



Otorohanga District Council

# MINUTES

19 September 2017

10.02am

**Members of the Otorohanga District Council**

Mr M Baxter (Mayor)  
Mrs K Christison  
Mr R Johnson  
Mrs RA Klos  
Mr P McConnell  
Mr K Phillips  
Mrs D Pilkington (Deputy Mayor)  
Mrs A Williams

Meeting Secretary: Mr CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

# OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

19 September 2017

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held in the Council Chambers, 17 Maniapoto Street, Otorohanga on Tuesday 19 September 2017 commencing at 10.02am.

## MINUTES

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## **PRESENT**

Mr MM Baxter (Mayor), DM Pilkington (Deputy Mayor), Crs, RA Klos, RM Johnson, K Christison, P McConnell, AJ Williams, KC Phillips

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), A Loe (Environmental Services Manager), GD Bunn (Finance & Administration Manager), CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

His Worship declared the meeting open and welcomed those present.

## **STAFFING MATTER**

Ms Trish Ambury, Councils new Land Management Officer was introduced to members. Ms Ambury outlined her previous employment with three of these positions being with other local authorities.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

His Worship read the Opening Prayer.

## **PUBLIC FORUM (30 MINUTES)**

No members of the public were present.

## **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS**

The Chief Executive reported that that Minutes of the Otorohanga Community Board meeting held on 24 August 2017 and Minutes of the Kawhia Community Board meeting held on 18 August 2017 have been omitted from the Agenda and therefore will need to be considered in General Business which will require resolutions.

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Otorohanga Community Board meeting held on 24 August 2017 and the Minutes of the Kawhia Community Board Meeting held on 18 August 2017 be considered in General Business which will require resolutions.

### **His Worship / Cr Phillips**

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – OTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL 15 August 2017**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga District Council held on 15 August 2017, as amended be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting and the resolutions contained therein be adopted.

### **Cr Pilkington / Cr Williams**

## **MATTERS ARISING**

Members highlighted the following matters and requested they be corrected.

- i) Page 8 – Steamfest – Councillor McConnell be replaced with Councillor Johnson
- ii) Page 8 – Technology – The commencement of the sentence be corrected to read “that Councillor McConnell brought to the attention of Council that Councillor Phillips had expressed an interest in a Council App that easily enables the end user to identify and notify Council of an issue.”
- iii) Page 3 – Proposed Reclassification of Reserve Land–, in the first sentence the word “chance” be corrected to read “change”.
- iv) Page 4 – Councillor Pilkington reported that Councils Engineering Manager will report back to Council on works on Honikiwi and Te Raumuku Roads.
- v) Page 5 – Ranganui Rural Water Supply – The word “Arohena” be replaced with “Ranganui” in the first sentence. Councillor Phillips referred to the recent placement of Safety Signs on Rangiatea Road and reported that these have been erected under a number of trees which could in the future damage the signs.

## **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.

## **OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES – 24 AUGUST 2017**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 24 August 2017 be received.

### **Cr McConnell / Cr Christison**

Councillor Pilkington referred to the proposed stopbank walkway and expressed the opinion that it was unclear in the minutes whether consideration would be given to loan funding / sponsorship for the proposal.

The Chief Executive replied that these will be looked at progressively following the result of Councils application to the Waikato River Authority.

Councillor Phillips queried whether the Board was serious in its proposal to consider a concrete surface walkway along the full length of the stopbanks. He suggested that a chip surface similar to that in Napier would be more suitable.

The Chief Executive advised that the proposal is currently out for Community consultation and if funding is available this could be utilised for a “deluxe model walkway”.

Councillor Phillips queried if the Board had given consideration to a hot mix bitumen surface.

Councillor Klos expressed the opinion that a chip pathway surface is very dangerous for some users.

## **KAWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES – 18 AUGUST 2017**

Councillor Pilkington referred to Page 3 – Kawhia Bus Service in particular the second paragraph and requested that the spelling of “Kaumatua” be corrected.

### **Lease of Kawhia Nursery**

The Land Management Officer informed members that a meeting had been held with the Rangitahi group who have agreed on access provisions.

Councillor Pilkington reported that Agendas/Minutes of the Kawhia Community Board meetings are not being delivered to the various centres at Kawhia such as the Library, Information Centre and Museum. She asked that these be forwarded to the appropriate locations in the future.

Councillor Pilkington referred to Item 7, Radio Frequency Channels and advised that she will raise the matter of updating the notices displaying these at the next meeting of the “West Coast Catchment”, not the Waikato Regional Council as recorded in the Minutes.

## **ITEM 105                    PROPOSED LEASE OF KIWI RAIL LAND**

The Chief Executive summarised his report advising that it is proposed that Council leases an area of approximately 9000 square metres on the eastern side of the railway lines through Otorohanga, to be used as an extension of the public space being developed in the Huiputea area. The Chief Executive informed members that Councils leasing of the land in question would remove one of the barriers that currently separates the main western body of the Otorohanga township from the open space being created at Huiputea.

He said, together with some other recent developments, this might give grounds to consider the potential of having a pedestrian level crossing over the railway lines in the centre of Otorohanga, at either the north or south ends of Wahanui Crescent, to make Huiputea more accessible.

Councillor Phillips expressed the opinion that the proposal is a great idea but queried why Council would pay for the lease of the area when it is cleaning it up and improving it. He said KiwiRail do not utilise the area.

The Chief Executive replied that KiwiRail is very commercially motivated.

Councillor Klos said she is delighted with the proposal as the area in question is a very scruffy part of town and that this proposal will improve its visual appearance.

Councillor McConnell queried why the proposed lease would be for only 9 years.

The Chief Executive replied that the 9 year period is as long as KiwiRail is prepared to give.

Councillor McConnell queried the works and costs involved in developing the area should KiwiRail not renew the lease in nine years time.

His Worship replied that the area will be planted out in trees and should the lease agreement not be renewed then Council will not continue paying for the lease.

Councillor McConnell reported that the area has been very untidy for many years however, he would prefer Council entering into a firmer, longer lease agreement with KiwiRail.

Council's Land Management Officer informed members that in this situation Council is only a sub leasee of the area concerned.

The Chief Executive informed members that at the present time, Council's relationship with KiwiRail at the highest level is very good. He said the enhancement of this area can only be beneficial for their business also.

Councillor Johnson advised that many lease agreements contain a first right of renewal anyway.

The Chief Executive informed members that his report will need to be considered at the next meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board.

**Resolved** that Council authorises the Chief Executive to enter into a 9 year lease from KiwiRail of an area of approximately 9000 square metres along the eastern side of the rail lines in central Otorohanga.

### **His Worship / Cr Klos**

#### SOUTHERN WAIKATO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

Mr Harvey Brooks (Programme Manger for Waikato Means Business) attended the meeting and made a presentation to Council. He extended an apology on behalf of Mr Dallas Fisher.

Mr Brooks outlined the background of Waikato Means Business and reported that there must be a regional scale approach to a economic development strategy which the Waikato Region does not currently have.

He said a steering group has been established comprising ten members, one to be a Local Government representative, Regional Council Representative, South Waikato District Council representative and six business people and two Iwi members.

Mr Brooks reported that the region is missing out on resources especially from Central Government who have a regional growth programme in place comprising of operating funds of approximately sixty million dollars.

Mr Brooks advised that a review of the current situation has been carried out, the main findings being -

1. Strategies – limited alignment
2. Delivery of Services – fragmented and uneven services.
3. Resourcing – limited Local Government funding.
4. Region – under invested.

Mr Brooks reported that the recommended model will provide a new regional economic development entity focused on business development, innovation, industry development and investment in regional attractions. He said this would include a build off the Waikato Innovation Park and a hub and spoke delivery model to ensure reach. .

He said in order for additional funding from the private sector and Local Government to be effective, there is a need to bring stronger economic development into the Region.

Mr Brooks then outlined the proposed benefits for Otorohanga being:

- 1) Access to far greater resources for local economic development projects.
- 2) Able to leverage resources.
- 3) Support and services from a eleven person growth support agency.
- 4) Greater scale and impact to assist the Otorohanga District Development Board.
- 5) Funding assistance and support on key economic opportunities.

- 6) Wintec training assistance and expanding model further.
- 7) As part of the Waikato Story, support for projects already started.
- 8) Build a Southern Waikato Economic action plan.
- 9) Value from a regional approach.

Mr Brooks reported that in developing an initial funding model this would be on a 50/50 split of public / private sectors. Mr Brooks confirmed that the contribution by Otorohanga would be approximately \$10,000 per annum.

His Worship said he had issue with ten local authorities competing for funding.

Mr Brooks replied yes, there is but currently Otorohanga is losing out. He said should everyone work together, then they will all be better off.

His Worship queried how the South Waikato Economic Development Strategy was arrived at.

Mr Brooks replied that Central Government just wanted to deal with one big body however, the Waikato Region is too diverse for this.

Councillor Klos referred to natural pathways in Otorohanga, Waitomo and Waipa Districts and said that this area has no interaction with South Waikato. She said the River is a natural divide. Councillor Klos expressed the opinion that interaction with South Waikato District would not happen.

Councillor Pilkington advised that there would be great value in the Otorohanga District Development Board seeing the information presented today.

Mr Brooks replied that he would be happy to make a presentation to the Board.

His Worship thanked Mr Brooks for his comprehensive presentation.

**ITEM 111****CONFIDENTIAL MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

**Resolved** that the Public be excluded from the meeting for the following reasons of Confidentiality.

	<b>Grounds</b>	<b>Reason</b>
	Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following grounds: -	Subject to sections 6, 8 and 17 of the Local Government Official Information Act 1987, the withholding of the information is necessary to:
	<p>48(1a) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist</p> <p>48(1d) That the exclusion of the public from the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to enable the local authority to deliberate in private on its decision or recommendation in any proceedings to which this paragraph applies.</p>	<p>7(2c) Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information-</p> <p>(i) Would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied;</p> <p>(ii) Would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.7(2d) Avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public.</p>

**His Worship / Councillor Pilkington**

**ITEM 106****SOUTHERN WAIKATO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN**

The Chief Executive informed members that it is not an appropriate time to make a decision on this matter. He suggested that further discussion be held at the conclusion of this meeting in a workshop situation.

**ITEM 107****MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2017**

The District Accountant attended the meeting and presented the Management Accounts for the period ending 30 June 2017. He advised that these are finalised accounts, however Audit will be in the office next week.

Councillor Pilkington referred to the Kawhia Parks and Reserves account and felt that the \$22,000 approximate costs in relation to the Koori Track should be included under the Land Transport Sundry Reserve Improvement account.

The Chief Executive referred members to the Land Transport Account and reported that good savings have been made in particular to sealed road resurfacing and LED Street lights Capital expenditure.

**LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT**

The Council adjourned for luncheon at 12.45pm and resumed at 1.15pm.

Councillor Phillips said he would like to see a summary provided of the Management accounts included in the District Accountants report.

The Finance and Administration Manager advised that Council could set up KPI's however, this depends on what Council requires. He suggested that a workshop be held and options presented for members consideration.

The Chief Executive informed members that it is not a bad thing to go through the Management Accounts in detail at the end of each financial year. He said a summary could also be included.

Councillor Johnson informed members that he would like to see any trends developing identified by staff.

The Chief Executive advised that the results to the year ended 30 June 2017 are very pleasing and have come in under budget.

His Worship extended thanks to the District Accountant for his presentation.

**Resolved** that the Management Accounts for the period ended 30 June 2017 be received.

**Cr McConnell / Cr Phillips**

**ITEM 108 CARRYOVERS 2016 / 2017 / 2018**

The District Accountant presented a list of the capital carryovers identified from the 2016 / 2017 financial year.

Members were informed that the Lines Company, Street Lighting Project, Council has never been invoiced for the sum of \$24,000 being its share of the cost of the project.

**Resolved** that Council adopt the carryovers as listed, including the Lines Company Street Lighting Project.

**Cr Christison / Cr Johnson**

**ITEM 110 MATTERS REFERRED**

The Governance Supervisor took members through Matters Referred.

**Otorohanga Timber Company Tour**

Due to a change in Councils meeting date, the Environmental Services Manager was requested to confirm whether the tour of the Otorohanga Timber Company processing facility could be undertaken on 24 October 2017.

**Otorohanga Pool Complex**

The Chief Executive informed members that the staff discounts at the Otorohanga Pool complex will cease.

**ITEM 109 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT MARCH – AUGUST 2017**

Councils Health and Safety Advisor Robyn Kehoe attended the meeting and presented a report on Councils processes, status and recent actions in relation to issues of Health and Safety.

**Resolved** that Councils Health and Safety Officers report for the period March to August 2017 be received.

**Cr Phillips / Cr Williams**

**GENERAL**

**Happy Valley Milk Factory Proposal**

In reply to Councillor McConnell the Environmental Services Manager advised that further information has been received last week and that it is the intention to get all interested parties together for a Hearing.

**Progress Park**

Councillor McConnell reported on a property in Progress Park which is an eyesore and queried whether Council is able to take any action.

The Environmental Services Manager replied that under the District Plan the property owner could be enforced to screen the unsightly materials on the property.

It was agreed that Council write a letter to the owner of the property concerned.

**Building Consent Processes**

Councillor Klos reported on feedback she has received that the Otorohanga District Council building consent processes receive a big tick.

**Proposed Waipapa Toilets**

Councillor Klos said she would like to see a mural painted on the walls of the proposed Waipapa toilet block and for this to be undertaken by a local person. Councillor Klos was advised to contact Councils Community Facilities officer on the matter.

**Gravel Roads**

Councillor Klos referred to those ratepayers living on gravel roads in particular the shocking condition of Newman Road. She advised that many metal roads receive the same treatment continually and therefore suggested that these roads be sealed.

His Worship advised that the current weather conditions have not helped the situation.



**Names of Rivers on bridges.**

Councillor Klos reported on a recent visit to Oamaru and asked whether the names of Rivers could be installed on the bridges erected over these. She requested this matter be placed on Matters Referred.

**Low Cost Housing**

Councillor Klos queried whether Council has given consideration to providing low-cost housing.

His Worship replied No, he did not see this as a core business of Council.

**Toilet Block**

Councillor Phillips referred to an advertisement placed recently regarding the sale of a toilet block at Bennydale. He queried whether this could be utilised at the Waipapa Reserve.

**Community Lighting**

Councillor Phillips reported that there is numerous street lighting faults around the Otorohanga Community.

Councillor Williams advised that a Lines Company staff member carries out a drive around on a two weekly basis to identify these.

**Road Safety**

His Worship reported that a recent meeting has been held regarding Drivers Licencing Training and that a slow-bus scheme has been established through the Otorohanga Community Trust. He said a strategic plan is currently being prepared.

**Water Supplies**

The Chief Executive reported on a Workshop held yesterday regarding Councils various water supplies meeting the drinking water standards.

**Members Interest**

The Finance and Administration Manager thanked those members who have completed their members interest forms and requested those who have not to complete these as soon as possible.

**Funding Review Workshop**

Members were reminded that a funding review workshop will be held this coming Tuesday commencing at 10am.

Councillor Phillips extended his apology for the Workshop

**West Coast Catchment Committee Meeting**

Councillor Pilkington reported on her attendance at a West Coast Catchment Committee meeting held during August 2017. She referred to the HR update and advised that further submissions will be called when the Hauraki submissions have been collated.

**Regional Speech Finals**

Councillor Pilkington said she was privileged to be a judge for the Regional Finals of the full Primary School Speech camp comprising of seven and eight year olds. She reported there was an impressive line-up of very capable public speakers.

The meeting concluded at 3.02pm