



Otorohanga Community Board

# MINUTES

9 August 2018

**OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD**

9 August 2018

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto Street, Otorohanga on 9 August 2018 commencing at 4.00pm.

**MINUTES**

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

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

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## **PRESENT**

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

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

His Worship The Mayor MM Baxter, Messrs. DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), G Bunn (Corporate Services Manager), MA Lewis (Community Facilities Officer), Ms. T Ambury (Land Management Officer) and Mr. CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

## **APOLOGY**

**Resolved** that the apology received from Mr. A Buckman, be sustained.

### **Mrs. Cowan / Mr. Gadd**

The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed Board members and members of the public present.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

### **Otorohanga Museum**

Messrs. Colin Murphy and Remco Pootjes attended the meeting representing the Otorohanga Historical Society.

Mr. Murphy expressed thanks to the Board for the opportunity to speak. He reported that the Otorohanga Historical Society has approached various community groups for assistance with the Museum complex.

Mr. Murphy referred to the life size statue of Commodore Westmacott which is currently displayed at Te Papa and the possibility of obtaining this statue for display at the Otorohanga Museum. Mr. Murphy reported that the Te Papa exhibition will run for another year or two therefore this will allow the Museum time to provide a suitable display area.

Mr. Murphy then referred to the possibility of obtaining the former Girl Guide Hall for a display area. He referred to the proposed renovation of the building and said that the Otorohanga Historical Society would like to be involved with this if the building was to be used for the purpose of displaying the statue. Mr. Murphy further advised that should the proposal to obtain the statue be unsuccessful then the Museum would like to utilise the former Girl Guide Hall to display various uniforms and maybe a fire engine and pump. Mr. Murphy advised that as part of future plans for the Museum it has been suggested that this become a "charge" museum for its future viability.

Mr. Murphy expressed the opinion that the Museum complex could become a destination and that the society has support from the Hamilton Museum, local Iwi, Otorohanga Rotary and possibly the Otorohanga Lions Club for this to happen.

The Chair replied to Mr. Murphy stating that he has come forward with a proposal which needs to go to the next stage for consideration. He said currently the former Girl Guide Hall is used by one or two Community Groups. He said more in-depth discussion will need to be held.

It was confirmed that the Hall is owned by the Otorohanga District Council.

Mrs. Cowan extended congratulations to members of the society on the streamlining of the Museum which they have already undertaken. She said the Museum contains a very precious resource.

Mrs. Christison suggested that the Society think big and thought be given to providing a building which could enclose all the existing complex buildings.

### **Otorohanga Rotary**

Mr. Robin Saunderson's, President of the Otorohanga Rotary Club introduced himself to Board Members and advised that he and his wife moved to Otorohanga on 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2017. He outlined his previous experience within Rotary and the need for the Otorohanga Rotary Club to be involved in Community projects and facilities. He said there are a number of support service groups in Otorohanga which are capable of raising money and providing necessary resources.

Mr. Saunderson asked whether the Otorohanga Community is bored and is Council making use of all the District's resources. Mr. Saunderson said he would like the Otorohanga Rotary Club to take on at least three big projects this year which will provide benefit to all concerned. He said this is an opportunity for Council to encourage service groups to work together for the benefit of the Community.

The Chair endorsed Mr. Saunderson's comments, but said that in the past Council has been given a number of assets by Community groups, that then add to the maintenance responsibility of Council.

Mr. Gadd agreed that with any proposal there is far too much discussion and should the Rotary Club submit a proposal to the Board which they will fund he does not have a problem with this. He said however, should Community funding and support be required then it will be necessary to go out to the public for consultation on the proposal.

Mrs. Cowan reported that the Board has committed more funding to Rotary Park, but there are a large number of items that Rotary could assist with. She acknowledged the work undertaken by members of the Rotary Club in regards to the Otorohanga Kiwi House.

The Chair thanked the members of the public for their attendance.

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

**Resolved** that the Chief Executives report on proposed support of the Poppy Places Project be considered in general business which may require a resolution.

#### **Chair / Mr. Coventry**

#### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 12 JULY 2018**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 12 July 2018, as circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

#### **Mr. Coventry / Mr. Gadd**

#### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

The Chair declared a conflict of interest in matters to be discussed in the workshop on the Stopbank pathway.

#### **PROPOSED SUPPORT OF POPPY PLACES PROJECT**

The Chief Executive presented a report seeking support of the Poppy Places Project in Otorohanga.

The Chief Executive referred to a previous public forum of the Board where at Mr. Trevor Skilton made a presentation on the proposed implementation of the "Poppy Places Project" in Otorohanga. He said the New Zealand Poppy Places Trust has been established to develop, promote and oversee a nationwide project to commemorate and recognise as part of the heritage of New Zealanders, the participation of New Zealand in military conflicts and military operational services overseas. The places of remembrance project will encourage all New Zealanders in local communities to,

1 – identify places in New Zealand which have a link to our Military involvement in conflict or operational service overseas,

2 – research and record the history of these places on the poppyplaces.org.nz website.

3 – link the physical with the recorded history, by joining the Community in an organised remembrance ceremony to educate and to forever mark the place / monument with a poppy.

**Resolved** that the Board supports in principle, the implementation of the 'Poppy Places Project' in Otorohanga.

#### **Mr. Gadd / Mrs. Cowan**

#### **ITEM 58 MATTERS REFERRED – 12 JULY 2018**

The Chair took members through Matters Referred.

#### **Pedestrian Crossing Gardens**

Mrs. Christison reported that she is working on providing drawings re-designing the pedestrian crossing gardens in Maniapoto Street Otorohanga.

#### **Remaining Items**

The remaining items on matters referred being

- Otorohanga Museum – lease arrangements
  - Traffic Bylaw – change of signage and items from 14 June 2018
  - Proposed Stopbank footpath – design work
  - Truck Parking Area
- will be considered in workshop meetings.

## **GENERAL**

### **Otorohanga Camping Ground**

Mrs. Cowan requested an update on the status of the Otorohanga Camping Ground in particular the payment of rates and water and the future of the facility.

### **Otorohanga Domain Toilets**

Mrs. Cowan suggested that the matter of re-roofing the Otorohanga Domain toilets be placed on matters referred for further discussion.

The Community Facilities Officer queried whether the Board requires a full report on the Domain Toilet Block. He advised that in regard to the re-roofing / spouting of the building, this would amount to a cost of between five to six thousand dollars.

Mrs. Cowan expressed the opinion that the Board should have a full report on the matter however, she was advised that this has already been presented.

The Chair advised that the Board has made a decision to remove the trees and shrubs around the building, therefore it now has to consider the matter of the building itself.

Mrs. Cowan suggested that a report be brought back to the Board for further consideration.

The Chair suggested that the report on the costings needs to be included in the next Agenda however, in the meantime this be emailed to members to make a decision whether to reinstate or demolish the building.

### **Workshop request**

Mrs. Cowan suggested that a date be provided for members to have a workshop on landscaping issues around the Community in particular relating to the current gardening contract.

Discussion was also held on the lawn mowing contract and areas of land which are not now mowed and other areas that have recently been included.

Mrs. Cowan requested that in future when contracts affecting the community are being considered or revised, that Board Members are included in the discussions. .

### **Otorohanga Stopbanks**

Mr. Coventry referred to comments regarding damage to the Otorohanga stopbanks and the taking of soil from a local Marae.

Council's Land Management Officer informed members that soil was taken from a local Marae and an area on Otewa Road and used to construct the stopbanks. She said concern had been expressed from the Marae that the soil may need to be blessed. She said however, this soil was not used on the actual stopbanks.

The Land Management Officer advised that Marae members were happy to carry out a blessing of this soil should this be felt necessary. It was agreed that Mr. Coventry follow the matter up with the Marae representative to ensure they are happy with the situation.

### **Railway Fencing**

Mr. Coventry referred to the fencing between the railway line and Huiputea Drive and reported that every day he sees a number of people jumping over the fence. There is no official crossing available.

The Chair also reported that there is a considerable number of people who cross over the railway line every day.

### **Project Kiwiana – Jim Barker Memorial Playground**

Mrs. Christison referred to the Project Kiwiana – Jim Barker Memorial Playground carpark and queried whether this will be resealed.

The Chief Executive replied 'yes' this will be undertaken as it has only received the first coat of seal.

### **Truck Parking – Leased KiwiRail Land Otorohanga**

Mrs. Christison reminded members that consideration needs to be given to providing a truck parking area in the Community.

Mr. Gadd asked whether an area could be made available within the land being leased from KiwiRail.

The Community Facilities Officer replied that the fencing of the area is very close to the actual boundaries.

Mr. Gadd queried if part of the metal area could be utilised for this purpose.

The Chair reported that he had approached one or two trucking companies for their feedback on this matter.

Mrs. Christison asked whether Councils Community Facilities Officer and/or Mrs. Rosemary Davison could do a presentation to the Board on the former KiwiRail land explaining what is taking place in the area.

The Community Facilities Officer advised that he is currently working on the provision of signage and that as part of the Memorandum of Understanding Council is to plant the area out in flaxes.

**Proposed Medical Hub**

Mrs. Christison referred to the grassed area for the Medical Hub and in particular to the mowing of the area. She asked whether variations to the appropriate contract have been undertaken.

The Community Facilities Officer replied that with regard to mowing of small areas there is some give and take.

**Proposed Milk Factory**

His Worship updated members on the process of the proposed Milk Factory and reported that the consent process is now with the Waikato Regional Council. He said the discharge of wastewater is still a problem and that the testing of water bores is currently being carried out to establish their capacity and the effect that these may have on surrounding properties.

**Chinese Delegation**

His Worship reported that he is having dinner tonight with a delegation from China regarding a Hotel Development proposal.

**Former Girl Guides Hall**

The Land Management Officer informed members that updated plans have been prepared for the former Otorohanga Girl Guide Hall and that these are available for feedback.

**Circus Event**

The Land Management Officer informed members of an approach from a Circus to hold an event in Otorohanga from Monday 20 August through to Thursday 23 August 2018. She advised that the proposal is being processed by herself in conjunction with Councils Community Facilities Officer.

The Chair stressed the need for discussions to be held with representatives of the Otorohanga Rugby Club prior to the circus arriving in town.

**Mrs. Christison**

Mrs. Christison left the meeting at 5.08pm.

**Waste Water Line**

The Chief Executive informed members of an approach from a land owner on Otewa Road regarding the possible extension of the waste water line to enable development of the area to be carried out. He said there is a need to investigate this request further.

**Businesses / Maniapoto Street**

The Chair informed members that he has organised a Maniapoto Street Walk / Visit to businesses by Board Members. He said this is an opportunity for local business people to meet Board members and to make themselves known.

The Chair advised that each member will be given a section of Maniapoto Street for this purpose.

**Street Lighting**

The Chair reported that people are asking him about some areas around town which at night are very dark. The Chair expressed the opinion he understood the new LED lighting is more cost efficient however, there is a need to improve certain key areas.

The Chief Executive said he is waiting for the Engineering Manager to return from holiday to report on this matter.

**Meeting Closure**

The meeting closed at 5.14pm

**CHAIR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

