

REPORT and **MINUTES** of a meeting of the **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 28 January 2010, commencing at 1.30 pm.

PRESENT: 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 and P W Reveley.

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

One member of the public attended.

APOLOGY: Councillor K W P Lowe

Sustained

Confirmation of Minutes

"That the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 19 November, 2009, be taken as read and confirmed."

Leadley/Brown

Carried

Matters Arising

Mill Creek

Work has been undertaken on the Argyle Park section of Mill Creek, however it was reported that weed growth is continuing.

State Highway work

The Roading & Street Services Manager reported that the closing of part of Old Main South Road has been raised with NZTA and contact will be made with the adjacent property owner. The Committee will be kept informed.

Dunford St minor improvements

Funding has been provided for this non subsidized work in the 2010-11 budget.

Activity Reports

"That the reports be received."

Burgess/Everest

Carried

Financials

Financial reports for the period 1 July to 31 November 2009 were received.

It was reported that the under-expenditure forecast for the Tinwald bore has resulted from delays in finding a suitable groundwater source. The forecast expenditure includes drilling of another bore in the vicinity of the Tinwald Domain. The project will be re-budgeted in the 2010-11 year to cover the balance of the project works.

Ashburton Business Estate

The Operations Manager reported that the project will now include part of the Stage 2 roading to Company Road. Estimates were received today and a financial update will be provided to next Committee meeting. It is anticipated that work will be completed within budget, including the contingency fund.

Second Bridge

The Operations Manager has provided a separate report to the Committee. Mr Rouse advised that the subject of that report will remain confidential until affected landowners have been contacted.

The Committee's deliberations today will be reported to the Regional Land Transport technical officers group who will meet on 1 February. The project will continue to be promoted at a regional level and more certainty of funding will be sought.

Although the RLT Committee has no budget for the project in the next five years Mr Rouse said that site investigation and land designations need to be progressed now. If Council wished to bring the project forward then a change to the Regional Land Transport Programme would be sought. Some subsidy funding has been secured for the work currently underway and further funding for Stage 2 will be pursued, subject to Council approval.

Acton Irrigation Project

It was reported that the Acton Agreement is to be signed off today by Council's Executive Committee.

Waste Management Plan

A workshop on the Waste Management Plan for solid and hazardous waste was held on 27 January. The draft plan will be the subject of a special consultative process.

NZ Transport Agency subsidy approvals

The Roothing & Street Services Manager met with representatives of NZTA today. An application will be made to bring forward the Bremners Road and Lower Bridge Road work. Mr Robertson anticipates a favourable result as the Agency has indicated support for these projects.

Crash reports

The Roothing and Street Services Manager will continue to pursue with Tranzrail the need to install warning bells and lights at the Northpark Road and Overdale-Hatfield crossings. Mr Robertson said that traffic accident records and counts are used as a basis for an upgrade. Fatal accidents have occurred at both crossings and Tranzrail will be reminded of Council's request to urgently prioritize this work. The Operations Manager will be meeting with On Track staff tomorrow where the matter will be raised.

A further report of trees obstructing visibility on Bells Road will also be followed up by staff.

Trees shading roads schedule

The Operations Manager acknowledged that some of the information sent to property owners who have trees shading roads was incorrect and this is being rectified.

Contractors

Staff were requested to remind contractors of their requirement to remove temporary signage when work has been completed.

Minor improvement work

Work programmed on Hinds Arundel, Trevors and Withells Roads intersection will be delayed for a few weeks to assist the Mayfield Hinds Irrigation Company storage pond project. Pipes required to service the ponds will be installed as part of the intersection upgrade work.

Footpath resurfacing

The 2009-10 contract has been let and work is planned to commence in late January. Because the tender was \$53,000 under budget additional work from 2010-11 will be brought forward. It was noted that the footpath on the corner of Burnett and West Streets has been damaged by tree roots and a request was made to include it on the works schedule.

Mayfield water

The Water Services Manager explained that a ‘notice to boil water’ was put in place on January because of the low chlorine level reading. The scheme source was experiencing turbidity at that time and although contamination was unlikely, the precaution was taken in the interests of public health.

Water cylinders

The Committee heard that there has been recent media focus on the possibility of the Ashburton water supply damaging water cylinders. The Water Services Manager advised that although there doesn’t appear to be a link between the supply and the number of cylinders failing, there will be further investigation carried out.

Wilkins Rd

Access for contractors to the site has been delayed because of a programming issue on the device that is used to provide access. A familiarization tour will be undertaken with contractors next week and it is anticipated that full access will be made possible at that time.

Emergency Management

The restricted fire season which was put in place on 23 December 2009, has been lifted and an open fire season is in place.

Road Safety

Cr Beavan has observed a number of traffic safety issues at the Tancred / Cass Street intersection and asked if this could be monitored.

The Roading and Street Services Manager reported that the proposed cycleway has received some private funding from a business, however confirmation of NZTA funding is still awaited. Options for this project will be considered by Council during the budget round.

Methven Community Board

Minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on 25 January 2010, were tabled. One matter has been referred to the Committee for consideration.

Water Subcommittee

Minutes of the Water Subcommittee meeting of 17/12/09 were received.

- **Race Closure – Rakaia Barrhill**

“That up to \$10,000 from the water investigation account be used to progress the possible closure of the Barrhill Rakaia stockwater race.”

Leadley/Everest

Carried

- **Race Closure – Rakaia Highway to Fairfield Road**

“That closure of the stockwater race commencing from above Rakaia Highway on Res 1032, running parallel to Stanley Road and terminating at junctions above Fairfield Road on Lot 2 DP 28946, Lot 1 DP 19433 and Lot 4 DP 19433, is not progressed at this time.”

Brown /Reveley

Carried

Items transacted with the public excluded (2.32 pm)

“That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – 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:
7	Confirmation of minutes 19/11/09 [now in open meeting] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contract AM-AC10• Contract AM-AJ10• Wastewater servicing (Tarbottons Rd)• RDR – Klondyke storage	
8	Water Subcommittee – 17/12/09	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
9	Second bridge across Ashburton River Issues & Options report	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities

Brown/Leadley

Carried

The meeting concluded at 4.28 pm.