



Otorohanga District Council

# MINUTES

24 August 2010

## OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

24 August 2010

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 24 August 2010 commencing at 10.12am.

### 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, AL Gower, AG Ormsby, DM Pilkington and RJ Prescott.

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Chadwick (Engineering Manager) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Cr Blackler read the Opening Prayer.

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**

His Worship congratulated those Members who had been re-elected unopposed in the forthcoming local government elections. He said this is an endorsement of a job well done.

## **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS**

His Worship raised the matter of a former Tenant in Council's Housing for the Elderly complex who was tragically killed recently leaving a small amount of rental arrears owing. He said for this matter to be addressed a Council resolution was required.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 3 AUGUST 2010**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 3 August 2010, as amended, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Cr Earwaker / Mrs Pilkington**

## **ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT**

Cr Pilkington referred to the last sentence in the discussion on the Animal Control Officers report and suggested that this sentence needs to be clarified as it is unclear as to the type of dog being referred to. Following discussion it was agreed this sentence be deleted and that the Governance Supervisor clarify the comments with the Animal Control Contractor.

## **KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD**

Cr Pilkington queried the whereabouts of the Minutes of the Kawhia Community Board meeting held on 30 July as these have not been included on today's agenda. It was agreed these be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of Council.

## **REPORTS**

### **Item-369          ROUTINE ENGINEERING REPORT**

#### **Discussion**

The Engineering Manager presented his report on general Engineering matters for the period May to July 2010. He advised that the Re-seals Contract will go out for tender around the beginning of September 2010.

## **CONTRACT 943 PUKETAWAI ROAD**

The Engineering Manager reported that the Contract works commenced approximately one week ago. He said the upgrading of the road relates to the entire length of the unsealed portion and will take care of a drop-out highlighted by Cr Blacker.

The Engineering Manager read a conclusion statement following a technical audit by NZTA on 18/21 May 2010 which read -

*Otorohanga District is a smaller rural roading authority that has managed its network well over an extended period. The network condition and the competence of the current roading team lead us to have confidence that the issues identified in this review can be addressed.*

*The standards of maintenance observed were of a high standard, due in no small part to the regular inspection regime employed by Council.*

*Council is to be commended for its commitment to a formal cadet scheme, which should be viewed as industry leading. Overall, a sound network, well maintained by a competent team but needing attention to the data system to ensure the good efforts of the past can be maintained into the future.*

## **OKUPATA ROAD**

Cr Pilkington queried whether the corrugated section of Okupata Road will again receive the Kobm (Powered steel slag) stabilising process currently being trialled on a section of Kaimango Road, Owaikura and Raglan Roads. The Engineering Manager undertook to check on this matter.

## **SERVICES**

The Engineering Manager referred to a recent meeting of the Water Services staff which highlighted items that can be improved as the new staff work together as a team.

## **WASTEWATER (SEWERAGE) OTOROHANGA**

The Engineering Manager reported staff are working on the problem of an odour caused by the discharge of septic tank effluent into the Main North Road sewer pump station. He said the odour filter and materials should arrive shortly to be put in place. The Engineering Manager confirmed that staff have gone through the proposed work with the local Contractor who supports it. Cr Ormsby queried whether this work will be within the budget of \$15,000 and said he would like to see a good overview of the facility carried out. The Engineering Manager replied that the \$15,000 will only cover the efforts to resolve the existing problem. Mr Ormsby said there is a need to look at a long term plan for the discharge of septic tank effluent.

## **KAWHIA WATER SUPPLY**

Cr Pilkington referred to the Kawhia water supply and queried where Council was at with Environment Waikato's Resource Consent. The Engineering Manager replied that the Consultant is today carrying out some further tests on the recently installed well points to obtain the achievable flow rate. He informed Members that it is necessary to ascertain the quantity of water to be taken from the springs for the consent application.

The Chief Executive advised staff have looked at the site and installed meters to ascertain the quantity of water currently coming out of the springs. He said the observed water quantity suggested that the onus should be on water conservation rather than development of the source. His Worship expressed the opinion there should be some comeback on the Consultant who had indicated a larger quantity of water was available as Council had based the water supply future on their predictions. The Chief Executive said based on what was there it was extremely unlikely to achieve what had been indicated by the Consultant. The Engineering Manager said staff will **clean out the spring areas and metal to improve the water flow.**

Members were informed of the cubic metre flows per day given to EW were not for uniform periods as they were taken at different times of the day, and advised that if these are analysed and averaged out, they equate to approximately 500m<sup>3</sup> per day. Cr Pilkington expressed the opinion there is a need for more accurate information. She asked that there be a report on this matter for consideration at the September meeting of the Kawhia Community Board. The Chief Executive advised it is important for the public to know that there is not an abundance of water out there. His Worship said this is a statement people should be taking on board in considering on-site water storage. The Engineering Manager reported that some people are now installing pressure-reducing valves ahead of their hot water cylinders.

### **I-SITE SIGNAGE**

Cr Pilkington raised the matter of i-Site signage on State Highway 3 and 31/39. She said this matter had been raised before and queried where the erection of these signs is at. The Engineering Manager replied that Council's Contracts Engineer is currently working on the matter however, there are already two of the old green signs currently erected identifying the direction of the i-Site.

Cr Earwaker referred to the location of a fatal accident on Te Kawa Road one or two years ago and reported that both signs have been removed and one not replaced.

### **Resolved**

That the Engineering Manager's report on general Engineering matters for the period May to July 2010 be received.

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

## **Item-370 ODDB REPORT FOR FEBRUARY TO JULY 2010**

### **Discussion**

The Chairperson of the Otorohanga District Development Board, Mrs Carolyn Christian, attended the meeting and summarised her report for the period February to July 2010. Mrs Christian extended her congratulations to those Members who have been re-elected unopposed in the forthcoming local government elections.

Mrs Christian raised the issue of rubbish and said the Board has a number of ideas to be discussed with representatives of the Otorohanga Community Board and Business Association. She said one suggestion is to engage a person to carry out an education programme within the local schools. Mr Ormsby informed Members that this matter has been discussed by the Otorohanga Community Board and that the Chairperson of the Board has paid a visit to McDonald's restaurant. His Worship said McDonald's packaging is easily identified however, the disposal of bottles is also a huge issue. His Worship referred to the general philosophy of Council however, should extra refuse bins be placed out, then it appears more refuse is accumulated. He said Council provides the service of a District Litter Control Officer and that each Community could do the same. He said however, to engage people to carry out this work there will be a cost. His Worship said unless Central Government places an initiative behind such a proposal it will never happen however, should a Community get behind a proposal it is certainly 'do-able'.

Cr Pilkington referred to the recent strategic reviews and said the same issue was identified in Kawhia. Cr Blackler queried whether it would be possible for residents to look after the piece of land in front of their property and perhaps local schools should be encouraged to carry out a litter collection day. In conclusion it was agreed that Otorohanga Community Board Chairperson Mrs Cowan, in conjunction with the Otorohanga District Development Board come up with a proposal.

## **I-SITE**

Mrs Christian informed Members that a proposal will be put to Council on the possible relocation of the i-Site facility. His Worship replied that Council, in principle, is comfortable with the suggested proposal.

His Worship referred to the recent Strategic Planning exercise which he said was a real eye opener however, quite reassuring for Council. He said there are a number of issues raised which are manageable and that he was pleased with the strong support for Council. His Worship acknowledged the amount of work the Otorohanga District Development Board carries out. He requested Mrs Christian to pass on Council's appreciation to its Members.

### **Resolved**

That the Otorohanga District Development Board's report for the period February to July 2010 be received.

**Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker**

## **Item-371 OTOROHANGA DISTRICT & COMMUNITY CHARITABLE TRUST - APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEE**

### **Discussion**

The Finance & Administration Manager presented a report in anticipation of a vacancy on the Trust and stated that a Council resolution was required to fill the vacancy.

Cr Earwaker suggested a letter be forwarded to the retiring Chairman in appreciation of his work on behalf of the Trust.

### **Resolved**

That Mrs Sonya Hetet be appointed as a Trustee to the Otorohanga District & Community Charitable Trust, for a term of three years.

**Cr Earwaker / Cr Blackler**

## **Item-372 ENVIRONMENT WAIKATO DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN RESPONSE TO SUBMISSION**

### **Discussion**

The Finance & Administration Manager summarised his report on Council's submission to Environment Waikato's 2010/11 Draft Annual Plan and the response from them.

### **Resolved**

That the Finance & Administration Manager's report be received.

**Cr Gower / Cr Earwaker**

## **Item-373 ODC MATTERS REFERRED FROM 3 AUGUST 2010**

### **Discussion**

There were no items to be considered under Matters Referred.

## **GENERAL**

### **SERVICE LANE**

Cr Prescott raised the matter of the bollards and mud in the kerb and channel at the end of the Service Lane behind Woolworths grocery store. He said he has raised this matter earlier however, no action has been taken. The Chief Executive agreed to follow the matter up.

In reply to Cr Prescott regarding Beattie Home residents accessing the crossing to Woolworths, the Engineering Manager advised that Council intends to raise the level of the footpath, this work should be undertaken during September/October 2010 when weather improves.

### **KAWHIA SPRING FLING**

Cr Pilkington informed Members of Kawhia's Spring Fling Festival which will be held 4/5 September 2010 and encouraged Members to attend.

### **ENVIRONMENT WAIKATO**

The Policy Manager reported on a meeting last Thursday with representatives of EW, at staff level, on the Regional Policy Statement. He reported Council's comments had been discussed and made particular reference to Natural Hazard sites being identified. He said EW was asked whether they had a criteria in place to locate these areas. It was suggested that through the RPS process EW set up a process in which to talk to Council to define a process and areas. He said this could be a long term work commitment.

The Policy Manager then referred to the Coastal Environment in its context with Shore Futures.

The Policy Manager advised that EW was looking at signing-off the Draft RPS on 26 August 2010.

## **Item-374 HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY TENANT**

### **Discussion**

His Worship referred to the recent tragic death of Mr Tane Hohaia who was a resident in Council's Elizabeth Place housing complex and the fact that he had passed away leaving outstanding rental of \$211.14. His Worship advised that Mr Hohaia had often assisted Council in matters relating to Maori, but staff did not have the authority to write off this rental.

### **Resolved**

That the rental outstanding of \$211.14 by the late Mr T Hohaia be written off.

**Cr Prescott / Cr Earwaker**

### **DESTINATION WAITOMO**

His Worship informed Members that the AGM of Destination Waitomo will be held on Tuesday 31 August 2010.

### **ZONE 2**

His Worship advised that Cr Earwaker and himself will be attending a Zone 2 meeting on 9/10 September 2010.

## **YOUTH PROGRAMMES**

His Worship said he would like to hold a workshop meeting on the development of a Council Youth Plan. He said he would like to update existing Members on what is happening and to protect the programmes under the LTCCP.

## **STAFFING MATTER**

The Chief Executive informed Members that Mr Dave Williams (Community Facilities Officer) has put his name forward for nomination on the Otorohanga Community Board as Mr Williams has accepted voluntary redundancy and will be terminating his employment as at 28 January 2011. The Chief Executive advised that this will allow the existing building inspector Ms Dianne Tautari to move into Mr Williams' current position addressing the need to rationalise the Building Control team.

## **MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting concluded at 11.26am.

**MAYOR:**

**DATE:** 14 September 2010

