

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES of a Meeting of the **ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL** held in the Holyoake Auditorium, Ashburton College, 23 Walnut Avenue, Ashburton, on Thursday 20 May 2010, commencing at 2.30 pm.

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley; Councillors N A Brown, I J Burgess, J A Everest, K L Holmes, R J Kilworth, J A Kingsbury, L J Leadley, K W P Lowe, J Sparks, P W Reveley and B A Tasker.

In attendance Chief Executive, Manager Democracy & Community Services, Operations Manager, Finance Manager and Committee Secretary.

Staff and Students of Ashburton College and members of the public attended.

APOLOGY: Cr R C Beavan

Sustained

The opening prayer was offered by Reverend David Jensen.

Youth Council Report

The Mayor sought Council's agreement to re-order the agenda and take the Youth Council report with members of the Youth Council present.

The report outlined activities since the Youth Councillors met with Council in November 2009. Of note, is the Youth Council's participation in 'Youth Week' from 22-30 May, which includes a 40 hour film challenge.

On behalf of Council the Mayor thanked the Youth Councillors for their commitment and acknowledged the initiative of those involved in the new Base Café.

"That the Youth Council report be received."

Sparks/Burgess

Carried

NZTA Presentation

NZTA representatives Messrs Mark Yaxley and Colin Hey were welcomed to the meeting. Mr Yaxley used a powerpoint presentation to provide information on NZTA's position regarding the state highway corridor and the existing bridge, and outlined the background of the Transportation Study. Mr Yaxley said that the benefits of building a second bridge downstream are considerably greater than upgrading the existing bridge. He noted that the benefit / cost ratio for the existing bridge is only 1.

While unable to give a definitive answer on how the bridge will be funded, Mr Yaxley gave assurance that based on current information, NZTA would jointly fund the project with Council for at least half the cost.

NZTA's preferred solution for the upgrade of the Agnes St / Lagmhor Rd / SH1 intersection is to acquire land to widen it. Based on current modelling this project is around 5 or more years away. The study has shown that traffic lights will not be required for at least 10 years. Mr Yaxley acknowledged the community's perception that the intersection access is unsafe, however crash rate statistics show that it is performing well with only about one third of the crashes that occur on similar sections of highway throughout the country.

There is a planned maintenance programme for the existing bridge which undergoes regular inspection. While there are some concerns with the width of the walkway/ cycleway these will be further addressed when the decision is reached on the proposal for a second bridge. The bridge meets all structural requirements and is not due for replacement for another 20-25 years.

Councillors responded with their concerns, noting that many non injury accidents go unreported and are not reflected in NZTA's statistics.

Cr Leadley noted that NZTA would not support a full bypass and asked whether a partial bypass would be supported, taking into account the large area of the eastern part of the district that houses industry. He referred to Council's "Option D" for the second bridge.

Mr Yaxley advised that the modelling does take into account land use and said that a bypass is justified when there is a substantial volume of through traffic that doesn't need to access a town. He said that Ashburton has some but not all of the characteristics – the downside is that a second bridge is still required and there would also be substantial costs with construction of new roads. NZTA's modelling suggests that a bypass won't get close to a project that would stand up as there's not enough traffic volume.

NZTA has a programme in place to inspect all bridges on key routes by September this year. Work in Canterbury will start in September. The Agency has some concerns with the Rakaia bridge's ability to take heavier vehicles, however because these loads operate on a permit system, they will be managed by limiting numbers.

The presentation concluded at 3.20 pm and the NZTA representatives were thanked.

Before adjourning for afternoon tea the Mayor took the opportunity to thank College staff and students for their attendance and for the opportunity and assistance they have given to Council's meeting in the Holyoake Auditorium.

Council adjourned for afternoon tea at 3.20 pm and resumed a 3.40 pm.

Second bridge across the Ashburton River – Project Update and Additional Work Approval

The Operations Manager updated Council on the investigation and consultation process. Mr Rouse said that work is continuing around the reference group which will be primarily resident focused with other stakeholders involved. Council will provide technical support and the group will be facilitated by the service provider engaged to undertake the social assessment.

Cr Kilworth advised that an approach has been made by senior College students, who are Tinwald residents, asking to be included on the reference group.

Cr Leadley supported the recommendation on the proviso that 'Option D' would be reconsidered. He said there are possibilities of this option handling some of the heavy traffic destined for the Business Estate.

"That Council

1. approves the additional technical investigation and social impact assessment work;
2. approves additional funding in the sum of \$106,631.40 excluding GST being the local share of the costs of the additional work within the total cost of the work, being \$247,980 excluding GST; and
3. approves in principle the formation of a reference group subject to Council's approval of terms of reference being reported to the next Council meeting."

Kilworth/Tasker

Carried

Cr Kingsbury abstained from voting.

Confirmation of Minutes

Reference to the Regional Transport Committee was amended to record Committee member, Peter Goodwin.

"That the minutes of the meeting of Ashburton District Council held on 8 April, as amended, and Extraordinary Council meeting on 29 April 2010, be taken as read and confirmed."

Leadley/Tasker

Carried

Mayor's Report

"That the report be received."

Burgess/Kingsbury

Carried

Chief Executive's Report

"That the report be received."

Everest/Sparks

Carried

Operations Committee – 22 April 2010

"That the report and minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 22 April 2010, be received."

Tasker/Lowe

Carried

Environmental Services Committee – 29 April 2010

"That the report and minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 29 April 2010, be received."

Kilworth/Leadley

Carried

Finance & Community Services Committee – 4 May 2010

"That the report and minutes of the Finance and Community Services Committee meeting held on 4 May 2010, be received."

Holmes/Brown

Carried

NRB

The NRB survey was carried out between 30 April and 7 May. Results will be known within the next two months.

Mount Hutt – Riverbank Stockwater Supply Investigation

"That Council grants up to \$15,000 for the investigation of a concept design for a stockwater supply for the Mount Hutt – Riverbank development area"

Leadley/Lowe

Carried

Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation Scheme – Piping Proposal

Cr Brown declared an interest and refrained from discussion and decision.

"That additional information be requested from the Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation scheme when it is available; this information to be used to assist in determining Council's involvement in the proposal."

Leadley/Tasker

Carried

Closure of Stockwater Race – Buttericks Road

Cr Leadley declared an interest and refrained from discussion and decision.

"That the special consultative procedure be commenced to close the stockwater race running from a junction at Lot 2 DP 8442 to where it ceases at the coastline on Lot 26 DP 289."

Lowe/Brown

Carried

Closure of Stockwater Race – Barrhill Rakaia

“That the special consultative procedure be commenced to close the stockwater race commencing from a junction near Accommodation ‘Road on Lot 1 DP 23885, running parallel to Rakaia Barrhill Methven Road, and terminating below Baker Road on Lot 14 DP 1017.”

Lowe/Brown

Carried

Trevors Road Plan Change – Final Consideration

- “1. That the report be received.
2. That the Trevors Road Plan Change to the Operative District Plan be approved in accordance with Clause 17, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, so that the Council seal can be affixed to the decision and that the Operative District Plan be amended in accordance with the approved decision.”

Kilworth/Leadley

Carried

Carters Estate Plan Change – Final Consideration

- “1. That the report be received.
2. That the Carters Estate Plan Change to the Operative District Plan be approved in accordance with Clause 17, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, so that the Council seal can be affixed to the decision and that the Operative District Plan be amended in accordance with the approved decision.”

Tasker/Burgess

Carried

Plan Change for Areas of Significant Nature Conservation Value (Group 2)– Final Consideration

- “1. That the report be received.
2. That the Plan Change to the Operative District Plan for ‘Areas of Significant Nature Conservation Value (Group 2) be approved in accordance with Clause 17, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, so that the Council seal can be affixed to the decision and that the Operative District Plan be amended in accordance with the approved decision.”

Leadley/Sparks

Carried

Canterbury Water Management Strategy – Zone Committee Establishment

- “1. That Council adopts the Terms of Reference for the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee including Appendix I - Terms of Reference for the combined Ashburton and Selwyn/ Waihora Zone Subcommittee; and
2. That Council appoints the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor as its representatives on the Ashburton Zone Committee Selection Working Group.”

Kilworth/Tasker

Carried

The Mayor & Cr Leadley abstained from voting.

Methven Heritage Project

Cr Lowe declared an interest and refrained from discussion and decision.

- “1. That Council rescinds its resolution of 17 September 2009.
2. That, on the basis of the personal guarantees being in place to cover the \$600,000 loan facility, Council allows CBS Canterbury to register a security over the Heritage Centre.”

Holmes/Tasker

Carried

Smoke-Free Sports Fields Policy Launch

“That the report be received.”

Sparks/Kingsbury

Carried

Creative Communities Funding

“That the report of the Creative Communities Funding Assessment Committee be received.”

Sparks/Kingsbury

Carried

SPARC Rural Travel Fund 2010

“That the report of the SPARC Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee be received.”

Lowe/Reveley

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

Trustpower Ashburton Youth Community Spirit Award and Trustpower Ashburton Community Awards 2010

“That the report of the Trustpower Awards Working Party, 28 April 2010, be received and the decisions become the business of open meeting.”

Holmes/Burgess

Carried

The meeting concluded at 4.30 pm.

Confirmed this 29th day of June 2010 by

MAYOR