



TE AWAMUTU COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES 19 MARCH 2007

Minutes of a special meeting of the Te Awamutu Community Board held on Monday 19 March 2007 in the Council Chambers, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu commencing at 6.00pm.

1 PRESENT

D Taylor (Chairperson)

H Barnes, GG Derbyshire, AE Empson, N Hall, CA Martin-Page, G Roberts – from 6.10pm, R Twidle – until 7.35pm.

In Attendance

His Worship the Mayor AD Livingston – until 7.15pm, Councillor GRP Webber – until 7.15pm, Deputy Chief Executive (GD Dyet) – until 7.15pm, Group Manager Finance (Shelagh Kew) – until 7.15pm, Community Planning and Governance Manager (S Des Forges) – until 7.15pm, Secretary (C Plowright)

Public – Nil

2 APOLOGIES

Nil.

3 LATE ITEMS

Nil.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 01-21-13

RESOLVED

6/07/049

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

5 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2007/08

File: 01-91-39

Mayor Livingston gave a presentation on the Draft Annual Plan for 2007/08, outlining the key issues and explaining the major projects included in it. The draft Annual Plan proposes an average rate increase of 6.5%, which is slightly less than the 6.7% forecast for year two of the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP).

[Board Member Roberts joined the meeting at 6.10pm.]



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Submissions on the draft Annual Plan must be received by 9.00am on 17 April 2007 and are to be heard and considered by the Policy Committee on 14-15 May 2007. Council will adopt the final Plan on 26 June 2007.

In answer to a question about the plan for development of the Te Awamutu CBD (including the heavy traffic issue), Deputy Chief Executive, Garry Dyet, said \$100,000 has been budgeted for Cambridge and Te Awamutu but Council has yet to decide how that is to be divided. It was suggested that this should be \$50,000 for each town.

Mayor Livingston highlighted a number of issues that would be of particular interest to the Community Boards and might warrant submissions. These related to the parks and reserves budget, heritage budget, transport projects, grants to community organisations and district promotions.

Board Member Roberts said she understood the Iwi Consultative Committee was comprised of ten members and not nine as stated in the draft Annual Plan. Community Planning and Governance Manager, Sandra Des Forges, said she would check on the Committee's membership.

Board Member Hall asked whether Council would reconsider the provision of an art gallery for Te Awamutu. Board Member Barnes said it had been suggested in the past that the proposed new Museum, to be built in the vicinity of Selwyn Park, should include an art gallery. Chairperson Taylor said discussions about a new museum and art gallery would not be able to be progressed until the final plan for Selwyn Park has been agreed by Council. It was suggested the Board make a submission asking for the plans for Selwyn Park to be put in place so it has some assurance that a new museum/art gallery can be built there.

Board Member Roberts said some concern has been expressed about how Uenuku is looked after at the Museum and whether there is a better way of doing so. She asked if it was possible for a partnership to be formed with Council to provide for this. Chairperson Taylor said a partnership already exists with the Museum Trust Board who is responsible for the items in its collection.

Board Member Barnes said some members of the community would like to retain the open space at Selwyn Park, so it can be used for events such as the Food and Wine Festival, and it is now being asked whether a new Museum should take up that space. Mr Dyet said those sorts of issues would need to be carefully considered as part of the planning process for the future of Selwyn Park.



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Board Member Hall asked what Council intends to do about the heavy trucks using the main street. Mr Dyet said the only viable solution to the problem would be through the proposed Te Awamutu south-western arterial road and, in the meantime, the safest place for heavy vehicles is in the main street. All the other options investigated would provide an alternative route through residential areas where trucks could travel at higher speeds than they can through the main street and on roads that have not been designed for heavy traffic. He said recent seal treatment in the main street has significantly decreased vibration and Council's focus has now shifted to upgrading the CBD and encouraging truck drivers to travel through Racecourse Road.

Board Member Barnes congratulated staff on the presentation and an excellent Annual Plan which is well set out and easy to understand.

[Mayor Livingston, Councillor Webber, Garry Dyet, Shelagh Kew and Sandra Des Forges left the meeting at 7.15pm.]

Board Members then compiled their submissions to the draft Annual Plan as follows -

5.1 Plan for Te Awamutu

Chairperson Taylor suggested that the Board's earlier recommendation to Council about the development of a Plan in the vicinity of the Events Centre/Selwyn Park should be the subject of a submission, and some urgency attached to it, because other issues cannot be decided until those plans are in place. He said the plan should include the whole Events Centre block, disused buildings in that area, the land behind the Events Centre, Churchill Street, Council owned property on Mahoe Street and the Selwyn Park link through Market Street. He said the plan should also cover issues such as traffic flows in the main street, the continued development of Pioneer Walk (including the entranceways and around the Scout Hall) and the Walk of Fame.

RESOLVED

6/07/050

That the Te Awamutu Community Board requests that \$50,000 be provided for the development of the whole of the Te Awamutu central business district and community areas (defined as everything between the Mangahoe Stream to Alexandra Street and Arawata Street to Churchill Street) and given priority as soon as possible in the 2007/08 year for planning to cover the following list of projects –



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- *Recommendations supported by the Te Awamutu Community Board for the Walk of Fame.*
- *A new children's playground.*
- *Climax Steam Engine.*
- *Museum and Art Gallery.*
- *Possibility of an outdoor swimming pool.*
- *Promotion of area around the Events Centre for all activities relating to health, wellbeing, fitness and culture.*

Derbyshire/Roberts

[Board Member Twidle left the meeting at 7.35pm.]

5.2 Footpaths

RESOLVED

6/07/051

That the Te Awamutu Community Board supports continuation of the Kihikihi footpath upgrade programme until there is a footpath on the side of every street in Kihikihi.

Barnes/Hall

5.3 Community Grants

RESOLVED

6/07/052

That the Te Awamutu Community Board supports grants to community organisations of \$441,950 as listed on page 84 of the draft Annual Plan.

Barnes/Hall

5.4 Recycling

RESOLVED

6/07/053

That the Te Awamutu Community Board congratulates Council on extending the recycling service into rural areas in July 2007.

Martin-Page/Hall

5.5 Water Conservation

RESOLVED

6/07/054

That a water conservation education programme be included in the plan for new water rights for Te Awamutu to reduce wastage.

Barnes/Roberts



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5.6 Safer Communities

RESOLVED

6/07/055

That the Te Awamutu Community Board asks Council to note that a Safer Communities Council Trust has been formed, and some of its initial objectives are going to be met, but signals that it will be coming back to Council seeking assistance with the funding of a safety officer, which would enable it to do more work in the community to make it safer, and that it will be seeking a partnership between Council and the Trust.

Barnes/Hall

5.7 General

RESOLVED

6/07/056

That the Te Awamutu Community Board congratulations Council on the good job it has done on the 2007/08 draft Annual Plan and its prudent management of Council's finances.

Derbyshire/Barnes

5.8 Heritage

RESOLVED

6/07/057

That the Te Awamutu Community Board supports the Waipa Heritage and Biodiversity Councils and the direction in which they are going and hopes they will be properly funded to do their work.

Barnes/Martin-Page

5.9 Leisure Plan

RESOLVED

6/07/058

That the Te Awamutu Community Board notes there is no mention of the Leisure Plan in the 2007/08 draft Annual Plan and that it should be linked into the Annual Plan.

Roberts/Barnes



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6 PETITION ASKING FOR THE REMOVAL OF SILVER BIRCH TREES ON EDEN AVENUE AND ASCOT PLACE, TE AWAMUTU

File: 01-68-01

Petition dated 12 March 2007 signed by Eden Avenue and Ascot Place residents requesting the removal of Silver Birch Trees was included in the agenda. Council's policy on trees was quoted in the agenda.

Chairperson Taylor said he felt part b) of Council's Policy needs to be broader to cover the effects trees can have on health and wellbeing. He said research shows that Silver Birch trees are the main tree pollen causing allergic symptoms and cross pollination with fruit makes them even worse.

RESOLVED

6/07/059

That in light of the petition from 93% of the residents surveyed in Eden Avenue and Ascot Place, the nearing morbidity of the trees, the effects the trees are having on health, the shading and possible danger they impose on properties the Te Awamutu Community Board recommends that Council remove the Silver Birch trees in this area and replace them with more suitable trees.

Empson/Roberts

RESOLVED

6/07/060

That the Te Awamutu Community Board recommends that b) of Council's policy on trees be re-visited by Council to include the potential danger trees can have on life, health, wellbeing or property.

Taylor/Empson

7 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Te Awamutu Community Board will be held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 13 March 2007 in Council Chambers, Waipa District Council, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

CHAIRPERSON _____

DATE _____

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS