



Otorohanga District Council

# MINUTES

16 June 2015

# OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

16 June 2015

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 16 June 2015 commencing at 10.02am.

## MINUTES

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

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## **PRESENT**

Mr MM Baxter (Mayor), Crs, RA Klos, RM Johnson, KC Phillips, DM Pilkington (Deputy Mayor), RJ Prescott, PD Tindle and AJ Williams.

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), B O'Callaghan (District Accountant) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Cr Williams read the Opening Prayer.

## **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cr Prescott reported on his attendance at a recent Sector Group meeting and requested Council give consideration to making a contribution of \$1,000 to be part of the Rural Health Alliance Group.

**Resolved** that the request from Cr Prescott for Council to make a contribution of \$1,000 to be part of the Rural Health Alliance Group be considered in General Business which may require a resolution.

### **Cr Prescott / Cr Pilkington**

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 19 MAY 2015**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 19 May 2015, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

### **Cr Phillips / Cr Klos**

## **MATTERS ARISING**

Cr Pilkington highlighted two spelling mistakes, these being – page 1 Item 203, Otorohanga Community Board Minutes 23 April 2015, Matters Arising, first paragraph, 'infull' should read 'infill', and Page 2, Item 205 Management Accounts for the period ending 31 March 2015, first paragraph, 'accural' should read 'accrual'.

## **REPORTS**

### **Item 212            KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES 29 MAY 2015**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 29 May 2015 be received.

### **Cr Phillips / Cr Pilkington**

## **SAFETY OF BOLLARD CHAINS**

Cr Klos expressed some concern at the comments made on the safety of bollard chains on the Kawhia Foreshore Playground wherein it was stated that individuals should personally be responsible for their own safety. Cr Klos expressed the opinion she understood that if there is a hazard then Council needs to do something about removing that hazard. The Chief Executive replied that the Board had accepted this was a serious incident however, the matter will be considered again should further incidents be reported. The Chief Executive referred to an accident occurring on a road corner and queried whether consideration would then be immediately given to smoothing the corner. He said Council would generally not take any action unless more accidents were reported and a trend emerged. The Chief Executive further advised that the matter is being monitored.

**Item 213                   ALCOHOL REGULATORY AND LICENCING AUTHORITY HEARING ON  
OTOROHANGA PROVISIONAL ALCOHOL POLICY**

**Discussion**

Council's Environmental Services Manager attended the meeting and summarised his report informing Members that Council's provisional Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) had been set down for a hearing before the Authority on 15 June 2015. He said Council has made a request to the Court to allow it to change its Policy. The Environmental Services Manager advised that yesterday at the Hearing approval was given to Council to amend its provisional LAP. Cr Pilkington referred to the Waipa and Waitomo District Councils and said it is desirable that all three Councils provide consistency for the Joint Licencing Committee.

The Environmental Services Manager informed Members that the Authority may release its decision this Friday following which staff will have discussions with its Solicitor and bring back an amended policy for approval by Council. He said consultation will be carried out again for a period of one month following which a further resolution will be required to make the Policy operative. He said final approval of the LAP will be considered by the Select Committee in Wellington. In reply to Cr Johnson, the Environmental Services Manager confirmed that at this point in time the Policy is still provisional.

**Resolved**

That

1. The Environmental Services Manager's report be received and,
2. Notwithstanding any direction received from the Authority, Council undertakes to reconsider those elements of the Otorohanga Provisional Local Alcohol Policy that it has agreed are unreasonable in light of the object of the Act.

**Cr Pilkington / Cr Johnson**

**Item 214                   ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER/LIQUOR LICENSING INSPECTOR'S  
REPORT FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2015**

**Discussion**

In reply to Cr Pilkington the Environmental Services Manager advised that he was not aware of additional applications for Special Licences being received.

**Resolved**

The Environmental Health Officer / Liquor Licensing Inspector's report for 1 January to 31 March 2015 be received.

**Cr Klos / Cr Tindle**

**Item 215                   LONG TERM PLAN 2015-2025 SUBMISSIONS**

**Discussion**

**CCS DISABILITY ACTION –**

The following recommendations were forwarded to Council –

That it

1. Continues its exemplary work implementing street accessibility audit recommendations improving accessibility in its towns.
2. Demonstrates that all access requirements of Community members are considered and included in all Council planning and operational processes.

3. Develops communication channels with disabled people living in its district to ensure that accessibility concerns are heard and acceptable solutions implemented.
4. Counts the number of mobility aid users, as a subset of all people present, on footpaths and at facilities to provide evidence for planning and funding decisions.
5. Adopts the LifeMark Design standard to ensure there is adequate accessible housing and tourist accommodation in the district
6. Ensures that a percentage of staff involved with compliance issues have Barrier Free Trust certification.

Cr Klos queried why the Council administration building does not have mobility access to upstairs. The Chief Executive replied that it is not essential for members of the public to go upstairs. The issue of equal employment opportunity was also raised.

In reference to the recommendation that Council counts the number of mobility aid users, as a subset of all people present on footpaths and at facilities to provide evidence for planning and funding decisions, the Chief Executive advised that Council does not do this and has no plans to do so.

The recommendation that Council adopts the LifeMark Design standard, the Chief Executive reported that this is an Urban Design Standard and that there is no need for Council to adopt this.

The recommendation that Council ensures that a percentage of staff involved with compliance issues have Barrier Free Trust certification, the Chief Executive advised that this relates to building activities and that both Gavin and Julian Phillips have Barrier Free training.

It was agreed that a reply be forwarded to CCS Disability Action on the basis as outlined above.

#### **MR A CONNORS – CLUBCHAMPS**

Mr Connors attended the meeting and presented his submission. He said his submission, on behalf of the ClubChamps project team, is to encourage Council to extend the current Liquor Ban areas to include Council owned sports fields across the region. He said this is aimed at local sports clubs in an attempt to reduce alcohol related harm and as such should be included in Council's Long Term Plan. Mr Connors reported that many sporting activities are watched by families and children and that his organisation does not wish for the drinking of alcohol at these events to be normalised. Cr Williams reported that sporting clubs are trying to manage their environment however, they have no control on the other areas. Cr Pilkington referred to the proposed Liquor Ban review relating to Kawhia and Aotea areas.

Members agreed that the submission is worthy of further investigation and for Council to give consideration to extending the current Liquor Ban areas to include Council owned sports fields.

#### **OTOROHANGA KIWI HOUSE**

The President of the Otorohanga Zoological Society, Mr R Brady, and General Manager of the Otorohanga Kiwi House, Ms Jo Russell, attended the meeting and spoke to their submission. Members were informed that it is the intention of the Kiwi House to develop its assets in order to retain tourists here longer. The President reported that the Kiwi House completed its financial year with a trading profit of \$40,000. The General Manager advised that the current thinking of the Committee is that the Kiwi House is a community asset and for this to be developed as a tourism facility that will be of benefit to the people of the district. Accordingly the Management Committee of the Otorohanga Zoological Society Inc requests that the Otorohanga Kiwi House and Native Bird Park is recognised and identified in Council's Long Term Plan as a key strategic asset of the community and district. They further proposed that the Otorohanga District Council work with and support the Kiwi House with its strategic planning especially as 'upon the expiration of the lease' all buildings, trees and shrubs shall revert to and become the property of the Council.

Members were advised that the Kiwi House has an integral part to play in at least three of the important issues identified in the Long Term Plan, these being –

- a. Using resources efficiently
- b. Enabling economic growth
- c. Retaining the District's identity.

The General Manager advised that it is hoped that a change in Council policy (and a recognition of the economic and brand value of the Kiwi House) will allow any Council staff actively involved in the Kiwi House to include these contributions in their Council work roles (within reason) rather than in their own time. The General Manager reported that the Society may need further Council support in developing this facility. In reply to Cr Phillips, he was advised that no Council funding has been utilised in the rebuilding of the facility. Cr Klos expressed the opinion that the people within Council that are involved in the facility development are kept aware of the Society's Strategic Plan. His Worship commented on the change of direction in the Society and said this is really pleasing to see and important for Otorohanga.

It was agreed that the Society be advised that Council values the Kiwi House in its district and appreciates its new business model. Members also acknowledged the contribution made by volunteers. It was agreed that requests for further assistance/support be considered as they arise, and that a sum of \$5,000 worth of staff time in assisting the Society, be approved.

### **OTOROHANGA TENNIS CLUB**

Cr Phillips spoke to the submission forwarded by the Otorohanga Tennis Club. He said the Club fully supports Council's recognition of the importance of local sports clubs for the wellbeing and social coherence of its community and welcomed a review of the current form of support being provided. Cr Phillips said the Committee is in support of a contestible fund being created. He further advised that the Otorohanga Tennis Club has had a huge rental increase in its lease agreement and that the courts are in need of an upgrade. Cr Phillips said that the structure of the club is changing and they are receiving more seasonal players, business house tournaments and younger school aged children taking up the sport. Mr Tindle reported that due to the condition of the existing courts, players are having to use the courts at the Otorohanga College. He said there is a need for the Club to change their mindset towards casual players.

Mr M Patterson, Club President of the Otorohanga Tennis Club attended the meeting. He apologised for his lateness however, there had been some miscommunication over his allotted time. Mr Patterson referred to the membership of the Club particularly allowing an opportunity for casual users. He said there is an opportunity for the Club to change its philosophy. Mr Patterson reported that several Clubs are being faced with a number of issues to change as people do not wish to join a Club but would like to use the facility on a casual basis. He said there is a need for a core group of people to get involved on behalf of all sporting clubs. Mr Patterson then presented a financial statement from 2010 through to the present time.

It was agreed that the Otorohanga Tennis Club's submission be acknowledged.

### **P RANGITAWA**

An apology was received from Ms P Rangitawa for her non-attendance at the meeting.

Ms Rangitawa's submission opposed Council's plans for water metering. As His Worship read through the submission it was agreed that some of the information contained therein is not correct. With regard to water use, comparison was being given between per person rather than per household. It was further highlighted that the 4111 dwellings referred to as being in Otorohanga are in fact district wide.

With regard to the purity and quality of water, the Chief Executive advised that water is being provided to the current Drinking Water Standards.

Ms Rangitawa's comment as to who has given Council the requirement to charge for a resource that is free, the Chief Executive replied that this is only a perception. Cr Pilkington reported that there is a number of infrastructures, treatments, etc required before it is made available to a household. The Chief Executive further advised that the water from the river itself is not free but is instead controlled through Resource Consents. Discussion was held on rental properties and it was reported that water metering may highlight any leaks on the property. Cr Johnson expressed the opinion that renters could be paying more when metering is introduced. Cr Prescott felt that the invoice for water consumption should be forwarded to the landlord and it will be up to them what action is taken. He expressed the opinion that should the invoice for water consumption be forwarded directly to the tenant, then it may make them look at their water usage. The Chief Executive felt that it is up to the landlord to explain the water metering proposal to a tenant rather than just increase the rent.

Cr Johnson referred to the misinformation in the submission and queried whether Council is getting the correct information out to the public. His Worship expressed the opinion that at the public meetings some residents did not listen to what they were being told. It was suggested that information be provided to every household rented or owned. Mr Tindle suggested there could be a more targeted engagement through local clubs and organisations. Cr Klos referred to gardeners of the community and suggested options be identified for them to obtain water for this purpose. His Worship felt that Council needs to cover all its bases to ensure the proposal is correctly understood. Cr Prescott referred to the two public meetings on the proposal and said there was good representation from Iwi.

It was agreed that the above submission be acknowledged.

### **TE KUITI TAUMARUNUI OTOROHANGA ACTION SMOKE FREE TEAM (TOAST)**

An apology was submitted on behalf of Mr W Borell, Men's Health Promoter for TOAST. The presenter summarised the submission and advised that TOAST would like to encourage the Otorohanga District Council to adopt a smoke free outdoor policy. Particular reference was made to the effects of second hand smoke in outdoor areas particularly where frequented by children. Cr Prescott raised the matter of enforcement of such a policy. Discussion was held on the erection of suitable signage and that TOAST would be keen to work with communities to provide this.

It was agreed that Council give its support for TOAST to erect appropriate signage at the various sports events.

### **CREATIVE WAIKATO**

Ms Desire Ratima attended the meeting and presented their submission. Ms Ratima reported that Creative Waikato has actively encouraged Councils within the Waikato region to recognise the value of the arts since its inception in 2012. Ms Ratima advised that their submission is discussed on the following –

1. Support for Council initiatives where there are arts, cultural, heritage and community benefits and opportunities.
2. Support for a Regional Arts Strategy for the Waikato Region.

She said Council has identified five key issues for the next 10 years, the following three examples demonstrate how arts and culture can make a meaningful contribution to these goals –

1. Supporting young and old
2. Enabling economic growth
3. Planning for the future.

Ms Ratima referred to the benefits of a Regional Arts Strategy (RAS), one of the main aims of this will be to provide a guide to those Council who do not yet have an Arts Policy in place. Ms Ratima advised that the benefits of a RAS will include the following –

1. Provide a consistent framework by which to guide decision making on arts issues locally and regionally,
2. Provide a collective voice regarding the regions value of the arts and the contribution it makes to its various communities,
3. Give a strong message to national and international stakeholders that the arts are important,
4. Support work already done on the Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan
5. Enable districts to work together, share resources and ideas
6. Ensure that the arts priorities for each district is captured in one overarching document.

Cr Phillips requested Ms Ratima to define the word 'Arts'. Ms Ratima replied that this relates to various art forms and varies across the Waikato district. She said it is necessary to define what the 'Arts' is within this district. In reply to Cr Klos, Ms Ratima advised that to come up with a creative profile for the district, the regional group could assist with that. She said it would be a step by step process and perhaps workshops within the typical communities could be held. She said her organisation would be seeking Council support to bring the various art groups together.

It was agreed that Council support the submission submitted by Creative Waikato and that the organisation be encouraged to keep Council informed.

## **OPUS ORCHESTRA**

The Chair of the Management Committee of Opus Orchestra Trust (OOT), Ms B Eady, attended the meeting. Ms Eady advised that OOT is seeking annual funding from the Otorohanga District Council to help deliver at least four high quality orchestral events per annum to Hamilton. She said the OOT requests that Council provides \$5,000 per annum in its LTP to OOT to help leverage additional funding from Creative NZ and other funders and enable quality classical music performances to continue to be provided to Communities of the region. Ms Eady confirmed that the OOT is professional and does travel around the region. She said however, it has a unique problem in that there are many Local Authorities to approach within this region. In reply to Cr Pilkington regarding the Orchestra's formula for leverage, Ms Eady replied that she did not know however, this is based on collective support. She said there is a need to invest in younger people throughout the region. His Worship advised that Council's within the region are talking and working more closely together for future benefits.

Members agreed to provide \$2,000 per annum for the next three years with the provision that information is supplied on other funding obtained, and a copy of the OOT programme is forwarded to Council.

## **WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL**

An apology was received from Waikato Regional Council (WRC) representatives for their non-attendance at the meeting. The Chief Executive reported that the WRC's submission was very generalised.

With regard to the Local Indigenous Biodiversity Strategies, the Chief Executive advised that Council does not have such a strategy however, this is dealt with under the District Plan on an 'as required' basis.

The Chief Executive referred Members to the Regional Heritage forum, in particular the WRC's request encouraging the allocation of staff resources in the LTP that are supportive of building regional heritage capacity and advised that this will be addressed under the District Plan review.

With reference to flood protection and control works, the Chief Executive advised that works will continue under the Service Level Agreement expiring on 30 June 2015. In regards to erosion control works the Chief Executive advised that no budget has been allocated for this however, at the present time the river is running smoothly.

Following further discussion it was agreed that Council receive, with thanks, the WRC submission.

## **M RANGITAWA-SCHOFIELD**

Forwarding her comments on water metering and the Otorohanga District Library.

It was agreed that this submission be acknowledged and the applicant be advised that Council has always budgeted funding for the maintenance of the library.

## **STAFF SUBMISSION**

The Finance & Administration Manager presented the Staff submission to the LTP. Issues raised were in respect to –

1. Funding impact statement
2. Uniform Annual General Charge
3. Separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit
4. Other definitions
5. Digital enablement
6. Environmental Health
7. Otorohanga Housing for the Elderly
8. Sport Waikato / Sports Club funding
9. Furniture and fittings and buiding overhead changes
10. Kawhia Library roof.

## **Digital Enablement**

Cr Pilkington reported that the Otorohanga District Development Board has already contributed to extending digital broadband into the community. She queried what the proposed funding is for and who will be benefiting. The Finance & Administration Manager replied that Council will not be utilising any funding until it is sure what this will be for. Cr Pilkington referred to the three separate initiatives of the proposal and advised that should only the Otorohanga community be successful then Council does not have to spend all the district funding allocated. She was advised that the matter will come back to Council.

The Chief Executive advised that an amount needs to be stated in order to register Council's interest.

Following discussion Members were in agreement with the items covered on page 1 of the submission. With regard to Sport Waikato/Sports Club funding, the following changes were agreed –

1. Establish a Council objective 'to retain local opportunities for participation in existing popular organised sports that are likely to offer benefits in respect to physical well-being for participants, with an associated new policy on Council's support of organised sport.
2. Make available an initial budget of \$15,000 per annum as a 'Sport Support Fund' from 2015/16 onwards to support the above policy.
3. Remove all requirements for the Otorohanga Soccer and Cricket Clubs to pay user charges or rentals for the use of land and facilities at the Otorohanga Domain.

With regard to the funding of the Sport Waikato Coordinator, it was agreed that Sport Waikato be offered \$35,000 per annum plus the credit for the period during which no service was being provided and that the reasons for this reduction in funding be made public.

With regard to the matter of the Kawhia Library roof, it was agreed that this be amended to read 'The existing capital budget of \$6,000 be increased to \$7,500 for the replacement of the Kawhia Library roof.'

## **LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourned for lunch at 12.30pm and resumed at 1.12pm.

## **COMMUNITY WAIKATO**

His Worship summarised the submission on behalf of Community Waikato, with the following being noted –

1. Council's Vision Statement 'Otorohanga – where kiwis can fly' and that this emphasises the desire of Council to help create a district where residents can achieve success in all aspects of their lives.
2. The organisation supports the commitment to supporting young and old residents.
3. The organisation encourages Council to ensure its strategic development activities consider the cultural, environmental and social influences, values and needs of marae, whanau, hapu, iwi throughout the district.

It was agreed that Community Waikato be thanked for their submission which is in support of what is taking place within the district and communities.

## **CREATIVE NEW ZEALAND**

The submission was in support of Council –

1. Taking into account the cultural interests of people and communities under the Local Act Act 2002.
2. Providing for the unique history and culture of the district,
3. Encouraging Council to develop its own Arts & Culture Policy/Strategy, to support the positive community outcomes that Council is striving for
4. Supporting the districts young and old.

Members were of the opinion that the submission was more based on what Creative NZ is about rather than suggestions for Council. It was agreed however, that Creative NZ be thanked for their submission.

## **FEDERATED FARMERS NZ**

Federated Farmers (FF) acknowledged Council's prudent Draft LTP with a 'business as usual' approach being adopted. FF advised it is pleasing to see that Council is concentrating on efficiencies and effectiveness and prioritising spending. The following recommendations were put forward by FF –

1. That Council continues to deliver a good level of transparency by providing detailed itemised rates information to ratepayers.
2. That future LTP and Annual Plans continue to include tables like those on pages 189-205.
3. Council increase its UAGC percentage to the maximum possible allowance.
4. Council continues to use the method of calculation which only counts Targeted Uniform Charges which are district wide in the 30 percent cap.
5. Council continues to make good use of Targeted Rates to fund services which have a high level of direct and identifiable benefit.
6. Council continues to work hard to keep rate increases as low as possible and ensure key focus areas meet a 'Core Business Test'.
7. Council reviews the funding allocation split to reduce the General Rate contribution and target rates to businesses directly benefiting from the service.
8. That Council does register an interest in Phase II of the Ultra Fast Broadband roll out.

9. Support establishment of temporary rates remission for new important business developments.

In respect of UAGC, the Finance & Administration Manager advised that Council considers this on an activity by activity basis, taking a principled approach. He said the rate requirement is based on the sum of all activities. The Finance & Administration Manager confirmed that the funding review is carried out every three years.

It was agreed that FF NZ be thanked for their submission of support to Council.

### **MCGUINNESS INSTITUTE**

The submission advised that the McGuinness Institute (MI) is a non-partisan think-tank working towards a sustainable future, contributing strategic foresight through evidence based research and policy analysis. The submission builds on the following workshops and projects –

1. The local NZ Living Standards NZ workshops.
2. Project Strategy NZ.
3. Project One Ocean.
4. Project Talent NZ.
5. Project Pandemic Management.

Members agreed that the MI be thanked for their thoughts and ideas in respect to the LTP.

### **HAMILTON & WAIKATO TOURISM**

Ms K Goulter, CEO of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism, attended the meeting and summarised her submission. She referred to HWT request for an additional \$20,000 investment under the 10 year strategy and advised that this is to grow the regions visitor expenditure from \$1B to \$1.35B by 2025. It is envisaged that this will be carried out by –

1. Expanding promotional activities to be more competitive and drive growth.
2. By supporting the development of visitor experiences.

This will benefit the Otorohanga district by –

1. Destination Management Plan – identify opportunities for tourism development and investment in the district and region.
2. Engage a Product Development Manager.
3. An increased focus on driving domestic visitation.
4. Providing greater support to cluster groups who have an interest in growing visitation to their communities, eg Kawhia.
5. Providing greater support to new and existing visitor experiences, eg. the Otorohanga Kiwi House.

Ms Goulter reported that all six Councils within the region have agreed to increase their funding.

In reply to Cr Klos, Ms Goulter advised that HWT will be more proactive in identifying opportunities and then taking these out to various communities.

His Worship thanked Ms Goulter for her presentation and said that Council applauds the work she carries out for the benefit of the region.

HWT be advised that Council supports the additional investment of \$20,000 per annum in its LTP with tangible evidence being provided of the benefits being received for the Otorohanga district.

### **SPORT WAIKATO**

Messrs Matthew Cooper, CE Sport Waikato (SW), Mike McGuire and another representative attended the meeting. Mr Cooper thanked Council for its support over previous years for which

his organisation is extremely grateful. He referred to Council's vision 'Otorohanga – were kiwis can fly', and the five strategies identified by Council to achieve this vision being –

1. Supporting young and old.
2. Using resources efficiently.
3. Enabling economic growth.
4. Retaining the districts identity.
5. Planning for the future.

He highlighted SW's response to these key concepts. Mr Cooper then outlined the value of engaging a Sports Coordinator for the District and the options for this role being –

1. Full time role – SW requests the ODC continue to fund the salary and overheads of the District Coordinator in the Otorohanga District of \$71,991 plus CPI, per annum for three years.
2. Part time – SW requests the ODC fund the salary and overheads of the District Coordinator in the Otorohanga District of \$50,000 plus CPI per annum for three years. He said SW's preference is to continue to deliver and support sport, recreation and physical activity in the Otorohanga community via option 1.

Cr Klos said that this Council is looking for accountability in the engagement of a Coordinator. She said it is difficult to ascertain what has happened over previous years and the benefit this is to the district. She said the main two issues are accountability and traceability. Mr Cooper replied that SW has quantified evidence in support of the development of people within the Otorohanga district and sport and recreation. Mr McGuire advised that it is difficult for SW to obtain the necessary information as many of those involved are volunteers. He said it is desirable that data be collected at the commencement of the activity however, this can be quite challenging.

Cr Klos referred to the previous Co-ordinators reports and said these usually begin with 'assisting'. Mr McGuire replied that the Co-ordinators role is to be 'enabling' rather than delivering the activity. Cr Klos reiterated that Council has no tangible evidence supporting this. Mr McGuire undertook that in the future SW will look at and work with Council on this issue.

Cr Pilkington referred to the situation at Kawhia and advises that following a ring around, contact with SW has been identified as very occasional, poor, or who is SW? With regard to the provision of a local sporting hub, Cr Pilkington asked how this could be progressed. Mr McGuire replied it will be necessary to ascertain if there is need for such a facility and work through the process to meet this need. Cr Pilkington advised that there is a lot of speculation out in the community on this proposal. Mr McGuire advised that this can be quite confusing as there are the 'wants' and the 'needs'. He further advised that the need is to create the desire for people to work together towards the proposal. Mr McGuire referred to SW's Regional Community Facilities Plan and how this might assist. He said the Te Kuiti proposal is being driven by a local school. Mr Cooper said there is an opportunity and it needs to be tested whether Otorohanga residents could benefit from such a proposal. The Chief Executive advised that the Regional Facilities Advisor has been engaging with this Council and that he has information from her to present to the Otorohanga District Development Board meeting tomorrow.

## **OTOROHANGA NETBALL CENTRE**

Advising they are in desperate need to resurface the netball courts in particular the bottom four courts, and enclose a quotation for the sum of \$47,340 (Exc GST) to carry this out. The Chief Executive informed Members that such a request opens the door for Council to support sport facilities in general. He said it is believed that the proposed work as indicated is not as urgent as is suggested. It was agreed that Council staff work with the Netball Centre to explore other means of improving the playing surfaces.

## **PHYSICIANS AND SCIENTISTS FOR GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Forwarding a submission requesting Council to accept and consider, supporting a sustainable future for the district and a healthy community that will draw support from members of District Health Boards and Community and local Boards.

It was agreed that this organisation be thanked for their submission.

## **POPULATION HEALTH**

Commending Council on its foresight in planning for the future and for the challenges that lay ahead. Population Health (PH) recognises that rates certainty provided through annual increases of around 3 percent is an important part of Council's overall financial planning however, requesting Council to consider families with children and those living in the lowest decile areas who may not be well placed to accommodate increased costs.

Referring to the district's revised vision Statement 'Otorohanga – where kiwis can fly' and supporting Council with its ongoing commitment to investment in this area.

PH congratulates Council for its recognition of demographic change for both young and old, and planning accordingly.

PH commends Council for its focus on increasing water storage in Otorohanga by constructing an additional 1 million litre timber reservoir.

PH believes that the sharing of resources and investments is to be encouraged, but PH request Council to keep an open mind about possible future amalgamation with other smaller Territorial Authorities.

Applauding Council for showing leadership by future proofing the district now and in the future and acknowledges the challenges of supplying good quality water and infrastructure across the district while maintaining protection of water sources and the environment.

PH encourages Council to consider community water fluoridation

Supporting Council to review its role in supporting organised sport in the district and wishes to encourage Council to consider a greater provision of plans to provide for a variety of 'parks and green spaces' rather than just sports grounds.

PH notes Councils intention to introduce a single universal system of meter water charges for all customers connected to the Otorohanga town water supply and supports the proposed measures to manage demand and reduce wastage.

PH encourages Council to develop a smoke free environment policy and provide leadership in supporting Smokefree Aotearoa 2025.

The Chief Executive commented that PH's submission was very clear and understandable. Members agreed that consideration of fluoridation of drinking water be considered under the LTP in three years time.

Members agreed that PH be thanked for their comprehensive submission.

## **L RANGITAWA**

Opposing the water metering proposal for the Otorohanga community.

Members agreed that the submitter be thanked for their submission.

## **L NICOL-RANGITAWA**

Also opposing water metering being introduced in the Otorohanga community.

It was agreed that the submitter be thanked for their submission.

## **D & A SELLERS**

Forwarding their submission as follows –

1. Applauding the lowering of public debt and recognising that it is being achieved through modest rate increases.
2. The implementation of water metering for users is sensible given the increasing scarcity and cost of water as a resource.
3. Expressing concern that there is no discussion in the planning document about the possible need to increase the capacity of the Otorohanga Wastewater System.
4. Expressing the opinion that the change to LED lights seems to be very sensible and forward thinking.
5. Disappointed to see the proposed reduction in funding for youth support schemes.
6. Advising they do not support any increases to rural services however, improvements to the rural roading network are important.

Members agreed that the submission be acknowledged and the submitters concerns noted. In regard to funding for youth support schemes they be advised that this is currently under review with a possible change of direction being introduced.

## **BAILEY INGHAM LTD**

Expressing support for sport and querying whether a Sport Waikato Coordinator could be shared with the Waitomo District Council.

Advising that attracting new business is important however, they are of the opinion that most of the growth in business will come from existing businesses and continuing support of these is equally, if not more important.

His Worship informed Members that the Waitomo District Council wishes to retain a full-time Sports Coordinator.

His Worship said Council is very much aware that small and existing business also require Council support. Cr Pilkington suggested that this issue could form part of the discussion on Council's Economic Strategy.

It was agreed that His Worship have further discussions with the Chief Executive of Sport Waikato regarding the provision of a District Sport Co-ordinator and furthermore that Council will continue to support existing businesses wherever possible. It was agreed that this be conveyed to Bailey Ingham Ltd.

## **TOIMATA FOUNDATION**

Acknowledging Council for supporting Schools in its district to be part of the Enviro-schools network since 2012.

Members agreed that the submitter be advised that Council will continue to support the Enviro-schools network.

## **TRUST WAIKATO**

Requesting Council to consider further the results of the sport and creative facilities infrastructure plans, completed in 2014. Advising that the Waikato Regional Sports Facilities Plan and the Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan represent an opportunity to collaborate, to bring parties together, and to develop and deliver the sports and creative facilities our communities need.

Members agreed that the Waikato Regional Sports Facilities Plan does provide linkage as to where Council will consider placing funding.

## **TE AWAMUTU BIRTHING**

Seeking support and funding from Council to enable them to provide a quality service and facility for the women and their whanau of the community. Cr Klos advised that the Otorohanga district has been affected by the recent closure of the Matariki Hospital Maternity section. It was agreed that Council make a grant of \$1,000 (Exc GST) to the Te Awamutu Birthing Centre to be funded from the Sundry Grants account.

## **Item 216 MATTERS REFERRED**

The Governance Supervisor took Members through Matters Referred.

## **OTOROHANGA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Cr Pilkington reported that Members should be receiving minutes of the ODDB meetings. She said ODDB member, Mr Andrew Giltrap, had advised that he understood Councillors were always receiving copies of the ODDB minutes.

## **FROSTS PIT**

The Engineering Manager reported that the tidying up of Frosts Pit is in hand.

## **ENTRANCE SIGN – WAIPAPA ROAD**

The Engineering Manager reported that potential creation of this sign will not be possible until consultant David Walmsley returns from overseas.

## **BAYLEY ROAD – CATS EYES**

The Engineering Manager reported that Bayley Road does not qualify for the installation of cats eyes due to the road width and traffic volumes.

## **GENERAL**

### **RURAL HEALTH ALLIANCE AOTEAROA**

Cr Prescott reported on his attendance at a recent provincial sector meeting and advised that Rural Health Alliance provide assistance to farmers who are encountering difficulties due to the current economic situation. He reported that suicide amongst farmers is higher than other fatal accidents occurring on the farm. Cr Prescott advised that there is a cost of \$1,000 to become a member of this organisation. He felt that due to the downturn in the farming economics, Council should be on board. His Worship reported that accidents relating to quad bikes are always made public where suicides don't get a mention. He said the request could be given in support of the health needs throughout the wider rural area. Cr Klos referred to rural and community health and reported that if you do not consider the hospitals in this area, they do not do much else and are ignoring the state of the health of rural people. She said there is a large number of young people out in the farming community and that many farmers are not coping well. Cr Johnson reported that there is a number of organisation already carrying out this type of work. He provided four examples of these. Cr Johnson felt that as a Council there is no need for it to become involved. Mr Tindle suggested the matter be considered further and therefore be placed on matters referred.

## **J & F SCOTT**

Cr Pilkington tabled an email received from John and Fiona Scott thanking Council staff for the remedial work carried out on Hauturu Road.

## **OTOROHANGA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Cr Pilkington informed Members that a meeting of the ODDB is to be held tomorrow morning commencing at 9.00am.

## **KAWHIA PRINT EXPO**

Cr Pilkington reported on the Kawhia Print Expo and advised that this included arts from Kawhia and the surrounding areas. She said it was an opportunity to learn the techniques of printing and was very well received.

## **KAWHIA MUSEUM**

Cr Pilkington reported that artists have taken an artifact from the Kawhia Museum to interpret what it represents.

## **HINGAIA ROAD**

Cr Klos reported on a complaint she has received in respect to effluent on Hingaia Road. She advised that she travelled along adjacent local roads but found no effluent on Hingaia Road at that particular time. Cr Klos referred to a property on Bayley Road and reported how easy it would be to use Hingaia Road for this purpose. Cr Klos asked whether farmers are able to regularly use roads as farm tracks. The Chief Executive advised that Council has a Stock Movement Bylaw however, this is not actively policed by staff. He said issues raised under this Bylaw are complaint driven. The Chief Executive said there are inconsistencies in the way that people respond to such issues and as long as the road concerned is not being damaged, the matter is not followed up. Cr Klos reported that the property in question is a lifestyle block. Members were informed that this activity would have to stop if it falls outside what is permitted by the Bylaw. It was agreed that staff monitor the situation and have a quiet word with the property owners concerned.

## **WAIPAPA RESERVE**

Cr Klos reported that recently 730 trees have been planted on the reserve with a further 300 to be planted. She said there was a good turnout of people to undertake the planting.

Cr Klos queried whether funding could be available from the Waikato River Authority to carry out further improvements on the Reserve. The Chief Executive replied that it would be necessary to prepare a plan of what is proposed with a focus on water quality improvements.

## **WAIKATO SPATIAL PLAN**

His Worship reported that the Chief Executive and himself had attended a meeting held Sunday 7 June on the Waikato Spatial Plan. He said the direction was towards development of a Strategic Plan and that it will be interesting to see if this arrives at a Spatial Plan.

## **CHINESE SIGNAGE**

His Worship reported it has been suggested that Councils and Community Boards should give consideration by 2021 to providing signage with a Chinese language alternative as this nationality will be the highest tourist numbers coming to NZ.

## **COMMUNITY BOARDS NZ**

Cr Prescott referred to the 2017 Community Boards of NZ conference and suggested that Council should budget for this. He said it appears most Council hate their Community Boards.

## **CIVIL DEFENCE MEETING**

Cr Prescott reported he attended another Civil Defence meeting on behalf of His Worship and suggested that should His Worship not be able to attend a future meeting that Cr Tindle be requested to attend on his behalf.

## **ELECTED MEMBERS**

The Chief Executive advised that elected members are considered 'customers of Council' therefore a survey is being forwarded to them on the service being provided to them by Council staff. He said the replies are to be based on each Councillors personal experience.

## **HAUTURU HALL**

The Finance & Administration Manager advised that the Hauturu Hall is considering establishing a separate rate to fund this facility.

## **MEMBERS REMUNERATION**

The Finance & Administration Manager reported that remuneration advice has been received indicating that Members salaries will increase by 6.5 percent next financial year.

## **MOTOR VEHICLE POLICY**

His Worship reported on the use of the Mayoral car for private purpose and advised that he is prepared to contribute to this. The Finance & Administration Manager advised that the Remuneration Authority will set the private portion to be paid. His Worship reported that currently there is \$25,000 in next years Estimates for the replacement of the Mayoral car. He reported that, following discussion it has been agreed with the Chief Executive and Plant Manager that this be increased to \$35,000.

## **DUMPING OF TYRES**

His Worship reported on the dumping of disused tyres around the Waikato and advised that there is an area in the district being used for this purpose. He said currently Council is unable to take any action but this is a huge issue throughout NZ.

## **MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting concluded at 3.35pm.

**MAYOR:**

**DATE:** 21 July 2015