

Report of the ordinary meeting of the Operations Committee, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Civic Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 14 October 2014, at 4.24pm

Present His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr Davis (Chairperson), Crs Beale, Bolger, Byars, Dixon, Gover, D Grant, P Grant, Highsted and Page.

In attendance The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), General Manager Community and Strategy (Dr Aaron Fox), General Manager District Assets (Mr Paul Withers), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), Roading Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), Communications Manager (Sonia Gerken), Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Kylie Weir) and one member of the public in the gallery.

Apology Cr Sharp apologised for absence.

Cr Davis called for any conflicts of interest. None were declared.

1. REPORT FROM 3 WATERS MANAGER – AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2014

The Committee perused a report from the 3 Waters Manager.

Cr D Grant referred to the levels of service and questioned if adequate pressure and volume of water of fire hydrants was known. He recalled asking the same question last year and queried if it was satisfactory to not have results for two years.

The General Manager District Assets advised nothing had been received from the Fire Service for quite some time.

The Chief Executive said the Council needed to be proactive in ascertaining that the hydrants had adequate pressure and he would request a report to be provided to a future meeting.

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

2. WASTENET WASTE ADVISORY GROUP MINUTES

A copy of the minutes from the meeting of the Waste Advisory Group Committee held on 25 September had been circulated.

A comprehensive powerpoint presentation on activities of the WAG Committee was provided by the General Manager District Assets.

The Building Control Manager attended the meeting from 4.47pm

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Gover, THAT the information be received.

3. REPORT FROM THE ROADING MANAGER

The Committee perused a report from the Roading Manager.

In response to Cr Dixon, the Manager advised the cost of the new pavement marking contract would remain mostly unchanged from the previous one and the Council would determine the work programme in accordance with its budget.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Beale, seconded by Cr Page, THAT the information be received.

4. SAFETY INVESTIGATION REPORT – HYDE STREET/RIVER STREET INTERSECTION, GORE (SC0381)

A memo had been received from the Roading Manager, together with an investigative report by MWH New Zealand on the safety of the Hyde Street/River Street intersection and its approaches on the Gore heavy traffic bypass.

The investigation report contained recommended actions which were a mixture of sign changes, delineation, pavement marking and some minor geometric changes to the pavement. The actions were all relatively low cost and could be accommodated within the existing roading budget. One recommendation that could incur a higher cost was the power pole relocation. The Manager thought that could cost \$5-6,000 but it was not certain the relocation would have to be undertaken.

In response to Cr Davis, the Manager said the work would be programmed to be undertaken as soon as possible and maybe before Christmas.

Cr Dixon thought the Council was getting carried away with spending more money on that area of road. There had only been two accidents reported. It had gone from removing three trees to a report and recommendations to do more work.

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

In response to His Worship asking if there was any liability with not implementing the recommendations in the report, the Manager said realignment of the power poles was only a suggestion and placing reflectors on them may be all that was required.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr Gover, THAT the implementation of the measures recommended in the report be referred to the Roding Manager.

5. 2014 BRIDGE POSTINGS (SC0818)

A memo had been received from the Roding Manager together with a letter from MWH New Zealand advising of the amended postings required on various bridges within the Gore District.

The weight or loading permitted over bridges and culverts on the Council's roading network was determined by qualified bridge engineers following survey and analysis of the bridges. As a result of the survey, there was a list of bridges that needed to have restrictions in either the mass that could be carried over the bridge, the speed of travel of heavy vehicles over the bridge, the position the heavy vehicle must take on the bridge or a combination of two or more of these factors. A total of 24 bridges in the Council's roading network were currently posted (or restricted).

A copy of the current schedule 14 – weight, speed or load restrictions over bridges or culverts from the Council's Roding Bylaw 2011 had been circulated.

The Manager said bridge restrictions were a significant problem for most rural authorities in the country.

In response to Cr Dixon who asked how much funding was available for improving bridges, the Manager advised funding came from the depreciation account and the Council was likely to spend about \$200-300,000 per year for the next ten years. There would be a more frequent inspection programme undertaken which should result in getting bridges off the restrictions list so that the economic impact was not so significant.

In response to Cr Byars, the Manager said a smaller bridge could cost \$80-100,000 to replace. However, most smaller bridges would just have weak components replaced as opposed to full replacement.

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

AND THAT the Council resolve to amend schedule 14: weight or road restrictions over bridges or culverts in accordance with clause 3.8 of the Roding Bylaw.

The meeting concluded at 5.58pm