

FINANCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT and MINUTES of a meeting of the **FINANCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 15 May 2008, commencing at 1.30 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors K L Holmes (Chair), N A Brown, R C Beavan, J A Everest, R J Kilworth, J A Kingsbury, K W P Lowe and J A Sparks.

Also in attendance Councillors L J Leadley, I J Burgess, P W Reveley and B A Tasker; Manager Democracy & Community Services, Finance Manager, Corporate Services Manager, Community Planning Manager and Committee Secretary.

APOLOGIES: His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley and Chief Executive (absent on Council business)

Sustained

Confirmation of Minutes

“That the minutes of the Finance and Community Services Committee meeting held on 27 March 2008, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Brown/Lowe

Carried

Matters Arising

Street Party

The Working Party meeting will take place on 9 June and the outcome will be reported to the Committee meeting on 19 June.

Dirt Bike Track – Methven

The Property Manager and Parks Manager have met with Community Board representatives to progress the bike track at Methven.

Annual Report

The Finance Manager reported that the consultants carrying out the revaluation of assets have missed their deadline by two weeks which will further delay preparation of the annual report. Roading information has been completed and the final version of water and wastewater revaluations received today is showing a decrease. Mr Brake said that the consultants initially predicted an increase and this discrepancy will need to be checked before going to audit. He confirmed that a decrease would alter depreciation figures in the annual plan and reduce the rates in some areas.

Reserve Lands

The Property Manager was requested to provide information identifying the parcels of land to be exchanged for freehold. The information was sought for the Property Subcommittee meeting on 16 May.

Community Services Activity Reports

LTCCP

The Community Planning Manager reported that a preliminary timeline has been considered for the LTCCP with a draft document to be completed by late January 2009. The draft will be referred to the Audit & Budget Subcommittee nearer the complete date. Audit NZ requires a self assessment process to be completed by mid June 2009.

The Finance Manager advised that a meeting of the Audit & Budget Subcommittee will be convened within the next fortnight. He acknowledged the need to make the document more 'user friendly'. The Community Planning Manager suggested that the summary document required for Audit purposes could be modified for individual communities and this will be clarified with Audit NZ.

Community Outcomes Monitoring

A population report has been completed at a district level and is based on current Statistics NZ data. The Community Planning Manager confirmed that more localised information will be further developed to look.

Draft Annual Plan

It was reported that 56 submissions have been received to date. The closing date of 16 May has been extended for Hakatere residents following the public meeting that was held in that community this week.

Rural Reserve Beautification

The Committee expressed appreciation of the work being carried out by Parks staff in the rural reserves throughout the district.

Creative Communities Funding Assessment Committee

It was noted that since the Committee's membership was confirmed on 27 March 2008, an additional member, Mrs B Leonard, has been appointed.

The Mayor attended the meeting at 2.13 pm.

Proposed Unformed Road Stopping - Waterton

The Property Manager confirmed that no additional titles will be created as a result of the roads being stopped.

- “1. That the unformed roads in Waterton Township, shown as sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 on Plan SO374614, be declared stopped;
2. That the land contained in the stopped road be disposed of to the adjoining owners at valuation; and
3. That the costs associated with the stopping be borne by the applicants.”

Sparks/Lowe

Carried

Elderly Persons Housing – Upgrades and Remodelling

The Property Manager advised that two years of the five year programme have been completed and funding is in place for a further three years. Mr Rooney advised that Council will be seeking external funding and estimates, available funds and specific plans will need to be completed in readiness for the LTCCP process next year so that applications can be made in August.

The Finance Manager confirmed that work on the plans would need to be completed by December this year in order to meet the LTCCP deadline.

“That the Committee notes that work is progressing to obtain external funding for remodelling and upgrading work on Council’s elderly persons’ housing stock.”

Kilworth/Kingsbury **Carried**

“That plans and associated costs be presented to the Committee meeting on 4 December 2008.”

Kilworth/Kingsbury **Carried**

Finance Activity Reports

Financials

The Finance Manager presented the financial report for the period 30 April 2008. Minor amendments were made to show the Ashburton wastewater development contributions (\$250,464) and income for road safety (\$35,000). Mr Brake said that rental debtors are all being actioned. He noted that the Hinds Squash Club has made a further loan repayment of \$10,000.

Reserve contribution account information was tabled. More detail on dividends will be provided to Councillors on request.

ASHCOSS Healthy Homes Presentation

On behalf of ASHCOSS Cr Beavan provided the Committee with a report on the Ashburton District Healthy Homes Project. Other Project Steering Committee members in attendance were Jackie Girvan, Rosie Crone and Jane Hart. Ms Kerry Shannon from EnergySmart Ltd was also welcomed to the meeting.

The Committee heard that 143 applications were received for assistance and 50 homes were selected to have insulation work carried out. Work was completed on 49 homes.

Kerry Shannon, Project Manager for EnergySmart Ltd, also acknowledged Council’s involvement and the work undertaken by ASHCOSS. She presented data showing the benefits of the project.

On behalf of the Project Steering Committee, Cr Beavan thanked Council for the \$40,000 contribution. He advised that a submission will be made to Council’s 2008/09 annual plan seeking funding to continue the project for a further year.

The presentation concluded at 3.04 pm.

Business transacted with the public excluded (3.07 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:	
8.1	Confirmation of Minutes – 27/03/08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing Arts Centre Trust • Property Matters [now in open meeting] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leases on recreation reserves • Tinwald Reserve development 	Sections 7(2)(h) & 7(2)(i) Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities Conduct of negotiations Commercial activities

8.2	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
8.3	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Brown/Lowe

Carried

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 3.07 pm and resumed at 3.24 pm.

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

Proposed Rakaia Medical Centre Addition – 30 Elizabeth Ave, Rakaia

“That approval be given for the acceptance of the quote from Paul McKenzie for \$40,794 plus GST, to erect an addition to the Rakaia Medical Centre.”

Brown/Brown

Carried

The meeting concluded at 3.40 pm.