



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

14 September 2010

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

14 September 2010

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 14 September 2010 commencing at 10.05am.

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), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager), RF Proffit (Policy Manager), B O'Callaghan (District Accountant) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Earwaker read the Opening Prayer.

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

The following items were identified which when considered, may require a resolution -

1. Walker Road
2. Maihihi Playcentre Building Consent Fees
3. Appointments to Hearings Committee.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 24 AUGUST 2010

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 24 August 2010 as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Prescott

MATTERS ARISING

Cr Blackler referred to Contract 943 Puketawai Road and reported that at the present time, the residents were very happy with the work being carried out by the Contractor, Mr Albert Emmett.

Cr Gower congratulated the Engineers and Contractors in their response to cleaning up the slips and damage following last weekends storm.

OKUPATA ROAD

In reply to Cr Pilkington's query whether the corrugated section of Okupata Road will again receive the Kobm stabilising process, the Engineering Manager replied that this work will not be carried out immediately, but bulk metalling will be undertaken and should corrugations form again, the stabilising process will then be carried out.

WASTE WATER SEWERAGE OTOROHANGA

The Engineering Manager reported staff were waiting to hear back from the supplier of the Filter to ascertain whether he is able to supply Council with what it requires. Cr Earwaker raised the point that it has been three weeks and queried how long it takes for the supplier to get back to Council. The Engineering Manager replied the supplier was the only one who could supply the filter at a reasonable price. With regards to a proposed timeline, the Engineering Manager said progress will commence as soon as Council staff hear from the supplier. Mr Ormsby asked whether adjoining neighbours and Contractors were being kept in formed of what was happening. He said there is a need for Council to be proactive in this matter. Cr Earwaker agreed that Council needs to drive the project. The Engineering Manager advised it was initially thought the work would be completed within six weeks however, this now depends on when a suitable unit can be supplied. The Chief Executive reported that this unit was initially identified as one of the

best and staff understood it could be bought off the shelf. He said further advice was then received from the Supplier that this unit may not be suitable however, it could possibly be modified. The Chief Executive said he is of the opinion the original unit could be modified. Cr Pilkington confirmed that the unit will have to be enclosed. She was asked whether the Operator is comfortable with what is being proposed. Mr Ormsby said the neighbours wish to see a nice tidy utility in place. His Worship advised that what is there has to work and is required to be dealt with effectively. Members were informed that the proposed \$15,000 is estimated to only address the issue of odour. Other issues which are not desirable can be addressed later. His Worship agreed that the short term issue of the odour needs to be remedied so the septic tanks Contractor could resume dumping but, long term consideration needs to be given to other issues and how these will be funded.

REPORTS

Item-375 KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES 30 JULY 2010

Discussion

NO DOGS - SIGNAGE

Cr Pilkington reported there are no signs erected in the pedestrian precinct restricting dogs to be on a leash. The Environmental Services Manager reported there are only a minimum number of 'dog signs' within the Kawhia Community following a request from the previous Kawhia Community Board not to have too many 'Dog Signs' within the Community. Members were advised that the Contractor cannot enforce fining people if the appropriate signs are not in place. The Environmental Services Manager confirmed that Council has in place a Bylaw with various scheduled areas attached identifying conditions relating to dogs.

It was agreed that the Environmental Services Manager prepare a report on Dog Signage for consideration at the next meeting of the Kawhia Community Board to be held 24 September 2010.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Cr Pilkington reported she had received advice that people were not happy with the refuse collection service as they were encouraged to change their collection day from Monday to Wednesday in order for the collection to be undertaken by a new truck. She said the last couple of times only the old trucks have been used in the Aotea and Kawhia areas. The Engineering Manager replied that only one new truck is currently being used as the other one has encountered mechanical problems. He said the old truck will be in use tomorrow and it was hoped for the new one to be re-introduced next week.

KAWHIA MUSEUM

The Engineering Manger confirmed that the maintenance work, such as installing flashings and fixing spouting, will be completed in time for further painting to be undertaken.

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

In reply to Cr Earwaker, Cr Pilkington reported that funding allocated by the Otorohanga District Development Board to the Kawhia Art Collective will be utilised for both the Kawhia Spring Fling and an exhibition in Otorohanga.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 30 July 2010 be received.

Mrs Pilkington / Cr Gower

Item-376 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES 12 AUGUST 2010

Discussion

I-SITE SIGNAGE

The Engineering Manager reported that the required information has now been sorted out and that Council's Contract Engineer will follow up with Transit. In reply to Cr Pilkington regarding how long it would take to obtain Transit approval, the Engineering Manager replied that Council staff can arrange to have Council's own signs erected however, those relating to Maniapoto Street will have to be approved by Transit first.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board meeting held on 12 August 2010 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Cr Ormsby / Cr Prescott

Item-377 DRAFT MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS TO 30 JUNE 2010

Discussion

The Chief Executive informed Members he was quite disappointed with the results shown in the Draft Management Accounts to 30 June 2010 with over expenditure in a number of operational accounts. He said however, there has been some changes in policy in regards to operating expenses and capital expenditure that had contributed to this over-expenditure.

The Chief Executive said the Roothing Account was a disappointment however, most of the costs were items that needed to be carried out. He said perhaps the activity was under budgeted in some accounts.

The Chief Executive said Council has incurred an overall loss however, the level is relatively modest, with savings being addressed by rationalisation of staff which would counteract the deficit. He confirmed that the revenue in the Building/Planning account was down.

The District Accountant then presented the Draft Management Accounts and answered Members queries as they worked through the document.

Cr Gower referred to Council's roading activity and queried, with the current economic climate, cheaper Contracts have been obtained however, but budgets were still being exceeded. The Engineering Manager advised there has been a policy change by NZTA and that some work capital has been carried out as maintenance. The Chief Executive said staff were trying to maximise the subsidy available for roading work however, Council has to spend the money in order to obtain subsidy. Cr Earwaker said it was important for Council to maintain the current roading network.

ENGINEERING & SERVICES

In regard to Road Legalisation work, the Engineering Manager advised that the outstanding legalisation work has been divided into three priority categories and that the work currently undertaken was considered critical.

Cr Earwaker reported that rates are collected on the estimated budget therefore what happens with the over-expenditure, is this recovered next year? He queried where the cash deficit is reflected. Cr Earwaker was advised that should the over-expenditure not be loan funded then the next year's rate demands will have to recover the deficit.

Discussion was then held on the loss of water from the Tihiroa Rural Water Supply Scheme. Members were informed that a leak had been discovered in Cannon Road which has now been repaired. The Engineering Manager advised that a combination of issues have contributed to the

problems in this account, with six bulk meters installed and some property meters replaced. He said that staff were now doing regular meter readings. The Chief Executive reported that the final half year water income has significantly exceeded that budgeted, and this appeared positive for the scheme.

Discussion was then held on the Community Max programme with Members being advised that a 100 percent subsidy was available for wages. Members were informed that projects had been carried out for which no funding had been allocated. Cr Pilkington advised that the Kawhia Community Board had identified a range of possible projects for a new programme. It was reported that \$20,000 had been distributed across the accounts concerned.

Cr Pilkington requested an update on the Community Max programme be prepared for consideration at the next meeting of the Kawhia Community Board.

Discussion was then held on the Otorohanga and Kawhia Libraries' budgets. With regard to the purchase of books, it was agreed that when the budget allocation has been reached then no further purchases be made.

The District Accountant was requested to clarify the following two matters -

- i. Kawhia Medical Centre - why the rental income is down.
- li. Promotion / development - clarify why tourism initiatives are over budget.

Discussion was then held on the shortfall of \$6,500 in respect to the Otorohanga Skateboard facility however, \$5,000 had been received from Trust Waikato which was received during the 2008/09 year. Other income showed an estimated Community Contribution of \$10,000 which had not occurred. It was agreed that this matter be taken to the Otorohanga Community Board as Cr Pilkington highlighted, the Community said they would contribute to this project and they have not.

The District Accountant reported, following Audit adjustments, the overall loss for the 2009/10 year will be \$176,000. He said Council's total debt is \$13.4M.

His Worship extended Council's thanks to the District Accountant for the preparation of the accounts. He referred to the Chief Executive's comments at the opening of this item and agreed that his comments are relevant and as Elected Members, not to put pressure on staff to do additional work but to instead help ensure budgets are kept within the estimated figures.

Cr Pilkington requested that those accounts relative to Kawhia be placed for consideration on the Kawhia Community Board's next Agenda.

Cr Earwaker also extended congratulations to the District Accountant.

Resolved

That the Draft Management Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2010 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker

Item-378 EXTENSIONS TO KARIKI URUPA ON RIVER CONTROL RESERVE

Discussion

The Engineering Manager summarised the Community Facilities Officer's report on a request from local Kaumatua to extend Kariki Urupa to allow for more burials. This would have to be carried out by the exchange of land and an adjustment of boundaries.

Resolved

That the mechanisms for exchanging land between the Kariki Urupa site and the Council River Control Reserve be investigated with a view to allowing more burials on Kariki Urupa.

Cr Ormsby / Cr Prescott

Item-379 PROPOSED EXTENDED RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

Discussion

The Chief Executive presented a report on a proposal to establish a Waikato Rural Fire District as promoted by the National Rural Fire Authority. He said Council has been invited to engage in a process to investigate the feasibility of this.

Cr Blackler queried whether there will be a general fire season over the whole of the Waikato District or will each Council have its own season. The Chief Executive replied this was a good question and it will become some of the detail that will need to be considered later on. Cr Earwaker queried the level of service this Council would require compared to other authorities. The Chief Executive replied he would like to maintain the current level of service. His Worship said it would be desirable for this Council to be part of the discussion and to be represented by a Councillor.

Resolved

That

1. The Chief Executive's report be received,
2. Approval is given for the engagement of Otorohanga District Council in a process to investigate the potential establishment of a Waikato Rural Fire District.

Cr Gower / Cr Ormsby

Item-380 ADOPTION OF OTOROHANGA DISTRICT PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN

Discussion

The Policy Manager presented his report and circulated copies of the Proposed District Plan, Section 32 Report and Proposed Plan Maps. He advised that the Proposed Plan will be notified on Thursday 16 September 2010, as being available for public submission until Friday 26 November 2010 at 4.00pm.

His Worship expressed thanks to the Chief Executive who has the overall responsibility for the Plan and senior Managers, in particular the Policy Manager. He said Councillors have appreciated Staff guidance and support to enable them to move forward. His Worship further expressed gratitude to Mrs Dorothy Wakeling and Mr Peter Skilton for their assistance. He said both Consultants have a stake in and an affection for the Otorohanga District. He further extended a thank you to other Consultants and said this is a significant day for the Otorohanga District Council. His Worship reported that this Plan forms the basis to move forward for a further 10 years and he is confident the work carried out will leave Council in good stead. He said the Plan will manage the District's resources and potential. His Worship said he was thrilled that this current Council receives the credit for their work during the last three years. He extended thanks to everyone in the Council chambers who had contributed either as a Councillor or as a staff member.

Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion the adoption of the proposed District Plan is a great achievement for the District and he has enjoyed working with the Councillors and Consultants.

Resolved

That

1. Council receives the report 'Adoption of the Otorohanga District Proposed District Plan';
2. Council adopts the Proposed Otorohanga District, Proposed District Plan, Otorohanga District Proposed Plan Maps and the accompanying Otorohanga District Section 32 Report;

3. In accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Otorohanga District, Proposed District Plan and Otorohanga District, Proposed Plan Maps be publicly notified on Thursday 16 September 2010, as being available for public submissions until Friday 26 November 2010, 4.00pm;
4. Council provides notice of any requirement or modification to a designation or heritage order received by Council under Clause 4 and in the manner described in Clause 5(1B) to Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to every land owner and occupier who are directly affected.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Earwaker

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned for luncheon at 12.55pm.

The meeting resumed at 1.45pm.

Item-381 ODC MATTERS REFERRED FROM 24 AUGUST 2010

Discussion

The Governance Supervisor took Members through Matters Referred from 24 August 2010.

BOLLARDS - BEHIND WOOLWORTHS

Members were informed that the matter of bollards and mud in the kerb and channel in the Service Lane behind Woolworths Supermarket will be attended to once OnTrack have completed the maintenance work on the overhead rail bridge.

ENGINEERING MANAGER

Items under the Engineering Manager have been covered earlier in the meeting except that relating to a report to be prepared for the Kawhia Community Board's meeting on 24 September 2010 regarding the Kawhia Water Supply, in particular to Environment Waikato's Resource Consent.

GENERAL

I-SITE FACILITY

Cr Ormsby sought confirmation of what was happening in regard to the possible relocation of the i-Site facility. Cr Pilkington replied that the Otorohanga District Development Board will be putting forward a proposal to Council for consideration hopefully, at its next meeting. Cr Ormsby expressed the opinion he hoped in considering any relocation of the i-Site facility that the right decision is made.

LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Cr Earwaker reported on his attendance at a recent Land Transport Strategy meeting whereat the Road/Land transport strategy was discussed and that it will be adopted on 4 October 2010 and notified on 1 November 2010.

LETHBRIDGE ROAD

Cr Blackler reported that the Lethridge Road bridge surface was appalling. The Engineering Manager replied that the floor of the bridge needs tightening and it was proposed to strip the surface off and then re-instate it.

WAIPA RIVER

Cr Blacker reported on her attendance at a Waipa River Sub-Committee meeting on 8 September 2010 whereat it was reported that loan funding had been reduced by \$200,000 and it was proposed to carry out this reduction each year.

Cr Blackler reported it was proposed to spend \$100,000 on the Otorohanga Weir, but difficulties were being experienced in sourcing the correct rock. She said the Otorohanga District Council will therefore be responsible for 24 percent of this cost. Cr Blackler reported that a tender has been put out to the whole of the Waikato District for the supply of the special rock required.

It was agreed that the Engineering Manager follow up on this matter.

Cr Blackler advised it was hoped that any River Settlement money will be utilised towards Project Watershed activities. She further advised that the Committee is in the process of identifying significant water bodies to be included under Land Management Plans around these areas.

WALKER ROAD

Members were informed that Walker Road is in really bad condition and that the Roothing Manager had advised it would cost approximately \$80,000 to reconstruct it. Members were advised that drainage work will also be required. The Engineering Manager reported that the road is dead flat and keeps breaking away. Also the road runs over privately owned property.

CR GOWER

Cr Gower left the meeting at 2.05pm.

Cr Earwaker informed Members that the first section of Walker Road is on private land. He said he understood there is an undertaking by Council to the landowners that it would maintain the road to provide their access. His Worship suggested a meeting be held with representatives of the Department of Corrections, landowners and Council. Cr Blackler reported there were eight houses utilising this roadway for access and that it is also used as part of a school bus route. Cr Earwaker felt that Council has a legal responsibility to provide this access. The Chief Executive said he disagreed and believed that there is no legal obligation on Council to provide the access however he considered that it might be appropriate to do so. The Chief Executive suggested allocating funding to reconstruct the road. In reply to His Worship regarding legal responsibility by Council to maintain the access, Cr Pilkington replied that Council has no legal responsibility. His Worship queried whether the matter could be placed back on the landowners.

The Chief Executive queried whether consideration be given to extending Adam Road and to involve Council, the Department of Corrections and landowners. It was agreed that exploratory work be carried out, including estimation of likely costs, for the construction to extend Adam Road following which a meeting be held with interested parties.

Item-382 MAIHIIHI PLAY CENTRE BUILDING CONSENT FEES - TABLED REPORT

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented a report on a written request from the Treasurer of the Maihihi Playcentre Group for a grant to cover part of the Building Consent fees for building operations at the Play Centre. He advised that the Playcentre has no direct relationship with the Department of Education.

Resolved

That

1. The Environmental Services Manager's report be received,

2. Council approve a grant to cover building consent fees to the value of \$320 out of a total charge of \$551.94.

Cr Blackler / Cr Prescott

Item-383 APPOINTMENTS TO HEARINGS COMMITTEE TO DECIDE - TABLED REPORT

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager presented a report confirming the date of a Hearing and the Members of the Hearings Committee to hear and decide a Resource Consent application by A Collins & CWC Trustees Ltd.

Resolved

That

1. The Hearing for Resource Consent RM090050 be held in the Council Chambers on Wednesday 29 September commencing at 9.30am and,
2. The members of the Hearings Committee will be His Worship the Mayor, Cr Earwaker and Cr Pilkington.

Cr Ormsby / Cr Prescott

TE KAWA ROAD SIGNAGE

His Worship raised the matter of a sign being re-erected on a blind corner where a fatality occurred two years ago. The Engineering Manager expressed the opinion of staff that the sign should not be re-erected as this may create a precedent.

Following discussion it was agreed that this particular sign on Te Kawa Road be re-erected.

KIWIANA DEBATE

His Worship reminded Members that the annual Kiwiana Debate will be held tomorrow evening.

IWI-HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Policy Manager queried whether a formal Signing Ceremony in respect to the Heritage Management Plan could be undertaken at the next meeting of Council. He said he felt it would be appropriate for this to be carried out prior to the forthcoming Local Government Elections, in recognition of the work undertaken by this Council. Following discussion it was agreed that the signing of the document be undertaken at 9.30am on 5 October 2010 to be followed by morning tea.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 2.45pm.

MAYOR:

DATE: 5 October 2010

