



Ōtorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

3 June 2020

4PM

ŌTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

3 June 2020

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Ōtorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto Street, Ōtorohanga on 3 June 2020 commencing at 4.00pm.

Tanya Winter
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MINUTES

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PRESENT

Mr. N Gadd (Chair), Cr. K Christison, Mrs. K Brown-Merrin, Mr. A Buckman, Mr. P Coventry.

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. T Winter (Chief Executive), Messrs. R Brady (Group Manager Engineering), Miss N Martinsen (Committee Secretary).

The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed those present

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair asked members whether they had any Declarations of conflicts of interest.

No Declarations of conflicts of interest were received.

PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were present at the commencement of the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 4 MARCH 2020

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Ōtorohanga Community Board held on 4 March 2020, as circulated be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Mrs. Brown-Merrin / Mr. Buckman

ITEM 24 – CHAIRPERSONS REPORT – VERBAL

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, their first since the world turned upside down. Due to the recent shutdown the Chair didn't really have much to report on, except for the ridiculously amazing things happening in the community, facing times of adversity often brings out the best in people, he said our community has shown that.

The Chair further stated he would like to start off at the top, and commend Mayor Max Baxter and CEO Winter on their work with the Kiwi House, getting the proposal together with everyone in isolation and unable to sit around a table to discuss was no easy feat, and our Council has managed to pull together an amazing proposal which ticks all the boxes, is legal, and meets timing deadlines. He commended Councillor Christison on her passionate enthusiasm and input on this.

The Chair referred to the case of the Kiwi House and said he would like to take his hat off to the Ōtorohanga Community Trust who have somehow managed to pull together a monumental amount of money in a monumentally short period of time, this is nothing short of mind blowing phenomenal.

The Chair mentioned Board Member Buckman who has also been doing his part and somehow secured a mountain of produce to feed the birds from somewhere over on the east coast, so much so that we don't have enough space to store it all and he has been doing some monstrous trips back and forwards delivering.

The Chair said it was awesome to see Councillor Christison and Photographer Laura Taylor utilize a bad situation to raise money for the Kiwi House with their lockdown photo series. He said the Kiwi House is a community asset in a situation that none of us would like to be in, one person alone cannot solve this, it will take a concerted community effort which is exactly what is already

happening. To the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House Charitable Trust the Chair said he would like to state that actions speak louder than words and the actions of this community have shown that it is behind you fully.

The Chair reported that the ODDB has been doing some awesome work in the economic and business sector. They have utilized their resources incredibly well and made contact with over 180 businesses, business people and employers within the Ōtorohanga District. Cold calling business owners is a daunting prospect in itself, but that has been really appreciated within the community having someone call, reassuring that in tough times our community cares, that there is help available and where to find it. The Chair would like to tip his hat to Duncan, Kara, Councillor Christison, Theresa, Vanessa and the rest of the ODDB team.

The Chair advised that whilst it is saddening to see and hear about job losses and increased unemployment in our community, we are very fortunate to have an organization run by Board Member Coventry called Thrive. Thrive is helping and assisting people get back into work and after one ad in the paper he believed they had around 50 people who had made contact and are now receiving assistance. Whether Thrive is the safety net to catch these people, or the trampoline to bounce them back up im not sure, but both options are better than hitting the deck.

The Chair further said he looks forward to being apart of the community plan that member Brown-Merrin has been working on, for failing to plan is planning to fail and this document will give us the community board, other boards and community organisations, and the community as a whole, a direction the better ability to collaborate and achieve the impressive things that we know and have shown we can.

Resolved that the Chairperson verbal report be received.

Mr. Buckman / Cr. Christison

ITEM 25 – CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT 16 MARCH – 25 MAY 2020

The Chief Executive referred members to the report and requested this be taken as read.

Resolved that the Chief Executives report for the period 16 March – 25 May 2020 be received.

Mr. Coventry / Cr. Christison

ITEM 26 UPDATE ON THE ŌTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD WALK AROUND ŌTOROHANGA

Group Manager Engineering referred members to the update and asked whether they had any questions on the report.

The Chair commended the Community Facilities Officer on his efficiency in reducing the list and he looks forward to seeing the list grow on the next walk around.

Resolved that the update on the Ōtorohanga Community Board Walk around Ōtorohanga report be received.

Mr. Coventry / Mrs. Brown-Merrin

BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

Mr. Buckman

- Catastrophic the loss of people coming through our town in particular for the Ōtorohanga Kiwi house.
- Walked the Stopbank - the amount of people utilizing this asset is a credit to us.

Cr. Christison

- During lockdown did meals on wheels and shopped for the elderly.
- Laura Taylor fundraised over \$3000 for the Kiwi House.
- Videoed local businesses to encourage supporting local.
- Tourists are coming to Ōtorohanga to see the stopbank walkway.

Mr. Coventry

- Appreciative for the Anzac Day celebration Cr. Christison and Mrs. Brown-Merrin put together.
- Employment initiative – Over 50 people have come forward after losing their jobs needing financial assistance.
- Attending a meeting with Eric Tait (OBA) and Kara Thomas (ODDB and OBA) to continue with helping the community get back into employment.

Mrs Brown-Merrin

- Chair of Waikato I-Site Cluster Group – encouraging work for tourism
- Anzac day – RSA members contacted through facebook this was well appreciated from the community.
- Public asking possibility of having an Ōtorohanga person of the year to celebrate what people have done.
- Possible drive in movie theatre in Ōtorohanga.

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 4.26pm