

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held in the Council Chambers, James Cumming Wing, 10C Ardwick Street, Gore, on Tuesday 30 June 2020, at 4.02pm

Present His Worship the Mayor, Mr Tracy Hicks JP, Crs Bolger, Dickson, Gardyne, D Grant JP, N Grant, Highsted, MacDonell, McPhail and Reid.

In attendance The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Chief Financial Officer (Ms Lornae Straith), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), Communications-Marketing Manager (Sonia Gerken), Planning Manager (Mr Dean Balkin), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith Hovell), Aquatic Services Manager (Mr Martin MacKereth), Graduate Planner (Miss Leigh Clutterbuck-Young) and four members of the public in the gallery.

Apologies Crs Davis and Phillips apologised for absence.

1. CONSULTATION CONDUCTED FOR DRAFT SPATIAL PLAN (SC2878)

A report had been received from the Planning Manager advising that in September 2017, the Council resolved to begin a spatial plan process. A consultation period had opened in January 2020 with an extended closing time provided due to the civil defence flooding event in early February. Submissions closed on 13 March with a total of 13 submissions had been received. A summary of the submitter's main points had been included in the agenda. Themes identified from the submissions received included outdoor and recreational spaces, infrastructure improvements, development, District Plan and zoning, community improvements and protection of the Gore District.

The Planning Manager advised a workshop had been held with the Mataura Community Board on 22 June.

Mr Nigel Cowburn was in attendance and presented his submission to the Council. Some questions from elected members followed.

His Worship thanked Mr Cowburn for his presentation.

Cr Dickson did not think the Council had had enough time to consider the submissions received. She added there were some very good points made by submitters and perhaps the Council should have a discussion. The Planning Manager agreed there had been good points made and said many of the submissions would be integrated into the District Plan review. The Chief Executive said the spatial plan was a high level document that would inform the District Plan review. The Manager said a spatial plan was not a statutory requirement, whereas the District Plan review was. In response to His Worship, the Manager said the spatial plan would be published and included in its entirety on the Council website and used to inform the District Plan review.

Cr Bolger did not think there was any impediment with the spatial plan as to how permissive the Council may choose to be with its District Plan.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Reid, THAT the report and submissions made to the Spatial Plan as detailed be received and noted,

THAT based on the submissions, the public be thanked for their participation in the consultation process,

THAT having considered the submissions made, no amendments be made to the spatial plan,

AND THAT the Gore District Spatial Plan be adopted.

2020/72

2. SOLID WASTE BYLAW (SC0107)

A memo had been received from the Planning Consultant advising that at an extraordinary Council meeting held on 26 May, the Council had considered a report advising that the Solid Waste Bylaw 2008 had been due for review on 1 July 2018 and unless it was reviewed in some form by 1 July 2020, it would be automatically revoked, under section 160A of the Local Government Act 2002.

The Council had reconfirmed the current bylaw subject to several minor changes. The approach was a temporary measure to facilitate a more thorough review of the bylaw when resources were available again. The Council had previously endorsed being party to a regional bylaw covering all of Southland that would be prepared by the Waste Advisory Group. Public notice of the Council's intention was given via the Council's website on 3 June and by the close of submissions on 19 June, none had been received.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr McPhail, THAT the Council adopt the Solid Waste Bylaw 2020 with effect from 1 July 2020.

2020/73

3. ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL PLAN 2020-2021 (SC2820)

A memo had been received from the Accountant together with a copy of the draft Annual Plan 2021.

His Worship advised there had been a glitch in the system. The Chief Executive asked that the Council defer the adoption of the annual plan for seven days. The rating samples included in the draft Plan had been based on some incomplete rating valuation information in the Council's system as a result of subdivisions. An updated valuation roll had been requested from Quotable Value and a revised rates resolution and the rating values spreadsheet at a further extraordinary Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 14 July. He apologised for the situation due to the former Chief Financial Officer departing in mid-February, the February flooding event and the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite not adopting the draft annual plan and striking the rates before 30 June, the Council would still be able to legally strike its rates.

Cr McPhail suggested once the issue was behind the Council, training for newer elected members in particular would be appropriate so that there was a good level of understanding of the rating system.

Cr Highsted said there was a small team in the Council and it would be worthwhile to have the issue considered at the Audit and Risk Committee to avoid any repeat in the future. He noted the efforts of Cr Gardyne who had raised the inaccuracies. Cr Gardyne said the lack of spreadsheets provided to Councillors at annual plan workshops had not helped. It was not until the samples had been included with the agenda that the anomalies had been picked up.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Gardyne, THAT adoption of the draft annual plan for 2020-21 and accompanying rates resolution be deferred until an extraordinary meeting of the Council to be held on Tuesday 14 July 2020.

2020/74

4. PLANNED NEW WATER SAFETY PROGRAMME TO REPLACE G'n'D SWIMMING (SC0222)

A report from the Aquatic Services Manager had been circulated to the Council to outline a proposed new programme based around water safety skills and move towards the current national approach of water skills for life, to replace the Council-funded G'n'D swimming programme. The programme had been running for the past nine years catering for all schools within both the Gore District and the Maitua Licensing Trust (MLT) boundaries. The initiative had been a partnership between the Council and the MLT. In recent years, Gore Pakeke Lions had also made a valued financial contribution. The MLT had recently advised it was not able to continue funding the programme due to the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on its operations. This had led to the decision that the programme could not continue in its current form due to insufficient funding.

It was proposed to create a new programme, called Gore Aquatic Programme (GAP) to align with the national direction about water safety in schools. Details were:

- A water safety skills-based programme that would cover school years 1-8.
- The programme would be one week long with years 1-3 having 30 minute sessions and years 4-8 having 40 minute sessions.
- All instruction would be completed by the Council's qualified instructors.
- School involvement around water safety in land-based activities – could be incorporated in self-led learning within the curriculum.
- Teacher awareness would be organised via a 5 minute session in a staff meeting leading up to their sessions.
- All schools would have their sessions over the summer months in terms one and four.
- Ongoing development and improvement provided by working with the schools.

The previous learn to swim programme cost \$70,000. If the Council was to shift to a one week water safety programme, the cost for all schools in the district including the intermediates, would be \$56,735. Without the intermediates, the cost would be \$45,539. If a current administration charge was removed, the cost would be \$49,385. This was recommended in the interests of accessibility and only charging what was absolutely necessary. Some schools that had previously had lessons taught at the Gore Aquatic Centre would be covered by REAP under the arrangement of being included in the SwimSafe Southland programme. Those schools were Te Tipua, Tutura and Hedgehope.

The total cost of the revised programme was expected to be \$49,385. The Council's contribution would be \$28,000 and if Pakeke Lions could continue to contribute \$10,000, it would leave a shortfall of \$11,385.

Cr Reid acknowledged the input of the Pakeke Lions for the past three years. His Worship concurred and also acknowledged the MLT for contributing to the programme. In response to Cr Dickson, His Worship said the cost to the Council was the same as the previous programme.

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

AND THAT the Council approve the following new GAP programme to be adopted and commenced in term 4 of 2020:

- **Redesign the programme to be in line with what is happening nationally with water safety delivery.**
- **Run with a one week programme which allows all the issues previously raised to be addressed.**
- **That the programme includes all Gore District Council (GDC) primary school and Intermediates, costing \$49,500 for the delivery.**

- REAP to provide the programme to those that are in the MLT area and do not come into the GDC area.
- Sport Southland to provide details of the funding received for those schools in the MLT area with a direct solicitation being made to the Chief Executives and Mayors of those two Councils, noting that with the reduced funding from the MLT, this measure will still be necessary. In-house running and ownership of the programme will keep the costs down and allow the Council to have control of the programme and its delivery.
- Re-launch the programme to be operational by term four, prioritising the schools that had previously missed out due to Covid-19 (East Gore and Gore Main Schools).

2020/75

5. APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE (SC2605)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive advising that under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, the Council must have a District Licensing Committee to consider alcohol licensing matters in its area. A number of functions relating to decisions on certain alcohol licensing applications in the interests of improving efficiency and cost to applicants had been delegated in August 2018 to the General Manager Regulatory and Community Services, the Chief Executive, the Licensing Inspector and the Regulatory Administrator.

The Council's DLC had not been appointed for this triennium and there was now an application that required a member of the Committee to determine.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr MacDonell, THAT Crs McPhail, D Grant and N Grant be appointed to the District Licensing Committee, with Cr McPhail being appointed as Chairperson.

2020/76

The meeting concluded at 5.01pm