

**Item-194 PROPOSED INCREASED REFUSE CHARGES CONFIDENTIAL**

**MEETING CLOSURE**

The meeting concluded at 5.50pm.

**CHAIRMAN:**

**DATE:**

