

Minutes of a meeting of the Policy Committee held in the Council Chambers, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu on Monday 14 May 2007 commencing at 9.00am.

1 PRESENT

Councillor AJH Empson - Chairperson

Members

His Worship the Mayor AD Livingston (except between 12.55pm – 2.41pm); Councillors - RJ Cooper (except between 12.55pm - 2.41pm), GC Flay, GH Jull (except between 1.50pm – 1.55pm), PL Lee, EC Newlands, GG Scaramuzza, DL Sharpe, BJ Taranaki, BS Thomas, GRP Webber and Committee Member V Ingley

Staff

Chief Executive (JC Inglis), Deputy Chief Executive (GD Dyet) – from 10.30am, Group Manager Policy & Strategy (R McNeil), Group Manager Finance (S Kew) – from 10.30am, Group Manager Assets, Community & Business Services (JM Mills) – from 1.50pm, Financial Planning Manager (D Frederick) – from 10.30am, Community Planning & Governance Manager (S Des Forges) – from 10.30am, Engineering & Utilities Manager (J Kerr) – from 10.30am, Senior Planner (T Kelly) – until item 8, Committee Secretary (C Plowright)

Chairman Empson paid tribute to the late Joe Oliver who passed away on 9 May 2007. He said Joe had served 24 years on local government (15 for Te Awamutu Borough Council and nine for Waipa District Council) and that Mayor Livingston and Councillor Cooper would be attending his funeral at 1.00pm today. Those present stood in silence for a moment in memory of Joe Oliver.

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

2/07/45

That an apology for absence be received from Councillor Barnes.

Cr Jull/Cr Flay

3 LATE ITEMS

In response to a query from Mayor Livingston, the Chief Executive said a report clarifying the issues raised at the 24 April Council meeting, relating to the Pirongia Fire Force, had not been available for inclusion in the Policy Committee agenda. He said the matter had been referred to the Pirongia Reserves Management Committee for consideration at a meeting scheduled for 30 May 2007.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 01-85-12

RESOLVED

2/07/46

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

Cr Taranaki/Cr Thomas

5 VISITORS

Nil.

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File: 01-85-12

Minutes of Policy Committee meeting held on 16 April 2007 were included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

2/07/47

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 16 April 2007 be received.

Cr Scaramuzza/Cr Sharpe

Matters Arising -

6.1 Objection to Stopping of Addison Street, Cambridge

File: 90-02-25

Res: 2/07/06

The Chief Executive said a new plan is being redrawn in line with Council's instruction to stop just one section of this road, in front of the applicant's property.

6.2 Pensioner Housing Rentals – Proposed Changes for 2007/08

File: 20-03-07, 20-03-15 & 20-03-16

Res: 2/07/15

The Chief Executive said updated valuations have now been obtained for Council's pensioner housing units and a report is being prepared for presentation to the Policy Committee.

6.3 To Declare Land Adjoining Kaipaki Road Surplus to Requirements and Available for Sale to the Adjoining Landowner

File: 04641/244.00 & 90-02-25 & OL 7/328

Res: 2/0708

The Chief Executive said staff are waiting to hear from the landowner who adjoins the two parcels of land on Kaipaki Road whether he still wishes to proceed with purchase of the land.

6.4 Footpath Alterations on Arawata Street, Te Awamutu

File: 55-09-01

Res: 2/07/20

The Chief Executive said Councillors had been copied with a letter sent to the Ale House management seeking their commitment to progress the work on the footpath outside the Ale House within a defined timeframe. He said verbal advice received is that the work will be completed within the specified timeframe.

7 NEW ZEALAND URBAN DESIGN PROTOCOL

File: 65-06-37

Report of Terrena Kelly, Senior Planner, dated 3 May 2007 was included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

2/07/48

That the report of Terrena Kelly, Senior Planner, dated 3 May 2007 be received.

Cr Lee/Cr Scaramuzza

The Chief Executive said signing up to the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol would allow Council staff to work more closely with other local authorities and groups that have an interest in urban design issues.

Councillor Lee asked when Council would be able to set up an advisory board to assist with urban design issues. Senior Planner, Terrena Kelly, said the formation of an advisory board would not happen until after the District Plan has been reviewed and the new Plan notified. The Chief Executive said, in the meantime, staff are looking at establishing a community group to liaise with Council on urban design issues.

RESOLVED

2/07/49

That Council become a signatory to the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol.

Cr Scaramuzza/Cr Sharpe

Councillor Scaramuzza said Council should encourage as many groups as it can to sign up to the Protocol. Councillor Sharpe asked if surveyors and other organisations involved in preparing documentation for Council's planning staff would be notified that Council has signed up to the Protocol. Miss Kelly said Council cannot force other groups to sign up to the Protocol but it can advise them that Council has become a signatory and send them a copy of it.

RESOLVED

2/07/50

That other organisations be notified Council has become a signatory to the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol and that those documents be forwarded to them.

Cr Sharpe/Cr Taranaki

Mayor Livingston said an article on the Urban Design Protocol would be provided in the Word on Waipa.

8 PROPOSED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FEES AND CHARGES – 2007/08

File: 75-15-03

Proposed Resource Management Fees and Charges with Effect from 1 July 2007 were included in the agenda.

Group Manager Policy and Strategy, Ross McNeil, said the proposed fees and charges had been notified for public comment in March 2007 and although no submissions were received relating specifically to the proposed changes, one submission was received on the draft 2007/08 Annual Plan that potentially impacts on the Resource Management fees and charges. However, he said that submission has since been withdrawn and no longer requires consideration by the Policy Committee.

RESOLVED

2/07/51

That the proposed 2007/08 Resource Management Fees and Charges, as publicly notified in March 2007, be recommended to Council for confirmation prior to 30 June 2007.

Cr Newlands/Cr Jull

9 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2007/08 - CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

File: 01-91-39

Report of Community Planning and Governance Manager dated 23 April 2007 and a summary of submissions was included in the agenda and copies of the submissions received were provided bound separately.

The Committee was reminded that the draft 2007/08 Annual Plan was undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 and notified by the Policy Committee on 12 March 2007 for public comment and submissions. It was noted that 55 submissions had been received and 30 of the submitters wished to be heard.

RESOLVED

2/07/52

That the report of the Community Planning and Governance Manager dated 23 April 2007 be received.

Cr Webber/Cr Thomas

The Committee considered the written submissions (that were not being supported by verbal submissions) to ensure members were aware of and understood the issues raised in the submissions. The Committee continued this process in between hearing the verbal submissions.

[The meeting adjourned at 10.05am and reconvened at 10.30am.]

The following individuals/groups that wished to make a verbal presentation in support of their submission were heard. A précis of the verbal submissions is attached to these minutes.

- 10.30 Waipa Heritage Council (Alan & Glenyss Hall)
- 10.36 Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre (Alan Hall)
- 10.46 Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust (Jim Mylchreest)
- 11.22 Cambridge Tree Trust (Brian Mayo)
- 11.46 Waikato Valley Cricket Association (John Makgill & Grant Bradburn)

[The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.16pm and reconvened at 12.55pm. Mayor Livingston and Councillor Cooper did not rejoin the meeting until 2.41pm.]

- 1.00 Karapiro-Taotaoroa Hall Committee (Gloria Graham)
- 1.10 Te Miro Hall Committee (Philip Coles)
- 1.20 Waikato Federated Farmers (Peter Buckley & Nigel Billings)
- 1.34 Murray Osmond
- 1.50 Mighty River Power (Tim Densem)

[Councillor Jull left the meeting at 1.50pm and returned at 1.55pm.]

- 2.00 Cambridge Community Board (Rob Feisst)
- 2.11 Beverley Dean
- 2.22 Kerry Bodman
- 2.35 Kaipaki School BOT (Wayne Reed)

[Mayor Livingston and Councillor Cooper rejoined the meeting at 2.41pm. The meeting adjourned at 2.45pm and reconvened at 3.05pm.]

- 3.05 Geoff Hicks and Sue Peake
- 3.30 Environment Waikato (Harry Wilson, John Fisher, Kevin Collins and Russell Turnbull)

The meeting adjourned at 3.51pm to reconvene on Tuesday 15 May 2007 at 9.00am.

TUESDAY 15 MAY 2007

1 PRESENT

Councillor AJH Empson - Chairperson

Members

His Worship the Mayor AD Livingston – except for 10.25 - 11.08am; Councillors – EH Barnes – from 9.21am & except for 2.44pm - 2.48pm, RJ Cooper, GC Flay, GH Jull – except for 11.25 - 11.29am, PL Lee – except for 10.32 - 10.35am & 11.08 - 11.10am, EC Newlands – except for 2.41pm - 3.00pm and 3.31pm - 3.45pm, GG Scaramuzza, DL Sharpe, BJ Taranaki, BS Thomas, GRP Webber and Committee Member V Ingley

Staff

Chief Executive (JC Inglis) – until 3.55pm, Deputy Chief Executive (GD Dyet), Group Manager Policy & Strategy (R McNeil), Group Manager Finance (S Kew), Group Manager Assets, Community & Business Services (JM Mills), Financial Planning Manager (D Frederick), Community Planning & Governance Manager (S Des Forges), Engineering & Utilities Manager (J Kerr) – from 9.38am, Project Manager Heritage Development & Reserves Planning (T Roxburgh) – 1.08pm-2.00pm, Committee Secretary (C Plowright)

2 APOLOGIES

Councillor Barnes had indicated she would be slightly late joining the meeting.

9 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2007/08 - CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

File: 01-91-39

Presentations from those individuals/groups wishing to attend in person were heard as follows:

9.00 Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Committee (Katherine O'Regan)

[Councillor Barnes joined the meeting at 9.21am.]

9.25 Te Awamutu Alive (Katherine O'Regan)

9.36 Te Awamutu Youth Services (Geoff Brown & Elizabeth Shoobert)

- 10.00 Cambridge CAB (Peter Parr)
- 10.05 Gracelands Group (Robyn Klos & Martyn Parkes)
- 10.15 Gracelands Group (Robyn Klos & Ngaire Magner)
- 10.23 Pirongia Te Aroaro o Kahu Restoration Society (Clare St Pierre & June Bright)

[Mayor Livingston left the meeting at 10.25am and returned at 11.08am.]

- 10.30 Patrick Main

[Councillor Lee left the meeting at 10.32 am and returned at 10.35am.]

- 10.36 Sport Waikato (Richard Carter, Janis Jeffers & Paula White)

[The meeting adjourned at 10.50am and reconvened at 11.08am. Councillor Lee did not rejoin the meeting until 11.10am.]

- 11.08 Te Awamutu Community Board (Dean Taylor)

[Councillor Jull left the meeting at 11.25am.]

At 11.25am, having considered all the submissions received on the draft Annual Plan 2007/08, the Committee then considered each of the issues raised in the submissions.

Because several members of the Committee had been absent for parts of the meeting, the Chief Executive said a summary of each of the verbal presentations made would be provided prior to the Committee discussing the issues raised in the submissions, to ensure everything is taken into consideration.

[Councillor Jull rejoined the meeting at 11.29am.]

Interim resolutions were passed on a number of issues which were confirmed at the end of the meeting.

Request for Funding

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from Life Education Trust, Te Awamutu Community Board, Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Committee, Te Awamutu Alive, Gracelands Group of Services, Cambridge Citizens Advice Bureau, Te Awamutu Youth Services, Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre, Pirongia Residents and Ratepayers Association, Pirongia Te Aroaro o Kahu Restoration Society and Sport Waikato.

It was agreed that the request for funding from the Life Education Trust should be declined and referred to the Community Boards for consideration. There was no decision or direction required on the Te Awamutu Community Boards request for funding which was support for the grants to organisations listed in the draft Annual Plan.

There was discussion about the Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation (TACPRO) request for an increase in its grant to offset the effects of inflation and the implications this could have for other community organisations if Council is to factor inflation into their annual grants. Group Manager Policy and Strategy, Ross McNeil, asked whether the Cambridge Information Centre should receive the same funding consideration as TACPRO, given it had missed the Annual Plan submissions deadline.

RESOLVED

2/07/53

That the Cambridge Information Centre and the Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation each receive a \$3,000 increase to their grants in 2007/08.

Mayor Livingston/Cr Cooper

Mayor Livingston suggested that staff give consideration to funding TACPRO's other funding request (\$3,000 to cover improvements to its website) from Council's internal District Promotions Fund budget because both TACPRO and Council could obtain benefit from the website.

Regarding Te Awamutu Alive's funding request, it was noted that the events run by Te Awamutu Alive are generally too small to fit the criteria for District Promotion funding, and the only appropriate funding source is a Community Board discretionary grant. However, a grant from the Community Board would most likely be \$4,000 - \$5,000 and not the annual grant of \$20,000 being sought by Te Awamutu Alive. Following discussion it was agreed not to increase the District Promotion Fund budget and to advise Te Awamutu Alive to apply for a discretionary grant from the Te Awamutu Community Board.

Mayor Livingston said the request highlighted the need for an increase to Council's promotions budget and Councillor Lee suggested that Council look at a targeted rate for promotion on all commercial and industrial land. Group Manager Finance, Shelagh Kew, said such a suggestion would need to be put out for public consultation prior to an Annual Plan submissions process.

[The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.10pm and reconvened at 12.45pm.]

With respect to the funding request from Gracelands of \$95,000 as a contribution towards the redevelopment of its service centre, there was general agreement that Council would be prepared to remit some or all of the building and resource consent fees associated with the development, subject to confirmation by the Policy Committee once the actual costs are known. As it is unknown when construction is likely to start the project could be outside of the 2007/08 Annual Plan process. It was agreed that the other request from Gracelands, concerning the

provision of facilities for disabled competitors at Lake Karapiro, will be considered as part of the plans for upgrading Karapiro Domain.

The funding request from the Cambridge Citizens Advice Bureau, for a \$2,000 increase to its annual grant to cover increased costs, was considered. It was noted that the Bureau has not received an increase since the 2004/05 financial year. A similar request for funding has not been received from the Te Awamutu Citizens Advice Bureau.

RESOLVED

2/07/54

That the Cambridge Citizens Advice Bureau annual grant be increased by \$1,000 in 2007/08.

Cr Sharpe/Cr Taranaki

There was general agreement that although Council supports the initiative being taken by Te Awamutu Youth Services to develop a youth centre in Te Awamutu, it could not ask ratepayers to contribute to the level of funding being requested. It was suggested that the group look at more modest premises for their operation and that they need to be able to demonstrate they have operated a successful community project before they can qualify for funding assistance. A further suggestion was that the group should align itself with existing youth groups in Te Awamutu rather than trying to duplicate them.

It was confirmed that the grants to the Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre and the Pirongia Ratepayers Association should be retained as stated in the Annual Plan.

It was suggested that Council wait until the Pirongia Te Aroaro o Kahu Restoration Society confirms the location for the Pirongia Envirocentre, and how much establishment of the centre will cost, before it makes provision for it in the Annual Plan. It was noted that the resource consent for the temporary location of the building has another 18 months to run and so the Society has a year to finalise its plans and come back to Council.

It was explained that Sport Waikato received a grant \$70,000 in 2006/07, for one year only, and as a budget of \$60,000 was included in the draft Annual Plan they have asked for the grant of \$70,000 to be continued in 2007/08.

RESOLVED

2/07/55

That the grant to Sport Waikato continue at \$70,000 in 2007/08.

Cr Newlands/Mayor Livingston

Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submission received from the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust.

Councillor Newlands said Council had not been spending anywhere near the \$80,000 per annum estimated by MEIT on pest control/reserve maintenance at Maungatautari that would justify it putting those funds into an investment proposal to assist with MEIT's short-term cash flow problems. However, Mayor Livingston said that given Council's greater appreciation of biodiversity it was likely Council would have spent more money on Maungatautari in future than it has historically. He also said that using the \$500,000 (signalled in the Annual Plan for infrastructure) for MEIT's investment proposal would not be possible as those funds are tied into an arrangement with Environment Waikato for work on peat lakes.

The Chief Executive suggested that Council and Environment Waikato get together to review MEIT's business plan and see if MEIT can be provided with assistance to resolve its short-term cash flow problems. He said MEIT will be advised that Council share's MEIT's vision for Maungatautari, supports the project 100 per cent and would like to work with them on reviewing their business plan and finding a way of progressing the project. No changes to the 2007/08 Annual Plan are required as a result of the submission.

Transport Management

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from Dan and Sara Loughnane, Te Awamutu Community Board, Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation, Kaipaki School BOT, Kerry Bodman, T John Marshall, Gloria Graham, Brian Mayo, Cambridge Tree Trust, Murray Osmond, Kay Barrowcliffe, Pirongia Ratepayers Association, Andy Miller, Transit New Zealand and submitters on Luck at Last Road.

Mayor Livingston said staff have determined the priorities for seal extension and safety improvement work and questioning those priorities should not be a function of the Annual Plan process. He said staff would advise the submitters where their work sits in terms of Council's priority list and that staff are currently carrying out investigations for a new seal extension programme, commencing in 2008/09, based on updated information. Engineering and Utilities Manager, John Kerr, said Waipa District has changed quite dramatically in the last few years and his department is currently undertaking a review so Council will know well in advance of the next financial year what work priorities are. He said this will provide some certainty for the next three year seal extension programme.

The Chief Executive said the safety issues raised by the submitters from Luck at Last Road would receive consideration from staff for minor safety work.

The Committee was advised that the footpath programme for Kihikihi will continue until Council's level of service and standards are met. No change to the Annual Plan is required as a result of the Te Awamutu Community Board's submission.

With respect to the Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation submission concerning under veranda lighting, Mr Kerr said it would make sense to include lighting for the Town Notice Board in Teasdale Street in the programme.

The Committee was advised that the suggestion in Mr Marshall's submission about the proposed installation of judder bars has already received consideration from the Cambridge Community Board and it has been explained to Mr Marshall why Council does not recommend their use.

With respect to the request from the Karapiro-Taotaoroa Hall Committee for the lowering of the culvert on Karapiro Road, Mr Kerr said work on the existing culvert and downstream is planned to be addressed within the next few weeks. He said work on the Hall car park is outside of Council's subsidised drainage budget and it is estimated it would cost \$35,000 to pipe the drain so the car park can be extended.

It was suggested that the concerns about traffic problems in Cambridge raised by Brian Mayo could be addressed by the Cambridge Traffic Study. With respect to the issue raised by the Cambridge Tree Trust about the retaining Wall up Albert Street, Mr Kerr said Council's Engineering and Parks staff would work together to try and find a solution. However, he said the problem could not be easily or cheaply fixed due to a number of issues.

Regarding Murray Osmond's submission requesting a speed limit reduction around Karapiro Domain to 50kph, Mr Kerr said staff and Land Transport New Zealand believe the current speed limit is appropriate for the area, and there is the ability to temporarily reduce the speed for big events through Traffic Management Plans.

Mr Kerr said Council staff are monitoring Fergusson Gully Road with a view to undertaking minor remedial works if required.

Referring to the Pirongia Ratepayer Association's submission, Mr Kerr said staff are continuing to work on appropriate speed limits for roads around schools. He said the Association's request for a pedestrian island at the McClure/Beechy Streets intersection has some merit although it would require the road to be widened. He said staff are currently investigating the request.

With respect to Andy Miller's submission concerning lack of maintenance on no exit roads such as Fergusson Gully and Kentucky Roads, Mr Kerr said there would be a significant cost increase if higher levels of service are required from Council's vegetation control contract on rural roads. However, he said it might be possible to ask for a higher standard in a few isolated areas. It was noted that the drains alongside Kentucky Road have now been cleaned.

Transit New Zealand's submission asking that Council continue to maintain a good working relationship and that it be involved with the Cambridge Traffic Study's outcomes and recommendations was noted. No change to the Annual Plan is required.

Finance Issues

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from Fraser Aitken, Alec Bennett, Gloria Graham, Murray Osmond, Cambridge Community Board, Pirongia Ratepayers Association, Cameron and Tracey Holmes, Te Miro Hall Committee and Federated Farmers.

Mr Aitken will be advised that Council shares his concerns and awaits the outcome of the Independent Rates Inquiry. Mr Bennett will be advised that his concerns about the hall rate will be forwarded to the Rukuhia Hall Committee.

[Councillor Newlands left the meeting at 2.41pm.]

Chairperson Empson said staff would write to advise the Karapiro-Taotaoroa Hall Committee about the procedure for increasing their hall rate and defining the boundaries in which the rate is collected. Similarly, an explanation about hall rating areas will be provided to the Te Miro Hall Committee in response to its submission. Councillor Webber explained how this is aligned to a similar issue concerning the Piarere Hall rate as some ratepayers no longer have Piarere as their community of interest. Mrs Kew explained that both Hall Committees would need to redefine their rating areas and Councillor Webber said he would explain this at a meeting with both Committees.

[Councillor Barnes left the meeting at 2.44pm.]

With respect to Murray Osmond's submission that Council has used incorrect assumptions in the Annual Plan, Mrs Kew said Council has not

quite reached its growth assumption of 3.2% and it may be advisable to restate that percentage in order to be slightly more accurate.

[Councillor Barnes rejoined the meeting at 2.48pm.]

The Cambridge Community Board's request for the same levels of discretionary grants and minor community works funds was noted. This is as stated in the draft Annual Plan.

It was explained that the Pirongia Ward percentage rate appears quite high but the actual dollar amount is not because Pirongia does not have water or sewerage included in its rate levels. This was raised in the submission from the Pirongia Ratepayer's Association and will be explained in Council's response.

The submission from Federated Farmers was generally one of support and they will be advised that Council has made representations to the Local Government Rates Inquiry.

Museums/Heritage

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from Waipa Heritage Council, Rachael Griffiths, Cambridge Museum and Beverley Dean. All the submitters asked Council to assume responsibility for the operation of the Cambridge Museum in the same way as it has for the Te Awamutu Museum. In answer to a question from Councillor Taranaki it was confirmed there is a provision of \$120,000 for the Cambridge Museum in 2007/08.

Te Awamutu CBD

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from the Te Awamutu Community Board and the Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation. Both submitters will be advised that Council is working on a development plan for Te Awamutu central business district and the surrounding area.

Recycling

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from the Te Awamutu Community Board, Andy Miller and GC Marshall. The Community Board's submission was one of congratulation for extending recycling services into rural areas. In answer to Mr Miller's submission, Mr McNeil said Council would contact rural residents who are due to receive the service, prior to the 1 July starting date, to explain how the service will operate. Mrs Marshall's submission asks that all rubbish collection and recycling services should be carried out by Council and not contractors.

Water Supply

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from the Te Awamutu Community Board and Mighty River Power. The Board asked Council to undertake a water conservation education programme as part of its plan for new water rights. Mighty River Power has asked Council to preserve as much water as it can in the hydro system. No changes to the Annual Plan were suggested as a result of the submissions.

Safer Communities.

The submission from the Te Awamutu Community Board was summarised. No change to the Annual Plan was suggested as a result of the submission.

Annual Plan

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from the Te Awamutu Community Board and Transit New Zealand. The Board's submission congratulates Council on the 2007/08 Annual Plan and Transit New Zealand has asked for some minor wording amendments in the Transport Management section of the Plan which staff have agreed to include.

Leisure Plan

The submission from the Te Awamutu Community Board was summarised. Mr McNeil said reference to the Leisure Plan will be included in the Plan line with the Board's request.

Miscellaneous

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from David Peart, T John Marshall, Cambridge Community Board, Environment Waikato, Housing New Zealand, Pirongia Ratepayers Association, Hamilton City Council, GC Marshall, and Mighty River Power.

Mayor Livingston said it would be pertinent to give consideration to Mr Peart's submission on corridor issues in the District Plan review. He said it would also be an issue for discussion in developing the Sub Regional Growth Strategy.

Mr Marshall's submission asked for all essential services to be under Council's control and not contracted out.

[Councillor Newlands rejoined the meeting at 3.00pm.]

The Chief Executive said the Cambridge Community Board's submission asking for Council to fund the centennial celebrations for the Victoria Bridge is not an Annual Plan consideration. He said any support for the celebrations would be funded from an operational budget.

With respect to Environment Waikato's submission seeking funding for the Halo Project, Mayor Livingston said it should be explained to the submitter that Council is making a huge contribution to biodiversity over and above other Councils in New Zealand. As the project is taking place on Department of Conservation and private land he said it would create a dangerous precedent if Council was to become involved.

[The meeting adjourned at 3.04pm and reconvened at 3.16pm.]

Mr McNeil said Council would be speaking with Housing New Zealand about community outcomes, as part of the next LTCCP process, and that would be an appropriate time to discuss the issues raised about affordable housing in their submission.

The Pirongia Ratepayer's Association asked for landscape plans for Section 550 to be modified, working drawings produced, costings prepared and implementation of the plans as soon as possible. Mr McNeil said there is provision in the Reserve Development Programme for this work.

Hamilton City Council's submission drew attention to the Sub Regional Growth Strategy and encouraged Council to keep going with the project. The submission from Mighty River Power's explains where it sits in relation to the Transpower upgrade proposal.

Development Contributions Policy

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from Murray Osmond and Housing New Zealand.

The submitters will be advised that Phillips Fox has reviewed the Auckland High Court decision (North Shore City Council) and Council's Policy and has confirmed that no amendment to the Policy is required. Housing New Zealand's submission about the impact of development contributions on affordable housing was noted.

Animal Control

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from T John Marshall, Pirongia Ratepayers Association and GC Marshall. It was explained there is no legislative mechanism available to Council to give effect to the Marshall's submission concerning the control of cats. Mr McNeil said staff would review the demand for dog faeces bins in the areas suggested by the Pirongia Ratepayers Association and

consider additional signage alerting dog owners to the relevant penalties.

Parks and Gardens

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from the Cambridge Tree Trust, Murray Osmond, Waikato Valley Cricket Association and Mighty River Power.

The Chief Executive said the good working relationship between Council and the Cambridge Tree Trust would allow them to work through the issues raised in their submissions with a common goal. Mayor Livingston said it would be wiser for both Council and the Tree Trust to concentrate on completing a certain number of projects, and ensure they are done well, rather than spreading the net too wide. The Tree Trust will be advised that Cambridge walkway signs are currently being produced.

With respect to Mr Osmond's submission, the Chief Executive said it was not appropriate to include the level of detail requested on the development of Karapiro Domain in the Annual Plan, but Mr Osmond could be provided with that information in the response to his submission. Mr Osmond will also be keep informed about Council's plans for the ex-Geck property.

The submissions from Waikato Valley Cricket Association and Mighty River Power did not ask for any changes to the draft Annual Plan.

Storm Water/Waste Water

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from Murray Osmond and the Pirongia Ratepayer's Association.

Mr Osmond will be advised that the connection to Hamilton Airport will be subject to a development agreement covering some of the issues raised in his submission.

Mayor Livingston said that fencing the Crozier Street drain, as proposed in the submission from the Pirongia Ratepayers Association, would create a dangerous precedent for Council. It was suggested that a fence would not stop children from climbing into the drain if they are determined to do so and that there are currently greater demands for Council's stormwater funds in other parts of the District.

[Councillor Newlands left the meeting at 3.31pm.]

Sister Cities

The submission from the Cambridge Community Board was summarised. It was explained that the allocation for Sister Cities has

been increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000 in 2007/08 to fund the anniversary of the Bihoro Sister City relationship.

Cambridge/Leamington CBD

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from the Cambridge Community Board and Peter Haines.

The Committee was advised that the Cambridge Community Board's request was discussed at the 24 April 2007 Council meeting when it was resolved that a concept design for the upgrade of the Leamington CBD be to a similar and complimentary standard as that used for the Cambridge CBD upgrade.

It was suggested that the findings of the Cambridge Traffic Study should be shared with Mr Haines, at an appropriate time, as it could answer some of the concerns raised in his submission.

Review of District Plan

The Committee was provided with a summary of the submissions received from the Cambridge Community Board, Environment Waikato, Hamilton City Council, Transit New Zealand and Mighty River Power. The Community Board's submission related to the Cambridge character area and Councillor Lee said it would be appropriate to consider that sort of protection for other towns, such as Kihikihi and Pirongia, during the District Plan review.

Mr McNeil said the other submitters have asked to be involved in the District Plan review process as they are key stakeholders.

Community Outcomes

The submission from Environment Waikato did not ask for any changes to the draft Annual Plan

[Councillor Newlands rejoined the meeting at 3.45pm.]

Mr McNeil advised the Committee that all the issues raised through the submissions process have now been considered.

Councillor Webber said the Cambridge Community Board had asked for three additional flag lights to be included in the 2007/08 Annual Plan but that request had not been discussed by the Committee. Engineering and Utilities Manager, John Kerr, said the lights cost \$75,000 each and cannot be funded for at least three years based on the priority list for minor safety works. The Chief Executive said it might be possible to include the lights in the minor safety works budget, as an additional subsidy has been provided by LTNZ, but if the work cannot be accommodated he said it would require a 0.5% rate increase.

[The Chief Executive left the meeting at 3.55pm.]

At 4.00pm it was asked for an extension of time until 4.15pm.

RESOLVED

2/07/56

That there be an extension of time until 4.15pm.

Cr Cooper/Cr Flay

Financial Planning Manager, Deborah Frederick, said that following consideration of the submissions received the Committee had approved the following additional funding for inclusion in the 2007/08 Annual Plan -

Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation	\$ 3,000
Cambridge Information Centre	\$ 3,000
Cambridge Citizens Advice Bureau	\$ 1,000
Sport Waikato	\$10,000
	<u>\$17,000</u>

The Policy Committee then reviewed the list of grants to community organisations (page 84 in the draft Annual Plan). Councillor Webber **moved, seconded** Councillor Lee –

That the \$30,000 no longer needed for the Fieldays Pavilion Upgrade in 2007/08 be transferred to the District Promotions budget.

Mr McNeil said an additional \$30,000 has already been built into the District Promotions budget in 2007/08, giving a total allocation of \$110,000 for the District Promotions Fund and the internal promotions budget. Councillors Webber and Lee agreed to withdraw the motion.

Some Committee members said they wished to have the schools swimming subsidy of \$6,000 withdrawn from the list of grants but, following discussion, it was agreed to retain it.

Chairperson Empson asked whether Committee Members felt the Te Awamutu Citizens Advice Bureau should also receive an increase of \$1,000.

RESOLVED

2/07/57

That the grant to the Te Awamutu Citizens Advice Bureau be increased by \$1,000 in 2007/08.

Cr Empson/Cr Webber

RESOLVED

2/07/58

That the Policy Committee recommend to Council the adoption of the Annual Plan 2007/08, with the following amendments, following consideration of submissions on the draft Annual Plan as publicly notified.

- a) *Cambridge Information Centre and the Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation each receive a \$3,000 increase to their grants in 2007/08.*
- b) *Cambridge Citizens Advice Bureau annual grant increased by \$1,000 in 2007/08.*
- c) *Grant to Sport Waikato to continue at \$70,000 in 2007/08.*
- d) *Grant to the Te Awamutu Citizens Advice Bureau increased by \$1,000 in 2007/08.*
- e) *Growth assumption of 3.2% to be restated as 2.6% with a reduction in rate revenue of \$200,00.*
- f) *Minor wording amendments to the Transport Management section to reflect the updated legislative references.*
- g) *Include reference to the Community Leisure Plan as a key guiding document for recreation and leisure related activities and projects.*

Mayor Livingston/Cr Lee

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.15pm.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD

CHAIRPERSON: _____

DATE: _____