

Minutes of a meeting of the Policy Committee held in the Council Chambers, Waipa District Council offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu on Tuesday 14 October 2008 commencing at 9.00am.

1 PRESENT

Councillor GH Jull - Chairperson

Members

His Worship the Mayor AD Livingston; Councillors – EH Barnes, MEH Cox, LWE Hoverd, PL Lee [from 9.11am], EC Newlands [from 9.11am], GG Scaramuzza, DL Sharpe, GW Simmons, BS Thomas, GRP Webber and Committee Member V Ingley

Others

Chief Executive, J Inglis; Group Manager – Policy & Strategy, R McNeil; Group Manager – Engineering & Utilities, J Kerr; Strategic Planning Manager, G Knighton; Policy Analyst, A Gregan; Committee Secretary, S King.

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

2/08/83

That the apology for non attendance from Councillor Taranaki; and, the apology for lateness from Councillor Lee be received.

Cr Webber / Cr Thomas

3 LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 01-85-12

RESOLVED

2/08/84

That the order of the meeting be confirmed, with Item 8 being taken after Item 6.

Cr Simmons / Cr Scaramuzza

5 VISITORS

There were no visitors.

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File: 01-85-12

Minutes of Policy Committee meeting held on 9 September 2008 were included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

2/08/85

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 9 September 2008 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Mayor Livingston / Cr Barnes

Item 8 was taken after Item 6.

7 SUBMISSION ON THE WAIKATO REGIONAL RAIL DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

File: 01-69-04

Submission on the Waikato Regional Rail Discussion Document was included in the agenda.

Group Manager – Policy & Strategy, R McNeil outlined the information contained in the discussion document and the opportunity to make a submission. Strategic Planning Manager, G Knighton highlighted the main points of the submission and, in response to a question, noted that a spur line to Hamilton Airport would provide an important freight link rather than being used for passenger services.

Mayor Livingston commented on the issue of the rail designation in Cambridge and the need to include background information, including the numerous plan changes in the area which signify substantial growth, as to why the designation can be uplifted without compromising the capacity for future passenger rail services to connect with Cambridge.

RESOLVED

2/08/86

That:

- a) The Submission on Regional Rail Discussion Document be received; and,*
- b) The submission on the Regional Rail Discussion Document be confirmed, with the addition of background information supporting the uplifting of the rail designation between Cambridge and Hautapu, and forwarded to Environment Waikato.*

Cr Webber / Cr Sharpe

8 DRAFT WAIPA DISTRICT CYCLING STRATEGY – CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

File: 55-28-32

Submissions for Consideration, Walkway Strategy & the International Charter for Walking were included in the agenda.

Group Manager – Policy & Strategy, R McNeil outlined the submission process and the key milestones for the project.

The following individuals/groups that wished to make a verbal presentation in support of their submissions were heard.

- Dr Brendan Haigh (Waipa Mountain Bike Club)
- Matt Smith

Cr Cox left the meeting at 9.38am and rejoined the meeting at 9.38am.

Mr McNeil read the submissions of those submitters who did not wish to be heard so that the Committee clearly understood the requests being made.

He advised of the effect the submissions would have on the strategy and noted that the proposed strategy is required to align with the Government Policy Statement on Transport in order to secure central Government funding for projects signalled in the Strategy. The targets contained in the draft Strategy would need to be updated to ensure alignment with the policy statement and Council's Walking Strategy is to be integrated with the Cycle Strategy before it is presented to Council for adoption.

Councillor Hoverd left the meeting at 10.05am and rejoined the meeting at 10.09am.

After consideration of Mr Haigh's request, the reference to Council land in the draft Strategy is to be changed to land within the District. It was also agreed that, in relation to the information on funding sources, specific reference should be made to reserve development funding and grants as legitimate sources of funds. The Committee agreed that making a general reference to assisting groups with progressing off-road facilities was desirable.

In considering Mr Smith's submission the Committee believed that the current road configuration would be affected by the Expressway so the proposed cycle routes needed to reflect both the short and long term positions.

The Committee were advised that matters referred to in Mr Lennox's submission would be referred to Council's Engineering Group for consideration and action as appropriate. In response to a question, Group Manager – Engineering, J Kerr advised that most road safety policies include engineering, education and enforcement aspects. He noted that once the Strategy is adopted, these matters would be included as considerations for future project planning and funding.

Mr McNeil outlined the request for Council to become a signatory to the International Charter for Walking. He advised that the principles of the Charter were consistent with Council's, and becoming a signatory imposed no specific financial requirement on Council.

RESOLVED

2/08/87

That:

- a) *The information be received; and,*
- b) *Following consideration of submissions, the draft Waipa District Cycling Strategy, as amended below,*
 - *Update the proposed targets (Section 4) to include targets applicable to Walking and Cycling, and ensure alignment with the Government Policy Statement on Transport and*
 - *Include reference in Table 4 to possible funding sources for each project and add reference (Appendix G) to Council's Reserve Development Programme and Grants as additional sources of funding and*
 - *Broaden the Strategy Scope and Sections 3 and 5 to include statements indicating supporting groups advancing off-road cycling facilities within the District and*
 - *Update Table 3 to reflect current construction cost estimates.*

and incorporating the Walking Strategy, be recommended to Council for adoption; and,

- c) *The Policy Committee recommends to Council that the Waipa District Council becomes a signatory to the International Charter for Walking (as circulated).*

Cr Scaramuzza / Cr Cox

RESOLVED

2/08/88

That an item named 'Disclosure of Members' Interests' be included in the Policy Committee agenda.

Cr Jull / Cr Cox

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.23am.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

CHAIRPERSON: _____

DATE: _____