

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE KAIKOURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD AT 10.45AM ON WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE
2014 AT MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE,
KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Mayor W Gray (Chair), Councillors T Blunt, J Diver, G Harmon, J Howden, C Mackle, D Millton, D Morgan.

IN ATTENDANCE: S Grant (Chief Executive Officer), S Syme (Committee Secretary).

1. SUBMITTERS HEARD

Robyn Cameron

R Cameron requested \$1500 for improvements to the access from the top of Puhi Puhi Valley Road to Wharekiri Stream. The aim of the improvements was to optimize public safety and public enjoyment of the area. R Cameron showed slides of the track area she wished to improve. She felt the general public's perception was that the saddle gate was the end of the road. R Cameron was not sure if it was still appropriate to have the gate in place given the landowners in the area were not really farming. She advised there was a QEII covenant on a piece of bush in the area and it would be good to be able access the area. Areas where it was considered signs were needed to differentiate from private land were highlighted. R Cameron reiterated the objectives were to encourage public access and safety whilst being sensitive to surrounding landowners. T Blunt enquired if R Cameron had spoken to the owner of Puhi Peaks regarding the proposal. R Cameron advised she had not yet spoken to the landowner.

Sacred Heart Parish and St Josephs School Board

Councillor Howden declared an Interest and took no part in the discussion on this matter.

J Van Rooyen and M Fissenden were in attendance to present this item. J Van Rooyen advised the open drain along the side of Ludstone Road was an eye sore with rubbish in it and there were continuing problems associated with maintaining it. During the summer the water became stagnant. There were also two schools in close proximity. It was felt the issue could be rectified over a number of years but they wished for a start to be made on the project.

J Van Rooyen advised they were not talking about footpaths and kerb and channel but filling the ditch. The Asset Manager advised he had looked at the engineering issues associated with the project. J Van Rooyen advised there was a buildup of water in the drains at times due to overflows from the subdivision on the hill. He felt a pipe to assist

with quicker run off would help substantially. The Asset Manager advised the cost to rectify the Rorrissions Road section was approximately \$20,000 with the remainder of the work being a major job which would cost in excess of \$100,000.

J Van Rooyen advised the footpath on the corner of Ludstone and Rorrissions Road was slumping in the ditch which made it unsafe and felt it would be good if that could be fixed.

Lynda Scott

L Scott advised she had lived in Kaikoura for 3 years and was totally immersed in the community. She advised however she had had come issues when visiting the Memorial Hall with regard to access to the building and the toilet facilities. She was pleased to see an access ramp had been included in the Annual Plan. She advised there were a lot of disabled people in the district and Kaikoura had appalling access to buildings throughout the town. She felt the Council could make a difference by pulling into line its own buildings. She noted a report by CCS Disability had highlighted as issue with access to the West End public toilets. She further advised there were not many towns as poorly equipped as Kaikoura.

In terms of the Memorial Hall she did not feel it was acceptable to have to go to a toilet located in the male toilet area. She advised it was acceptable to have a unisex toilet in a general area. The Operations and Maintenance Manager advised a disabled toilet would be located in the female toilet area at the Memorial Hall. L Scott reiterated the issue with the entrance to the disabled toilet in the public toilet block in the West End. L Scott advised Kaikoura was a difficult town to live in and she generally did most of her shopping in Blenheim.

Gerry Essenberg (Operations and Maintenance Manager)

The Operations Manager had requested a budget increase for cemetery maintenance of \$2000. He advised if the budget was not adjusted he would overspend regardless. The alternative was to reduce the level of service. He had requested a carryover of the unexpended funds in the coastal management strategy and improvement fund. He advised the first stage of this work was to identify all the areas that required protection so Council did not have to go to Environment Canterbury every time it needed to do some protection work. \$5,000 was requested for minor renewals and upgrades on public toilets as there was no spare money in the budget for minor works. There were a few toilet seats and cisterns which required replacement as well as some work on hand dryers. Mayor Gray thought extra money had already been allocated to the West End toilets. An additional \$10,000 had been requested for maintenance and minor improvements to reserves and \$5,000 for walkways because it was difficult to fund the minor works required.

The Operations Manager had requested additional funds of \$20,000 for minor upgrades and maintenance to the Memorial Hall. The Chief Executive Officer advised \$20,000 had already been allocated for improvements to access, disabled toilets and some electrical works. The Operations Manager advised waterproofing under the stage was required. Water was getting in through the back and there was a lot of materials stored which were getting damp and going moldy.

A \$10,000 increase in the electricity budget for the Kaikoura Water Supply was required to better reflect the actual costs. \$10,000 was requested for the Kincaid water supply lump sum maintenance budget to also reflect actual costs.

The Operations Manager had requested an additional \$10,000 for minor seal extensions. He advised there were some minor roads which could do with small amounts of seal. The Chief Executive Officer advised \$4,000 had already been allocated. The Operations Manager requested the unexpended footpath renewal budget be carried over. He advised it was unlikely all the footpath work would be completed in the current financial year because contractor resources were being used elsewhere. He had also requested the streetlighting funds not expended be carried over. The Operations Manager advised there was a new type of street light which allowed for more programming which meant the light did not have to be on full all the time.

The Operations Manager had requested an additional \$150,000 for roading. He advised a significant amount of the roading programme had not been completed because resources and a significant share of funds had been redirected to emergency work. New Zealand Transport Agency would provide a subsidy if Council could find its share. He noted the work was part of a three year programme and the subsidy was only available for the 2014/15 year. The \$150,000 was the total amount with the local share approximately \$85,000.

The Operations Manager advised the cost of the flood damage was approximately \$350,000 and there was another \$400,000 worth of work to be done at some stage in the future. He noted there was quite a lot of prevention work that could be done. He advised since the Easter flooding event more rain had caused another \$50,000 to \$100,000 worth of damage. The Operations Manager advised if no additional funds were allocated he would trim next year's work programme to the bare minimum. He noted 90% of the damage occurred in the rural area. Flood damage attracted a subsidy of 56% if doing \$300,000 worth of work.

The Operations Manager advised the new One Network Road system which was to be introduced in the future would give a fixed amount of

subsidy for each type of road. He felt this step could have a negative effect for Council.

The Operations Manager advised he had pushed through as much damage repair work as possible to obtain the higher subsidy rate. Councillor Millton felt a clause should be added to the roading contract in future that the engineer had discretion over who did what work so a price could be obtained for emergency work rather than just having to use the maintenance contractor. The Operations Manager advised the Easter floods had also affected other areas so some work had to take a back seat due to State Highway work. The maintenance contractor had been told to use all available contractors to get the work completed by the end of the month.

\$8,000 had been requested for the access between 66 and 70 Churchill Street. The access was currently unmaintained and could do with some work to bring it up to standard. The Operations Manager advised ideally Council should sign off to say the piece of road should be maintained.

The Operations Manager advised in terms of the submission made by C Ripley for stormwater improvements at 82 to 86 Churchill Street he estimated the work would cost approximately \$14,000. \$11,000 for stormwater work and \$3,000 roading work.

2. SUBMITTERS NOT HEARD

Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB)

The CDHB had requested a paragraph regarding liquor licensing be added to the Plan. It was noted this requirement was already in the Act.

Kathie Roberts

K Roberts had made a submission regarding a number of topics which included the Civic Building, budget and debt, sustainability, health facility, cemetery management, oil prospecting and liquor licensing.

Marlene Ingram

M Ingram had requested an extension to the weekly kerbside recycling collection area to include households on Mt Fyffe and Mill Road.

Airport Committee

The Airport Committee had requested \$2,000 worth of funding for additional minor maintenance and upgrades.

Enviroschools

The Enviroschools foundation had requested funding to recommence the Enviroschools programme in Kaikoura schools. Councillor Howden felt this work was already undertaken in Kaikoura schools. Mayor Gray noted there may be an opportunity to employ someone local with the possibility of the person taking on other roles. Councillor Blunt felt the

work of the Water Zone Committee superseded Enviroschools to a certain extent, notwithstanding all the work Enviroschools did.

Kaikoura Information and Tourism Incorporated (KITI)

KITI had submitted in support of the funds allocated for Tourism promotions.

Rural Ratepayer Submissions

Submissions had been received from Lynton Downs Station, Angela Blunt, J Murray, Simon Mackle, Pickering Farming, Paul and Myra Smith and Justine Schroder requesting a reduction in rural rates.

East Coast Community Organisation

The submission contained a number of questions regarding the financials in the draft Annual Plan.

Democrats for Social Credit

The Democrats for Social Credit had requested Council lobby for a number of proposals.

Physicians and Scientists for Global Responsibility (PSGR)

PSGR had noted concerns regarding genetic engineering, Glyphosate, Flouridation, off and on-shore drilling for oil and gas, nanotechnology and waste disposal, electro-magnetic radiation and zero waste to landfill.

3. DELIBERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

Robyn Cameron

R Cameron had requested funding of \$1500 to put towards opening the formed track between the end of the formed road at Puhī Peaks to Wharekiri Stream.

Mayor Gray felt it was too soon to provide funding given the submitter had not discussed the proposal with neighbours. However, he did feel it was good to be opening up more areas. He felt if it was considered a good idea then it should be driven by Council. It was noted the proposed improvements were on legal road. It was suggested support may be available from the Walking Access Commission and the Department of Conservation. A discussion was held regarding the farm gate. It was noted there was a working farm in the vicinity and the property owner had a major problem with people poaching on their land. It was felt the property owner would be adamantly opposed to the gate being removed. Councillor Millton felt one sign was required to show where the walking access was.

It was agreed more information was required along with agreement from effected neighbours. The request for funding was declined.

Sacred Heart Parish and St Josephs School Board

The submitter had requested the open drain along Grays Land and Ludstone Road be replaced with a pipeline and swale. The Chief Executive Officer felt it was a matter to be dealt with in the Long Term Plan because it was a major project with large stormwater flows in the drain during heavy rain. It was agreed the project should be considered as part of the Long Term Plan process.

Lynda Scott

L Scott had requested improvements to access to the Memorial Hall, the disable toilet for women and access to the accessible toilet at the West End toilet block.

It was believed all the work was to be done and the budgets had been included in the draft Annual Plan. Councillor Blunt enquired what could be done to encourage access to the shops in town. It was noted new buildings would have to provide a ramp. The Chief Executive Officer it was extremely difficult because of the way to the West End was designed for shops to provide a ramp that would comply with the standards.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.28pm and resumed at 1.30pm.

Sport Tasman

T Thomas and L Stokes were in attendance to present the submission.

Sport Tasman wished to take the opportunity to thank Council for its ongoing support of sport and recreation in the District. T Thomas advised a number of years ago a Physical Activity Plan had been developed and Kaikoura was the only place in the top of the South Island who still worked to its Plan. One action from the Plan was Council support for a Community Recreation Advisor. The position was currently held by L Stokes.

L Stokes, Community Recreation Advisor, provided an overview of activities and events she had supported which included a regular school holiday programme which had obtained Oscar accreditation. This meant that subsidies were available to parents through Work and Income. She had also managed the Kaikoura Lions Pool which, in spite of the weather, had 7000 users this summer which was the most over the past five years. She further advised she lead some sports and assisted behind the scenes with others.

Kaikoura Historical Society

D Smith and G Caldwell were in attendance to present the submission.

D Smith advised the \$20,000 requested would go towards paying wages. The museum had to keep operating until it was in the new building and

once set up in the new building the grant would drop off. Wages were paid for 54 hours per week and that was what the funding would go towards. The society also had volunteers who did 10,529 hours. On top of wages there were also operational expenses. He advised the Society was continually looking at fundraising but did not rely on grants coming in. The \$1250 per fortnight the Society was currently receiving from Council was very handy.

Kaikoura Memorial Hall Committee

Melville and Julie Syme were in attendance to present the submission.

M Syme advised the Memorial Hall Committee was tasked with the refurbishment of the Memorial Hall. The Committee was requesting funding for a mobile scaffolding system for the Hall. The benefits were safety and convenience for those using the Hall as the ladders were being frowned upon. The proposed scaffold system had a platform at 3.9 metres which provided a reach of approximately 6 metres. The scaffold could be erected by a non certified operator. The scaffold system would allow groups to set up in a short time frame.

M Syme advised if the standards could be lifted in the Hall by upgrading the hanging of the curtains, having them fireproofed and add poles for the lights funded by the Seaward Lions, the Hall would be favourable for touring groups.

Councillor Harmon enquired how long it took to put the scaffold up when it was to be used. M Syme advised he understood it was a half hour job for one person. The scaffold packed into a small area. Councillor Mackle enquired if the scaffold was up to the New Zealand Safety Standard. J Syme would check and make sure.

Mayor Gray thanked M and J Syme for all of the time they had put into the Hall.

North Canterbury Province of Federated Farmers

M Bennett was in attendance to present the submission.

M Bennett advised Federated Farmers generally submitted on the Annual Plan due to its impact on rates and the bottom line of farms. M Bennett went through the recommendations included in the submission which included;

- Council review current assets and investment holdings prior to the 2015-2025 Long Term Plan with a review to disposing of assets and retiring debt to support a policy of 0% increases for the general rate.
- Act proactively to reduce debt levels over time

- Support a new hospital but only if it could be demonstrated that the level of service was both sufficient to meet the community's needs and affordable.

Councillor Morgan enquired regarding the level of service for the Hospital. M Bennett asked was Council getting enough for what it was paying for in the new Hospital.

In terms of investment holdings M Bennett advised Council had quite a lot of investment holdings and debt and he felt it would be better to sell assets and review debt. He suggested assets holdings be reviewed in terms of the returns gained from them.

Kaikoura Enhancement Group

Bruce Carter and Anton Evans were in attendance to present the submission.

The Kaikoura Enhancement Group was a progressive group of people who were keen to develop Kaikoura within the 50km zone. The current priority areas were Beach Road and Churchill Street. The Group had produced a draft concept plan for the Northern Entrance to the Kaikoura Township. The aim was to enhance the main corridor through Kaikoura to entice travelers to stop which would create extra income and employment for Kaikoura. Once a plan was in place funding could be applied for from different source for example, Fonterra, Creative NZ, Trees for Travellers and the New Zealand Transport Agency.

The Group were requesting \$26,500 plus GST to obtain detailed plans for the Northern Arrival Area and concept plans for the Churchill Street railway cutting area and the Churchill/Killarney/Scarborough Street intersection.

B Carter advised the object was to get everybody along the same track and moving in the same direction and the Group were were convinced unless they started doing something Kaikoura was not going to move forward. Councillor Howden advised what was most impressive was that the project was community driven and the Plan was simplistic. A discussion was held regarding possible other avenues for funding.

The Renewables Motueka

Greg Rzesniowiecki was in attendance to present the submission.

The Renewables Motueka had provided a list of resolutions for the Council to consider with regard to the Trans-Pacific Partnership and Free Trade Agreements. To provide some context G Rzesniowiecki provided some background information from history. Councillor Diver called a point of order as he felt the information given was a political statement.

G Rzesniowiecki advised anything that went on in the world had impacts everywhere which was going to affect Kaikoura budgets. He felt there were issues in the Trans-Pacific Partnership which would affect government procurement and the infrastructure that puts in place. He asked why enter into an agreement that inhibits the ability to make decisions which would benefit the community. He advised he was not giving a political address but was providing facts.

G Rzesniowiecki was a representative of a private group who was concerned about climate change. He noted Council might decide it could not deal with the submission through the Annual Plan and may decide to deal with it at other Council meeting or through another Committee first. Last week he had presented to the Hurunui Youth Council. He advised there was a need to think about what was being left for the future. Councillor Morgan advised she would support the big picture view of things, as an Earthcheck community she felt it was relevant. G Rzesniowiecki advised he brought a gift and was seeking to save Council money.

Kaikoura Cycling Club

Mayor Gray declared an interest and took no part in the discussion on this matter.

John Simpson was in attendance to present this submission. J Simpson advised the Club was requesting Council roll over the unspent funds allocated in the 2013/14 year and also requested an additional \$9,000. The goal of the Club was to have a network of cycle trails around Kaikoura which inspired people to visit Kaikoura and inspired local people to ride for health and general wellbeing.

The Club was looking to create a cycle trail loop which would be approximately 70 Kilometres long. When finished the loop would be able to be ridden by most people. Currently there were tracks from the Township to the base of Mt Fyffe. The tracks were currently at various stages of development and were being well used. Additional funds were required to work on projects. Councillor Millton congratulated the Club for its initiative to create a cycle track. He suggested the Club might like to change its name to incorporate walking to see if funding could be obtained from the Walking Access Commission.

Councillor Blunt enquired if the tracks were getting close to a standard for events or trail rides. J Simpson advised two or three organized rides had been held to date the track had been used as more of a promotion. He felt when an outstanding loop track was created then events could be looked at. The section across the bottom of Mt Fyffe was going to be the biggest development. Councillor Blunt enquired if other funders had been approached. J Simpson felt if a group of interested parties formed

a Trust for applications it would be more reputable. Councillor Blunt felt the Club was doing a fantastic job and the community would benefit.

The meeting adjourned at 3.09pm for afternoon tea and resumed at 3.18pm.

Carrie Ripley

C Ripley had an issue with stormwater from the reservoir and water tank at Seaviews running onto properties below. She advised there was a creek that ran along the fence line which took some of the stormwater but it was not working. The stormwater consequently went under the house and caused the house to move and the water could be heard running under the house. She advised over the past few years she had experienced continuous water problems and the water needed to be diverted.

C Ripley advised the neighbor also had issues and heavy rain had highlighted this. She advised the work needed to be done soon so the house could be saved as there were already large cracks in the foundation.

There being no further submissions the meeting closed at 3.33pm.

