



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

27 January 2009

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

27 January 2009

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 27 January 2009 commenced at 10.04am.

MINUTES

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PRESENT

Mr DF Williams (Mayor), Crs SR Adam, S Blackler, WH Earwaker, AL Gower (attended 10.19am), AG Ormsby, DM Pilkington and RJ Prescott.

IN ATTENDANCE

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

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Pilkington read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGY

Resolved that the apology received from Cr Gower for lateness, be sustained.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Prescott

His Worship welcomed those present to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He hoped they had enjoyed the Christmas break.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 16 DECEMBER 2008

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 16 December 2008, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Blackler / Cr Adam

MATTERS ARISING

Cr Pilkington requested the following corrections be made

Page 4 Application for Temporary Road Closure - Hamilton Car Club. The last sentence of the first paragraph be amended to read 'Cr Pilkington highlighted the need...'.
Page 6 Tourism Meeting Kawhia. Cr Pilkington referred to the last sentence and advised the Kawhia Beachfront Committee should read 'The Kawhia Beautification Committee'.

REPORTS

Item-170 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 13 NOVEMBER & 11 DECEMBER 2008

Discussion

MATTERS ARISING - 13 NOVEMBER 2008

St Johns Ambulance Site

Cr Earwaker referred to the filling being placed on the site and said this will require contouring. The Environmental Services Manager replied that the Otorohanga Community Board had given permission to the proposal however, the Applicant will need to apply for an amendment to their Resource Consent outlining how the site will be re-instated, with conditions relating to dust control and permission from the adjacent school.

Ed Hillary Walkway

Cr Earwaker queried the total costs incurred in the construction and completion of the Walkway. The Chief Executive replied it had been indicated there may be a shortfall of approximately \$2,000 left to allocate. It was agreed this matter be discussed at the next meeting of the Board.

Otorohanga Domain Club House

The Chief Executive informed Members the Otorohanga Domain Club House was an asset owned by the Sports Club however, it was necessary for Council to formalise a Lease Agreement with them. He said this Agreement will contain a clause recognising ownership of the Club House. With regard to the recent work carried out on the Club House, Members were informed this has been completed and no claim made on Council to meet the costs of these repairs.

MATTERS ARISING - 11 DECEMBER 2008

Truck Wash Facility

Cr Pilkington queried whether the costs of monitoring the facility could be charged back to the Association. The Chief Executive replied a portion is recovered through the Trade Waste Charge. Cr Prescott reported at times, he had wondered whether the Facility was working correctly. The Chief Executive replied, every two months samples of the waste are taken and if it is found this is not being treated adequately, the Association will be 'hit' by the level of the Trade Waste Charge.

Huiputea Recreation Reserve

Cr Pilkington referred to the proposed costings in respect to the Draft Development Plan for Lake Huiputea Recreation Reserve. Cr Prescott advised that the item will be discussed at the next meeting where consideration will be given to the various options proposed and to what level of improvement to the Reserve area is appropriate.

Meeting and Governance Solutions Ltd

The Customer Services Team Leader reported only two registrations for the proposed workshop had been received by the Company. These were on behalf of two members of the Kawhia Community Board. It has been suggested that an in-house training session be held for all Councillors and Board Members. Following discussion it was agreed that attempts be made to arrange an in-house training session for all Councillors and Board Members.

CR GOWER

Cr Gower attended the meeting at 10.19am.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meetings of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 13 November and 11 December 2008 be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

Cr Prescott / Cr Ormsby

Item-171 KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 28 NOVEMBER 2008

Discussion

GENERAL ITEM - ART EXHIBITION

Cr Pilkington requested the first sentence of this item be amended to read "Mrs Pilkington extended congratulations to the Kawhia Art Group on a recent art exhibition where an auction of an individual painting raised \$2,000, and with further auctions the total raised to around \$4,000."

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 28 November 2008 be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker

KAWHIA MUSEUM BUILDING RESTORATION

Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion he would like to see the lowest cost option, to carry out a full heritage restoration, with a minimum cost to Council of approximately \$90,000 be carried out. He said however, he would like to see a commitment from the Kawhia Community towards this work. Cr Pilkington informed Members that the cost of maintenance of the exterior of the Museum building is District funded. Members were informed that the cost to carry out the basic weather tightness repairs would amount to approximately \$56,000 however, along with other works classified as essential works, would bring the required total in excess of \$100,000 and would not qualify for any subsidy. Cr Blackler endorsed the comment expressed by Cr Earwaker that the Community must support the proposal by way of fundraising. Cr Pilkington reported that the matter will be raised at the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board to be held this coming Friday. His Worship expressed the opinion that the project must be driven by the Community with the support of Council. Members were advised that confirmation of the siting of the building needs to be decided before the building is recognised in the District Plan.

KAWHIA BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Cr Pilkington reported this Committee will be having another meeting shortly.

Item-172 DISTRICT LIBRARIANS QUARTERLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2008

Discussion

The District Librarian attended the meeting and presented her quarterly report for September to December 2008 on library activities. His Worship expressed the opinion that by having the APN computers in place this has created a much more 'living centre' and it was good to see the number of teenagers utilising these. Cr Pilkington expressed the opinion that the project has been well worthwhile and extended congratulations to those concerned.

Resolved

That the District Librarian's quarterly report for the period September to December 2008 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Blackler

Item-173 ROAD LEGALISATION OF PART OF HAPPY VALLEY ROAD SO 398256

Discussion

The Finance & Administration Manager advised this report has previously been presented to Council therefore no action was required.

Item-174 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented his report on Resource Consents granted under Delegated Authority for the quarter 1 September to 30 November 2008.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The Finance & Administration Manager left the meeting at 10.33am and returned at 10.40am.

The Environmental Services Manager referred to the recruitment of a Planner and said he was no closer to filling this position. He said currently there is a nation-wide shortage of Planners however, the challenge was to fill this position this year. Cr Pilkington queried whether there was

a national strategy that would provide a long term solution to this shortage. In reply to His Worship's comments, the Environmental Services Manager advised that this Council cannot employ a Planning Cadet as there is no one suitable to train them in-house. He said that Council needs to support the local University so they attract the right people and can keep offering the relevant courses.

Resolved

That the Environmental Services Manager's Planning report for September to November 2008 be received.

Cr Ormsby / Cr Adam

Item-175 REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION FOR CAMPING GROUND

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented a report advising that the Department of Conservation has requested an exemption from some of the requirements of the Camping Ground Regulations for the remote camping area at Lake Arapuni.

Resolved

That the Department of Conservation be granted an exemption certificate under Regulation 14 of the Camping Ground Regulations 1985 in relation to the following Regulations as detailed in the report:

- Regulations 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10; and
- Schedule in relation to :
 - Hot water and water taps near camp sites;
 - Provision of Laundry facilities;
 - Provision of Showers;
 - Provision of Urinals;
 - Number of refuse containers and frequency of emptying.

The exemption certificate will be re-issued annually by Council staff at the renewal of the annual registration certificate

Cr Gower / Cr Earwaker

Item-176 CHANGE TO LITTER ACT INFRINGEMENT FEE

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented a report advising that a resolution is required from Council to raise the amount payable for an Infringement Notice issued under the Litter Act 1979.

Cr Blackler queried whether Council has been successful in obtaining payment of previous infringements. The Environmental Services Manager replied Council has issued three Infringement Notices but it was not sure whether these had been followed up on.

Resolved

That Pursuant to section 13(2) of the Litter Act 1979, any person depositing litter in a public place or on private property shall be liable for an instant fine of \$400.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Prescott

Item-177 MATTERS REFERRED FROM 16 DECEMBER 2008

Discussion

KAWHIA SEAWALL

Cr Pilkington referred to previous emails and advised that the Kawhia residents concerned had been spoken to and a time organised for them to meet to discuss issues relating to the Kawhia seawall. She said since then she had not heard anything further.

GENERAL

JASON'S ADVERTISEMENT CAMPAIGN

Cr Pilkington reported on the information contained in the Jason's brochure which is funded by the Otorohanga District Development Board and Destination Waitomo. She said also featured was the i-Site free phone. Cr Pilkington advised that Destination Waitomo representatives had briefed staff on how to manage this free phone to evaluate its use.

F SCOTT - OPARAU/HAUTURU WOMENS GROUP

Cr Pilkington reported Mrs Fiona Scott, former District Councillor has written to the Ministry of Transport expressing concern about the changes to school bus services in the Oparau/Hauturu area. Cr Pilkington reported an invitation had been extended for a Ministry representative to meet with the local Community so that their concerns about perceived changes could be heard and understood. Apparently advice has been received that a Ministry representative will not be willing to attend such a meeting. Cr Pilkington said there are significant social issues to be considered, as a drop in the school role could eventually lead to the school closing.

His Worship said he had written to all schools affected and of those that responded they advised that the changes would be a hassle but they were working around them.

WAIKERIA PRISON

Cr Adam referred to Council's visit to the Waikeria Prison and said he had found this to be very informative. His Worship said there was huge potential for long term employment of inmates as part of a rehabilitation programme.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT

The Environmental Services Manager updated Members on the Resource Management Act Amendment Bill. He said a Technical Advisory Group was established after the 2008 Elections and that this group has met and reported back to Cabinet. The Bill will be tabled in Parliament on 20 February 2009. The Environmental Services Manager offered to forward copies of LTNZ's response to the Bill.

RESOURCE CONSENT USERS

The Environmental Services Manager reported 109 Resource Consent users had been surveyed, with 31 responses being received. He said 12 users have taken up the invitation to meet with himself regarding the service they had received when applying for a Resource Consent with this Council.

COMMUNITY ISSUES

His Worship reported there had been a number of issues around the Community particularly involving pigs and other farm animals. He advised the Environmental Services Manager's team intends to introduce a Bylaw with options available to cope with the problem of farm animals within in the urban area.

WORK & INCOME

His Worship reported information had been received from Work & Income that the unemployment figures within this District had dropped compared to those of last year. He said there are a number of services locally which are still expanding. His Worship said Resource Consent applications were still happening and there is an opportunity for people to continue to benefit. He said although business confidence is currently down, the indicators are the same as they were five years ago.

His Worship also reported on Work & Income's Re-Start Programme which is financial and employment assistance for people who have been made redundant from full-time work or are no longer self-employed due to the economic downturn.

ROAD FATALITIES

His Worship reported that the District had successfully completed the last calendar year with no road fatalities. He referred however, to a recent fatality at Te Kawa and advised that a proposed press release will be redrafted highlighting the great achievement for the District and acknowledging the road users.

WAIPA DISTRICT COUNCIL – SISTER CITIES CONFERENCE

His Worship advised the Waipa District Council will be hosting the NZ Sister Cities Conference in Cambridge from 22-24 April 2009. He said he had advised Waipa's Mayor that this Council does not have a Sister City Relationship however, he offered Mayor Livingstone any assistance he could give.

MAYORAL FORUM

His Worship reported a combined Mayoral Forum will be held in Morrinsville on Friday 13 February 2009. He said there will be a dinner at the end of the Forum and accordingly requested an indication from Councillors whether they and/or their partners could attend. Crs Adam and Blackler indicated they would attend the Forum with Cr Pilkington submitting a tentative indication.

ZONE 2 MEETING

His Worship reported a Zone 2 meeting will be held in Rotorua on Friday 6 March 2009 with Mr Rodney Hyde in attendance.

OTOROHANGA KIWI HOUSE

His Worship informed Members that the Prime Minister will be in attendance at the Opening Ceremony for the Falcon Aviary closure at 10.30am on 12 February 2009.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

His Worship informed Members he had handed over Council's Regional Land Transport portfolio to Deputy Mayor Cr Hugh Earwaker.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 11.14am.

MAYOR:

DATE:

