

## OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

---

**REPORT** and **MINUTES** of a meeting of the **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 29 January 2009, commencing at 1.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley; Councillors B A Tasker (Chair), L J Leadley, N A Brown, I J Burgess, J A Everest, K L Holmes, K W P Lowe and P W Reveley.

Also in attendance Councillors R J Kilworth, J A Kingsbury and J A Sparks; Operations Manager, Roading & Street Services Manager, Water Services Manager and Committee Secretary.

Two members of the public attended.

**APOLOGY** Cr R C Beavan

**Sustained**

### ***Extraordinary Business***

“That pursuant to Section 7(2)(A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 the following item be introduced and considered as extraordinary business:

- Canterbury Regional Transport Committee – appointment of alternative member

*Reason:* To confirm Council's alternate appointment and advise ECan prior to the next Regional Transport Committee meeting

Leadley/Reveley

**Carried**

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

The minutes were amended to include Cr Holmes as present.

“That the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 20 November, 2008, as amended, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Burgess/Brown

**Carried**

### ***Matters Arising***

#### **Public conveniences**

The Roading & Street Services Manager confirmed that the contract is being prepared for the public toilets at Rakaia and contact will be made with the Community Association over the next two weeks.

#### **Trees shading roads**

270 property owners have been contacted by mail requesting that they undertake the necessary work before winter. This will be followed up by staff.

### ***Road Closure – Ashburton Art Gallery***

“That the following street be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic from 9.30 am to 5.00 pm on Saturday 14 February 2009, for the purpose of allowing the Ashburton Art Gallery to hold the opening of their “Love Me Tender” exhibition:

BARING SQUARE EAST, from Havelock Street to Cameron Street.”

Holmes/Everest

**Carried**

### ***Extraordinary Business – appointment to Canterbury Regional Transport Committee***

“That Cr Tasker be appointed as an alternative member of the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee, to be advised to the Canterbury Regional Council for their endorsement.”

Leadley/Reveley

**Carried**

## **Activity Reports**

“That the reports be received.”

Burgess/Everest

**Carried**

### **Financial Reports**

Reports for the period 1 July to 30 November 2008 were received.

- The under-budgeting for Lake Hood water supply has been addressed in the coming year’s budget.
- The Ashburton wastewater budget is based on the tender value of last year’s contract. Negotiations are being held with ACL. It was noted that the original contract awarded two years ago didn’t include the wastewater treatment plant which was commissioned last year. At that time a process was agreed for ACL to operate and maintain the treatment plant to determine the work scope and costs to operate and maintain the plant.
- Reference was made to the Ashburton wastewater upgrade capital expenditure. Further discussions will be held as part of the trade waste bylaw implementation before septic tank waste operators are able to have access to the wastewater disposal site and discharge into the system.

### **Public Toilets**

The Roading & Street Services Manager confirmed that the Methven public toilets will be completed before winter and the ski season.

Further discussions are being held with the Aquatic Park Trust, which has formally resolved to make land available for lease, and legal opinion has been sought to determine whether Council is able to construct the facilities on land that it doesn’t own. The Operations Manager said that the preference would be for the land to vest in Council and this will be further discussed with the Trust.

### **Rakaia Water Supply**

- “1. That the Committee approves mediation with respect to Condition 10 of Consent CRC 0737787; and
- 2 That if mediation is unsuccessful, the appeal be continued through the Environment Court.”

Brown/Leadley

**Carried**

### **Storm Event – 18/01/09**

The Operations Manager reported that the flooding of properties was made worse on some streets because of vehicles travelling along flooded streets and creating ‘bow’ waves. Procedures for diverting traffic and closing local roads are being developed and it is anticipated that an agreement will be reached with the Transport Agency to include the state highway. A location plan of roads that will be given closure priority in flood events will be prepared.

### **Trade Waste**

The Operations Manager reported that Mr Don Boyd has been appointed to the position of Trade Waste Officer. Implementation of the bylaw has commenced and with information being forwarded to industry and businesses.

### **State Highway Work**

The Roading & Street Services Manager reported that the proposed traffic lights for Tinwald have been deferred by the Regional Transport Committee and are now in the 10-20 year TRIP programme.

Mr Robertson raised Council's concern regarding this delay at a meeting of the Committee on Monday. He has also written to the NZTA seeking that the work be included in year two of the current work programme. Failing inclusion, Council will need to make a submission to have the work included.

A request will also be made for the dig out and reconstruction work programmed in Rakaia over two years to be carried out at the same time. Mr Robertson reported that under the new Land Transport programme funding for this work is provided for three years and is established in year one.

### **Significant Weather Events**

The Roading & Street Services Manager said that a number of trees that have fallen across roads recently have been from private property. It is intended to recover the contractor's cost of removing the trees from roads from the land owners on whose properties the trees were located.

### **General Maintenance**

A request was made for a clean-up of the skatepark, noting the ongoing litter and graffiti issues. It was suggested that the matter be referred to the Youth Council as a project.

### **Major Drainage Control**

The recent rain events have highlighted the need to identify sumps that routinely block. Mr Robertson confirmed that a priority schedule of sumps has been prepared based on Council and contractor knowledge. He advised that the problem that occurred on Queens Drive was a hydraulic issue and this is being addressed.

### **Extension of Cycleway**

The Roading & Street Services Manager tabled information on the next stage of the cycleway. The Committee agreed that this needs to be first addressed by the CBD Parking Reference Group before it is adopted for public consultation. A meeting of the Group will be convened.

### **Minor Improvements**

It was reported that some larger vehicles turning right off Stranges Road into Grahams Road, in particular truck and trailer units, are experiencing problems with the intersection alignment which slows the turning process. The Roading & Street Services Manager said that there is sufficient room for turning since that part of the road was widened but will investigate whether improved road marking is needed.

### **Tinwald bore**

The Water Services Manager reported that drilling to 125m has not been successful and the Water Subcommittee has approved continued drilling to a maximum of 155m at the Lagmhor Road site at an additional cost of around \$29,000. The consultant (that provided the bore location) has indicated that water is available at this depth.

### **Wind Event – 2 January**

In response to a report of loss of water on the Argyle Park supply, the Water Services Manager advised that the generators had been tested on 17 December. Mr Guthrie explained that the issue related to calibration of key set points on the generator and pumps. The loss of power resulted from power fluctuations. The generator and pump set points have since been adjusted. It was noted that while generators are tested monthly with the plant shut down, there is no way to simulate power fluctuations in the network.

### **Fairton**

The Water Subcommittee has today given approval to contract McMillans to begin drilling on the Fairton water supply in March. Funding from the Government 'CAP' subsidy will be used.

### **Mt Somers**

The exploratory bore drilling on the Mt Somers water supply was completed at 29m. The additional treatment needed will now have to be identified.

### **Hosing Restrictions**

The Water Services Manager reported that level 2 hosing restrictions are currently in place in Ashburton, with level 3 restrictions in Rakaia, Mt Somers and Hinds.

Reference was made to the high use at Hinds with the report showing 6000 litres / day / household. Mr Guthrie said leak detection contractors will be working on the Hinds supply this year and will be able to identify any where high usage is occurring.

The Mayor said that Council needs to debate the use of water meters and water conservation.

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 3.08 pm and resumed at 3.25 pm.

### **Ocean Farm**

The Committee supported that a public open day be held at Ocean Farm in early April.

### **Solid Waste**

The Operations Manager reported that there has been an increase in unsorted construction and demolition quantities being disposed of as residual waste and it is proposed to meet with contractors to discuss options to address this, including their need for access to pits.

Concern was expressed about the continued disposal of green waste onto reserve land at Alford Forest Road. The Committee acknowledged the intention to reclaim and landscape this area but questioned whether there are consenting requirements being breached. The Operations Manager said that he understood there are no enforcement issues.

The stockpiling of re-usables at the resource recovery park was also raised as a concern and the Committee questioned whether items are being moved after 30 days, in accordance with the contract.

### **MCB Minutes**

The Board will be advised that it has the opportunity to seek funding for the proposed skatepark through Council's grants process.

The meeting concluded at 4.05 pm.