



Otorohanga District Council

# MINUTES

9 March 2010

# OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

9 March 2010

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 9 March 2010 commencing at 10.12am.

## MINUTES

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## **PRESENT**

Mr DF Williams (Mayor), Crs SR Adam, S Blackler, WH Earwaker, AL Gower (attended 10.20am), AG Ormsby, DM Pilkington and RJ Prescott.

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Cr Adam read the Opening Prayer.

## **APOLOGIES**

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

**Cr Prescott / Cr Blackler**

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 16 FEBRUARY 2010**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 16 February 2010 as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Cr Pilkington / Cr Adam**

## **Matters Arising**

Cr Pilkington referred to the comments she reported that the painting of the Kawhia Museum Building was to a poor standard and advised that this initial painting was only the undercoat and that the complete repainting of the building had not been completed at that time.

## **REPORTS**

### **Item-309            OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 11 FEBRUARY 2010**

#### **Discussion**

His Worship informed members that the Otorohanga Community Board's estimates workshop will commence this Thursday at 1.00pm to be followed by its Ordinary Meeting at 4.00pm.

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 11 February 2010 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

**Cr Prescott / Cr Ormsby**

**Item-310 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICERS REPORT 1 DECEMBER 2009 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2010**

**Discussion**

The Environmental Services Manager attended the meeting and summarised the Environmental Health Officer/Liquor Licensing Inspectors Report for the period 1 December 2009 to 28 February 2010.

Cr Adam referred to the item under Health Nuisance Notice where a Statutory Notice under the Health Act 1956 was served on a Fisherman and queried whether this person was a commercial Fisherman. The Environmental Services Manager replied the person concerned was a commercial fisherman who was undertaking fish processing on a residential property. He said the person concerned is not allowed to process on that site and it has been suggested to him he undertake the activity on the boat or another property where the activity does generate complaints about objectionable odours.

**Resolved**

That the Environmental Health Officer/Liquor Licensing Inspectors 4eport for 1 December 2009 to 28 February 2010 be received.

**Cr Pilkington / Cr Prescott**

**Item-311 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT FOR 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2009**

**Discussion**

The Environmental Services Manager summarised his report on Dog and Animal Control activities in the District.

**Resolved**

That the Environmental Services Manager's report on Animal Control for the period 1 October to 31 December 2009 be received.

**Cr Ormsby / Cr Gower**

**Item-315 WAIKATO REGIONAL AIRPORT PRESENTATION**

**Discussion**

Representatives of the Waikato Regional Airport, Ms Kiri Goulter and Mr Chris Doak, attended the meeting to update members on Airport progress. Mr Doak thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the meeting and to update members on the matter of tourism. He said this will cover the first six months of service delivery with the focus being on Regional Tourism activities.

Ms Goulter advised that the service delivery is led by Hamilton Airport for the initial two years in conjunction with the five local Councils. She said this has required getting activities underway and supporting Pacific Blue Airline.

With regard to promoting the destination, Ms Goulter reported that Hamilton has to be seen as the "gateway" to the Central North Island. She said that during the previous six months the focus has been on the Australian Market. She then referred to developing the destination which includes product development, new concepts, feasibility studies, etc.

Ms Goulter updated members on activities to date and advised that a new website went live last week this being [www.hamiltonwaikato.com](http://www.hamiltonwaikato.com). She said there has been a real push into the Australian Market which has required a partnership with Pacific Blue and other regions such as Bay of Plenty, Destination Waitomo, Ruapehu and Tourism New Zealand. Ms Goulter then outlined upcoming activities which included the continuation of additional funding, website Phase 2, a Regional Tourism Conference on 19 March 2010, strategy, structures and funding for Regional Tourism Entity. Cr Pilkington queried whether there was the means to lift Waikato's profile particularly overseas. Ms Goulter replied yes, particularly with extra funding available, it was proposed to build on the presence of existing markets. Cr Blackler expressed the opinion the timing was favourable particularly with the current exchange rates with Australia.

In reply to Cr Adam regarding domestic flights, he was advised that the goal was to introduce low cost competition. Cr Gower referred to free parking at the airport and was informed that this was introduced for international flights sometime ago.

His Worship said the future looks good and thanked the representatives for their open and honest presentation. He said this Council was comfortable with its relationship with them.

### **Resolved**

That the Waikato Regional Airport presentation be received.

### **Cr Pilkington / Cr Adam**

## **Item-312 REGIONAL ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY**

### **Discussion**

The Engineering Roading Managers attended the meeting. The Roading Manager presented a report advising that Environment Waikato, as the Regional Council, have recently completed the Regional Road Safety Strategy and the document has now been published. He said that Council Staff and the Regional Road Safety Co-ordinator have been involved in the production of this Strategy and it is felt that the Strategy is sufficient to provide a general direction for Road Safety Activities within the District, and it is considered there is no need for a District-specific Road Safety Strategy. He said a number of the Regional issues reflect well on local issues.

The Roading Manager then presented Strategy action points covering -

- Safer speeds
- Safer roads & roadsides
- Safer Road use
- Safer vehicles
- Improved organisation and co-ordination.

Cr Earwaker said there is a need to erect suitable signage following a fatal motorcycle accident last year rather than wait for the results of a Coroners' report on the accident.

### **Resolved**

That

1. The Roading Manager's report be received
2. The Regional Road Safety Strategy be adopted as a general guideline for road safety practices within the Otorohanga District.

### **Cr Adam / Cr Blackler**

## **Item-313            MINOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS REPORT**

### **Discussion**

The Roothing Manager presented a report advising that the 2009/10 budget includes an amount of \$370,000 for minor improvements. He said NZTA subsidised funding is available to a value of \$382,252.

The Roothing Manager said, in summary, the following principles are proposed for the allocation of Minor Safety funding for future years with a draft Minor Safety Works Programme to be presented to Council for approval -

1. First call on the annual Budget shall be given to works on the common financial year Capital Improvements Programme.
2. Annual allowance for Stock underpasses of \$60,000.
3. Annual allowance for subsidy for rural entranceway sealing of \$10,000.
4. Crash Reduction Study identified works, design in year following study, and works undertaken in years 2 and 3 following study.
5. Sight benching works set at 20 percent of remaining budget
6. Bridge approach sealing at two percent of remaining budget, packaged together to be undertaken every five years.
7. Intersection sealing works set at five percent of remaining budget packaged together to be undertaken every five years.
8. Deficiency database progress from the remaining budget after design costs.

Cr Blackler referred to reseals or seal extension work and felt that an approach should be made to property owners at this time to meet 50 percent of the cost of sealing their entranceways. The Engineering Manager replied that should Council be continually removing excess metal from the roadway then pressure could be placed on the property owners to seal their entranceway. He said this matter has been publicly advertised.

The Roothing Manager then presented a schedule of possible Minor Safety allocations for 2009/19 and Minor Safety projects for the 2009/10 year through to 2011/12 year. The Engineer Manager reported that the average cost of an underpass was between \$70,000 - \$80,000 and that currently the installation of these appears to be tapering off. Cr Gower referred to the proposed projects and said these are always a moving target.

### **Resolved**

That

1. The Roothing Manager's Report be received
2. The general policy on funding and draft programme of works for Minor Improvements be approved.

### **Cr Gower / Cr Blackler**

## **Item-314            COMMUNITY MAX MID TERM PROGRESS**

### **Discussion**

The Technical Services Manager attended the meeting and presented a report on the progress to mid February 2010 of the Otorohanga and Kawhia Community Max teams. He said it is very encouraging to see the range of skills and work experience the team members are obtaining and the value of this work to the Community. He said the quality of the work is higher than originally expected with the objective to get the Trainees involved in a course which would prepare them for permanent employment.

Cr Blackler queried why the Waipapa Reserve planting project had not been included under the Scheme. The Technical Services Manager replied there is a full schedule of projects however, attempts could be made to fit this project in. The Chief Executive reported that the costs to Council to date is less than what was anticipated therefore it may be possible to utilise any savings to take on one or two extra projects.

Cr Pilkington informed Members that very positive feedback has been received from Kawhia and wishes to extend congratulations to the Supervisors and Trainees. The question was asked of the viability of continuing the scheme for a further six month period. His Worship replied that all placements have been taken up and that the existing program is full. He said should the Trainees commitment to the project be demonstrated and that they exceeded expectations, then there may be a willingness to retain them for longer. His Worship suggested discussion be held with the WINZ Contract Manager as to other types of funding that may be available. It was agreed that congratulations be extended to all those involved in the Community Max Programme, the Supervisors and Trainees, for their positive outcomes that both Communities have enjoyed so far.

Cr Gower extended congratulations to Council's Technical Service's Manager for keeping the programme within budget.

### **Resolved**

That the Technical Services Manager's report be received.

### **Cr Pilkington / Cr Prescott**

## **Item-316 ODC MATTERS REFERRED FROM 16 FEBRUARY 2010**

### **Discussion**

The only item on Matters Referred regarding the standard of the exterior painting of the Kawhia Museum Building has been reported on earlier in the meeting and accordingly will be deleted from Matters Referred.

## **GENERAL**

### **OTOROHANGA RESERVE/HAWKERS**

Cr Prescott referred to a recent activity on the Otorohanga Reserve (Village Green) where a group was promoting American Indian Music and artefacts. He also informed Members of a Fishmonger who was selling produce from a vehicle outside the Otorohanga Club. Cr Prescott expressed the opinion that Hawkers are competing with local businesses and that the latter should be protected in some way. His Worship replied that Hawkers and Itinerant Traders should be obtaining a License from Council and paying the appropriate fees. Cr Pilkington said the matter of obtaining a Food Safety Licence should have been addressed in this instance.

The Environmental Services Manager attended the meeting reported that the Fishmonger from Kawhia already has a Health Licence. He said Council has no current Itinerant Traders Bylaw as this has lapsed therefore, there may be a need to have discussions on this issue with both Community Boards. The Environmental Services Manager advised that Council would need to show that there is a need for such a bylaw which cannot be used to restrict trade. It was suggested that this matter be discussed at meetings of the Community Boards. The Environmental Services Manager advised that the purpose of a proposed bylaw would be to promote and protect public safety. His Worship felt that any such Hawker should pay fees as they do not contribute to the Community.

## **WAIKATO MAYORAL FORUM REPORT BACK**

Cr Earwaker reported on his attendance at the Waikato Mayoral Forum on 19 February. Those in attendance were advised that -

1. Pacific Blue Airline flights from Hamilton to Australia have been 70 percent full.
2. Waipa Mayor, Alan Livingston, advised of a forthcoming major rowing event to be held October/November 2010 involving 40 countries.
3. Discussion regarding Hamilton City boundaries are continuing, and will include consideration of a range of options including amalgamations.

## **LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourned for lunch at 12.35pm and resumed at 1.10pm.

## **RURAL SECTOR MEETING REPORT BACK**

Crs Adam, Blackler and Pilkington and the Chief Executive attended the Rural Sector meeting in Wellington on 18/19 February. Cr Pilkington said this was the most useful information meeting she has attended during the past six years. She reported on the matters of -

1. Amended Vehicle Mass/Dimension Rule in particular to "As of Right" weight increases. It was reported that a seven percent load increase would increase 50 percent wear on Council roads. Cr Pilkington expressed the opinion that the proposal needs more consideration before it becomes law. She said the proposal stemmed from an idea to improve efficiency within the Transport sector. The Chief Executive advised there appeared to be a backing off from the seven percent proposed load increase however, concerns remained in regard to some other form of additional loading.

Cr Adam, who also attended the Rural Sector meeting, expressed the opinion the proposed "As of Right" weight increases would have a huge effect on the roading network. He said a number of trucks are already carrying this load therefore should the proposal go ahead this will have a real effect on the country's roads.

2. Shared Service options and highlighted the fact that there were other options available in addition to amalgamation.

Cr Adam also referred to the Shared Services and felt that this had real merit and could "kill" any amalgamation proposals. The Chief Executive advised that it was a timely issue and that at a recent regional CEO meeting discussion was held on the issue and in the first instance, it was agreed to consider what is being done in the Bay of Plenty. Cr Blackler queried whether members could go to the Bay of Plenty. The Chief Executive said that within the Waikato Region there were problems in getting a relatively large number of Council's to agree on particular shared services. He said it doesn't necessarily have to have the agreement of all Councils within the Waikato, and that sub-groups could instead share a service.

Cr Pilkington thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the meeting.

Cr Blackler also attended the Rural Sector meeting which she said was very good.

## **ZONE 2 MEETING REPORT BACK**

His Worship, Crs Blackler and Earwaker and the Chief Executive attended the Zone 2 meeting held in Tauranga on 5 March. Cr Blackler reported in particular to economic development in the Bay of Plenty supporting strategic growth.

## **KIWIANA FESTIVAL**

Cr Blackler advised she attended the Kiwiana Festival held on 6 March, which was an excellent event.

## **TIHIROA RURAL WATER SUPPLY**

Cr Adam queried whether the 'walk over' of the Tihiroa water supply pipeline found any leaks. The Engineering Manager replied no signs of any leaks were found. He then outlined the action being taken in installing additional water meters. '

## **RESIGNATION FROM COUNCIL**

Cr Adam informed members he is moving to Westport and therefore will be resigning from Council.

His Worship, on behalf of Council, extended good luck to Cr Adam and thanked him for his contribution to Council affairs. He wished him and his partner all the best for the future.

## **POISONING PROGRAMMES**

The Environmental Services Manager informed members of notifications received for poisoning programmes and queried whether they would like to be advised of these. It was agreed it would be worthwhile.

## **CIVIL DEFENCE**

His Worship reported on his attendance at the Waikato Triennial Agreement Forum held in Taupo on 1 March and advised that two CEO's have been co-opted onto the Civil Defence Management Group. He said however, due to a lack of funds, audit requirements cannot be complied with.

## **FEDERATED FARMERS**

His Worship informed members Federated Farmers were running open farm days on 28 March 2010.

## **OTOROHANGA SPORTS CLUB**

The Finance and Administration Manager advised that Council is currently acting as Guarantor for loan funding on behalf of the Otorohanga Sports Club. He said Council has been asked whether it would agree to extending this guarantee in respect to a new loan of \$50,000 to enable renovation work to be carried out on their premises. He said the work will be undertaken by voluntary labour and that Council does own the land on which the building is located. The Finance and Administration Manager reported that the existing guarantee stays in place for a five year period after the loan is repaid. It was agreed that he bring an appropriate report to Council for consideration at its next meeting.

## **QUOTABLE VALUE**

The Finance and Administration Manager reported advice had been received from Quotable Value that it will undertake its three yearly revaluation of the District this year which will come into effect from 01 July 2011. He said it would be desirable for representatives from Quotable Value to meet with Council's Policy Manager in respect to this revaluation and any effect it may have on the District Plan.

## **FUNDING OF DEBT**

The Finance and Administration Manager advised that Council raised a considerable amount of debt last year during which time the Bank of New Zealand's margins were less than other banks. He said however, this year Westpac have been very aggressive in its approach and has come in at three quarters of a percent under the BNZ rate. He said this will provide a potential saving of \$28-\$30,000 in interest. Cr Blackler expressed the opinion that Council should go out to all banks every time.

## **TAX CONSULTANTS**

The Finance and Administration Manager reported that advice had been received from Tax Consultants for Council to be aware of the implications should there be an increase in GST. He said this will have a substantial flow on effect for Council.

The Finance and Administration Manager said it was also proposed, following the local Government Elections in October 2010, that the Tax Consultants will run workshops on tax issues for Elected Members.

## **WAIKATO RIVER**

The Policy Manager reported on the progress of the Waikato River settlement process and information which will have implications on the Waipa River. He referred to a Select Committee Hearing for submissions on the Settlement Bill and that the presentation of submissions by some parties was not good. He said that it is intended that the views of this Council will be given effect to through a less formal relationship with Iwi.

## **MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

"THAT the Otorohanga District Council, pursuant to Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolves that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public."

**Cr Pilkington / Cr Adam**

## **MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting concluded at 1.38pm.

**MAYOR:**

**DATE:** 30 March 2010

