



Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

9 August 2007

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

9 August 2007

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 9 August 2007 commenced at 4.03pm.

MINUTES

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

ITEM	PRECIS	PAGE
PRESENT		1
IN ATTENDANCE		1
APOLOGY		1
CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES		1
MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC		1
Item-190	INSANITARY LIVING CONDITIONS - CAMPERVAN - LATE ITEM CONFIDENTIAL	2
REPORTS		2
Item-196	OTOROHANGA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION	2
Item-195	ACCESS FOR 54 KAKAMUTU ROAD	4
Item-197	MATTERS REFERRED FROM 10 JULY 2007	4
GENERAL		5
Item-192	W MORELAND - BUSKING	5
Item-193	OTOROHANGA CRAFT FAIR	5
Item-194	MANIAPOTO STREET BARBEQUES	5
MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC		7
Item-189	PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE - WESTRIDGE - LATE ITEM CONFIDENTIAL	7
MEETING CLOSURE		7

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 JL Pevreal (Chief Executive), DC Clibbery (Engineering Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager) and CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader).

APOLOGY

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

Mrs E Cowan / Mr T Jones

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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

Mr T Jones / Mr B McNeil

MATTERS ARISING

Truck Wash Facility

The Chairperson reported he had spoken to Mr D Bailey, representing the Otorohanga Carriers Association, who advised work was being carried out towards providing the information required for the operation of the facility by 31 August 2007.

Kiwi-South end of Otorohanga

Mrs Cowan reported a quotation of \$500 plus GST had been received to reposition the kiwi statue. She said it will be necessary for her to confirm with the Project Kiwiana Committee their acceptance of the proposal. The Engineering Manager then displayed Artist's impressions of various positions for the kiwi statue. Following further discussion it was agreed that the kiwi statue remain as it is currently positioned.

Careers Evening

The Customer Services Team Leader reported, at the meeting of Council held 7 August 2007, it was resolved that the comment made by Mr McNeil informing Members that the Careers Evening was not supported by Management and Staff of the Otorohanga College, be deleted. Mr McNeil agreed with the amendment.

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."

Mr A Ormsby / Mrs E Cowan

**Item-190 INSANITARY LIVING CONDITIONS - CAMPERVAN - LATE ITEM
CONFIDENTIAL**

REPORTS

Item-196 OTOROHANGA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Discussion

Representatives of the Otorohanga Business Association (OBA), Mrs A Laws (Chairperson) and Mr John Haddad attended the meeting.

PROPOSED WALKWAY - MANIAPOTO STREET/WAHANUI CRESCENT.

Mrs Laws referred to a recent meeting of the Association whereat consideration was given to a plan of the proposed walkway. She reported that the Kiwiana display modules were installed to provide an attraction for the town by encouraging people to stop and walk up Maniapoto Street. The Association expressed the opinion that the Business Owners should be consulted as to whether they wish these to be relocated in the proposed walkway. Mrs Cowan outlined the background to the installation of the modules and advised that all businesses were consulted as to whether they wished to have a module displayed on their premises and a Contract drawn up between them and the Project Kiwiana Committee. She said problems had been encountered with keeping the modules clean and tidy and situations have arisen due to businesses changing hands. Mrs Cowan reported that after many dollars being spent and some frustration, the Project Kiwiana Committee have put forward the suggestion that they be housed in the proposed walkway. She said however, if shop owners agreed and were prepared to look after the modules then they could remain on their premises. Mrs Laws reported there were varying views from the shop owners. Mrs Cowan advised the modules were owned by the Project Kiwiana Committee and that, by creating a 'gallery like' situation, would provide some flexibility for the numbers to be increased. The Chairperson suggested a survey be undertaken with the current shop owners as to whether they would be prepared to look after the modules. Mrs Cowan replied that discussion should be held between the Otorohanga Business Association and the Project Kiwiana Committee and consideration be given to charging a small rental for those premises that retain the modules.

Mrs Laws then referred to the proposed walkway and expressed some concern at bus loads of children arriving to look at the modules, possibly causing a lot of noise and blocking the accessway for other users. She queried whether consideration could be given to placing the modules in the Otorohanga Reserve (Village Green). Mrs Cowan replied that the suggestion could involve cultural issues. The Chairperson also advised that the modules would deteriorate much quicker being displayed in the open. His Worship expressed the opinion that bus loads of adults could also cause some obstruction in the walkway. Mrs Cowan reported that Consultant Mr David Walmsley had offered to assist shop owners in creating their own modules. Mrs Laws then referred to the proposed seating in the area and queried who would be responsible for folding the seats away at the conclusion of each day. She also pointed out, should seating be provided at the rear of the proposed walkway, then good lighting would be required. She felt this area would more likely encourage the undesirable element, accumulation of rubbish, etc. Mr Haddad said there were already a sufficient number of seats available and expressed concern, even during daylight hours, that by creating such a facility more problems would occur. It was

agreed, in order to obtain a final reaction to the proposal to move the modules, that a written survey be undertaken.

Mrs Laws referred to the Otorohanga website and expressed the opinion that this was dismal and required developing. The Chairperson reported the Otorohanga District Development Board would look into the matter. Mrs Cowan advised she had re-written some of the script and suggested a usability report be undertaken to give a project brief on web-site design.

Mrs Laws made mention of the Waka House situated on Kakamutu Road and felt that, if promoted, this could be a huge draw card.

OTOROHANGA SECURITY

Mrs Laws referred to the suggestion that Progress Park be part of the compulsory area of security patrol and felt that the proposal should be explored with the businesses concerned as to whether they would be interested. His Worship reported Council administers the Security Patrol Scheme on behalf of the OBA. He said the Community boundaries have changed, bringing Otewa Road and Progress Park into the Community and advised as these areas grow, so should participation within the security area. Mrs Laws questioned the charging for security on the green areas with no buildings. His Worship replied the valuation would be less and therefore the security rate lower. The Chief Executive advised that the Security Patrol Officer already services some properties in the area however, the suggestion needs to be driven by the OBA. Mr Haddad reported initially 90 percent support for such a scheme within the CBD was achieved. He said by looking at an extension of the area this would need a 75 percent result of those persons saying they wish to be part of the scheme. He expressed the opinion that the Progress Park area had not developed sufficiently. His Worship said Council would not proceed without the OBA considering and making a recommendation to Council. Members were informed that existing Members of the CBD feel that other properties outside the area receive the service for nothing. It was suggested that the 'status quo' remain.

Mr Haddad said there were two points to consider by bringing Progress Park into the scheme in that this would reduce the Officer's presence in the CBD and whether the patrol could continue as a 'one man band'. Mr McNeil advised the Contractor had indicated he could still carry out the service and this would not be compromised by bringing in Progress Park. Following further discussion it was agreed that a promotional letter, jointly by Council and the OBA be forwarded to those property owners outside of the compulsory area as to whether they would be interested in becoming part of the scheme.

SIGNAGE

Mr Haddad referred to the erection of signage, in particular that relating to 'stopping' in Otorohanga and expressed the opinion it was important Council has a harmonious relationship with Land Transport NZ. The Engineering Manager advised steps were in progress regarding the erection of suitable signage, with a simplified message for which he is obtaining costs. He said the Board has already agreed in principle, to the erection of such signs.

With regard to the entrance signs into Otorohanga it was agreed the proposed new sign be forwarded to the OBA for their comment. Mr Haddad also suggested consideration be given to installing a farewell message on the reverse of the sign.

The Chairman thanked representatives of the OBA for their attendance at the meeting.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The Finance & Administration Manager left the meeting at 5.05pm.

Item-195 ACCESS FOR 54 KAKAMUTU ROAD

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented a report on the possible responses to a request for consideration of access issues facing 54 Kakamutu Road and other adjacent properties. He advised that the track is currently in a poor state making practical access to the property difficult. Mrs Cowan referred to proposed work for the area in the next phase of the Landscape Plan and queried whether the property owners have given an indication of their preferred option regarding the accessway. The Engineering Manager advised that in order to change the status of the Plantation Reserve it would be necessary to obtain the approval of the Department of Conservation. Mr Ormsby expressed the opinion that the area has always had a history of access problems. In reply to Mr Jones regarding the safety of the cliff behind the property and steps leading to Mountain View Road, he was advised that \$10,000 has been programmed for the upgrading of the steps. Mrs Cowan confirmed that the area does have significant pedestrian traffic. His Worship suggested whether Council require the properties to comply with the legal requirements in order to encourage more firmly that this be formally put in place.

Resolved

That

1. Council offers to provide assurance of access to properties off the Plantation Reserve opposite the intersection of Hinewai Street and Kakamutu Road by reclassification of the Plantation Reserve as Road Reserve provided that property owners meet the relevant costs.
2. Council will contribute, on a one-off basis, a one-seventh share of the agreed cost of improvements to section of accessway through the Plantation Reserve that is used for vehicular access to adjacent properties.

Mr A Ormsby / Mrs E Cowan

Item-197 MATTERS REFERRED FROM 10 JULY 2007

Discussion

The Chairman took Members through Matters Referred.

SLOGANS/ENTRANCE SIGNS

The Engineering Manager displayed an image of new 'Welcome to Otorohanga' entrance sign. It was suggested that 'Farewell' be included on the reverse of the sign.

Resolved

That the Otorohanga Community Board adopt the proposed new 'Welcome to Otorohanga' sign, costings to be obtained by the Engineering Manager, and that the image of the proposed sign be referred to the Otorohanga Business Association for their comments.

Mrs E Cowan / Mr B McNeil

DISTRICT SIGNS

Mr Jones referred to the current 'Welcome to the District' signs and queried if there were any plans to update these. His Worship replied these have recently been refurbished in the same manner.

GENERAL

Item-192 W MORELAND - BUSKING

Discussion

The Customer Services Team Leader reported a request had been received from an eleven year old, William Moreland, for a permit to busk at Landmore Agri Ltd in 4 Ranfurly Street from October 2007 to the end of January 2008.

Resolved

That permission be granted to W Moreland to busk at 4 Ranfurly Street for the period from October 2007 to 31 January 2008.

Mr A Ormsby / Mr T Jones

Item-193 OTOROHANGA CRAFT FAIR

Discussion

The Customer Services Team Leader reported a request had been received from the organisers of the Otorohanga Craft Fair to introduce buskers at their regular monthly fairs. They expressed the opinion that buskers, singing in the street, is a craft in itself.

Resolved

That the Otorohanga Community Board grant permission to the Organisers of the Otorohanga Craft Fairs to introduce buskers at their regular monthly fairs.

Mr A Ormsby / Mr T Jones

Item-194 MANIAPOTO STREET BARBEQUES

Discussion

The Customer Services Team Leader reported following advice from the then General Purposes Committee Chairman, barbeques were banned in Maniapoto Street due to fat staining the pavers. A request has been received from the National Bank in respect to Daffodil Day to hold a barbeque outside their premises.

Resolved

That the Community Board allow barbeques to be held in Maniapoto Street, Otorohanga, subject to permission being obtained from Council and that the area be left in a clean and tidy state.

Mr B McNeil / Mr T Jones

OBITUARY - LATE IAN HARDY

The Chairman referred to the recent death of former Otorohanga Community Board Member Mr Ian Hardy and the substantial contribution he made to affairs of the Community. He said at the meeting of Council held 7 August 2007 Mr Hardy's contribution was acknowledged. Members then stood as a mark of respect.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mr Ormsby said he believed in providing a safe Community and referred in particular to the area outside the Chemist shop in Hinewai Street in particular to two posts protruding through the

footpath and that footpath itself is below the level of the road tarmac. He queried as to whose job it was to follow up on these types of matters. The Engineering Manager replied they are normally dealt with on complaints received as there are not the staff resources to tour the community looking for problems.

COMMUNITY PROPERTY

Mr Ormsby referred to a Community property that recently erected a 'barn like' structure and which now has a shipping container on the property along with three big dogs. He advised that the neighbouring property owners are not happy with what is occurring on this site. His Worship reported he had also been approached by the adjacent property owners and could not fully understand their comments however, it is appropriate timing with the review of the District Plan. He said he has asked the complainants to provide Council with suggested new guidelines or rules to avoid this happening again in the future. His Worship said such properties were bringing rural activities into an urban area. He queried whether these neighbours have spoken to the property owner themselves. It was agreed that the matter of dogs be referred to Council's Animal Control Contractor and the shipping container to Council's building department.

FREDERICK STREET/GRADARA AVENUE AREA

Mr Ormsby referred to old vehicles parked up on a property in the Frederick Street/Gradara Avenue area and queried whether these have been dealt with. His Worship advised staff had spoken to the owner of the car who had advised the vehicle was under going repairs. The Engineering Manager advised the matter will be treated as an abandoned vehicle and that Council will progress from there.

STATE HIGHWAY BRIDGES

Members were again informed of the condition of the bridges on the main entrances into town. The Engineering Manager advised that the matter has already been referred to Transit. Mention was also made of potholes occurring at the intersection of State Highway 3/31.

EMBANKMENT - OPPOSITE GILTRAP ENGINEERING

Mr McNeil referred to the recently grassed embankment and queried how it was envisaged this would be maintained. The Engineering Manager replied at this stage he was happy to see such a good cover of grass. Mrs Cowan referred to weeds going along the fence line at the top of the bank and suggested that flax, which weeps over, could be planted there to conceal the weeds.

GE CROPS

Mrs Cowan expressed her concern at advice from Central Government that it will not be responsible for the liability regarding the growing of GE crops. She queried who would be liable. The Chief Executive felt this would be the responsibility of the Regional Council however, agreed to follow the matter up.

NZ POLICE

His Worship reported on a recent meeting with the Regional Commissioner and local Police Sergeant and reported that the local Station now has a full complement of staff and they have found it easier to attract staff to this area.

Sgt Soepnel advised concern had been expressed regarding the seating in Wahanui Crescent adjacent to the ODC entrance way. He queried whether the trees concerned should be pruned back or lighting provided.

TELECOM NZ

His Worship reported Telecom NZ was finalising its 'Connection to Schools' next year.

HATOGAYA CITY VISIT - MAYORAL WELCOME

Hatogaya City will be visiting Otorohanga again this year between 17 and 23 August. A Welcome to Otorohanga will be given by the Mayor on Tuesday 21 August, 2.00pm in the Council Chambers. All Members are welcome to attend.

OTOROHANGA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

His Worship referred to the Annual Report of the Association and said it was gratifying Council was mentioned favourably for its help and liaison.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

His Worship reminded Members that nominations for the forthcoming local elections close at noon on 24 August 2007.

HIS WORSHIP

His Worship left the meeting at 5.55pm.

MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

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Mrs E Cowan / Mr T Jones

**Item-189 PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE - WESTRIDGE - LATE ITEM
CONFIDENTIAL**

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting concluded at 6.05pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE:

