



An ORDINARY MEETING of the ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL
will be held as follows:

Date: Thursday 10 August 2006

Venue: Council Chamber
5 Baring Square West
Ashburton

Time: 1.30 pm

MEMBERS:

His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley
Cr R C Beavan
Cr N A Brown
Cr I J Burgess
Cr D Glass
Cr K L Holmes
Cr R J Kilworth
Cr L J Leadley
Cr K W P Lowe
Cr D N Nelson
Cr P W Reveley
Cr B A Tasker
Cr M J Urquhart

B LESTER
Chief Executive

4 August 2006

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AGENDA

Page

1	APOLOGIES	
	OPENING PRAYER – Rev Rachel Judge, St David’s Church	
2	NOTIFICATION OF EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS	
3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	
3.1	Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council – 29/06/06	1
3.2	Matters Arising	
4	REPORTS	
4.1	Mayor	11
4.2	Chief Executive	13
4.3	Services and Operations Committee $\frac{3}{4}$ 13 July 2006	19
	$\frac{3}{4}$ Recommendation <i>Receive Minutes of Meeting</i>	21
	$\frac{3}{4}$ Recommendation <i>Bremners Rd / Seafield Rd Stockwater Race Closure</i>	
4.4	Environmental Services Committee $\frac{3}{4}$ 20 July 2006	23
	$\frac{3}{4}$ Recommendation <i>Receive Minutes of Meeting</i>	
4.5	Finance and Corporate Services Committee $\frac{3}{4}$ 27 July 2006	29
	$\frac{3}{4}$ Recommendation <i>Receive Minutes of Meeting</i>	
4.6	Wastewater Servicing of Hakatere	33
4.7	Deed of Grant (NZ Railways Corporation / ADC) for New Rail Crossing	38
4.8	Funding Council’s Share of Roading & Footpath Costs arising from 12 June 2006 Snow Event, and Uncompleted Projects	40
4.9	Stopping of Unformed Roads – Waterton	44
4.10	Local Government Conference 2006	47

Cont’d

5 BUSINESS TRANSACTED WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED

5.1	Confirmation of Minutes	
5.1.1	Ordinary Meeting of Council – 29/06/06	57
	Property Matters	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
	Ashburton Wastewater Upgrade	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
	Property Matter – 5 Range Street [now in open meeting]	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
	Contract C477 Water Services	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
	Rakaia River Water Take	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
5.1.2	Services & Operations Committee – 13/07/06	59
	Water Monitoring	Section 7(2)(i) Conduct of negotiations
5.1.3	Environmental Services Committee – 20/07/06	60
	Resource Consent Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
5.1.4	Finance & Corporate Services Committee – 27/07/06	61
	Property Matters	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
	<i>Recommendation to Council</i>	
5.2	Rakaia Medical Centre	62
		Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
5.3	Albert Street Subdivision	67
		Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities

Timetable

1.30 pm Ordinary Meeting Commences
– Opening Prayer Rev Rachel Judge

2.45 pm Afternoon Tea

4 August 2006

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 1/3/1
DATE: 10 August 2006
REPORT TO: Ordinary Meeting of Council
FROM: Mayor

4.1. MAYOR'S REPORT

4.1.1 *Visit by Christchurch School of Medicine 3rd Year Medical Students*

As in past years, following the visit to Ashburton of a group of third year medical students as part of their study programme, the Christchurch School of Medicine has given \$500 to the Council to make a donation to a suitable agency or committee within the community. In past years Council resolved to forward the contribution as follows:

1998	Order of St John
1999	Alzheimers Association (Ashburton Branch)
2000	Plunket Society (Mid-Canterbury Branch)
2002	Ashburton Palliative Care
2003	Ashburton Ostomy Group
2004	Ashburton Benevolent Fund
2005	Ronald McDonald House

RECOMMENDATION

“That the Christchurch School of Medicine’s donation of \$500 be given to the Ashburton branch of the St Vincent de Paul Society.”

4.1.2 *Directorship Course*

This two day course was a basic introduction to Directorship in New Zealand. The first day was devoted to corporate governance, board functions, conventions and relationships and finished with the legal liabilities and duties of directors. The second day dealt with financial reporting and risk management and then the role of the Board in strategy and human resource development. I was registered as a director of RDR, but the first day in particular was very relevant to me as Mayor. For example:

- The Board (Council) should act with reasonable care, diligence and skill and its first duty is to always act, legally, in the best interests of its shareholders (community). The Board is a group of equals and is collectively accountable and should act to build long term trust in its organisation. By its behaviour and decision making a Board sets its own ethical standards and successful implementation of its policy was dependent on its working relationship with management and staff.

4.1.3 *Citizenship Ceremony*

The recent record making citizenship ceremony where we welcomed 37 new New Zealand citizens was a memorable event for all those present and thanks to our staff who made it such a special event. There was certainly a marked contrast when the excitement had died down. The visitors had left and Council commenced its business – to an empty house!

4.1.4 *Celebration of Mrs Tucker’s 105th Birthday*

To be able to retain your hearing and reading facilities at such an age, combined with a sense of humour and overall good health, makes this annual visit a real pleasure.

4.1.5 *Schools’ Music Festival*

I attended the final night of the three day festival and the performances by the school children certainly matched the high standard of previous years. The festival is a huge exercise in co-operation and discipline by all involved and we are very fortunate in having such a dedicated group of teachers who conduct the music. The highlight was undoubtedly the final solo performance by a young girl from Tinwald who literally “brought the house down”!

4.1.6 Calendar

Some of the meetings and functions I have attended since reporting to the last Council meeting on 18 May are as follows:

- 30 June Met with Ashburton Youth Broker
Attended Robert Clark Trust meeting
Met with Rodger Bradford
Meeting with John Leadley etc
- 1 July Visited Mrs Tucker on her 105th birthday
Attended Genealogy Society's 25th celebration
- 2 July Attended J P's 30th celebration
- 4 July Attended Concert in the Park meeting
- 5-12 On leave
- 14 July Met with Ashburton Youth Broker
- 16-19 July Attended L G N Z Conference
- 20 July Council hosted New Zealand Citizenship Ceremony
- 21 July Met with Deloittes staff
Met with Roger Bruce
Met with John Key
- 24 July Met with Brian Connell and Jo Goodhew
Attended Ashburton Community Water Trust meeting
- 25/26 July Attended a Course "Introduction to Directorship in New Zealand
- 27 July Attended Schools' Music Festival
- 28 July Met with representatives from Rakaia Medical Trust
- 30 July Attended Christchurch City's 150 Years Church Service & Lunch
- 31 July Attended Advance Ashburton meeting
- 1 August Hosted Mr Tanaka and 21 students from Japan
Attended Civic Music Council meeting
- 2-7 August Attending Pharmacy Conference

BEDE O'MALLEY
Mayor

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 1/3/3
DATE: 10 August 2006
REPORT TO: Council Meeting
FROM: Chief Executive

4.2. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

4.2.1 After Hours Phone Service

31 July 2006, saw the introduction of a 24 hour phone answering service. All calls made outside Council's regular hours will now be answered and processed by TAS Answering Services (already providing a similar service to Timaru, MacKenzie and Waimate District Councils). TAS will field all calls taking details, pass on requests to service providers and give information to the callers. Details of less urgent calls will be reported to the Council each work day as part of a log of all calls. The service is accessed by our day time number, 307 7700.

4.2.2 Snow Project

Council has agreed to act as employer for a Government funded work scheme aimed at assisting rural landowners to address fallen and dangerous tree issues. Up to \$95,000 has been provided for this project. Council will be responsible for all administration aspects, payment of wages and accounts, equipment hire etc. The project is expected to last approximately 12 weeks and employ 10 people. Enterprise Ashburton will provide the service on Council's behalf.

Forester Terry O'Neill will provide oversight of the operation. Employment and work programmes will be managed by WINZ (Russell Woods) and the Emergency Relief Committee (Barry Vessey) respectively.

4.2.3 Rangitata Diversion Race Limited

The Annual General Meeting was held on 2 August, and attended by Cr Lowe and myself. The Rangitata Water Conservation Order was signed off by Order in Council on 19 June. This basically concludes the RDR consents with respect to the Rangitata River.

4.2.4 Health (Drinking Water) Bill

This Bill passed its first reading on 26 July and has now been referred to the Select Committee. We have yet to receive a copy of the Bill, and will look to prepare a submission once we have had an opportunity to consider it.

4.2.5 Drinking Water Assistance Programme

We have responded to a discussion paper put out by central government to target technical assistance with drinking water assessment and capital support. This relates to community schemes that are privately operated as well as Council operated. A copy of the comments has been circulated.

4.2.6 Private Members' Bills

The Waste Minimisation (Solids) Bill period for submissions has been extended to 1 September 2006. A further Private Members' Bill has been drawn related to the period for processing building consents, proposing that if these are not completed within the statutory timeframe, then no charge be made.

4.2.7 Local Government Act Review

This legislation, and the Local Government Electoral Act, come up for review next year. LGNZ is working to develop a framework for its approach to this review. Obtaining an industry position may be difficult. They will begin this process mid-September. Staff are currently reviewing the Act to flag issues for discussion with Council.

4.2.8 Snow Event

Brian Connell has arranged for a public meeting to be held on Thursday 24 August at 7.30 pm. The proposed

format to include a brief presentation from Council, Electricity Ashburton, Telecom and the Rural Relief Trust, to be followed by questions / answers / discussion.

4.2.9 Canterbury Regional Biodiversity Strategy

Page 16

ECan are looking to establish an advisory group to assist in preparation of its Biodiversity Strategy. It is envisaged that the advisory group would meet monthly for five or six months, commencing on 28 August at Rolleston. The terms of reference are attached. Mr David Askin is available, ECan are seeking two representatives. Mr Ian Brown (Ian Brown Consulting Ltd) will be the facilitator.

RECOMMENDATION

“That Mr David Askin and Councillor be appointed to the Canterbury Regional Biodiversity Strategy Advisory Group.”

4.2.10 Social Services Discretionary Fund Application

Page 17

Attached is an application for \$300.00 for venue hire for the ‘Outstanding learners Awards’ as part of Adult Learners’ Week. The application is supported by Crs Brown and Burgess (Social Services Subcommittee) and would normally go through to the Finance and Corporate Services Committee, however, time does not allow this. The unallocated balance in the Fund is \$2,741.00.

RECOMMENDATION

“That the Mid-Canterbury Adult Community Education Network be granted \$300.00 to cover the venue hire for their Awards evening.

4.2.11 Professional Services Contract

At the Council meeting in June, approval was given to extend the professional services contract to Ashburton District Council with Opus International Consultants Ltd for a further 12 months subject to satisfactory negotiation in price. The contract was in place for the 2005/06 year, subject to renewal on a 1+1+1+1+1 basis.

The scope of work includes:

- water supply upgrades
- asset addition and replacement
- pipeline condition assessment

This has been confirmed with a price of \$551,275, compared with a budget of \$612,264.

RECOMMENDATION

“That this information be received.”

4.2.12 Leave

I will be on leave from 28 August for a period of three weeks. Glenys and Phillipa will have my contact details as well as staff contacts for ongoing projects.

B LESTER
Chief Executive

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 5/7/5/6
DATE: 10 August 2006
REPORT TO: Council Meeting
FROM: Water Services Manager
SUBJECT: Hakatere Wastewater Servicing

4.6 WASTEWATER SERVICING OF HAKATERE

4.6.1 SUMMARY

In mid 2005, Council became aware of a number of issues relating to wastewater disposal at the Upper Hakatere community. At present each individual property has responsibility for treatment and disposal of their wastewater. Because of the issues developing with a number of individual disposal systems a community based system may be a long-term cost-effective option.

Detailed investigations confirmed the feasibility of a wastewater scheme to service both Upper and Lower Hakatere. At the 23 February meeting, Council approved proceeding with further consultation into providing a full community wastewater scheme to the Hakatere community.

The purpose of this report is to advise the results of the consultation process and to seek Council approval for the future direction of the proposal.

4.6.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That Council approves, subject to consultation with and agreement of the affected property owners:

1. Investigation up to a total cost of \$2,500 from the operations investigations account to establish a solution for servicing only the four critical properties situated in Upper Hakatere; and
2. That costs associated with the investigation be recovered from the affected property owners at conclusion of physical works.”

4.6.3 BACKGROUND

We have been advised of issues arising from the treatment and disposal of wastewater from a number of properties in the Upper Hakatere settlement.

A consultant has been approached by a number of property owners requesting that they investigate options to address these issues. It is possible that similar problems may develop in the future and it may be opportune and appropriate to consider a community based scheme that may be a cost effective solution long term.

The requirements of the NRRP, area location and community layout may make it difficult for individual property owners to deal with wastewater treatment and disposal issues in the future.

With respect to the current situation the options available are:

- Do nothing and work with individual property owners on a case by case basis.
- Pursue a community based scheme on a staged basis dealing with properties experiencing problems as they arise.

- A community based scheme.

At the 30 June 2005 meeting, Council approved consultation on the provision of a community based wastewater collection, treatment and disposal systems at the Upper Hakatere settlement.

The consultation took place in August 2005. The results of the consultation showed a small majority support (~55%) for a community based wastewater system. These results were duly reported to Council at the 29 September meeting. As a result of the report and the meeting discussion the following recommendation was carried:

“That Council commences detailed investigation into a full community wastewater scheme for the Upper Hakatere settlement and that the Lower Hakatere residential settlement be invited to be part of the consultation.”

The detailed investigation was completed and confirmed the following:

- The feasibility of a community based wastewater scheme for the Hakatere settlement
- A preferred treatment system and supplier
- A preferred location for the wastewater treatment plant and an area of land suitable for irrigation of treated effluent
- Gravity pipeline layout
- Rising main alignment
- Final construction cost estimates

The scheme includes providing reticulation from the individual lots to a centralised package treatment plant located adjacent to River Road. The package plant will treat the wastewater to a high level including ultra-violet sterilisation. Treated effluent will then be pumped via a rising main and irrigated on a block of Council owned land located approximately 2 km from the settlement.

The above information formed part of a report to Council on 23 February, requesting approval to commenced consultation on providing a community wastewater scheme to serve the Hakatere community. The following recommendation was carried:

“That Council approves proceeding with further consultation into providing a full community wastewater scheme to both Upper and Lower Hakatere communities.”

The consultation has now been completed and is summarised below.

A consultation document was prepared and forwarded to:

- All property owners in the upper Hakatere settlement;
- All hut owners in the lower Hakatere settlement;
- A property owner with land (and dwelling) situated immediately adjacent to the upper Hakatere settlement; and
- The Hakatere Hutholders Society Inc (registered property owner for Lower Hakatere settlement and administrator of settlement hall).

A total of 115 documents were sent out and 94 submissions were received. This represents a high response rate of 82.6%.

Submitters were asked to:

- Provide information on their existing disposal system, and
- Indicate their support or otherwise for the wastewater proposal

Submitters were also asked for an indication of timing to connect, if Council provided a wastewater service. Options were: Immediately; next 1 – 2 years; 3 – 5 years; or never.

The results have been summarised and set out in the tables below:

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Existing Wastewater Disposal System (Hakaterere Combined)	No: of Subs	% of Total Subs
Septic Tank – Own	17	17.9
Septic Tank – Common	37	38.9
Long Drop	5	5.3
Holding Tank – Own	2	2.1
Holding Tank – Common	3	3.2
Soak Pit	7	7.4
Other	1	1.1
Don't Know	4	4.2
<i>Did Not Indicate</i>	27	28.4

The table above shows that there is a high percentage of septic tanks serving more than one property. Comments made on the submission forms suggest that for Lower Hakaterere the majority of septic tanks are serving up to 4 or 5 dwellings.

Submission on Wastewater Proposal							
	Docs Sent	Total Subs	% Return		No: of Subs	% of Total Subs	% of Affected Props
Upper Hakaterere	59	47	79.7	Do Not Support	29	61.7	49.2
				Support	17	36.2	28.8
				Did Not Indicate	1	2.1	1.7
				TOTALS	47	100.0	79.7
Lower Hakaterere	56	48	85.7	Do Not Support	45	93.8	80.4
				Support	2	4.2	3.6
				Did Not Indicate	1	2.1	1.8
				TOTALS	48	100.0	85.8
Hakaterere Combined	115	95	82.6	Do Not Support	74	77.9	64.3
				Support	19	20.0	16.5
				Did Not Indicate	2	2.1	1.7
				TOTALS	95	100.0	82.5

The results of the consultation process have lead to the following conclusions:

- At 20.0%, it is considered there is insufficient support to recommend proceeding with implementation of a combined community scheme to service both Upper and Lower Hakaterere.
- Support in the Upper Hakaterere settlement is higher at 36.2% but still considered too low to recommend proceeding with a scheme to service that Upper Hakaterere alone.

- With only 17 properties supporting the proposal in Upper Hakatere, it may not be economic to proceed with a modular system at this point in time.

4.6.4 OPTIONS

The options available to Council:

Option One – Do Nothing

This would involve individual property owners either separately or jointly dealing with wastewater treatment and disposal issues as they arise. Council officers would work with property owners through the appropriate processes.

Option Two – Proceed with Full Scheme – As Proposed

Council approves proceeding with the scheme as proposed in the consultation document, ie provide a wastewater scheme to service both Hakatere settlements.

Option Three – Proceed with Full Scheme – Upper Hakatere Only

Council approves proceeding with a fully reticulated scheme to serve the Upper Hakatere settlement only. No provision would be made for lower Hakatere.

Option Four – Investigate Modified Solution – Upper Hakatere Only

Council approves investigating modified proposal to serve the Upper Hakatere settlement only; with maximum capacity to serve only those that indicated support for the scheme, and/or an interest in connecting in the future if provided.

Based on the consultation results the scheme would be sized for a maximum of 22 properties. No provision would be made for extensions to this scheme.

Option Five – Investigate Solution – Critical Properties Only

Council approves investigating a solution to address needs of only those properties in critical need. Solutions may be; septic tank; or a secondary or tertiary treatment system.

Based on the consultation results; of the original eight properties with disposal problems; four supported the full scheme proposal. These four properties have been considered the critical properties for assistance. *Note* - the other four did not support the proposal and are therefore assumed to have found other means to address their disposal issues.

The preferred option is **Option Five**.

4.6.5 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific statutory implications arising from the above options.

The proposed draft Canterbury Natural Resources Regional Plan (NRRP) has implications in regard to wastewater disposal. Any remedial work or scheme development will have to meet the requirements of the proposed NRRP. This will be required for either an individual or a community based solution.

4.6.6 CONSULTATION

A consultation document was prepared which detailed the process to date and provided background information on the project, primarily for the benefit of the Lower Hakatere community. The document also provided details of the proposal; and financial impacts based on revised project estimates.

This information was forwarded to the Hakatere community on 2 June. A public meeting was scheduled for 13 June, and submissions were to close on 21 June 2006. As a result of the June 12 snow event the public meeting was cancelled pending rescheduling. The consultation was reinitiated on 27 June, with a public meeting held on 11 July 2006, at the Wakanui Hall. The public meeting received a high attendance with approximately 70 people present.

The closing date for submissions was revised to 21 July.

4.6.7 STRATEGIC LINKS

The recommendation contained in this report is consistent with the *Ashburton Development Plan – adopted 30 June 2005*.

In particular, the Infrastructure Principles as described on page 17.

- Provide water, sewer, stormwater to an adequate standard throughout the urban areas.

4.6.8 FINANCIAL

A preliminary application for funding assistance has been made to the Sanitary Works Subsidy Scheme (SWSS) on behalf of the Hakatere community.

The application involves a three step process as set out below.

1. A Preliminary Application, which will establish whether the application will qualify for a subsidy.
2. A Provisional Application, which will identify the amount of the subsidy and, provided priority ranking is sufficiently high, will reserve funding for a two-year period. Provisional applications will be ranked in order of priority on the basis of scoring against the criteria. This application will involve the preparation of a preliminary assessment of environmental effects (AEE) which must include a full public health impact assessment. This will provide information to allow scoring against stated criteria.
3. A Final Application, which can proceed when resource consents and finance arrangements have been completed.

Applications close on 1 February and 1 July each year. The Sanitary Works Technical Advisory Committee (SAWTAC) meet and determine **Preliminary Applications** within two months of applications closing, and will determine Provisional Applications within three months of the application closing date. It is unknown at this stage if the proposal would be eligible for funding but advice is expected in September.

In terms of the recommended option, there will be some cost implications to investigate, identify and implement a solution to address the requirements of the critical properties. While sufficient information has been collected on the Hakatere area in general terms, the focus of further work will now be on serving only those four properties.

The cost implications of the investigation are estimated a \$2,500. It is proposed that this initially be met from the Operations department investigations account which has a budget of \$5,000, with the intention of recovering the cost from the properties involved. The cost of implementation of a solution should be met by the property owners.

Given the delays associated with resolving this issue and the support these property owners have given Council through the consultation process, Council may consider it appropriate to provide loan funding for the works. The maximum amount of loan funding could be based on the originally indicated lump sum payment of \$6,535 including GST, ie Council may provide loan funding up to \$5,800 excluding GST per property. This would guarantee loan funding to the four critical properties up to \$23,200 excluding GST. *Note:* there may be difficulties establishing security for any loan offered. The Finance Manager suggests that this aspect would need to be fully explored before making any offer of financial assistance.

A R GUTHRIE

Water Services Manager

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 5/1/2/14
DATE: 10 August 2006
REPORT TO: Council Meeting
FROM: Roading & Street Services Manager
SUBJECT: Deed of Grant between NZ Railways Corp and Ashburton District Council

4.7 DEED OF GRANT BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS CORPORATION AND ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL

For new rail crossing to be formed with the new intersection at the north end of the Ashburton rail corridor

4.7.1 SUMMARY

New Zealand Railways Corporation has requested Council's agreement to enter into a Deed of Grant for the new rail crossing to be built at the new intersection layout between East Street and West Street at the north end of Ashburton town. The crossing will be built at the same time as the road reconstruction work to be carried out by Transit NZ Ltd.

4.7.2 RECOMMENDATION

<p>“That Council enters into a Deed of Grant with New Zealand Railways Corporation for the proposed new rail crossing to be constructed at the north end of Ashburton between East Street and West Street.”</p>

4.7.3 BACKGROUND

The Deed of Grant sets out the responsibility of the grantee with respect to such aspects as forming and maintaining the road, footpath and drainage at the rail crossing for a distance of 10 metres outside the centre of any line of rails so crossed.

This agreement is the standard agreement between NZ Railways Corporation and any other party that seeks to have public right of way on Railway land and to form a public level crossing over the line.

The agreement has a nominal annual rental of “ten cents” (if demanded).

The Deed of Grant also clearly protects the rights of Clear Communications Ltd which has a facilities agreement with NZ Railways Corporation to cover the fibre optic cable laid parallel to the rail within the rail corridor.

The Deed of Grant is for a term of one year from the date of signing “... *and so on from year to year unless or until determined...*”. A copy of the grant document may be viewed at the Operations Department.

We have a number of Deeds of Grant for rail crossings in the district; there are no significant issues arising from the signing of this Deed of Grant.

4.7.4 OPTIONS

- 1) To agree to the Deed of Grant
- 2) To not agree to the Deed of Grant.

The preferred option is to agree to the Deed of Grant. If Council chooses to not sign the Deed of Grant, NZ Railways Corporation will not permit the level crossing to be formed, and will deny access for road users.

4.7.5 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

This grant is at all times subject to the provisions of section 35 of the New Zealand Railways Act 1981 and section 12 of the Railway Safety and Corridor Management Act 1992.

4.7.6 CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

4.7.7 STRATEGIC LINKS

The initial grant for this crossing will be set up between NZ Railways Corporation and Transit NZ Ltd to cover the work during the construction of the new intersection between East Street and West Street at the north end of Ashburton. On completion of the work, and the transfer of rail crossing warning devices on the existing rail crossing at the north end of Ashburton, this grant will be determined and a new grant set up between NZ Railways Corporation and the Ashburton District Council.

4.7.8 FINANCIAL

Council is required to pay an annual fee of 10 cents if demanded for this grant. The maintenance costs will have no change to Council's roading maintenance budget as there is already budget provision for the present crossing maintenance which transfer to the new crossing.

All new construction costs for the crossing will be met by Transit NZ Ltd.

D ROBERTSON

Roading and Street Services Manager

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 5/1/2/2
DATE: 10 August 2006
REPORT TO: Council Meeting
FROM: Roading & Street Services Manager
SUBJECT: Funding Council's share for 12 June Snow Event & Uncompleted Projects

4.8 FUNDING COUNCIL'S SHARE OF ROADING & FOOTPATH COSTS ARISING FROM 12 JUNE SNOW EVENT, AND UNCOMPLETED PROJECTS

4.8.1 SUMMARY

On 12 June 2006, the Ashburton district experienced an extreme snow fall event that affected all roads in the district. The costs to remove the snow, gritting most of the sealed roads and carrying out repairs to damaged facilities was very high and application has been made to Land Transport New Zealand for additional funds to meet the cost of this event. Council is requested to approve the source of the local share of these costs

4.8.2 RECOMMENDATION

- "1. That Council applies for additional funding from Land Transport NZ to cover the costs of the snow event over and above the current 2005/06 budget; total funding required is \$372,500 and the Council share of \$193,700 is to be funded from favourable variances in the 2006/07 roading budget.
2. That Council makes an application to Land Transport NZ to carry over the unspent funds for project works in the 2005/06 annual plan for work not completed by 30 June 2006, due to the snow event, at a total sum of \$103,300; the Council share of \$24,291 is to be funded initially from favourable variances in the 2006/07 budget.
3. That Council funds the forecast unfavourable variance of \$33,350 in the 2005/2006 Ashburton footpath account from favourable variances in the 2006/07 Ashburton footpath budget."

4.8.3 BACKGROUND

The snow fall event that occurred on the 12 June 2006, was an extreme event and this is clearly confirmed by the graph attached that shows snow depths as measured in Ashburton by the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) over the last 70 years. The event on 12 June was the maximum depth recorded.

Page 43

All roads and footpaths were affected by the snow which was around 50 cm deep in many parts of the district.

Road snow clearing following the emergency event roading hierarchy commenced early on Monday morning and at its peak there were 22 graders, 25 loaders, numerous trucks, tractors and other plant busy clearing snow from roads and footpaths. The direct management of all equipment being used was carried out by Fulton Hogan Ltd under our direction, and this activity worked well with most roads in the district passable by Thursday 15 June. The depth of snow on unsealed roads required that these also be graded as many were impassable by four wheel drive vehicles.

A decision was made early in the event to clear away the large mounds of snow from the roads around the hospital, police, fire, ambulance, East Street, Main Street, Methven, Elizabeth Avenue, Rakaia, retirement homes and schools.

The timing of the snowfall could not have been more critical as far as Council's subsidised roading programme of work, as a number of projects were well underway at this stage and generally on line to be completed by 30 June 2006. All projects had to be halted due to the need to have plant relocated to snow clearing and gritting activities, and construction sites were snow-bound until the last week of June.

The effect of the snowfall on the roading account has been twofold –

1. Some programmed work in the 2005/06 financial year was not completed by 30 June 2006.
2. The costs of the event has far exceeded Council's available budget for roading and footpath work.

Cyclic renewal work funded from the LTNZ maintenance area that was not completed by 30 June 2006, amounts to \$315,100 in total. Council's local share of this is \$165,713. To complete this work without impacting on the scope of the 2006/07 roading programme, we would need to process an application for additional funding to Land Transport NZ and to provide the local share of this cost (\$167,003). It is proposed to provide for the local share of funding for these works initially from the 2006/07 budget and determine whether favourable variances that may occur in other works can cover these costs. All these works are committed in existing contracts, and work has continued into the 2006/07 financial year.

Carry-overs and commitments will be the subject of a detailed stand alone report to the Services and Operations Committee on 24 August 2006.

The cost of work from the snowfall exceeded the available budget by \$372,500 and a supplementary claim for this amount has been lodged with LTNZ. The local share of this sum will be \$193,700. There were a number of project works also not complete and we will need to make application to LTNZ to carry these over to 2006/07 (note: as these are projects, the funds are specifically applied to the approved work and cannot be transferred to other work). Council's local share of this cost is \$24,291.

An additional area of work arising from the snow event is the cost of repairing kerb and channels, signs, roads, and footpaths damaged in the snow. This will cost between \$50,000 and \$75,000, and at this stage there is still a lot of this work to be done. It is recommended at this stage that this be met from the appropriate 2006/07 maintenance budgets and managed within the accounts.

Once the full costs are known, and if additional funding is required, we will make application to LTNZ and / or request additional funding from Council.

In addition to the roading costs, there were significant additional costs in the Ashburton footpath account due to the snowfall. The snow clearing costs in this area were \$42,460 and this will leave an unfavourable variance of \$33,350 in this account.

4.8.4 OPTIONS

A. Additional funding to cover emergency clearing work following the snow event.

The options available to Council are:

- 1) To apply for additional funding from Land Transport NZ to cover the costs of the snow event over and above the current 2005/06 budget, and fund the local share from favourable variances in the 2006/2007 account. If additional funds are required this will be the subject of a stand-alone report.

- 2) To fund these costs from the Disaster Insurance Fund.

Application for additional funds is the preferred option.

B. Carry-over projects not completed in 2005/2006 to 2006/2007

The only option available to the Council is:

- 1) To apply for the LTNZ subsidy for uncompleted work and the local share is funded initially from the 2006/07 roading budget. If additional funds are required this will be the subject of a stand-alone report.

C. Funding of snow event costs for Ashburton Footpath account.

The options available to Council are:

- 1) To fund the work from favourable variances in the 2006/07 budget. If additional funds are required this will be the subject of a stand-alone report.
- 2) To fund the unfavourable variance of \$33,350 from the Disaster Insurance Fund.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

4.8.5 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Under the Local Government Act 1974, all roads in the Ashburton district are under the control of the Council and we are required to maintain safety on these roads. The agreement between Land Transport NZ and the Ashburton District Council sets out the criteria for times for roads to be re-opened following an emergency closure.

4.8.6 CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

4.8.7 STRATEGIC LINKS

The expenditure being considered in this report has not been identified in the approved LTCCP.

4.8.8 FINANCIAL

The effects of the snow event on 12 June 2006, on the subsidised roading budget, are as follows:

Maintenance total budget	\$6,932,500
Construction budget	\$ 870,680
Total	\$7,803,180

The only area we can use of the budget for the snow event work is the maintenance funding, as the construction budget is approved for specific works only.

Expenditure to 30 June 2006 is as follows

Maintenance budget	\$6,932,500
Total costs	\$7,305,000
Over-expenditure	\$ 372,500

The above costs include all snow clearing, gritting and debris removal to 30 June 2006.

It does not include the repair work arising from the event which did not start until July, so is a charge against 2006/2007. It recognises that LTNZ funding that can not be re-allocated to offset additional maintenance costs.

Work that was not completed by 30 June, delayed by the effects of the snow event is as follows. This will be covered initially in the 2006/2007 budget.

Cyclic Renewal Work

Total value	\$315,000
LTNZ share	\$148,050
Local share	\$166,950

The total cost of the snow event to 30 June 2006 was as follows; these costs have been paid in the 2005/06 accounts:

Total cost	\$626,555
Local share	\$325,809

There are additional costs yet to be received from the contractor for work carried out in 2006/07. This estimated to be up to:

Total cost	\$ 75,000
Local share	\$ 39,000

This will be covered in the 2006/07 roading budget.

D ROBERTSON
Roading and Street Services Manager

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 10/8/10
DATE: 10 August 2006
REPORT TO: Council
FROM: Property Manager
SUBJECT: Stopping of Unformed Roads - Waterton

4.9 STOPPING OF UNFORMED ROADS – WATERTON

4.9.1 SUMMARY

To consider stopping unformed roads in Waterton township.

Page 46

4.9.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That Council agrees to the stopping of unformed legal roads shown as Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 on the plan attached being SO 374614, and pursuant to the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974 advertising the proposal be undertaken and objections called for.”

4.9.3 BACKGROUND

The unformed roads form part of the surveyed Waterton township. The owner of the land parcels comprising

the old township has undertaken an exercise amalgamating and redefining a number of the historic titles and has created four lots which have been sold as lifestyle blocks. The owners of the new blocks have requested that the unformed roads be stopped and that they purchase the land involved for amalgamation into their lots.

The roads are unformed and are not required for any legal access given the configuration of the new lots.

4.9.4 OPTIONS

The option to maintain the status quo is available. This would leave the roads in Council ownership and would simply deprive the adjoining owners of the opportunity to acquire the land.

4.9.5 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The procedures to effect a stopping of roads is contained in the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974 and these procedures will be followed.

4.9.6 CONSULTATION

The request to stop the roads has been received from the adjoining owners supported by letters of support from immediately affected neighbours.

The process requires public notification both by way of newspaper advertising and the erection of signs with plans in the immediate locality.

4.9.7 STRATEGIC LINKS

Not applicable.

4.9.8 FINANCIAL

The costs associated with the stopping will be borne by the applicants. Land which becomes surplus will be sold to the adjoining owners at market rate.

J M ROONEY
Property Manager

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 2/24/3
DATE: 10 August 2006
REPORT TO: Council Meeting
FROM: Chief Executive
SUBJECT: LGNZ Conference Report

4.10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE / AGM WELLINGTON – JULY 2006

4.10.1 Opening

Kerry Prendergast – Mayor of Wellington in her welcome address challenged Central Government on compliance costs. She quantified this for Wellington City and asked for an independent body commissioned by LGNZ to test the cost of compliance before any new imposition on councils.

Prime Minister

The Prime Minister opened her address by commending councils' response to the recent adverse events. She acknowledged the funding pressure on smaller councils with largeroading networks (FAR review), and the work gone into the LTCCPs. The co-operation between Central and Local Government was referred to, with the NIWA project on flood management due shortly and the Fire Service review given as further examples.

She applauded the Commonwealth Local Government Conference to be held in Auckland in March 2007, and the support given to make this a showcase for New Zealand. The theme will be "Delivery of Development through Local Government".

Basil Morrison – President LGNZ, reported on the gains LGNZ had achieved over the past year –

- Rates rebate scheme
- Write-off of the additional audit costs for first LTCCP
- An increase in Police numbers
- Increased funding for Bio-security research
- 5 year national Land Transport programme
- FAR review.

Still in progress are Building Control Authority and sustainable assistance for building and operating community assets.

He pointed to a greater expectation of communities that TLAs will contribute to a range of quality of life projects.

He questioned the capacity of TLAs to meet all infrastructure cost and compliance and to attain all national standards, referring to funding issues for councils with smaller revenue bases.

Councils are the backbone of the country, and we need leadership to make the necessary decisions for the future. He gave a note of warning about the "one size fits all" philosophy (one theme that came through from other speakers also).

4.10.2 Jim Soorley – ex Lord Mayor of Brisbane

Jim Soorley was one of the two more dynamic speakers. He spoke on partnership to achieve public / private / utilisation of assets. This view of the old way of leadership was low risk – dotall the "i's" and cross all the "t's" – it has to be perfect, not just good – even if good would do. He commented that perfect was the enemy of the good – "grab it, fix it and move on". The new way, he said, requires leaders to take on board these principles – conviction, commitment, courage, competition, communication, compassion.

Partners would deliver –

- Experience – done it before and successfully.
- Efficiency – better outcomes – private enterprise delivers.
- Expenditure – more \$\$ left in pockets and greater profits.
- Technology – if private can't do it, they contract someone else.
- Innovation.
- Realisation on assets.

Partnerships should be seamless alliances – customer friendly –

- State the values.
- Work out the culture.

- Transforming.
- Deliver staff development and retention.
- Break up silos and connect various disciplines

Where to look for partnerships –

- Planning – best practice.
- Environment.
- Housing.
- Service delivery.
- Infrastructure – roads, parking, water, recycling.
- Realising value on assets.
- Finding, retaining, developing staff.

Obstacles –

- Size.
- Staff shortage.
- Central Government putting up ridiculous obstacles.
- Fear.
- Group inertia.
- Process.
- Who owns IP.
- Poor me values.

He viewed local government as the most significant level of government based on its daily impact on people. He concluded with general examples of where public / private partnerships have worked and can work. He also commented that it is not one size fits all, and that we must look beyond three years. Overall this was a challenging and stimulating presentation, well delivered in true “in your face” Aussie style by a very competent speaker.

The objective of the break-out sessions held after this presentation would have been achieved better (as with all of the break-out sessions), if delegates went back to their councils with a template for discussion and the results of that discussion went to LGNZ for collating.

There are a number of PPPs throughout the country in various fields, eg solid waste, community facilities, roads? These are not to be confused with contracting out.

It would be good for LGNZ to request examples from each council and share that information throughout the country.

4.10.3 Dr Mildred Warner – Associate Professor, Cornell University

Dr Warner addressed the Conference on Local Government serving its citizens in a competitive world –

This address was overly academic with little content that could trickle down to be applied. This may have been because in her view New Zealand is so far ahead of the US in the way local government is organised with out-sourcing / privatization, performance management, amalgamation for regional solutions, and mechanisms to balance development with environment, democracy with consultation. Comments included –

- Markets do not ensure quality.
- Citizens are more than mere customers.
- Community vision leads → markets follow.
- The world isn't flat, it's uneven.
- Concern over turning public goods into “club” goods.

In the US, contracting out trends are reversing due to service quality (73%), insufficient cost savings (51%), local government efficiency improvements (36%), but she recognised US lacked New Zealand's accountability framework. (Note 37,000 units of local government in US, with 86,000 special units of government.)

The break-out session focused on balancing local needs while dealing with regional, national, and international issues. These prompts / questions give an idea of the difficulty of participating –

- Can local authorities succeed in retaining a local culture (local control, local identity, quality of life and a distinct sense of place) in the face of globalisation? Can both occur?
- Do new international governance regimes and agreements undermine local authorities' ability to represent their community? What impact could these agreements potentially have?
- Given the economic decisions being made by New Zealanders, does the community really have any issues with globalisation.

4.10.4 John Allen – CEO, New Zealand Post

This presentation was a highlight of the Conference.

John Allen was a fluent, no-frills, no notes speaker. He spoke about leadership; leadership is all about people, not money or anything else.

To be a real leader in his view one needs to have these attributes –

- Intellectual curiosity (open to new ideas and being challenged) – need to have what he called “mongrel”, in a positive way.
- Know yourself – strengths and weaknesses.
- Be a builder not a destroyer – don't be a chainsaw – build capacity.
- Risk taker (have a risk management plan) – don't risk entire organisation.
- Be accountable – when it goes well it's the team; when it goes badly it is your fault. If you only take the good stuff – populism doesn't last.
- Character – tell the truth all the time (good or bad). Act in a consistent manner with the message. Walk the talk.
- Don't be a fraud – they will not follow you.

John Allen believes we should be together whether business, local government, central government or communities to build a sustainable future for our country. Money is not the driving force to attract business. We need to build places where people want to come. We need diversity of population. People want lifestyle to be vibrant people. If we unlock the potential of people in our place – New Zealanders will fly. A truly memorable, energetic presentation.

4.10.5 Alan Milne – Mayor, Kapiti Coast

Climate Change – causes, effects of mitigation, adaptation.

We were challenged by this presentation to understand the change and act to plan for it, referring to the hockey stick.

The change started with the invention of the steam engine!

4.10.6 Jeff Kennett – former Premier of Victoria

Jeff Kennett gave an insightful address posing a host of questions. “Councils clearly live for their local communities, but need to be aware of the wider issues to enable our local communities to progress.” For Australia and New Zealand, our isolation used to be a negative, but now in view of current world events and technology, it should be seen as a positive. The continual search for knowledge is to be encouraged.

In his view our problems need all to be put into perspective. He believes there is little recognition beyond local boundaries for TLAs so there is a strong need to be relevant locally now and in 100 year’s time – what we do now must be relevant in the future.

He posed these questions – are we losing identity to Central Government? Are the lines between us blurred so that we are deliverers of Central Government policy? Are we over-governed? Do we need to find strength by looking over our borders? With the clamour for increased democracy, are we missing opportunities through delayed decisions?

He instanced 5 factors of leadership –

- Think long term goals – understand the impact – beyond 25 years.
- Have a strategy to deliver these goals
- Have good people around and understand their strengths and your own and also weaknesses.
- Have consistent policy.
- Deliver outcomes over time – recognise and reward those who do deliver.

He further commented

- Efficiency monitoring increases our levels of confidence.
- Thinking long term is not about short term popularity. Short term thinking can destroy the vision.
- Our greatest challenges are to remain relevant and to get rid of complacency.
- To reduce the percentage of rate take spent on administration.

There needs to be clear lines of responsibility between central government, local government and the individual. All good stuff put into plain speaking.

The final message was his concern that Australia and New Zealand had become complacent and the soft underbelly had arrived. He had concerns about our ability to respond if and when the world events meant that we should.

4.10.7 Strategic Future

The Strategic Futures workshop, which is about an exercise in 100% conjecture for future scenarios, prefaced that planning in New Zealand does not give enough consideration to all the Futures.

These workshops were developed by Bob Frame and Rhys Taylor from Landcare Research, Lincoln. There were four scenarios. Robin attended the “Living on No 8 Wire” session, while Brian was in the “Shire” –



The workshops posed this type of question –



These workshops were tools to encourage exploration of future generations’ viewpoint and if we knew what the viewpoint might be what would we do differently?

This could be a useful seminar for all councillors and with the closeness to us of Landcare Research it may be possible for several small councils to explore this type of thinking together.

4.10.8 Chris Moller, CEO, NZRFU

This presentation was on the World Cup 2011. We saw the shortened video of their presentation to the IRR which was a very impressive representation of our character, scenic beauty, sporting achievements and pride in New Zealand. A stadium of 4 million people. Some of the statistics associated with this event are –

- Estimated 4-5 billion television viewers.
- 20 teams involved in 48 matches over 7 weeks.
- Estimated \$5 billion economic benefits, \$2.6 billion for Auckland.
- \$150 million paid for hosting rights, with all broadcasting and sponsorship fees going to the IRB. (NZ keeps the ticket sales revenue which is not expected to recover the \$150m).

They are encouraging communities to “own a team”. The venues for games have not been finalized and they will be looking for representations from communities throughout New Zealand. Venues need to meet the criteria for the Air New Zealand cup.

4.10.9 Creative New Zealand Awards

Presentations were made for:

Built Environment	Nelson City – “Millers Acre Centre” Whangarei District – new library
Art Provision	Auckland City – events strategy Southland District – Southern Odyssey (arts, heritage trail)
Cultural Festival – Arts Event	Hamilton City – glimpse at Somali community Hastings District – Blossom Festival
Commissions and Public Art Works	Wellington – sculptures / water display (also Premier winner) Horowhenua – Foxton mural project South Wairarapa – commemorative wall (war graves)

Profiles of these projects are available.

4.10.10 Dr Don Brash, Leader of the Opposition

In stating that Government was there to serve the individuals he believes there to be a “crisis in confidence in local government as a result of the recent rate increases.”

He believes the central / local government partnership needs to be refocused, based on wealth / prosperity being created by individuals and groups rather than the central / local government.

Areas of opportunity he saw to reduce costs included the LTCCP (estimated to cost \$100 million collectively to draft stage), prostitution law, rates rebate administration and building legislation. He considered processing times for major projects was incompatible for world class development. Some councils were singled out for specific criticism.

4.10.11 Mark Burton, Minister for Local Government

The Minister’s address focused on working together, and also developing further partnership with the private sector (reference to Kate Valley). He acknowledged that rate increases were a result of higher compliance costs and infrastructure investment, but that the public have higher expectations regarding services provided.

The September forum will look further at funding issues.

4.10.12 Weighing Local Costs and National Benefits

The second session on Day 2, attended by Cr Kilworth, was weighing local costs and natural benefits which discussed options under the RMA for Central Government intervention. This was a joint delivery from Local

Government New Zealand, Ministry for the Environment, and Transpower. In the main it was an explanation of the Waikato high voltage transmission lines scenario from a variety of perspectives and Government policy and process which has now been developed.

Nine councils in the Waikato joined forces and employed Environment Waikato as the Project Manager to engage in the process which is currently before the Environment Court.

4.10.13 More than Just a Game

This presentation, attended by Cr Beavan, was hosted by SPARC and included John Walker and John Read. John Walker was inspirational. His father was a truck driver, his mother a dressmaker and the family never had money. He was born to run; he ran to and from work and at first his boss sent him home because he thought he had a fever, until he caught on. At age 14 he was invited into a harrier club. He didn't have a clue what that was but that was the start of his running career because he had support and guidance. Sporting clubs have to be revitalised and supported to get the kids back within their fold. Get the basics done and out there. Less shrinks and doctors and dieticians.

He told us that he lived on pizza, fish and chips and coke and never met a champion who was a vegetarian. He finds it hard to accept that this country is spending \$78 million on obesity issues. Reduce the cars and increase the walking. He wondered if anyone had thought of changing school hours because he had noted Auckland Transport issues disappeared during school holidays. Wants physical education put back into school programmes. We have to become risk adverse. Climbing trees used to be part of growing up. Sport is now seen as a money earner rather than a tool for social well-being.

In response to a Question on retaining National Identity he replied:

- Don't change the flag.
- Get back into black uniforms with the Silver Fern

We then heard about North Shore Youth Destinations Plan:

- Where is there
- Meet you there
- 3 on 3 courts
- Skateboard Parks etc
- 270 park events over summer
- Website used by youth
- Partnership between Police/SPARC/Trusts/Harbour Sport and Local Youth Council

Then from Tauranga we heard about City on its Feet:

Partnership between TCC, Sport Bay of Plenty, SPARC's Active Communities and Local Trusts.

People active more often through walkways, cycleways, networks etc. Employment created. Walking groups formed with captains, green prescriptions strong also. Social well-being is receiving positive evaluation as a result.

The Project is running for 3 years 2005 – 2008 and is funded:

- \$430,000 SPARC
- \$158,000 ACC
- \$95,000 Hospital Board
- \$263,000 TCC

The second session was on the Cronulla Beach riots. Could this happen here? We heard from Tom Calma an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander who is Acting Race Discrimination Commissioner and a Social Justice Commissioner of Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission of Australia. All the big boys were at this session.

We heard the background of the problem, started with an assault on one person, and extended to a project of "reclaim the beaches".

- Texting became the communication tool

- Wogs, Lebos and Muslims – the enemy.
- No request for calm from local or national leaders in early days of crisis.
- 87 arrested, 239 charges laid, 19 prosecutions – 73% not proceeded with.
- Race hate is not a crime in NSW.
- PM didn't call it racism.
- Media didn't help, wanted a story rather than acting as member of community to assist.

In response to all of that, measures put in place included:

- Mayor playing touch on beaches with sporting identities of ethnic diversity.
 - School children used on projects on beach events. That's where change of attitude will occur.
 - Improve communication between ethnic groups.
-
- Partnership in programmes between faiths.
 - Cross culture training for all staff of Police, local and central government.
 - Local Youth Council took a role also to improve relationships.

Cronulla has a population of around 17000 and is termed middle class with 17% of the population of overseas descent. The telling statement from Tom during the presentation was that the people called Wogs, Lebos, etc were in the main 3rd- 4th generation Australians.

Two things came out of the session – work done in assisting our local immigrants by SaferCommunity Council, Newcomers Network, local media, Ashburton Learning Centre, local businesses and sports clubs, to name a few, is time, money and effort well spent.

The second thing was the lack of cohesion and thought that our major cities had on this issue. Some didn't know we had a Department of Ethnic Affairs and were asking for guidance as to where to go. One city in Auckland blamed it on poverty. Some of us took opportunity to point out that safer community councils were a good sell. Some of us also pointed out, in response to the question - could it happen here? We thought it already had in 1981.

4.10.14 Is there Life after Community Outcomes?

The panel included Department of Internal Affairs, elected members, management, police, health board representatives. The key messages were –

- The outcomes are not new.
- Early days re inter-group co-operation.
- Many issues are multiple agency responsibilities.
- Non government agencies harder to identify.
- Needs an investment in time.
- What is the link to the national framework.
- Dealing with current issues versus long term outcomes.

4.10.15 Conclusions

Cr Kilworth

The sector meetings were held on Day 3 and also the joint meeting of Rural / Provincial took place on the Sunday before the Conference began.

The agenda and decision making of these meetings needs, in my view, to be reviewed. Some questions should be asked about the value of these meetings or what they are trying to achieve. I believe there are a number of issues which are possibly under discussion by several rural and provincial councils which never find their way to this forum. There seems to be confusion with regard to the role of the Zones and the role of these sector groups. LGNZ have policy makers to do the thinking and provide some clarity with regard to this structure. At this stage the sector group is superfluous in my view.

I believe the Conference would be better accomplished in two days. The workshops could be stand-alone

training exercises to be delivered in several locations throughout the country where more councillors could participate in them. Some of them need some thought, or at least a Council viewpoint to contribute. A great deal of effort was put in by LGNZ to bring a range of speakers and learning opportunities which has to be applauded but for all TLAs it is a very expensive and time consuming exercise with questionable outcomes. There were two standout addresses – Jim Soorley and John Allen, and I am grateful to Council for the opportunity to hear them and to attend the Conference.

Cr Beavan

An enjoyable and enlightening experience over three days. The networking one does during coffee etc is paramount and to hear about other districts' problems and solutions does the heart good. The theme was on leadership and suggestions and ideas passed on (hopefully) taken in for later reference.

The problem that I had though was when I got back to the hotel room and tuned into CNN coverage of Middle East Crisis; my perspective of the total picture was somewhat blurred. You reach your own conclusions.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend this year's Conference. Very much appreciated.

4.10.16 Annual General Meeting

Remits included –

1. That Local Government New Zealand advocate that Central Government impose tighter controls on the public sale of fireworks. Carried 108 / 103
(note in 2005, 1700 tonnes imported, up 40% on 2004)
2. That Local Government New Zealand seek to have the Government promote an amendment to S.142(1) of the Telecommunications Act 2001, so that a local authority has the normal rights of a landowner to decide whether to agree to location of telecommunications or other facilities on road reserve. Carried 111 / 94
3. That Local Government New Zealand agrees that the present funding arrangements for land transport are currently incapable of meeting New Zealand's needs into the future. Carried
4. That Local Government New Zealand request Government to review the Impounding Act 1955 "Stock straying or wandering on roads". Carried 151 / 60
(based on increasing accidents to wandering stock)

Mayor
Chief Executive

Cr Beavan
Cr Kilworth