



Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

28 January 2016

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

28 January 2016

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on 28 January 2016 commencing at 4.02 pm.

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 4.03pm), Mrs EM Cowan, Mr PD Tindle (attended 4.03pm) and Mr DR Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE

His Worship the Mayor, Mr M Baxter, Messrs DC Clibbery (Chief Executive), RH Brady (Engineering Manager), Ms D Hooker (Community Facilities Officer) and Mr CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor).

APOLOGIES

Resolved that apologies received from Mrs A Laws and Messrs NS Chetty and PD Tindle (for lateness) be sustained.

Chair/Mrs EM Cowan

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 19 November 2015

The Governance Supervisor informed members that at a meeting of Council held on 15 December 2015, Cr Pilkington referred to an item on page 4, Giltrap Bank – Main North Road and referred in particular to the first sentence which she said is incorrect and should read “Mrs Cowan on behalf of the Otorohanga District Development Board approached the Board for funding for the placement of 10 pipes to enable various Kiwiana items spelling “Otorohanga” to be installed. She advised that an indicative cost could be around \$8,000. Mrs Cowan agreed to contact Mrs Dianne Porter for her to provide a comprehensive report and actual cost of the project.”

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 19 November 2015, as amended, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Mrs Cowan/Mr Williams

REPORTS

Item 73 REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF TREES – ISLAND RESERVE

The Chief Executive presented a report on a request from residents of Beattie Village for some of the trees in the Island Reserve to be removed. The Chair expressed the opinion he could not see how these trees become a nuisance to the residents of Beattie Village however the tree numbered 1 does have a number of dead branches.

Resolved

That the Chief Executives report be received and that the tree number “1” on the plan attached to the report be removed.

Chair/Mr Williams

Item 74 Wi-Fi for Otorohanga CBD

The Chief Executive presented a report on a proposal to provide free Wi-Fi in the Otorohanga CBD area. The Chief Executive reported that the proposed Hot Spot has not eventuated despite numerous approaches to the company. The Chief Executive advised however that as well as benefiting the locals the proposal could also act as a promotional tool for those passing through Otorohanga. He said funding for the proposal could come out of the District Economic Development account for 2015/16 Rural Broadband Fund however Council approval would be required.

In reply to Mr Williams query whether there would be any benefit to Council's administration the Chief Executive replied that he doubted it.

Mrs Cowan queried when and if any problems are encountered will the company come out to attend to these. She also queried what costs would be involved. Mrs Cowan suggested that the Kiwi House be included in the proposal as she felt this is where it is required. Mrs Cowan reported that to date road signs have been very important in directing most visitors to the Kiwi House. She said she sees this proposal as a way of sharing the economic benefit the area. His Worship suggested that pressure be placed on the provider of the Hot Spot for this to be installed at the Kiwi House. The Chief Executive expressed some concern on the suggestion as the Kiwi House is located in a hollow. Mrs Cowan replied that the Kiwi House car park should be satisfactory. The Chief executive expressed the opinion that there is no point in installing a Hot Spot in the CBD if Council is going to have its own service. Mr Tindle agreed that pressure be placed on the company to install the Hot Spot at the Kiwi House. He said Manaipoto Street businesses are all in favour of obtaining Wi-Fi as many people are not aware of where the Kiwi House is located. Mr Tindle said however he supports the proposal as presented. Mr Williams also felt it was a good idea.

The Chief Executive informed members that it would seem very unlikely that the total cost of the system, including installation and webpage development, would be much over \$25,000 plus GST. Mr Tindle expressed the opinion that there are a number of ways for the community to capitalise on the proposal and some research should be carried out on what other communities are doing.

Resolved

That the Board recommends to Council that the offer described in the Chief Executive's report to provide free public Wi-Fi into the Otorohanga CBD area is accepted, with funding of costs to be from the District Economic Development Account.

Mr Tindle/Mr Chetty

Item 75 Smoking in Housing for Elderly Units

The Chief Executive presented a report providing information to assist the Board in consideration of banning smoking in Councils Housing for the Elderly units in Otorohanga.

Resolved

That the Chief Executive's report be received and that all future tenancy agreements for Council's Housing for the Elderly complexes in Otorohanga contain a clause which prohibits smoking inside the units.

Mr Tindle/Mrs Cowan

His Worship left the meeting at 4.30pm

Item 76 Open Stormwater Drain on Domain Drive

The Engineering Manager presented a report informing members that the strategic development of the Kiwi House requires a new predator proof perimeter fence. The open drain and associated pipework allows rodent access into the Kiwi House grounds. The Kiwi House has requested an amount be included in the 2016/17 budget to complete this work.

Mr Williams queried whether the proposal would ensure that the number of rats is reduced. The Engineering Manager replied that the proposal to place an enclosed drain within the predator proof fencing should certainly contribute to keeping the numbers down. Mrs Cowan reported that the current fencing is old and requires repairs and will cost \$100,000 at least to replace like for like. She said this will not be predator proof therefore there is a huge risk of secondary poisoning occurring. Mr Tindle advised that he is in support of the proposal however asked if a grate would be installed both at the entrance and exit to prevent rodent access. The Engineering Manager replied that there would be a need to block the exit end of the pipe. Mr Williams expressed the opinion that a very fine netting would need to be used. Mrs Cowan felt that there would be a need to monitor the situation particularly when the water level is low.

The Engineering Manager informed Mr Williams that the proposed fence change is not a boundary change. He said the fence will be far enough away from the road to be predator proof. Mr Tindle expressed the opinion that it is necessary to justify the proposed spend and to ensure that it will work. He felt that rats will still be able to get into the pipe particularly at low water levels. He said he would like to see a "fix" that has a high chance of working as it appears there is no guarantee this proposal will be predator proof. The Engineering Manager informed members that once the area is enclosed and the piping installed baiting will need to continue. He said the proposal will definitely reduce the number of predators but will never get rid of them entirely. Mr Tindle suggested the proposal be placed on hold to investigate whether there is a mechanism around that will stop rats coming up the pipe. Mrs Cowan advised that this is a public stormwater drain which does overflow into the Kiwi House, around the ground nesting areas. The Engineering Manager reported that egress out of the pipe line has not been studied.

Resolved

That the Engineering Managers report be received and \$27,000 be added to the 2016/17 budget for pipework and enclosing the section of open stormwater drain in Domain Drive.

Mr Chetty/Mrs Cowan

Mr Tindle voted against the motion. Mr Williams abstained from voting on the motion.

MATTERS REFERRED

Otorohanga Domain Concrete Exercise Path Proposal

The Chair reported that he is still waiting for Mr Kerr-Bell to provide drawings and specifications of the Otorohanga Domain concrete exercise path proposal.

Ed Hillary Walkway

The Engineering Manager informed members that substantial information has been obtained on possible ways of reducing the heat buildup in the walkway.

With regard to the proposal to install shade cloth the Engineering Manager advised that the roof has already been UV treated and that shade cloths could be difficult to maintain.

With regard to the UV treatment of the glass cases the Engineering Manager advised that these have already been UV treated. Mrs Cowan undertook to check with the Project Kiwiana Committee that this is the case.

The Engineering Manger then referred to the proposed installation of two additional fans and reported that the existing fans have not been designed for the desired purpose. He said the structure could be altered and a vent installed. Mrs Cowan queried whether it would be desirable to explore the installation of a colour steel roof in order to keep the heat out. The Community Facilities Officers advised that this was considered initially however the Project Kiwiana people wanted as much light in to the area as possible. The Chief Executive suggested a mixture of colour steel and the existing roofing material could be utilised.

GENERAL

Community Website

Mr Tindle expressed congratulations to Mrs Cowan and others involved in the Otorohanga Community website.

Wi-Fi

Mr Tindle suggested that the Board continue with the exploration of data bases used by other communities as a promotional tool. He said the introduction of Wi-Fi to the CBD is a great opportunity to promote Otorohanga. The Chief Executive advised that he will arrange for the IT Manager to investigate how other Communities are using Wi- Fi as a promotional tool.

In replying to Mr Chetty regarding the Rural Broadband proposal the Chief Executive replied that Council is still awaiting a decision from central government.

Establishment of Community Boards

Mr Tindle said he would like the Board to hold a workshop on the establishment/continuation of Community Boards.

It was also requested that a workshop of Council, Otorohanga Community Board and representatives of the Kiwi House Committee be held to consider the future of the Otorohanga Kiwi House.

Community Inspection

Mr Williams expressed the opinion it was time Board members had a drive around inspection of the community.

Paintball

In reply to Mr Williams the Chief Executive advised that he was expecting the operators of the paintball activity to come to the next meeting of the Board. He said it is understood they still wish to continue paint ball activities in the dark bush area of the reserve. The Chief Executive said it is necessary for them to provide safety management plan/s for the Board to consider.

Menzshed

Mr Williams reported that the Menzshed is going along slowly with a few projects on the go. Mr Williams advised that a \$1,000 grant has been received from King Country Energy.

Mountain Bike Track

Mr Williams reported that he has recently undergone surgery however, will be back working on the mountain bike track as soon as possible.

Maniapoto Street Footpaths and Netball Courts

The Chair read a memo from Council's Roothing Manager Martin Gould, regarding power scrubbing the Maniapoto Street footpaths and the netball court. Members were informed that very early indications are that by using hot water and the new equipment both surfaces should come up very well, footpaths costing around \$12,000 and the netball courts \$4500.

Members were informed that an approach had initially been made by the Netball Club regarding the resurfacing of the netball courts, with a suggested cost being in the vicinity of \$50,000. The Roothing Manager had reported that at the present time there is still life in the courts. It was suggested that an application be invited for a grant under the Sport Assistance Scheme.

Otorohanga District Development Board

The Chief Executive referred to comments from the Otorohanga District Development Board regarding the railway station and how it presents itself to visitors. He said there is a fence which needs to be tidied up and consideration given to the style options available. The Chief Executive suggested Board members look at the area as to how this could be enhanced. Mrs Cowan referred to the fence and suggested that any replacement be erected to allow a mower to go underneath.

Otorohanga Security Patrol Contract

The Chief Executive informed members that a revised Security Patrol Contract has been completed which will be administered/managed by the Otorohanga Business Association. He said the revised contract has been accepted by both parties however Council will continue to collect the revenue of behalf of the association.

Huiputea Drive

The Chief Executive referred to the work being undertaken at the Huiputea area and advised that the scope of work has increased, and the existing funding has been fully utilised. He reported that the proposed wetland has not been formed and there is a need to transport fill from the Ouruwhero Road improvement project. The Chief Executive said he envisaged that there will be a cost of between \$2,000 - \$4,000 for this and with the willingness of the Board this could be met from the Community Board's Special Fund. .

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting concluded at 5.22pm

CHAIRMAN:

DATE: