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Otorohanga Community Board

# MINUTES

1 December 2016

4.09pm

## **OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD**

1 December 2016

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, 17 Maniapoto Street, Otorohanga on 1 December 2016 commencing at 4.09pm

### **MINUTES**

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

#### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

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## **PRESENT**

Mr P McConnell, Mrs. K Christison, Mrs. EM Cowan, Mr A Buckman, Mr N Gadd, Mr P Coventry

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

His Worship The Mayor M Baxter, Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), R Brady (Engineering Manager), G Bunn (Finance and Administration Manager), CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor), M Lewis (Community Facilities Officer)

The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed those present.

## **OTOROHANGA SUPPORT HOUSE**

The Manager of the Otorohanga Support House, Deb Hill attended the meeting to update members on the activities of the centre. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend today's meeting. Mrs Hill advised that there is a large number of people within the Community who are not aware of the Support House existence. She said 'word of mouth' is the best way to promote the support house and the services that it provides.

Mrs Hill outlined the history of the Support House informing members that it was first established in 1997 and in October 2000 moved to its present site in Maniapoto Street.

Mrs Hill said it is hoped that the Support House is able to remain on its existing site to provide vital services to the Community. She advised that the Support House provides the following services:

- Citizens Advice,
- Community Health,
- Transport Service,
- Budgeting,
- Food Bank
- Counseling/Family Support,
- Conference & Meeting Rooms,
- JP Services,
- Legal Services,
- Assist people to speak up in regards to violence,
- Champions programme,

Mrs Hill reported that the Support House is gearing up for the Christmas period with donations being received from a very supportive Community.

The Chair thanked Mrs Hill for her presentation and extended the grateful thanks of the Board to all those volunteers providing services at the Otorohanga Support House.

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

**Resolved** that the following Items be considered in General Business which may require resolutions.

- 1- Proposed extension to the Edmund Hillary Walkway.
- 2- Declarations by Members
- 3- Proposed survey to obtain Community feedback on the spending of the \$115,000 donated by Waipa Networks.

### **Mrs Cowan / Mr Coventry**

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 20 OCTOBER 2016**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 20 October 2016 be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Chair / Mrs Cowan**

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

The Chair asked members whether they were aware of any situations 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

### **ITEM 9 POTENTIAL SALE OF BUILDING AT WATER RESIVOIR**

The Chief Executive summarised his report on a potential sale of the small wooden building adjacent to Councils Water Reservoirs on Thomson Avenue. He said the building in its current state does not serve any particular purpose.

The Chief Executive informed members that the suggested total costs for the full program of works could be upwards of \$20,000.

His Worship queried what the expected value of the building would be when these repairs were carried out. The Chief Executive replied that he did not know.

Mr Buckman suggested that should there be no interest in the building then it be donated to the local fire brigade to carry out practice burning the building down.

With regard to the proposed tendering of the building for removal the Chair was advised that this would be organised by staff extending an invitation for expressions of interest.

The Chief Executive referred to a grant of \$1500 being made to the Radio Club in recognition of the building having some value and advised that should this be sold by way of tender, further consideration could be given to extending an additional grant to the Club.

Mrs Cowan suggested that perhaps a donation could be made to the Community as there is certainly a social need out there.

Mr Gadd queried whether a leasee could take over the building and carry out the maintenance work. The Chief Executive replied that the building is on Council land and such an arrangement would split ownership responsibilities.

**Resolved** that Tenders are invited for the purchase of the building adjacent to the Thomson Avenue water reservoirs, conditional upon the building being removed from the site.

**Mr Coventry / Mrs Christison**

## ITEM 10 POTENTIAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Chief Executive summarised his report on a suggestion to provide financial support for Community Events in Otorohanga. He advised that since the middle of this year there has been a number of Community events in Otorohanga largely organised by Council's Executive Assistant, David Dowd and/or Leigh Peglar, who has been acting as an Events Coordinator on a entirely voluntary basis, also being assisted on an entirely volunteer basis by Darren Knapton. He said to date around four to five thousand dollars' worth of costs have been incurred.

The Chief Executive referred members to the Boards Special Fund which contains a distributable balance of \$126,000 and suggested that \$6000 of this be utilised for the remainder of this financial year to support Community Events.

The Chief Executive reported that there has been in the past a belief by some that the support of Community Events was a role of the Otorohanga District Development Board. He said consideration of this does however suggest that such a view is not correct, since the objective that Council has given to the Otorohanga District Development Board is "to promote the local economy and opportunities for sustainable economic development."

Mrs Cowan presented a list of events provided by volunteers throughout the Community. She said the Community is really well endowed with "things" that add to the wellbeing of the Community. She suggested that perhaps the Board could create a sustainable fund.

His Worship thanked Mrs Cowan for her comments however as Mayor of Otorohanga he felt that Council's perception by the public is poor. He said this would give Council the opportunity to change this perception and to provide the ability to look after the wellbeing of the Community. His Worship said there is a feeling out there that Council does not care about its Community.

Mrs Christison referred to the list presented by Mrs Cowan and felt that a number of these were fundraising events carried out by various Clubs and Organisations. With regard to the proposed Community events she said these are different and are a way of giving back to the Community.

Mr Coventry expressed the opinion that the proposed \$6,000 is not a lot of money and a key part of a Community is to look after each other. He said the events to date have provided a real buzz around the Community and he supports the proposal.

Mr Gadd advised that he is one hundred percent behind the proposal as it is open to everyone, there is no need to be part of a Club or Organisation.

Mr Buckman felt it is Council's social responsibility to be part of the Community however, some of the events are not everyone's 'Cup of Tea'.

The Chair referred to "things" which Council has contributed to and felt that all costs must be monitored and recorded as those involved will be answerable to the Board. He said it may be necessary for the Board to place some conditions on any expenditure.

Mr Coventry felt that there is also need for an allocation to be considered next year in order to allow the events to continue.

The Chair expressed the opinion that he would like to see the events get even bigger and better.

**Resolved** that the Board agrees to the provision of \$6000, or a substantial proportion of this amount from the Otorohanga Community Special Fund to support the delivery of further community events in Otorohanga during the remainder of the 2016/2017 financial year.

**Chair / Mrs Christison**

## **ITEM 11      MATTERS REFERRED – 20 OCTOBER 2016**

The Chair took members through Matters Referred

### **LIGHTING – VILLAGE GREEN**

The Community Facilities Officer reported on the provision of specifications and costings for two additional powerful lights to be installed on each end of the Village Green.

He said consideration has been given to providing an extra light on the end of the Library building to light up the Village Green area. He said the second option would be to install a light on a lamp post at the Maniapoto Street end of the Village Green, this would be linked to the Street Lighting circuit. The Community Facilities Officer reported that this installation would cost \$3028 including GST however, Council would be able to control when this activates.

The Community Facilities Officer reported that there are two issues, two backlights are being sheltered by trees and two wall lights on the Library are not working.

Mrs Cowan reported that when she last looked the back light on the Library building is working however, the light on the back wall on the I-site facility is not working.

The Community Facilities Officer asked members what they wished to achieve in the provision of lighting for the Village Green.

Mrs Cowan replied that the Pou must be lit at all times and security lighting provided for the sides and back of the Library / i-Site building. She said the “tennis court” type lights have never been very successful.

The Community Facilities Officer replied that there are 4 such lights with two being obscured by trees. He confirmed that the Library lights are linked to the Maniapoto Street circuit.

Mr Coventry referred to the lights being obscured by trees and queried whether it would be possible to erect some form of overhang to enable the lights to shine around the trees.

The Chair reported than an important part of the proposal to improve the lighting is that of funding.

Mr Buckman expressed the opinion that all that is required is to maintain the present lighting to a safe level.

The Chief Executive advised that what lighting is there is a constant problem therefore any improvements will need to be budgeted for. Currently the Board is reliant on the Lines Company to remedy the situation.

Following further discussion Members agreed that repairs be carried out on the lighting that is there and then the whole situation be looked at again.

The Engineering Manager suggested that members look at the situation prior to carrying out any remedial work. It was therefore agreed that Members meet on site tomorrow night at 8.30pm.

### **2016 – 2017 – 2025 -2026 BUDGETS**

The Finance and Administration Manager circulated to members examples of the ten year Community accounts. He said management accounts will be presented to the Board every three months. The Finance and Administration Manager informed members that the activities are all funded differently, some are District wide and others split between the Community and District.

## **SIR EDMUND HILLARY WALKWAY**

Mrs Cowan reported that due to the amount of light coming through onto the Kiwiana modules the content of these are fading and therefore require as much protection as possible.

The Community Facilities Officer reported on his investigation of the site with two Project Kiwiana Committee Members and advised that they wish to extend the existing roof, at an extra cost of \$2100 over and above the previous Boards approval to reroof the existing structure.

Mrs Christison queried which modules would be protected by the extra roofing and suggested it would be cheaper to provide some form of UV protection on the modules glass.

The Community Facilities Officer reported that the reroofing of the walkway may not achieve the desired result.

Mr Coventry suggested that the Board proceed with the scheduled work and perhaps the extension could be undertaken in two phases.

The Community Facilities Officer confirmed that the cost for the extension will remain the same.

The Chair expressed the opinion that the Board needs to look after what it has and to proceed upon the advice received.

## **PROPOSED SURVEY – PLAYGROUND AREAS**

The Chair referred to the Boards recent workshop where at it was decided that the provision of a Kiwiana playground be put out for public consultation as to where the public wish the playground to be. He then presented questions to be asked in the survey.

Mrs Cowan suggested that some background information be provided to enable the public to confidentially answer the questions. The Chief Executive suggested that the survey be based around the question that the Board has received \$115,000 and where does the respondent wish this to be spent, e.g. Reg Brett Reserve or Windsor Park.

**Resolved** that the Board allocate \$1200 to provide an envelope drop within the Community to obtain feedback on whether the Waipa Networks donation be spent on a playground at the Reg Brett Reserve or Windsor Park.

### **Mr Coventry / Mr Gadd**

## **GENERAL**

### **COMMUNITY WISH LIST**

The Chair reported that from discussions at the recent workshop he would like to hear what Community Board Members wish to achieve for the Community over the next three years. Accordingly the following items were highlighted by members –

#### **Mr Buckman**

To establish a grass walkway from the South Bridge to the Otorohanga College along the top of the stop banks.

#### **Mrs Christison**

To provide seating down Maniapoto Street and every two months Board members walk around the Community

**Mrs Cowan**

Redevelopment of the Otorohanga Kiwi House  
Kiwiana themed playground at the Reg Brett Reserve  
Verandahs along Maniapoto Street

**Mr Gadd**

Concrete Footpath along the stop banks  
Create transparency

**Mr Coventry**

Policing of Privet  
People allowed to come to meetings

**Chair**

The state of the Otorohanga Village Green

**Mayor**

Maniapoto Street Verandahs

**MAYOR**

His Worship reported on discussions regarding the Drug 'P' within the Community and that Otorohanga is perceived by some to be as one of the worst affected towns. He said this is not the case, this is a nationwide issue. He requested that members stay concerned over this issue but not to believe Otorohanga is a worst case scenario.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

The Chair extended Christmas / New Year greetings to members and staff.

The meeting closed at 6.08pm