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Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

23 FEBRUARY 2017

4.00pm

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

23 FEBRUARY 2017

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, 17 Maniapoto Street, Otorohanga on 23 February 2017 commencing at 4.00pm

MINUTES

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

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PRESENT

Mr P McConnell (Chair), Mrs. K Christison, Mrs. EM Cowan, Mr A Buckman, Mr N Gadd, Mr P Coventry

IN ATTENDANCE

His Worship The Mayor M Baxter (attended at 4.10pm), Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Brady (Engineering Manager), M Lewis (Community Facilities Officer) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor),

The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed members, staff and the public to the February meeting of the Board.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 19 JANUARY 2017

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 19 January 2017 be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CHAIR / MR COVENTRY

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair asked members whether they were aware of any situations where they could stand to make personal and or monetary gains in any particular matter to be discussed at this meeting.

No such declarations of interest were received.

ITEM 14 PUBLIC FORUM' COMPONENT OF BOARD MEETINGS

The Chief Executive presented a report proposing that the commencement of 'Public Forum' sections at the start of future ordinary public meetings of the Otorohanga Community Board is considered. He advised that the Board had expressed some interest in having such a section.

The Chief Executive reported that the Otorohanga District Council and Kawhia Community Board have recently resolved to commence a public forum section at the start of their meetings.

Mrs Cowan suggested that if adopted notification of the public forum should be placed on Council's Facebook.

The Chief Executive in reply to Mr Coventry confirmed that the Board Meetings will still commence at 4pm.

Resolved that -

1. The attached draft set of guidelines for the conduct 'Public Forum' sections of OCB meetings be adopted.
2. That Public Forum sections, in accordance with the guidelines, be conducted at the start of future meetings of the Board.
3. That advertising is conducted to make the public aware of the introduction of these Public Forum sections of meetings.

MRS COWAN / MR GADD

HIS WORSHIP

His Worship attended the meeting at 4.10pm.

ITEM 15 REMOVAL OF TREE 9 RANFURLY STREET OTOROHANGA

The Communities Facilities Officer presented a report on the request made by the Committee of St Davids Presbyterian Church to remove a tree outside the Church on Ranfurly Street Otorohanga

Mr Gadd extended his thanks to the Community Facilities Officer for the comprehensive information provided in his report and agreed with the recommendation that the tree be removed due to the damage it is causing to the footpath and possible interference with the water main.

Resolved that the request from the St Davids Presbyterian Church to remove a tree outside the Church on Ranfurly Street be granted.

MR COVENTRY / MRS CHRISTISON

Mr Gadd suggested when the Board is asked to remove a particular tree, it could be suggested to the applicant that they provide a couple of new trees to be planted in a Council Reserve.

ITEM 16 MATTERS REFERRED – 19 JANUARY 2017

The Governance Supervisor took members through the Matters Referred.

PAINTBALL ACTIVITY – PART DOMAIN LAND

The Chair reported that he has not yet had the opportunity to talk to Mr and Mrs Hearfield regarding the lease agreement for their paintball activity on part Domain land.

The Chief Executive advised that Council has supplied a three year lease agreement however is waiting to hear back from Mr and Mrs Hearfield.

REMOVAL OF EXISTING RAILWAY FENCE

The Engineering Manager reported he has received a Risk Assessment from Craig Garner, Health and Safety Training Portfolio EMA regarding the removal of the existing railway fence at the northern end of Wahanui Crescent. He said the current fence is a form of control from trains travelling along the railway line therefore should this be removed the risk increases.

The Engineering Manager reported that should Council be seen to be increasing access to a hazard, this would not look good.

The Chair felt that should Council remove the fence, then it is necessary to replace it.

GENERAL

The Chair informed members that there will be a workshop at the end of today's meeting.

OTOROHANGA STOPBANKS

Mr Buckman reported that he carried out an annual walk along the stop banks from the new Caravan Park at Waipa Esplanade to Phillips Avenue. He said this is a beautiful walk and well worth establishing as a walkway. Mr Buckman suggested that the walkway could be funded by a number of people throughout the District. He advised that if he is informed of the length of the stop bank then he will prepare costings for the installation of a walkway.

Mrs Cowan requested that a workshop meeting of the Board be held regarding the stop banks. She said these are an extremely important infrastructure and has concerns with the differences between Council's agreement with the Waikato Regional Council and the lease agreements which Council has with individuals.

Mrs Cowan suggested that the Board should give consideration to cease grazing of the stop banks and for the agreements to be aligned.

Mrs Cowan further reported that issues such as pugging of areas, tracking and weed control need to be addressed.

The Engineering Manager reported that contact has been made by the Waikato Regional Council regarding the question of fencing the stop banks. He said this will necessitate amendments being made to the existing lease agreements. The Engineering Manager confirmed that the Regional Council is open to discussion regarding the funding of this project.

Mrs Cowan reported there is a substantial amount of wood piled up against the stop banks and again suggested the need for a workshop to be held.

The Chair said that much discussion has been held regarding the town side of the stop banks but what happens to the other side.

The Engineering Manager replied that these areas also have to comply with the same conditions.

EDMUND HILLARY WALKWAY

Mrs Cowan queried whether an investigation has been carried out into the lighting of the Edmund Hillary Walkway.

Council's Community Facilities Officer replied that all of the bulbs have been replaced and this has increased the lighting in the area. He said a sensor has also been installed which activates when the lighting becomes dim.

Mrs Cowan requested that staff still consider replacing the existing lights with LED Lighting in the future. She further requested that this item be placed on Matters Referred.

ROTARY PARK

Mrs Cowan suggested that a date be set for a scheduled walk over of Rotary Park. She said issues such as weed control, track maintenance and railings need to be looked at.

The Community Facilities Officer advised that some spraying of Gorse has been carried out.

Mr Gadd reported that a number of weeds are encroaching into private properties from the Rotary Park area.

Mrs Cowan requested that consideration of a walkover of the area be placed on Matters Referred.

PARKING – MANIAPOTO STREET

Mrs Christison raised the matter of shop owners / staff parking in Maniapoto Street and side streets during business hours. She said the Otorohanga Business Association is attempting to address this matter, however she wondered if the Board could assist.

In reference to the policing of the parking limits Mrs Cowan reported that the Board has already attempted this however, it did not work successfully.

The Chair expressed the opinion that this is a Otorohanga Business Association matter and they need to be more active and to speak to their members.

The Chief Executive advised that the local Police have the power to enforce the parking Bylaw if there is severe non-compliance.

HUIPUTEA DRIVE

Members were informed that signage has been erected on the Huiputea Drive bypass regarding dogs running free and fouling the area.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs Christison referred to a letter received from a local person which had been presented to a meeting of the Otorohanga Business Association and not to Board Members.

Mrs Cowan felt that all correspondence should be acknowledged and the writer informed that this will be discussed at a future Board meeting and acknowledgement.

The Chief Executive suggested that all inwards correspondence addressed to the Board be given to the Governance Supervisor for distribution.

Reference was also made to another letter forwarded in November 2016 which has not been acknowledged by Council.

IT

Mrs Cowan referred to the problems being encountered with attachments via Winmail.

FREEDOM PARKING

The Chair undertook to make contact with the local writer regarding freedom parking in Otorohanga.

Members were circulated with a copy of a letter received from Mrs F Rawlings / Mr C Payne regarding freedom parking in Otorohanga.

The Chair advised that the writers have expressed their thoughts on this matter and suggested that Board Members give consideration to the contents of the letter and to come back to the Board with their thoughts.

BOARD AGENDA

The Chair suggested that should members be aware of an item they wish to discuss at a Board Meeting that prior to the Agenda being prepared they make contact with the Chair for this item to be placed on the Agenda. He said this will give members the opportunity to give thought to the item being raised. The Chair felt that this would also be desirable to give members of the public an opportunity to attend the meeting if it is a matter that they are interested in.

PROJECT KIWIANA COMMITTEE

The Chair advised members that he has spoken to the President of the Project Kiwiana Committee Marayn Hurley regarding the proposed Kiwiana Playground. He said it is just a matter of setting suitable dates for both parties to meet, one evening between 6pm and 8pm.

Mrs Cowan reported that there is a number of people which have expressed interest to be part of the proposed playground.

BILL MILLAR

The Chair reported that Mr Millar has come up with several ideas which make sense for the promotion of Otorohanga.

The Chair circulated information of inwards correspondence for consideration at a future Board meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.04pm