



Otorohanga Community Board

MINUTES

25 May 2017

4.00pm

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

25 May 2017

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held in the Council Chambers, 17 Maniapoto Street, Otorohanga on 25 May 2017 commencing at 4.00pm

MINUTES

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

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PRESENT

Mr P McConnell (Chair), 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), M Lewis (Community Facilities Officer) and CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed all those present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 27 APRIL 2017

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board held on 27 April 2017, as circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Mr Coventry / 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.

OTOROHANGA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Mrs Kylie Mouat, Chairperson of the Otorohanga Business Association and Mrs Deb Hill, Otorohanga Support House Manager attended the meeting.

Mrs Mouat informed members that she is standing down from her role on the Business Association to focus on her family. She said she has been involved with the Otorohanga Business Association over the past four years.

Mrs Mouat informed members that the Association's mandate is still the same, being to support and provide assistance to local businesses. She said at the present time, eighty nine local businesses are members of the Association.

Mrs Mouat reported that the Association's main focus is to encourage residents to shop local. She said the Association provide promotions three or four times a year and networking events for their members.

Mrs Mouat reported that the Association administers two contracts these being the Otorohanga Security Patrol and the Hanging Baskets.

She advised that Mr Dennis Kaimoana of Pearl Security is required to provide monthly reports to the Association. With regards to the Hanging Baskets, this is contracted to Tidy Gardens which receives a monthly maintenance fee. She said additional funding is used for maintenance of the baskets, purchase of plants, equipment etc.

Mrs Mouat informed members that their Association is the organiser of the annual Christmas Parade. She advised that the Association is not the primary beneficiary from this event and it has been considered whether this should be undertaken by another group.

Mrs Mouat raised the matter of the Maniapoto Street Verandahs and advised that the Association will have the opportunity to submit their viewpoint. She reported that members would prefer free standing verandahs to be installed. Mrs Mouat said that the Association really appreciates the strong relationship it has with the Otorohanga Community Board and the Otorohanga District Council.

Mr Coventry referred to the security contractor and said he appears to always be around town and does a fantastic job. Mr Coventry said the Association is a great group of people to be a part of.

Mrs Hill reported that Traffic Management and Road Closure costs form a large part of the costs incurred in organising the annual Christmas Parade. She said during last year, the Hanging Baskets did not use the total grant from the Otorohanga District Development Board however, the balance was used to meet some of the costs of the Christmas Parade.

Mr Buckman said that members of the Association need to be made well aware of the Maniapoto Street Verandah situation in particular to the legal issues and other proposed changes. Mr Buckman suggested that Council's Engineering Manager make a presentation to the Association on this matter. He said the building owners and businesses need to be made aware of what is being proposed. Mr Buckman said Council has the power to force building owners to repair or replace their verandahs if these are shown to be unsafe.

Mrs Mouat advised that lighting under the verandahs is also an issue of concern.

The Chief Executive advised that Council can brief the Otorohanga Business Association on this matter however, the resolution needs to come from the building owners.

Mr Gadd queried what is the biggest restriction in keeping local businesses in town and assisting them to grow.

Mrs Mouat replied that fortunately there has been no mass exit however; the common challenges faced are more industry based. She reported that there is a level of frustration when the Association organizes events to help local businesses and very little take up this offer.

Mrs Christison congratulated Mrs Mouat on the excellent way she has carried out her duties in the position of Chair of the Association. She said her drive has proved to be of real benefit.

Mrs Hill asked what the Community could offer not just to the businesses, but also to encourage new residents into Otorohanga. She queried what is currently in the town in respect of housing, schooling and services.

The Chair expressed the opinion that there is a need to improve communication between the various organisations.

Mrs Mouat queried, in some instances, whether the Association is the right vehicle for some communications as only 20% of the businesses would own their own premises.

The Chair thanked Mrs Mouat and wished her all the best for the future.

ITEM 23 YOUTH INITIATIVES

Board member Peter Coventry made a presentation to members on Youth Initiatives. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to make the presentation.

Mr Coventry informed members of a community structure being made up of: Government, Business, Education, Pastoral Care and Media.

He said the five pillars of a successful Community are:

- 1) Each has a part to play.
- 2) Each must be able to trust the other to fulfill their goals.
- 3) If one area fails, the Community will become stunted.
- 4) Each pillar requires financial support.
- 5) When each area is thriving, the Community is thriving.

Mr Coventry asked "who is bridging the gap" between the business pillar and that of education. He said that education's main responsibility is to educate children, not fix the Community.

Mr Coventry reported that whoever attempts to build the bridge requires money.

Mr Coventry informed members that Thrive Otorohanga Youth Trust's purpose is to bring life changes to the youth most of concern within a community by empowering them to transition from vulnerability to stability, whilst continuing to provide a positive and developmental environment for all youth.

Mr Coventry advised that currently the Otorohanga Lions are prepared to donate four to five thousand dollars a year to encourage recognition of achievement.

Mr Coventry said it is the intention to make it cool for kids to succeed.

Mr Coventry reported that the groups partners being Garry Disclose and Anthony Walton, were awarded the 2017 AMP "Peoples Choice Community Change Makers of the Year".

Mr Coventry reported that the areas of concern of at-risk youth aged between 15 – 24. He said areas of concern are youth offending, education and health and wellbeing.

Mr Coventry said that should improvement be made in these areas, economic development will be a natural spinoff.

Mr Coventry advised that the area for 'connection' is critical and that the Harvest Centre climbing wall and its instructors have been certified again. He said this is a valuable asset for our Youth and Community however it needs money to be open continuously.

Mr Coventry then presented the Thrive Otorohanga Model.

In conclusion Mr Coventry reported that his group has the intellectual property, the recourses, strategic partners, skills, expertise, facility and resources but they need community financial support.

The Chair expressed the opinion that everything costs money and that achieving good results will bring the funding in, however, once these are achieved, the funding is stopped. The Chair queried whether the proposal covered all kids throughout the District or only those in a concentrated area.

Mr Coventry replied that the Coast kids would be those first targeted.

Mr Gadd queried those organisations that the group has approached for assistance.

With regards to introducing a ratable charge to support Youth the Chair advised that this would be a matter for Council to decide.

ITEM 24 MATTERS REFERRED FROM 27 APRIL 2017

The Chair took members through Matters Referred.

F Rawlings / C Payne

The Chair reported he had a very interesting conversation with Mrs Rawlings and Mr Payne regarding issues raised in their letter in particular to that of freedom camping. He said at a future date he will extend an invitation to Mrs Rawlings / Mr Payne to come in and speak to the Board.

The Chair reported that the items covered in their letter are a dump-site facility for freedom campers, the site of the New Zealand Motorhome Association and businesses missing out because freedom campers are not being catered for.

Rotary Park

Council's Community Facilities Officer Mark Lewis updated members on recent maintenance work carried out in Rotary Park and the Bob Horsfall Reserve.

Railway Fence

The Community Facilities Officer informed members that he has obtained estimated costs from Fencing Contractor Jeff Roundtree to provide and install a lifestyle post and rail fence at an estimated total cost of approximately \$3780 + GST. Members agreed that it had been decided to proceed with this installation.

Lighting – Domain Drive

The Engineering Manager reported that an additional two street lights could be installed around Domain Drive under the street light renewal programme.

GENERAL

Maintenance

Mr Coventry extended his thanks to all those concerned in the maintenance and improvements being carried out at Rotary Park and the Lake Huipuatea Reserve.

Sir Edmund Hillary Walkway

In reply to Mrs Cowan regarding lighting in the Sir Edmund Hillary Walkway the Community Facilities Officer advised that he has had discussions with a local electrician and that he has recommended that two

tube lights be installed pointing towards the panels which will add a little more light at night, however they will not be very beneficial during the day. He said the estimated cost would be around \$1000.

Mrs Cowan reported that the Project Kiwiana Committee have agreed to install LED lighting in each individual module and for these to be turned around.

Village Green

Mrs Cowan raised the matter of the cleaning of the two limestone statues on the Village Green and queried where this is at.

The Community Facilities Officer replied that he has contacted Hinuera Stone to obtain how to best carry this work out.

Railway Station

Mrs Cowan said that concerns have been raised at the standard of lighting at the Former Railway Station and this could encourage undesirable activity.

It was agreed that this matter could be discussed with the local Security Patrol Contractor.

Happy Valley Milk

Mrs Cowan queried the status of the Hearing regarding the application by Happy Valley Milk.

The Chief Executive replied that Council is still seeking further information to be supplied by the applicant. He said it is expected that a Hearing will be held around the end of June 2017.

Otorohanga Pool

The Engineering Manager informed Mrs Cowan that he is in the process of working through the Otorohanga Pool Complex Contract Tender.

Leave of Absence.

Mrs Cowan extended her apology for the Board Meeting to be held on 22 June 2017.

Mrs Christison also extended her apology for the meeting of the Board to be held on 22 June 2017.

Street Lighting

Mrs Christison referred to a recent dark and foggy evening where at around 5.30pm no street lights were in operation. She queried whether Council could encourage The Lines Company to look at the matter.

The Engineering Manager replied that The Lines Company have been approached previously however, if we want any change to the existing system this will require funding.

Water Issue

Mrs Christison raised the matter of water running down the back of a property situated at 30 Kakamutu Road. She asked for this water to be tested.

Otorohanga Garden Competition

Mrs Christison referred to the former Otorohanga Community Garden Competition and informed members that local business Mitre 10 are quite keen to recommence this.

Former Hotel Building – Corner of Te Kanawa and Turongo Street

Mr Buckman expressed his concern and disgust at the former Royal Hotel Building and said this is a blight on the Community and should be demolished.

His Worship reported on options which could be available to Council.

Rotary Park

The Chair reported under a WINTEC project the supply and instillation of galvanized walkway rails could be undertaken.

The meeting closed at 5.55pm

