

FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE [\[Unconfirmed Minutes\]](#)

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 21 June, 2007, commencing at 1.30 pm.

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

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

APOLOGIES: Crs N A Brown and L J Leadley **Sustained**

Confirmation of Minutes

“That the minutes of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee meeting held on 10 May 2007, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Urquhart/Nelson **Carried**

Matters Arising

Forestry

The Finance Manager reported that two of Council's forestry blocks have been identified for possible disposal. A list of blocks due to be harvested in five years has also been prepared with the possibility that they could be harvested earlier. These matters will be the subject of a further report to the Committee.

As requested by the Committee the District Forester provided a summary of the salvage logging income for the Alford Forest / Pudding Hill block.

Company Road Legalisation

“That Council resolves, pursuant to Section 114 of the Public Works Act, that the land shown as B, C, D and E on plan SO 19588 be declared as road.”

Urquhart/Glass **Carried**

Mount Somers Musterers Hut

“That the Mt Somers District Citizens Association be authorised to apply the \$2,500 grant towards relocation of the Musterers Hut on the Mt Somers Domain.”

Reveley/Glass **Carried**

Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Nelson/Glass **Carried**

Financial

- Income variance

The Finance Manager referred to the commercial properties income variance; it was explained that the capital gain had been forecast in the current year for industrial development, however this work won't take place and has been re-budgeted for the coming year.

- Sundry debtors

It was reported that two outstanding debts have been referred to Council’s solicitors for recovery. The Finance Manager said that the debts have been outstanding for some time although frequent attempts were made to recover the debts before legal action was taken.

The Committee assured the Finance Manager that that it was supportive of early enforcement action being taken to recover debt.

- Rate rebates

Clarification was sought on the process for rate rebates. The Finance Manager confirmed that applications for rebate in the 2006/ 07 year need to be lodged before 30 June 2007. Applications for the following year won’t be accepted until that year’s rate is confirmed. Recipients of rate rebates this year are currently being followed up and information is to be provided in the next issue of the District Diary.

- Kiwisaver scheme

The Finance Manager reported briefly on the work based saving initiative which comes into effect on 1 July 2007. He said that there will be no financial impact on Council in the first year as the employer subsidy requirement doesn’t commence until the following year. The Corporate Services Manager explained salaries are capped and the employer contribution will be within the salary cap. Councillors were provided with a copy of information on the scheme.

Valetta Farms Ltd

The Mayor reported that the Environment Court’s decision on the Valetta Farm consent appeal was received today. The Court has found in favour of Council and the applicants, C & J Ryan.

Council Leases

The Committee requested that a regular activity report be provided by staff on the processing of Council leases.

Internet

The Information Systems Manager reported that maps, aerial photographs and property information will be available on Council’s web site by the end of June, as will the RAPID register. He agreed to the Committee’s request for a regular report to be provided on the origin of hits on Council’s web site.

Items taken with the public excluded (2.13 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:
14	Confirmation of Minutes – 10/05/07 • Property Matters	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities

Urquhart/Kilworth

Carried

The meeting concluded at 2.24 pm.