

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 20 February 2018, at 6.40pm

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

**In Attendance** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Regulatory and Planning (Dr Ian Davidson-Watts), 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) and 42 members of the public in the gallery.

**Apologies** Crs Beale and Sharp apologised for absence.

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**1. NZ CITIZENSHIP (SC2035)**

His Worship conferred New Zealand citizenship on Ian Gary Compton, Kerry Louise Churches, Susan Dorothy Kennedy, Colin Angus Kennedy, Hannah Margaret Kennedy, Robert Angus Kennedy, Alistair Louis Kennedy, British citizens, Michael Cajocson Omega, Sheilah Marie Tolentino Omega and Samantha Mikaela Tolentino Omega, Filipino citizens, Irving Biala Solis, Gemma Santos Solis, Ivy Gabrielle Santos Solis and Garth Irvin Santos Solus, Filipino citizens and Zita Mary Young, an Irish citizen.

All read the Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation of Allegiance. Each individual was presented with a New Zealand silver fern lapel pin and each family was presented with a New Zealand kowhai and the New Zealand citizenship story book provided by the Department of Internal Affairs.

*The meeting adjourned at 7.00pm and resumed at 7.16pm with no members of the public in the gallery.*

*His Worship asked for any conflicts of interest. None were declared.*

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Gardyne, seconded by Cr Dickson, THAT the minutes of the ordinary monthly meeting of the Gore District Council, held on Tuesday 12 December 2017, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.**

3. AMENDMENT TO FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE (SC1480)

A memo had been received from the Chief Financial Officer advising that a new fee was required to be set to assist with the annual building warrant of fitness (BWOFF) renewal process. The Council recently employed a Compliance Officer to assist with receiving and maintaining the Compliance Schedule (CS) and BWOFF records. The CS was the base document issued for the inspection, maintenance and reporting procedures for specialised systems installed in a building.

It was proposed that a simple annual BWOFF renewal fee be set at \$150 for each BWOFF with an expiry date after 31 March 2018.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr P Grant, seconded by Cr Reid, THAT the report be received,**

**AND THAT the Council amend its fees and charges schedule for the 2017/18 year to include an annual building warrant of fitness renewal fee of \$150, for all BWOFFs with an expiry date after 31 March 2018.**

**2018/02**

4. CLEAN AIR LOANS QUARTERLY REPORT 31 DECEMBER 2017 (SC2017)

A memo had been received from the Chief Financial Officer providing an update on the interest free clean air loans scheme for the quarter ending 31 December 2017.

During the quarter, four new applications had been approved. No loans were issued. Repayments on previously issued loans had started in October 2017.

Cr Highsted suggested a representative from Awarua Synergy be invited to a future committee meeting to address the Council about the challenges it faced with the scheme.

In response to Cr Dickson, the Officer understood heat pumps were the most popular option for people who were eligible for a loan.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the report be received.**

**2018/03**

5. QUARTERLY DEBT REPORT (SC1903)

A memo had been received from the Chief Financial Officer together with a copy of the quarterly debt report provided by Bancorp. A comprehensive analysis of current global markets had also been included.

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

**2018/04**

6. SOUTHLAND WARM HOMES TRUST - ANNUAL REPORT (SC1658)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a copy of the annual report of the Southland Warm Homes Trust for the year ending 30 June 2017. Since 2008, the Council had advanced an annual grant of \$15,000 to the Trust to assist with the installation of heating and insulation in older homes.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Dickson, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the annual report of the Southland Warm Homes Trust for the year ended 30 June 2017 be received.**

**2018/05**

7. PYRAMID BRIDGE UPDATE (SC2134)

A joint update report on the Pyramid Bridge collapse and Otama water scheme repair from the Transport and 3 Waters Asset Managers had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The report noted that following the collapse of the bridge on 2 February, all 253 users of the Otama water scheme had been cut off from supply. The bridge had been immediately isolated and detours put in place to minimise any risk to the general public. An emergency repair to the Otama water scheme had been completed on 10 February, eight days after the bridge collapse.

A request for proposal had been sent to three consultants with the capability of providing the Council with final bridge design and tender documentation. Proposals were due by 5 March with the contract scheduled to be awarded by 15 March. The request asked for two options to be developed (single and a double lane), with both designs sited on the existing alignment. The New Zealand Transport Agency remained committed to the project. Dedicated funding was still in place with more flexibility around when the money needed to be spent.

The three sections of the bridge that had broken away beached 50 metres down from the bridge. Two had been on the bank and one was mid-stream. Following approval from Environment Southland, an extraction was carried out by Fulton Hogan and K2 contractors.

The temporary water pipeline had been installed. Opus estimated that the temporary pipeline would have an expected lifespan of 3-6 months. Options to relocate the existing scheme well to prevent the requirement of a future river crossing would be explored at a high level.

In response to Cr Gardyne, the Transport Manager said the next stage of the bridge project was for final design and documentation to be completed.

Cr P Grant referred to the design of the water pipe lasting between 3-6 months.

The 3 Waters Asset Manager said Opus had made the Council aware of that in the aftermath of the bridge collapse. The timeframe was conservative and it was a matter of working through the detail and endeavouring to extend the life of the pipeline. It was a temporary fix and any sign of deterioration would need to be acted upon urgently.

In response to Cr Reid, the Transport Manager advised the sections of the bridge that were beached in the river had been removed the previous day.

Cr Dickson said it had been suggested that because Environment Southland had sprayed willows further up the river and left them, that may have contributed to the build up of debris and bridge collapse.

His Worship said he had also heard that but did not know if that was the sole cause.

Cr Phillips said the total fire ban meant that any tree debris could not be burned off.

The Chief Executive said the Council could ask for a comment from Environment Southland about the extraordinary amount of debris in the river and whether it could happen again.

His Worship congratulated everyone involved with the bridge collapse, from the Council staff, the community and Emergency Management Southland.

Cr P Grant thought Environment Southland needed a reprimand. If there were trees trimmed or cut that could not be burned because of the fire ban, he wanted to know why they had been left in the flood channel.

**RESOLVED on the motion Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Reid, THAT the report be received.**

**2018/06**

**8. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2017**

A copy of a financial report for December 2017 was perused by the Council.

A copy of the capex projects over 100k report which had been omitted from the report was tabled at the meeting.

In response to Cr Highsted, the Chief Financial Officer explained the main reason for the unfavourable variance in the aquatic services area was attributable to increased electricity costs and reactive maintenance to the air handling unit.

Cr Highsted suggested the Council needed to engage with Ice Sports Southland about the increased costs and how they should be monitored in the future.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr P Grant, THAT the report be received,**

**AND THAT the Council engage with Ice Sports Southland to review the operation of the aquatic centre and ice rink and how best to monitor the shared costs associated between both facilities.**

**2018/07**

**9. NEW ZEALAND WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM, LE QUESNOY – FUNDING REQUEST (SC2002)**

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a letter from the patron of the New Zealand Memorial Museum in Le Quesnoy in France, requesting a financial contribution towards the establishment of a permanent New Zealand War Memorial Museum in Le Quesnoy.

The Council had a number of funding challenges and the consensus was the provision of a museum was the domain of central Government.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr P Grant, seconded by Cr Davis, THAT the request for funding for the establishment of a New Zealand War Memorial Museum in Le Quesnoy, France, be declined.**

**2018/08**

**10. VENTURE SOUTHLAND – 2018-19 DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME (SC2030)**

A report had been received from the Chief Executive advising that Venture Southland was required to produce an annual business plan, in accordance with the Heads of Agreement signed between the Invercargill City, Gore District and Southland District Councils.

As a result of the Southland Regional Development Agency establishment process, the Gore and Southland District Councils had made a decision to exit the Venture Southland agreement from 1 February 2019. Given that decision and the fact there would be a need for a new business plan to be developed for the new Southland Regional Development Agency, it had been informally agreed with Venture Southland for the draft 2018-19 annual business plan, there needed to be a variation to the

standard approach. Venture Southland had provided a draft annual business plan 2018-19 to the Invercargill City, Gore District and Southland District Councils. A copy had been circulated with the agenda.

The Chief Executive advised there was a need for the Council to determine in light of the decisions it had made previously to exit the Venture Southland agreement from February 2019, whether it required that Venture Southland should prepare a draft business plan/work programme for the seven month period from 1 July 2018 to 1 February 2019.

Details of the factors to consider in terms of legal and statutory requirements, community views and an analysis of options considered had been provided.

Cr Bolger advised he would abstain from voting due to being the Council's representative on Venture Southland.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Dickson, THAT the report be received,**

**THAT the Council's decision of 27 June 2017 to give notice to the Invercargill City Council and Southland District Council of its intention to exit the Venture Southland Agreement 2014-2017 be endorsed,**

**THAT Venture Southland be requested to prepare a work programme and budget from 1 July 2018 to 1 February 2019 for the Council be based on being 7/12 of the allocated Gore District Council annual budget for Venture Southland,**

**AND THAT the Council note it will need to make decisions relating to the establishment and funding of the proposed Southland Regional Development Agency once the decision making process for this proposal is more advanced.**

**2018/09**

**11. REPRESENTATION REVIEW (SC1939)**

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive advising that at its last meeting, submissions received to an earlier publicly notified representation review proposal had been considered. All eight submissions received did not support the proposal for a new rural ward and wished to have the status quo retained. Copies of letters sent to the three submitters who had expressed a wish to appear before the Council or speak further to their submission had been circulated.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Reid, THAT the Gore District, as delineated on LG074-2013-W1 deposited with Land Information New Zealand, shall be divided into four wards.**

**THAT the four wards shall be –**

- (a) the Gore Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 11803 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
- (b) the Mataura Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 11488 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
- (c) the Waikaka Ward comprising the area delineated on LG074-2013-W2 11482, deposited with Land Information New Zealand; and
- (d) the Kaiwera-Waimumu Ward comprising the area delineated on LG074-2013-W3 Plan 386071 deposited with Land Information New Zealand.

**THAT** the Council shall comprise a Mayor and 11 Councillors, elected as follows:

- (a) five Councillors elected by the electors of the Gore Ward,
- (b) one Councillor elected by the electors of the Mataura Ward,
- (c) one Councillor elected by the electors of the Waikaka Ward,
- (d) one Councillor elected by the electors of the Kaiwera-Waimumu Ward,
- (e) three Councillors elected by the electors of the District as a whole.

**THAT** there shall be a Mataura Community Board, comprising the area of the Mataura Ward as defined in 2(b) above;

**AND THAT** the Mataura Community Board shall comprise five elected members and one member of the Council representing the Mataura Ward and appointed to the Community Board by the Council.

2018/10

## 12. MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD

A copy of the report of the meeting of the Mataura Community Board held on 22 January 2018 had been circulated with the agenda.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Phillips, seconded by Cr D Grant, **THAT** the report be received,

**AND THAT** the recommendations contained in the report be ratified.

2018/11

The meeting concluded at 7.44pm