
Council

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin, on Wednesday 22 November 2017 at 4.00 pm.

PRESENT

Mayor	Mr M Feyen
Deputy Mayor	Mr W E R Bishop
Councillors	Mr R J Brannigan
	Mr R H Campbell
	Mr N G Gimblett
	Mr B F Judd
	Mrs V M Kaye-Simmons
	Mrs J F G Mason
	Mrs C B Mitchell
	Ms P Tukapua
	Mr B P Wanden

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr D M Clapperton	(Chief Executive)
Mr D Law	(Chief Financial Officer)
Mr G Saily	(Group Manager – Infrastructure Services)
Mr M Lester	(Group Manager – Corporate Services)
Mr D McCorkindale	(Group Manager – Strategy & Development)
Ms S Grant	(Group Manager – Community Services)
Mr S Grainger	(Economic Development Manager)
Mr J Richmond	(Community Wellbeing Manager)
Mr D Haigh	(Growth Response Manager)
Mrs D Weir	(People & Capability Manager)
Mr J Paulin	(Finance Manager)
Mr P Gaydon	(Water & Waste Services Manager)
Ms H Hayes	(Community Development Advisor)
Mr S Wood	(Legal Advisor)
Mrs K J Corkill	(Meeting Secretary)
Ms S Bowling	(Meeting Secretary)

MEDIA IN ATTENDANCE

Ms J Rankin	(“Manawatu Standard”)
Ms J Baalbergen	(“Chronicle”)
Ms S Beckman	(“Chronicle”)

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were approximately 23 members of the public in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Public Participation

An apology was recorded for Foxton Community Board, Chair, David Roache.

NOTED

3 Late Items

Foxton and Beach Bowling Club

Mr Clapperton advised he would speak to this item during his CE's Report (Item 8.3).

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Bishop, seconded Cr Judd:

THAT the late report in relation to the Foxton and Beach Bowling Club tabled by the Chief Executive be received.

CARRIED

4 Declarations of Interest

Cr Brannigan advised he had been a submitter to the Draft Land Transport Bylaw 2017 (Item 7.2 – Proceedings of the Hearings Committee 27 October 2017).

5 Confirmation of Open & In Committee Minutes

MOVED by Cr Campbell, seconded Cr Kaye-Simmons:

THAT the Open and In Committee minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 11 October 2017, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6 Announcements

The Mayor signalled that he would be altering the order in which some items under Announcements would be addressed.

International Representation Grant Recipient

Tessa Paulin, Year 13 student from Waiopahu College, one of 9 young New Zealanders chosen to be a delegate for the Youth United Nations Pacific Project, gave a very engaging and comprehensive report on her attendance at the National Model United Nations Conference in Perth early in the year, which had been followed by a week volunteering in Pango Village, Vanuatu.

Tessa thanked Council for its support in enabling her to participate in what was an “incredibly inspiring, uplifting and rewarding experience”.

New Zealand Police

Senior Sergeant Sarn Paroli used a PowerPoint presentation to complement the sharing of some good news stories in relation to what was happening in terms of policing. He spoke about the positives that were occurring in the community, with the challenges that were being faced not being unique to this community or district.

His comments covered the Safest Country Policing 2021 Plan, which outlined the Police's strategic intentions for the next four years; challenges with regard to staffing; successful programmes such as Cactus; the Wahine Toa initiative, reducing the high level of family violence; the positive transformation of Solway Park which promoted community pride; and the Interagency Family Harm Team which had recently signed an MOU, with big ticket items of concern being burglary, the road toll, and the harm being done by synthetic drugs.

He Hokioi Rerenga Tahī

Mr Matt Sword and Dr Jon Procter were welcomed to the table. Extending apologies from Dr Jon Roygard and Mr Logan Brown from Horizons Regional Council, Mr Sword, Chair of the Lake Horowhenua Trust and also the Lake Accord introduced himself and Dr Procter.

Saying it was timely to check in on the Lake Accord relationship, Mr Sword gave a verbal update on the various projects that had been undertaken under the Fresh Water Clean Up Fund which had been the first tranche of funding for the Lake's restoration. With legal hurdles having been cleared, the fish pass was now in place and operating. The Arawhata wetland area, which was projected to remove up to 40-50% runoff from that one tributary, was nearing completion and would soon be operational. The green light had now been given to get the weed harvester on the Lake which should occur early next year.

There were now also 13 projects being undertaken under Te Mana O Te Wai funding, which were also under the auspices of the Accord. These projects included sediment analysis; which was allowing scientists to understand more about the Lake and its history. A GIS system was also being developed that would be able to pull together all of the data that had been collected by HDC and Horizons, and also overlay that with the Lake's cultural information. Part of that would be 'citizen science' with an app being developed so people could directly share information, photos, etc, on the Lake.

An application had been submitted to MfE for Freshwater Improvement funding, which had also been approved and would bring in a further \$1.6m into the district to look at stormwater, groundwater and further cultural monitoring.

Summing up Dr Procter noted that about \$4m had been brought into the Horowhenua, with all projects on track. It was a huge success and MfE was very happy with the progress being made.

The other important development noted by Dr Procter and Mr Sword was the recent Waitangi Tribunal Muaūpoko Priority Report which contained significant recommendations around Crown breaches in relation to the catchment and the Lake. The Muaūpoko Tribal Authority was just completing consultation with its members and it was suggested it would be helpful for Council to also engage in dialogue.

Responding to a query as to whether the weed harvester would be at the Lake for Waitangi Day, Mr Sword said he was adamant the harvester would not only be there, but it would be on the water.

Foxton Community Board Update

Ms Metcalf gave an update on behalf of the Foxton Community Board:

- the major focus was the successful opening of Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, with the Board's thanks extended to all those involved;
- the Board had also confirmed that the Pump Track project at Foxton Beach would proceed;
- congratulations were extended to Sergeant Dave Fraser from the Foxton Police for his presentation to the Board and his commitment to crime prevention in Foxton;

- Board members had met with officers and had had their first discussion on the LTP;
- a public meeting had been held on 15 November to gauge support at Foxton Beach for a grant of \$200,000 from the Freeholding Fund to the Foxton and Beach Bowling Club. A decision on this would be made at the next Foxton Community Board meeting;
- members had (informally) indicated a preference for Option 4 for the north end of Main Street (with four for it and two against);
- Board Member Lundie had attended an open day on the New Whirikino bridges held by the contractors. Everything was on target and there was a good spin off effect for local cafes supplying the bridge workers;
- the Foxton Pool was now open with there being a free day on 18 November (Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom opening day) which had been busy and last Tuesday's Aquacise had been well attended.

Responding to a query about whether Board Members had discussed using funds from the Freeholding Account to fix flooding issues at Foxton Beach, Ms Metcalf said they had not, it was just high level discussion.

Mayor Feyen concurred with the comments on the opening of Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom which he said had been simply fantastic. Noting the considerable number of Iwi, locals and those from further afield, particularly Dutch, who had attended the opening, he stressed that promotion was extremely important and would be crucial going forward.

Cr Gimblett also placed on record his appreciation for the facility, the opening event, its potential for the town and the district, and those who had been involved with progressing the project over the past eleven years, particularly commending Mrs McCartney and Mr Clapperton.

Having signalled a change in speaking order, the Chair invited Cr Judd to provide his Councillor Report next.

Councillor Report

With it being the last meeting of the year, Cr Judd said he wanted, along with fellow Councillors, to take the opportunity to reflect on what has been a significant year for Council, with there being many positives to celebrate throughout the year.

In his comments, Cr Judd covered many of the highlights of Council's financial performance including the appointment of Philip Jones as Independent Chair of the Finance, Audit & Risk Subcommittee which had added immense value to the Council and should provide real confidence to the community around the thoroughness of financial analysis and reporting. Council also remained in a stable financial position with lower debt than expected and it had achieved the majority of its performance measures.

Relationships with Iwi and Hapu had been strengthened with monthly hui held with Ngāti Raukawa. Council has also established relationships with Muaūpoko and Rangitāne o Manawatu. These relationships were significant to Council going forward and were valued.

When Cr Judd went to hand over to his fellow Councillors to contribute their reflections on the year, the Mayor demurred as Cr Judd had been identified as the speaker in the Agenda.

Responding to a request from Cr Mason for his indulgence to allow her to make some celebratory comments on behalf of the District, she acknowledged the proposed adoption of the Risk Management Policy, which was provided for in the Agenda, with effective management contributing directly to meeting the vision and community objectives of Council by reducing the threats to success and realising opportunities to obtain success. Carrying on

with the success theme, she commented on the hosting of Friendship Force visitors from Russia who had been absolutely delighted to receive the hospitality of the Horowhenua.

Cr Mason also acknowledged the work of the Hearings Committee which had had a particularly busy year. Also commended was Cr Wanden for achieving his RMA Commissioner status.

With the Chair saying it would have been helpful to have had what was proposed communicated to him prior to the meeting, he declined the request for other Councillors to speak.

The Mayor then advised the next person to speak would be Cr Campbell who had approached him wishing to make an announcement of an urgent nature. As he viewed it as being in the public interest, Mayor Feyen said he was allowing Cr Campbell to speak.

Saying the reason he had brought this matter to table was because he believed it had substantial significance for the district, Cr Campbell requested that the CE leave his position at the table as he believed the CE had a conflict of interest as he was a signatory to the document concerned.

The CE declined to leave the table without knowing what the document was and its implications.

Cr Kaye Simmons withdrew from the table and the Chambers (5.18 pm).

With there being unhelpful comments from both around the table and from the public gallery, the Mayor requested order and said he would not put up with abuse from any Councillor or from the audience.

Taking exception to a comment made by Cr Brannigan, Mayor Feyen requested him to leave the table.

Mayor Feyen then requested that Cr Campbell table the document directly to himself, which he did. This document has not been furnished to the Chief Executive and does not, therefore, form part of the official record of the meeting.

Deputy Mayor Bishop also left the Council Chamber (5.20 pm).

Mayoral Report

Mayor Feyen then commenced reading his Mayoral Report.

When a point of order raised by Cr Judd on the grounds the information being presented was not accurate was not supported, Crs Judd, Gimblett, Mason and Mitchell left the Chamber.

5.25 pm The meeting then lapsed due to lack of a quorum.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....