



Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

6 December 2018

4.02pm

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

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Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto Street, Otorohanga on 6 December 2018 commencing at 4.02pm.

MINUTES

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

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PRESENT

Mr. P Mc Connell (Chair), Mr. P Coventry, Mrs. E Cowan, Mrs. K Christison, Mr. N Gadd and Mr. A Buckman

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs. DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Brady (Engineering Manager) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed those present.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. D Williams

Mr. Dave Williams reported that in December 2017 he requested assistance from the Board to complete the Mountain Bike track in the Bob Horsfall Reserve.

Mr. Williams asked if should he be able to raise the funds required privately would the Board give approval for the work to be undertaken.

Mr. Williams outlined the work proposed and advised that to undertake the work that is necessary this would cost around \$12,000. He referred to a company that would carry out the work which has specialized equipment.

Mr. Williams reported that there is another keen group of young riders currently working on the track.

Mr. Williams then reported that Council has agreed to undertake weed spraying on both of the track however, of late this has not been carried out.

Mr. Williams also asked whether Council could request the Kiwiana Leisure Park to tidy up their paintball access area. He felt that Council should be more proactive in this area and reported that the paintball activity is still being carried out without the necessary signage or safety restraints being in place.

Mr. Williams further reported that the current pest control signs erected are discouraging people from going through the area and asked whether Council would consider taking these signs down.

Mrs. Christison felt that the existing signs should be left in place however, there could be a need for Council to erect signs stating that it is safe to use the Mountain Bike track.

Mr. Gadd referred to the sport funding available and asked whether this could be utilised towards the Mountain Bike track.

The Chief Executive replied that this funding is available for activities associated with Sport Waikato.

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

Resolved that the matter raised in the public forum by Mr. D Williams regarding work being carried out on the Mountain Bike Track, should he be able to raise the funds required privately, be considered in general business which may require a resolution.

Chair / Mrs. Christison.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 1 NOVEMBER 2018

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 1 November 2018, as circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Mr. Coventry / Mrs. Cowan

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair asked members if they were aware of any conflicts of interest that may exist regarding items to be discussed at today's meeting.

No declarations of interest were received.

ITEM 69 MATTERS REFERRED 1 NOVEMBER 2018

The Chair took members through Matters Referred

Workshop – Landscaping Issues

Members considered the item under 9 August 2018 regarding holding a workshop on landscaping issues around the Community in particular relating to the current gardening contract. It was agreed that a walk around tour of the Community be carried out early next year.

Otorohanga Museum – Lease Arrangements

The Chair stressed the need for the Board to hold a workshop on the matter of the Otorohanga Museum lease agreements sooner rather than later.

The Chair referred to the approach from the Otorohanga Historical Society regarding the use of the former Girl Guide Hall and advised that the society has not yet put any firm proposal (with costs) before the Board. He said this is a Council owned building but Council will look to the Board for feedback on any proposal.

Mr. Coventry queried whether such a workshop should be held prior to or after the receipt of any proposal.

The Chair replied that it is up to the society to provide a proposal and then the Board will consider this.

Mrs. Cowan queried who is currently using the former Girl Guide Hall. She said the Society's proposal will also need to include a timeframe of events.

The Chair undertook to contact Mr. Murphy of the Otorohanga Historical Society early next week on this matter.

Traffic Bylaw

Members were informed that there are various traffic signs which need to be erected around the Community.

Mr. Coventry informed members to be cautious in the erection of various signs as private organisations may approach Council to erect other signage.

The Chair replied that the Board will highlight the various signs it feels should be erected and then Council's Engineering Manager will put in place the process for these to be considered / prioritised.

Truck Parking Area

Members were informed of a currently grassed area of railway land behind the Otorohanga Club which is to be metaled to provide a parking area for trucks.

Mrs. Cowan reported that she had received advice that trucks are parking in the Jim Barker Memorial Playground parking area and asked whether signs could be erected stating that trucks are not permitted to park there.

In reply to Mr. Buckman regarding the metal tip area being used by trucks he was advised that this area will be included as part of a road upgrade however, it could provide an interim informal truck parking area.

GENERAL

Bob Horsfall Reserve – Mountain Bike Track

Resolved that Mr. Williams be given permission to undertake improvements to the Mountain Bike track in the Bob Horsfall Reserve subject to the approval of the relevant Council staff, and at no cost to Council.

Mr. Gadd / Mrs. Cowan

NEW ZEALAND GARDEN SHOW – MRS. K CHRISTISON

The Chair on behalf of Board members extended congratulations to Mrs. Christison on obtaining a Gold Medal for her entry into the New Zealand Garden Show "Pollination Paradise".

SOCIAL STRUCTURE – HOMELESS PEOPLE

Mr. Buckman expressed the opinion that it is a poor reflection on the social structure within the Otorohanga Community when people have been found sleeping in cars in particular around the Railway Station area. He said there are social services in town and questioned why this is happening.

Mr. Coventry informed members that there is limited opportunity for people to obtain accommodation in Otorohanga. He said such accommodation is available in Hamilton however these people in Otorohanga are supported with the provision of food. Mr. Coventry reported that discussions are being held regarding providing a shower facility

Mr. Buckman suggested whether an organisation could purchase a house / caravan to provide the accommodation required.

Mr. Coventry replied that it is often the choice of the person to remain in Otorohanga.

The Chair said this is a huge problem New Zealand wide and not just unique to Otorohanga. He said a Council Bylaw could be put in place banning this activity. The Chair commended those people in Otorohanga who are trying to assist in this matter.

ALEX TELFER DRIVE UPGRADE

Mrs. Cowan queried at what stage is the proposed Alex Telfer Drive upgrade.

The Engineering Manager replied that this work is scheduled for January next year.

DOMAIN TOILET UPGRADE

In regards to the upgrade of the Domain toilets the Chair advised that these will not be available for use prior to Christmas. He said everything is in place and hopefully this will occur in the new year.

FORMER GIRL GUIDE HALL

Mr. Gadd queried at what stage is the proposed upgrade for the former Girl Guide Hall.

The Chief Executive replied that Council's Design Engineer Stephen Loomans, (recently injured in a road accident) had been working on. He said a meeting is scheduled for next week with the new Medical Hub representatives interested in Council's vision for the former Girl Guide Hall.

RAILWAY STATION

Mr. Coventry referred to matters raised previously by Mr. B Millar in particular to leaves / debris laying around the Railway Station area.

Mowing issues were also raised.

STAFFING LEVELS

Mr. Coventry also referred to the estimated increase in building work within the District and asked whether Councils Building Control staff are able to meet this increase.

The Chief Executive agreed that additional staff will be required when this increase in building activity happens.

JIM BARKER MEMORIAL PLAYGROUND

The Chair circulated a letter which he had drafted to the members of the Project Kiwiana Committee for their commitment and work in establishing the Jim Barker Memorial Playground in Otorohanga. The Chair expressed the opinion that local volunteers and sponsors can never be thanked enough for their efforts.

Members approved the letter drafted by the Chair to be forwarded to the members of the Project Kiwiana Committee.

FEBRUARY 2019 MEETING

The Chair reported that he will be unable to attend the proposed 7 February 2019 meeting. He requested therefore whether this could be changed to the 14th of February 2019.

Members agreed to the change.

THE CHAIR

The Chair expressed his thanks to Community Board members and staff for their efforts during the year. He said this has been an interesting year and highlighted various activities which have occurred.

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 4.58pm.

CHAIR: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

