



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

16 December 2008

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

16 December 2008

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 16 December 2008 commenced at 10.05am.

MINUTES

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PRESENT

Mr DF Williams (Mayor), Crs SR Adam, S Blackler, WH Earwaker, AL Gower, AG Ormsby, DM Pilkington and RJ Prescott.

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Chadwick (Engineering Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager), RF Proffit (Policy Manager) and CA Tutty (Customer Services Team Leader).

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Gower read the Opening Prayer.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL - 18 November 2008

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 18 November 2008, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Prescott / Cr Pilkington

REPORTS

Item-162 ROUTINE ENGINEERING REPORT

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented a routine report on Engineering matters.

WAIPAPA ROAD

The Engineering Manager reported it was envisaged that Waipapa Road will be open, with the rebuilt slip section unsealed, prior to Christmas.

NZ TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

His Worship reported on his attendance, along with Council's Roading Manager, at a full day workshop reviewing the Regional Land Transport Committee's priorities. He said there is insufficient funding available however, Council managed to include a number of projects under the Minor Safety Programme. His Worship acknowledged the Roading Manager's input on behalf of Council. He reported the majority of funds have been directed at the major Regional roads.

Cr Gower expressed the opinion the maintenance of existing roads was extremely important and must take priority over other work.

KAWHIA SEA WALL

Cr Pilkington reported a Kawhia resident had received a letter from Council advising that the property owners affected by the Kawhia Sea wall will be consulted. To date the resident has not heard anything further. Cr Pilkington agreed to follow the matter up.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY COMPLEXES - OTOROHANGA

Cr Blackler reported on a recent visit to the Otorohanga Housing for the Elderly complexes and advised she was very impressed with the new carports. She said Council should be very proud of the standard of these facilities.

ROAD SAFETY CALENDAR

His Worship reported he had received a number of favourable comments on the joint Road Safety Calendar.

His Worship thanked the Engineering Manager for his contribution to Council.

Resolved

That the Engineering Manager's routine report on Engineering matters be received.

Cr Adam / Cr Earwaker

Item-163 WAIPAPA RESERVE

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented a report on the progress made with the consultation process towards effecting the proposed road stopping and proposed sale of the area. He said consultation with Mighty River Power has required the production of detailed plans of the proposed alternative parking area and lakeside areas between Waipapa Road and Lake Waipapa.

Cr Gower strongly expressed the opinion that Council should not be considering selling this Reserve area. He said under the District Plan Review it has been highlighted as an 'outstanding landscape site'. He expressed concern at a subdivision being carried out in an 'outstanding landscape' area as well as the money spent to date in the process towards a proposed sale of the area. Cr Gower said the area should be kept as a Reserve and planted out in some way or form. His Worship replied Council has been concerned with the rising costs in maintaining the area as a Reserve. Cr Gower said that Council should be enhancing the area and in conjunction with DoC this could be planted out. His Worship said the Native Forest Restoration Trust may be able to assist in this regard. Cr Blackler also suggested that Waikeria Prison could also be approached to provide assistance with the planting.

Cr Ormsby also expressed the opinion he would like to see the area planted out and suggested joint ventures be undertaken with other organisations to effect this. Cr Ormsby said it would be necessary to fence the Reserve area off. The Chief Executive replied it was envisaged that a bank and trench be installed to restrict people driving into the area.

Resolved

That

1. The Engineering Manager's Report be received.
2. Council approves the proposed development between Waipapa Road and Lake Waipapa as attached to the report.
3. Funding for the proposal be processed through the Council's Long Term Financial Plan under Sundry District Reserves (Capital Expenditure).
4. The Reserve area is not to be sold but suitably protected with a view to re-generating the native bush.

Cr Gower / Cr Adam

Item-161 BUILDING CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT FOR 1 JULY TO 30 NOVEMBER 2008

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented the District Building Control Officer's report for the period 1 July to 30 November 2008.

BUILDING CONSENT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Cr Pilkington requested whether a table identifying comparable values for the previous year could be circulated for Members information.

His Worship extended Members gratitude and congratulations to the Environmental Services staff, in particular the Building Department for their incredible input into the Building Consent Authority Accreditation process and the day to day operation of that Department.

Resolved

That the Building Control Officer's report from 1 July to 30 November 2008 be received.

Cr Ormsby / Cr Pilkington

Item-164 WASTE MINIMISATION ACT

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented a report advising the Waste Minimisation Act has now completed its passage through Parliament and was enacted in September 2008. He said the Act will have some significant implications for Council with the introduction of a Waste Levy, Waste Minimisation Funding and requirements for a Waste Minimisation Plan, Bylaw and Waste reporting.

WASTE MINIMISATION FUND

The Engineering Manager reported that from the \$31M fund generated by the Levy, 50 percent is to be distributed to Councils by population. He said this Council will receive approximately \$35,900 per year. The remaining 50 percent of the Fund will be for administration and contestable funds for waste minimisation projects which Council's may apply for. The Engineering Manager advised there will be additional costs to Council on any activity that generates waste. His Worship queried whether, with the introduction of this Act, will the initiative be self-funding. The Engineering Manager replied, items not covered by the Fund, will need to be funded by rates. He said if the initiative has the 'right impact', funding will possibly be reduced.

Resolved

That

1. The Engineering Manager's report updating the Waste Minimisation Act be received and,
2. Allowance be made in the LTCCP and budget preparation to meet the planning, programming and funding requirements of the act including the review of Council's Solid Waste Management Strategy.

Cr Blackler / Cr Pilkington

Item-165 APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – HAMILTON CAR CLUB

Discussion

The Engineering Manager summarised the Engineering Support Officer's report on an Application received from the Hamilton Car Club for a road closure within the Otorohanga District to enable them to hold the Ngutunui Tarmac Hillclimb 2009 event. He reported that the Hamilton Car Club have already obtained signed agreements from residents on Pekanui Road. Cr Blackler highlighted the need for those property owners on roads that feed off Pekanui Road to be informed of the event.

Resolved

That approval be granted for the following road closure -

Purpose: Ngutunui Tarmac Hillclimb 2009

Date: Sunday, 22 February 2009

Details of Closure: **PEKANUI ROAD** – entire length. Includes intersection with Scott Road (no exit)

Period of Proposed Closure: 9.00am to 5.00pm

With the following conditions imposed:

1. Persons will be allowed through in the event of an emergency.
2. Hamilton Car Club is to pay an application fee of \$400.00 towards administration of the road closure to Otorohanga District Council.
3. Hamilton Car Club is to pay for all advertising costs in appropriate newspapers. Public notice advertisements are to be published in the Waitomo News.
4. Hamilton Car Club is responsible for obtaining public liability insurance (and paying the cost thereof) to a minimum value of \$2,000,000. This is required to indemnify Council against any damage to property or persons as a result of rally activities during the road closure period.
5. Hamilton Car Club is to comply with the objection provisions contained in the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965.
6. Hamilton Car Club is to liaise, and provide evidence of liaison with all operators and businesses that may be affected by the road closures.
7. Hamilton Car Club is to consult with all residents of all properties on the road intending to be closed and also residents on roads connecting with the roads intending to be closed, including any no exit roads. Two mail drops to residents are also to be carried out. All initial mail drops to residents are to be approved by Council staff before distribution commences. The subsequent mail drop to be completed no later than ten full days before the proposed closures.
8. Hamilton Car Club is solely responsible for signposting and policing of the roads to be closed, to ensure that only vehicles connected with the event have access to the road closure areas. This includes arranging the delivery, erection and staffing of all road closure barriers and the removal thereof after closures. All gates and entranceways are to be taped and tape is to be removed thereafter.
9. Signs advising of the road closures are to be erected at the start and end of the closed portions of roads and on each intersecting road two weeks prior to the road closure. All signs are to be removed immediately after the closure. A Hamilton Car Club representative is to meet with Council Engineering staff regarding the required signs format, size, location and quantity of signs for approval before they are manufactured and erected.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker

Item-166 SPORT WAIKATO REPORT FOR JUNE - NOVEMBER 2008

Discussion

His Worship referred Members to the District Sports Coordinator's report for the period June - November 2008.

His Worship extended Council's congratulations to the District Coordinator on another successful six months.

Resolved

That the Otorohanga District Coordinator's report for the period June - November 2008 be received.

Cr Blackler / Cr Adam

Item-167 SCHEDULE OF COMMUNITY ORGANISATION RATE REMISSIONS 2008/09

Discussion

The Finance & Administration Manager presented a report on rating issues in particular Rate Remissions.

His Worship referred to the proposed rate relief in respect to the St John's Ambulance Association and advised that their Hinewai Street property will be a 'working business' by Christmas.

His Worship also queried the proposed rate relief to the Kawhia Boating and Angling Club and advised this is a licenced Club. He queried the difference between it and that of the Otorohanga Club. The Finance & Administration Manager advised that the percentage of rate relief for many of the Organisations was historically based. He said however, each Organisation is required to apply each year for relief and to enclose their latest annual accounts.

Resolved

That

1. The Finance & Administration Manager's report on rating issues be received.
2. The Grants to Community Organisations from previous Applicants, as scheduled be approved subject to further investigation into those properties highlighted during the discussion.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Adam

Item-168 RATES REMISSION REPORT

Discussion

The Finance & Administration Manager presented a report on a proposed Rates Remission Policy for consideration and inclusion in the LTCCP.

Resolved

That

1. The Finance & Administration Manager's report on Rates Remission be received

2. The Rates Remission Policy and Policy for Remission and Postponement of Rates on Maori Freehold Land, subject to amendments as highlighted in the discussion, be adopted and included in the Long Term Council Community Plan for 2009-19.

Cr Adam / Cr Prescott

POLICY MANAGER

The Policy Manager attended the meeting at 11.13am.

Item-169 CREATIVE COMMUNITIES NZ - LOCAL ARTS SCHEME

Discussion

The Customer Services Team Leader presented a report on the Schedule of Applications received in the first funding round for the 2008/09 year.

The Officer advised that since this funding round, two further Applications have been received and considered with His Worship the Mayor. As a result \$450 has been granted to assist in the presentation of a Hip Hop Summit and \$1938 granted to Project Kiwiana towards photographic portraits within the Ed Hillary Walkway.

The Officer advised no funding remains for allocation in the March/April 2009 funding round.

Resolved

That the Customer Services Team Leader's report be received and the recommended grants be adopted.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Prescott

GENERAL

KAKAMUTU ROAD PROPERTY

Cr Ormsby queried what progress was being made in regards to the five houses situated in Kakamutu Road. His Worship replied Council has been waiting for information as the new owners had applied to create individual sections. He said he believes approval has been granted and some work recommenced.

MOTOR VEHICLES - FARE VUE LANE

Cr Ormsby queried what was happening in regard to the accumulation of derelict vehicles on a property in Fare Vue Lane. Cr Ormsby was advised to discuss this matter with Council's Environmental Services Manager.

TOURISM MEETING - KAWHIA

Cr Pilkington reported on her recent attendance at a Kawhia Tourism meeting which she said was well attended and the people there were very enthusiastic. She also referred to the establishment of the Kawhia Beachfront Committee which had discussed fundraising matters.

STAFF COMPLIMENTS

Cr Blackler reported she had received very favourable comments from a Ratepayer who had been very impressed with the service provided by Council staff in particular, with the roading, building and 'up front' Departments.

WAIPAPA SLIP

Cr Gower expressed the opinion it was very pleasing to see the progress being made in re-instating Waipapa Road.

SHORE FUTURES MEETING

The Policy Manager reported on a Shore Futures Community Reference Group (CRG) meeting held recently which considered the prospect of development and infrastructure within the District. He said the draft document had been well received but Members of the CRG were seeking a greater emphasis on the growth of the area to be placed in the document.

Cr Pilkington referred to the criticism of the silent majority however, here was a group of people from a cross-section of the Community that have not been silent and made an effort to get a particular message across and to participate in the process.

VEHICLES ON BEACHES

The Policy Manager circulated a copy of a media release, brochure and response process for Members information. He said Otorohanga, Waitomo, Franklin and Waikato District Councils, in conjunction with NZ Police, have put in place processes that will ensure that irresponsible driver behaviour on beaches reported to Council or Police will be responded to. The Policy Manager said the information supplied provided awareness of the situation which will need to be monitored and reported on by the Community. His Worship said, in addition, the Community itself will have to comply with the restrictions.

His Worship acknowledged the work undertaken by Council's Policy Manager and his counterparts in the other Council's in obtaining buy-in and responding to the request from the various Communities. His Worship however, expressed caution advising that every 'action' receives a 'reaction'. He said it is expected that all the Communities work within the rules made and should they step outside these, they will be dealt with in the appropriate manner. Cr Pilkington, on behalf of the Kawhia and Aotea Communities, expressed their thanks.

ED HILLARY WALKWAY

His Worship acknowledged the input from ODC Members, OCB Members, OBA representatives and Council staff on their contribution to the official opening of the Ed Hillary Walkway. He said it was an excellent event.

ENVIRONMENT WAIKATO

His Worship said he will be introduced to Environment Waikato's new Chief Executive in house, at 3.00pm tomorrow.

WAIKERIA PRISON

His Worship reminded Members on the proposed visit to Waikeria Prison this Thursday at 9.00am.

APPRECIATION

His Worship acknowledged the commitment and eagerness of Council, Board Members and staff on their efforts during the year. He said there have been several staff changes and congratulated the Chief Executive on his performance to date in the role of Chief Executive. He also congratulated the Finance & Administration Manager and Roding Manager on their new roles and said that Council has a good team in place. His Worship expressed the opinion that the results this Council obtains are the envy of many other Councils.

AOTEA SUBDIVISION

The Chief Executive reported that Stage 4 of the Aotea Estate was not proceeding. He said a detailed investigation has been carried out which has identified that Council has no significant immediate liability in relation to this matter.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 12.08pm.

MAYOR:

DATE:

