



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

25 August 2009

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

25 August 2009

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 25 August 2009 commencing at 10.07am.

MINUTES

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PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Chadwick (Engineering Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Earwaker read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGIES

Resolved that the apologies received from Cr AG Ormsby, and Cr AL Gower for lateness, be sustained.

Cr Adam / Cr Pilkington

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 4 AUGUST 2009

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 4 August 2009 as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Prescott / Cr Pilkington

REPORTS

Item-242 KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 31 JULY 2009

Discussion

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

In reply to Cr Prescott, the Governance Supervisor advised that the arrears owing by a previous Tenant amounted to approximately \$1200. Bay Collection have been instructed to recover this amount as soon as possible.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 31 July 2009 be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Blackler

Item-243 ROUTINE ENGINEERING REPORT

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented a report on general engineering matters for May-July 2009.

Cr Earwaker referred to the proposed re-seals and queried whether the metal was of sufficient quality or whether the base of the road has been prepared to an appropriate standard. The Engineering Manager replied there is a 15-20 year design life on the re-seal repairs identified from the design presented by the Contractor responsible for the repairs. He said the Contractor should notify Council if they wish to change the design.

Cr Pilkington referred to the Road Maintenance Activities and queried where does the filling of a pothole fall under this category. She said the grading of the road does not help fill the potholes. The Engineering Manager replied that the Contractor should take metal out and fill the potholes along the way. Cr Gower expressed the option this never seems to be carried out, certainly not before the grader comes along. Cr Pilkington said it is the same potholes which keep reoccurring and that these should be filled prior to the grading taking place. His Worship queried whether there was any assistance Councillors could give to ensuring that the process is being undertaken. The Engineering Manager reported that Council staff and the Contractor's staff work on a six week cycle. His Worship referred to the maintenance of culverts and that should Councillors be aware of the details of the process, then they could provide feedback to staff. Cr Gower queried whether the equipment the Contractor was using was too large, rather than providing a small truck and digger to carry out the work on a more regular basis. His Worship said that Councillors need to know if the process is not happening. Cr Blackler suggested that Councillors be provided with a list of the roads concerned and the dates when they are to be inspected. Any maintenance items should then be recorded. His Worship queried whether Council staff carry out a full audit of culverts and whether these are compared with the audit carried out by the Contractor. The Engineering Manager replied that the Council staff carry out random audits and that the District is divided into 10 areas with one area a month being assessed. Cr Earwaker said it would be helpful for Councillors to know the ten areas.

Cr Pilkington queried whether there was a Contract finish time in respect to the work on Owhiro Road. The Engineering Manager replied there was a time limit on the Contract from when the work started.

OTOROHANGA REFUSE

His Worship outlined two situations that have occurred with sharp or broken objects being placed in the weekly Otorohanga refuse collection. He said the nature of the collection bag was very thin. Cr Pilkington agreed and said this was often complained about in Kawhia. Cr Pilkington advised that the Kawhia Board wishes to consider all the options available and the long term programme for the collection and disposal of refuse. The Engineering Manager reported that the existing Refuse Collection Contract expires in approximately two years time. His Worship said now would be an appropriate time for Council staff to undertake an exercise on the options available and how these would compare with existing costs. The Chief Executive advised that any new options would incur additional capital costs. Cr Pilkington reported she believed more competition was available. The Engineering Manager advised that staff were in the process of re-writing the Zero Waste Policy and that in approximately two months time a report will be presented to Council for consideration.

Resolved

That the Engineering Manager's report on general engineering matters for May-July 2009 be received.

Cr Adam / Cr Gower

Item-244 LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVE (ROAD) - PHILLIPS AVENUE - PROPOSAL TO REMOVE RESERVE STATUS AND PROPOSAL TO SELL LAND

Discussion

The Chief Executive presented a report on the proposal to remove the Reserve status and to sell land that adjoins Phillips Avenue. He reported that Council has received a valuation on the piece of land and this was lower than expected however, it will be useful funds available for Council.

Cr Prescott declared his interest in the matter to be discussed and accordingly took no part in the discussion nor voted on the resolution.

Cr Earwaker referred to the land behind the Reserve area, this being a flood retention zone and queried whether this would remain accessible. The Chief Executive replied access is available via land adjacent to McPherson Motors.

With regards to the proposed sale, the Chief Executive advised that Council's share of the costs is capped at \$3,000 with the remainder being the responsibility of the purchaser.

Resolved

That

1. The Otorohanga District Council hereby resolves that regards the land described as Lot 9 DPS 27430 that the Council considers that there is no current or future need for Council to retain ownership of the land for the purpose of a future road.
2. The Otorohanga District Council hereby resolved that, regards the land described as Lot 9 DPS 27430, the Council has complied with the Local Government Act 2002 in regards to the consultation process with appropriate Iwi and that the Department of Conservation be advised accordingly.
3. The Otorohanga District Council hereby resolves that regards the land described as Lot 9 DPS 27430 that the reservation of local purpose reserve (road) be revoked.
4. The Otorohanga District Council hereby resolves that pursuant to S.24, Reserves Act 1977 Council notify the Conservator, Department of Conservation, Hamilton that Council has resolved the reservation be revoked over Lot 9, DPS 27430 and that approval be sought for Council to dispose of the land in such manner, at a price and on terms and conditions as Council determines, the proceeds from a sale to be paid into the general funds of Council.
5. The Mayor and Chief Executive of Otorohanga District Council be authorised to sign and seal any documentation necessary to execute the above resolutions.

Cr Blackler / Cr Adam

Item-245 LOAN RAISING 2009/10

Discussion

The Finance & Administration Manager presented a report advising Council is required to pass a resolution authorising Loan Raising for the current financial year. With regard to the re-financing of the loans, the Finance & Administration Manager advised that Council should be able to obtain some savings upon renewal.

Resolved

That

1. Pursuant to the Local Government Act 2002, Council resolves to authorise the Chief Executive to borrow up to \$8,625,000 for a term not exceeding ten years, secured against the rates revenue of the District, and targeted rates as provided for in any Deed of Charge.
2. The purpose of the loan shall be to refinance existing debt, to allow the works contained in Council's Annual Plan for 2009/2010 and other works to be carried out.
3. Council delegates to the Chief Executive the authority to determine:
 - the coupon rate;
 - the period of interest payments;
 - the maturity date;

- any other terms and conditions necessary for the issuing of security and for compliance with the Local Government Act, any other applicable Act, the security, and the Register and Paying Agency Agreement, and to issue such debenture stock with a face value sufficient to yield the sum \$8,625,000 and execute such; and
4. To give one or more certificates in respect thereof for the purposes of the Local Government Act.
 5. And further that, in authorising this borrowing, Council has considered the risks and benefits associated with the proposal and is satisfied that the proposed borrowing complies with Council's Borrowing Management Policy.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Prescott

Item-246 UPDATE OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Discussion

The Chief Executive summarised a report advising that a review of Council's Local Governance Statement has been undertaken, and presented the revised document to Council for adoption.

Resolved

That Council formally adopts the revised Local Governance Statement (dated July 2009) as presented at the meeting.

Cr Adam / Cr Gower

FINANCE MATTER

The Finance & Administration Manager reported on an incorrect debiting of the Council's eight monthly direct debit payments which have affected approximately 200 ratepayers and totalled \$64,000. He said a letter of apology and explanation has been forwarded to the affected people and should they have incurred any additional charges Council will be prepared to reimburse these.

Item-247 MATTERS REFERRED FROM 4 AUGUST 2009

There were no Matters Referred.

GENERAL

MERRINS AVENUE CARPENTRY PROPERTY

Cr Prescott referred to the former carpentry building situated in Merrin Avenue and reported concern had been expressed about the fire place. His Worship advised that the Otorohanga College, who utilise the building, have expressed interest in purchasing it. He said he intended to bring this matter up with the Principal at a meeting tomorrow. The Chief Executive advised the current arrangement is not a good one as the return is believed to be low with the potential for substantial works to be carried out. His Worship said the long term future of the building is with the school.

MCDONALDS RESTAURANT

Cr Prescott queried whether any progress had been made with the entranceways at the McDonalds Restaurant premises. The Engineering Manager replied that the final plans have been received by Transfield who in turn forwarded them to this office, where subject to one or two minor changes, the design was approved by Council and returned to Transfield. He said the

work is supposed to be completed by the end of September 2009. His Worship said the matter is a traffic management issue with Transfield.

VAGRANT

Cr Prescott reported there was another vagrant in town sleeping in various locations. He queried whether there was anything that Council could do about this. His Worship replied this particular person has to serve 100 hours of Community Service which has been worked through with the assistance of Council's Water Services Engineer.

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Cr Pilkington informed Members the Otorohanga District Development Board AGM is to be held on 16 September 2009.

HAUTURU SCHOOL

Cr Pilkington reported that Hauturu School has built an extra classroom to accommodate its needs. She said the school was very appreciative of the helpfulness and efforts provided by Council's District Building Control Officer, Gavin Phillips.

ROAD SAFETY

Cr Blackler reported she attended a recent Roothing Safety Coordinator's meeting with Council's Roothing Manager, Martin Gould. She said a report was presented by the Coordinator highlighting the activities she had carried out last year. She said it was envisaged that last years budget would be cut by around one third and accordingly Council's share also. Cr Blackler reported that no calendar will be produced for this coming year and no funding allocated towards fatigue. She outlined the various activities that will be undertaken including Community Development and licencing.

Item-248 YOUTH/JOB OPPORTUNITY SCHEME

Discussion

His Worship reported advice had been received from the Chairperson of both the Otorohanga and Kawhia Community Boards in support of the Youth/Job Opportunity concept. The Chief Executive advised costs will be incurred by Council, \$3000 approximately for Kawhia and the costs in relation to Otorohanga could be met from the proposed sale of the Phillips Avenue land. He said Council would employ a full-time short term Supervisor in Otorohanga.

Cr Earwaker stressed the need for staff to watch the costs that are being incurred. Cr Pilkington confirmed that Council was obliged to be part of the scheme for a 26 week period. The Chief Executive reported it was proposed the participants would work a 30 hour week. He was requested to provide Members with up-to-date reports during the period. The Engineering Manager advised that there would be a number of initial set up costs when the scheme first commences. In reply to Cr Gower whether the participants could be hired out for private use, His Worship advised that this would be in order however, they are not to undertake work that could place someone else out of work.

Resolved

That Council approve, in principle, additional non-budgeted expenditure to facilitate 'Community Max' projects in the District.

Cr Gower / Cr Prescott

OTOROHANGA SUPPORT HOUSE

Members were informed that the Otorohanga Support House AGM is to be held this Thursday, in addition they will celebrate their 25th Anniversary along with two long serving Members.

RIVER TRAILS

His Worship reported there will be a River Trails meeting in Hamilton next Monday. He said in order to advance the River Trails Programme Councils have to enter into an Agreement to be signed by the various Mayors. He said this is a procedural issue and if Councils do not agree then the proposed Trail cannot continue.

DESTINATION WAITOMO

His Worship informed Members that a meeting of Destination Waitomo is to be held 1 September 2009.

SHORE FUTURES

His Worship advised the Shore Futures AGM is to be held on 17 September 2009.

MAYORS TASKFORCE

His Worship advised nominations were being called for acknowledging excellence of Young People under 24 years of age to receive the Mayor's Taskforce Award.

KIWIANA DEBATE

His Worship reported that the annual Kiwiana Debate is to be held on 9 September 2009, with tickets being available at i-Site.

ZONE 2 MEETING

His Worship reminded Members that the next Zone 2 meeting planned for 10/11 September 2009 will be held at Te Kaha.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

The Governance Supervisor reported there was one bedsitter unit vacant in Elisabeth Place with no suitable applicants on the waiting list.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 11.55am.

MAYOR:

DATE:

