

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held in the Council Chambers, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu on Monday 8 August 2005 commencing at 9.00am.

1 MEMBERS

Councillor AJH Empson - Chairperson

Members

His Worship the Mayor AD Livingston – from item 5;
Councillors – EH Barnes, RJ Cooper, GC Flay, GH Jull, PL Lee, EC Newlands – from item 5.2, DL Sharpe, BJ Taranaki, BS Thomas, GRP Webber and Committee Member G Roberts

Staff

Chief Executive (JC Inglis), Deputy Chief Executive (GD Dyet), Group Manager Policy & Strategy (R McNeil), Group Manager Assets Community & Business Services (JM Mills) – from item 10, Strategic Planning & Development Manager (A McFarlane) – until item 10, Roading Manager (C Clarke) – part of item 10, Asset Manager Recreation (M Ward) – item 7 only, Communications Advisor (W Green) – items 7-9, part of 10 & 11, Committee Secretary (C Plowright)

Public – 20 (reducing to 3 after item 9)

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

2/05/88

That an apology for absence be received from Councillor Scaramuzza.

Cr Sharpe/Cr Lee

3 LATE ITEMS

Councillor Lee asked for a late item, for information only, on the proposed Youth Detention Centre and a brief progress update was provided at the conclusion of the meeting.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 01-85-12

RESOLVED

2/05/89

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

Cr Taranaki/Cr Cooper

5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File: 01-85-12

Minutes of Policy Committee meeting held on 11 July 2005 were included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

2/05/90

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 11 July 2005 be received.

Mayor Livingston/Cr Barnes

Matters Arising -

5.1 Relocated Buildings

File: 01-52-01

Res: 2/05/78

Deputy Chief Executive, Garry Dyet, said staff have implemented the Policy Committee's recommendation to inspect all second-hand relocatable buildings and to require a bond on them. He said that houses built off site and then relocated are subject to the same building consent requirements as new dwellings and buildings relocated from out of the District would be inspected by the local authority in which they are located and issued with a Code of Compliance Certificate.

5.2 Proposed Trade Waste Bylaw and Review of Wastewater Drainage Bylaw

File: 45-02-25 & 45-02-26

Res: 2/05/87

Councillor Taranaki said she understood that people who have a potential involvement with trade wastes have been contacted by Council concerning the proposed Bylaw and she asked for a copy of the information that has been sent out to them.

[Councillor Newlands joined the meeting at 9.09am.]

Group Manager Policy and Strategy, Ross McNeil, said a letter and information sheet had been sent to business operators who have the potential to be affected by the proposed Bylaw. He said anyone wishing to know more should contact Council's Trade Waste Officer, Jason Bidois.

6 PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE NUMBER 43 – KIHIKIHI SEWAGE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

File: 65-07-43

Report of the Consultant Planner dated 20 July 2005 was included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

2/05/91

That the report of the Consultant Planner dated 20 July 2005 be received.

Cr Barnes/Cr Cooper

Deputy Chief Executive, Garry Dyet, explained that Proposed Plan Change 43 (Kihikihi Sewage Financial Contribution) would ensure that developers make a financial contribution (levy) towards the capital cost of the sewerage system. He said Council would like to take all levies out of the District Plan, because it is an expensive and cumbersome mechanism, and include them in the 2006 Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP). However, as the LTCCP will not be confirmed until 1 July 2006, it is necessary to initiate this Plan Change as a stop-gap measure to ensure development levies can be collected now. He said the Kihikihi sewerage Development Impact Fee (DIF) would be \$4,652 per lot.

Mr Dyet said the other issue requiring a decision was whether to re-zone an area in the south east of Kihikihi from rural to residential so it can be connected to the sewerage scheme.

Consultant Planner, Chris Dawson, explained how the DIFs have been calculated. He said the approach taken is consistent with Plan Change No 2 (Development Impact Fees). The total DIF for Kihikihi has been calculated as \$10,885 which is less than DIFs for Cambridge North at \$11,032.

RESOLVED

2/05/92

That the Policy Committee authorise the commencement of public consultation on the proposed Plan Change No 43 "Kihikihi Sewage Financial Contribution" attached as Appendix A to the Consultant Planner's (Chris Dawson of Bloxham Burnett and Olliver) Report dated 20 July 2005.

Mayor Livingston/Cr Newlands

Mr Dawson said that prior to formal public notification of the proposed Plan Change there would be a mail out explaining the key principles of the Plan Change and an open day on 11 August. He said a consultation process on the rezoning issue would be run in parallel with the one for the proposed Plan Change.

RESOLVED

2/05/93

That the area bounded by Whitmore Street, Oliver Street, Grey Street and Dick Street be notified as being changed from rural to residential.

Chairperson Empson/Cr Jull

7 URBAN RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 1

File: 04-03-15

Report of Strategic Planning and Development Manager dated 25 July 2005 was included in the agenda and the draft Urban Reserves Management Plan was provided separately.

RESOLVED

2/05/94

That the report of the Strategic Planning and Development Manager dated 25 July 2005 be received.

Cr Newlands/Cr Jull

Group Manager Policy and Strategy, Ross McNeil, explained that the draft Urban Reserves Management Plan forms part of the review programme for reserve management plans initiated by Council in 2003. He said the philosophy adopted for the review is to manage like reserves in a like manner through a generic management plan. The Urban Reserves Management Plan Volume One comprises 44 neighbourhood parks and reserves in Cambridge and Te Awamutu.

Strategic Planning and Development Manager, Andrew McFarlane, said the draft Plan is a high level document, focussed on policies, objectives and philosophies, and is not intended to be an operational manual for the reserves. He said it includes parks and reserves that have not been

legally classified as having reserve status but where there is a public expectation that they should be managed in a reserve-like manner. He said many of those reserves need to be formally classified and that process could be initiated as part of the overall reserve management plan review.

Mr McFarlane said Council notified its intention to review the urban reserve management plans in March 2005 and a number of suggestions have been received from the public and have been noted.

In answer to a question from Councillor Webber, Mr McFarlane said staff have identified parks and reserves signage as an area requiring a major review to address inconsistencies.

Chairperson Empson said the public consultation exercise could identify non-classified reserves that are not felt to be suitable for recreation and which could be sold and the proceeds used to develop other reserves.

RESOLVED

2/05/95

That -

- a) *The draft Urban Reserves Management Plan (Volume 1) be notified in accordance with the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 and released for public comment on 26 August 2005.*
- b) *Submissions be received on the draft Urban Reserves Management Plan (Volume 1) until 5.00pm on Friday 28 October 2005.*
- c) *Submissions be considered at a meeting of the Policy Committee to be held on Monday 12 December 2005.*
- d) *Subsequent to consideration of submissions, the draft Urban Reserves Management Plan (Volume 1) be adopted by Council at a meeting scheduled for 20 December 2005.*

Mayor Livingston/Cr Taranaki

8 DISTRICT PROMOTION FUND – END OF YEAR UPDATE 2004/05

File: 02-03-01

Report of Strategic Planning and Development Manager dated 30 May 2005 was included in the agenda.

Strategic Planning and Development Manager, Andrew McFarlane, said the report summarised the outcomes of the 2004/05 District Promotion Fund allocations and he asked the Committee whether changes are required for administration of the 2005/06 Fund.

Mr McFarlane said Council sponsored 16 events through the 2004/05 Fund with the grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. He said all sponsorship was associated with regional, national or international events.

Mr McFarlane summarised the outcomes achieved from the sponsorship, which has been determined by post-event data received from event organisers. He explained how the effectiveness of post-event data depended on the ability and commitment of event organisers to collect the information and suggested that requirement should be restricted to sponsorship of \$2,000 or more in the 2005/06 funding round.

RESOLVED

2/05/96

That the report of the Strategic Planning and Development Manager dated 30 May 2005 be received.

Cr Lee/Cr Webber

Committee Member Roberts asked why Council would be considering the funding applications in September rather than the Policy Committee. Mr McFarlane said it had previously been decided that either the Policy Committee or Council could consider the funding applications, depending on which meeting fits in best with the timeframe. He said that this year it was more appropriate for Council to consider the applications at its September meeting rather than waiting until the October Policy Committee meeting. Chairperson Empson said he would be happy to speak on behalf of Committee Member Roberts at the Council meeting when it considers the applications.

In answer to a question from Councillor Lee, Mr McFarlane said Council maintains an events calendar which, amongst other things, indicates whether events have the potential to clash. Councillor Lee asked if Councillors could receive a copy of the events calendar by email on a monthly basis. It was acknowledged that, unless Council was the event coordinator itself, its influence on the time of events was limited, regardless of potential for clashes.

Committee Member Roberts asked if she could have a copy of the post-event questionnaire to see what information is being asked of event organisers.

Other issues discussed related to the need for more accommodation facilities to cater for events and the funding of local events by Community Boards as they no longer qualify for District Promotion funding. Councillor Newlands spoke about the benefits of District Promotion Fund sponsorship from an event organiser's perspective.

RESOLVED

2/05/97

That -

- a) *Council retain the eligibility criteria for the District Promotion Fund broadly as existing, but delete the requirement for 'attendee questionnaires' where sponsorship is \$2,000 or less.*
- b) *Applications be considered by Council at the meeting scheduled for 27 September 2005.*

Chairperson Empson/Cr Lee

[The meeting adjourned at 10.38am and reconvened at 10.58am.]

Group Manager Policy and Strategy, Ross McNeil, asked the Committee if it wished to consider a funding application that has been received from the Waikato Basketball Association (WBA) for an event that will take place before the Committee considers District Promotion Fund applications in September. He said the event (New Zealand-Australia Basketball Test on 28 August at the Te Awamutu Events Centre) meets the funding criteria, is an international event and, based on past funding decisions, is eligible for a grant of \$5,000. He said it was suggested that the Committee allocate \$2,000 towards the event and that this should be noted if the WBA makes another application later in the year.

It was **moved** Councillor Lee, **seconded** Councillor Taranaki –

That the Policy Committee allocate \$2,000 from the 2005/06 District Promotion Fund to the Waikato Basketball Association for the New Zealand-Australia Basketball Test on 28 August 2005 at the Te Awamutu Events Centre.

Councillor Webber asked if the Committee could be provided with a copy of the WBA's funding application before making a final decision.

Mayor Livingston said that as it meets all the criteria and is an international televised event being held at the Te Awamutu Events Centre it should qualify for more sponsorship than \$2,000. He suggested increasing the allocation to \$4,000. Chairperson Empson advised the Committee that as this matter is not on the agenda and has not been brought up as late item it would have to be addressed by way of a recommendation to Council. The Chief Executive said that the Committee could not make a decision on it and could only refer it to another meeting or call a special Council or Policy Committee meeting to consider the application.

Mayor Livingston **moved an amendment, seconded** Councillor Barnes
That the Policy Committee recommend that Council allocate \$4,000 from the 2005/06 District Promotion Fund to the Waikato Basketball Association for the New Zealand-Australia Basketball Test on 28 August 2005 at the Te Awamutu Events Centre. (Resolution 2/05/98)

Councillor Webber said that when Council considers the recommendation it will have seen the application and can make an informed decision.

Chairperson Empson put the amendment which was carried on a show of hands (six for, five against). This became the substantive motion which was carried on a show of hands (six for, five against).

Councillor Flay said he felt it was an unsatisfactory outcome for the WBA who will not know whether Council is providing funding for the event until after it has taken place. Chairperson Empson said that if the Committee considered that was a problem it could refer the matter to the Executive Committee for a decision prior to the Council meeting. The Chief Executive explained the circumstances under which an Executive Committee meeting or a Special Council or Policy Committee meeting might be called. Several members of the Committee said they were concerned about the possibility of compromising Council's processes by referring the matter to an Executive Committee meeting.

RESOLVED

2/05/99

That because of timing issues the Waikato Basketball Association's funding application be considered at an Executive Committee meeting and that any grant is to be consistent with Council's District Promotions Fund policy.

Mayor Livingston/Chairperson Empson
[Committee Member Roberts' vote was recorded against.]

9 PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – WAIPA DISTRICT COUNCIL AND MAUNGATAUTARI ECOLOGICAL ISLAND TRUST (MEIT)

File: 60-12-18

Report of Strategic Planning and Development Manager dated 28 July 2005 was included in the agenda.

Strategic Planning and Development Manager, Andrew McFarlane, provided a brief background on the Maungatautari Ecological Island pest-free fencing project. He said the purpose of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding was to provide clarity on the responsibilities and expectations of Council and MEIT.

Committee Member Roberts suggested the amendment of the first sentence of item seven in the report to read "Council's statutory responsibilities are explicitly outlined in the Maungatautari draft Reserve Management Plan".

RESOLVED

2/05/100

That -

- a) *The report of the Strategic Planning and Development Manager dated 28 July 2005 be received.*
- b) *The Policy Committee recommend to Council the endorsement of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between MEIT and Waipa District Council.*

Cr Cooper/Cr Flay

10 ANZAC GREEN – REVOCATION OF RESERVE STATUS

File: 55-26-12

Report of Roding Manager dated 28 July 2005 was included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

2/05/101

That the report of the Roding Manager dated 28 July 2005 be received.

Cr Newlands/Cr Webber

The Chief Executive outlined the process followed to revoke the reserve status on a portion of ANZAC Green. He said the process was required so that Council could realign a section of Vaile Street to provide off-street parking outside the Te Awamutu Medical Centre and to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety in this area. He said objections received on the proposed revocation had been included in the agenda for consideration by the Policy Committee and they would then be forwarded to the Minister of Conservation along with Council's decision. He said each objector would be sent a copy of what is sent to the Minister.

Council's Roding Manager, Chris Clarke, explained the background to Council's decision, in August 2004, to revoke part of ANZAC Green for the road realignment and why design option 3 had been adopted. He said investigations have shown that realigning Teasdale and Vaile Streets to take advantage of a vacant section of land owned by the Medical Centre would have little or no impact on the amount of land required from ANZAC Green.

Mr Clarke said the road reserve is only 13 metres wide and any road widening would result in revocation of part of the reserve. It was noted that some but not all of the objectors have said they would be satisfied if the proposal was to take less of the reserve for the realignment.

Councillor Jull declared a potential conflict of interest in the issue because of his association with Te Awamutu Medical Centre and said he would not vote on the proposal. He said he would not take part in the discussion regarding parking issues but would like to comment on issues relating to safety.

The Committee considered the objections against the proposed revocation of part of ANZAC Green that had been included in the agenda. As Stephen Lee and Nicky Samuel were present at the meeting they were given the opportunity to speak in support of their objections.

Mr Lee said the nature of ANZAC Green would be affected by the proposed road realignment and it would be changed significantly for Green users. He said that bringing the road to the edge of the Green would add noise and distraction. He said that, in addition to his written objection, he had some comments to make concerning the suggestion that the Green would still have more space available for recreation after the realignment process than when the swimming pool was sited there. He said that suggestion was irresponsible because the pool was a community recreational asset that was used for recreation. He said improving the traffic flow would see an increase in the speed of traffic through the area. He said a lot of the community felt strongly about the proposed revocation and would fight it all the way, which could turn it into a long and expensive process for Council. In answer to a question from Mayor Livingston, Mr Lee said his submission revolved around the fact that the proposal was not about parking because it is a convenience issue.

Ms Samuel said the perceived parking and traffic flow problems are primarily caused by one main business and several other businesses whose staff use the parking spaces that are available for public use. She said revoking a portion of ANZAC Green was inconsistent with Council's recreational policies and the District Plan because the whole of ANZAC Green is protected by the Historic Places Trust (Appendix 10 of the District Plan). She said there was a large groundswell of opinion on the issue and that the proposal would be fought all the way. She suggested Council look at other options.

The Chief Executive said that, in addition to the objection process set out in the Reserves Act, an open evening had been held to explain the proposal to the public and a summary of the comments received at the

evening had been included in the agenda. He said that while there was no requirement to send those comments to the Minister, they had been included in the agenda to provide the Committee with as much public opinion and input as staff and the consultants have been able to gather. He said those comments indicated 50% support for the proposal and 50% opposition.

[The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.40pm and reconvened at 1.15pm.]

It was **moved (proforma)** Mayor Livingston, **seconded** Councillor Flay -
That the Policy Committee recommend that Council resolve as follows -

1. *That having considered the objections received the reservation of that part of the Teasdale Street Reserve (Anzac Green) described in the Schedule should be revoked to allow the land to be used for roading improvements and parking (which is considered desirable for pedestrian and traffic safety reasons). (Resolution 2/05/102)*

Mayor Livingston said Council appreciated the research that the submitters have put into their objections. He said he was satisfied Council has given the matter full consideration and taken into account all aspects involved with the issue. He said any decision to revoke a portion of reserve land would be done reluctantly and with good reason and it was not an option to do nothing. He said it was important to address the issue properly, rather than in a piecemeal way to satisfy some of the concerns raised.

Councillor Newlands said the parking and traffic flow problems in Vaile Street had been the subject of countless requests from various members of the community over the past seven years, and he gave numerous examples. He said the proposal provided a good practical solution to the concerns raised over those years. Councillor Flay said he had been approached many times by elderly residents who were desperate to see something happen to improve the situation on Vaile Street.

Chairperson Empson put the motion which was **carried**.

RESOLVED

2/05/103

That the Policy Committee recommend that Council resolve as follows -

2. *That the Chief Executive notify the Commissioner (Department of Conservation) of the resolution in 1. above.*
3. *That the Chief Executive forward copies of the objections to the revocation to the Commissioner along with the resolution in relation to those objections set out below.*

4. *That the objections to the revocation be disallowed on the grounds that the benefits of the revocation clearly outweigh the detrimental effects and generally for the reasons set out in the Roading Manager's report dated 28 July 2005.*

SCHEDULE

Approximately 0.1184 ha of the Teasdale Street Reserve (Anzac Green) (described as Lot 1 DP 7014, Lot 2 DP 7014, Lot 3 DPS 16579 and Pt Lot 3 DP 1182) as shown on the plan attached to the Roading Manager's Report.

The process for designation and eventual dedication of the land as road to commence upon receipt of the Minister of Conservation's consent to revoke the reserve status.

Cr Webber/Cr Thomas

11 MAJOR PROJECTS FEASIBILITY STUDY

File: 01-22-17

Report of Chief Executive dated 3 August 2005 was included in the agenda.

Report dated July 2005 (Volumes One & Two) prepared by RDT Pacific was provided separately for Councillors only.

RESOLVED

2/05/104

That the Major Projects Feasibility Study prepared by RDT Pacific and dated July 2005 be received.

Cr Webber/Cr Lee

The Chief Executive said Council's Long Term Community Plan (LTCCP) provides for four major projects (Karapiro Domain development, Geck property development, Te Awamutu Library and Museum and Cambridge Historical, Equine and Military Museum) over a nine-year period. He said that the combined cost of the projects is estimated to be \$25.3 million, with \$16 million provided from loan and reserves, and a balance of \$9.2 million required from undetermined external sources.

He said there had been a lot of submissions received in support of a Cambridge covered pool during the 2004/05 LTCCP submissions process and it had also been questioned whether an equine or military museum was a high priority. Council therefore decided to carry out a feasibility study to compare the relative merits and priorities of different amenity projects.

He said a request received from the Te Awamutu Association Football Club during the 2003/04 Annual Plan process for support with the development of new facilities for senior soccer had also been included in the feasibility study, as had a few other smaller requests, such as the suggested white water kayaking facility at Karapiro.

The findings of the feasibility study were discussed. There was also discussion about a recent request for a new gymnasium in Cambridge and whether this should be prioritised with the list of other projects.

The Chief Executive said that in light of the findings in the feasibility study Council now had to decide which of the projects should proceed.

There was discussion in relation to the Geck property development and how a District Plan Change and rural subdivision in this area could assist with the funding of some other projects. Deputy Chief Executive, Garry Dyet, explained how the provisions of the District Plan would deal with such a proposal and that Council would be treated no differently to any other potential subdivider. Mayor Livingston said it would be preferable if someone else instigated a Plan Change and, in the meantime, Council designated the lower level of the property as Recreation Reserve and included some rural residential sections in that area. He said that would help offset the development costs and would provide some security for the reserve.

The Chief Executive said the recommendation in the report was slightly wrong and the major projects recommended for development within the context and requirements of Council's LTCCP were the Karapiro Domain development, Geck property development, Cambridge covered pool, Te Awamutu Library, Cambridge Museum and a new Soccer Club facility in Te Awamutu. The Karapiro Domain and Geck developments are already signalled in the LTCCP and the Cambridge Pool received a high priority in the feasibility study. He said all the projects are huge undertakings in their own rights and one project should not be done at the expense of another.

Councillor Newlands said there was the potential for a very cost-effective solution to Te Awamutu Soccer's dilemma involving Te Awamutu Marist Club and he hoped that project would not have to wait for funding to become available for the other projects before it can proceed.

RESOLVED

2/05/105

That design concepts and funding options be developed within the context and requirements of Council's LTCCP for the major projects listed below, in no particular order of priority -

*Karapiro Domain development
Geck property development
Cambridge covered pool
Te Awamutu Soccer facilities
and that this be reported to Council.*

Chairperson Empson/Cr Webber

The Chief Executive said removing the two museum projects and the Te Awamutu library project would allow the other four projects to be funded.

RESOLVED

2/05/106

That the Cambridge Museum, Te Awamutu Museum and Te Awamutu Library remain in the LTCCP as projects that Council wishes to remain within its programme for consideration but with the funding yet to be determined.

Cr Sharpe/Cr Taranaki

The Chief Executive said the proposed white water kayaking facility would probably be a less expensive project and could be noted in the LTCCP. He said it would be more appropriate if the request for a new gymnasium in Cambridge could be considered during the 2006 LTCCP process.

He said the Te Awamutu Soccer project could be progressed reasonably easily using existing resources. With respect to the Cambridge covered pool, he suggested using the processes used in developing the Te Awamutu Events Centre as a model, and there was discussion about the need for the formation of a representative group and possibly a trust. He said there would be a report back to Council once the process has been agreed on.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 2.55pm.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

CHAIRPERSON: _____

DATE: _____