



Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

29 January 2015

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

29 January 2015

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 29 January 2015 commencing at 4.01pm.

MINUTES

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

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PRESENT

Mr R Prescott (Chair), Mr NS Chetty (attended 4.04pm), Mrs EM Cowan, Mrs AC Laws (attended at 4.02pm), Mr PD Tindle and Mr DR Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive & Engineering Manager), R Brady (Services Manager) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed those present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 4 DECEMBER 2014

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 4 December 2014, as previously circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Mrs Laws / Mr Williams

REPORTS

Item 56 PROPOSED FURTHER RIVER ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS

Discussion

The Engineering Manager summarised a report informing Members that a budget allocation within the Estimates for the 2015/16 financial year is proposed for the purpose of improving access and recreational use of the Waipa River around Otorohanga. He referred to the recent development of the area at the State Highway 3 bridge and the success this has been in the creation of proper access to the area.

The Engineering Manager highlighted three possible areas for development, these being –

1. Area 1 – below State Highway 31/39 bridge – approximate development cost \$15,000
2. Area 3 – Off Mair Street – approximate development cost \$4,000
3. Enhancement of area below Otorohanga Weir – installation of three picnic tables – approximate cost \$5,000.

Mr Williams expressed the opinion that he would prefer to see any development confined to the existing sites, being the Otorohanga Weir and State Highway 3 bridge. He felt that if these areas are developed really well then the other areas may not be required. Mr Williams also expressed some concern at the proposed developments being funded from the Otorohanga Community Special Reserve Fund. Mrs Cowan advised that she could see merit in the area below the State Highway 31/39 bridge being developed. She said this is close to the Otorohanga South School and a fairly visible site.

Mr Tindle advised that he agreed with the Engineering Manager's comments however, he thought the proposals could be somewhat early. He agreed with further development of the two existing river sites however, he queried whether there may be other areas around the Community of higher priority for development.

The Chair said he would be in favour of developing the area by the State Highway 31/39 bridge and would also agree to swimming holes being dug deeper if required. Members were informed that for this work to be undertaken an approach would be required to be made to the Waikato Regional Council (WRC). The Engineering Manager referred to the digging of holes and expressed caution as it could be assumed Council is then taking responsibility for that area being safe. Mrs Cowan agreed that caution needs to be exercised in carrying out this practice. Mr Chetty raised the question of liability should something go wrong and queried who is responsible for the safety of these areas. The Engineering Manager replied that Council is just allowing access to the areas, not suggesting various activities be carried out within them. He suggested that some areas of deep holes and fast water should be avoided.

Mrs Laws advised that she agreed with the previous comments that Council retain what it currently has rather than developing other areas. Mr Tindle said any development comes down to the user numbers and the cost of providing the facility. He expressed the opinion that \$24,000 was hard to justify and perhaps another recreational facility needs to be considered. The Chair reported that in many cases access to the river is difficult and involves climbing down steep banks.

The Chair queried whether there is a possibility of placing a rubbish bin in the area under the State Highway 3 bridge. The Engineering Manager replied that this could be done.

Resolved

That the Board support the enhancement of the area below the Otorohanga Weir at an estimated cost of \$5,000 for the installation of three picnic tables and the planting of shade trees.

Chair / Mr Tindle

Item 57 MANAGEMENT OF ISLAND RESERVE

Discussion

The Engineering Manager summarised his report advising that a revision of management arrangements for the Island Reserve (IR) proposed by the Otorohanga Sports Club (OSC) requires discussion. He circulated a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), that had been previously presented to the Island Reserve Management Board (IRMB), to Members and advised that no feedback on this document has been received from that Board. The Engineering Manager informed Members that the MoU now being proposed by the OSC reduces the obligations on the OSC. He said the Club is now the only major user of the IR area and by Council providing \$40,000 this is favouring only one sporting code. He said however, there is the odd occasional other user of the area. The Engineering Manager reported that Council and the Board does not support other sports clubs in Otorohanga to this degree. He advised that he is placing this matter in front of Members however, it is a decision to be made by Council as the funding is district funded.

The Engineering Manager referred to the attachment to this report being a summary of the IRMB's average financial accounts for the period 2011 – 2014 and said this indicates total expenses of approximately \$17,000 +GST per annum, of which the Councils contribution meets approx 65 percent. He said under the proposed arrangement and presuming that total expenses to increase to around \$23,000 +GST, the Council contribution would meet around 80 percent of this. The Engineering Manager advised that with this proposal the OSC is reducing their duties and also requesting additional funding. The Chair reported that no-one from the OSC has put their name forward to replace the previous caretaker Mr Ken Millar. Mr Williams queried whether there is a possibility for part of the area to be grazed. Mr Tindle referred to the OSC's Clubrooms and sought confirmation that this is owned by the OSC who receive revenue through rugby and squash activities. He said they donate gate takings for maintenance of the IR. The Engineering Manager suggested it might be appropriate for Mr Graham Wilshier, on behalf of the OSC to meet with the Board for further discussion.

In reply to Mr Tindle, the Engineering Manager advised that he will present a similar report to Council. Following further discussion it was agreed that two members of the Board, being the Chair and Mr Tindle, informally meet with Mr Wilshier to discuss the matter further prior to it being placed before a meeting of Council. The Engineering Manager referred to a proposal to create a sports hub, promoted by Sport Waikato and advised that to-date this has met significant barriers.

Resolved

That the Chief Executive's report be received

Mrs Cowan / Mr Tindle

Item 58 PA TUNA POU MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Discussion

The Engineering Manager summarised the Roding Manager's report advising that in March 2014 the Board approved the construction of a Pa Tuna Pou to commemorate the resolution of an historic land purchase between the Crown and Orahiri A Ahu Whenua Trust (OAWT). Members were informed that the agreement for the management and maintenance has now been agreed with NZTA and is presented to the Board for final confirmation. The Engineering Manager advised that the installation of the Pous would be undertaken by NZTA and OAWT. He said Council's involvement would include an annual inspection by Council's parks and amenities staff, and up to 10 hours maintenance work carried out annually by them, all at the cost of Council.

Resolved

That the agreement is in accordance with the previous Board requirements and is recommended for approval.

Mr Tindle / Mr Williams

Item 59 VARIATIONS TO C975 MOWING A AND C952 OTOROHANGA GARDENING

Discussion

The Services Manager summarised the Community Facilities Officer's report informing Members that –

1. A variation to the current Mowing Contract C975 Mowing A is proposed to include Whittington Lane, and
2. A variation to the current Gardening Contract C952 Otorohanga Gardening is proposed to include the south bank at Otewa Road.

Mrs Cowan requested that the Mondo grass at the pedestrian crossing gardens be trimmed by the gardening Contractor.

Resolved

That

1. The report be received.
2. Subject to the approval of Council, the mowing of the area described in the report be added into Contract 975 as Variation #2 at the quoted price of \$1,200 per year and the gardening of the area described in the report be added into Contract 952 as Variation #1 at the quoted price of \$1,332 per year, both plus gst.

Mr Tindle / Mr Williams

Item 60 APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE - ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS 2015

Resolved

That approval be granted for the following road closures:

Purpose: ANZAC Day Commemorations
Date: Saturday, 25 April 2015
Periods of Closure: 5.45am to 6.45am and 9.45am to 10.45am
Details of Closure: **STATE HIGHWAY 3 / MANIAPOTO STREET**, from the northern entrance of Huiputea Drive to its intersection with Te Kanawa Street;
KAKAMUTU ROAD, from Maniapoto Street to its intersection with Turongo Street

GRADARA AVENUE, from Kakamutu Road to its intersection with Summit Drive.

RANFURLY STREET, east end from its intersection with Maniapoto Street to end

COWLEY LANE – entire length

WAHANUI CRESCENT – entire length

WHITTINGTON LANE – entire length

Detour: Will be by way of Huiputea Drive.

The road closure will be subject to the following conditions:

1. Council must comply with the objection provisions as contained within the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965.
2. No objections are received from the NZ Police Department or NZ Transport Agency.
3. During the proposed period of road closures, emergency services will be allowed through in the event of an emergency.
4. Council is to notify the local information centre, bus and taxi operators, and affected businesses and residents of the closures.
5. Council is to pay for all advertising costs in appropriate newspapers. Public notice advertisements are to be published in the Waitomo News.
6. Signs advising of the road closures are to be erected at the start and end of the closed portions of roads and on each intersecting road two weeks prior to the road closure. All signs are to be removed immediately after the closure.

Chair / Mr Tindle

Item 61 OCB MATTERS REFERRED FROM 4 DECEMBER 2014

Discussion

The Governance Supervisor took Members through Matters Referred.

SUPPLY OF WATER TO PROPERTIES OUTSIDE OF THE OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY AND WAIPA RURAL WATER SUPPLY AREAS

Reference was made to the need for discussion with representatives of the Waipa Rural Water Supply Committee at their AGM regarding the supply of water to properties outside of the Otorohanga Community and Waipa Rural Water Supply areas. The Governance Supervisor advised that a meeting of the Waipa Rural Water Supply Committee has been set for 3 February 2015 commencing at 10.30am in the Council Chambers.

OTOROHANGA DOMAIN RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Engineering Manager reported that this item has been given a low priority however, with the proposed engagement of an Engineering Manager hopefully this will create more staff time for the review to be undertaken. It was agreed that the item be placed on Matters Referred under the Services Manager.

SISTER CITY CONCEPT

Mr Chetty reported that from the feedback he has received on this proposal it may be a little ahead of its time. It was agreed that the item be deleted from Matters Referred and for Mr Chetty to report to the Board should he receive further information on the proposal.

GENERAL

WW 1 & 2 MEMORIAL PARK TREES

Mr Williams queried whether any information has been received on the suggested removal of Redwood trees in the WW 1 & 2 Park. The Services Manager referred to two reports he has just received on the proposed removal of the chestnut tree on Bledisloe Avenue. He said one report recommended that the chestnut tree be removed due to its declining health. Mrs Cowan advised that the sooner any tree is removed, the sooner it can be replaced. The Engineering Manager reported that the proposed removal of the chestnut tree is a simple operation but a qualified arborist would be required for the removal of the Redwood trees in the WW 1 & 2 Memorial Park, and this would be expensive.

That was agreed that it be recommended to the Otorohanga District Council that the chestnut tree on Bledisloe Avenue be removed.

SPLASH PAD PROPOSAL

Mr Tindle reported on listening to people suggesting the possibility of installing a 'splash pad' somewhere in the Community. He said this is a 'plumbed' activity created on areas of non-slip concrete and is fitted out with various water play items. Mr Tindle advised that this facility could be suited for any recreational area or perhaps at the pool complex in order to attract more people there. Mr Tindle referred to such a facility in Havelock North and advised that a plumbed area was established and the various items added over time.

It was agreed that this proposal be placed on Matters Referred under Mr Tindle to obtain further information/costs.

MONDO GRASS

Mrs Cowan requested that the trimming of the Mondo grass in the pedestrian crossing gardens be carried out as part of general maintenance.

REG BRETT RESERVE

Mr Chetty expressed concern in respect of children crossing the road from the Countdown Supermarket to the Reg Brett Reserve. He queried whether anything could be put in place to address these concerns. The Engineering Manager advised that discussion has taken place regarding installing a fence around the area. He said consideration could be given to the provision of a pedestrian crossing however, the Community already has its quota for these. The Chief Executive reported that trucks have been parking adjacent to the Reserve and that the Company concerned has been written to.

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRACK

The Chief Executive circulated to Members a memo prepared by Council's Senior Building Control Officer regarding the Otorohanga Mountain Bike Track. Members were requested to read the memo for future discussion.

ESTIMATES WORKSHOP

It was agreed that a workshop/Estimates meeting be held on Thursday 5 March 2015 commencing at 1.00pm.

MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

"THAT the Otorohanga Community Board, pursuant to Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolves that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public."

Mrs Laws / Mr Chetty