



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

21 April 2009

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

21 April 2009

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 21 April 2009 commenced at 10.07am.

MINUTES

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PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

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

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Pilkington read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGIES

Resolved that the apologies received from Cr AL Gower, be sustained.

Cr Prescott / Cr Earwaker

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 31 MARCH 2009

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 31 March 2009, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Prescott

REPORTS

Item-196 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 9 APRIL 2009

Discussion

PHILLIPS AVE

Cr Earwaker queried, should the sale of the section not eventuate, who meets the costs incurred in the process towards making the land available for sale. The Chief Executive replied, should Council go through the process which identifies the value of this section at \$45,000 or more, and agreement cannot be reached with the purchaser, Council has the option not to sell the land however, it will then have to pick up the costs incurred. Cr Earwaker referred to the proposed change of classification of the land from 'reserve' and queried whether there would be any complications. The Chief Executive replied there was a possibility and referred to a Treaty Claim however, this will be one of the first issues identified through the process.

LOT 1 WESTRIDGE

In reply to Cr Prescott the Chief Executive advised an article regarding the Westridge Subdivision was in today's local paper. He said advertising of the Tender in respect to Lot 1 will be carried out next week.

TRUCK WASH FACILITY

In reply to Cr Earwaker, the Chief Executive advised that funding of a sealed entranceway to the Otorohanga Truck Wash Facility and Lake Huiputea Reserve would be from the 2008/09 year from a Sundry Allocation within the Roothing Account. Cr Pilkington referred to the proposed

\$3,500 worth of landscape plantings and said this was an extraordinary sum of money. The Chief Executive said the proposed planting would be kept in mind and only considered further should funding become available. He said the Otorohanga Carriers Association have carried out a very good job in tidying up the area.

NZTA SIGNAGE

In reply to Cr Earwaker, the Chief Executive advised that he expected that the cost incurred in updating the signage would be the responsibility of Transit.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 9 April 2009 be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

Cr Ormsby / Cr Prescott

Item-197 KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 27 MARCH 2009

Discussion

KAI FESTIVAL

Cr Blackler said it was disturbing to read that Council's Environmental Health Officer had received several abrasive phone calls in regard to the recent Kai Festival. His Worship advised that staff will continue to visit the Festival each year, in an advisory capacity. He said more effort will be made in the lead up to the Festival with the Officer being available in a supportive role. Cr Pilkington advised that the Kai Festival Committee were aware of the issue and accordingly incorporated it in their organisational plans.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 27 March 2009 be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Adam

Item-198 PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF WATER SERVICES BYLAW

Discussion

The Chief Executive summarised a report informing Members that it is proposed the Special Consultative Procedure be followed with the intention of amending the Otorohanga District Water Services Bylaw 2007 at the meeting of Council on 2 June 2009. He said the proposed introduction of peak season metered water charges in Kawhia has also highlighted some other existing weaknesses in regulatory controls relating to water supply in ODC's urban communities. The Chief Executive referred to the use of rain water, storage and other methods to limit the consumption of water in new subdivisions at Kawhia. He said there was insufficient water available to meet a significantly increased demand. The Chief Executive advised should Kawhia consider installing a new water supply system the estimated cost would be around \$1M. He said the Kawhia Community Board had adopted a system of peak season water meter charges in preference to a Development Contribution as this will promote strong water conservation savings.

The Chief Executive reported the proposed changes to the law will address the previously described deficiencies through the following two elements -

- a. formalising arrangements for restriction of water use during periods of peak demand, including provision of associated responses (improving application of metered water charging) in cases of ongoing non-compliance with these restrictions.
- b. allowing metered water charges to be applied to any property which wastes water despite previous requests to cease such wastage, or which has supplied water to another property for which a higher scale of metered charges are applicable.

The Chief Executive reported that these measures are equally applicable to the Otorohanga Community as well. In reply to Cr Blackler, the Chief Executive advised that the Developer will pay for the costs of any meters required.

Resolved

That the Special Consultative Procedure, as per Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, be commenced in respect of amending the Otorohanga District Water Services Bylaw 2007 in accordance with the content of the Chief Executive's report dated 21 April 2009.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Pilkington

Item-199 LTCCP 2009

Discussion

The District Accountant attended the meeting. The Finance & Administration Manager advised that the Draft LTCCP had gone through the audit process and that only minor changes were recommended. He said positive comments had been received from the Auditor General and that an Unqualified Audit Opinion had been issued by Deloitte. He said this is a huge achievement.

The Finance & Administration Manager informed Members that Council has one month to make any changes to the draft audited LTCCP, by way of submission, which will be heard by Council on 2 June 2009 and the plan adopted at the Council meeting on 23 June 2009. He outlined the final rate increase at 4.18 percent overall, with rural being 3.9, Otorohanga Community 4.9 and Kawhia Community 4.1percent. The District Accountant then circulated a summary of the LTCCP which will be forwarded to all Ratepayers throughout the District. The Finance & Administration Manager acknowledged the input and work undertaken by the District Accountant. He said he has used his 'creative talent' in preparing the summary. Cr Earwaker said the completion of the document was a huge effort and congratulated all staff involved. His Worship also acknowledged the input of the Management team and staff and said to receive an Unqualified Audit Report was a remarkable achievement. His Worship also referred to Councils public debt profile and said the forecast was very sound, something which Elected Members and staff can be very proud of.

The Finance & Administration Manager reported he had raised a loan of \$2M yesterday, for a two year period at 5.91percent.

Cr Pilkington referred to the short timeframe for submissions however, following discussion it was agreed that although three days had been allowed, this would be manageable. It was agreed that the submissions received be progressively sent out to Members.

Resolved

That the Draft Plan be approved, and

1. Public Notice be given that the Council proposes to adopt the Long Term Council Community Plan, and
2. Submissions be heard at the meeting to be held 2 June 2009 and the LTCCP be adopted at the meeting of 23 June 2009.

Cr Adam / Cr Pilkington

GENERAL

RANGITAHİ STREET

Cr Prescott referred to a property situated in Rangitahi Street, Otorohanga and reported that there was a large bulldozer there burying a car body, along with other rubbish. He suggested the Environmental Services Manager inspect the property as soon as possible.

FEDERATED FARMERS

Cr Blackler reported on her attendance at a recent AGM of Federated Farmers. She reported she had received a call from a person moving into the Community and that when he enquired at the Council Office, staff could not supply him with information on the location of gas lines. The Chief Executive replied Council itself makes approaches to the Utility Companies should it wish to source this information. He said there is good reason as to why Council does not hold this information, this being that it could not guarantee it would be up to date.

TIHIROA RURAL WATER SUPPLY

Cr Blackler reported she had noticed water running across Ouruwhero Road from the Tihiroa timber tank. The Chief Executive replied that he understood there is a control problem with the pump in communicating the level of water in the tank. He said staff were aware of the problem.

Item-201 ENVIRONMENT WAIKATO

Discussion

The Policy Manager attended the meeting and circulated a copy of Council's submission to Environment Waikato's (EW) 2009-19 Draft Long Term Council Community Plan. Cr Earwaker noted that there was no reference in the draft letter to the Shore Futures initiative. The Policy Manager replied such additional information could be conveyed when the submission is presented. Cr Pilkington expressed the opinion she was not impressed with EW's 'trading off' philosophy.

Resolved

That Council endorse the Policy Manager's submission to Environment Waikato's 2009-19 Draft Long Term Council Community Plan, as presented.

Cr Blackler / Cr Earwaker

ANZAC DAY CEREMONIES

His Worship outlined the three ANZAC Day ceremonies to be held on Saturday 25 April 2009.

OTOROHANGA ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

His Worship reported Council's Environmental Services Manager had received a request from the Otorohanga Zoological Society for remission of Consent Fees in respect to the next stage of their development. His Worship reported Council has already spent \$50,000 on Consultants to assist the Otorohanga Zoological Society and that Council must remember that the Kiwi House is a profitable business. He said Council cannot continuously remit Consent Fees. Cr Prescott raised the point that a similar request has already been received and declined from Beattie Home. Following further discussion Members agreed they would decline the request.

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

His Worship reported a Citizenship Ceremony will be held prior to the next Council meeting on 12 May 2009.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NZ

His Worship reported the Local Government NZ Conference will be held in Christchurch on 26-29 July 2009 and requested those Members wishing to attend to advise Council's Executive Assistant.

DISTRICT AFFAIRS

His Worship reported there is a high level of interest in the Otorohanga District and that a TV crew will be coming in approximately two weeks to film a programme on Youth Programmes in Otorohanga. He said a delegation comprising Mr Stephen Tindall will be spending a day in Otorohanga attempting to understand how things work within our Community.

PASSENGER TRANSPORT

His Worship reported on his attendance at a recent public meeting on passenger transport. He said there is a possibility of rail transport being extended under a Regional Rail Strategy to commute daily to Auckland from Hamilton, and possibly Te Kuiti, Otorohanga and Te Awamutu. His Worship expressed the opinion the proposal would need to be able to stand on its own feet. He said Council has infrastructure here to cater for tourism. Submissions close on 20 April 2009.

OTOROHANGA MAYORAL FATHERS BREAKFAST

His Worship informed Members of the proposed Otorohanga Mayoral Fathers Breakfast which is to be held at the Otorohanga Club on Wednesday 27 May 2009 commencing at 7.00am. He said the purpose of the breakfast is to celebrate the role of fathers in the family structure.

His Worship reported he had been having discussions with some of the major Employers within the District and was encouraged as to how 'up beat' their businesses are. He said two were currently employing additional staff.

RURAL COMMUNITIES TRUST

His Worship advised that the Rural Communities Trust was formed in 1982 to provide assistance to those in rural Communities who face barriers to education, health and other services due to their isolated location. He said brochures have been supplied to give the Otorohanga Community the opportunity to apply for funding and reap the benefit that the Rural Communities Trust can provide.

ZONE 2

His Worship reported minutes of a recent Zone 2 meeting were now available.

MEETING & GOVERNANCE WORKSHOP

The Chief Executive referred to the recent Meeting and Governance Workshop and advised, following discussion with His Worship and Management, that further discussion will be conducted to consider the roles of Council and Community Boards and how they can best work.

ANZAC DAY

Cr Blackler advised she intended to be present at the Otorohanga ANZAC Day ceremony and Cr Pilkington said she will be attending the ceremony at Kawhia.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 11.30am.

MAYOR:

DATE:

