



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

9 October 2007

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

9 October 2007

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 9 October commencing at 10.07am.

MINUTES

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PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs JL Pevreal (Chief Executive), DC Clibbery (Engineering Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager), RF Proffit (Policy Manager), Mr CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader) and Mrs A Burdon (Executive Assistant).

OPENING PRAYER

His Worship read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGIES

Resolved that the apologies received from Crs AL Gower and GA Wilshier, be sustained.

Cr Earwaker/ Cr Pilkington

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 18 September 2007, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Pilkington / Cr de Haan

MATTERS ARISING

Abbots Slip

In reply to Cr Pilkington the Engineering Manager advised that the required works on Abbots slip will be negotiated with the Contractors, Emmetts, based on their original quotation.

REPORTS

Item-438 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 20 SEPTEMBER 2007

Discussion

PROJECT KIWIANA

Cr Pilkington referred to the offer of \$25,000 from the Project Kiwiana Committee towards the proposed Walkway Development and said this was a wonderful gesture. She expressed the opinion that due to this donation Council could look forward to a reduction from its Roading account towards the project.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 13 September 2007 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Cr Jeffries / Cr de Haan

Item-439 KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 27 SEPTEMBER 2007

Discussion

OMIMITI STREET SEAWALL

Cr Pilkington referred to the General item on page 6 'Omimiti Street' and requested the word 'Seawall' be inserted in the first sentence prior to the section of Omimiti Street. Cr Jeffries expressed the opinion the problem with the seawall has been ongoing and queried how long would it be before a report is received from the Consultant. The Engineering Manager replied it was intended the Consultant would provide an overall solution for the length of the seawall between the two boat ramps. He said an expert opinion is required before any money is spent.

AOTEA ESTATE SUBDIVISION

Cr Jeffries queried with the Environmental Services Manager whether any additional information had been received from Environment Waikato regarding the application from the Aotea Estate to commence Stage 4 (Earth works) of the subdivision. The Environmental Services Manager replied the application had been made to Environment Waikato and that they had received one objection. This has been notified to the Applicant. He said negotiations are required between the Submitter and the Developer to resolve the issue otherwise it may proceed to a hearing.

Resolved

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 27 September 2007, be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker

Item-441 ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES REPORT JULY - SEPTEMBER 2007

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager summarised the Animal Control Officer's report for 1 July - 30 September 2007. He reported there are approximately 60 Dog Owners who have not registered their dogs and accordingly letters have been forwarded to them. He said these letters have had a poor response and accordingly the next step will be the issuing of Infringement Notices.

Resolved

That the Animal Control Officer's report for 1 July - 30 September 2007 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Jeffries

Item-440 DISTRICT BUILDING CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT TO 28 SEPTEMBER 2007

Discussion

The Building Control Officer presented the District Building Control Officer's report for the period from 29 June to 28 September 2007.

The Chief Executive advised he had written to IANZ expressing Council's disappointment that the Accreditation Assessment Committee had to postpone their audit of this Council.

Resolved

That the Building Control Officer's Report to 28 September 2007 be received.

Cr Jeffries / Cr de Haan

Item-442 CONFIRMATION OF LIQUOR CONTROL BYLAW

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager summarised his report on the proposed Liquor Control Bylaw which was approved for public notification and consultation at Council's meeting on 7 August 2007. He advised the main amendment to the Draft Bylaw was that any future provision to include 'other areas' under the Bylaw would be notified to the public. He said this process will take a period of approximately six weeks to allow the opportunity for submissions.

Resolved

That

1. The Environmental Services Manager's report be received, and
2. Council adopt the proposed Liquor Control Bylaw (with amendments), and
3. His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive be granted authority to sign the Bylaw.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Jeffries

Item-443 ANNUAL REPORT 2007

Discussion

The District Accountant attended the meeting and presented a summary of the changes to the draft document. Members were informed that Audit are 'happy' with the document and following its adoption at this meeting, the Audit opinion will be collected.

The District Accountant reported Audit had requested the valuation of the Hamilton Airport shares be decreased. He advised that the copies forwarded to Councillors have required some minor changes to the significant activities. The District Accountant referred to the Audit Highlights Memo which will be presented to the next meeting of Council.

Cr Jeffries reminded staff that the population statistics need to be amended for Kawhia and Otorohanga.

Resolved

That the Annual Report for year ending 30 June 2007, as amended, be adopted.

Cr Jeffries / Cr Earwaker

Item-444 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS 2006/07

Discussion

The District Accountant advised the main change was the decrease in the Land Transport Subsidy by \$66,000.

Resolved

That the Management Accounts for the period ended 30 June 2007, subject to amendments, be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Jeffries

Item-445 PROPOSED CLOSURE OF TRUCKWASH

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented the Proposed Closure of the Truck Wash Facility report. He advised the Carriers Association did not believe there was a leakage issue at the Facility despite discussions with them, and therefore there appeared to be little 'buy in' from the Association to upgrade the Facility. The Engineering Manager said Council needs to see a commitment from the Association to resolve the issues to avoid continued, possible contamination of water into the river. He advised that a meeting had been held on Friday 5 October with representatives of the Truck Wash Facility, Mr Gordon and Mr David Bailey, His Worship, the Chief Executive, Otorohanga Community Board Members and himself. The Engineering Manager said he recommended to Council they proceed to close the Facility if an acceptable response is not received by 31 October 2007.

His Worship expressed the opinion he now believes the matter has been taken seriously and that the representatives have got the major users on board to undertake the capital works.

Cr Pilkington advised she did not want to see the Environment Waikato consent held by Council put into jeopardy.

Cr Earwaker suggested that if the Facility is closed, the Association will have to use an alternative truckwash until the capital work is completed.

His Worship advised the Association will need to present to the Engineering Manager for his approval a plan for the upgrade and their commitment to it by 31 October 2007.

In response to Cr Blackler's query about the report undertaken by Opus in 2003, His Worship said the Association rejected the proposal because of funding. He said now the proposal was simpler but the outcome would be as effective with concrete liners in the holding tanks, with the solids being removed regularly.

Cr Blackler queried the fencing of the facility for child safety.

Resolved

That should an adequate response to previously identified issues at the Truck Wash Facility not be received by Council by 31 October 2007, then staff shall immediately, and without further discussion, disconnect the supply of water and/or take whatever other actions are appropriate to prevent discharge of effluent into the Otorohanga Carriers Association Truck Wash Facility on Huiputea Drive.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Jeffries

Item-451 QUOTABLE VALUE - RE-VALUATION OF THE DISTRICT

Representatives of Quotable Value, Ms Megan Gallagher, Ms Anna Creger and Mr Rob Pullen attended the meeting and presented details of the recent re-valuation of the District which went live on 6 October 2007. Ms Gallagher advised the re-valuation is undertaken every three years and is an extensive process where between 70-80 percent of the properties are actually visited and viewed from the road. She advised the Community sales sets the value levels and the trend is that the Land Value increase is above the Capital Value increase.

Mr Rob Pullen thanked Council for their cooperation in getting the necessary information to QV. He then presented the rural aspects of re-valuation.

His Worship thanked representatives for their thorough work for the re-valuation and for their presentation to Council.

Item-446 PURCHASE OF SPEED INDICATION TRAILER

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented a report on an opportunity for Council to purchase, at relatively low cost, a 50 percent share in an electronic vehicle speed indication trailer. He reported it was not Council's responsibility to provide this equipment however, ACC makes it available through the Road Safety Coordinator. The Engineering Manager expressed the opinion this equipment will be of benefit for the rural area. He said the offer makes good value to use the equipment as an educational tool. Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion he did not think it was necessary.

Resolved

That Council approves expenditure of \$4,000 for purchase of a 50 percent share in a speed indication trailer, to be shared between the Otorohanga and Waitomo Districts.

Cr Blackler / Cr de Haan

Item-447 WAIPAPA RESERVE

Discussion

The Engineering Manager summarised his report on the options available for the land known as the Waipapa Reserve. In reply to Cr Earwaker, the Engineering Manager advised the area of land is Road Reserve and it would be required to be 'split off' as a separate parcel for it to be amalgamated with DOC land. His Worship expressed the opinion that the land be offered to DOC in the first instance, as long as Council recovers its costs. Cr Earwaker suggested it be offered to DOC at no cost to them, should the initial offer fail.

Resolved

That

1. Council formally approaches the Department of Conservation to offer it the area of public road known as the 'Waipapa Reserve' as an extension to the adjacent Scenic Reserve.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Pilkington

Item-448 MATTERS REFERRED - 18 SEPTEMBER 2007

Discussion

THE LINES COMPANY (TLC)

His Worship reported the Chief Executive and Cr Gower had had discussions regarding a joint submission from the Ruapehu, Otorohanga and Waitomo District Councils and TLC on the review of Sec 62 of the Electricity Act 1992 (Continuance of Supply). The Chief Executive circulated a copy of the draft submission for forwarding to the Ministry of Economic Development. He said, at this stage, the joint submission was agreeing for electricity supply to be guaranteed and funded nationally. The Chief Executive reported Waipa Networks did not make a submission as they do not have many uneconomic supplies and any change would have limited effect on the Company compared with others.

BYLAW TO CONTROL HORSES

The Environmental Services Manager advised a draft Bylaw is being prepared.

CIVIL DEFENCE

The Environmental Services Manager reported that Civil Defence Coordinator, Mr Les Billcliff, had attended the last meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held 27 September 2007 to report about Civil Defence activities in the area.

His Worship reported a Civil Defence exercise will be carried out in the Council Chambers tomorrow.

MANIAPOTO STREET WALKWAY PROPOSAL

Members were informed that the Project Kiwiana Committee were currently in the process of having discussions with retailers regarding the Display Modules.

GENERAL

ELECTIONS

Cr Jeffries extended his thanks to His Worship and Councillors for their support during his term on Council which he had found to be very interesting and rewarding. He said he was going to miss the involvement and acknowledged the assistance provided by the Chief Executive and his staff.

Cr de Haan also extended her thanks to His Worship and Councillors and staff and said she had enjoyed relating with farmers and people in her area. She extended best wishes to those Candidates standing in the forthcoming elections.

His Worship, in speaking to Cr de Haan said she had been on Council during a fantastic period of which she had played a big part. He said Ratepayers and Residents in her area had appreciated her efforts on their behalf. His Worship expressed the opinion that nobody appreciated what a Councillors job entails until they get involved in Council. He said it is very time consuming and he respects anyone who puts their name forward. His Worship extended thanks to the three Councillors who are retiring and said he was proud of them all. He expressed the hope that they enjoy their retirement.

Cr Earwaker said he had enjoyed working with Crs Jeffries and De Haan and appreciated the efforts of staff and the Management team. He said His Worship had driven Council well and that he had enjoyed the last three years on Council.

Cr Pilkington endorsed the previous comments and wished all the Candidates all the very best in the forthcoming elections. Cr Pilkington reported on a 'Meet the Candidates' evening held in Kawhia on 25 September 2007. She advised the evening was well attended.

Cr Blackler endorsed the previous comments and extended best wishes to the retiring Councillors.

The Chief Executive thanked the retiring Councillors for their kind words and said he had enjoyed working with them. He stressed the appreciation of Management on the excellent relationship between Council and staff.

RURAL ISSUES MEETING

His Worship referred to a Rural Issues meeting which was held last week and attended by MP's Shane Ardern and John Carter. He said representation was from a cross section of groups with the MP's seeking issues of the day to enable them to form Policies. He said it was confirmed that taxes will be reduced under a National Government.

HALLS IN THE DISTRICT

Cr Blackler raised the issue of halls in the District, in particular to the matter of rates on halls not being utilised. She requested this item be placed on Matters Referred for future reference.

BIRD PROPERTY

His Worship referred to an advertisement placed by a local Real Estate firm regarding subdivision potential in respect of the Bird property. He said contact had been made with the Real Estate Agent regarding the advice that a subdivision application was in progress with Council. This information was incorrect.

MARAE MEETING

His Worship advised a RMC meeting will be held at Mokai Kainga Marae on Friday 26 October 2007 commencing at 6.00pm.

OTEWA ROAD DEVELOPMENT

The Chief Executive advised there are a number of issues which need to be resolved before the Resource Consent can be issued in respect of the Otewa Road development.

WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL

His Worship reported the Chief Executive and himself will be meeting with representatives of the Waitomo District Council to discuss items of mutual interest.

SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER 2007

His Worship extended an invite to Members to attend an 'Election Party' at the Thirsty Weta this Saturday evening.

PROPOSED RATING SALE

The Finance & Administration Manager reported that the rating sale in respect of a property at 9 Rangitahi Street did not proceed.

ELECTION RETURNS

The Electoral Officer reported overall a 21.63 percent return had been received up to 8 October 2007. He advised Members of the relative percentage returns for each ward. The Electoral Officer informed Members that the 21.6 percent total return was approximately 11 percent down on the percentage return at the same time in 2004.

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned for luncheon at 12.43 pm and reconvened at 2.00pm. The Finance & Administration Manager, the Policy Manager and the Customer Services Team Leader did not return to the meeting.

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 Earwaker / Cr de Haan

**Item-449 WAIPAPA DAM ROAD TO BE STOPPED - MIGHTY RIVER POWER
CONFIDENTIAL**

Item-450 KIWI HOUSE DEVELOPMENT CONFIDENTIAL

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 2.20pm.

MAYOR:

DATE:

