



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

5 October 2010

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

5 October 2010

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 5 October 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 (attended 10.08am), WH Earwaker, AL Gower, AG Ormsby, DM Pilkington and RJ Prescott.

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Chadwick (Engineering Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager), RF Proffit (Policy Manager), B O'Callaghan (District Accountant), Mrs L Cowan (Chairperson, Otorohanga Community Board) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Earwaker read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGY

Resolved that the apology received from Cr S Blacker for lateness, be sustained.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Gower

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chief Executive raised the matter of a possible donation to the Canterbury Mayoral Fund for Earthquake relief which he suggested should be considered in General Business and may require a resolution.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 14 SEPTEMBER 2010

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 14 September 2010 as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Blackler

MATTERS ARISING

Kawhia Medical Centre

Cr Pilkington informed Members that the rental income was down in the Kawhia Medical Centre Draft Management Account as a transfer was required from sundry grants to rental income for the Kawhia Medical Centre.

REPORTS

Item-394 KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES 24 SEPTEMBER 2010

Discussion

Cr Pilkington referred to Item 114 Wastewater System for Hall and Council facilities on page 1, in particular to the last sentence of the discussion and requested that the wording A & S RuBay be amended to read 'A RuBay and S Drummond'.

Cr Pilkington then referred to Kawhia Harbour Services, page 4 and requested the fourth sentence read 'Members queried how the matter of the rental for the Boat Park could be advanced'.

TRANSPORTABLE UNIT

Cr Earwaker advised he had spoken to the owner of the transportable unit who is happy to have it removed from Road Reserve. The Engineering Manager advised that Council's District Building Inspector had also spoken to the Owner and issued a notice for the unit to be removed.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 24 September 2010 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker

Item-395 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES 9 SEPTEMBER 2010

Discussion

Copies of the minutes of the Otorohanga Community Board meeting held on 9 September 2010 were circulated to Members.

MATTERS ARISING

OTOROHANGA SUPPORT HOUSE AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT

Cr Earwaker referred to the Air Conditioning unit in the Otorohanga Support House and expressed the opinion they should be responsible for its maintenance. His Worship felt that the Tenant should have ownership and control of the unit. Cr Earwaker advised that as the Otorohanga Support House is housed in a Council building then any issues relating to the building should be handled by Council and not the Community Board.

COMMUNITY LAWN MOWING

Cr Ormsby referred to page 6 where it was reported that the new Community Lawn Mowing Contractor was doing a great job. He said he did not support this comment as he was not happy with the standard of the lawn mowing. He said the town deserves a good quality job and was therefore highlighting this issue for Members attention.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 9 September 2010 as circulated, be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

Cr Prescott / Cr Ormsby

Action Required

The Engineering Manager undertook to check with the Community Lawn Mowing Contractor on the progress being made, during this dry weather period.

Item-396 DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10

Discussion

The District Accountant attended the meeting and presented the Draft Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2010. He said there may be a few minor changes to the document highlighted by Audit however, Audit are happy for the document to be signed off by Council today.

Cr Blackler referred to the Employee Benefit Expenses and said this figure has increased. The Chief Executive advised this has been the result following market movements. He said the figures have increased more than four percent. Cr Blackler was informed the increase was also due to Employees accrued holiday pay.

Reference was made to the increase in capital commitments and operating leases. The Engineering Manager advised that in respect to bulk metalling, Contracts have changed from one to three years.

Cr Earwaker referred to key roading level of service targets and said he understood from this that Council's roads appeared to be getting rougher. The Engineering Manager replied that staff have carried out considerably more inspections and highlighted substantially more defects. Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion that any work be result driven. Cr Pilkington queried how this Council compared with other local authorities. In regard to coming up with a benchmark figure, the Chief Executive said this was not straight forward. The Engineering Manager referred to a recent NZTA Audit which showed this Council's roads as being in very good condition. Cr Gower said this Council must keep its road maintenance 'up to speed'.

In moving the resolution Cr Earwaker expressed his congratulations to the District Accountant and staff on obtaining a pass from Audit. The Finance & Administration Manager thanked the District Accountant for this work in the preparation of the document and in particular being able to comply within the tight timeframe.

Resolved

That the Draft Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2010 be adopted.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Gower

Item-397 YOUTH PLAN

Discussion

The Chief Executive presented a report advising that arrangements are proposed to formalise Council's support of issues relating to local youth, with particular emphasis on supporting the education/employment transition.

Cr Pilkington referred to Table 1; Current Youth Programmes 2010 and queried whether the Proposed Youth Plan would benefit those outside Otorohanga College. His Worship replied it is proposed to create a National Call Centre with students being referred to the appropriate local service provider. He said it has been agreed by Central Government to introduce a national model which every school leaver will be connected to. Cr Earwaker agreed there is a need to mention other service providers in the programme. His Worship informed Members that Table 1: Current Youth Programmes 2010 has listed what is happening currently, the plans/commitment are detailed in Table 2.

His Worship expressed the opinion in the adoption of the proposed Youth Plan this will give the current Council the opportunity to receive the credit for the introduction of such a plan.

Resolved

That

1. Council adopts the attached Youth Plan
2. A new activity 'Youth Support' is included in future Council Long Term Plans
3. A dedicated budget allocation for Youth Support is provided for the 2011/12 financial year onwards.
4. An appointment is made to the role of Youth Advocate described in the Plan.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Earwaker

Item-398 PROPOSED RELOCATION OF i-SITE

Discussion

Representatives of the Otorohanga District Development Board, Mrs Carolyn Christian (Chairperson) and Mr Andrew Giltrap attended the meeting. Mrs Christian reported there had been a minority of resistance to the proposed relocation of the i-Site facility. She reported she had recently attended a meeting of the Otorohanga Business Association where the majority were quite happy with the proposal. She said there has been some concern expressed in directing traffic to the rear of the Library building thus moving it away from the main street. Mrs Christian advised that i-Site has been attempting to have signage erected highlighting their location. She said it was believed the meeting room will be very appropriate and will make for a more efficient space. Mr Giltrap reported there would be concerns if the BNZ were not in the existing building with i-Site. He said it would be necessary for the subsidy to rise. Mr Giltrap reported there are risks in allowing the i-Site to stay where it is, and that it should therefore move on to the Library site or some other suitable site.

His Worship reported that Council and 'the people' charged the Otorohanga District Development Board with the operation of the i-Site facility and should their long-term option be to relocate then he is happy with their proposal. Mr Giltrap expressed the opinion that public consultation has happened already. His Worship replied that from Council's point of view there is the requirement to consult. Mrs Cowan, Chairperson of the Otorohanga Community Board who was in attendance at the meeting reported that the engaged Consultant is of the opinion the Library site is custom made for an i-Site facility. Cr Pilkington expressed the opinion that it is extremely rare for the most popular option (being the Library Meeting Room) to be the lowest cost option. She reported that the existing Library Meeting Room is under-utilised and that the i-Site is looking at a long term solution. The Chief Executive said it is appropriate for Council to invite submissions and hear them. Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion that Council does not need to consult on the proposal. The Chief Executive replied it would be worthwhile for Council to 'close the loop' as should Council decide not to formally consult then expressions of dissatisfaction may continue on and on. Cr Ormsby said Otorohanga is a small town and with this particular issue needs everyone to be on board. He said he is happy to progress with the proposal. His Worship said it is necessary for Council to allow a fair opportunity for the people to be listened to, as Council is here for the majority. Cr Pilkington expressed the opinion the joining of the Library and i-Site is very desirable as both deal with the provision of information.

His Worship thanked the representatives for their presentation and the work done on behalf of Council. He said the Development Board provides real value for Council. Mr Giltrap advised that it will be necessary for the consultation and finance aspects of the proposal to be confirmed. In reply to Cr Pilkington regarding a proposed timeframe, she was advised that one month would lapse between advertising the proposal and the closing of submissions.

Cr Earwaker congratulated Members of the Otorohanga District Development Board on the great job they are doing for the District. Mr Giltrap thanked the retiring Councillors for their support. He suggested that Council give consideration to employing a Consents Officer to help in the process of applying for the various Consents.

Resolved

That

1. The report be received;
2. A public consultation process, using the Special Consultative Procedure of the Local Government Act 2002, be conducted in respect of the Otorohanga District Development Board's proposal to relocate the i-Site to the Library Meeting Room.

Cr Earwaker / Cr Pilkington

Item-400 WATER SUPPLY WORKS - KAWHIA

Discussion

The Chief Executive summarised a report advising that recently observed limitations on the Kawhia water supply have been discussed, and associated new works are proposed with the intention of reducing the risk of water shortages in the Community during the peak summer season. He confirmed that the provision of a new reservoir and associated costs would amount to approximately \$130,000. The Chief Executive confirmed that Council would not commit to the purchase of a new reservoir until the results of the leakage survey are obtained. Cr Pilkington reported that the conservation of water is still the key approach. She said the provision of an additional Reservoir will increase the storage capacity and therefore act as a buffer in regard to possible health risks, fire prevention, etc. Thanks was extended to the Chief Executive for his work towards arriving at a reasonable solution in this matter. Cr Pilkington said the proposal has been fully endorsed by the Kawhia Community Board. His Worship reported there were a number of items which form part and parcel of the proposal such as education, conservation and identifying the condition of the infrastructure. Cr Pilkington advised that the proposal was not a short term solution, it was part of an overall upgrade of Kawhia's water supply.

His Worship endorsed the comments of Cr Pilkington to the Chief Executive and the Kawhia Community Board. He requested that Council's appreciation be passed onto the Board for their effectiveness and unrelenting stance in this matter.

Resolved

That additional non-budgeted expenditure in the Kawhia Community Water Supply account in the current financial year is approved for the purpose of installing an additional Water Reservoir of 400 cubic metres and completion of an initial water main leakage survey as described in the report.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Earwaker

Item-401 ODC MATTERS REFERRED FROM 14 SEPTEMBER 2010

Discussion

The Governance Supervisor took Members through Matters Referred.

SKATE BOARD FACILITY ACCOUNT

Members were informed that the matter of the \$5,000 shortfall in the Skate board facility account will be paid from the Board's profit/loss account.

COMMUNITY MAX PROGRAMME

The Engineering Manager reported an Application has been submitted to Work & Income for Council to continue with a further Community Max programme. He said there should be sufficient work available under this programme however, Work & Income are unsure if they will be able to locate enough people. Cr Pilkington suggested that, if necessary, any work proposed could be transferred to a programme being administered by local Marae.

OTOROHANGA WEIR

The Engineering Manager reported he had spoken to a representative of Environment Waikato who has prepared a formal report on the matter of spending \$100,000 on the weir. He said the proposed expenditure is to reface the whole of the weir however, there are some doubt as to whether the correct rock could be supplied for this purpose. The Engineering Manager confirmed to EW that this Council has no funding available in this current year. He referred to the \$80,000 that Council receives from EW as part of the Flood Protection Area and questioned whether 24

percent of this amount could be returned to EW for this proposed upgrade. Members were keen to ascertain why EW need to carry out this work on the weir.

His Worship suggested a strong message be forwarded to EW asking for them to advise of the value of the project, how this is being funded and why it is being undertaken in the first place.

WALKER ROAD

The Engineering Manager reported on a preliminary investigation that has been conducted in regard to the reconstruction of Walker Road. He said he had met with one property owner who initially said he would not allow Council to go over his land. The Engineering Manager advised this was the property owners first response however, he then explained the situation to him. He said it was necessary to obtain a guarantee from the Department of Corrections to allow access over their part of Walker Road if that part is to be upgraded.

The Engineering Manager informed Members of proposed costings, these being -

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Land purchase | \$80,000 |
| 2. Road formation | \$130,000 |
| 3. Survey costs to legalisation | \$10-15,000 |
| 4. Engineering on costs | \$10-15,000 |
| 5. Fencing | \$24,000 |

He said his initial thought could be for the current landowners to 'gift' the land with the Department of Corrections and Council contributing \$100,000 each. The Engineering Manager confirmed that the land concerned is of freehold title and that there is no 'paper road' in existence. Members agreed that a meeting with the property owners, including the Department of Corrections, would be necessary to progress this matter. His Worship advised that Council does not wish to spend a substantial sum on a road it does not own. Cr Earwaker reported that the property owners desire was that they continue to use Walker Road. His Worship said the discussion being held was on major rehabilitation of the road. Cr Pilkington expressed the opinion that Council should not undertake any repairs to the road as it is not Council property.

His Worship suggested that all parties meet to discuss the proposal as soon as possible and to include Cr Earwaker in these discussions.

DRAFT MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

The Finance & Administration Manager addressed the items under the District Accountant.

KAWHIA MEDICAL CENTRE

The Finance & Administration Manager reported that a transfer is required from Sundry Grants to the Kawhia Medical Centre to increase the rental income.

TOURISM INITIATIVES

With regard to the matter of Tourism Initiatives being over-budget in the Promotion and Development account, the Finance & Administration Manager reported the difference in the budget was to allow for the provision of services to the Waikato Regional Airport to attract a low cost carrier, this grant being \$7,031.

YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARDS

Cr Blackler, on behalf of the Otorohanga District & Community Charitable Trust, presented Young Achiever Awards to Hannah Connolly in her study of Electrical Engineering and Rory Grice for his participation in the Under 20 World Cup Rugby.

His Worship thanked the recipients for their attendance and congratulated them on their achievement.

GENERAL

MAIN NORTH ROAD SEWERAGE PUMP

Cr Prescott queried what progress had been made in installing a new filter. The Engineering Manager replied the filter was due by the end of this week and will require one or two days to be installed.

MAORI LEASE LAND

Cr Ormsby referred to the amount of Maori Lease Land within the Otorohanga Community and reported that a number of these are coming up for a 100 year rent review. He referred in particular to the site of the Otorohanga Lyceum Club and that of the Senior Citizens Hall. Cr Ormsby queried how many properties this may involve.

The Finance & Administration Manager referred in particular to the Senior Citizens Club/Otorohanga Kindergarten sites and said a rental review for this land came up approximately three years ago. He said the Senior Citizens and the Kindergarten were advised and that neither objected to the proposed increase. He advised that Council only recovers the rental charged by the Maori Trustees. His Worship felt the matter of the rent reviews was a civil one and that there has been considerable emphasis on encouraging Maoridom to 'get commercial' in its operations. Cr Ormsby reported that there has been a considerable rent hike and those affected are fearful of not being able to afford the rental. His Worship felt that Council cannot interfere in this situation.

Cr Ormsby extended his thanks to Councillors and staff for their input over the past three years and wished everyone all the best for the future.

REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Cr Earwaker reported on his recent attendance at a Regional Transport Committee meeting where a three year summary was discussed. He said the whole discussion moved from one strategy to another.

Cr Earwaker expressed the opinion that some tarsealed roads within the District are not in good shape.

KIWIANA DEBATE

Cr Pilkington extended congratulations to the Project Kiwiana Committee on presenting the recent Kiwiana Debate and in particular His Worship, Cr Blackler and the Chief Executive for their performance at the event.

CR EARWAKER

Cr Pilkington extended her thanks to Cr Earwaker in his role as Deputy Mayor, for his support to the Kawhia Community Board. She wished Cr Earwaker and his family all the best for the future.

CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKE VISITORS

Cr Pilkington reported a family from the Canterbury Earthquake region were arriving in Kawhia tomorrow.

ENVIRONMENT WAIKATO - WEST COAST ZONE

Cr Pilkington referred to the West Coast Zone and the 20 percent increase in the rate. She queried what was happening now as the money has been received.

RETIRING COUNCILLORS

Cr Blackler reported it had been great working with both Crs Earwaker and Gower and that she will miss them both. She extended all the best to both Councillors on their retirement from Council.

AOTEA ROAD PROPERTY

The Environmental Services Manager circulated copies of a plan of the Apiti property fronting the Aotea Harbour. He referred Members in particular to Lot 3, being a strip of land set aside as Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade) to be vested in Council. Members were informed, as part of the Environment Waikato's Clean Water Initiative, a contribution may be required to fence the area off.

TE TAHI ROAD

The Environmental Services Manager, referring to the appeal in respect of a planning matter on Te Tahi Road, reported that the Applicants had 30 days to register their appeal, which is now down to 15 days. He said to date no interest has been expressed. The Environmental Services Manager then discussed the process that leads up to a hearing before the Environment Court.

COLLINS DECISION

The Environmental Services Manager informed Members that the Decision in respect to the Collins property will go out today.

The Environmental Services Manager extended his thanks to all those Councillors who have sat on the Hearings Committees. He said it will be necessary for Council to have two certified Members available in the future to decided notified Resource Consent hearings.

SHORE FUTURES

The Policy Manager reported that he has been in discussion with Environment Waikato regarding the Annual Review which had been put in place one year ago. He said he is keen to see a Forum held sometime during November 2010. It was agreed that Tuesday 9 and Thursday 11 November 2010 be set aside with a time to be confirmed later.

HAMILTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

His Worship reported on his attendance along with the Chief Executive at the AGM held yesterday. He said settlement with the Customs Dept is in sight with the Airport's position being very strong. He said a small increase has been budgeted for in respect of Custom fees.

His Worship reported that negotiations are currently being held with another international airline, including the possibility of domestic flights. Discussions are also being held with another NZ Carrier. He reported other Airlines are also looking at Hamilton. He said Hamilton's domestic fares have increased.

His Worship then outlined a personalised presentation which will be undertaken by Airport staff to Council after the Local Government Elections.

CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKE VISITORS

His Worship reported on the hosting of 29 Canterbury earthquake visitors in Otorohanga this week. He said AirNZ had donated the airline tickets and other generous contributions were received for accommodation, transport, food and activity events for the visitors. He said there was a Mayoral Welcome to the families last evening in the Council Chambers. He said Council will acknowledge those people that have contributed to this project.

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

His Worship thanked Councillors in general and the Chief Executive and his management team for their commitment to the job in hand. He expressed the opinion that Council staff carry out a pretty good job. He said he hoped people did not underestimate the efforts put in by staff. His Worship said any reasonable approach made by the public will receive excellent service.

His Worship extended special thanks to the Policy Manager for his input into the review of the District Plan. He said this Council can take credit for the signing off of the draft document.

His Worship then referred to Elected Members and said this is a fantastic opportunity for them to represent the District's people by providing a Community service. He said this Council has had honest representation and acknowledged the support and encouragement he has received as Mayor. He said regardless of the content of debate, it has always been great fun.

Item-402 CANTERBURY MAYORAL FUND

Discussion

The Chief Executive raised the matter of a contribution to the Canterbury Mayoral Fund for assistance to the earthquake victims. He said initially there was a willingness to make a modest contribution between \$2-3,000.

Resolved

That Council make a donation of \$3,000 to the Canterbury Mayoral Fund for earthquake relief.

Cr Gower / Cr Earwaker

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

The Governance Supervisor informed Members that to date approximately 26 percent of voting papers have been returned. He said this was up approximately four percent on the 2007 return figures.

QUOTABLE VALUE

The Finance & Administration Manager reported on a summary received from Quotable Value following their recent review of the District. He said the overall value of the Otorohanga District had dropped 1.2 percent from 2007. He then highlighted the following movements in the various sectors -

Dairy & Pastoral	-0.4 %
Horticultural & Specialist Rural	-2.8 %
Forestry & Mining	-12.1 %
Lifestyle	.4 %
Residential	-8.8 %
Commercial	-6.3 %
Industrial	4.4 %
Other & Utilities	-5.4 %.

RETIRING COUNCILLORS PRESENTATIONS

His Worship undertook presentations to

- i. Environment Waikato Councillor Andra Neeley
- ii. Cr Leveson Gower
- iii. Cr Hugh Earwaker.

He thanked all Members for their contribution to Council and that he had enjoyed working with them all. He referred in particular to Cr Gower's nine years contribution representing the Wharepuhunga Ward and Cr Earwaker's 12 years contribution in respect to the KioKio/Korakonui Ward.

The Chief Executive then made a presentation to the retiring Council members.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 1.35pm.

MAYOR:

DATE: 26 October 2010

