

REPORT and MINUTES of a meeting of the **SERVICES AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 20 April, 2006, commencing at 1.30 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors B A Tasker (Chair), D N Nelson, N A Brown, I J Burgess, K L Holmes, L J Leadley, K W P Lowe and P W Reveley.

Also in attendance – Crs R C Beavan, D Glass, R J Kilworth and M J Urquhart; Chief Executive, Roading and Street Services Manager, Water Services Manager and Chief Executive's Secretary.

APOLOGY: His Worship the Mayor, Mr M B O'Malley

Sustained

Confirmation of Minutes

"That the minutes of the Services and Operations Committee meeting held on 9 March, 2006, be taken as read and confirmed."

Brown / Nelson

Carried

Matters Arising

Transit 10 Year Programme

SH1 / East Street / Racecourse Rd intersection – the Committee was advised that the Roading and Street Services Manager will be meeting with Transit staff to discuss draft plans next Wednesday. The works will not be done this financial year, but will be in Transit's programme for 2006/07.

It was reported that a sign has been erected on a post south of the intersection layby, warning of the approaching intersection and need to reduce speed. The Roading and Street Services Manager noted the Committee's concern that the sign was inadequate. He explained that he had not been made aware of the sign and agreed to follow up this concern with Transit.

Additional information

The Roading and Street Services Manager has received confirmation from Transit that they are not responsible for the sign.

General Maintenance

The Committee was advised that contract has been let to Fulton Hogan Ltd under the roading maintenance contract for overlay work to be carried out on Tramway Road.

Unsealed AWPT

It was reported that work will be extended along Corbetts Road from Dolans Road to Mainwarings Road.

Gravity Main

There does not appear to be any significant increase in river flow in the Ashburton River. The Water Services Manager will obtain flow records from ECan.

Stockwater

The Water Services Manager confirmed that the installation of headwalls is at main stockwater races only.

Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Nelson / Leadley

Carried

Ashburton Transportation Study

The Roding and Street Services Manager advised that there are two parts to this study – the transport study in conjunction with Transit, and the Council looking at north east Ashburton development project impacts. It could be December before results of the study are released.

Transit New Zealand’s Ten Year State Highway Forecast

The Chief Executive reported on the presentation of Council’s submission on 7 April. While Council received a good hearing, it is unlikely any major works will be undertaken. Transit will be reporting back after their Board meeting in May.

General Maintenance

It was agreed that large trucks and trailers are causing damage to the edges of some sealed roads. The question was asked what percentage of the huge road user charges large firms like Fonterra pay comes back to be used in repairing our roads.

The Committee agreed to pavement upgrades on unsealed approaches to some intersections for a distance of up to 200 metres. This will be carried out as minor safety works.

The Chief Executive reported back on the transportation workshop he had attended in Wellington, where funding rural roads and the FAR rate review were discussed. Capital works programmes are being affected by increased costs and reduction in petrol tax. Options and alternatives have not been analysed effectively. Looked at changed FAR formula – involved in further analysis but indicated that Government may come out with decision at the end of May in relation to review of FAR – analysis superficial even though there should be more support to rural districts.

Bridges

• Bridge 116 – Rangitata River Bridge on Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road

The Roding and Street Services Engineer advised that work would be carried out as soon as possible after 1 July 2006.

Street Cleaning

Concern was expressed at the standard of cleaning carried out in the town centre, especially in alleyways. The Committee was advised that the cleaning contract covered cleaning down alleyways for 10 metres, beyond that in alleyways is the responsibility of the owner.

Carriageway Lighting

It was reported that lights have been erected at Pendarves. Council is working with Electricity Ashburton to have lights erected at Thompsons Track before 30 June 2006. The Roding and Street Services Engineer to have two lights at Mt Somers installed.

Minor Safety Works

The Committee discussed the following items on the Minor Safety Works Programme.

- Elizabeth Street / Oak Grove. It was agreed that clearer road markings of lanes and signs are to be tried to improve driving in this area. This work could be funded from traffic services budget and the budgeted \$45,000 used for other works.

- Normanby St / West Town Belt intersection. It was agreed that this item be removed from the list, as the intersection is subject to change with upgrade of Rakaia water system, and the \$45,000 be used for other works.
- Walnut Avenue / Ashburton College vicinity. It was agreed to liaise further with Ashburton College before committing to any works in this area.
- Safety Cycleway, Ashburton. This project was discussed and it was agreed to bring this item of works forward in place of the Walnut Avenue / Ashburton College area. \$40,000 is put aside for these works as a project in the 10 year land transport programme.

“That Item 6.20, New Splitter Islands at Elizabeth St / Oak Grove intersection be removed from proposed minor safety projects for 2006/07 and the \$45,000 be put to intersection sealing.

Nelson / Burgess

AMENDMENT

“That new splitter islands at Elizabeth St / Oak Grove intersection (\$45,000), and kerb protrusions, median islands etc in the vicinity of Walnut Avenue & Ashburton College be removed from proposed minor safety projects (\$35,000), and the total of \$80,000 be added to budget for sealing at rural intersections.”

Holmes / Burgess

The amendment became the substantive motion

Carried

Drainage Rating Districts

Staff to look into where rated funds are coming from for these districts and report back.

Minor Township Maintenance Contracts

- “1. That a new Minor Township Maintenance Contract for Rakaia be negotiated with the current service provider.
2. That the new contract commences from 1 July 2006 and run for 3 years to 30 June 2009.”

Leadley / Brown

Carried

Roading Budget

- “1. That the application for additional subsidy funds of \$123,808 from Land Transport NZ be approved, and
2. The action taken to lodge this application be confirmed.”

Nelson / Holmes

Carried

North East Ashburton Water Servicing

The Water Services Manager reported on submissions received to date. Of the 254 letters sent out, 125 responses were received, equating to a 48% return rate. 64% oppose the project and 32.6% support it.

Discussion took place on Council’s ruling to charge all property owners for undeveloped lots. The Committee agreed that a number of payment options exist for property owners which need to be pursued.

There was also concern that Council has been taking head works fees for a number of years in order to extend and upgrade supply and it was suggested this money be used for the project.

The Committee discussed the issue of subdividable sections and it was debated that there should be one ruling for all subdivisions, including north-east Ashburton.

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 2.50 pm and resumed in meeting at 3.10 pm.

Crs Beavan and Urquhart left the meeting.

Dromore Water Supply

The Water Services Manager confirmed that a letter of thanks would be sent to the farmer who gave Council access to his water supply.

Mayfield Water Supply Upgrade

The Water Services Manager advised that final investigations are being undertaken. Opus is looking at the feasibility of a deep groundwater bore. Preference would be to start with a clean source of water rather than treating the existing open race source.

Rakaia Water Supply Upgrade

The Water Services Manager advised that taking pipe samples from the reticulation is a required critical process, and necessitates a one metre section of pipe being removed and sent to the laboratory for analysis.

Ashburton Wastewater Project

Cr Leadley reported that the Operations Manager is addressing this issue and has agreed that a visit to the farm should be arranged for Councillors, to give them the opportunity to look at any plans before final works are committed.

- **Easement Discussions**

The Committee heard that positive progress is being made with landowner.

Management of Waste Processing Sites

- **Ashburton Resource Recovery Park**

The Committee requested more information on the processing of glass being stored on-site. This information to be reported to the next Council meeting.

Township Beautification and Sports Grounds

The Committee discussed Argyle Park being used as a golf practice area and agreed that the Bylaw prohibiting such practice on Council's reserves and sportsgrounds should be enforced. Council is to inform the public of this enforcement through erection of appropriate signs.

Customer Service Requests Reports

The Committee requested more information in reports on overdue complaints. The Roding and Street Services Manager advised that more information should become available as part of the computer services request for service programme.

Methven Community Board

"That the new minor township maintenance contract for the period 2006/07 to 2009/10 be renegotiated with the current contractor."

Lowe / Reveley

Carried

Recommendations from Town Centre Subcommittee Meeting – 20/04/06

It was reported that a meeting of the Town Centre Subcommittee was held this morning and four recommendations were tabled for the Committee's decision.

Restricted Car Parking at Baring Square West

“That the Committee approves, pursuant to Clause 1304 of the Ashburton District Council Bylaws, the following areas of Ashburton to be restricted to one hour parking between 8.00 am and 6.00 pm Monday to Saturday:

The nine car parks from the south west end of Baring Square West on the south east side.”

Leadley / Holmes

Carried

Limited Parking Time – Mona Square, Ashburton

"That the Committee approves, pursuant to clause 1304 of the Ashburton District Council bylaws, the following areas in Ashburton be restricted to two hour parking between 8 am and 6 pm Monday to Saturday:

“From the northern corner of Mona Square to Cass Street for a total length of approximately 49 m on the north east side.”

Holmes / Nelson

Carried

Burnett Street Carpark Site west of Fire station in Burnett Street

“That the Committee approve the installation of signage and street lighting at an estimated cost of \$2,900, and this be funded from the Parking Reserve.”

Reveley / Brown

Carried

Development of section on east side of Fire Station at 344 Burnett Street

“That the Committee approve a resource consent application being lodged to gain consent to allow the site at 344 Burnett Street to be used as off-street car parking, complete with facilities.”

Burgess / Holmes

Carried

Informal discussion on Proposed SH1 Realignment – Ashburton Bridge etc

The Roading and Street Services Engineer tabled plans of proposed work for realignment installing new cycleways and footpath widening on the Ashburton Bridge approaches. The Committee was not happy with Transit’s proposals to mark the cycleway on the road south of Carters Terrace. The cycleway should be off the road on the grass berm.

Items transacted with the public excluded (4.32 pm)

“That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – the general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Contract C496 : New and Replacement Kerb and Channel, and New Footpaths, Ashburton District 2005/06	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activity
Contract C497 : Mill Creek Protection Works – Belt Road to Hanrahan Street 2005/06	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activity

Holmes / Brown

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

Council resolved that the following resolutions become the business of open meeting –

C496: New and Replacement Kerb and Channel

“That the tender from Ashburton Contracting Ltd for C496: “New and Replacement kerb and channel, Ashburton, Methven, Rakaia and Mt Somers, 2005/2006” in the sum of \$274,817.24 be accepted.”

Nelson / Burgess

Carried

C497: Mill Creek Bank Protection – Belt Road / Hanrahan Street

- “1. That the tender for Mill Creek Bank Protection Works 05/06 - Belt Road to Hanrahan Street from Ashburton Contracting Limited in the amount of \$439,012 excluding GST be declined; and
2. That the project be deferred until 2006/07, the existing funding be carried forward and the work be rescoped.”

Tasker / Nelson

Carried

The meeting concluded at 4.32 pm.