



**WHANGANUI
DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Whanganui

MINUTES

**Infrastructure, Climate Change, and
Emergency Management Committee
Meeting**

1 October 2020

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**MINUTES OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 101 GUYTON STREET, WHANGANUI
ON 1 OCTOBER 2020 AT 1.03PM**

PRESENT: Cr Alan Taylor, Cr Hadleigh Reid, Cr Charlie Anderson, Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay, Deputy Mayor Jenny Duncan, Cr Rob Vinsen, Cr Brent Crossan, Cr James Barron, Whanganui Rural Community Board Member Michael Dick

APOLOGIES: Cr Philippa Baker-Hogan, Cr Helen Craig, Cr Kate Joblin, Mayor Hamish McDouall, Cr Graeme Young.

IN ATTENDANCE: Peter Oskam (WRCB Member), Kym Fell (Chief Executive), Mark Hughes (General Manager Infrastructure), Kate Barnes (Senior Democracy Advisor), Kirsty Earle (Governance Services Officer), Stuart Hylton (Contractor), Jasmine Hessel (Team Leader Policy), Charlotte Almond (Contractor)

1 APOLOGIES

Apology

Committee Resolution ICE/2020/23

Moved: Cr Alan Taylor

Seconded: Cr Charlie Anderson

That the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee accepts the apologies of Cr Philippa Baker-Hogan, Cr Helen Craig, Mayor Hamish McDouall, Cr Graeme Young and grants leave of absence for this meeting.

CARRIED

Cr Kate Joblin's leave of absence was noted.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no new declarations of interest.

3 REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

3.1 INFRASTRUCTURE ACTIVITY REPORT - JUNE TO AUGUST 2020

Author: Hannah Bailey - EA to GM Infrastructure and GM Strategy

Authoriser: Mark Hughes - General Manager Infrastructure

Discussion

All Infrastructure and Property shovel ready applications were unsuccessful.

Waste Water Treatment Plant

Following questions around the waste water treatment plant the General Manager Infrastructure noted the UV treatment is not currently up and running automatically due to physical issues with the controls and sensors. It is currently working on a manual basis – there is progress with resolving this issue. With regards to alternative sources of energy, initial analysis has been conducted on the gas from the primary pond. Initial results show that the percentage methane is very variable and further long term sampling is required before looking to use a co-generation plant to generate electricity. The dryer at the waste water treatment plant runs on gas, and therefore would not be running on the electricity produced by the co-generator.

Logging Truck Damage to Roads

The General Manager Infrastructure acknowledged damage to roads caused by an increased number of logging traffic and bad weather episodes. There have been attempts to mitigate the damage to roads by requesting the logging trucks to delay travel during bad weather spells, however there are no tools or powers to enforce actions. The General Manager Infrastructure referred to previous Long Term Plan workshops considering options for more council enforcements that were not taken forward.

Fitzherbert Avenue Extension Works

Following questioning the General Manager Infrastructure noted that this project is currently out for tender with the work likely to commence mid November 2020 and to be completed by Easter 2021 and traffic flowing fully by June 2021.

Councillors raised concerns around increased traffic flow on upper Manuka Street and the possibility of an upgrade on this section of road. The General Manager Infrastructure noted that the Infrastructure team are continuing to monitor traffic in this area. There is currently no budget put aside for works in this area.

Horizons Forestry Management Plan

Following the previous Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee Meeting on 18 August 2020, the General Manager Infrastructure followed up on the Horizons Forestry Management Plan with regards to monitoring. Horizons Regional Council responded to Whanganui District Council that aerial flyover surveys were conducted in February 2019 and followed up with inspections. There has been no indication of results or further surveys since.

Land Acquisition for Fox Road

The General Manager Infrastructure clarified that the land acquisition is due to a change of plans. The road was initially straight but plans have been updated to include a slight bend in the road for traffic management purposes.

Committee Resolution ICE/2020/24

Moved: Cr Charlie Anderson

Seconded: Cr Rob Vinsen

That the Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Emergency Management Committee receive the report – Infrastructure Activity Report - June to August 2020.

CARRIED

3.2 CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND GENERAL UPDATE

Author: Charlotte Almond - Contractor

Authoriser: Kym Fell - Chief Executive

Discussion

Charlotte Almond provided a verbal update of the attached report highlighting that the fifth and final Climate Change Strategy Workshop is being planned. The final workshop will likely address Council's role and actions in the three focus areas: agriculture, transport and energy.

- It was acknowledged that the rural and agriculture data requires more refinement following a workshop with the Whanganui Rural Community Board. The chair thanked Charlotte Almond and Whanganui District Council staff for their work with the agricultural community as this topic can be emotive with preconceived perceptions.
- As a consequence of the government's push to plant more trees there is productive land that is being used to plant trees for carbon credit rather than agriculture. This will be considered as part of the Climate Change Strategy development.
- Regional Climate Change Risk Assessment and National Climate Change Risk Assessment have been completed and will inform the development of the Climate Change Strategy.
- Questions followed regarding Horizons Whanganui Community Carbon Footprint 2019. Clarification was requested for summary of change in emissions in Whanganui 2018/19. The 2% GHG Emissions from open landfill was agreed to be Whanganui's contribution to Bonny Glen Landfill emissions. Members discussed the figures and methodology of measuring forestry harvesting emissions within the Whanganui District.
- The report attached was written by consultants and Horizons team and is the best attempt at a district level, however, it is understood it prioritises the regional view.

Committee Resolution ICE/2020/25

Moved: Cr Hadleigh Reid

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jenny Duncan

That the Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Emergency Management Committee receive the report – Climate Change Strategy and general update.

CARRIED

3.3 MINUTES OF THE WASTE MINIMISATION ADVISORY GROUP MEETING 16 SEPTEMBER 2020

Author: Stuart Hylton - Contractor

Authoriser: Leighton Toy - General Manager Property

Discussion

Cr Vinsen – Chair of the Waste Minimisation Advisory Group – spoke to the minutes attached from the Waste Advisory Group 16 September 2020.

Cr Vinsen highlighted the following:

- the illegal dumping campaign is underway with the ‘Snap, Send, Solve’ App
- The advisory group are supporting the update of Whanganui District Councils Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (2015). There is a workshop with elected members scheduled to share information on that and seek appetite for change.
- Fibre Recycling - there is not yet a national solution, however there are likely funding sources for alternative options.

Cr Vinsen extended an invitation to all interested councillors and community board members to join the Waste Minimisation Advisory Group. In the short term the advisory group will be advising council on significant issues for key council waste management services.

Committee Resolution ICE/2020/26

Moved: Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay

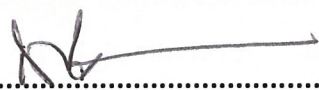
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jenny Duncan

That the Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Emergency Management Committee receive the report – Minutes of the Waste Minimisation Advisory Group Meeting 16 September 2020.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 1.55pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 12 November 2020.


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CHAIRPERSON