

## **FINANCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

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**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 26 March 2009, 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, 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 and Committee Secretary.

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

"That the minutes of the Finance and Community Services Committee meeting held on 12 February 2009, be taken as read and confirmed."

Brown/Lowe

**Carried**

### ***Matters Arising***

#### **Reserve Board Insurance**

Following Council's advice on the status of their insurance policies, a number of reserve boards have responded seeking assistance from Council to have valuations carried out. The Corporate Services Manager confirmed that these requests will be met.

### ***Corporate Services Activity Reports***

"That the Corporate Services activity reports be received."

Kilworth/Kingsbury

**Carried**

#### **Web**

The Corporate Services Manager reported that the Committee will be receiving a presentation from the network division of Telecom, Chorus, on fibre optic cabling programmed for this district. The presentation will take place on 7 May.

#### **Mail overdue**

Cr Brown acknowledged the reduction in overdue mail responses but said that outstanding overdues should only exist with very good reason. Assurance was sought from staff that all correspondence requiring a response will be dealt with in the 10 day timeframe.

### ***Democracy & Community Services Activity Reports***

"That the Corporate Services activity reports be received."

Sparks/Beavan

**Carried**

The Corporate Services Manager left the meeting at 1.40 pm.

The Property Manager attended the meeting.

#### **Green Ribbon Awards**

Three Council projects – the wastewater treatment plant, Scales Road scientific reserve and the Albert Street eco-subdivision, have been entered for the Ministry for Environment's Green Ribbon Awards.

### **Library Stocktake**

The District Librarian reported that the recent stocktake resulted in 1308 of a total of 95,000 items being unaccounted for, averaging about 100 items for each year of the 11 years since the last stocktake was completed. Items have included books, periodicals and magazines. It was noted that a many of the items were likely removed from the Library before the security system was installed.

The Committee agreed that stocktakes should be undertaken more frequently and consideration could be given stocktaking on an annual basis, one section at a time. The District Librarian and Manager Democracy & Services were asked to progress this.

### **Ellerslie Flower Show**

The Committee commended the Parks staff for the entry that was submitted on behalf of Council to the Ellerslie Flower Show. The work undertaken in planning and creating the display, and the quality of the plants grown especially for the event was acknowledged.

### **Cemeteries**

R Beavan asked whether progress has been made on the installation of signage in Council's cemeteries, parks and reserves. An update will be provided to the next meeting of the Committee.

### ***Ashburton Contracting Limited – Draft Statement of Intent from 1 July 2009***

The Finance Manager reported that the dividend will remain the same as that shown in the current statement of intent.

### **RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

“That Council receives the 2009 / 10 draft Statement of Intent for Ashburton Contracting Limited.”
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Kilworth/Brown

**Carried**

### ***Disposal of Fire Tanker – Ealing Library Hall Society***

Ealing Library Hall Society aware that appliance will be retained for a community tanker that can be used on a standby basis. Society has undertaken to maintain the tanker which will be transported behind a truck.

“That Council gifts the ex Ealing fire tanker to the Ealing Library Hall Society.”

Everest/Brown

**Carried**

### ***Scales Road Farmland Subdivision***

The Committee noted that the potential for use of this area as a natural habitat was recognised some years ago by the Harris family who put a covenant in place to protect the land. It was suggested that consideration should be given to naming the reserve after the Harris family. The Property Manager advised that this would be matter for the Environmental Services Committee at a later date.

### **RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

“That in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 14 of the Reserves Acts 1977, the Ashburton District Council resolves that the piece of land held by the district in fee simple and described in the Schedule (copy attached), be declared to be a scientific reserve.”
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Lowe/Kilworth

**Carried**

## **Finance Activity Reports**

“That the Finance activity reports be received.”

Brown/Sparks

**Carried**

### **Financials**

The financial reports for the period ended 28 February were discussed. Quotable Value’s February statistics were reported. The Finance Manager said that some preliminary work is underway before the district’s revaluation in October this year.

### **Civic Building**

The Property Manager reported that all capacitors in the administration building’s light fittings are being checked following a serious failure which caused a small fire. He noted that the manufacturers did issue a recall of the elements, however this building wasn’t included at that time.

## **Business transacted with the public excluded (2.16 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:

<b>Item no</b>	<b>General subject of each matter to be considered:</b>	<b>In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:</b>	
8.1	Confirmation of Minutes – 4/12/08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Property matters</li><li>• Ashburton District Neighbourhood Support</li></ul>	Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(a)	Commercial activities Protection of privacy of natural persons
8.2	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
8.3	Audit & Budget Subcommittee	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
8.4	Ashburton Aquatic Park Trust	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Sparks/Beavan

**Carried**

The meeting concluded at 4.20 pm.