



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

30 March 2010

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

30 March 2010

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 30 March 2010 commencing at 10.10am.

MINUTES

Minutes are unconfirmed and subject to amendment at the next meeting of Council.

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PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Chadwick (Engineering Manager) and Mrs A Burdon (Executive Assistant).

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Pilkington read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGY

Resolved that the apology received from Crs AL Gower and S Adam, be sustained.

Cr Blackler/ Cr Pilkington

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 9 MARCH 2010

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 9 March 2010 as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Prescott/ Cr Earwaker

REPORTS

Item-318 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 11 MARCH 2010

Discussion

REQUEST FOR CHANGING TABLE

Cr Earwaker queried the request for an adult sized changing table at the Memorial Pools. Cr Prescott explained the background to the request and said the request had been made without any offer of financial help.

REQUEST FOR DIVING BOARD AND PICNIC TABLE

Regarding the request for a diving board and picnic table at the Memorial Pools, Cr Pilkington pointed out they were in fact two separate requests. She commented that there is now very little money coming into Communities from Pub charities. The suggestion was made that the group should be encouraged to pursue other forms of funding rather than requesting Council rates funding. His Worship said the letter offered to fundraise half of the cost but did not give an indication of what each project would cost.

Resolved

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

Cr Prescott/ Cr Ormsby

Item-319 ROAD LEGALISATION - TE RAUAMOA ROAD

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented the report on Road Legalisation - Te Rauamo Road. He advised that various ways had been looked into to legalise this road but the best win/win situation would be that Council meet the costs of the survey and other costs estimated at \$16,000 as outlined in the report, otherwise costs would be in excess of \$30,000.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND POLICY MANAGERS

The Finance & Administration, Environmental Services and Policy Managers attended the meeting 10.15am.

Cr Pilkington said she thought it was a satisfactory outcome for all however, she queried whether the cost of providing electricity was a firm quote. The Engineering Manager advised that it was a firm quote.

Resolved

That

1. The Council hereby accepts the conditions as set out in the Memorandum of Agreement between Council and Te Rauamo Lands Ltd relating to the vesting of part of Te Rauamo Road, owned by Te Rauamo Lands Ltd, in Council ownership.
2. The Mayor and Chief Executive be authorised to sign all documents related to the vesting of part of Te Rauamo Road in Council ownership.

Cr Pilkington/ Cr Earwaker

Item-320 CULVERT MAINTENANCE

Discussion

The Engineering Manager presented the Culvert Maintenance report and said this was a follow-up report to Council following concerns raised over the standard of culvert maintenance being carried out by the Roads Maintenance Contractor. He advised the changes that had been made by Council staff to monitor the Contractors work. Cr Pilkington queried whether this work was within the Contract. The Engineering Manager replied if it was general cyclic maintenance it was but if a culvert was badly damaged or blocked by a storm, this would fall outside of the Contract. In reply to His Worship's query regarding the continuation of monitoring, the Engineering Manager advised that the monitoring would continue in future.

Resolved

That the Engineering Manager's report on Culvert Maintenance be received.

Cr Blackler/ Cr Pilkington

ENGINEERING MANAGER

The Engineering Manager left the meeting at 10.22am.

Item-321 POLICY & DELEGATION MANUAL CHANGES

Discussion

The Chief Executive introduced his report on the changes to the Policy and Delegations Manual and handed over to the Environmental Services Manager to outline the details in the report. The Environmental Services Manager said it was generally assumed Council staff had the authority to

carry out the functions they were employed to do but on the odd occasion when problems occurred, the validity for such authority needed to be proven. The Environmental Services Manager then outlined the proposed changes suggested for the delegations to Council Staff.

The Chief Executive advised Members that the Environmental Services Manager has a very good understanding of legislation, and congratulated him for the work he had undertaken on the Manual.

Cr Pilkington's queried if there was any point in naming Consultants in Schedule A, whether other consultants could be used or was Council restricted by the listed names. The Environmental Services Manager replied that it was just good practice to name the Consultants and that the names remained quite consistent. He said however, the names did need to be reviewed with the Manual every two years or so.

Resolved

That

1. The Chief Executive's report on the Policy & Delegation Manual changes be received,
2. The changes be received and the updated Manual be effective from 1 April 2010.

Cr Pilkington/ Cr Blackler

Item-322 REQUEST FOR LOAN GUARANTEE - OTOROHANGA SPORTS CLUB

Discussion

The Chief Executive presented the Request for Loan Guarantee - Otorohanga Sports Club report and said he supported an extension.

The Finance & Administration Manager advised that the existing Guarantee was a continuing Guarantee and the new loan required by the Otorohanga sports club fell within that.

Resolved

That Council continues to act as Guarantor in respect of the existing Guarantee of \$70,000 for the Otorohanga Sports Club Incorporated to undertake renovation and improvement works to the Club's building at the Island Reserve

Cr Prescott / Cr Ormsby

Item-323 CLASS 4 GAMBLING VENUE AND BOARD VENUE POLICY REVIEW

Discussion

Prior to presenting the Class 4 Gambling Venue and Board Venue Policy Review report, the Policy Manager declared that prior to his current role at Council he presented a submission to Council at the 2007 Review on behalf of an Anti-Gambling group.

The Policy Manager advised there were 45 existing licenced machines in the Otorohanga CBD and five in the Kawhia CBD. He said the economic and social impact of gambling through legislation is require to be taken into account within a Community. He reported, in actuality money is taken from this District's communities and re-invested into other communities around the country. The Policy Manager reported that prior to 2008 not a lot of information was available because it wasn't required by law. However, since 2008 statistics have been recorded electronically by machines and then reported to the Department of Internal Affairs, therefore now providing accurate information. He advised that for the year 1 July 2008 - 30 June 2009 a net loss of \$1,293,983 was recorded for the Otorohanga District. He advised this was from individuals within the Otorohanga District not necessarily tourists.

The Policy Manager advised that a minimum of 37.12 percent was required to be returned to the 'community' in the form of Community Grants, ie for the same period approximately \$480,000 could have been returned to the Otorohanga District. However, in 'trolling through' various websites he could only find grants totalling approx \$26,000 for the same period being made to Otorohanga based projects.

In reply to His Worship's query where the money was going, the Policy Manager replied that 'community' is seen as 'across the country', that there was not a requirement to reinvest into the community it was taken from. His Worship expressed his opinion that with over \$1M being 'sucked out' of this District and only \$26,000 returned, why would they continue to allow pokie machines in the District. He said Otorohanga and Kawhia communities could not afford to lose \$1m per year. The Environmental Services Manager advised the 2008 and 2009 takings and losses figures are unquestionable because they were electronically recorded.

In reply to His Worship's query about getting accurate information on Community Grants made, the Policy Manager advised Council that Pokie Machine Societies have the opportunity to make a submission on this and that they should present the information in an easy to find manner instead of someone having to troll through various places to find it.

Cr Ormsby reported that Clubs who own machines were required to put a certain amount back into the Community. The Policy Manager replied yes that was the case but the figures presented do not reflect the re-investment in the Community from the Otorohanga Club.

The Policy Manager undertook to provide Cr Pilkington with what figures he could find for Community Grants for Kawhia.

Resolved

That

1. The report from the Policy Manager be received,
2. The report be approved for public notification and submission
3. That Option 3 as outlined below be adopted -

Option 3 – Sinking lid policy

This would progressively reduce the number of gaming machines permitted in the District. This would be achieved by not allowing for the reallocation of machines when a licensee ceases to operate or through the voluntary reduction in machines at licensed venues.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker

Item-324 MATTERS BEFORE THE HEARINGS COMMITTEE

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented his report on Matters before the Hearings Committee. He advised the appeal period for the West Hearing ends today at 4.00pm.

Cr Pilkington highlighted an incorrect address in the title of the letter on page 31 and requested that the name de Witt to be corrected in Council's system.

Resolved

That

1. The decision of the Hearings Committee for RM090036, Q and D West, be received.
2. A Hearings Committee comprised of His Worship the Mayor and Crs H Earwaker and D Pilkington be appointed to hear and decide Resource Consent Application RM090050 by A Collins for a property at 660 Lawton Drive Aotea.

Cr Prescott/ Cr Blackler

Item-325 ODC MATTERS REFERRED FROM 9 MARCH 2010

Discussion

WAIPAPA RESERVE

The Chief Executive advised it was Community Max's intention to put this on their schedule of works to complete.

BYLAW FOR HAWKERS/TRADERS

The Environmental Services Manager advised that he believed the matter was to be referred back to the Community Boards. If they wished, he would prepare a report on the issue. He said that to propose and adopt a new Bylaw would cost in the vicinity of \$5,000. He said an alternative maybe to assign a location for traders.

GENERAL

ODDB GET TOGETHER

Cr Ormsby advised he had attended the Otorohanga District Development Board b-b-q get together on 18 March which was not well supported but was a beneficial time for those who did attend.

KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD WORKSHOP

Cr Pilkington advised that the Kawhia Community Board had had a very successful workshop and meeting on 22 March. His Worship said he and Cr Prescott also attended and found it a very worthwhile workshop.

KAWHIA POLICE

Cr Pilkington advised a new policeman, Constable Perry Griffin, was about to officially start in Kawhia, with his number one priorities being drink driving, vehicle restraints and licencing.

KAWHIA KAI FESTIVAL DEBRIEF

Cr Pilkington advised that His Worship and herself attended a Kawhia Kai Festival debrief, following another very successful festival.

WINTEC MEDAL

Cr Blackler congratulated His Worship on his pending receipt of a Wintec Medal.

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

The Policy Manager updated Members on progress on the Regional Policy Statement (RPS). He said feedback had been received from a number of different Territorial Authorities. He reported Environment Waikato staff advised that their Councillors were happy with the direction the RPS is going in and intend to focus the direction more on policy matters, ie. who does what and how it is to be done. His Worship advised this was different from what he had understood had been agreed at the Waikato Region Triennial Agreement Forum held in Taupo in early March.

The Policy Manager advised at a recent meeting there was a strong representation from Territorial Authorities seeking to have discussions around high level issues that have been raised through comments made to the Draft RPS. He said a meeting was being held this Thursday to address these issues.

In reply to Cr Pilkington's query regarding whether the RPS included the Shore Future recommendations, the Policy Manager advised that it was a matter the Policy Manager had raised as a high level issue. His Worship advised the departure from the Shore Futures information was very disappointing because it appeared as if they were progressing regardless of what people are wanting.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The Finance & Administration Manager left the meeting at 11.20am and returned at 11.25am.

LADY MAHUTA'S FUNERAL

The Policy Manager advised he had attended Lady Mahuta's funeral this week. He said he was impressed with how the Auckland Council's represented themselves with only one person speaking on behalf of all Auckland Council's, whereas in Waikato, the representation was fragmented.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MANAGER

The Environmental Services Manager left the meeting at 11.29am.

WAIKATO REGION TRANSPORT FORUM

His Worship advised that Cr Blackler and himself would be attending this meeting on Monday 12 April. Cr Pilkington would advise His Worship if she could also attend.

MAYOR'S RECOGNITION AWARD

His Worship reported Hangitiki School had nominated eight year old Cohen Tamaki for a Mayor's Recognition Award for his bravery and courage in helping his family when his Grandmother had had an accident. He advised he will present the award on Thursday 1 April, 9.00am at the school if any other Members wished to attend.

HAMILTON V8s

His Worship advised the Hamilton V8's were coming up again on 16-18 April. He advised he had received an invitation from Pacific Blue for Sunday 18 April if anyone wished to accept this on his behalf. Cr Pilkington advised she would confirm with the Executive Assistant.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Chief Executive advised he would be on leave from 6 – 26 April visiting family in the UK. He apologised for his absence at the next Council meeting on 20 April. Cr Earwaker wished him a safe and enjoyable trip.

WAIWERA STREET DEVELOPMENT

The Finance & Administration Manager updated Members on the Waiwera Street development and advised that last Friday Nga Tai O Kawhia had given their written confirmation that their concerns had now been addressed. He said this positive outcome had primarily been the work of Council's Policy Manager. The Finance & Administration Manager advised that a meeting was now scheduled with Bloxom Burnet & Oliver to discuss 'where to from here'. He advised other submitters will now be contacted to advise them what has been put in place to address their concerns. His Worship expressed the opinion that it would be great if a Resource Consent could be obtained without having a Notified Hearing. He expressed his thanks to the Policy Manager for his hard work in facilitating such a positive outcome to date. Cr Pilkington expressed Council's appreciation to the Policy Manager for negotiations with Nga Tai O Kawhia. In response to Cr Pilkington's request, the Finance & Administration Manager undertook to advise the Kawhia Community Board of Nga Tai O Kawhia's confirmation.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 11.35am.

MAYOR:

DATE: 20 April 2010

