



Otorohanga Community Board

# MINUTES

11 September 2008

## OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

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Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 11 September commencing at 4.03pm.

### MINUTES

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## **PRESENT**

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

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Cr D Pilkington, Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Chadwick (Engineering Manager) and CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader).

## **APOLOGY**

**Resolved** that the apology received from Mr PD Tindle be sustained.

**Mr Prescott / Mr Ormsby**

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD - 14 AUGUST 2008**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 14 August 2008, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Mr McNeil / Mr Jones**

## **REPORTS**

### **Item-60 MOBILITY SCOOTER CROSSINGS**

#### **Discussion**

The Engineering Manager reported that after an approach to His Worship the Mayor from representatives of Beattie Home, a tour using mobility scooters and electric wheelchair was undertaken to understand the problems encountered by their users. The Engineering Manager advised staff have drawn up a questionnaire to survey mobility scooter users from Beattie Home, Windsor Court and Elizabeth Place to determine the most regular places they visit and the route they take. Mr Jones asked if any upgrading of the crossings and footpaths was undertaken, where the funding would be derived from. The Engineering Manager replied there is \$30,000 in the Footpath Maintenance account and any proposed work would be taken from this account as funding allows. He said other urgent work around the Community will still be carried out. Mr Jones queried whether an attempt had been made to provide assistance to mobility scooter users crossing State Highway 3 to Woolworths. The Engineering Manager replied 'no'. Mr McNeil suggested a small island could be erected in the middle of the road to assist those crossing to establishments such as the Otorohanga Club and Woolworths.

#### **Resolved**

That mobility scooter and wheelchair friendly routes be established and marked and that these be progressively upgraded from the Otorohanga Community Footpath Maintenance account as funding allows.

**Mr Prescott / Mr Jones**

## **Item-61 REQUEST TO BUILD WITHIN 1.5M OF A SEWER MAIN-7 GRADARA AVE**

### **Discussion**

The Engineering Manager summarised his report on a request received on behalf of the owners of 7 Gradara Avenue to construct a self-contained unit within 1.5m of an existing sewer main through the property. In reply to Mr Ormsby the Engineering Manager advised that the line is a main line and serves a relatively large area. The Chief Executive advised the property owners would not require a Building Consent to concrete the floor of the carport. In reply to Mr Prescott, the Engineering Manager advised that the proposed unit would become a permanent part of the existing house. Mrs Cowan queried whether conditions could be attached to the Certificate of Title for future reference. The Engineering Manager advised any proposed conditions will be recorded on the property file and reproduced on any LIM. He reported the matter of the carport not having a Building Consent is being reviewed by the Environmental Services Manager.

### **Resolved**

That approval be granted to build a self contained unit at 7 Gradara Avenue within 1.5 metres of the sewer main subject to the following conditions.

1. A manhole be constructed at the owner's expense on the downstream side of the carport
2. A pile be constructed as part of the foundation in each of the two northern corners of the unit to a minimum depth of 500mm below the bottom of the sewer main.
3. It is desirable that the floor of the carport not be concreted in the future. Engineering staff are to liaise with the Engineering Services department to identify potential mechanisms to enforce such a restriction.
4. Council will in future accept no financial or other liability in relation to disturbance or damage to the built structure that may result from Council carrying out its normal duties in respect of the relevant reticulation under the Local Government Act.

### **Mr Jones / Mr Prescott**

## **Item-62 OTOROHANGA ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY REQUEST TO BUILD WITHIN 1.5 METRES OF A STORMWATER PIPE LINE**

### **Discussion**

The Engineering Manager summarised his report on a request received from the Otorohanga Zoological Society for approval to construct a new falcon aviary and viewing walkway within 1.5m of an existing storm water pipe line.

### **Resolved**

That approval be given to construct the new falcon aviary and viewing walkway within 1.5 metres of the stormwater pipe line subject to the following conditions:

1. The proposed support wall not be permitted to be constructed across the pipe line and an alternative means of support be designed.
2. The floor of the aviary may not be concreted in the future
3. Council will in future accept no financial or other liability in relation to disturbance or damage to the built structure that may result from Council carrying out its normal duties in respect of the relevant reticulation under the Local Government Act.

### **Mr Ormsby / Mr Prescott**

## **Item-63 RECYCLING IN PUBLIC PLACES INITIATIVE UPDATE**

### **Discussion**

Council's Engineering Support Officer attended the meeting and referred to an application, which had been submitted on behalf of the Otorohanga Community Board, to the Ministry for the Environment for the placement of recyclable bins in Otorohanga's main street. She said a meeting had been held with Environment Waikato and the Consultants contracted to manage the application and that Council's Engineering Manager and herself had looked at Otorohanga's CBD area. She advised that, as a condition, the recycling bins are required to be placed next to an existing refuse bin. The Chief Executive reported Council's application was approved for the installation of 10 recycling bins. The Engineering Support Officer circulated a list of Otorohanga's street litter bins and their locations. The Chief Executive reported the application was focused on Otorohanga however, the matter of providing some bins to Kawhia could be explored. He said after the initial three year period Council will be responsible for an estimated cost of \$1,000 per year per bin to maintain them. The Engineering Manager advised the existing bins will not look good once the new bins are installed alongside. Mrs Cowan suggested an approach be made to Consultant David Walmsley to provide a Kiwiana logo/design for placement on the refuse bins. Mr McNeil said the emptying and use of these bins will need to be monitored. Mrs Cowan queried whether any Board Member would be available to meet with Council's Engineering Support Officer this coming Thursday at 9.30am. The Engineering Manager advised some of the existing refuse bins will need relocating as these have been erected in the middle of an identified carparking space. Messrs Ormsby and Prescott said they would be available to meet with the Engineering Support Officer. Mr Prescott advised that after three years Council will own the bins therefore their usage needs to be monitored.

Following further discussion it was agreed staff approach Mr David Walmsley to provide a branding/logo for placement on the new and existing bins.

## **Item-64 MATTERS REFERRED FROM 14 AUGUST 2008**

### **Discussion**

#### **OTOROHANGA CEMETERY - MEMORIAL GARDEN**

Mr McNeil reported he has not yet met with Council's Community Facilities Officer however, he will take photos of the Hamilton Cemetery to assist in the preparation of a feasibility study to create a Memorial Garden at the Otorohanga Cemetery.

#### **MEETING - WAIPA RURAL WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE**

The Chief Executive reported staff are attempting to arrange a meeting with representatives of the Waipa Rural Water Supply Committee to consider funding options to upgrade the Otorohanga water treatment plant. He said preliminary approval has been obtained to submit an application to the Ministry of Health for the proposed work amounting to \$1.5M. He said however, a formal arrangement needs to be agreed to.

#### **PHILLIPS AVENUE FOOTPATH**

The Engineering Manager referred to a tar sealed section of footpath in Phillips Avenue approximately 50-60m in length and reported that arrangements have been made with Works to undertake repairs.

## **HUIPUTEA DRIVE**

The Engineering Manager reported an order has been given to Works to remove the flax bushes obstructing motorists vision on Huiputea Drive. He said Works are waiting for dry conditions before undertaking the work.

## **GENERAL**

### **Item-65 WESTRIDGE/PROGRESS PARK**

#### **Discussion**

Mr Jones reported there are still three Lots available for sale in Progress Park and only one remaining in the Westridge subdivision. He referred in particular to Lot 1 and queried what the Board should do with this. Mr Jones queried whether the Lot should be developed as a small Reserve. Mr Ormsby expressed the opinion he would like to see Council retain control of this Lot and to see it protected in some way. The Chief Executive advised the site would be difficult to maintain and felt that creation of a Reserve was not a good option. Mrs Cowan referred to the embankment behind the former Hardy Motors site which has been planted out in natives. Mr McNeil expressed the opinion that strict conditions for development of the Lot should be placed on any potential buyer. Mr Jones queried whether the section could be offered for sale by tender. He felt this may create some interest in the Lot.

#### **Resolved**

That staff investigate the process required for the sale of Lot 1 in the Westridge subdivision through a tender process.

#### **Mr Jones / Mr Ormsby**

## **TRUCK WASH FACILITY**

The Chief Executive advised, to-date he has had no communication with the Otorohanga Carriers Association. He agreed to follow the matter up.

## **OCB - GOALS**

Mr Jones referred to the Board's individual goals established in November 2007 and felt there were items within this Vision that Board Members could work on. Mrs Cowan suggested an invitation be extended to Mr Murray Loewenthal to speak on Rural Health issues.

## **OTOROHANGA COLLEGE**

Members were informed that the Principal of Otorohanga College has resigned with effect from the end of 2008. Mr Jones suggested the Board get alongside the BOT to encourage the appointment of a suitable replacement. Mrs Cowan reported the BOT is charged with the advertising and replacement of its Principal. Mr McNeil suggested this Board approach the BOT and offer them any assistance they may require. Cr Pilkington agreed that this Board should be supportive of the BOT's endeavours and would be prepared to assist them through the process. Mr Jones expressed the opinion once a new Principal is appointed he would like to see him/her invited to various Community functions to enable him to be introduced to members of the Community. Mr Ormsby said, as a protocol, the Principal should be required to live within the Otorohanga District. Mrs Cowan reported that the College has just recently appointed a new Deputy Principal, Mr Gavin Hockly, and said this would be an opportune time for the Waitomo News to profile the successful appointee.

## **STATE HIGHWAY 3 SOUTHERN BRIDGE**

Mr McNeil again raised the matter of repairs being carried out to the handrail on the southern State Highway 3 bridge. The Engineering Manager advised Council's Roading Manager had written to Transit with approximately 20 items requiring attention. He said a reply had been received advising their Engineers would look into the list of items and get back to Council. He said this was approximately three weeks ago.

## **Item-66 MANIAPOTO STREET/WAHANUI CRESCENT WALKWAY**

### **Discussion**

Mr McNeil reported it was encouraging to see the progress being made on the new walkway.

Mrs Cowan advised that Lady Hilary has agreed to open the new walkway on 28 November 2008 at 11.00am, the same day the Beattie Rose Show will be held from 12 noon.

### **Resolved**

That the Otorohanga Community Board agree to host Lady Hilary for luncheon on 28 November 2008 and that an invitation be extended to Kawhia Community Board Members to attend also.

### **Mrs Cowan / Mr Ormsby**

## **THE EMPLOYMENT SHOP**

Mr McNeil reported the functions of the Employment Shop were under review and that his position has been terminated as at 16 September 2008. He said the business will remain open but under a limited structure. Mr McNeil said he has taken up a position as Property Manager for Harcourts Realty.

## **COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

Mr McNeil suggested the Board give consideration to providing incentives to attract new Residents. He referred to a scheme under the NZ Police whereby they subsidise interest rates on mortgages. Mr McNeil felt the Board should be proactive in attracting people to the area and suggested an information package be prepared promoting Otorohanga as a good place to live and work. Mr McNeil referred to assistance which could be driven by Council such as 'jobs for partners' scheme, networking of business's and the opportunities available for youth in the District. Mr McNeil expressed the opinion that Otorohanga could be promoted much more successfully than it currently is.

## **LAKE HUIPUTEA**

Mr Prescott advised the Dog Exercise is currently under water and queried whether a maintenance programme was in place for Lake Huiputea and the surrounding area. It was agreed the maintenance requirements for Lake Huiputea be referred to the Parks & Reserves Committee for consideration.

## **SKATEBOARD PARK**

Mr Prescott raised the matter of the installation of a Basketball Half Court facility at the Skateboard Park. The Chief Executive advised the Board had decided it would not place such a facility elsewhere however, he was unsure on any further direction. He undertook to follow the matter up. Mr Prescott also queried whether a BMX track could be located at the Skateboard Park. The Chief Executive referred to Reserve Contributions and expressed the opinion this funding should be utilised. Mr Prescott said, with the addition of other activities this would make the area more attractive.

## **PHILLIPS AVENUE**

Mr Prescott referred to the sewer pump located just before the Otorohanga Primary School and reported the bank was collapsing up to footpath.

## **'DUMMY' SPEED CAMERAS**

Mr Prescott queried what was happening in regards to providing 'dummy' speed cameras. The Chief Executive replied Council is attempting to have this funded under the Road Safety Programme. The Engineering Manager reported Ms Christine Chaplow will be in attendance at Council's meeting on Tuesday 16 September.

## **GOLF ROAD SEWER LINE**

The Engineering Manager reported Council is currently drawing up a Lease agreement with Mr & Mrs Davis. He said, surrounding property owners are able to connect to the line and provision be made for Council to take this over. The Engineering Manager advised the Lease agreement between Council and Mr & Mrs Davis is to allow them to have 'their pipe' on Council land. He said Council will retain the option of taking this over sometime in the future. In reply to Mr Ormsby the Engineering Manager advised that Council was not charging Mr & Mrs Davis, only allowing them the right to run the pipeline through Council property. The Chief Executive advised the Davis' had invested a substantial amount of money in providing the pipe line and said it would be desirable for any people wishing to connect that they pay them for the privilege. He said should multiple people connect to the line then it would be appropriate for Council to take this over. The Chief Executive reported the pipe line was a private sewer and not intended to be a public one.

## **COMMUNITY MOWING**

Mr Prescott reported he had received complaints from people not happy with the new Mowing Contractor. The Engineering Manager confirmed Council had also received a few complaints however, he said the weather has not helped the Contractor to carry out his work. Members were also informed the Contractor has been the recipient of acts of vandalism.

## **Item-66 KIWI - BURT MCKENZIE RESERVE**

### **Discussion**

Mrs Cowan referred to the agreement by the Board to place the kiwi statue on the Burt McKenzie Reserve. She queried however, who would meet the cost of placing it there. The Engineering Manager informed Members the costs in taking the kiwi statue down amounted to \$350 with a further \$1600 being incurred to re-site and erect the kiwi. Mr Ormsby, on behalf of Holcim Concrete, said that his Company would be prepared to donate the concrete required.

Mrs Cowan undertook to approach The Lines Company to ascertain whether they would provide assistance in lighting the statue.

### **Resolved**

That the Otorohanga Community Board meet the cost of removing and re-siting the kiwi statue at the Burt McKenzie Reserve.

### **Mr Prescott / Mr McNeil**

## **COMMUNITY GARDEN COMPETITION**

Following discussion it was agreed that the judging of the Annual Garden Competition be held on Monday 17 November 2008. Following discussion it was agreed Mr Prescott drive the van necessary to undertake the judging. It was also agreed the judges be -

- Cr D Pilkington
- Chief Executive - D Clibbery
- Mr Brendon McNeil

Mrs Cowan reported it had been suggested that presentation of the Trophies be undertaken at the Beattie Rose Show. Mrs Cowan undertook to discuss this with the organisers.

## **KIWI - SOUTH ENTRANCE TO OTOROHANGA**

Mrs Cowan reported a suggestion had been received from Members of the Otorohanga Lyceum Club for the need of installing a stile to assist visitors in approaching the kiwi statue. Members suggested a structure similar to that provided to the Dog Exercise Area would be desirable.

## **MEETING CLOSURE**

The meeting concluded at 5.57pm.

**CHAIRMAN:**

**DATE:**

