



Otorohanga District Council

# MINUTES

27 August 2013

## OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

27 August 2013

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 27 August 2013 commencing at 10.02am.

### MINUTES

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

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## **PRESENT**

Mr DF Williams (Mayor), Crs MM Baxter, S Blackler (attended at 10.03am), RM Johnson, AG Ormsby, KC Phillips, DM Pilkington and RJ Prescott.

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive & Engineering Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

## **OPENING PRAYER**

His Worship read the Opening Prayer.

## **APOLOGY**

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

**Cr Pilkington / Cr Baxter**

## **CR BLACKLER**

Cr Blackler attended the meeting at 10.03am.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 6 AUGUST 2013**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 6 August 2013, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Cr Phillips / Cr Ormsby**

## **REPORTS**

### **Item 383 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES - 8 AUGUST 2013**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 8 August 2013 be received.

**Cr Prescott / Cr Ormsby**

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **Item 142 Parks & Reserves Budget**

Cr Pilkington queried the re-allocation of a budgeted amount to another project and asked how this fits in with Council's policy of 'not spending the savings'. The Chief Executive advised that the budgeted funds were set aside for the piping of the former Croquet Club grounds drain however, only the installation of novaflow was required. He said the Board had therefore in effect lost a project and agreed to transfer the funds to install an extension to the existing basketball half-court at the Reg Brett Reserve. He said the amount of funding totaled around \$9000. Cr Pilkington queried whether Council still has the policy of 'not spending the savings' and reported that the Parks & Reserves budget is District Funded. The Chief Executive replied that Council is still adhering to the principle of the policy.

Cr Pilkington submitted her apology to the Board for not being able to attend the meeting whereat this request was considered.

### **Item 141 Wastewater Pond Aeration Improvements**

In reply to Cr Baxter regarding the increase in charges to discharge septic tank waste, the Engineering Manager advised that the proposed charges have been put in place to recover the cost of improvements in order for the discharged effluent to meet the Waikato Regional Council's (WRC) requirements. Cr Blackler queried whether there is a procedure in place for the dumping of waste by Contractors. The Engineering Manager replied that a process was put in place in around 2005 however, this had not been effectively monitored. He said it is now necessary to obtain confirmation of where the waste is coming from.

His Worship expressed the opinion that the dump station is located in the wrong place and it is only a matter of time before Council receives serious complaints. Cr Ormsby agreed with His Worship's comments and highlighted the costs incurred in pumping the waste to the oxidation ponds. He said a sum should be budgeted for to correct the present situation. The Engineering Manager advised that there is also an issue of gaining access to the oxidation ponds for this purpose. His Worship suggested that this matter could be flagged as to the practicality of the present site and for consideration to be given to providing a dump facility elsewhere. In reply to Cr Johnson regarding additional charges for receiving waste from outside the area, the Engineering Manager replied that this is already in place. He said there is also a limited amount a Contractor can bring in from outside the District.

### **Item 384 ROUTINE ENGINEERING REPORT**

#### **Discussion**

The Contracts Engineer (Road Maintenance) attended the meeting and presented that part of the Routine Engineering Report relating to Road Maintenance matters.

The Engineer confirmed, in reply to Cr Pilkington, that the estimated total of repair costs of \$82,000 following storm damage is the total cost and that the subsidy has been applied for. In reply to Cr Phillips regarding the two slumped sites on Honikiwi Road, the Engineer advised that these would cost in the vicinity of \$50-60,000 to repair. Cr Phillips also referred to pavement deterioration at the top of the gorge on Lurman Road and also on Tahaia Road. Cr Blackler reported that road users are very pleased with the work being carried out by the Inframax crew, in particular to the cleaning and replacement of roadside maker pegs and signage and completing culvert works.

The Engineering Manager then continued with the presentation of the remainder of the report relating to other roading matters.

#### **OTOROHANGA & WAIPA WATER SUPPLIES**

The Engineering Manager advised that an application is being made to the WRC for new Resource Consents to take water for the Community, at the same rates as is currently permitted by the existing Consent. He said he can see no evidence of population growth within the District however, it is proposed to make better use of the water currently being taken. He said the Consent applied for the same quantity of water and on the same conditions for the next 15 years. Cr Blackler queried whether there is growth within some of the outer rural areas such as under the Waipa Rural Water Supply Scheme. The Engineering Manager replied that there is no evidence available to support this.

#### **REFUSE & RECYCLING**

In reply to Cr Pilkington, the Engineering Manager confirmed that Council will fund the costs incurred to bring recycleables from the new Rural Recycling Centres to the depot. He confirmed that the Recycling Centre at Maihihi School is just about up and running.

## **TV TAKEBACK**

The Engineering Manager reported that Council will be working with the Ministry of the Environment and approved recycling companies to manage the collection and recycling of unwanted analogue televisions following the forthcoming switch to digital only broadcasting. He said the Ministry of the Environment will meet 80 percent of the cost of such collection and recycling for up to a certain number of televisions in each District. A residual cost does however, remain which for this District would be \$5 per television. The Engineering Manager reported that funding is available from accumulated Waste Minimisation funds and in order to maximise the efficiency of this programme, Council could meet the \$5 cost.

### **Resolved**

That the Routine Engineering report be received.

**Cr Pilkington / Cr Prescott**

## **CIVIL DEFENCE**

The Environmental Services Manager introduced Mr Martin Berryman, the newly appointed Emergency Management Officer under the Joint Services Agreement this Council has with Waipa and Waitomo District Councils. He said Mr Berryman has previously had a long service in the NZ Fire Service.

## **Item 385          LOAN RAISING 2013/14**

### **Discussion**

The Finance & Administration Manager presented a report informing Members that Council is required to pass a resolution authorising loan raising for the current financial year. He said Council still retains a floating facility of \$3M with Westpac bank. The Finance & Administration Manager reported that long term fixed interest rates have gone up. He said Council will not have to raise any further debt for the next three years based on current debt maturities.

### **Resolved**

That

1. Pursuant to the Local Government Act 2002, Council resolves to authorise the Chief Executive to borrow up to \$4,000,000 for a term not exceeding thirty years, secured against the rates revenue of the District, and targeted rates as provided for in the Debenture Trust Deed.
2. The purpose of the loan shall be to refinance existing debt.
3. Council delegates to the Chief Executive the authority to determine:
  - the coupon rate;
  - the period of interest payments;
  - the maturity date;
  - any other terms and conditions necessary for the issuing of security and for compliance with the Local Government Act, any other applicable Act, the security, and the Register and Paying Agency Agreement, and to issue such debenture stock with a face value sufficient to yield the sum \$4,000,000 and execute such; and
4. To give one or more certificates in respect thereof for the purposes of the Local Government Act.

5. And further that, in authorising this borrowing, Council has considered the risks and benefits associated with the proposal and is satisfied that the proposed borrowing complies with Council's Liability Management Policy.

### **Cr Phillips / Cr Baxter**

## **GENERAL**

### **WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENT LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE**

Cr Johnson reported on his attendance at a meeting of the Waipa River Catchment Liaison Sub-Committee held last week. He said it is intended that only two meetings of the Sub-Committee be held this year due to the forthcoming local body elections in October. Cr Johnson advised that a 'think tank' has been formed for input at in-between meetings to implement the Waipa River Catchment Plan project. He outlined the issues to be considered, one or two being – priority, scale and location of remedial works, build partnerships with Iwi and stakeholders, review environmental monitoring and road map for the protection and restoration of the Waipa River.

### **HEALTHY RIVERS**

Cr Johnson reported that a meeting with Stakeholders is to be held this week. The Chief Executive advised that Members are welcome to attend. It is envisaged that this will be a big meeting however, it is important that Local Government has a presence there. Members were informed that there will be a variety of stakeholders in attendance at the meeting.

### **REWAREWA RESERVE**

Cr Johnson reported that matters relating to the Rewarewa Reserve are a 'work in progress' however, issues are very close to being resolved. He said a substantial amount of good work has been undertaken and he is impressed with the co-operation of all those involved.

### **OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY**

Cr Prescott said he is disappointed with the recent graffiti and tagging being carried out around the Community.

### **BEATTIE HOME**

Cr Ormsby reported that plans are being finalised for the Beattie Home extension project costing approximately \$1.5M. He said a Consent will be lodged with Council in the near future and that the Beattie Home representatives will be looking for moral support from Council.

### **PROPOSED SPORTS CENTRE**

Cr Ormsby informed Members that a meeting of invited persons will be held on 9 September 2013 at 5.30pm at the Wintec Centre to have discussion on the possibility of a multi-purpose sports centre being established. He said this will be an opportunity to identify current assets and for the various sporting codes to communicate and to look to the future.

His Worship reported that Sport Waikato is currently undertaking a Regional Asset stocktake. He said there are three categories of facilities - national, sub-region and local. He said the proposal would include the combining of some fragile sports in a way that costs will be shared to provide a local complex to cater for the various sporting codes.

### **NORTH KING COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

Cr Phillips reported that the Trust has funding available for young people to obtain mentoring for business opportunities. He said the funding is available over the former Waitomo Power Board area and is available by way of a grant or loan facility.

## **ANIMAL CONTROL**

Cr Phillips raised the matter of shared services in the future with Waipa, Waitomo and Otorohanga District Councils for the provision of Animal Control activities. The Chief Executive replied that, at some time in the future opportunities may be available for this to be considered.

## **KAWHIA COMMUNITY – PUBLIC MEETING**

Cr Pilkington informed Members of a public meeting to be held this Saturday 31 August 2013 at 2.30pm in the Kawhia Community Hall with the aim of 'Keeping our Community Safe'. She said His Worship will be chairing the meeting. Cr Pilkington further advised that the intention of the meeting is to inform the public of what has been achieved and where to now.

## **AUCKLAND CITY**

Cr Baxter informed Members of a TV article on whether Auckland is sucking the life out of the remainder of NZ. He said email response to this question was 73 percent in agreement.

## **DISTRICT PLAN APPEAL**

The Environmental Services Manager informed Members that the District Plan appeal process is on track but going disappointingly slowly. He said the appeal process has been tied down on the issue of landscape and may progress to a Court hearing. In reply to Cr Pilkington regarding a peer review of the methodology used, the Environmental Services Manager replied that it had been necessary to start again from scratch to develop a new methodology. His Worship confirmed that the bulk of the Plan is currently operative.

## **REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT**

The Environmental Services Manager reported that a meeting on appeals to the Regional Policy Statement will be held on 13 September 2013. His Worship informed the Manager that a Zone 2 meeting is to be held in Taupo on that day.

## **ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT**

The Environmental Services Manager reported that the Animal Control Contract has been awarded to Otorohanga Animal Control (J Clark). He said only one tender had been received.

## **LIQUOR CONTROL BYLAW**

Members were informed that submissions to the Liquor Control Bylaw (Liquor Ban) close this Friday and that a hearing will be required as submission in opposition have been received.

## **MAYORS FAREWELL**

His Worship reminded Members of his farewell function to be held on 28 September 2013 and advised them that they will need to confirm their attendance with Council's Executive Assistant.

## **HAMILTON & WAIKATO TOURISM REPORT**

The Chief Executive referred Members to the Hamilton & Waikato Tourism end of year report to Council dated June 2013. He welcomed Mrs Liz Cowan to the meeting to speak to the report as Council's representative. Cr Blackler expressed the opinion that there is opportunity for growth within the domestic tourist market. Mrs Cowan said she would like to see an opportunity given to representatives of tourism to debrief the new Council in particular on the benefits of tourism to the local community. She said Otorohanga is one of the communities benefiting from tourism and that it is an important part of our local economy.

His Worship thanked Mrs Cowan for her attendance at the meeting and for her experience and expertise in the tourism field.

**MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting concluded at 11.42am.

**MAYOR:**

**DATE:**