

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT and **MINUTES** of a meeting of the **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 3 June 2010, commencing at 1.30 pm.

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley; Councillors B A Tasker (Chair), L J Leadley, N A Brown, J Burgess, J A Everest, 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 Manager, Roading Contracts Engineer, and Committee Secretary.

One member of the public attended.

APOLOGY: Cr K L Holmes (lateness) **Carried**

Confirmation of Minutes

"That the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 22 April 2010, be taken as read and confirmed."

Lowe/Brown **Carried**

Matters Arising

Minor improvements – Hinds Lismore Road

The Committee heard that the culvert hasn't been installed, however the pipes are on site in readiness.

The Roading Contracts Engineer reported that the consent for the race, held by the Mayfield Hinds Irrigation Society, allows 3000 litres/second of emergency flow into the race. Verification of this consent is being undertaken before work on the new culvert commences. It was noted that there are already two culverts discharging into the race from Winslow Road and the new culvert will provide additional security. The area was monitored during the recent heavy rain event and no flooding issues occurred.

Crs Everest and Reveley spoke about the ongoing flooding and drainage problems occurring in the Hinds township, noting that at least one property has stockwater and stormwater draining into it and ponding.

Staff were asked to investigate these matters and provide a full report to the Committee.

Vehicle dimensions

In response to reports of public concern about the ability of the district's roads and bridges to take overweight vehicles, the Operations Manager confirmed that overweight vehicles will only be allowed on designated routes. Mr Rouse advised that specific routes, rather than the whole roading network, will be assessed.

The Mayor noted that NZTA is yet to commence the assessment of the Canterbury network and the outcome of this won't be known until the end of the year. His expectation is that Council will be consulted by the Agency before any decision is made on the local roading network.

The Operations Manager confirmed that recommendations to designate local roads for heavy vehicles will be referred to Council for endorsement.

Activity Reports

"That the reports be received."

Leadley/Everest **Carried**

Financials

Financial reports for the period 1/07/09 to 31/03/10 were received.

- **Kerb and channel**

Design work for kerb and channel in Methven, Rakaia and the rural townships has been completed but tenders are yet to be called.

The Committee asked if the work programmed for the following year could be included with the 2009-10 programme and completed as one contract. The Operations Manager agreed, noting that the process would be delayed to allow the additional work scope to be included.

Tenders will be called early in the new financial year.

“That the kerb and channel contracts for 2009-10 and 2010-11 be combined and funds for the 2009-10 year be carried over.”

Lowe/Brown

Carried

Proposed second bridge – Ashburton River

Terms of reference for the Reference Group are being prepared and will be the subject of a report to Council in June.

Service delivery procurement

A draft report is being prepared for discussion at a workshop on 10 June, prior to its referral to Council on 29 June.

Rainfall event

The Committee acknowledged the work of contractors and staff who responded to the heavy rain event and managed the road closures and surface flooding.

The Operations Manager reported that an incident management team was formed and rainfall intensity was monitored. Staff maintained contact with ECan’s flood managers and monitored the ECan river flow data on the web site.

General maintenance

The Operations Manager confirmed that Poplar Road has been included on the schedule for maintenance metalling. Cr Brown asked for Kyle Road to be included, noting that a number of intersections in the north-eastern part of the district are due for similar upgrades.

Area wide pavement treatment

Cr Reveley suggested that this work be delayed when weather conditions are likely to have an adverse effect, noting that repair work carried out on Blands Road and Ashburton Staveley Road failed as a result of wet weather.

The Roading & Street Services Manager reported that roads included in the AWPT programme are a section of Longbeach Road and three sections on Arundel Rakaia Road. Ashburton Staveley and Tramway Roads are tentatively scheduled. Mr Fauth said that roads which haven’t met the RAMM criteria, including Christies Road, have not been included.

Road transport operators

The Operations Manager reported that contact will be made with representatives of the Road Transport Association to further discuss Council’s transportation bylaw requirements for operators of heavy vehicles. It was agreed that there needs to be increased public awareness of this.

Hakatere water

Work on the upgrade was delayed and has now commenced.

Mayfield water supply upgrade

The Operations Manager reported that a consent has been issued for the bore installed by the Mayfield Citizens Group, however the quantity of water applied for, and granted, is insufficient and won't meet the current demand. The consent was granted on the basis of 130m³ / day although the existing well has a consent for 300m³/day and peak demand is 279m³/day.

The Committee's approval to seek an appeal to condition 2 was requested. Mr Rouse said that Council staff will assist with the documentation to meet the deadline of 9 June. He confirmed that while the ability of the bore to supply the 300m³/ day is unknown, it is known that this amount is required.

"That a request be made to the "grantee" of the resource consent to take water from the privately owned bore in Mayfield, identified for a public water supply, to either appeal or seek a variation to condition number 2; to increase the consented take of 130m³/ day at a rate not exceeding 3 litres/ second to 300m³/day at a rate not exceeding 5 litres / second; and any other minor suggested changes."

Leadley/Reveley

Carried

Methven water supply

An issues and options report has been completed and will be discussed with the Methven Community Board at a workshop.

The Water Services Manager reported that the raw water trunk main was damaged by a contractor excavating on nearby private property. Emergency repairs were undertaken and the costs will be recovered.

Wastewater

Cr Reveley asked whether a backflow preventer, identified as a solution for a Grove Street property last year, has been installed.

The Water Services Manager reported that investigations are continuing to find a suitable and cost effective device. Mr Guthrie explained that one option would require a full size manhole which would be expensive and unsuitable for the property owner. The proposal is to install one way valves on site, this work to be met from the existing budget. If the problem continues, then other options will be considered as part of the next LTCCP review, including a wider pipeline upgrade and a bypass along Wilkins Road. It was noted that additional groundwater monitoring bores are currently being installed along Boundary Road which will provide more comprehensive water quality monitoring.

Sewer pipeline renewal

The contract for renewal work carried out in Methven requires the reinstatement of grass areas and the decision has been made to use Ready lawn in this situation so that the property owners' concerns can be addressed immediately. The Water Services Manager said that it is not intended to change the contract specification and Ready lawn will not become the standard.

Wilkins Road septage disposal

The Water Services Manager reported that access for contractors to the disposal site is being inhibited because of equipment failure. The touch screen access device has failed and work is underway to make it operational. Mr Guthrie said the equipment is now outside the contractual period.

Farm Management Subcommittee

The Subcommittee meeting was postponed and is yet to be rescheduled.

Acton Irrigation

MP, Jo Goodhew, will be visiting Rakaia on Tuesday 8 June, and Councillors have been invited to join the site visit to the Acton irrigation scheme. The group will meet at Salmon Tales at 9am on Tuesday.

Stockwater race applications / closures

The Water Subcommittee meeting dates to hear further submissions and deliberate on the proposed stockwater race closures will be rescheduled and held later in July. Dates will be advised.

Solid waste

The Committee heard that the composting operation at the Ashburton resource recovery park has increased in volume and as the site is producing a high quality product it is intended to apply for organic certification.

Cr Beavan reported that the recycling collection in Alford Forest Road was undertaken after 6pm this week and said this is unsatisfactory for people who don't want to have to retrieve their bins in darkness. The matter will be addressed with the contractor.

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 2.50 pm and resumed at 3.18 pm.

NZTA funding applications

Council's draft road safety programme has been re-focused to areas that will attract NZTA funding. The projects are in line with the Agency's national strategy. Final approval is expected in early September.

Methven Community Board

The Methven Community Board sought the Committee's agreement to deferring the relocation of the McDonald Street pedestrian crossing, recommending that it be considered after work on the primary school's second entranceway has been completed.

Cr Tasker reported that information has since been provided which explains the need for the work. A safety issue exists with left turning traffic from the highway having limited visibility. The Committee agreed that it would not be appropriate to delay the relocation.

The Operations Manager agreed to advise the Board that more investigation into this is being carried out.

"That the matter lie on the table meanwhile; and that further information be obtained for the Methven Community Board."

Lowe/Reveley

Carried

The meeting concluded at 3.30 pm.