

Report of an ordinary meeting of the Operations Committee, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 13 March 2018, at 5.00pm

Present His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr Davis (Chairperson), Crs Beale, Bolger, Dickson, Gardyne, P Grant, Highsted, Phillips, Reid and Sharp.

In Attendance The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Regulatory and Planning (Dr Ian Davidson-Watts), General Manager Infrastructure (Mr Ramesh Sharma), Transport Manager (Mr Peter Standring), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mr Matt Bayliss), Communications-Marketing Manager (Sonia Gerken), Building Control Manager (Mr Russell Paterson), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith Hovell), Animal Control Officer (Mr David McKewen), Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Suzanne Lucas) and one member of the public in the gallery.

Apology Cr D Grant apologised for absence.

1. 3 WATERS OPERATIONS REPORT

An operational report from the 3 Waters Manager was perused by the Committee.

The Manager advised that depending on whether there was a reasonable rainfall later in the week, it was likely the Council would need to start emergency pumping from the Mataura river for the Mataura water supply.

He advised two staff had recently resigned and another would be retiring in April.

In response to Cr P Grant advising he had become aware of a water take application being renewed for 30 years in the Athol area, and querying whether the Council had been notified, the Manager was not aware of it.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Dickson, seconded by Cr P Grant, THAT the report be received.

2. UPDATE ON STORMWATER WORKING PARTY PROGRESS (SC0660)

A memo had been received from the 3 Waters Manager updating the Committee regarding the implementation of the interim solutions identified by the Stormwater Working Party.

In response to His Worship who asked about issues in Elizabeth Street, the Manager advised that street was not specifically included in the interim solutions. His Worship said the problem had gone on for about 3-4 years and he was frustrated that the Council had provided assistance with pumping at different times, but it was now not part of the short term solution.

The Manager said once the strategy was finalised there would be a clearer direction about how long it would take to implement the solutions.

His Worship said ultimately it would be up to the Council politically to determine what level of resources were required once the master plan had been finalised. It would not be a short term fix.

Cr P Grant said the working party had only been given three areas to consider.

His Worship said it was disappointing. The Elizabeth Street issue had been regularly reported to him and also the 3 Waters staff.

Cr Beale said had the Working Party known about it, it would have willingly reviewed it.

The Chief Executive said there was nothing to stop the Working Party reconvening to consider the Elizabeth Street issue.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Dickson, THAT the Working Party be reconvened to consider issues surrounding 20 Elizabeth Street, Gore.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Beale, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT the report be received,

AND THAT the proposed interim solution for 8 St Andrews Street be put on hold until the outcome for the Stormwater Master Plan currently under development, is completed.

Cr Highsted questioned whether the response from the Ministry of Education relating to the issues near the school playing fields was satisfactory. He wondered whether the Chief Executive should approach someone at a higher level.

The Chief Executive was happy to approach the Ministry and ascertain if there was any room for negotiation.

3. MATAURA WATER CONSUMPTION AND WATER RESTRICTIONS – JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 2018 (SC0659)

A report had been received from the 3 Waters Manager updating the Committee on water restrictions imposed as a result of a sustained long, dry summer putting significant pressure on both the Gore and Mataura drinking water supplies.

Cr Beale said he had several complaints about water being supplied to some residents outside of the district by water carriers. He was very pleased to learn there was going to be a review of how water carriers obtained water.

In response to Cr Highsted, the Manager said there would have been about 30 truck loads of water per day taken out of Mataura.

Cr P Grant thought the Council needed to know where the trucks were going before approval was given.

Cr Bolger suggested there may be water on the flats above the former paper mill in Mataura. He suggested concentrating getting water rather than how many truck loads were being taken out.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Phillips, THAT the report be received.

Cr Davis acknowledged the efforts by 3 Waters staff in what had been a difficult summer.

4. REPORT FROM THE TRANSPORT MANAGER – FEBRUARY-MARCH 2018

The Committee perused a report from the Transport Manager. The Manager added it was pleasing to have a number of local companies involved with current roading contracts.

In response to Cr P Grant, the General Manager Regulatory and Planning advised he had investigated the requirements for tree logging work during winter months with neighbouring Councils. Under its District Plan, local contractors had to notify the Clutha District 18 months in advance of any logging work being undertaken. The Southland District Council did not have any controls in its District Plan, but undertook pre-strengthening of affected areas to mitigate damage to roads used for forestry.

The Manager advised the LED street lights had been ordered and were expected to be received by early May.

In response to Cr Gardyne, the Manager said the road bleeding issues from the summer were a concern. A number of seals needed to be inspected along with road markings.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Sharp, seconded by Cr Phillips, THAT the report be received.

5. WASTE CONTRACTS REPORT – RIGHT OF RENEWAL PROCESS (sc0706)

A memo had been received from the Transport Manager advising of the intention to review the solid waste contractual arrangements for kerbside collection and transfer station operation and for the provision of recycling operations. There were three contracts involved and the solid waste shared service - WasteNet Southland – was required to decide on the right of renewal clause in this financial year.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT the report be received,

AND THAT the Committee endorse WasteNet Southland leading the process of reviewing Contract 550 and 650 on behalf of the Gore District Council.

The meeting concluded at 5.37pm