



MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON WEDNESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2012, AT 3.12 pm.

PRESENT His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Crs Bolger, Beale, Davis, Dixon, Gover, D Grant, P Grant, Highsted, Redhead, Sharp and Watt.

IN ATTENDANCE The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), the General Manager, Corporate Services (Mr Russell Duthie), General Manager, District Assets (Mr Paul Withers), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Ms Sarah Dowling), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith Hovell), Communications Coordinator (Mrs Sonia Gerken), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones) and one member of the public in the gallery.

His Worship called for any conflict of interests. There were none declared.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Beale, seconded by Cr D Grant, **THAT** the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held on Tuesday 30 November 2012, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr P Grant, seconded by Cr Redhead, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Community Services Committee, held on Tuesday 20 November 2012, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Watt, seconded by Cr Gover, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the Community Services Committee, held on Tuesday 20 November 2012, as presented, be ratified.

Clause 5 – Report of the District Arts and Heritage Curator (23.5)

The Council *noted* that it had been the Curator who made the comment about working to promote the anniversary of the 1913 flood, not Cr D Grant.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Dixon, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Operations Committee, held on Tuesday 20 November 2012, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Gover, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the Operations Committee, held on Tuesday 20 November 2012, as presented, be ratified.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Watt, seconded by Cr Sharp, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Regulatory and Planning Committee, held on Tuesday 20 November 2012, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr P Grant, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the Regulatory and Planning Committee, held on Tuesday 20 November 2012, as presented, be ratified.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr D Grant, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on Tuesday 20 November 2012, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Dixon, seconded by Cr Bolger, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on Tuesday 20 November 2012, as presented, be ratified.

2. SHARED SERVICES FORUM (46.34.2)

A copy of the unconfirmed notes of a meeting of the Shared Services Forum held on 18 September had been circulated.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Dixon, seconded by Cr P Grant, **THAT** the notes of the Shared Services Forum held on 18 September 2012, be received.

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3. REPORTS OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACTOR FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2012 (34.4.1)

A copy of the animal control contractors reports for October and November had been circulated.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr P Grant, seconded by Cr Watt, **THAT** the reports be received.

2012/157

4. REPORT OF AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER (24.11.1)

The Council perused the report of the Aquatic Services Manager.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Gover, seconded by Cr Sharp, THAT the report be received.

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Cr Dixon advised he had heard a lot of advertising for pool jobs on Radio Sport recently. He hoped the Council had got a good deal and that some applications had been received.

The Human Resources Manager advised the Council had received a favourable advertising deal and had received a number of applications which were on a par with previous vacancies for the aquatic centre.

5. REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER (18.1.3)

The Council perused the report from the Parks and Recreation Manager.

In response to Cr Davis, the Manager advised there had been no tenders received from local painting contractors for the re-painting of the civic administration building roof.

Cr Dixon referred to the maintenance of road verges on SH1 and SH94 undertaken by the Council but in Mataura nothing was done on SH93.

The Manager advised some mowing was undertaken on SH93 to the point of the last house on the road.

Cr Dixon asked why the rest of it was not. He noted Railway Esplanade had some edges mown.

The Manager said the state highway frontages with wide berms were mown by the Council but it did not fund urban berms to be mown. A verge of 1-2 metres in width was the responsibility of the property owner. Where there was an overgrown section on a road reserve that was not mown but could become a fire hazard, the Council would mow the area.

Cr Dixon asked why they were not done, particularly in Kana Street.

His Worship said it was an issue that had been debated for as long as he had been involved with the Council. The approach taken was it was the responsibility of property owners to maintain their own frontages. If it was to change, then there would need to

be a policy change by the Council and it would come with a cost. He acknowledged there were not many properties involved, but there would be a cost. He suggested if it was an issue then the Council may consider a policy change and Cr Dixon could ask for that to happen.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Watt, seconded by Cr Sharp, THAT the report be received.

2012/159

6. REPORT FROM DESTINATION GORE VISITOR CENTRE (18.18.1)

The Council perused a report from the Destination Gore Visitor Centre.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Beale, seconded by Cr Dixon, THAT the report be received.

2012/160

7. REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT ARTS AND HERITAGE CURATOR (23.5)

The Council perused a report from the District Arts and Heritage Curator.

Cr Highsted moved THAT the report be received.

The motion was seconded by Cr D Grant.

Cr Davis advised Sticky TV had been in Gore recently with a local girl who had been chosen to act as a host for Gore. The programme would feature on television later in 2013.

Cr D Grant asked if there was any update on the Moonshiners Festival. He had heard two headline acts had been confirmed.

The Chief Executive was aware there were proposals to be announced, and an announcement was due in the near future.

The motion was put and it was carried.

2012/161

8. REPORT OF THE 3 WATERS ASSET MANAGER (8.56)

The Council perused the report of the 3 Waters Asset Manager.

In response to Cr Bolger, the Manager advised there were several factors leading to repairs being required on the Otama water scheme. The majority of leaks occurring were on smaller diameter PVC pipes.

Cr Bolger assumed the scheme would have a limited life and was there funding being set aside.

The General Manager, District Assets advised there had been a significant amount of pipe replacement in recent years so the backbone of the network had had significant replacement work undertaken. The Otama scheme ran a fund for ongoing works. There had been a number of units added and it had been suggested some modelling was required for the scheme.

Cr Dixon referred to the Maitai river and asked what the flow was. He could see water shortages occurring.

The Manager said the river was fluctuating at 60 cumecs. The first restriction level was 17 cumecs so the current flow was well above that. It was strenuously monitored.

Cr Redhead asked if a property owner damaged a pipe through agricultural practices, was the pipe placed deeper in the ground.

The Manager said the Otama scheme was managed by a local Committee, but when an incident occurred, the costs were passed on to the property owner. In some instances, the Council did ensure the pipe was trenched into the ground at a deeper level.

In response to Cr Redhead, the Manager said the scheme was a stock water scheme only.

Cr Watt referred to the new vehicle purchased and asked how long they were operated for before replacement.

The Manager advised the vehicle was a fleet replacement.

The Parks and Recreation Manager said vehicles were replaced at about 5-8 years depending on the number of kilometres travelled. The new configuration of the deck on the new vehicle would allow its life of about 30 years and it could be transferred to future replacement vehicles.

Cr Beale understood the vehicle was a smaller engine capacity than the options presented.

The Manager advised it was rated for a 3.5 tonne tow.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Watt, seconded by Cr Davis, THAT the report be received.

2012/162

9. AMENITY HIRE FEE WAIVER – ANNUAL REPORT (17.4.2)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive advising that he and Cr Bolger had delegated authority to make decisions on applications for waivers of amenity hire fees from community organisations. An annual allocation of \$3,500 was included within the grants budget. A schedule detailing fees waived by the Sub-Committee for the financial year ending 30 June 2012 had been circulated.

Cr Bolger said preference for waivers was given to organisations that did not have a door charge.

Cr Bolger moved THAT the report be received.

The motion was seconded by Cr Dixon.

In response to Cr Beale, Cr Bolger said some organisations could have an advantage if they applied at the start of the financial year compared to nearer the end, but not all applications were approved. His priority was the benefit for the wider community and whether an entry fee was charged.

The motion was put and it was carried.

2012/163

10. REPORT OF THE MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD (46.34.3)

A copy of the report of the ordinary meeting of the Mataura Community Board held on 12 November had been circulated.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Dixon, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the report of the meeting held on 12 November be received,

AND THAT the recommendations contained within the report be ratified.

2012/164

11. EMERGENCY COMMITTEE (46.6.3)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive about the need to establish an Emergency Committee to deal with any urgent governance or policy issues that may arise over the extended summer recess.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Davis, THAT an Emergency Committee consisting of His Worship the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and Cr Dixon be appointed to deal with urgent governance and policy issues that require actioning prior to the February 2013 Council meeting, with any two of the Emergency Committee members having power to act,

AND THAT any decisions made by the Emergency Committee be reported to the next meeting of the Gore District Council to be held on 19 February 2013.

2012/165

12. SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR 2013 (46.6.3)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a proposed schedule of meeting dates for 2013.

The October date was likely to be the statutory meeting following the 2013 elections. It was set for Wednesday 30 October. The June meeting was amended to Wednesday 26 June.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Watt, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the schedule of meeting dates be adopted, noting that the June and October meetings would be held on a Wednesday and the December meeting would commence at 3 pm.

2012/166

13. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION FOR STORMWATER UPGRADES (11.1.4)

A memo had been received from the Planning Consultant advising that the Council had expended nearly \$100,000 in upgrading stormwater infrastructure in the Charlton Lane area over the past year. A significant part of the need for the work had been the on-going redevelopment of the industrial land in the Charlton Lane/Aparima Street area. The staged development by Southland Farm Machinery undertaken on its site in Charlton Lane had progressively added to the area of hard surfaces on the site, in the form of sealed ground areas and roofs of buildings. That had substantially increased the run-off of stormwater from the site and added to pressure on the stormwater services.

The District Plan provided for the Council to request payment of a development contribution to assist with remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of any development that had a total value of more than \$500,000. Given the issues with stormwater disposal from the Southland Farm Machinery site it was considered appropriate to require payment of a contribution and a maximum amount of \$7,100 plus GST had been levied. The amount had been paid.

Cr Watt commended the consultant on his report and the installation of a 25,000 litre tank on Southland Farm Machinery's site.

Cr Watt moved THAT the Council note:

- 1. Where the development of commercial and industrial sites results in an increase in stormwater runoff from the site, for developments valued at more than \$500,000 a development levy of up to 0.5% of the value of the development will be sought.**
- 2. In determining the actual quantum of the levy regard will be had to any action taken by the developer to alleviate the flow of stormwater from the site.**
- 3. Developers will be encouraged to install rainwater storage tanks, regardless of the value of the development, in order to reduce peak flows associated with rainfall events, and lessen demand for reticulated (and treated) water.**

The motion was seconded by Cr Gover.

Cr Highsted thought the development by Southland Farm Machinery should be commended, however, he was concerned that the Council had expended \$100,000 and recovered \$7,100 which had been discounted because of the installation of a larger tank. He was unsure as to where the upgrade sat in terms of the Council's asset management plans, but thought it was time to review the policy framework. To have a limit on value and the percentage seemed to be out of step. With a development, there were implications and he felt it would be good to have a policy framework that recognised the costs created. It was not solely about Southland Farm Machinery, but development in general and wondered if a report from Mr Hovell on the framework could be provided together with some suggested solutions.

Cr P Grant said even though installing the tank was commendable, the size of the roof of the building could have had 4-5 tanks to make a significant difference. He did not think a 25,000 litre tank was that big given the roof size.

Cr Beale referred to the recommendation and was of the view that developers should be required to install rainwater storage tanks rather than being encouraged. He thought the Council should be proactive and be giving a directive particularly for commercial and industrial areas for new buildings having to install containment of rain water.

The Consultant said the report had generated some discussion at a staff level.

The General Manager, District Assets said Cr Highsted was quite right in suggesting there was no mechanism to recoup costs for new infrastructure installed to cope with

additional demand on the stormwater system. The application from Southland Farm Machinery had highlighted the need. The consent had been almost issued before staff realised how much stormwater was coming off the property. Whilst the Council had spent \$100,000, some future proofing had been done in the area by installing a second conduit under the road. The development had highlighted an issue that the Council needed to address.

The Planning Consultant was happy to provide an additional report on the policy framework, noting that the District Plan required a financial contribution to be made in the event of such developments where there was additional pressure put on sewerage and water supply. Options could relate to rating issues in terms of merit in identifying a special rating area where there was pressure on stormwater or the status quo. He would also include Cr Beale's suggestion for the compulsory provision of water tanks for large industry.

The Council agreed to add a further clause to request a report from Mr Hovell on the policy framework the Council had, the appropriateness of it, any possible changes required and the need to require compulsory water storage particularly on industrial sites.

The addition was agreed to by Crs Watt and Gover. The motion was put and was carried.

2012/167

14. REGULATORY BULLETIN (11.5.2/2.14.3)

A schedule of building consents issued for November 2012 had been circulated, together with a comparison of the previous two years.

A schedule of land use consents issued as at 30 November and road closures and stopping had also been circulated.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr P Grant, seconded by Cr Watt, THAT the information be received.

2012/168

15. RURAL HALLS AND DOMAINS GRANT ALLOCATION (1.7.4.3)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a copy of the minutes of the Rural Halls and Domains Sub-Committee meeting held on 21 November.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Sharp, THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 21 November be received,

AND THAT the distribution of grant monies ratified.

2012/169

16. REVIEW OF ELECTED MEMBER REMUNERATION (46.18.3)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive referring to a discussion document issued by the Remuneration Authority in September 2011 seeking input into the methodology by which elected member remuneration was determined. A copy of the submission lodged by the Council at the time had been circulated.

The Authority had crystallised its thoughts and distributed a discussion document containing a firm set of proposals. The Authority sought to bring about a consistency in the levels of remuneration paid to elected members for similar sized organisations. Feedback on the proposals was sought by 14 December.

His Worship said he had heard several presentations from the Remuneration Authority in recent weeks and had confidence that the current Authority would get the formula right.

The Chief Executive said the move to streamline the administration behind remunerating elected members would be welcomed. He added that currently there seemed to be quite a degree of discrepancy between similar sized local authorities.

His Worship said he was encouraged after hearing a member recently that the Authority was intending to develop a job description for Councillors which he thought was a good idea.

His Worship asked if Councillors wanted to put their thoughts forward on the questionnaire provided, then to have them into the Council office the following day. If none were received, it would be taken that Councillors were in agreement with the proposals being suggested by the Remuneration Authority.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Watt, seconded by Cr Gover, THAT the report *Remuneration Setting Proposals for Local Authorities*, compiled by the Remuneration Authority be received,

AND THAT the Council form a view on the questions posed on the feedback form and submit these views to the Remuneration Authority by 14 December 2012.

2012/170

17. COSTER FUND DISTRIBUTION SUB-COMMITTEE (1.61)

The Chief Executive advised that the Coster Fund Distribution Sub-Committee had recently met on two occasions to consider a revised application for funding from the Matura and Districts Historical Society. Notes of both meetings had been circulated.

The Sub-Committee also considered a replacement for Mr Paul Barnfather who had resigned from the Matura Community Board. The Sub-Committee recommended that existing Community Board member, Mr Christian Duffy, replace Mr Barnfather on the Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Dixon, seconded by Cr P Grant, THAT the notes of the Coster Fund Distribution Sub-Committee be received,

AND THAT the recommendations contained therein be endorsed.

2012/171

18. RESOURCE CONSENT BY MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (11.5.2)

A memo had been received from the Planning Consultant advising that the Ministry of Primary Industries had applied for consent to Environment Southland to discharge the aquatic pest herbicide, Endothall, and monitoring dyes Rhodamine WT and Envirodye, to all surface waters, including ponds and lakes, within Southland over a period of 30 years.

The application indicated that the Medical Officer of Health would be advised when spraying was undertaken in catchments where water was taken for drinking purposes. It was not clear how the Ministry would identify such catchments or how it will be alerted should the Gore District Council be exercising emergency water takes at the time of spraying.

To clarify the issues and to provide for the inclusion of appropriate conditions, a submission had been lodged, a copy of which had been circulated to the Council. The purpose of putting a submission in was to share information and be appropriately informed about any potential effects on the Council's water supply.

Cr Redhead was concerned at the toxicity of the spray to be used. He was very nervous at the possible effects.

Cr Beale asked what the eradication was for.

The Consultant said the report was very technical and the product to be eliminated were not the usual pest plants.

Cr Watt said it needed to be clarified if it was a pesticide or herbicide.

The Consultant said it was a herbicide.

Cr Davis moved THAT the Council note the submission that has been lodged to the application by the Ministry of Primary Industries.

The motion was seconded by Cr Beale.

Cr Sharp was horrified when he read the application. He thought it was “nuts.”

Cr P Grant said the Council needed to be informed about what the sprays were and their common names.

The motion was put and it was carried.

2012/172

19. FUNDING ASSISTANCE RATES (FAR) REVIEW (4.3.1)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together advice from the New Zealand Transport Agency announcing a comprehensive review of the general approach to setting funding assistance rates (FAR) for land transport activities. A review of the FAR for land transport funding did not relate to the total of funds available to local authorities and that would not change. A copy of a letter and accompanying background information from the New Zealand Transport Agency had been circulated.

Any change from the current subsidy rate of 55% would have a sizeable impact on the Council’s rating levels, and it was important the Council took a close interest in the FAR review.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Watt, seconded by Cr Highsted, THAT the letter from the New Zealand Transport Agency and the accompanying background document on the proposed review of funding assistance rates be received.

2012/173

20. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (46.12.9)

Cr D Grant reported he had attended a meeting of the Dolamore Trust Board. He had also attended the AGM of the Combined Courts Association.

Cr Gover had attended a Southland Warm Homes Trust. The Trust was hoping to secure more funding through the PHO.

Cr Davis attended a Sister City Committee meeting and advised the Young Ambassador and runner-up would both be attending the 2013 Tamworth country music festival together with His Worship. There were also a number of other local people visiting Tamworth.

Cr Beale attended a meeting of the Eastern Southland Gallery held at the East Gore Art Centre.

The meeting concluded at 4:26 pm