



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

27 October 2009

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

27 October 2009

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 27 October 2009 commencing at 10.12am.

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)(attended 10.20am), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Adam read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGY

Resolved that the apology received from Cr AL Gower be sustained.

Cr Prescott / Cr Ormsby

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 6 OCTOBER 2009

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 6 October 2009, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Pilkington

MORRISON HEARING

In reply to Cr Pilkington, the Environmental Services Manager advised a Decision was expected this week.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

His Worship informed Members that a Resource Management Workshop on Noise Standards is to be held on Tuesday 2 November 2009 at the Ferry Bank Lounge in Hamilton, 7.00-9.00am. He said there has been notable changes to this standard which will be discussed in conjunction with other issues. The Environmental Services Manager advised four seats had been reserved for Council. His Worship, Crs Earwaker and Adam indicated they would be attending.

REPORTS

Item-260 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - OCTOBER 2009

Discussion

OTOROHANGA WASTEWATER WETLANDS

In reply to Cr Earwaker, the Chief Executive advised that the Contractor had not maintained the sewerage treatment wetlands as they should have been and that staff did not undertake the appropriate reporting. He further advised that the plant coverage had not taken well and that in future it was intended to stake the plants in order that they root well. Cr Pilkington queried whether the Contractor would receive a penalty under the terms of the Contract. The Chief Executive replied that the Contract contained a link between remuneration and performance and accordingly their non-performance would be reflected in this. Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion that Staff need to improve their Management of the Facility. Cr Pilkington queried whether

investigation had been made into the background of the Company supplying the plants. The Chief Executive advised that the reporting to Environment Waikato is extremely important, in particular the way issues are reported to them. Cr Pilkington agreed Staff should keep a 'close eye' on the facility.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 8 October 2009 be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

Cr Prescott / Cr Ormsby

Item-261 KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 2009

Discussion

Cr Pilkington requested the spelling of the following names recorded in the minutes be corrected - Hoturoa Street and Okapu Marae.

BOAT PARK

The Chief Executive reported agreement by all parties had been facilitated with Council agreeing to pay a Lease rental of \$5,000 per annum, and backpay the amount of one years Lease. He said Council will not undertake substantial works as originally proposed. The Chief Executive reported he was not aware of any plans the Landowners had for this area. He said this will now allow Council to carry out renewal work on the main Boat Ramp near Maketu Marae.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

His Worship reported Habitat for Humanity were unable to locate suitable land in Kawhia. Instead they had submitted an offer for an area of land in Kakamutu Road, Otorohanga, and were now looking for suitable applicants. He said, as Habitat for Humanity's financial year is from March to March, it was considering placing this project on the next years work programme.

KAWHIA WHARF

Cr Pilkington acknowledged the contribution made by NZ Steel and Marine Moorings for work carried out on the Kawhia Wharf and other places around Kawhia. She said Kawhia was very fortunate to have them and wished to acknowledge their generous contribution.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 25 September 2009 be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Adam

Item-264 DISTRICT LIBRARIAN'S QUARTERLY REPORT FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER

Discussion

The District Librarian attended the meeting and presented her report for the quarter from July to September 2009.

Discussion was held on the Gold Card Membership. The Librarian suggested that the Gold Card Membership be marketed to the public as having a donation component in addition to receiving the current benefits.

Cr Pilkington said she was pleased to see the uptake in the Kawhia Library and attributed this to the Librarian who was doing an excellent job. She said advertising was also being carried out in the local newsletter.

His Worship extended Council's thanks to the Librarian and her staff and said their efforts were very much appreciated.

Resolved

That the District Librarian's quarterly report for the period July to September 2009 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Adam

POOL COMPLEX

His Worship suggested a report on the operation of the Pool Complex be prepared by Total Leisure Concepts for presentation to Council. He said this could be carried out on a regular basis for Members information.

Item-262 BUILDING CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT FOR MARCH - AUGUST 2009

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager summarised the District Building Control Officer's report for the period from 1 March to 31 August 2009. He said the recent downturn in building work has allowed the Building team the opportunity to use some of their accrued leave.

In reply to Cr Pilkington regarding the backlog of old Consents, the Environmental Services Manager replied approximately 10-20 percent of these are difficult to finalise as a number of applicants do not have sufficient money to complete the work. He said the process is documented and if the property changes hands this is an opportunity to tidy up any loose ends.

The Environmental Services Manager advised that the building sector has definitely passed the 'drop off period' with applications now being received for new dwellings.

Resolved

That the District Building Control Officers report for the period March to August 2009 be received.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Prescott

Item-263 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER 2009

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager summarised the Animal Control Officer's report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2009.

The Environmental Services Manager reported the matter of a dog being seized last week. He said a Hearing will be held on 4 November 2009. Members were informed that in this instance Council cannot apply for the recovery of costs.

Resolved

That the Environmental Services Manager report on Dog and Animal Control for 1 July - 30 September 2009 be received.

Cr Adam / Cr Ormsby

Item-265 DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

Discussion

The District Accountant attended the meeting and summarised the Draft 2008/09 Annual Report. He referred in particular to the Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2009 and reported that Council made a profit for the year of \$203,782. He said losses had been incurred on asset disposal in relation to re-valuations and the fact that not all Progress Park sections had been sold. He said changes to depreciation were also a factor. Members were referred to the notes to the Financial Statements in particular Note 7 - Other Expenses, where the increase in expenditure under activity operation was due to the Waipapa Road slip. Cr Adam referred to the large increase in Road Maintenance and was advised this also included the cost of repairs for the Waipapa Road slip.

His Worship suggested that, as roading was Council's main activity, there should be a further breakdown of the road maintenance costs for Members information. It was agreed this would take effect as from next year.

The Chief Executive circulated revised comments from the Mayor and himself for inclusion in the Annual Report. He said changes included Otorohanga being judged the Best town of under 10,000 population in the National 2009 'Keep NZ Beautiful/Four Square' Best Town awards, promotion of the District through support of an initiative coordinated by Hamilton International Airport and other means, and future Governance requirements.

With regard to the mention of Kawhia, Cr Pilkington advised there were a number of Community initiatives being undertaken in Kawhia creating a real vibrancy. The Chief Executive agreed to insert a paragraph highlighting these initiatives.

Cr Blackler referred to page 93 and informed Members that Tourism Waikato, noted in the report, no longer existed.

Cr Adam referred to the service category and performance measures and said there were a number of 'not achieved' throughout the various categories. He said this highlights an expected higher level of performance. The Chief Executive replied that the Contractors concerned will be 'hit in the pocket' by the result and that it was good to see this recognised in the document. His Worship said discussion needs to be held with the relevant Contractors informing them that the results will be reflected in the payments to them. Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion this needs to be led by Council Staff and that the Engineering Manager must be actively involved.

Cr Earwaker queried what guarantees were held by Council. The District Accountant replied \$70,000 to the Otorohanga Sports Club and \$42,000 to the Kawhia Sports Club, the latter had recently been repaid.

Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion that the Library figures were extremely good for the type of Library Council has.

His Worship conveyed 'well done' to those staff involved in the preparation of the Annual Report and said it was a very 'readable' document.

The Finance & Administration Manager extended his thanks to the District Accountant for the work he had put into the document. He said there is a tremendous amount of work involved in its preparation.

Resolved

That the Draft Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2009 be adopted, with the inclusion of the amended comments from the Mayor and Chief Executive.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Adam

Item-269 CHILD ADVOCATE PRESENTATION

Discussion

Ms Sally King, a Child Advocate for Family Works Northern, and Sgt Andy Conners of the NZ Police, attended the meeting. Ms King reported she was based at the Te Kuiti Community House and that there were 35 Child Advocates throughout NZ. She said it was her intention to intervene where young children witness family violence. Ms King referred to family violence awareness, 'White Ribbon' Day, which is to be held on 25 November 2009. She requested Council's support in providing morning tea on that day. Ms King also outlined various other ways that Council could be seen to be supporting them by - promoting/supporting their activities, providing leadership to face challenges against violence in the family, waiving various Council charges and promoting the service by encouraging staff to wear the white ribbon.

His Worship queried how the Child Advocate gets involved in family violence, are people referred to them? In reply Ms King said she is associated with everything and everyone involved in family violence. She makes presentations to local schools and any place where children are present. Ms King advised that she is there to listen and to seek help on their behalf.

His Worship thanked Ms King and Sgt Conners for their presentation and said Council has had a long and happy relationship with Otorohanga Support House and also referred to Council's youth programmes which provide an on-going positive effect. He also referred to Council's liaison with the local Police.

Resolved

That the presentation given by Child Advocate, Ms Sally King, be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Adam

Item-266 ROAD LEGALISATION - PART MANGATI ROAD - MAITLAND PROPERTY - LETTER OF AGREEMENT

Discussion

The Chief Executive presented the Engineering Manager's report advising that Council staff have been in negotiations with Mr & Mrs Maitland regarding road boundary adjustments to their property at 341 Mangati Road. He then referred to and explained the 'Letter of Agreement' between Council and the Maitlands.

Resolved

That

1. The Otorohanga District Council hereby agrees to the conditions set out in the attached "Letter of Agreement" between Council and Greg John Maitland and Sally Anne Bevan-Maitland relating to Road Boundary adjustments on Part of Mangati Road fronting Lot 1 DP 358934.
2. The Mayor and Chief Executive of Otorohanga District Council be authorised to sign and seal any documentation necessary in relation to the "Letter of Agreement".

Cr Earwaker / Cr Adam

Item-267 SPARC ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Discussion

The Governance Supervisor presented the Minutes of the SPARC Assessment Committee meeting held on 14 October 2009.

Resolved

That the minutes of the SPARC Assessment Committee meeting held on 14 October 2009 be received and the recommendation contained therein be adopted.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Adam

Item-268 ODC PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF ORDINARY MEETING DATES 2010

Resolved

That the Schedule of Meeting Dates, as detailed below, for the period January to October 2010 be approved.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF ORDINARY MEETING DATES 2010

26 January 2010	22 June 2010 (Annual Plan, if required)
16 February 2010	13 July 2010
9 March 2010	3 August 2010
30 March 2010 (<i>Estimates Workshop</i>)	24 August 2010
20 April 2010 (Draft Annual Plan)	14 September 2010
11 May 2010	5 October 2010
1 June 2010 (Adopt Draft Annual Plan)	<i>Elections 9 October 2010</i>

TIME: **10.00am**

VENUE: Council Chambers

Cr Pilkington / Cr Prescott

Item-270 MATTERS REFERRED

Discussion

The Governance Supervisor took Members through Matters Referred.

ROADWORKS - MCDONALDS RESTAURANT

His Worship reported that a meeting had been held on site with interested/affected parties. He said contact had been made with Transit NZ however, there would be a need to pass a further safety audit to allow any additional changes to the previously agreed intersection design. His Worship reported that Transfield services are currently carrying out further investigation and Council will await the outcome. He said should this not be in the town's favour, then the OCB and OBA would need to sit down and discuss the issues further.

Cr Blackler referred to the difficult access into Beattie Home due to the camber of the carriageway. The Roading Manager, Mr Martin Gould, who was in attendance at the meeting, said Council has indicated it would install a pedestrian crossing to the Woolworths supermarket. In conjunction with this, Council would look at the entranceways.

It was agreed that item 1 be deleted from Matters Referred with items 2 and 3 remaining.

GENERAL

RUMBLE STRIPS

Cr Ormsby raised the matter of rumble strips being installed along the edge of some roads, in particular the State Highway south of town. He said these pose a noise problem to nearby property owners and queried what was Transit's attitude with regards to the noise and safety aspect of installing these strips. The Roothing Manager replied that Transit does have a criteria for their placement which he understood included being placed away from nearby houses. He said, as the matter has been raised, he will contact Transit for their response. The Roothing Manager reported that this was a Central Government initiative whereby extra funding had been provided. His Worship suggested the areas where these rumble strips are creating a nuisance should be established.

KAWHIA SUPPORT HOUSE

Cr Pilkington advised she had attended the Birthday Party of the Kawhia Support House which is going from strength to strength.

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Cr Pilkington advised a request will be received from the Otorohanga District Development Board for a Constitutional change whereby membership is increased from six to ten Members. She said, with this increase Council may need to look at increasing its representation on the Board. Cr Pilkington advised that the current 'opted' Members do not enjoy voting rights at their meetings.

TE KAURI BRIDGE

Cr Pilkington reported that no work has been carried out on the willows obstructing vision at the Te Kauri bridge. She said two vehicles collided there recently.

HAMILTON AIRPORT

Cr Adam advised he had attended the AGM of the Hamilton Airport last Friday which he said was a very casual affair. His Worship reported that the Airport's revenue was down from \$7.1M to \$6.3M however, there was an incredible number of traffic movements operating in and out of the Airport. He said the debt has been reduced because of the contribution from Shareholders. His Worship reported that Pacific Blue appeared to be happy with their operation from the Airport and its future potential. He said they will be considering low cost domestic services next year and perhaps regular Asian connections to Phuket as a holiday attraction. He said the tourism website comes on line in February 2010.

His Worship referred to the Customs Service which had ceased when the Airport stopped operating as an international airport however, as it is now international again, the government is insisting that these services be paid for.

ROAD SAFETY

Cr Adam raised the issue that vegetation was growing back along the roadsides on various roads around the District. He felt it was now time that the 'big cut' be undertaken.

ROAD CLOSURE - CYCLING RACE

The Roothing Manager referred to the proposed Road Closure on 12 December 2009 for the purpose of holding a Cycling Race. He outlined the consultation undertaken and advised that when the objections closed, nine were in support of the proposal, with two against. He said both objections referred to Williams Street, one, which is unsigned, made mention of a meeting of residents and the intention to spread tacks along the route.

The Roading Manager reported he went back to those people on the closed roads, the result of which was that one objection had now been withdrawn. He had received five or six written and three telephone calls in support of the proposal. He said no one was aware of any residents meeting.

It was agreed that the proposed event still be held.

FROST BOS WIND MACHINE RMO90046

The Environmental Services Manager advised that this application currently sits with the Applicant who has been requested to provide additional information. Council had been requested to organise a pre-hearing meeting.

GAMBLING POLICY

The Environmental Services Manager reported that Council's Gambling Policy was up for review but this will be delayed until after Christmas. He said a proposed Policy will be prepared for consultation at the first meeting of Council in the new year.

MAYOR'S YOUTH AWARDS

His Worship informed Members a small presentation for the Mayor's Youth Awards will be carried out at Council's next meeting.

OTOROHANGA CARAVAN PARK

The Chief Executive referred to the recent advertisement of the Lease of the Otorohanga Caravan Park and reported that three tenders had been received. He said the successful tenderer was the Otorohanga Zoological Society, which would retain the existing Leasee Mr Bill Millar as their Site Manager.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 12.10pm.

MAYOR:

DATE: 17 November 2009

