



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

16 May 2017

10.02am

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

16 May 2017

MINUTES

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PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), G Bunn (Finance and Administration Manager), R Brady (Engineering Manager), A Loe (Environmental Services Manager (10.09am) and C Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

His Worship declared the meeting open and welcomed those present.

OPENING PRAYER

Councillor Pilkington read the Opening Prayer.

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillor Christison raised the issue of funding in respect to the Maniapoto Street Hanging Baskets in particular, to the amount given by the Otorohanga District Development Board to the Otorohanga Business Association.

Councillor Christison advised that part of this funding is also utilised towards costs associated with the Annual Christmas Parade.

It was agreed that this matter be considered under general business later in the meeting however, it was thought that no resolution would be required.

Resolved that a late Agenda Item regarding a decision on Class 4 Gambling Venue Policy be considered in general business which may require a resolution.

HIS WORSHIP / CR PHILLIPS

Resolved that the proposal to establish a new Medical Centre in Otorohanga and an application for temporary road closure in respect to Waimahora Road be considered in general business which may require resolutions.

HIS WORSHIP / CR KLOS

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL – 18 APRIL 2017

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 18 April 2017 as circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CR JOHNSON / CR PILKINGTON

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD – 13 APRIL 2017

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Kawhia Community Board held on 13 April 2017 as previously circulated, be received.

CR PILKINGTON / CR JOHNSON

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD – 27 APRIL 2017

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 27 April 2017 as previously circulated, be received.

CR MCCONNELL / CR CHRISTISON

MANIAPOTO STREET VERANDAHS

Councillor Klos referred to the matter of the verandahs on premises along Maniapoto Street and reported that past Councils have already discussed this issue proposing to improve the appearance of the town with the provision of a uniform verandah structure.

She expressed the opinion that it is amazing this issue appears to have just been passed over. Councillor Klos said she would like Council to review this issue with the proposal to replace the Maniapoto Street Verandahs as a whole, in a uniform structure.

The Chief Executive reported that some verandahs are in good condition while others require urgent repairs. He said a direction could be to progressively upgrade verandahs in a consistent way.

His Worship felt that there is some urgency in this matter and he believed that should one property owner upgrade their verandah then hopefully the neighbouring properties will do so as well.

The Chief Executive informed members that the Board recommend to Council that amendments be made to the Structures and Works in Public Places By-Law that permit the use of post supported verandahs in the pedestrian precinct areas of the Otorohanga District. He said at this stage there is no commitment to proceed.

Councillor Klos questioned why Council should be going away from big and challenging projects.

She was informed that businesses have suffered a lot and that there needs to be a "need" for any upgrade.

In reply to Councillor Philips the Chief Executive advised that the business properties own the verandahs, and Council cannot force them to replace the verandahs unless these are proven unsafe.

The Chief Executive further advised that under the current By-Law should a building have a verandah attached, then this cannot be taken away.

Councillor Phillips referred to the matter of Community Footpath Construction in particular State Highway 31 – 39, Mc Cready Road to Waitomo Valley Road and queried whether this is a Otorohanga Community Board issue. He said he is surprised at the number of people that walk down this section of road.

Councillor Pilkington requested some clarity regarding the budget of \$50,000 per year for construction / maintenance of footpaths (which is District funded) and queried whether the construction / maintenance could be interchangeable.

The Chief Executive replied that the budget and the use of it can be adjusted as long as good reasons are identified.

He confirmed that the construction / maintenance of footpaths within the Community is District funded however, this does not have to be spent.

With regard to the Main North Road footpath situation, the Engineering Manager advised that the Road Safety Forum is working through this matter. Councillor McConnell advised that one idea presented to a recent Otorohanga Community Board meeting is to widen the existing footpath up the Main North Road. He also referred to a former Otorohanga Community Boards decision that every street in Otorohanga will have footpaths on both sides and advised that the current Board has voted out this policy.

His Worship expressed the opinion that consideration needs to be given to speed management along Main North Road.

Councillor Phillips reported that sections of footpath are being broken up by a large vehicle driving over them.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

His Worship asked Members whether they were aware of any circumstances where they could stand to make personal and/or monetary gains in any particular matter to be discussed at this meeting.

No such Declarations of Interest were received.

PROPOSED "RIVER LEVEL INDEX" INDICATOR

The Chief Executive presented a report advising that it is proposed in future during severe rainfall events that communication is conducted with the local community via Council's website and social media regarding the likely relative severity of flooding from the Waipa River and other large streams based on a "River Level Index" that reflects the predicted peak level of the Waipa River at the Otewa gauging station.

The Chief Executive reported that Council has a dedicated Facebook page providing Flooding Information.

Councillor Christison suggested that this information be placed on Council's website also.

Councillor Phillips suggested that Twitter be utilised for this purpose.

The Chief Executive replied that it is the intention of Council to make available a number of different channels so people can obtain information.

Councillor Phillips said he would like to see included in the information a "rate of change" i.e. rise and fall of the water level.

The Chief Executive advised that Council would need to have someone who is able to interpret the information correctly. He said at this stage Council can only provide an indication.

Councillor Phillips suggested that discussion be held with the Waikato Regional Council in order to identify a "rate of change" in the information supplied.

Councillor Johnson expressed the opinion that this matter is not Council's concern and is undertaken by the Waikato Regional Council.

Councillor Phillips said he is concerned with the effect of flooding on Farmers, not the town.

Councillor Klos advised that a report on the recent Whakatane / Edgecumbe flooding will give Councils a good indication of various steps to take.

Councillor Christison said it is great to see that Council is considering providing some form of flood warning.

With regard to the Whakatane / Edgecumbe situation Councillor McConnell felt that a lot more emphasis will be placed on those towns that have stop banks in place.

It was agreed that the Chief Executive carry on the informal way he is currently undertaking in providing flood information and to consider this further once the report from the Whakatane / Edgecumbe situation is received.

Resolved that the Chief Executive's report on communicating local flood warnings be received.

Cr Phillips / Cr Pilkington

Members congratulated the Chief Executive on the great work he undertook in providing relevant information during the last flooding event.

ITEM 61 FEES AND CHARGES 2017 – 2018

The Finance and Administration Manager presented changes to the fees & charges as requested by Staff, for the approval of Council.

Councillor Pilkington said she understood the Kawhia Community Board had given consideration to the Kawhia Wharf Shed rentals and berthage fees,

The Finance and Administration Manager replied that this matter refers to the Kawhia Shed rental, berthage fees and also power consumption to the individual sheds. He confirmed that changes in the future can be adopted at any time.

The Engineering Manager advised that a meeting is to be held with the Charter Boat operators. Councillor Pilkington requested that an item regarding power meters at the Kawhia Wharf be placed on the next Kawhia Community Boards Agenda.

Councillor Klos felt that it is important for any proposed cost increases to be transparent.

The Engineering Manager replied that they are and in some instances even larger increases could be justified.

Resolved that Council adopt the new fees and charges as outlined in the report, with effect from 1 July 2017.

His Worship / Cr Christison

ITEM 69 YOUTH INITIATIVES

Otorohanga Community Board member Peter Coventry attended the meeting and made a presentation on Youth to Work strategies. He said these will only work when there is support and confidence from the local community and leadership.

Mr Coventry outlined the journey undertaken over the past 15 years however, it is now necessary for the community to “up its game” and the need to provide leadership. He said previously, any initiatives have relied on Government funding which is not now available.

Mr Coventry referred to a ‘Community Structure’ and informed members of the pillars of a successful community being –

- 1) Each has a part to play.
- 2) Each must be able to trust the others to fulfill their goals.
- 3) If one area fails, the Community will become stunted.
- 4) Each pillar requires financial support
- 5) When each area is thriving, the Community is thriving.

Mr Coventry referred to his organisation’s vision which is “to enable the Youth of Otorohanga to thrive and contribute to the wellbeing and welfare of our District and New Zealand”. He said yes, this is Christian based within the churches of Otorohanga who have available approximately 300 potential volunteers. He said their mission is to work with ‘Springboard’ and to collaborate with others to ensure this.

Mr Coventry referred to the gap between business and education and advised that the business pillar has it’s own set of dynamics in which to operate. He said Business principles must apply.

Mr Coventry further reported that education’s main responsibility is to educate Children, not fix the community, therefore someone has to build “the bridge” and that someone needs money.

His Worship applauded the work undertaken by Mr Coventry and his wife Carol . He said Council has identified that there is capacity to engage in Youth Initiatives in Otorohanga.

Councillor Klos expressed the opinion that Youth Leadership needs to reflect who you are working with and to learn from each other and share knowledge and information. She said it is also necessary to look at the rural population.

Councillor Johnson referred to the Driver Licensing training which was supported by the Otorohanga Charitable Trust, however this has now ceased in Otorohanga. He said this is a vital part of the Youth Initiatives in Otorohanga.

Mr Coventry replied that such programs require funding.

His Worship thanked Mr Coventry for his presentation.

Resolved that the presentation by Mr Peter Coventry on Youth Initiatives be received.

His Worship / Cr Pilkington

ITEM 71 PROPOSED NEW OTOROHANGA MEDICAL CENTRE

The Chief Executive circulated an amended report on the proposal for the development of a new Medical Centre for Otorohanga, to be supported by a charitable donation of one million dollars from a local benefactor. The Chief Executive advised that it is recognised Council has generally been very cautious about making expenditure outside of “core business” areas, and even more so when that expenditure is likely to have a significant impact on a particular commercial activity, as this is not considered to be the role of Council.

The Chief Executive advised that in this case however, the following factors make this a special case that may warrant an exception being made –

- extent of benefits.
- low level of risk.
- bang for buck.
- not entirely new activity area.
- full and lasting solution.

He said it will be necessary to go through the Long Term Plan process to obtain the formal approval of the Community. The Chief Executive advised that it is believed it would be much more desirable to have the facility under the ownership of a single entity, and that the benefactors had stated that they wished to make their donation through a Charitable Trust, and were aware of another similar facility having been established, owned and managed by such a Trust.

In reply to Councillor Christison regarding the Otorohanga Charitable Trust the Chief Executive replied that this was established to make use of donations for a new town hall some twenty years ago. He said should this be wound up, ownership of the proposed new Medical Facility would transfer to Council.

The Chief Executive advised that should a modern new facility be provided this would encourage doctors to come and stay in Otorohanga.

With regard to the issue of the proposed building being erected on Maori Lease land His Worship advised that this should create no issues. Councillor Christison expressed the opinion that the proposal is amazing however; the matter of Maori Lease land does concern her.

Councillor Pilkington expressed the opinion, with the provision of a new medical facility, this will certainly attract more medical practitioners. She advised that there are a number of medical centres run by Trusts around New Zealand. Councillor Pilkington suggested that there is an opportunity to contact one of these Trusts to obtain their experiences. She said this is an unbelievable opportunity and well worth going out to the Community for feedback.

Councillor Klos reported that she had had experience in such matters and suggested that the facility be placed in a Property Trust set up separately for the purpose of the benefit it serves and for it to remain for this purpose.

Councillor Klos advised that if one million dollars has been donated then the extra funding should be found from within the District.

Councillor Phillips expressed the opinion that the formation of a Trust is a good idea however, this needs to be thought through very carefully.

Councillor Williams felt that this could also offer an opportunity for the buildings situated in Kawhia.

Councillor Johnson confirmed that Councils input would be just via raising a loan.

Resolved that:

1. Council is supportive in principle of potential joint funding, with John and Sarah Oliver, of the construction of a new Medical Centre for Otorohanga to be owned by the Otorohanga Charitable Trust on behalf of the community.
2. Council extends its thanks, on behalf of the Community, to John and Sarah Oliver for their outstanding generosity.
3. That preliminary consultation is immediately conducted with the community on such Council funding (in the order of \$1 million), prior to undertaking any further substantial planning work towards the proposed project.

His Worship / Cr Christison

ITEM 64 DIRECT REFERRAL FOR WAIKERIA PRISON EXPANSION

The Environmental Services Manager presented a report advising that the Department of Corrections on behalf of the Minister has requested that the Notice of Requirement to expand the capacity of Waikeria Prison from 1250 to a maximum inmate capacity of 3000, be heard and decided before the Environment Court. He reported that one submission has been received to date however, people appear to be struggling to appreciate the scale of this proposed development.

The Environmental Services Manager reported that the proposal would bypass the "local" hearing step.

Councillor Pilkington explained that Council's consultants / lawyers had attended the last meeting of Council on 18 April 2017 and explained the position. With this presentation, this allowed members the opportunity to ask any questions.

The Environmental Services Manager was asked whether going direct to the Environment Court could intimidate or put off the 'little person'. He replied that this proposal is a matter of urgency and of national importance, and the process is structured accordingly.

The Engineering Manager reported it will be necessary to upgrade part of Waikeria Road due to the proposed increase in vehicular traffic. He said discussion will be held with the Waipa District Council regarding this upgrade.

The Engineering Manager advised that a 58% subsidy will be available for this upgrade. A contribution will also be made by the Department of Corrections.

Resolved that

1. The Report from the Environmental Services Manager be received and,
2. Pursuant to section 198C(5) Resource Management Act 1991, Otorohanga District Council approves the request from the Minister of Corrections to refer the Notice of Requirement to expand the capacity of Waikeria Prison from 1250 to a maximum inmate capacity of 3000 to the Environment Court for a decision.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Klos

ITEM 65 PLANNING REPORT FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2017

The Environmental Services Manager referred Members to his report on Resource Consents granted under Delegated Authority for the period 1 January – 31 March 2017.

Resolved that the Planning Report for January to March 2017 be received.

Cr Phillips / Cr Williams

ITEM 66 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER / LIQUOR LICENCING INSPECTORS REPORT FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2017

Resolved that the Environmental Health Officer and Licensing Inspectors report for January to March 2017 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Phillips

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned for luncheon at 12.20pm and resumed at 1.29pm.

ITEM 67 ROUTINE ENGINEERING REPORT – FEBRUARY – APRIL 2017

STAFFING MATTERS

His Worship presented to Council's Project and Design Engineer, Ms Sharlene McGaughran a Diploma in Civil Engineering and a Bachelor Degree in Highway Engineering which she had obtained.

His Worship congratulated Ms McGaughran on her excellent achievement.

The Project and Design Engineer informed members that Council Employee Ms Nina Kirkeby had recently given birth to a baby boy. She then introduced Mr Jaime McLellan who has taken over from Ms Kirkeby during her absence.

The Project and Design Engineer reported that Mr McLellan has had prior experience at the Waipa District Council, in a planning position.

OURUWHERO ROAD SEALED SMOOTHING CONTRACT - RP7.88 to 9.68

The Engineering Manager informed members that the cost overrun under this contract was due to unforeseen ground conditions.

Councillor Pilkington extended "thumbs up" on a wonderful job and extended her congratulations to the Contractor and staff concerned.

C1032 – KAHOREKAU RESERVOIR UPGRADE

In reply to Councillor Klos regarding her query on some re-work that was undertaken, the Engineering Manager replied this was due to the design of the overflow on the tank being incorrect. He said this will incur additional costs to the scheme.

With regards to the capacity of the tank the Engineering Manager advised that extra capacity has been allowed in case of an earthquake occurring, this will allow room for the water inside the tank to move from side to side.

OTOROHANGA FLOOD PROTECTION STOPBANKS

In reply to Councillor Johnson the Project and Design Engineer advised that work undertaken on the stop banks consisted of reinstating bull holes and depressions around troughs.

The Engineering Manager referred members to the roading section of the Engineering Report and asked members to take this as read.

ROADSIDE DRAINAGE

Councillor Phillips reported that in some instances where there is no vegetation along the drains due to spraying, this has caused excessive water to cut-through. He also questioned the amount of mud being deposited on various roads by Maize contractors. He queried whether Council would be able to enforce these contractors to wash the mud off the roads as this creates a very slippery surface.

Councillor Pilkington suggested that a sign be erected reading "slippery surface".

Councillor Klos queried whether the responsibility should be placed back on the property owner.

WATER AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Engineering Manager referred to the overall budgets and reported that during the past three months no additional over-runs have occurred.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH COMPLIANCE 2015 -2016

The Engineering Manager advised that the Ministry of Health and Compliance reports have now been received for the 2015 – 2016 period. He said overall results were as expected, as Council is aware that its water plants do not have the technology to comply with the turbidity requirements of the Drinking Water Standards. He said as a result of this no Log-credits were achieved for any of the plants.

The Engineering Manager further advised that Protozoa compliance cannot be given for the Otorohanga plant when the turbidity is not consistently below 0.3NTU for more than five percent of one month, not consistently below 0.5NTU for more than 1% of one month, and turbidity exceeded 1.0 NTU for more than a three minute period.

Councillor Phillips queried how water metering was conducted on cross lease properties.

The Finance and Administration Manager advised that where staff can, individual meters are installed. He said staff are currently working through the difficult water meters.

The Chief Executive reported that Council now has 1000 new meters installed on residential properties and readings to date have suggested that a quarter of the water being used is being used excessively.

C1039 OTOROHANGA RESERVOIR UPDATE – DOMAIN DRIVE

Members were informed that Council's Services Department forwarded a request for expression of interest to four local Contractors to undertake water main renewal in Domain Drive. He advised that of the two responses received by Council, none of them were within the approved capital works budget.

The Engineering Manager confirmed that staff have a clear directive to work with local contractors wherever possible.

KAWHIA FIRE STATION

Councillor Pilkington reported that members of the Kawhia Fire Station were extremely pleased that a new fire hydrant connection has been installed.

Resolved that the Routine Engineering Report from February – April 2017 be received.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Phillips

APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – WAIMAHORA ROAD

The Engineering Manager circulated the Engineers Representative's report on an application from Able Tasman Forestry Services for the temporary closure of one section of Waimahora Road to enable the said company to safely harvest a block of pine trees encroaching the road reserve.

Members were informed that the proposed time of the road closure would be 8.30am – 4pm on 18 May 2017 to 1 June 2017.

Councillor McConnell asked how do stock trucks work with the process required.

The Engineering Manager replied that liaison is held with residents in the area therefore discussion is held regarding the movement of stock trucks as part of this discussion. He understood that logging contractors have discussed the proposed closure with residents further up the road.

It was suggested that the logging company needs to liaise with the local trucking companies.

Resolved that the following temporary road closure be approved:
One section of 530 metres of Waimahora Road from number 270 to the end.

Purpose: Harvest Mature Pine Treest

Date: 18 May 2017 – 1 June 2017

Time: 8.30am – 4pm

Details of Closure: From number 270 to the end of Waimahora Road

1. Emergency services have complete rite of passage during the closure.

2. Able Tasman Forestry Services is responsible for obtaining public liability insurance (and paying the cost thereof) to a minimum value of \$2,000,000. This is required to indemnify Council against any damage to the property or persons as a result of harvest activities during the road closure period.
3. Able Tasman Forestry Services must provide a Refundable Bond of \$5000,00 payable to Otorohanga District Council, for any repairs that may be required after harvesting is complete.
4. Able Tasman Forestry Services has liaised, and provided evidence of liaison with all residents that will be affected by the road closures (As per attached)
5. Able Tasman Forestry Services is to consult with all residents of the two affected properties on the road intending to be closed.
6. Able Tasman Forestry Services is solely responsible for signposting and policing of roads to be closed, to ensure that only vehicles connected with the harvesting operation have access to the road closure areas.
7. Able Tasman Forestry Services are to liaise with Maintenance Contract Manager from the Otorohanga District Council and mutually agree to a current condition rating of the road and agree for it to be of a traversable condition at the end of each day.

Cr Phillips / His Worship

ITEM 62 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2017 – 2018

The Finance and Administration Manager reported that the Draft Annual Plan 2017 – 2018 has been presented as a supporting document to the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

He took members through the consultation document highlighting the following issues:

- 1) Community Building Improvements and Additions.
- 2) CCTV installation in Kawhia and Aotea Communities.
- 3) New Water Source development for the Otorohanga Community.
- 4) Changes in timing of projects.
- 5) Summary of Financial Changes.
- 6) Consultation Timeline.

Councillor Christison referred to the Annual Plan document in particular page 73 regarding poundage of dogs and the fees payable for the impounding of dogs. She suggested that when the same dog keeps reoffending and needs to be impounded there should be an increase in this poundage fee.

It was agreed that any change in the poundage fee could be considered by way of a submission.

Councillor Pilkington referred to page 26 of the Annual Plan in particular District Promotion by the Otorohanga District Development Board and said she understood the reporting period is 6 monthly. It was also suggested that as a performance measure, copies of the Boards minutes be provided to Council.

Councillor Klos queried whether a final outcome has been achieved in regards to the Otorohanga District Development Board.

The Chief Executive replied that a Service Agreement has not as yet been finalised.

Resolved that Draft 2017 – 2018 Annual Plan with amendments, be adopted.

His Worship / Cr Phillips

ITEM 63 ANNUAL PLAN CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Resolved that the Annual Plan 2017 – 2018 Consultation Document with the necessary alterations be adopted and be circulated for Public Consultation.

Cr Pilkington / Cr Johnson

ITEM 70 MATTERS REFERRED

The Governance Supervisor took members through the Matters Referred.

Key Provisions – District Plan

With reference to the item under Environmental Services Manager dated 18 April 2017 it was agreed that he provide a summary of the key provisions within the District Plan, in particular to subdivisions, countryside living zone and rural housing.

GENERAL

Otorohanga Pool Complex

Councillor McConnell asked whether the submissions on the Otorohanga Pool Complex are available. The Engineering Manager replied that he will make the submissions available in the meantime he is reworking the current contract taking into consideration the submissions received.

Councillor Christison asked whether Council Staff receive a discount when they attend the Otorohanga Pool Complex Gym.

The Chief Executive replied that he believed that staff did previously receive a discount.

The Finance and Administration Manager explained the situation when a discount was offered to staff initially, when there were quite a number wishing to join. He said he understands there are now very few staff members attending the gym.

Huiputea Drive

Councillor McConnell referred to fencing being undertaken around the old pump station and the Maori land off Huiputea Drive. He queried whether Council is undertaking this work and paying for it.

The Chief Executive replied that it had been agreed that Council would take over the management of the Maori land and had provided that fencing. Waikato Regional Council had provided fencing around the pump station.

Communication

Councillor McConnell raised the matter of the recent awarding of the Otorohanga Community Lawn mowing Contract and advised that the results of this were placed on Facebook prematurely. He expressed the opinion that Councils Communication procedure needs to be reviewed and tidied up.

Community Boards Conference

Councillor McConnell reported on his recent attendance at a Community Board conference which he found to be very informative. He said the biggest issue he took away from the conference is that of "District Engagement".

Councillor McConnell also reported that Otorohanga is still considered the Youth Initiative Capital of New Zealand.

Waikeria Prison Community Liaison Group

Councillor Klos reported that she will be unable to attend a meeting of the Waikeria Prison Community Liaison Group to be held on 9 June 2017 however, she has arranged for Councillor Phillips to attend in her place.

NZ Police District Commander

Councillor Klos asked of the Mayor how his discussion with the NZ Police District Commander went following last meeting of Council.

His Worship replied that discussion was held on how the NZ Police interacted over the unfortunate Bremner family case. He said overall the Police were satisfied with how they had conducted this matter.

His Worship reported that there has been no discussion that the Otorohanga Police Station will be closing. He said fortunately Otorohanga has the Te Kuiti Police station to the south and Te Awamutu to the north which both provide 24/7 service.

Waikato Plan Submissions

Councillor Klos reported on the difficulty for Councils undertaking economic development however, it has been shown small towns are more attractive for elderly people to reside in.

Regional Tourism Promotion

Councillor Klos reported that the desire is to push tourism throughout the region and to promote across the District.

Leave of Absence

Councillor Klos requested "leave of absence" for the next Council Meeting to be held on 20 June 2017. This request was granted.

West Coast Zone

Councillor Pilkington reported on her attendance at a recent West Coast Zone meeting where an increase in the targeted rates and Hill Country Erosion Fund funding to match Ministry of Primary Industries funding was considered.

Nga Wai O Waipa Co Governance Forum

Councillor Pilkington reported on her attendance at the forum meeting held on 1 May 2017 at the Waikato Regional Council. She reported this was the first meeting of the new Triennium where at Mr Alan Livingstone was elected as Co-Chair. Councillor Pilkington further advised that in respect to the Maniapoto Joint Management Authority Review, no amendments were thought to be required to the current form. It was agreed to use the current Joint Management Agreement to strengthen and build better partnerships.

Councillor Pilkington reported that Council Environmental Services Manager Andrew Loe was also in attendance regarding Waipa and Waikato River Restoration Strategy.

Otorohanga District Development Board

Councillor Pilkington informed members that tomorrow's meeting of the Otorohanga District Development Board has been postponed until Wednesday 24 May 2017.

Hauturu Movie Night

Councillor Pilkington expressed her thanks to Leigh Peglar and Council's Executive Assistant Day Dowd for the provision of a movie night at Hauturu. She said she applauds their efforts.

Happy Valley Milk

Councillor Phillips reported he attended a recent meeting at the Otorohanga Club to listen to a presentation from Happy Valley Milk. He said he estimated there were only 2 farmers present, all other persons were from the Community.

Waitomo Sports Hub.

Councillor Phillips reported he did not attend the last meeting on the proposed recreational hub in Te Kuiti.

Lines Company

Councillor Phillips referred to a focus group run by The Lines Company who are gathering ideas and comments to investigate a different method of charging for power usage. He said this will suit people who are able to adjust their power usage.

Council Meeting – 15 August 2017

Councillor Phillips requested leave of absence for the Council meeting to be held on 15 August 2017. He requested this be placed on Matters Referred.

Stationery Supplies

Councillor Christison expressed her disappointment in the response to the owner of the local Paper Plus regarding the purchase of stationery requirements for Council.

The Chief Executive outlined the situation explained in a letter to the owner of Paper Plus.

Waipa River Catchment Meeting

Councillor Johnson informed members that he recently attended a Waipa River Catchment Meeting and reported that during the recent flooding event, the pumps ran well for 11 hours straight. Councillor Johnson advised that consideration is being given to upgrading the pumps to enable them to be plugged directly into a generator.

The Engineering Manager replied that Council could use funds from the depreciation account for this purpose.

Sustainable Milk Plans

Councillor Johnson reported that sustainable milk plans are proceeding well with 105 being completed to date. He said these are funded by Dairy NZ at a cost of \$3000 per farm.

Riparian Planting Workshop

Councillor Johnson reported that he attended a recent workshop meeting on riparian planting and weed control.

Beattie Home

Councillor Johnson updated members on a recent Beattie Home Committee Meeting, Health and Safety Workshop and Strategic Planning. He referred to economic development and that it is necessary for the Home to establish what it is able to offer the elderly. He said however, this all requires capital input.

Councillor Johnson referred to the minimum wage increase and advised that this will have an effect on the operation of Beattie Home.

Councillor Klos queried whether the home has considered providing home-support.

District Licensing Committee

Councillor Johnson informed members that he attended a recent District Licensing Committee hearing held at the Waipa District Council last Friday. He said he found this to be a good experience.

The Environmental Services Manager reported that advertising is currently taking place seeking District Licensing Committee members.

Swimming Pools Act

The Environmental Services Manager informed members that the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act has been repealed and updated under the Building Act. He said a mandatory inspection will be required to be undertaken once every three years, to comply with the provisions of the Act.

Otorohanga Community Trust

Councillor Johnson informed members that the AGM of the Otorohanga Charitable Trust will be held on Monday 19 June 2017 commencing at 4pm. He said the current Chairperson, Mrs Kim Ingham is doing a great job on behalf of the Trust.

Councillor Johnson reported that the Drivers Licensing training is not currently happening in Otorohanga.

Federated Farmers

Councillor Johnson reported that the AGM of Federated Farmers was held last month. He referred to Council's recent rates Newsletter where an article was included on Bristle Grass. He said not one farmer had read this article.

Councillor Johnson reported that the Regional Council was very complimentary to this Council for including the item in the Newsletter.

Proposed Walking Track

Councillor Johnson referred to a proposal from Rosemary Davison on a riverside walking track. He requested Council continue to have discussion on this proposal, on behalf of Mrs Davison.

Tangiwai Memorial Train

Councillor Williams extended congratulations to Leigh Peglar and Council's Executive Assistant Day Dowd for their input into the recent visit of the Tangiwai Memorial Steam Train at the Otorohanga Railway Station. She said this was to acknowledge the two train drivers of the Tangiwai tragedy.

Library Staff

The Finance and Administration Manager reported that Library staff member Mrs Lois Thompson will be retiring in June 2017. He reported that a process is being worked through to replace Mrs Thompson.

Economic Development

The Chief Executive informed members that Central Government is placing focus on the South Waikato area to improve its economic development. He said this will include the South Waikato District Council, Otorohanga and Waitomo District Council. The Chief Executive said \$150,000 of funding will be provided for this purpose.

NZTA Central North Island Director

His Worship reported that the Chief Executive and himself had attended a meeting with NZTA's the Central North Island Regional Director. He said they put forward items of the work required on State Highway 31 and on some corners that need attention on State Highway 39.

District Promotion / Events

His Worship extended a 'thumbs up' to Mr Peglar and Council's Executive Assistant Day Dowd for their efforts in providing events and promotion of the District.

Maniapoto Treaty Team / Crown Team

Council's Environmental Services Manager updated members following a very positive meeting of the Maniapoto Treaty Team and Crown Team. He said it is envisaged that considerable wealth will be invested in the Otorohanga District.

Meeting Adjournment

It was agreed that the meeting be adjourned at 3.30pm to hold a workshop discussion.

Following the workshop the meeting re adjourned at 4.37pm.

Discussion on Class 4 Gambling Venue Policy

Resolved that following consideration of submissions received Council endorses the status quo – Option 1 Sinking Lid Policy.

Cr Johnson / Cr Phillips

ITEM 68 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT – JANUARY TO MARCH 2017

The Environmental Services Manager referred members to his report on Dog and Animal control activities in the District for the period January to March 2017.

He advised that the contractor is carrying out a great job and introducing a number of initiatives. He said his conduct to date has been very professional.

Councillor Christison requested a list of Dogs which have not been registered throughout the District.

Resolved that the Environmental Services Managers Report on Dog and Animal Control for January to March 2017 be received.

The meeting concluded at 4.42pm