
MINUTES
of the
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
held
9.30am, Thursday, 21 November 2019
at
Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

Present: Deputy Mayor C Bryant (Chair), Cr C Mackenzie (Deputy Chair), Mayor T King, Councillors D McNamara, C Butler, D Ogilvie, M Greening, T Tuffnell, C Hill, A Turley, C Hutt, T Walker and K Maling

In Attendance: Engineering Services Manager (R Kirby), Activity Planning Manager (D Fletcher), Programme Delivery Manager (R McGuigan), Transportation Manager (J McPherson), Utilities Manager (M Schruer), Strategic Planning Manager (S Flood), Golden Bay Community Board Member (G Knowles) and Executive Assistant to the Mayor (R L Scherer)

Part Attendance: Chief Executive (J Dowding), Activity Planning Adviser (H Lane), Team Leader – Stormwater and Solid Waste (D Stephenson), Community Relations Manager (C Choat), Senior Water Quality Officer (G Bullock), Utilities Project Engineer (G Fox), Communications Officer (B Catley), Reserves Officer – Assets and Projects (G Thorn), Libraries Manager (G Coote), Community Partnerships Coordinator (L Evans) and Team Leader – Water and Wastewater (D Burn)

1 OPENING, WELCOME

Deputy Mayor, Stuart Bryant welcomed everyone to this first meeting of the Operations Committee. He asked the Councillors to direct any questions through the Chair.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Moved Cr Turley/Cr Tuffnell

OC19-11-1

That apologies from Crs D Wensley, M Greening and C Hutt be accepted.

CARRIED

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Lew Solomon spoke about nitrates in water supplies which he believes are a health hazard. He spoke about Danish research which connected nitrates in water supplies with colorectal cancer. Mr Solomon said that he believed the Richmond water supply bores are contaminated and unfit for human consumption.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5 LATE ITEMS

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

7 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

8.1 Nelson Tasman Business Trust

Sarah Holmes, Manager of the **Nelson Tasman Business Trust** provided a powerpoint presentation outlining the Trust's activities over the past year. Ms Holmes thanked the Council for providing funding to the Trust to carry out its work.

Mayor King left the meeting at 9.57 am

9 REPORTS

9.1 Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Deputy Mayor Bryant presented his report which was taken as read.

He spoke about the recent speed limits bylaw hearing and noted that staff will provide a further report for the hearing panel to deliberate before a final recommendation is made to the Council.

The Chair spoke to the motion asking for a regular update on Customer Service Requests (CSRs). Engineering Services Manager, Richard Kirby said that staff will present a regular report to the committee covering all CSRs received during the reporting period including numbers resolved and numbers outstanding across the Council departments.

Moved Cr Maling/Cr Tuffnell

OC19-11-2

That the Operations Committee:

- 1. receives the Chairman's Report ROC19-11-2; and**
- 2. requests that staff provide a regular update to the Operations Committee on the number of customer service requests received during the period including the number of requests resolved and the number that are outstanding.**

CARRIED

9.2 Kaiteriteri Safe Water Report

Utilities Manager, Mike Schruer and Senior Water Quality Officer, Dr Gillian Bullock spoke to the report contained in the agenda which was taken as read.

In response to a question, Mr Schruer explained that the risk of contamination to the Riwaka-Kaiteriteri water supply was most significant during the holiday season when the population increases significantly.

Mayor Tim King returned to the meeting at 10.03 am.

Mr Kirby said that the Council is obliged to provide safe water to its communities. However, some communities are against any chemicals being added to their water supply.

He noted that the 2018 Havelock North water contamination issue had resulted in a central government review of the three waters – water, stormwater and wastewater. The outcome of this review is due to be released before the end of 2019. Staff will be reporting to the Council early in the new year with a proposal to consult with the community regarding the process to ensure that we provide safe drinking water supplies which meet the New Zealand Drinking Water Standards to everyone in the District. This could result in permanent chlorination across all of the Council's drinking water supplies.

In response to a question, Dr Bullock explained the differences between ultra-violet and chlorination treatments of water supplies. She noted that each of the treatments do different things; UV treats bacteria and protozoa while chlorine provides residual disinfection throughout the water supply network. Chlorine also provides an effective barrier against viruses while ultra-violet, at the regulated dose in water supplies, will not kill viruses.

Mr Schruer advised the meeting that staff will carry out an extensive advertising campaign in local media and Newsline as well as individual letters to every property owner before the Riwaka-Kaiteriteri water supply is treated with chlorine. A record of any complaints will be kept and staff will report to the committee on the outcome of the chlorination programme at its conclusion.

Dr Bullock explained how carbon filters work to mitigate the taste effects of chlorine in drinking water supplies. She spoke about the cost of simple carbon filter water jugs available at most homeware stores through to fully plumbed-in carbon filters that treat all of the water supplied to a property. Mr Kirby noted that any carbon filter solution must be regularly maintained.

Moved Cr Maling/Cr Turley

OC19-11-3

That the Operations Committee:

- 1. receives the Kaiteriteri Safe Water Report ROC19-11-3; and**
- 2. approves the chlorination of the Kaiteriteri/Riwaka water supply, starting on Monday 16 December 2019 and ending on Friday 27 March 2020; and**
- 3. notes that staff will be reporting to the Council in early 2020 on Council's wider obligations to provide safe drinking water and options on how that can be achieved to meet compliance with the new drinking water standards.**

CARRIED

9.3 Community Development Operations Report

Libraries Manager, Glennis Coote, Reserves Officer – Assets and Projects, Glenn Thorn, Community Relations Manager, Chris Choat, Strategic Policy Manager, Sharon Flood and Community Partnerships Coordinator, Lani Evans presented the report which was taken as read.

The Councillors congratulated Ms Coote for the work that she and the Library staff do for the community. It was agreed that the District's libraries are a tremendous asset.

In response to a question about the delay to install the netting for the cricket turf at Memorial Park in Motueka, Mr Thorn said that the work had been delayed because Council staff were involved in the Pigeon Valley fire recovery. The cricket club members had advised staff that they are happy for the netting to be installed at the conclusion of the cricket season.

In response to a question regarding the issue of people being able to access and drive along beaches from reserve areas and disturbing wildlife, Mr Kirby said that this issue is known to staff and due process will be followed to resolve the issue.

In response to a question about the delays in the reserves work programme, Mr Thorn explained that projects require a number of steps before final completion. This can include public consultation which can take some time. Mr Thorn agreed that staff would provide explanatory notes in future reports regarding completion dates.

Mr Thorn noted that planning for the new playground at the Mapua Recreation Reserve is underway. Staff have consulted with the community and staff have been asked to reconsider some elements of the playground to reflect the history of Mapua. He noted that the BMX track has been completed.

Mr Choat advised the Councillors of the freedom camping ambassador programme, a new Council initiative which will help to build relationships with visitors to our region and provide education about our precious environment and how they can be safe in our region.

Ms Evans presented the Richmond Aquatic Centre update. She noted that the centre is managed by CLM, a national company that manages fitness and leisure centres across New Zealand. She explained that the centre is funded on a user pays basis as well as a Council subsidy.

It was noted that there had been some concerns about the cleanliness of the aquatic centre and staff were asked to highlight this issue to the CLM management team.

Ms Flood presented the Strategic Policy update. She noted that staff are currently in discussion with Wakatu Incorporation regarding an additional toilet in Marahau.

MOVED by Cr Tuffnell/Cr Butler

OC19-11-4

**That the Operations Committee receives the Community Development Update report
ROC19-11-4.**

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10.47 am and resumed at 11.00 am.

Mayor Tim King left the meeting at 10.47 am.

9.4 Engineering Services Operations

Engineering Services Manager, Richard Kirby presented the report which was taken as read.

In response to a question regarding the proposed Richmond bus loop service, Transportation Manager, Jamie McPherson said the commencement of the new service had been affected by the rollout of the electronic ticketing system which needs to happen before the service starts. He advised that it is likely the new loop service will start in March 2020.

Mr McPherson explained the route for the loop service which starts from the centre of Richmond and loops in a figure eight, picking up every residential property (within 500 metres) of Queen Street, Hill Street, Washbourne Drive, Chelsea Avenue, Bateup Road and back to Queen Street. The service will also travel down Salisbury Road, Champion Road, Hill Street, Lower Queen Street into Berryfield Drive and back into Richmond.

Staff are currently in discussion with NBus who propose a mid-size bus that will carry around 16 seated passengers. The vehicle will be a kneeling bus which will enable access for mobility impaired people. Staff are also looking closely at the retirement home cluster in Richmond to ensure the elderly have close access to bus stops.

In response to a question about the active transport strategy, Mr McPherson said that this work has been delayed due to staff resourcing pressures. However, he noted that staff do work with external groups, including mountain bike clubs in developing the strategy.

In response to a question, Senior Activity Planning Adviser, Wouter Woortman explained the annual exceedance probability (AEP) regarding flood modelling. He noted that a 1% AEP equates to a 1% change of flooding occurring in any one year. Mr Woortman said staff are guided by the rainfall data provided by NIWA which includes high rainfall density information which is continually updated.

In response to a question regarding the proposed work on stormwater improvements in Pohara, Programme Delivery Manager, Russell McGuigan said that not all landowners affected by the work agree with the Council building retaining structures on their property. Staff will continue to consult with private landowners over the holiday period.

In response to a question regarding the Motueka stormwater management plan, Mr Woortman said that the project will allow the network to be upgraded to provide for additional stormwater flows. Staff are currently in discussion with Wakatu Incorporation regarding discharge options and the timing and staging of their planned development in Motueka.

Mr Woortman confirmed that staff will be engaging with stakeholders, including iwi on the Motueka Catchment Management Plan.

In response to a question, Mr McPherson confirmed that only one tender was received for the Mapua ferry service. He noted that criteria for the operation are being finalised including the frequency of the service and the number of cycles that can be carried on any one crossing. He said that users of the service will not see any changes other than the Council's logo on the ferry. The term of the contract is for up to five years plus three years, plus one year, plus one year based on the supplier's performance.

In response to a question, Mr Kirby confirmed that the Council had approved funding in August 2019 to progress detailed design of the hydro option for the Waimea Community Dam. Staff will provide an update to the Council as more detail on the option becomes available.

Utilities Manager, Mike Schruer spoke to the Utilities update. He noted that Council's contractor had recently carried out over 1500 rural water supply restrictor checks. There is still a

considerable number of restrictors that have been illegally tampered with where users remove the restrictor which results in their neighbours not getting their allocated water supply. People are also illegally tapping in to the water main before the restrictor and both of these issues have been ongoing for many years.

Mr Schruer noted that the Council has successfully prosecuted four companies for illegal use of fire hydrants to take water. Similar prosecutions can be carried out for illegal use of restrictors but it is a long drawn-out process. Staff are focusing their efforts on educating landowners about the correct use of restrictors.

Mr Schruer advised that the new wastewater dump station at Marchwood Park in Motueka is working well however, staff are reporting blockages from unsuitable material being deposited, eg vegetables. Staff will initiate an education programme to ensure users are aware of what can be disposed and what can't. Mr Schruer noted that composting toilet waste cannot be accepted at the dump station.

In response to a question, about the tidal gates at Old Wharf Road in Motueka, Mr Schruer said he was not aware of any issues but will follow up and report back to the committee.

Mayor King returned to the meeting at 11.40 am.

Project Engineer – Utilities, Graham Fox spoke about the nitrate issue at the Motueka wastewater treatment plant. He noted that the issue is seasonal and staff are working on a range of options to meet the resource consent compliance conditions for ammonia levels.

Mr McPherson presented the Transportation update which was taken as read. He noted that progress on remediating the slip on Matiri West Bank Road had been hampered by both the need for extensive earth works and the weather conditions. It is expected that the road will be reopened within a week which will enable the milk tanker to access the dairy farm on this road. However, staff will need to reassess the residual risks before the road is completely open to the public. He noted that the work is being funded through the emergency works programme which is subsidised by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA).

In response to a question about tree planting on river banks, Mr McPherson said that the Council only uses acceptable species of willow for bank stabilisation.

Moved Deputy Mayor Bryant/Cr Hill

OC19-11-5

That the Operations Committee receives the Engineering Services Operations report ROC19-11-5.

CARRIED

10 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

10.1 Procedural motion to exclude the public

Moved Deputy Mayor Bryant/Cr Maling

OC19-11-6

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

10.2 Electronic Waste Recycling Subsidy

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	<p>s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.</p> <p>s7(2)(i) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p>	s48(1)(a) - The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

10.3 Murchison Road Maintenance Contract

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	s7(2)(i) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).	s48(1)(a) - The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

10.4 Best Island - Update on Access to Residential Properties

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.	<p>48(i)(d) - To deliberate in private in a procedure where a right of appeal lies to a Court against the final decision.</p> <p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary</p>	s48(1)(a) - The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

	<p>to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.</p> <p>s7(2)(g) - The withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.</p>	
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CARRIED

The meeting concluded at 1.54 pm.

Date Confirmed:

Chair:

Unconfirmed