

## FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

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**REPORT** and **MINUTES** of a meeting of the **FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 23 March, 2006, commencing at 1.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley; Councillors K L Holmes, (Chair), N A Brown, D N Nelson, R C Beavan, R J Kilworth, D Glass, M J Urquhart and P W Reveley.

Also in attendance Councillors L J Leadley, I J Burgess and K W P Lowe; Chief Executive, Corporate Services Manager, Finance Manager, Property Manager and Committee Secretary.

**APOLOGY** Cr B A Tasker (lateness)

**Sustained**

### ***Confirmation of Minutes***

“That the minutes of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee meeting held on 9 February, 2006, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Brown/Kilworth

**Carried**

### ***Matters Arising***

#### **Capital Works Loan**

The Finance Manager advised that the loan will be raised internally. Due to most of the wastewater project being deferred until next year, the amount raised will be considerably lower than initially reported.

#### **Rates Rebate Scheme**

Whether or not the scheme may be applied to other than residential ratepayers is continuing to be investigated by the Finance Manager.

### ***Mt Somers Fire Shed***

The Property Manager reported that a contingency sum has been included for radio linkages. He is investigating an option to temporarily house the radio equipment on a steel pole attached to the building which would reduce the contingency amount required to \$1,000.

Mr Rooney explained that the work, initially considered to be minor, was not tendered. The scope of the project has increased and replacement of the building is recommended.

“That approval be given to the complete replacement of the Mt Somers fire shed at a cost of up to \$36,000 plus GST; the work to be carried out by Joseph Builders Limited, Mt Somers.”

Mayor/Nelson

**Carried**

### ***Rakaia Landmark Salmon Sculpture Refurbishment***

The Property Manager tabled photos taken of the salmon structure during various stages of construction.

The Committee concurred that the sculpture is a significant and well recognised feature that should be maintained.

“That the Salmon sculpture at Rakaia be refurbished by the original builder of the sculpture (Mr Phil Price) at a cost of \$128,500 plus GST.”

Kilworth/Brown

**Carried**

### ***Rotary Club of Ashburton Plains – Licence to Occupy***

“That a licence to occupy be granted to the Rotary Club of Ashburton Plains at \$1 per annum (if demanded) in respect of an area of land immediately adjoining the industrial land in Robinson Street.”

Mayor/Glass

**Carried**

### ***Hinds Squash Club – Bridging Finance***

- “1. That Council loans an amount up to \$40,000 to the Hinds Squash Club for the purpose of the Club completing the building of a third squash court.
2. That the term of the loan be over three years at the twelve months fixed investment rate plus 1% applicable on the day preceding the advance.”

Brown/Reveley

**Carried**

### ***Ashburton College Board of Trustees – Funding Request***

“That the request of the Ashburton College Board of Trustees for a \$1,000 donation towards the cost of plant and equipment be declined.”

Nelson/Urquhart

**Carried**

### ***Ashburton Public Library – Falling Issues***

The Committee received the report of the Subcommittee. The proposed initiatives have been identified as a means of raising the Library’s profile and reflect the changing environment of public libraries.

“That the following initiatives be investigated and progressed as soon as is practicable.

- i) Decrease internet charges to those of market charges and investigate increasing the speed of the Internet and a PIN for users.
- ii) Install a Playstation, seeking local business sponsorship for purchase / loan.
- iii) Install a playpen in the children’s area, seeking local business sponsorship.
- iv) Install a vending machine for coffee / tea type drinks on lease / hire basis.
- v) Investigate possibility and options for Sunday opening.
- vi) Recommend to the Town Centre Subcommittee the removal of unrestricted parking (angle parking area opposite Council) in Baring Square West – substitute with one hour parking restrictions.
- vii) Raise the library’s profile in the community – group visits, book clubs, visiting authors etc.
- viii) Investigate advertising on library computer screens – Comtek indicating this can be done. Envisage screen saver type function.
- ix) Install Eftpos machine in response to demand from public for this service. Fund purchase in debt recovery.”

Beavan/Brown

**Carried**

The Community Consultation Manager attended the meeting at 2.18 pm.

### ***Draft Physical Activity Strategy***

“That the Council approves the attached draft Ashburton Physical Activity Strategy for public consultation.”

Reveley/Beavan

**Carried**

## Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Brown/Nelson

Carried

### Forestry

Logging commenced at the Westerfield plantation last week with anticipated completion of the work in July 2006.

The Information Systems Manager attended the meeting.

### Information Systems

It was reported that the mountain areas of the district will be flown this year which will complete aerial photography of the whole district. Aerial photos have been supplied on request to various agencies and contractors and will be made available to the general public when the Exponare programme goes live later this year.

The Information Systems Manager advised that Content Management Strategy (to become the Ashburton Information Management Strategy) is continuing to be developed. The Committee will be kept informed with regular reports.

## Kickstart Programme

Mr Ray King and Mrs Rachael Lloyd, Co-ordinators of the Kickstart Programme, were welcomed to the meeting at 2.30 pm. Mr King introduced a group of Year 8 school children who were representing the five schools that participated in this year's leadership skills programme. The children were invited to present their projects.

At the conclusion of the presentations the children were congratulated on their initiatives and thanked for attending. Council was invited to give feedback and suggestions for inclusion in next year's programme, to be undertaken in February 2007.

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 2.51 pm and resumed at 3.10 pm.

### Achievement of Performance Targets

The performance measure reports for the period 1 July – 31 December 2005 were received.

### Youth Council

Minutes of the Youth Council meetings held on 6 March and 7 February were received.

## Items taken with the public excluded (3.17 pm)

“That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting:

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:

Item no	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:
20	<b>Confirmation of Minutes – 9/02/06</b> [Business now in open meeting] <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Balmoral Hall &amp; Ashburton Resource Centre</li><li>• Sale of Land – Rakaia (Council 23/2/06)</li><li>• Forestry Matter</li></ul>	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities Section 7(2)(i) Conduct of negotiations Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
21	Property Activity Report	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities

Kilworth/Brown

Carried

The meeting concluded at 3.43 pm.