
Foxton Community Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Foxton Community Board held in the Manawatu College Library, Ladys Mile, Foxton, on Monday 3 April 2017 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Mr D J Roache	
Deputy Chairperson	Ms P R Metcalf	
Members	Mr D A Allan	
	Mr J F Girling	
	Ms J M Lundie	
	Cr R J Brannigan	(from 6.08 pm)

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr D M Clapperton	(Chief Executive)
Mr A Nelson	(Property & Parks Manager)
Mr M E Lepper	(Customer & Regulatory Services Manager)
Mrs V Miller	(Customer Experience Lead)
Mrs K J Corkill	(Meeting Secretary)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor M Feyen	
Sergeant D Fraser	(New Zealand Police)

MEDIA IN ATTENDANCE

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were approximately 22 people in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

1 Apologies

An apology for lateness was recorded for Cr Brannigan.

MOVED by Cr Allan, seconded Cr Girling:

THAT the apology for lateness from Cr Brannigan be accepted..

CARRIED

2 Public Participation

7.2 Chief Executive's Report

3.7 – Petition – Continue with Foxton Main Street Upgrade

Michael Feyen
Willy McGregor
Christina Paton
Rosalie Huzziff

7.3 Proposed Changes to the Areas Dogs are allowed in the Kere Kere Ward

Rosalie Huzziff

3 Late Items

There were no late items.

4 Declaration of Interest

Mr Allan recorded a conflict of interest in relation to Monitoring Report Item 17/32 – CE's Report – Electronic Sign – Manawatu College – as he is a teacher at the College.

5 Confirmation of Open & In Committee Minutes – 20 February 2017

MOVED by Ms Metcalf, seconded Mr Girling:

THAT the Open and In Committee minutes of the meeting of the Foxton Community Board held on Monday, 20 February 2017, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6 Announcements

The Chair brought to the Board's attention that he had spoken to the CE about the Foxton Community Board entering the Foxton Beach Reserves Investment Plan into the Community Board Best Practice Awards (which closed on 17 April 2017). The Plan had resulted from a good partnership with the Beach Community and may have a good chance of achieving recognition.

New Zealand Police

Sergeant Dave Fraser introduced himself to the meeting and gave some background to his 30 years in the Police Force. He also noted that he had experience as a member of a community Board. With regard to his applying for the post in Foxton, he said he liked smaller communities where he could get to know people and make a difference looking after people he knew. It was a great little community, with a lot of community spirit.

With regard to the concern that the Sole Charge Constable at Foxton Beach was moving to Foxton, he advised that the Foxton Beach station would remain open; however it was not going to be manned every day. The Constable had moved over to Foxton and the Beach

would be looked after by the larger Foxton Police station, which had seven officers: eight including the office lady. He said he thought there would be some advantages as there would be seven people looking after the Beach, not just one. They were also getting a permanent 4 wheel drive vehicle so the Beach would be better off with more policemen involved. He would also be getting officers out amongst the community doing some good old-fashioned policing.

There would also be a quarterly update by the Police to the Community Board; a past practice that had recently lapsed.

Mr Roache thanked Sergeant Fraser for his attendance.

7 Reports

7.1 Monitoring Report to 3 April 2017

Purpose

To present to Foxton Community Board the updated monitoring report covering requested actions from previous meetings of the Community Board.

MOVED by Ms Metcalf, seconded Mr Girling:

THAT Report 17/118 Monitoring Report to 3 April 2017 be received.

THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.

CARRIED

Page 10 14/674 - Target Reserve

Mr Roache said he had discussed this with Cr Brannigan and had also made two trips out to the Pistol Club but had heard nothing since.

Cr Brannigan said he had also spoken to the two neighbours who had brought some concerns to him and given them his cellphone number. So far he had not had heard from them.

The portion relating to the Pistol Club to be removed from the Monitoring Report: the requested Council report to remain.

16/59 – Feasibility of Installing a Toilet at Foxton Cemetery

Responding to a query, Mr Nelson confirmed that the existing entrance to the Cemetery would remain open. The road works should be completed in 2-3 weeks, at which time the toilet would be operational. Hours the toilet would be open had not yet been determined, but probably from sunrise to sunset.

Ms Metcalf complimented those involved with the project on a job well done; she said it looked fantastic.

Page 13 16/341 - Foxton River Loop Working Party

To remain on the Monitoring Report.

Page 14 Roore Street Drainage

With regard to the results of the CCTV inspection that was to be undertaken in late March, Mr Clapperton said he would advise members the outcome of this work when it was available, which he anticipated would be before the next Board meeting.

Increasing parking capacity in Thomas Place

Cr Brannigan said the Roding Manager would be taking officers out to meet with the Principal to discuss this, which may involve also using some

of the school grounds.

Page 15 Foxton Beach Reserves Investment Plan
Any updates on this would be included in the CE's report.

7.2 Chief Executive's Report to 3 April 2017

Purpose

To present to the Foxton Community Board, for information, issues relating to the Foxton Community Board area.

MOVED by Mr Allan, seconded Cr Brannigan:

THAT Report 17/119 Chief Executive's Report to 3 April 2017 be received.

THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.

CARRIED

Mr Clapperton made further comment on items in the CE's Report:

3.1 Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom

The building was looking spectacular and was progressing well despite some delays over the summer months due to the weather, with it due to open in October (this year).

3.4 Foxton Water Update

There had been some significant progress made over the last five months since Paul Gaydon had become involved in the process. The testing being done at present was coming through clear with the issue of manganese largely being addressed. There were some residual pipes that needed to be cleaned out largely due to the build-up on the inside of the pipes; however he was very comfortable with the quality of the water going into the pipes.

The work being done at Foxton Beach was the same process, but different methodology. The test result had been clear, but there would need to be further tests done over a period of time. At this stage it seemed to be working but some fine tuning may need to occur.

3.6 Foxton Wastewater Treatment Plant Hearing

An Environment Court hearing was held in the Levin District Court last week. There had been an expectation that the hearing would have been completed within the five days that had been set aside. This was not the case and the Environment Court would now schedule further time, which may not occur until late May/early June. The hearing was not put on hold by Council; it was due to the Court process not being concluded.

3.7 Petition – Continue with Foxton Main Street Upgrade

Public Participation

Mayor Feyen expressed his pleasure that Lindsay Sanson had initiated the petition as he said it did back up the point of view that changes should not be made without good consultation. He said that addresses did not need to be shown and he did not think it was good practice.

Mayor Feyen commented on a previous petition that had been handed to Council and queried where that had gone. That petition had been in a format to show it had 1,000 signatories and had been signed by people both from within Foxton and also out of town. He said it was not that people did not want anything to happen to Main Street: it was about having proper consultation.

Mayor Feyen further noted that there was also a petition from the last vigil that

had elicited over 1,000 signatures. If it did not arrive this evening, he would forward it to Council.

Mayor Feyen reiterated that it was clear from the petitions that more people wanted input in to what was going to happen to Main Street and that had not occurred.

Responding to query about his noting the percentage of out-of-towners who had signed this petition, Mayor Feyen said he was merely pointing out that 14% were from out of town as that argument had been used to discredit other petitions.

Speaking to the removal of addresses and phone numbers from the petition, Mr Clapperton said because this had become a public document he had made the decision not to have addresses and phone numbers included; however Members' agendas did have that information.

In addressing the meeting, Mr Willy McGregor said he also had a petition to present which he had hoped to do this evening. His petition had asked the question: Do you agree with the alterations by HDC to the Main Street of Foxton? There were three responses offered: Yes/No/Indifferent. There was also one done for the Cenotaph. However the original petition had gone missing. Mr McGregor said he would endeavour to find that original petition and present that also.

Mr McGregor said his point today was that for a long time many people were in the darkness, whether they chose to be that way or were lethargic. All of a sudden their Main Street was threatened and they came out of the woodwork. People had asked him to come and speak on their behalf as they were wanting to have a voice and have a say in what was going on in the town.

With regard to Main Street consultation, Mr Roache commented that that had occurred several times and had been public. The only criticism that had arisen was that the plans were not big enough.

Joining the table, Mrs Christina Paton said she was addressing the Chief Executive because three Board Members had signed the petition and had not declared a conflict of interest and withdrawn. It was clarified that the Members concerned were Mr Roache, Ms Metcalf and Cr Brannigan.

Mr Roache responded that he had no conflict of interest with regard to the petition as there was no financial gain for him and he had not signed as the Community Board Chair but as a member of the Foxton community. He did not see the need to declare an interest.

Cr Brannigan said the reason he did not declare an interest was this was not being consulted upon, it was for information only and there would be no vote. He has also signed as a member of the community.

In light of Cr Brannigan's comments, Mr Allan foreshadowed that he intended for the Board to debate the petition and he asked the CE to give some direction as to whether or not those mentioned should take part in motion he proposed to move.

Mr Clapperton reiterated the fact that he could only provide guidance; it was up to each member to determine whether they had a conflict under any of the appropriate pieces of legislation. Whilst pecuniary interest could create a conflict, he could not see that there would be any financial gain in this instance.

Mrs Paton said it came down to a matter of personal perception. She suggested that the petition not be debated this evening but be forwarded on to be included and shared in full at the drop-in meeting scheduled for 6 April where it would contribute to other information provided by HDC and the general public. A copy of Mrs Paton's comments are **attached** to the official minutes.

Making a further observation with regard to the removal of addresses and phone numbers, Mr Clapperton assured the meeting that the original petition received included addresses and phone numbers and he could give 100% assurance in

terms of authenticity. The removal of the information from what had become a public document did preclude people being contacted and questioned as to why they had signed the petition.

Following being made aware that the Agenda on the Council website had had addresses and phone numbers removed, Mr Girling said he had done some research and even though people had put their names to the document, it could not be published unless they gave their permission for that to happen and he did not think that was necessarily so. With regard to the aspect of non-financial interest, Mr Girling said that was a matter of conscience.

Speaking to the issue of conflict of interest, Ms Metcalf said as an elected member she had to sit at the table and be impartial. Whilst she had signed the petition, she would sit and listen and take on board what was said, and could be swayed for or against it.

Responding to a query from Mr Allan as to why she thought the petition should be taken to the drop-in meeting, Mrs Paton said she thought the Board was jumping the gun. There was bound to be information coming out of the drop-in meeting and it all should be viewed as a whole.

As the focus of the drop-in meeting was the Cenotaph, whether or not that would be the appropriate forum for the petition was discussed with Mr Clapperton suggesting it could cloud the discussion.

As what she had intended to raise (the removal of addresses and phone numbers) had been explained and she accepted it whilst she did not agree with it, Mrs Rosalie Huzziff said she did not have anything further to add.

In speaking to the petition (which to date was the only one that had been received although he did believe there was another one in the offing), Mr Allan suggested this was a good opportunity for Board Members to indicate their position with regard to Main Street, particularly because of the input from the previous Board to the upgrade to date. Mr Allan proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by Cr Brannigan:

MOVED by Mr Allan, seconded Cr Brannigan:

THAT the Foxton Community Board expresses its support for the prayer of the petition, being:

"We the undersigned demand that the planned upgrade to Foxton's Main Street continue as planned by Foxton Community Board and supported by the previous HDC. End the unnecessary and unwarranted delays that are negatively impacting our businesses and community".

Following members having the opportunity to express their views, the motion was put. A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

For:

Members: Mr Allan
Cr Brannigan
Ms Metcalf
Mr Roache

Against:

Members: Ms Lundie

Mr John Girling abstained.

The division was declared CARRIED by 4 votes to 1.

3.8 Foxton Beach Freeholding Account

Mr Clapperton noted a small milestone, with the Foxton Beach Freeholding Account having reached \$5,000,000 (which would drop when the grant was released for the Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom project). Well done to the Foxton Community Board for its perseverance.

7.3 Proposed Changes to the Areas Dogs are allowed in the Kere Kere Ward

Purpose

To provide an update to the Foxton Community Board on the proposed changes to Councils Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2015 where the changes proposed affect the Kere Kere Ward.

MOVED by Mr Allan, seconded Ms Lundie:

THAT Report 17/125 Proposed Changes to the Areas Dogs are allowed in the Kere Kere Ward be received.

THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.

CARRIED

Mrs Huzziff spoke to this item raising an email she, and also Mr Girling, had received from the Principal of Coley Street School in relation to dogs at Stuart Donnelly Park Mr Kemp requested that the School's opposition to the suggestion that Donnelly Park be used as a dog park be conveyed to the Board. With over half the school's pupils passing to and from that direction every day, often walking across the park and with children also heavily using the skate park and playgrounds, a concern was expressed that this would create a real health issue with dog faeces being trodden into classrooms and school grounds and also the play area.

The report writer, Mrs Miller, accompanied by Mr Lepper, spoke to this item, tabling maps of Foxton and Foxton Beach showing proposed Dog Leashed and Unleashed areas. Responding to the comment about dogs and proximity to playgrounds, Mrs Miller noted that under the current regulations dogs were not allowed to be within 3 metres of a playground. Sports fields were also prohibited areas.

The issue of people actually picking up after their dogs was raised and discussed, with Mrs Miller saying there were discussions occurring with the Property & Parks team as to where there were doggy do bins and where they could be located. Mrs Miller said people were followed up for not cleaning up after their dogs as long as Council was made aware of the issue.

Ms Lundie said she had also received emails on this matter and has been asked to speak on behalf of the Foxton Rugby Club. The Club would be against having dogs at Easton Park. Even if people did pick up droppings there could still be residue which was a health and safety concern, particularly with regard to children. A protest had also been expressed by an iwi/hapu representative at the inclusion of Seaview Gardens as a leashed area.

Following members discussing the various areas, including the RAMSAR site, Mr Lepper commented that officers had considered a number of factors in coming up with the proposed changes and had endeavoured to be fair across the board and make any restrictions work for the benefit of all. The restrictions proposed for playing fields were the same that applied for every other park in the district.

Also speaking to the item, Mr Nelson, Property & Parks Manager, said that people were already taking their animals to these places and what was proposed was to ensure that people were encouraged to show a degree of responsibility when it came to their dogs, which should be under control at all times.

Mr Allan said, having read the report and having heard from officers, the only area of concern for him was Stuart Donnelly Park which did have a lot of foot traffic now and there could be a risk in terms of dog droppings.

A report was requested in six months' time as to the effect on Stuart Donnelly Park. Signage on fences to say that no dogs were allowed on playing fields was also requested.

MOVED by Mr Allan, seconded Ms Metcalf:

THAT the Foxton Community Board endorses the changes proposed to the areas dogs are allowed in the Kere Kere Ward for the reasons outlined; however with a report to be received in six months' time as to any effect on Stuart Donnelly Park.

THAT the Foxton Community Board advises the appropriate locations for dog provision signage in the Kere Kere Ward area.

CARRIED

10.4 Resource Consenting (Planning) Matters Considered Under Delegated Authority

Purpose

To present details of decisions made under delegated authority in respect of Resource Consenting (Planning) Matters.

MOVED by Mr Allan, seconded Cr Brannigan:

THAT Report 17/67 Resource Consenting (Planning) Matters Considered Under Delegated Authority be received.

THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.

CARRIED

7.40 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF THE FOXTON COMMUNITY
BOARD HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....