



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

13 December 2016

10.01am

Members of the Otorohanga District Council

Mr MM Baxter (Mayor)
Mrs K Christison
Mr RM Johnson
Mrs RA Klos
Mr P McConnell
Mr KM Phillips
Mrs DM Pilkington
Mrs AJ Williams

Meeting Secretary: Colin Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

13 December 2016

MINUTES

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PRESENT

Mr MM Baxter (Mayor), Councillors Mr RM Johnson, Mrs RA Klos, Mr KC Phillips, Mrs K Christison, Mrs DM Pilkington, Mr P McConnell, Mrs AJ Williams

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), G Bunn (Finance and Administration Manager), R Brady (Engineering Manager), A Loe (Environmental Services Manager) C Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

OPENING PRAYER

Councillor McConnell read the Opening Prayer.

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

Resolved that the following items be considered in General Business which may require resolutions-

- (a) Notes of a meeting of the Creative Communities Assessment Committee.
- (b) Draft local Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy.
- (c) Submission on Healthy Rivers proposed plan change.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Klos

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 15 NOVEMBER 2016

His Worship highlighted two spelling errors being page 2, third heading, the word “Environmental” and page 4, third paragraph from the bottom “Carol should be spelt Caroline”

Councillor Pilkington referred to page 2, the item regarding the District Sports Committee and requested the word “Kawhia” be inserted in the second line prior to the Board members.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 15 November 2016, as amended, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting

Cr Pilkington / His Worship

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 15 NOVEMBER 2016 – CONFIDENTIAL

Resolved that the minutes of the Confidential part of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 15 November 2016, as circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Phillips / Cr Pilkington

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

When asked by His Worship members replied that they had no conflict of interest in matters to be discussed at today’s meeting.

**ITEM23 DRAFT MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30
SEPTEMBER 2016**

The District Accountant attended the meeting and presented the Draft Management Accounts for the period ended 30 September 2016.

The Chief Executive informed members that these accounts are the first set of quarterly accounts for the new financial year. He referred to the funding splits for the various activities and advised that these have come out of the funding review. He said the next such review will be held around mid 2017 at which time there will be an opportunity to reconsider these.

The Engineering Manager reported that Council is tracking on roading budget overall and that the cost Centre for roading is based around NZTA funding. He suggested that it is desirable to look at the budgets over the course of a year rather than month by month.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting at 11.03am to receive a presentation from Tomkins Wake and Bloxhan Burnet and Oliver Ltd in a workshop situation regarding the proposed extension to the Waikeria Prison facility.

During the workshop a presentation was also made by Grant Horan of Happy Valley Milk in respect to the proposed Dairy Factory adjacent to State Highway 31.

LUNCHON ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned for lunch at 12.25pm and resumed at 2.26pm

The District Accountant then continued with the presentation of the Draft Management Accounts.

Dog Control Activity

The Chief Executive referred to the over expenditure under the Finance and Administration section of the Dog Control Activity and reported that these costs have been associated with the introduction of the "Reg The Dog" Online Service. He advised that by entering a contract for this service it was understood that this would eliminate the need for input from the Finance and Administration Department.

The Chief Executive reported that residents and rate payers still wished to come in and pay their dog registration fees and in addition incorrect invoices had been sent out by the Contractor which created additional work for the Finance and Administration team. The Chief Executive informed members that there has also been a large increase in the Dog Control Contractors charges. He said it is necessary for a discussion to be held on the funding of this activity which will form part of the Long Term Plan discussions.

The Environmental Services Manager reported on an amendment to the Dog Control Act which relates to controlling menacing dogs and the public safety function of this. He said dog owners will be asked to contribute towards this public safety issue.

Councillor Christison

Councillor Christison returned to the meeting at 2.40pm.

The Chief Executive confirmed that there are no significant variances in the accounts and that they all appear to be on track.

His Worship thanked the District Accountant for the presentation of the Accounts. He hoped the presentation proved enlightening for new members.

Resolved that the Draft Management Accounts for the period ended 30 September 2016 be received.

His Worship / Cr Johnson

ITEM 24 AROHENA RURAL WATER SUPPLY KAHOREKAU ROAD RESERVOIR

The Engineering Manager suggested that his report be taken as read. He informed members that Council has a legal document requiring consent to record a compensation certificate on a property title to ensure continued access and use of site for the water storage and water treatment facilities at Kahorekau Road being part of the Arohena Rural Water Supply scheme. He said the property owners involved is GPS 2007 Limited, the directors being GJ Wilson and PS Wilson of Arohena.

Resolved that

1. The Otorohanga District Council hereby consents to the recording pursuant to section 19 of the Public Works Act 1981, a compensation certificate against the owners certificate of title SA46B/870 and the contemporaneous registration of a discharge of existing compensation certificate H.769943 recorded on certificate of title SA46B/870.
2. The Mayor and Chief Executive of Otorohanga District Council be authorised to sign and seal any documentation necessary.

Cr Johnson / Cr Pilkington

ITEM 25 MATTERS REFERRED

The Governance Supervisor took members through the Matters Referred.

KAWHIA WHARF – REMOVED / LOOSENED BOLTS

The Engineering Manager reported that the bolts highlighted at the last meeting were those on the handrails etc. not part of the actual wharf structure. These have been checked.

WAIKATO DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

Councillor Pilkington reported she has had discussion with Mark Gallagher of the Waikato District Health Board and advised that he would be prepared to speak to Council regarding the delivery of Health Services generally.

Councillor Klos replied she would like to hear from clinical staff on the Board's ability to deliver effective mental health services. She suggested that an invitation be extended to the Chief Executive Officer of Mental Health Services to appoint a suitable representative to speak to Council.

ITEM 26 APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT LICENCING COMMITTEE – CHAIRPERSON, DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Environmental Services Manager presented a report informing members that in November 2013 the Otorohanga District Council formally approved the appointment of a District Licensing Committee and an independent commissioner pursuant to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2002. He said these appointments aligned with the Local Government election cycle and expired in November 2016. The Environmental Services Manager advised that the current Commissioner has chosen not to pursue a further term therefore Council must consider its options for the Charing of that Committee and reconfirm its membership for a period of up to five years.

Councillor Pilkington expressed the opinion that the appointments could be reviewed if necessary during the five year period.

Resolved that

The report from the Environmental Services Manager be received and that

2. one District Licensing Committee be retained for the Otorohanga District and,
 3. Pursuant to section 193 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 Council recommend to the chief executive that Sara Brown be appointed Commissioner (Chairperson) to the District Licensing Committee and;
 4. Councillor Roy Johnson, be appointed as member and Deputy Chairperson and;
 5. The following persons be appointed as members of the District Licensing Committee:
 - Mr Ross Murphy (existing member)
 - Ms Patsi Davies (existing member)
 - Dr Michael Cameron (existing member)
- and;
6. Council resolve all appointments be for a period of five years.

Cr Klos / Cr McConnell

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

The Governance Supervisor summarised notes of a meeting of the Creative Communities Assessment Committee held on 7 December 2016.

Resolved that the notes of the Creative Communities Assessment Committee meeting be received and the following grants approved-

- Encore - \$1000 for the provision of two coaches.
- Arohena playcentre - \$900 towards the celebration of diverse cultural heritages.
- Otorohanga College - \$1500 in regards to the spoken word
- Otorohanga College - \$1000 towards school production.
- Connected Media Trust \$1500 towards a free one day film making and talent development workshop.

His Worship / Cr Phillips

DRAFT LOCAL EASTER SUNDAY SHOP TRADING POLICY

The Environmental Services Manager circulated and presented a report informing members that the Shop Trading Hours Act 1990 was amended in 2016 to enable Councils to decide whether retailers in their Districts can open on Easter Sunday. He said Council must use the special consultative process to engage with their communities in making a decision on whether or not to adopt a local policy that would allow shops to trade on Easter Sunday.

His Worship referred to feedback received and the concern that staff are made aware of their obligations.

The Environmental Services Manager advised that the staff in those shops will retain the freedom to choose whether they will work on that holiday.

Councillor Phillips expressed the opinion that a survey should have been carried out on those people who have to work. He said the bosses are not working on those particular days, the workers are.

His Worship reported that Otorohanga is a tourist destination and that it has to change to cater for the tourists. He said this will give businesses the opportunity to be open.

Councillor Klos advised that the makeup of the workforce is very different today. The Environmental Services Manager replied that other local councils are at the stage of placing the proposal out for public submission.

Resolved that –

1. The report from the Environmental Services Manager be received and,
2. The draft Local Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy and Statement of Proposal be approved for public consultation pursuant to the special consultative process, section 83 Local Government Act 2002 and,
3. The consultation period shall commence on 9 January 2017 with submissions on the draft policy closing at 5.00pm on 15 February 2017.

Cr Pilkington / CR Johnson

GENERAL

Rural and Provincial Sector

Councillor Williams reported she attended a recent meeting of the Rural and Provincial Sector in Wellington and thanked Council for the opportunity to attend. She referred to the provisions of Fire and Emergency Services which will come into effect from 1 July 2017.

Councillor Williams reported she also attended the Elected Members Training, Civil Defence Joint Management Committee, Blessing of the Pou at Kawhia, Mayors Evening and Santas Grotto.

Civil Defence

The Emergency Management Operations Manager Martin Berryman attended the meeting and provided a power point presentation on local and regional Civil Defense arrangements. He also discussed the role of a territorial authority under the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act.

Mr Berryman referred to the provision of leadership, a role to be undertaken, by a person who is able to relate to the situation but is not immersed in it.

His Worship thanked Mr Berryman for the presentation and expressed the opinion that Civil Defence needs people who are passionate about the activity and Councillors who are interested in this function.

Mr Berryman informed members of the phenomenon of slow slip earthquakes and reported that there is a fault line running through the centre of New Zealand which is slowly moving thus causing concern.

Resolved that the presentation and update of Civil Defence activities be received.

His Worship / Cr Pilkington

Local Election Returns

Councillor Phillips informed members of the low percentages of returns in the recent Local Government elections and queried how Council can get the Community more interested and involved in these elections. He queried whether there is a possibility that these elections could be carried out via online voting.

His Worship replied that online voting is not possible without Central Government approval.

Councillor Williams referred to the programme of mock elections carried out in local schools.

Water Meter

Councillor Phillips queried whether the Otorohanga Pool complex is on a water meter.

The Chief Executive replied that regardless of whether it is metered Council still pays for the water used.

With regard to comments that filling of the pool creates 'dirty' water in town the Chief Executive advised that when the pool is filled, this will stir up sediment throughout the system. He said there are incentives to minimise the replacement of the water in the pool as much as possible.

Exhibit of Kawhia Paintings

Councillor Pilkington circulated information on the exhibition of Kawhia Paintings by Zoe Ireland at the Kawhia Regional Museum from 17th of December 2016 through to March 31st 2017.

Pou Ommitti Reserve

Councillor Pilkington reported she attended the unveiling of the Pou (whakairo) on 4 December 2016, this being a carving of remembrance.

Ngati Maniapoto Marae Pact Trust

Councillor Pilkington reported she attended the 35 year celebration, book launch and blessing of the Whareniui.

Beattie Home Trust

Councillor Pilkington said she attended the recent AGM of the Beattie Home Trust.

Zone 2 Meeting

Councillor Pilkington reported she attended a meeting of Zone 2 at Waihi on 25th of November 2016 and tabled the Agenda for members information.

Waikato Regional Council / Amendments to Healthy Rivers

Councillor Pilkington informed members she believed this Council should make a submission to the Waikato Regional Council on amendments to the Healthy Rivers Project. Reference was made to the section 32 report and suggestions that this was inadequate and had not fully taken into account the social and economic impact on rural communities.

Councillor Pilkington advised that should Council not submit now then, it cannot have any further input into the issue.

Councillor Johnson endorsed the views presented by Councillor Pilkington and expressed concern for the number of people throughout the District on dairy farms located on marginal land. He queried what happens to them if they cannot intensify their farming. He queried the effect this may have on Council's rate take.

Councillor Johnson felt that by utilising cleaner water this would be beneficial to Council therefore discussion should be held on the issue.

Councillor Klos said that it is very important that all those affected should have input into this issue. She expressed the opinion that the proposed plan is very biased and that she will be personally making a submission.

Councillor Klos said it is ridiculous that a proposal which reduces the economic benefits of affected areas is being considered. She said she could acknowledge some good things in the proposed plan, however it also contains some very dangerous precedents.

His Worship queried what angle would Council take in making a submission. He reported that there are some very educated people on the committee who are endeavoring to get water standards up to a certain acceptable level. His Worship said the question was raised at a recent Mayoral Forum whether Councils are expected to submit a submission and who would they be representing. He suggested that Council concentrate on just one topic e.g. environmental impact and a couple of other issues.

The Environmental Services Manager advised that Council is signed up to a River Agreement to take all steps available to clean up the rivers.

Councillor Williams suggested that any submission be based by "topic".

Councillor Pilkington confirmed that this Council does not require the approval of the Regional Council to forward such a submission.

Councillor Pilkington expressed concern at the funding proposed to be put in place to achieve the identified goals. She felt Council owes it to its ratepayers to signal any concerns. Councillor Pilkington advised that she is more than happy to work with Councils Environmental Services Manager on this issue. Councillor Pilkington advised that not just farmers will be affected, there will also be potential to impact on service towns and providers. She said Council must participate in the process.

The Engineering Manger advised that submissions close on 8th of March 2017 and that he has become aware of a regional submission on behalf of all Waikato Councils.

Councillor Pilkington suggested that this Council forward a generic submission. The Chief Executive advised that this Council does not have resources available to provide data to identify what economic impact the plan would have.

The Chief Executive further advised that it will be difficult to rebuild what has been prepared on a regional basis. He said whatever is proposed will impact on someone and they will not be happy. Councillor Pilkington advised that the beef and sheep farmers will also be severely disadvantaged.

Resolved that Council forward a submission on the Healthy Rivers Plan Change

Cr Pilkington / Cr Johnson

Yellow Bristle Grass

Councillor Johnson reported that information on Yellow Bristle Grass is on Councils Website and expressed thanks to the Engineering Manager for this.

The Chief Executive advised that this information will also be included in Council's Rates newsletter.

Seafund Road – Disposal of Tyres

Councillor Klos referred to the stockpile of tyres on a property on Seafund Road and reported that the main concern is that of fire. She advised however, that these tyres will not spontaneously combust.

The Environmental Services Manager reported that the property owner has been approached and advised not to take in any more tyres.

Introduction Day

Councillor McConnell said he found the Introduction Day very useful however, there is a lot of learning yet to be undertaken, He expressed thanks to Councils Finance and Administration Manager Graham Bunn, for his involvement in the annual Sports Awards night.

Councillor McConnell expressed the opinion that Council is doing a dis-service to itself by not having a Sport Waikato Coordinator in place.

Councillor McConnell reported that the roadway hole out the front of McDonalds has been repaired.

Long Term Plan Amendment

The District Accountant informed members that the Auditors will be in attendance at Council on the week commencing 30 January 2017 and 7 February 2017. He said Council may have to have extra meetings / workshops to address the deadlines required.

Dog Registration Service

Discussion was held in a workshop situation on the "Reg The Dog" contract entered into by Council at the end of 2015.

Meeting Conclusion

The Meeting concluded at 4.55pm