



Ōtorohanga District Council

MINUTES

16 June 2020

1pm

ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

16 June 2020

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Ōtorohanga District Council held in the Council Chamber, 17 Maniapoto Street, Ōtorohanga.

Tanya Winter
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MINUTES

PRESENT

IN ATTENDANCE

APOLOGIES

REFLECTION / PRAYER / WORDS OF WISDOM (COUNCILLOR FERGUSON)

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL 26 MAY 2020

RECEIPT OF MINUTES ŌTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD 3 JUNE 2020

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PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor MM Baxter, Councillors K Christison, B Ferguson, R Johnson, K Jeffries, RA Klos and A Williams

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. T. Winter (Chief Executive), Messrs., A Loe (Group Manager Environment), G Bunn (Group Manager Corporate), B O'Callaghan (Finance Manager), A Senger (Roading Manager), and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

His Worship declared the meeting open and welcomed those present.

REFLECTION / PRAYER / WORDS OF WISDOM

Councillor Ferguson recited words of wisdom being: The South Country –
Time decides who you meet in life,
Your heart decides who you want in your life,
And your behaviour decides who stays in your life.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

His Worship asked members whether they had any declarations of conflicts of interest.

Councillor Johnson reported as a Trustee of the Beattie Community Trust he has an interest in Item 74, the Beattie Home Grant Application.

The Chief Executive advised that it is up to the individual member to ascertain his level of conflict in any item to be discussed. It is appropriate for that member to make a decision whether he/she will take part in the discussion and/or vote on the resolution.

Councillor Johnson advised that he will abstain from taking part in the discussion and/or voting on the resolution.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. B Millar made a presentation to Council on the following –

- Council support for the Hamilton Airport to become an International Airport.
- Sister Town relationship for Ōtorohanga.
- Restarting of the KiwiRail commuter rail service from Hamilton to Auckland – encourage this to include Te Kuiti, the Waitomo Caves and Ōtorohanga.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL – 26 MAY 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Ōtorohanga District Council held on 26 May 2020, as circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

COUNCILLOR JOHNSON / COUNCILLOR JEFFRIES

RECEIPT OF MINUTES - ŌTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD – 3 JUNE 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ōtorohanga Community Board held on 3 June 2020 be received.

COUNCILLOR FERGUSON / COUNCILLOR CHRISTISON

ITEM 72 HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR – VERBAL REPORT

His Worship reported on the various meetings / activities he had attended during the period 3 June – 16 June, these being:

- 3 June 2020 – attended a Northern King Country Development Trust meeting.
- 4 June 2020 – attended a Zoom meeting in conjunction with the Chief Executive and Group Manager Corporate with Trevor and Stuart in relation to Beattie Home Community Trust Inc.
- 4 June 2020 – Attended the first meeting of the Waikato Plan Leadership group held under new governance.
- 5 June 2020 – Met with local residents expressing concerns.
 - Letter of support for Nick Andreef – owner of Waitomo Adventures Limited.
- 10 June 2020 – Attended Zoom meeting with CIP and the Department of Corrections.
- 15 June 2020 – Attended Nga Wai Ō Waipa Co-Governance Meeting, held yesterday.
 - Met with residents and Chair of Ngutunui School.
 - Met via Zoom with Dennis O’Callaghan, Councillors Williams and Johnson.

RESOLVED that His Worship the Mayor’s verbal report be received.

HIS WORSHIP / COUNCILLOR KLOS

ITEM 73 KIWI HOUSE LOAN HEARING REPORT

The Group Manager Corporate referred members to his report advising that consultation on the Statement of Proposal for providing a loan of \$2 million dollars to the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House was open from 26 May to 9 June 2020. He reported that Council received a total of 17 submissions, 16 in support of the proposal and one preferring the proposal be postponed.

Mr. Duncan Coull, on behalf of the Ōtorohanga District Development Board presented their submission in favour of the proposal. He referred to Council’s logo “Ōtorohanga Kiwis Can Fly”.

During discussion the following items were raised:

- Whether Council could co-opt an independent member onto the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House Trust.
- All members showed support for the proposal.
- The options available regarding loans and interest rates.

Members were informed of two additional submissions that went to Council’s submissions email address but weren’t received. These being –

- Mrs. Kim Ingham – Chairperson of the Ōtorohanga Charitable Trust supporting the proposal.
- Mrs. Wikitōria Tane expressing the view that she does not think it an appropriate time for Council to agree to such a substantial loan. Her preference would be to postpone the proposal until the impacts of the viability of the Tourism industry as a result of COVID-19 is known.

Mrs. Wikitoria Tane presented her submission via Zoom. She said that she supports the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House however, has concerns on their ability to service the loan which is placing a risk on the ratepayers.

RESOLVED that

1. Council receives, considers and where requested hears pursuant to section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002, submissions on the Statement of Proposal for a loan to the Kiwi House.
2. That any late submissions be accepted and considered.
3. After considering submissions Council would like staff to proceed with drafting a report to make a \$2 million dollar loan to the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House.
4. The report includes the following:
 - a) Options around interest rates
 - b) A reporting mechanism by the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House back to Council.

HIS WORSHIP / COUNCILLOR CHRISTISON

His Worship extended Council’s thanks to the staff involved in progressing this matter.

ITEM 74 BEATTIE HOME GRANT APPLICATION

The Group Manager Corporate summarised his report advising that the Beattie Home Community Trust Inc is seeking Council support for a grant to assist in financing an external loan that will be used to fund a proposed 22 bed Dementia Wing at Beattie Home.

Councillor Johnson had previously declared a conflict of interest in this matter and accordingly took no part in the discussion nor voted on the resolution.

During discussion the following matters were highlighted.

- The Beattie Home Community Trust Inc is more than happy with the support proposed at the present time.
- Congratulations be extended to the Beattie Home Community Trust Inc for approaching a local Bank for a loan.
- Increase in aged residents will place a demand for this service in the future.

RESOLVED that Council supports a grant of \$30,000 to Beattie Community Trust for 1 year to assist in financing an external loan. This is to be funded from the Rates Relief and Economic Stimulus Fund in the 2020/21 Financial Year.

COUNCILLOR FERGUSON / COUNCILLOR CHRISTISON

ITEM 75 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING AGENCY – SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The Group Manager Corporate referred members to his report which is intended to establish Council's position on the matters being put forward for consideration at the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) Special General Meeting (SGM) on 30 June 2020.

RESOLVED that

1. Council appoints the meeting Chair as proxy to vote on behalf of the Council at the Local Government Funding Agency's Special General Meeting on 30 June 2020,;
2. Agrees that the proxy or alternate vote in favour of the Local Government Funding Agency's proposal as follow:
 - a. To increase the foundation policy financial covenant net debt / total revenue from the current 250% to 280% for local authorities with a long term credit rating of 'A' equivalent or higher;
 - b. That until 2025/26, local authorities with a long term credit rating of 'A' equivalent or higher must comply with the "Alternative Net Debt / Total Revenue covenant" as below.

Alternative Net Debt / Total Revenue Covenant	
Financial Year (Test Date)	Net Debt / Total Revenue
30 June 2020	<250%
30 June 2021	<300%
30 June 2022	<300%
30 June 2023	<295%
30 June 2024	<290%
30 June 2025	<285%

3. Notes the amended foundation policy financial covenant of 280% will apply in the 2025/26 financial year and annually thereafter.

COUNCILLOR JEFFRIES / COUNCILLOR JOHNSON

ITEM 76 APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – HAMILTON CAR CLUB – 2020 HODDLE ROAD RALLY SPRINT

The Roading Manager referred members to the Senior Engineering Assistant report advising that an application has been received from Hamilton Car Club for various road closures within the Ōtorohanga District, to enable Hamilton Car Club to hold the Hamilton Car Club 2020 Hoddle Road Rally Sprint.

He asked members whether they had any questions on the content of the report.

In reply to Councillor Johnson in relation to the grading of the road prior to or after the event he was informed that Council has a Summer / Winter schedule for grading and sometimes this is left longer until after a Rally event is held. Alternatively should there be major damage to the road this will be repaired by the applicant or Council will carry out this repair work and the applicant will be charged for the costs associated.

RESOLVED that

the application for Temporary Road Closure of sections on Maihihi, Hoddle and Tauraroa Valley Roads on Sunday 23 August 2020; be granted with the following conditions imposed;

1. In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence and a revert to a lockdown greater than Level 2 status, any granted road closures will be rendered null and void
2. Emergency services always have complete rite of passage.
3. Hamilton Car Club is to pay a bond of \$4000.00 per unsealed road to be used. Bond returnable after post event drive over, undertaken by Ōtorohanga District Council Roading Team.
4. Hamilton Car Club is to pay an application fee of \$400.00 towards the administration of the road closure to Ōtorohanga District Council.
5. Hamilton Car Club is to pay for all advertising costs to the appropriate newspapers. Public notice advertisements are to be published in the Waitomo News.
6. Hamilton Car Club is responsible for obtaining public liability insurance (and paying the cost thereof) to a minimum value of \$2,000,000. This is required to indemnify Council against any damage to the property or persons as a result of rally activities during the road closure period.
7. Hamilton Car Club is to comply with the objection provisions contained in the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965.
8. Hamilton Car Club is to liaise and provide evidence of liaison with all operators and businesses that may be affected by the road closures.
9. Hamilton Car Club is to consult with all residents of all properties on the roads intending to be closed and also the residents on roads connecting with roads intending to be closed, including any no exit roads. Two mail drops to residents are to be carried out. All initial mail drops to residents are to be approved by Council staff before distribution commences. The subsequent mail drop is to be completed no later than ten full days before the proposed closures.
10. Hamilton Car Club is solely responsible for signposting and policing of the roads to be closed, to ensure that only vehicles connected with the event have access to the road closure areas. This includes arranging the delivery, erection and staffing of all road closure barriers and the removal thereof after closures. All gates and entranceways are to be taped and to ensure its removal thereafter.

11. Signs advising of the road closures are to be erected at the start and end of the closed portions of the roads and on each intersecting road two weeks prior to the road closure. All signs are to be removed immediately after the closure. A Hamilton Car Club representative is to meet with Council Engineering staff regarding the required signs format, size, location and quantity of signs for approval before they are manufactured and erected.

COUNCILLOR JEFFRIES / COUNCILLOR FERGUSON

ITEM 77 MOUNTAIN VIEW PUMP STATION PUMP REPLACEMENT

Councils Services Manager attended the meeting and referred members to his report advising that following a recent service on the main pump at the Mountain View Pump Station, situated at the Mountain View Reservoirs, has revealed the pump is no longer useable and an unbudgeted upgrade of the pump station is now required.

He asked members to take the report as read and whether they had any questions on its content.

Resolved that

- 1) Council approve the unbudgeted capital expenditure of \$46,000 to upgrade the Mountain View Pump Station as per option three within this report and the cost to be allocated to the Ōtorohanga Water Supply sundry renewals budget.

COUNCILLOR JOHNSON / COUNCILLOR CHRISTISON

ITEM 78 RATES RELIEF AND REMISSION OF PENALTIES: RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The Group Manager Corporate referred to his report in response to the impacts of COVID-19 a rates relief and penalty remission package for affected ratepayers is to be considered.

Resolved that the Rates Relief and Remission of Penalties report be received and that the amendments be included in the 2020/21 Rates Resolution to be adopted by Council at the meeting of 25 June 2020.

Proposed Rates Resolution

Instalment	Existing Due Date	Proposed Due Date	Existing Penalty Date	Proposed Penalty Date	Existing Penalty Interest	Proposed Penalty Interest
Instalment 1	31 st July 2020	28 th August 2020	28 th August 2020	25 th September 2020	10%	5%
Instalment 2	25 th December	29 th January 2021	29 th January 2021	26 th February 2021	10%	5%

Arrears Penalty

Arrears Balance	Existing Penalty Applied Date	Proposed Penalty Applied Date	Existing Arrears Penalty Interest	Proposed Arrears Penalty Interest
1 st July 2020	1 st July 2020	1 st August 2020	10%	5%
1 st July 2020	1 st January 2021	1 st February 2021	10%	5%

COUNCILLOR JEFFRIES / COUNCILLOR CHRISTISON

ITEM 79 ROUTINE QUARTERLY WATER SERVICES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES REPORT

The Services Manager summarised the Senior Engineering Assistant report to provide information on the activities of the water services and Community Facilities department for the last quarter from 29 February to 31 May 2020. He said this report contains matters of an activity nature and does not require any decision from Council.

The Services Manager reported that he is extremely proud of his team for carrying out their duties during the COVID-19 lockdown period.

RESOLVED that the information presented to Council in this report be received.

COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS / COUNCILLOR JEFFRIES

ITEM 80 ROUTINE ENGINEERING REPORT ON ROADING – MARCH 2020 TO MAY 2020

The Roading Manager along with Council's Road Safety Officer presented the routine report on Roading matters for the period March 2020 to June 2020.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

COUNCILLOR FERGUSON / COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED that Council adjourn the meeting at 3.05pm.

HIS WORSHIP / COUNCILLOR CHRISTISON

RESOLVED that Council re-adjourn the meeting at 3.15pm.

HIS WORSHIP / COUNCILLOR CHRISTISON

ITEM 81 ROUTINE BUILDING CONTROL REPORT JANUARY TO MARCH 2020

The Building Control Manager attended the meeting and summarised his report on building control activity covering the period from 1 January to 31 March 2020.

RESOLVED that the Building Control activity report for the first quarter of 2020 be received.

COUNCILLOR JEFFRIES / COUNCILLOR JOHNSON

COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Councillor Johnson

- Chief Executives Performance Review Committee.
- Economic Stimulus fund.

Councillor Williams

- Zoom meeting of the Civil Defence Joint Committee.
- Waikato Regional Council approved 3 business case studies as part of their Long Term Plan. A small regional rates increase is proposed.
- Chief Executive's Performance Review Committee.

Councillor Christison

- Questioned the consultation / engagement around the Long Term Plan and the timeframe available.

Councillor Ferguson

- Referred to the proposed cycle way between Ōtorohanga and Waitomo and asked for this Council to be kept in the loop on its progress.

Councillor Klos

- Ōtorohanga College – possible change of name?
- Reduction of training for Doctors on Mental Health and woman's issues – suggested a letter be forwarded to the Otago Medical School requesting they ensure that the countries GP's have a good knowledge of Mental Health.
- His Worship forward a letter of Congratulations to Rachel Archer of Tolley Road on her success in the Motocross field.
- Hardship Grants from the Mayor's Relief Fund.
- Advised that Council does have the power to remit rates under hardship.

Councillor Jeffries

- Attended the Aotea Incorporated Annual General Meeting held on 1 May 2020.
- Question of Community Patrols / CCTV for Aotea.
- Planting of dunes by the Regional Council.
- Fenced off part of walkway. (private property).
- Consent of the Aotea Seawall expires 2023 and will involve the Regional and District Council.
- Cross Boundaries of business opportunities.
- Annual General Meeting of Kawhia Sports Club to be held 27 June 2020.

MEETING CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 3.58pm