



Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

8 August 2013

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

8 August 2013

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 8 August 2013 commencing at 4.03pm.

MINUTES

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

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PRESENT

Mr R Prescott (Chair), Mrs EM Cowan, Mrs AC Laws, Mr AG Ormsby and Mr DR Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive & Engineering Manager), R Brady (Services Manager), Ms D Tautari (Community Facilities Officer) and Mr CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

APOLOGY

Resolved that the apology received from Mr PD Tindle be sustained.

Mrs Cowan / Mrs Laws

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 13 JUNE 2013

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 13 June 2013, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Mrs Cowan / Mr Williams

REPORTS

Item 141 WASTEWATER POND AERATION IMPROVEMENTS

Discussion

The Engineering Manager summarised a report informing Members that a recent assessment of the performance of the Otorohanga Wastewater system has indicated that whilst the discharged effluent quality is generally satisfactory, the level of Nitrogen in the discharged effluent is not meeting requirements and remedial action is required. He said two factors are suspected to have contributed to the currently observed performance shortfall, these being –

1. Technical problems with one of the existing paddle aerators have resulted in this being unserviceable for significant periods, reducing the oxygenation of the pond.
2. The volumes of septic tank waste being discharged to the 'WWTP' have been significantly (in the order of 50%) higher than that recorded prior to the upgrade and upon which the upgrade design was based.

With regard to the different types of systems available to aerate the ponds, the Engineering Manager advised that at this point, a suitable air injection system, inclusive of design and project management might have an overall capital cost in the order of \$90,000 which is three times the cost of simple replacement of the existing paddle wheel aerator. It is however, believed that when all of the factors are considered, an air injection system may have a lower overall life-time cost than other aerator types whilst yielding a higher level of reliability that will contribute positively to meeting Resource Consent conditions. In reply to Mrs Cowan regarding her concern whether the pipes could be subject to blocking, the Engineering Manager replied that these should be self-cleaning. The Engineering Manager advised that it is proposed that the total capital cost of the air injection system (\$90,000), less the capital cost of the alternative of replacing the existing failed paddle wheel aerator with another similar unit (\$30,000), and any associated increase in operating and maintenance costs of the new system associated with its increased capacity will be recovered from the contractors who are discharging septic waste. Mrs Cowan queried the extended daily hours waste can be dumped at Otorohanga and raised the question of obtaining a reliable monitoring system.

The Chair reported that he had spoken to a local Contractor who informed him that the cost to empty a septic tank in Te Kuiti was around \$1,000 and that this should be carried out every 7-8 years. He said the Contractor was not worried about any proposed increases in the dumping charges as he felt it is a 'user pays' system. Mr Williams queried whether decaying plant matter in the wetlands area could be contributing to the high readings of Nitrogen. The Engineering Manager said this is unlikely as the high Nitrogen levels are evident throughout the system. He advised that aerating usually has little effect on bacteria in the ponds.

Mrs Cowan referred to the actual Phosphorus readings which have shown to be relatively high for a long period. Members were advised that this has been catered for under the Trade Waste Bylaw however, should the reading get higher, then it may be necessary to consider Allum dosing. Mrs Cowan referred to the washing out of fertilizer trucks with this effluent possibly getting into the system.

Mr Williams expressed the opinion that the proposed action will be future proofing the ponds for the forthcoming years and although the ongoing costs will be quite high, this is a good investment in Council's infrastructure.

Resolved

That

1. Capital expenditure of up to \$90,000 in the current financial year is approved in principle for the purpose of installing an enhanced aeration system in the Otorohanga wastewater treatment pond, with final approval subject to confirmation of costings through a detailed design exercise which is currently underway.
2. Capital expenditure of up to \$5,000 in the current financial year is approved for the purpose of installing enhanced systems at the main sewerage pumping station in Otorohanga to more effectively monitor the discharge of septic waste.
3. Additional ongoing operating, maintenance and administration costs of up to \$18,000 per year associated with items 1 and 2 above is approved in principle, subject to the proviso contained in item 1.
4. Charges applicable to discharge of septic tank waste to the Otorohanga Wastewater system are revised to recover any additional capital and operating costs associated with items 1, 2 and 3 above, other than the cost that would be associated with the replacement of the existing failed aerator with another similar unit (estimated to be \$30,000) which will be a cost to the Otorohanga Community.
5. Existing licences to discharge septic tank waste be terminated with immediate effect and new licences issued with revised conditions which include:
 - Cubic metre charges (based on tank capacity) increased as follows:
Waste from inside Otorohanga District – rises to \$30 /m³ (from \$13/m³)
Waste from outside Otorohanga District – rises to \$82/m³ (from \$65/m³)
 - Limits set on the annual quantities of out of district waste that may be discharged

Mr Williams / Mrs Laws

Item 142 PARKS & RESERVES BUDGET – REQUEST TO REALLOCATE

Discussion

The Community Facilities Officer presented a report on a request from the Board to re-allocate a budgeted amount from the former Croquet Club grounds drain piping to be used to extend the basketball half court at the Reg Brett Reserve. Mrs Cowan queried whether there are any implications with the proposal to extend the basketball half court and whether Members were able to sight any designs and specifications of the extension. The Community Facilities Officer

presented the three quotations she had received to carry out the proposed extension. Mr Ormsby queried what Council would be receiving for the money and whether specifications were sent out to the Contractors. The Officer replied no, she contacted the three Contractors concerned who were not provided with any detailed specifications. Following further discussion it was agreed that the Officer go back to the Contractors with detailed specifications for the proposed work.

Resolved

That the Otorohanga Community Board approve the re-allocation of funds, now not required for the piping of the former Croquet Club grounds drain to install an extension to the existing basketball half court at the Reg Brett Reserve. Commitment of funding is to be subject to obtaining prices based on more detailed specifications.

Mrs Cowan / Mr Williams

Item 143 APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – DIWALI FESTIVAL

Discussion

The Chair informed Members that the application from the Otorohanga Rotary Club for a road closure within the Otorohanga Community for the purpose of holding a Diwali Festival and associated events has been withdrawn. He said this decision has been made due to the complexity of a road closure and the timeframe involved. The Chair further advised that the Applicants will instead be making an application to use the Otorohanga Reserve (Village Green) on the same date and time.

Item 144 OCB MATTERS REFERRED FROM 13 JUNE 2013

Discussion

OTOROHANGA CEMETERY

Members agreed to meet on-site at the Otorohanga Cemetery on Friday 9 August 2013 at 10.00am to familiarise themselves with the area and to give consideration to options to extend the burial berms.

GENERAL

MRS COWAN

Mrs Cowan submitted her apology for the next meeting of the Board to be held on 12 September 2013 as she will be overseas.

FORMER CROQUET CLUB GROUNDS

Mr Ormsby reported that Council has given approval to sign a Lease agreement for use of the former Croquet Club grounds.

STAFF MATTER

Mr Williams extended a welcome to Council's new Services Manager, Mr Roger Brady.

ROTARY PARK

The Community Facilities Officer referred to a recent workshop meeting with representatives of the Otorohanga Rotary Club regarding a Management Plan for Rotary Park. She circulated information on existing markers for tracks in the Park. The Services Manager reported he had met on site with representatives of Rotary and suggested that consideration be given to

establishing a Strategic Design, and incorporating interested parties. The Services Manager advised that it is necessary to give consideration as to how the project will be funded and this will assist in establishing a timeframe. Mrs Cowan requested an invitation be extended to Mrs Rosemary Davison to be involved. The Services Manager advised that it is the intention to facilitate a structured workshop with the interested parties.

WASTEWATER

The Engineering Manager referred to the conditions of the Resource Consent and advised that investigations are being carried out on Riparian planting along the Mangaorongo Stream, in particular, a 3km length of the Queens Chain. He suggested that an initial length of approximately 500m along both sides could be undertaken for planting. The Engineering Manager advised that Council will seek subsidy from the Waikato River Fund of approximately 50 percent of the \$20,000 project cost. He said this project may come back for funding in the next financial year. The planting will be carried out to the Waikato Regional Council's standards.

WAIPA RIVER

The Engineering Manager reported that consultation is being carried out in respect of renewing the Resource Consent to draw water from the Waipa River. He said staff have consulted with the various Marae around the Community. The Consent is in respect to the same quantity of water already being taken. He said there is however, a greater focus being placed on water conservation.

In reply Mrs Laws, the Engineering Manager advised that there is no requirement for the provision of water storage tanks in the Otorohanga urban area. He said however, stormwater collected could be utilised for gardening, etc.

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting concluded at 5.08pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE: 12 September 2013