



Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

27 March 2014

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

27 March 2014

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 27 March 2014 commencing at 4.02pm.

MINUTES

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

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PRESENT

Mr R Prescott (Chair), Mrs EM Cowan, Mrs AC Laws, Mr DR Williams and Mr NS Chetty (attended at 4.14pm).

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive & Engineering Manager), R Brady (Services Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager) (attended at 4.10pm), and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

APOLOGIES

Resolved that the apologies received from His Worship the Mayor, Mr M Baxter, Mr PD Tindle, and Mr NS Chetty (for lateness), be sustained.

Mrs Cowan / Mrs Laws

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 13 FEBRUARY 2014

The Governance Supervisor requested that the following corrections be made to the minutes these being –

1. Page 3 - Septic Waste Disposal Licenses – The statement, that Mr Chetty sustained from voting of the resolution, be corrected to read ‘Mr Chetty abstained from voting on the resolution.’
2. Page 5 – Reg Brett Reserve Toilet Facility – On the second to last line, the word ‘Boards’ be deleted prior to the Parks and Reserves account.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 13 February 2014, as amended, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Mrs Cowan / Mr Williams

REPORTS

Item 23 OTOROHANGA HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY – REVIEW OF RENTALS

Discussion

The Governance Supervisor presented a report on a review of Housing for the Elderly rentals in Elizabeth Place and Windsor Court, Otorohanga.

The Governance Supervisor informed Members that as from 1 April 2014 the New Zealand Superannuation Income rates will increase by approximately 2.5%.

Resolved

That –

The rental charged for units in Elizabeth Place and Windsor Court, Otorohanga be increased by approximately 10% to –

- Single unit \$86.50 per week.
- Double unit \$123.00 per week

with effect from 1 July 2014.

Mr Williams / Mrs Laws

Item 24 MAORI WARDENS OFFICE AT ISLAND RESERVE**Discussion**

The Engineering Manager summarised a report advising that a proposal is made to permit and support the relocation of the Otorohanga Maori Warden's office to a site on the Island Reserve.

The Engineering Manager reported he had had discussions with Ms Mihi Carr of the Otorohanga Tigers Sports Club, and advised that she has no issues with the proposal however, but when this was reported back to her Committee, some Members expressed reservations in the new facility, connecting to their sewerage system. He said Ms Carr is attempting to advance the matter. Members were informed that the Maori Wardens do have good access to funding.

With regard to the proposed financial contribution to the Maori Wardens of up to \$1,500 to assist them in the setup of the new office, the Engineering Manager advised that this would be funded from the Parks and Reserves account.

Resolved

That –

1. Subject to compliance with normal regulatory requirements, the Otorohanga Maori Wardens be permitted to place a 'Portacom' type unit near to the Tigers Sports Club and Otorohanga Rugby Referees Association buildings at the Island Reserve, which will serve as their office.
2. The placement of the office at that site shall be informal, without a formal lease, but it is the intention of the Board that the office be permitted to remain at the Island Reserve on a long-term basis.
3. Should the project proceed, a financial contribution of up to \$1,500 be made to the Otorohanga Maori Wardens to assist them in the set-up of the new office, in particular the connection of water and wastewater services. Payment of this contribution would be made upon presentation to Council of copies of invoices for associated works.

Mr Williams / Mrs Cowan**Item 25 NATURAL BURIALS IN OTOROHANGA CEMETERY****Discussion**

The Services Manager summarised the Community Facilities Officer's report advising that a resolution is required to accept 'Natural Burials' in the Otorohanga Cemetery.

The Chair said he is in favour of the provision for natural burials. Mr Williams advised that there is growing interest in the concept of natural burials. Mr Williams referred to an attached map and highlighted an area where it would be desirable to provide an entranceway into the natural burial section. He also suggested for the soil within the area to be checked to ensure it is suitable to allow the correct decomposition of bodies.

Resolved

That 'Natural Burials' be accepted in this District, in the area of the Otorohanga Cemetery indicated on the attached aerial photograph, subject to minor amendment of the decision, checking of soil suitability and appreciation of the 'Natural Burial Guidelines'.

Chair / Mrs Cowan

Item 26 REQUESTS TO MODIFY PARKING**Discussion**

The Engineering Manager presented a report advising that two requests have recently been made to modify access arrangements to commercial properties that would result in the loss of public parking spaces.

The Engineering Manager advised that such requests will now be placed before the Board to make a decision however, such requests will be accompanied by advice from staff and the Otorohanga Business Association. He said in consideration of these two requests, the Otorohanga Business Association's advice coincides with that of Council staff.

With regard to the first request submitted by Jo Watson Law Office, the Chair expressed the opinion that her business should be able to manage the parking within their dedicated space however, from a safety point of view, he would agree to the request.

With respect to the second request lodged by Hayden Aymes of DairyWorx, the Chair reported that verbal discussion had been held onsite initially the understanding was that they have a new entrance and that the old entranceway be reverted into car parking spaces.

Mrs Cowan agreed that from a safety concern the application by Jo Watson Law Office, be approved.

Resolved

That –

1. The report be received.
2. In respect of request A:

The creation of a new exit for the car park is approved, with the likely associated loss of an on-street car park and a requirement for the applicant to meet the costs of the creation of the new exit.

3. In respect of request B

The request is declined.

Mrs Cowan / Mrs Laws**Item 27 OCB MATTERS REFERRED 12 DECEMBER 2013****Discussion**

The Governance Supervisor took Members through Matters Referred.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARDEN COMPETITION

Mrs Cowan reported that she had contacted Ms Katrina Christian of the Beattie Home Rose Show Committee, querying whether they would be interested in taking over the Annual Community Garden Competition. Mrs Cowan advised that she is awaiting a decision from the Committee.

CITY / COMMUNITY SISTER RELATIONSHIP

Mr Chetty reported on his action to date and advised that the matter is a work in process.

FLOOD MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION / WATER QUALITY AND HEALTH OF RIVERS

The Chief Executive advised that now is a good time to hold a public meeting on these issues.

REG BRETT RESERVE – TOILET FACILITY

The Engineering Manager informed Members that rather than staff prepare a report on this matter, Community views could be obtain from a forthcoming to a level of service survey. He said it is intended to prepare a survey for inclusion with the Councils June Newsletter.

NEW MOUTAIN BIKE TRACK – BOB HORSFALL RESERVE

Mr Williams reported that the opening day was very pleasant with Members and Councillors walking through the new Mountain Bike Track in the Bob Horsfall Reserve.

GENERAL

FORMER RAILWAY STATION

Mrs Cowan reported that Mr Bill Millar has made an approach suggesting that consideration be given by Council to ‘pretty up’ the area around the former Railway Station. Mrs Cowan suggested an approach be made to landscape consultant, Mrs Rosemary Davison, to re-configure the space available. Mr Williams referred to the southern area and suggested any landscaping could be linked up with the local Vets facility. The Chair also reported it has been suggested that native-type hanging baskets be erected.

THE LINES COMPANY

Mr Chetty referred to a request for a public meeting with representatives of the Lines Company and advised this meeting is proposed to be held 2-3 Thursdays out. He said the Lines Company has agreed to attend and that he will send out invitations to Members when the exact date and time are known.

WESTRIDGE SUBDIVISION

The Chair reported on discussions he had with a local Westridge subdivision resident, who has water blasted and re-painted the entrance sign. He said the resident now wishes for the Board to explore the option of creating a garden adjacent to the entrance sign. The Chair advised that the resident is prepared to dig out the area and place rocks and low growing shrubs. The resident requested whether the Board could fund the supply of what is required.

Mr Williams reported that beyond the establishment of the garden, it will be necessary to maintain this. Following further discussion, Members agreed that the request be declined.

TRAFFIC ISLANDS – TE KAWA, HAEREHUKA, HINEWAI STREETS

The Engineering Manager reported that traffic islands have been installed at intersections on Te Kawa, Haerehuka and Hinewai Streets. He said the reason for installing the islands, is the fact some that people are not stopping at the intersections therefore, the installation of traffic islands and additional stop signs will make the situation clearer. He said a trial run with heavy vehicles has been carried out with no problems being incurred. The Engineering Manager reported that to date, one person has taken exception to the installation.

MANIAPOTO STREET PLANTED GARDEN BEDS

Mrs Cowan referred to the temporary action taken to protect the pedestrian crossing planted garden beds where road markers have been installed. She queried whether these could now be replaced with something more pleasing. The Services Manager advised that in the past 9 months, there has only been one reported incident.

OTOROHANGA RETURNED AND SERVICES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

The Governance Supervisor presented a letter from Mr Terry Price, on behalf of the Otorohanga Returned and Services Association Incorporated, outlining the World War I Memorial White Cross Project and requesting to meet with the Parks and Reserves Committee to discuss having an appropriate number of White crosses erected in the garden opposite the combined Memorial Park.

It was agreed the Governance Supervisor arrange a meeting with Mr Terry Price to discuss the proposal further. It was also agreed that Council's Community Facilities Officer be in attendance at that meeting.

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting concluded at 4.52pm

CHAIRMAN:

DATE: 8 May 2014