

FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

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 11 May, 2006, commencing at 1.30 pm.

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

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

APOLOGY: Cr D N Nelson **Carried**

Confirmation of Minutes

“That the minutes of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee meeting held on 23 March, 2006, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Brown/Glass **Carried**

Matters Arising

Rates Rebate Scheme

The Finance Manager reported that Council guidelines are being prepared by the Department of Internal Affairs which will provide clarification on whether the policy is to be applied to commercial properties.

Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Glass/Brown **Carried**

Finance Reports

The Finance Manager presented the reports for the period ended 31 March 2006.

The report to the Committee for the period ending 30 June 2006, will show this and the previous years' transfers from reserves and capital expenditure and what percentage of special funds have been used.

Ashburton District General Revaluation 2006

Quotable Value Ltd has submitted its timetable for the 2006 revaluation, and Council will be presented with the results of the revaluation at the conclusion of the process.

In response to concerns about the methodology used by Quotable Value, the Finance Manager explained that Council has the responsibility to ensure the service provider is working within the guidelines and methodology of the Valuer General who governs the process. During the process Council will have the opportunity to meet with the Valuer and the Valuer General's representative.

Forestry

In his report to the Committee the Forester advised that two plantations affected by a significant wind event are going to be salvage logged or clearfelled. It is anticipated that replanting will be undertaken at the Pudding Hill (Cpt 93) plantation.

Library

The District Librarian attended the meeting and reported on progress with the initiatives identified by the Subcommittee to improve library services. Further work is being undertaken on promotion and a three month trial will be carried out to determine the need for Sunday opening.

The Information Services Manager attended the meeting.

Information Systems

The Committee noted that Technology One has been contracted to prepare a range of financial reports which are currently not able to be completed in-house because of their complexity. The Information Systems Manager explained that the format developed by the company will eventually become the standard and training of staff in house is being undertaken with the assistance of Technology One.

Community Plan

It was reported that 26 submissions have been received to date.

Town Centre Subcommittee

“That the Committee approves a one week amnesty at some time in July or August 2006 for metered spaces to allow conversion of all meters to accept the new currency, and that charges for parking in individually metered spaces be adjusted for the new coinage as follows:

6 minute parking on metered parking spaces to cost	10 cents
30 minute parking on metered parking spaces to cost	50 cents
60 minutes parking on metered parking spaces to cost	\$1.00 ”

Kilworth/Brown

Carried

Property

• Salmon Structure

The Property Manager reported that work will commence next week on removing the Salmon structure from its site at Rakaia. A traffic management plan has been prepared for this purpose.

• Electricity Contract

Council was overcharged under the contract which was terminated last year, however following negotiations with Trustpower, reimbursement of the \$16,000 differential is to be made. A new contract with Trustpower has been negotiated and Mr Rooney confirmed it will include the Ashburton Community Pool and the Memorial Halls, with the exception of the Westerfield Hall.

• East St Toilets & Information Centre

Some landscaping work is to be carried out adjacent to the new toilet building. Because of the proximity of the Information Centre to trees, the building will require more frequent maintenance and the Property Manager is preparing a contract for this work.

Creative Communities Funding

The Creative Communities Funding Assessment Committee met on 3 May 2006, and confirmed that grants totalling \$15,404.67 would be distributed.

The 2006 Creative Communities Scheme Regional Meeting will be attended by representatives of the Committee in Christchurch on 15 May 2006.

Youth Council

Minutes of the Youth Council meeting held 3 April 2006, were received.

Items taken with the public excluded (2.43 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:	
15	Confirmation of Minutes – 23/03/06 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Property Matters	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
16	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
17	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
18	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Urquhart/Brown

Carried

The meeting concluded at 3.25 pm.