

**REPORT OF THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT 10.25AM ON WEDNESDAY 16
DECEMBER 2009 IN MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM,
ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor N Pablecheque (Chair), Councillors B Woods, D Holmes, J Macphail, J Diver, J Ransley, M McChesney.

IN ATTENDANCE: S Grant (Chief Executive Officer), S Syme (Executive Officer), S Poulsen (Office Manager), C Barker (District Librarian).

APOLOGIES: Mayor K Heays.

Moved by Councillor Holmes, seconded by Councillor McChesney and resolved that apologies be accepted.

1. MINUTES ACTION LIST UPDATE

Capital Projects Report

The Finance Manager advised the airport was not currently included in the report as the project was zero percent completed and zero money had been spent. She advised there were a number of projects which fell into this category and none of these were included in the report.

2. FINANCE REPORT

The Finance Manager advised November had been quiet in terms of financial transactions. Expenditure for commercial activities was up from budget and this was attributed to items unforeseen during the annual plan process and therefore, was not included in the budget.

The Chief Executive Officer advised revenue from resource consents was still down and building consent revenue was only marginally better than the previous year. He advised the variance in expenditure regarding sewer and stormwater was mostly from construction price index adjustments. He explained as contracts were let for three to five years, year one was the base line and each following year the contractor could adjust the amount by the Construction Cost Index.

Council had sold three of its oldest fleet vehicles and replaced these with two new vehicles. The vehicles had been sold at Turners Car Auctions and the amount received for each vehicle had been higher than anticipated. It was noted the Goose Bay rural fire party had received funding of approximately \$50,000 to put towards fire equipment.

The District Librarian advised she was pleased with the circulation statistic and noted there had been just over 500 more issues compared with the previous year. Rentals were up by over \$800. It was also noted the door count was higher than 2008.

The District Librarian advised the best thing to have happened at the Library was the extension. She advised people were now staying at the Library to read or reading newspapers in their lunch time. She further advised a situation was arising where the children's area was not large enough.

The District Librarian advised two key members of the Toy Library were leaving the district. She advised the Library was prepared to take over the Toy Library function and run it as it was now. The chairperson of the committee felt this was a sensible idea as the Library undertook a fair proportion of the work currently.

Councillor Pablecheque acknowledged the wonderful job the library staff was doing.

Moved by Councillor Ransley, seconded by Councillor McChesney and resolved that the Finance Report, Statement of Financial Performance, Capital Projects Report, Corporate Budget Report and Library Report be received.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.45am.