

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 13 December, 2007, 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, Community Planning Manager, Property Manager, Corporate Services Manager, District Librarian and Committee Secretary.

One member of the public attended.

APOLOGY: His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley **Carried**

Confirmation of Minutes

“That the minutes of the Finance and Community Services Committee meeting held on 15 November 2007, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Brown/Kilworth **Carried**

Matters Arising

Request for Financial Support

Clarification was sought on whether the Ashburton Health Services recruitment video had been completed in time for the Employment Expo. The Committee noted that the matter had been addressed urgently so that this request could be met. Later in the meeting, it was reported that the video was not available for the Expo, however it is intended that it will be used for future recruitment projects undertaken by Ashburton Hospital.

Corporate Services Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Beavan/Lowe **Carried**

Information systems

A request was made for the Corporate Services Manager to look at the email system and the way in which email correspondence is handled when staff are absent. Clarification was sought on what systems are in place to ensure that emails are able to be responded to immediately.

Minor applications

It was noted that the National Heart Foundation annual appeal will be held on 14 February 2008.

Community Services Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Brown/Everest **Carried**

Annual Report

The Community Planning Manager reported that the Auditors have identified some inconsistencies in the way in which performance targets in the LTCCP and Annual Plan are being measured and presented in comparison to previous years. This will be addressed in the coming year.

Gambling Amendment Bill

It was noted that the Ashburton Charitable Trust Foundation's submission was presented to the Gambling Amendment Bill Select Committee in Wellington.

Physical Activity Strategy

“That Councillors Beavan and Reveley be reappointed to the Physical Activity Strategy Subcommittee.”

Holmes/Kilworth

Carried

Local Services Mapping

The Community Planning Manager reported on the work being undertaken to establish an Ashburton Social Services Forum. The Committee heard that additional funding and staff resources will be required on a temporary basis.

Parks

The Committee requested a report from the Parks Manager on the future use of an area of land on River Terrace that is being used for tree stumps and similar debris.

Rural Fire Sheds

1. That the Principal Rural Fire Officer convene a meeting with all Rural Fire Units to determine requirements for kitchen and ablution facilities at the fire sheds; and
2. That the Committee notes that progress is being made in respect of the provision of a toilet facility at Hinds.”

Brown/Lowe

Carried

Finance Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Kilworth/Beavan

Carried

Library Christmas Tree

The Property Manager acknowledged the Committee’s concern that the Christmas tree in the Library building window on the West and Havelock Street corner is not easily seen by the passing public. He explained that there is currently no better location, however consideration will be given to including a more appropriate display area in the future development of civic buildings.

In discussion on festive lighting the Property Manager agreed to provide the Committee with an update on the partnership arrangement with Electricity Ashburton and the Business Association at a later date.

Items taken with the public excluded (2.05 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 – 15/11/07 • Property Matters	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
8.2	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
8.3	Ashburton Performing Arts Centre Trust	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities Section 7(2)(i) Conduct of negotiations

Kilworth/Brown

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

Performing Arts Theatre Trust Management

“That Council’s representatives on the Ashburton Theatre Trust Management Board be the Chairman of the Finance and Community Services Committee and the Democracy and Community Services Manager.”

Beavan/Everest

Carried

The Committee resumed in open meeting and concluded at 3.00 pm.