



Otorohanga District Council

MINUTES

19 May 2015

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

19 May 2015

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Tuesday 19 May 2015 commencing at 10.02am.

MINUTES

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

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GENERAL		
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PRESENT

Cr DM Pilkington (Deputy Mayor), Crs RA Klos, RM Johnson, KC Phillips, RJ Prescott, PD Tindle and AJ Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), AR Loe (Environmental Services Manager) (attended at 11.30am), RH Brady (Engineering Manager) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Klos read the Opening Prayer.

APOLOGY

Resolved that the apology received from His Worship the Mayor, Mr MM Baxter, be sustained.

Cr Prescott / Cr Johnson

The Deputy Mayor welcomed those present and thanked them for their attendance.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 21 APRIL 2015

Cr Johnson referred to page 7, General – District Licencing Commission and reported that he attended a District Licensing Commission training course not meeting.

Cr Pilkington referred to page 7, General – Maniapoto Maori Trust Board, in particular the first line and requested that it be amended that the hui in Te Kuiti was with the Maniapoto Maori Trust Board not the Maniapoto Marae Pact Trust as recorded in the minutes.

Cr Pilkington then referred to page 9, Youth Programmes, and advised that the sum available through the King Country Development Trust is \$15,000 not \$50,000.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 21 April 2015, as amended, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Cr Johnson / Cr Phillips

REPORTS

Item 203 OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES 23 APRIL 2015

Discussion

MATTERS ARISING

Cr Klos referred to Item 70 – Construction of a garage over a Council Sewer Line, and queried whether Council has a policy around in full development. The Chief Executive replied that under the District Plan there are certain measures in place regarding section size. He said to-date Council's policy has been to discourage residential property owners building over sewer/wastewater pipes. Cr Prescott reported that there is a discrepancy between residential and commercial applications to build over a sewer line.

Cr Prescott requested that it be recorded in the Board minutes that he had voted against the resolution, 'that permission for the owner of 11 Rangipare Street, to build over the existing line be declined.' Cr Klos expressed the opinion it would be desirable for elderly people who do not wish to retain a large section to be able to subdivide the section for additional housing.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 23 April 2015 be received.

Cr Tindle / Cr Prescott

STAFFING MATTER

Council's Project & Design Engineer, Ms Sharlene McGaughran, attended the meeting and introduced a new member of the Project & Design team, Ms Nina Kirkeby. Ms Kirkeby reported she had previously been working on the Waikato Expressway and is a qualified Geologist. She said she is currently working on a roadside school safety programme and other activities allocated to her. The Deputy Mayor extended a warm welcome to Nina and said it was lovely to have her as a staff member.

Item 204 DISTRICT LIBRARIANS QUARTERLY REPORT FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2015

Discussion

The District Librarian attended the meeting and presented her quarterly report.

The Deputy Mayor extended a warm welcome to the Librarian.

With reference to the Kotui implementation, Cr Klos queried how the Librarian intended to market to the Community the wealth of library resources that are now easily accessible online. The Librarian replied that she may go out into the District and carry out small group presentations. The Deputy Mayor suggested that perhaps this could also be carried out through the various local schools. Cr Klos advised that school newsletters are always a good way to communicate with the rural community. The Finance & Administration Manager also suggested that a presentation could be made to Council in a workshop situation.

The Librarian updated Members on the enhancement and development to the Kotui system which are available at no cost to Council.

With regard to the Library re-carpeting, the Finance & Administration Manager reported that staff are currently obtaining quotes. He said technology has vastly improved with nylon carpets, and that these are most commonly used in commercial buildings. Nylon carpet tiles should also be considered. Cr Klos queried why Council is not seeking woollen carpets. It was agreed that further research be undertaken for report back to Council.

The Deputy Mayor said she was pleased to hear the implementation of the Kotui system had gone smoothly and thanked staff for their input.

Resolved

That the District Librarian's Quarterly Report for the period January to March 2015 be received.

Cr Prescott / Cr Johnson

Item 205 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2015

Discussion

The District Accountant attended the meeting and took Members through the Draft Management Accounts for the period ended 31 March 2015. He informed Members that due to an annual accrual, salaries shown are \$280,000 overall higher than projected. This will be corrected in the June quarter.

RANGINUI RURAL WATER SUPPLY

The Engineering Manager advised that staff have been unable to convene a meeting of members of the Ranginui Rural Water Supply. He said it is the intention to put together a report to the Committee members with strong recommendations. He said due to the current state of the plant a substantial amount of money is required to be spent to rectify issues with the intake which was causing increased maintenance costs. The Engineering Manager reported that the Committee does not seem motivated to resolve the matter. The Chief Executive informed Members that the Committee has given clear signals they have been dissatisfied for some time with the operation

of the Scheme. He said a clear indication has been given by them to close the Scheme. The Chief Executive confirmed that Council owns the assets of the Scheme.

Cr Klos advised that the Committee members are in some cases not those that are in a position to make decisions on behalf their Companies. She requested that staff ensure they have discussions with the right people.

FURNITURE AND FITTINGS

Cr Klos referred to the significant amount of money which is spent on furniture and fittings. She was informed that this relates to predominantly IT equipment rather than desks, chairs, etc. Cr Klos therefore requested that it be shown how much is spent on IT equipment compared to that of office furniture. It was suggested that the account be renamed to reflect its use.

The Deputy Mayor extended Members thanks to the District Accountant for his work in the preparation of the Draft Management Accounts.

Resolved

That the Draft Management Accounts for the period ended 31 March 2015 be received.

Cr Klos / Cr Phillips

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER AND DISTRICT ACCOUNTANT

The Finance & Administration Manager and District Accountant left the meeting at 11.22am.

Item 208 PROPOSED STRUCTURES AND WORKS IN PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW

Discussion

The Chief Executive referred Members to his report advising that it is proposed to commence the formal process for the making of the new Structures and Works in Public Places Bylaw. He said this process has been approved by both the Otorohanga and Kawhia Community Boards.

The Chief Executive referred to the Draft Structures and Works in Public Places Bylaw 2015 and reported that there is a change in respect to 'air space leases' and one or two other minor changes to the draft document. He confirmed that the draft document is now ready to go for public consultation.

Cr Klos queried how easy will it be for staff to police the proposed bylaw. The Chief Executive replied that the primary purpose of the bylaw is to enable staff to address the matter of the lack of maintenance. He said once the bylaw is in place the property owners will be given instructions and these will be followed up. The Chief Executive further advised that the introduction of the bylaw will give staff the tools necessary to address the issues.

Cr Phillips referred to a letter sent out to property owners and the lack of response to these. He queried whether staff followed these up with a personal approach. The Chief Executive replied that there had been considered little value in doing so, as staff had no ability to create leverage.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MANAGER

The Environmental Services Manager attended the meeting at 11.30am.

The Chief Executive advised that letters could be forwarded to individual property owners informing them that they can have a say on the proposed bylaw through consultation.

Cr Johnson queried whether there are any structures that staff are currently concerned about. The Chief Executive replied that there are believed to be one or two verandahs that, in strong winds, could fail. He said the introduction of this bylaw is not due to the results of the Canterbury earthquakes. Cr Johnson then queried the position regarding the hanging baskets. The Deputy Mayor replied that the Otorohanga Business Association oversees these baskets. Cr Tindle advised that property owners were given the option as to whether they wished to have these

baskets hanging off their verandah. The Chief Executive advised that this was an initiative of the Otorohanga Business Association not Council. He said however, Council has a responsibility as the verandahs/signage are in a public place. Cr Williams expressed the opinion that Council was not being heavy handed in introducing this bylaw. Cr Tindle felt that staff should also be looking at the facade of buildings as well as the verandahs. He reported that signs, etc, that have been erected will place additional load on the verandahs.

Resolved

That

1. The Statement of Proposal in respect of the making of the Otorohanga District Council Structures and Works in Public Places Bylaw 2015 is approved.
2. The Special Consultative Procedure as per Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 be commenced in respect of making the Otorohanga District Council Structures and Works in Public Places Bylaw 2015 in accordance with the content of the Chief Executive's report.

Cr Prescott / Cr Tindle

Item 206 ROUTINE SERVICES REPORT - FEBRUARY TO APRIL 2015

Discussion

Council's Project & Design Engineer, Ms Sharlene McGaughran and Engineering Officer (Road Maintenance) Mr David Brown attended the meeting. The Engineering Officer (Road Maintenance) presented that part of the Routine Services report on roading matters.

Reference was made to the condition of the footpath in front of the Kawhia Community Hall to which the Engineering Officer replied that remedial works have been included in the maintenance contract for this work to be carried out before the end of this financial year.

The Deputy Mayor queried whether the 'School' markings have been installed outside the Hauturu School. The Engineering Officer agreed to follow this matter up. The Deputy Mayor thanked the Engineering Officer for his presentation.

The Project & Design Engineer then continued with the presentation of the report.

CONTRACT 995 – WHAREPUHUNGA ROAD SEALED SMOOTHING

Cr Phillips reported that the surface of the carriageway is somewhat rough. The Engineering Officer replied that this should be improved when the reseal is carried out.

KAWHIA FORESHORE SEAWALL

Reference was made to the final height of the seawall to which the Engineering Manager replied that this matter has been investigated and that the level behind the wall is satisfactory.

The Engineering Manager then continued with the presentation of the report.

RANGINUI RURAL WATER SUPPLY

Members were informed that the Ranginui Rural Water Supply Committee do not wish for any further funds to be spent on capital improvements.

FROSTS PIT

Cr Johnson queried whether there is any plans to clear/tidy this area up. He said restoration work has been carried out on the river alongside the tip. The Deputy Mayor suggested a report be prepared outlining opportunities for the area. Following further discussion it was agreed that the Frost Pit area be tidied up and that the steel/scrap metal on site could be sold to fund the works.

Cr Johnson referred to his recent tour of the roads in his area. It was agreed that he discuss this further with the Engineering Manager.

Resolved

That the Routine report on Engineering matters for the period February to April 2015 be received.

Cr Johnson / Cr Phillips

Item 207 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS REPORT FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2015

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager referred Members to his report on Dog & Animal Control Activities in the District for the period January to March 2015.

In reply to Cr Tindle, the Environmental Services Manager advised that the number of dogs throughout the District is fairly static. He said staff will be sending out the dog registration forms next month.

Resolved

That the Environmental Services Manager's report on Dog and Animal Control for January to March 2015 be received.

Cr Phillips / Cr Prescott

Item 209 MINUTES OF WAIKATO CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GROUP JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING 2 MARCH 2015

Discussion

Members were informed that Cr Prescott attended this meeting. The Environmental Services Manager advised that these minutes are unconfirmed and will be adopted at the next meeting of the Joint Committee.

Resolved

That the minutes of the Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee meeting held in the Council Chambers, Waikato Regional Council, Grey Street, Hamilton on 2 March 2015 be received.

Cr Prescott / Cr Williams

Item 210 MINUTES OF NGA WAI O WAIPA CO-GOVERNANCE FORUM MEETING 5 MARCH 2015

Discussion

The Environmental Services Manager advised that the Mayor is the nominated representative for Council however, as the Mayor was unable to attend, he was present at the meeting.

Resolved

The minutes of Nga Wai o Waipa Co-Governance Forum meeting held at the Waikato Regional Council, Grey Street, Hamilton in the Council Chambers on 5 March 2015 be received.

Cr Klos / Cr Tindle

Item 211 ODC MATTERS REFERRED FROM 21 APRIL 2015

Discussion

KAWHIA FEES & CHARGES

Members were informed that the item under District Accountant, Kawhia Fees & Charges, will be on the agenda for the next meeting of the Kawhia Community Board to be held on 29 May 2015.

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned for luncheon at 12.30pm and resumed at 1.20pm.

GENERAL

OTOROHANGA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Cr Klos referred to her query at the last meeting of Council whether the Otorohanga District Development Board (ODDB) agenda and minutes could be given to Members for their information. Cr Klos was advised that the ODDB is an independent identity and that Council is not the parent organisation. It was agreed that Cr Pilkington follow up the request with the ODDB.

ENTRANCE SIGN

Cr Klos reported that there is no Otorohanga entrance sign as you come into Arohena from the north. The Chief Executive replied that Council does not have entrance signs on every boundary road but, as Waipapa Road is a busy route, he suggested the matter be referred to the Engineering Manager for investigation.

WAIPAPA RESERVE

Cr Klos referred to native planting being carried out on the Waipapa Reserve and said this is going to look fantastic. She said members of the District are now taking an interest in this area which she was pleased to see.

BAYLEY ROAD

Cr Klos queried whether there is a set of specifications for the installation of cat's eyes on Bayley Road. The Chief Executive replied that, as there is no centre line, the width is inadequate for the installation of cat's eyes. It was agreed however, that the Engineering Manager look into the matter further.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Cr Phillips reported on a visit from the Minister of Education, Hon Hekia Parata, at the Otorohanga College. He outlined the misunderstanding that has occurred for her following visits to Korakonui School and the Te Awamutu College after the Otorohanga College. Cr Phillips said the Minister spoke very well, was well informed and answered all questions extremely confidently.

KING COUNTRY INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY STEERING COMMITTEE

Cr Phillips reported he has been invited to be on a steering committee for a sub-regional King Country indoor sports facility. He said he is looking for direction from Council and advised that the Ruapehu and Waitomo District Councils have agreed to support this proposal via a 'letter of agreement'. Cr Phillips reported that the proposal to have a regional hub is being driven by the Te Kuiti High School and accordingly a letter of agreement in principle is requested from this Council. Members were informed that it has been agreed a study be commissioned by Sport Waikato on this proposal. The Deputy Mayor said for Members to keep open minds on the proposal and that further information is required before a decision could be made by this Council.

MANIAPOTO STREET

Cr Tindle expressed his pleasure in seeing the pavement issues remedied on Maniapoto Street by NZTA. He expressed the opinion that NZTA should have consulted with Council and queried what is intended with the patchy nature of the carriageway that has resulted. He said he is pleased that this safety issue has been resolved.

WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL – FIELD TRIP

Cr Johnson referred to the Waipa Catchment Committee's field trip and in particular the Reremoa Project which involves cleaning up the Waipa River. He said it is the intention to revitalise the waters of the Waipa River and its tributaries by 2050. Cr Johnson further reported that approximately 5km of the Waipa River north of Otorohanga has been cleared of crack willows and it is the intention over the next 20 years to carry this work out up to Toa's Bridge. He said a considerable number of farmers affected are coming on board with the project. The Deputy Mayor reported it was nice to see the efforts of Mrs Rosemary Davison being acknowledged.

TRUST WAIKATO ROADSHOW

Cr Johnson reported he had met with Trustees on behalf of Beattie Home. He referred to people who are passionate about the Community and the groups established to ascertain what the needs of the Community are. Members were informed that Trust Waikato has indicated that it might contribute to the installation of walking/cycling tracks on the Stopbanks.

MAYORAL GRADUATION

Cr Johnson reported that this was a good night and well attended.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Members were informed that a meeting on domestic family violence is to be held on Monday 25 May at the Otorohanga Club at 5.30pm.

SPORT NZ RURAL TRAVEL FUND

The Governance Supervisor summarised the applications received for the second round of the 2014/15 year. He said four applications had been received, two in particular were from the outer rural areas from Hauturu School and Arohena/Wharepapa South Schools. The Governance Supervisor confirmed that the total funding allocation for the 2014/15 year has been expanded.

DEPUTY MAYOR'S VISITS

The Deputy Mayor informed Members of the following –

- Otorohanga District Development Board meeting 20 May 2015.
- Farewell to local Kawhia Police Constable Perry Griffin and the welcoming of the new Police representative for the area, to be held Friday 22 May 2015.
- A very moving ANZAC Day ceremony held at Kawhia.
- The celebration of 25 years operation of the Oparau Road House held during April 2015. The Deputy Mayor reported it is a credit to the business owners on what they have achieved in developing a local business. She reported that there were a huge number of people present at the celebration and extended Council's congratulations to the business owners.

MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 2.15pm.

MAYOR:

DATE: