

Minutes of a meeting of the Strategic Planning & Development Committee held in the Council Chambers, Waipa District Council, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu on Tuesday 2 March 2010 commencing at 9.02am.

1 PRESENT

Councillor GRP Webber - Chairperson

Members

His Worship the Mayor AD Livingston; Councillors – EH Barnes, MEH Cox, LWE Hoverd, GH Jull, PL Lee, EC Newlands, GG Scaramuzza, DL Sharpe, GW Simmons, BJ Taranaki, BS Thomas and Iwi Representative, G Roberts.

Public

There was one member of the public in attendance.

Others

Deputy Chief Executive/Group Manager Planning & Community Relations, R McNeil; Group Manager Service Delivery, B Bergin; Manager Strategy, G Knighton; Strategic & District Planning Team Leader, F Hill; Committee Secretary, S King.

2 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no disclosures.

3 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

4 LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

5 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 01-85-12

RESOLVED

3/10/07

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

Councillor Thomas / Councillor Simmons

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

File: 01-85-30

Minutes of Meeting held on 2 February 2010.

RESOLVED

3/10/08

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Councillor Sharpe / Councillor Hoverd

7 WAIPA 2050 / DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW PROJECT – UPDATE

File: 65-06-36

Environment Strategy

Strategic & District Planning Team Leader, F Hill said the Environment Strategy, incorporating the draft decisions, was recommended to Council for adoption and subsequently adopted on 23 February 2010. The decisions will be sent to the submitters by the end of March.

Mrs Hill said the increase of retail space in the Cambridge North area, as raised by a submitter, resulted in a more detailed analysis of retail within Cambridge as a whole. The recommendation from the investigation was that the current planned size of 3,000sqm was adequate. Members discussed the merits of retaining retail within the Central Business District (CBD) supported by neighbourhood centres such as Cambridge North and Leamington and local centres consisting *for example* of takeaway/dairy type retail shops. Contained within the discussion was debate around the need to encourage neighbourhood activities balanced against redevelopment of the existing CBD as identified within both Waipa 2050 and Future Proof.

Plan Change 70 – Future Proof Rural Residential Development

Mrs Hill said the submission period had closed with 42 submissions received, of which 13 were in opposition and, the balance in support or conditional support. She briefly outlined the main points raised in the submissions, highlighting some of the submissions sought to identify other areas for rural residential development.

District Plan - General

Mrs Hill said draft objectives and policies for consideration were being prepared, with a focus on subdivision and rural areas, for a workshop to be held later in March. Discussions with Nga Iwi Toopu o Waipa on the policy options for marae/papakainga options had commenced.

In response to the recent removal of rimu trees at a Te Awamutu redevelopment site, members discussed the importance of the register of significant trees. Mayor Livingston reminded members that once placed on the register, a significant tree became a cost to Council. Mrs Hill noted trees on Council land were not protected and under property law adjoining landowners were permitted to trim to their boundary any overhanging limbs. In some cases this action threatens the life of the tree.

RESOLVED

3/10/09

That the information be received.

Councillor Scaramuzza / Councillor Sharpe

8 FUTURE PROOF - UPDATE

File: 65-06-36

Waikato Transportation Model

Manager Strategy, G Knighton said the Waikato Transportation Model suggests an imbalance between the amount of industrial land provided and what has been predicted through modelling based on labour provision rates. There may be a need to rationalise the quantity and location of industrial land. A small working party, being one person from each district, will bring together a communication strategy to market the Waikato model, particularly to central Government. A stakeholder forum will be established to present the Waikato model to key agencies to allow long term planning and to get their feedback.

Southern Sector Study

Mr Knighton said the Southern Sector Study is about to enter a key consultation phase with a number of stakeholders around the Airport being contacted shortly.

Area of Influence

Mr Knighton noted the Area of Influence discussions were progressing, with the partner councils to consider a proposal consisting of triggers and criteria. One of the key triggers concerns significant development or non-complying activities. Criteria range from infrastructure burdens, green space reduction to the undermining of town centres/city heart. Mayor Livingston raised the Pirongia special landscape character and the impact from development within the Otorohanga boundary. Mr Knighton said staff were meeting with Otorohanga District Council the following week.

Iwi Representation on Future Proof

Mr Knighton said Tainui were adamant that the current CEO of Tainui Holdings should be the new representative from Tainui. He said this presented a potential conflict of interest as Tainui is involved in development within the region.

Waikato River Settlement

Mr Knighton said the Select Committee issued a report with a period of one week provided for further submissions. He said the report was quite positive for Waipa in that many of the issues raised in the original submission were included. He said the key thrust of the further submission related to technical issues, such as sequencing into the Regional Policy Statement and District Plans. The submission also included a reiteration that there should be no cost to ratepayers.

RESOLVED

3/10/10

That the information be received.

Mayor Livingston / Councillor Cox

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.13am.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD

CHAIRPERSON _____

DATE: _____

Completed and dispatched: 3 March 2010