

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT and **MINUTES** of a meeting of the **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 11 March 2010, commencing at 2.50 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors B A Tasker (Chair), L J Leadley, I J Burgess, J A Everest, K L Holmes, K W P Lowe and P W Reveley.

Also in attendance Councillors R C Beavan, R J Kilworth, J A Kingsbury and J Sparks; Operations Manager, Water Services Manager, Roading & Street Services Contracts Engineer, Solid Waste Manager and Committee Secretary.

The Chairman of the Methven Community Board, M Nordqvist, and one member of the public attended.

APOLOGY: Mayor M B O'Malley (lateness), Councillor N A Brown (absence) **Sustained**

Confirmation of Minutes

It was noted that Cr Beavan was in attendance at the 28 January meeting.

"That the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 28 January 2010, be taken as read and confirmed."

Lowe/Leadley

Carried

Matters Arising

State Highway Work

A memo circulated to Councillors on 8 March, outlined the proposal to close the intersection of Old Main South Road and SH1 because of safety concerns due to the road alignment. This matter will be the subject of a report to Council on 8 April.

Water Cylinders

The Water Services Manager reported that investigation work is continuing. The initial report on the treatment and quality of the Ashburton supply shows that this is not the cause of corrosion and there is no requirement to modify treatment. It is understood that water cylinder manufacturers are investigating their processes and materials to determine whether there are any contributing factors there.

Activity Reports

"That the reports be received."

Lowe/Burgess

Carried

Financials

Financial reports for the period 1/07/09 to 31/01/10 were received.

- Roading is on budget
- Revenue for solid waste is down but is offset by the decreased cost of transporting and disposal.

The Mayor attended the meeting at 2.59 pm.

Ashburton Business Estate

The Operations Manager reported that the subdivision of one lot, to create smaller lots, has attracted expressions of interest.

It was noted that additional work has been approved, requiring a further \$126K over and above the original tendered sum.

Mr Rouse said that the contingency would be used in the first instance to offset the cost of stage 2 work and subdivision of lot 24, however the net result is that it exceeds the contingency by \$126K.

The Committee heard that an odour complaint, referred by ECan, has been traced to the stockpiles of topsoil on the site where composting vegetation had been disturbed by spreading. The neighbouring property owners have been advised of this.

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 3.10 pm and resumed at 3.22 pm.

Second bridge (Ashburton River)

Consultation with potentially affected parties commenced prior to the sites being made public. Letters will today be sent to residents in the vicinity, including Grove Street and Chalmers Avenue.

Waste management plan

The Operations Manager and Solid Waste Manager are reviewing the management plan for solid and hazardous waste. The key focus is the documentation of current practice, revising targets and focusing on new initiatives including construction and demolition waste and putrescible disposal and site development works at the Ashburton RRP.

NZTA subsidy approvals

The Mayor spoke about the Agency's willingness to support councils that are prepared to invest in their roading networks, as this Council has. NZTA has advised that Stage 3 of the second bridge project, being the notice of requirement process, is eligible for subsidy.

The Operations Manager reported that recent discussion with NZTA on the proposed traffic lights at Tinwald was not positive but as a consequence, NZTA have agreed to revisit some aspects of the project. Cr Tasker explained that high cost is a result of the Agency's future proofing of the project, however Council believes this could be significantly reduced if the scope is changed.

Road maintenance

As a follow-up to the letters sent out to property owners with trees shading roads, staff will be contacting these people over the next few weeks. The Operations Manager confirmed that remedial work will be carried out on Council plantations that have also been found to have trees shading roads.

Area Wide Pavement Treatment

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

1. That Council approves the budget for the subsidised roading account for pavement rehabilitation in 2010-2011; and
2. That approval to commit this work in the 2009-10 financial year be approved."

Lowe/Holmes

Carried

Street cleaning

Cr Holmes said that the footpath along Havelock Street was left in a poor condition after the street was sealed recently. The Committee agreed that removal of stone chips and cleaning of footpaths needs to be carried out more quickly following reseal work.

Smallbone Drive

"That the regulatory controls at the intersection of Smallbone Drive and Robinson Street be amended to place the GIVE WAY control on Smallbone Drive and to remove the GIVE WAY on Robinson Street north leg."

Holmes/Reveley

Carried

Carriageway lighting

Cr Tasker asked staff to follow up the need for a light on the Line Road / Thompsons Track intersection, noting that this request has been made a number of times.

Minor improvements

Cr Reveley asked for an update on work that was to be carried out to mitigate flooding on Hinds Lismore Road, Hinds. The Operations Manager agreed to follow this up.

Westpark Close swale

The Operations Manager and Roding Asset Management Officer will be meeting with Westpark Close residents next week to discuss the planting and beautification work proposed for this street.

Minor township maintenance

The Operations Manager will be contacting the Methven Community Board and Rakaia Community Association to discuss the workscope of the township contracts which expire in September.

Public conveniences

Cr Kilworth referred to previous discussion on the need to upgrade the floor surface of the East Street toilets. It was noted that water frequently pools on the floor which is unsightly and hazardous. The Operations Manager was asked to follow this up.

Leak detection

The Water Services Manager reported that leak detection work has identified 125 water leaks in the Allenton area. The first phase of this work completed earlier involved a review of minimum night flows, which determined the catchments that required further investigation. The field work has identified whether the leak is routine or not and whether it involves some work on private properties.

Tinwald bore

The Water Services Manager confirmed that the Tinwald Reserve Board will be formally notified of Council's intention to access the site for the proposed bore in the vicinity of the Tinwald Domain.

Ashburton bore #6

The Water Services Manager reported that drilling on this site to date has been very positive. The new deep bore was drilled to 90 metres and is pumping 87 litres / second. The bore will be commissioned in June.

Winchmore

The Water Services Manager reported that from consultation with ratepayers on the Winchmore water supply it appears that only one party wants water. Mr Guthrie said this would not fund a restricted supply, therefore the project has been parked. Two further parties have indicated they want to withdraw from the scheme, however they would still be liable for a half charge connection fee.

The Committee agreed to progress this matter through the Water Subcommittee when it next meets.

The Water Services Manager and Roding & Street Services Contracts Engineer left at 4.08 pm.

Wilkins Rd

The Operations Manager reported that key access has been provided to two local septage contractors. Staff are working with a third contractor to assist with the certification process.

Ocean Farm

The Committee agreed that it would be timely to make another site visit sometime in the next month or two.

Stockwater race closure

An update was sought on progress with a stockwater race closure request. The Operations Manager advised that a report is being prepared in response to this request, which was received on 18 February. The report will be considered by the Water Subcommittee.

Emergency Management Self Assessment

The Operations Manager reported that Council's self assessment process has been completed at the request of the Ministry. Mr Rouse said the survey results have been satisfactory.

Methven Community Pool

"That Methven Community Board offers in the first instance to assist the Methven Pool Committee by requesting a report from Council on pool sealing options with a view to having the pool open next season."

Lowe/Holmes

Carried

The Operations Manager reported that Opus has offered to assist with this at no cost to Council or the Methven pool. The initial briefing will be carried out on 12 March.

"That Council carries out a cost benefit analysis of water meter installation and maintenance costs to compare long term savings the community would make from building new infrastructure."

Lowe/Burgess

Carried

The Finance Manager attended the meeting at 4.35 pm.

The matter of the outstanding water bill will be considered by the Finance & Community Services Committee on 25 March.

Business transacted with the public excluded (4.55 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:
6	Confirmation of minutes 28/01/10 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2nd bridge (Ashburton River) [now in open meeting]• Hydro Trader proposal	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities
7	Second bridge across Ashburton River Issues & Options report	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities

Lowe/Holmes

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

Second Bridge across Ashburton River – Options for siting (Council 25/02/10)

- “1. That Council approves Option D-E– Chalmers Avenue to Grove Street as the preferred option for the second bridge across the Ashburton River for Stage 2 investigation and consultation with a view to identifying a site and land designation for a second bridge across the Ashburton River; and
2. That Council approves Option D as its second option, also to be part of the Stage 2 investigation and consultation.”

Leadley/Kilworth

Carried

Crs Beavan and Reveley recorded their votes against the motion
Cr Kingsbury abstained.

**Extension of Contract Duration for C524 – (Council 8/03/10)
Operation and Maintenance of the Transportation Networks**

“That Contract C524 : Operation and Maintenance of the Transportation Networks, Ashburton District 2007 – 2010, currently held by Fulton Hogan Ltd, be extended for a further 12 months to 30 June 2011.”

Leadley/Tasker

Carried

The meeting concluded at 6 pm.