
Council Minutes – 15/09/21

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 15 September 2021, via Zoom, commencing at 1.00pm.

Present

His Worship the Mayor Neil Brown; Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan; Councillors Leen Braam, Carolyn Cameron, John Falloon, Rodger Letham, Lynette Lovett, Angus McKay, Diane Rawlinson and Stuart Wilson.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Paul Brake (GM Business Support), Jane Donaldson (GM Strategy & Compliance), Steve Fabish (GM Community Services), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure Services), Sarah Mosley (Manager People & Capability), Ruben Garcia (Communications Manager) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Simon Worthington (Economic Development Manager), Toni Durham (Recovery Manager/Strategy & Policy Manager), Rachel Thomas (Policy Advisor), Ian Soper (Open Spaces Manager), Bert Hofmans (Open Spaces Planner), Brian Fauth (Roading Manager), Colin Windleborn (Commercial Manager), Michelle Hydes and Zane Adam (Property Officers),

Presentations

Office of the Auditor General – 2.48pm-3.12pm

Athfield Architects – 3.38pm-4.26pm

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

That pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 the following item be introduced as extraordinary business (item 10):

- to revoke the hold on decisions for freeholding of Glasgow leases

McKay/Cameron

Carried

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 1/09/21

Reference to ‘saltwater’ removed from Cr McKay’s opposition to the Wakanui working group motion.

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 1 September 2021, as amended, be taken as read and confirmed.

Wilson/Rawlinson

Carried

5 Economic development quarterly report

Council will be updated in October on the Resilient Business Programme. The project has been scoped and a governance group set up that includes local farmers / farm supply businesses. A report on the economic impact of the flood event is also being prepared.

That Council receives the Economic Development quarterly update.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

6 Report on the Ashburton economy

The Economic Development Manager commented on the range of labour market issues needing to be addressed and referred to a programme being used in the North Island which is being considered for use here.

Councillors asked for an explanation on the reference to 'place of residence' and whether the Infometrics data on Mt Hutt reflects only local expenditure. The Economic Development Manager will email members with a response to these questions.

That Council receives the Ashburton economy report.

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

7 Community grants 2021-22 – Round 2

The Community Administration Officer provided an update following this morning's workshop –

- *Upper Rangitata Gorge Landcare Group*

The Group has received a total of \$7.1m from the government's 'Jobs for Nature' fund, of which \$200k (\$50k/year for four years) will be allocated to the eradication of weeds on the north side of the Gorge. The balance of the funding is for planting, fencing, wetland restoration, pest trapping, propagation and new jobs being created.

Council supported providing the Group with the \$5,300 requested in Round 2 of the community grants.

A correction was made to the recommendation to show the total funding being allocated is \$26,048.

That Council allocates \$26,048 in community grants and funding for 2021/22 as per the following categories:

1.4 Economic Development – Community Events Grant - \$4,748

1.5 Natural & Built Environment – Biodiversity Grant - \$21,300

Falloon/Cameron

Carried

8 Elected members remuneration and allowances policy

1. **That** Council adopts the revised Elected Members' Allowances and Reimbursement Policy.

2. **That** Council reviews the Elected Members' Allowances and Reimbursement Policy in one year if there are changes to the Remuneration Authority's 2022/23 determination.

Lovett/Falloon

Carried

9 Mayor's Report

- **RDR Management Ltd - AGM**

That Council appoints the Deputy Mayor as proxy to vote on Council's behalf at the RDR Management Limited AGM on 5 October 2021, with the Chief Executive as the alternative representative.

Mayor/Rawlinson

Carried

That the Mayor's report be received.

Mayor/McMillan

Carried

10 Extraordinary Business

• Property Holdings Policy

That Council revokes its decision of 28 July 2021, to not accept any further applications to freehold Glasgow leases until a review of the Property Holdings Policy has been undertaken.

Mayor/Rawlinson

Carried

- 1. That** Council undertakes a review of the Property Holdings Policy in the first quarter of 2022;
- 2. That** Council requests officers to bring forward advice on reinvestment of the proceeds of property sales to maintain a diversified investment portfolio.

McKay/Letham

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded – 1.56pm

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:	
11	Council 1/09/21 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Executive CommitteeAudit & Risk CommitteeCaring for Communities Group	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons Commercial activities Protection of privacy of natural persons
12	Freeholding Glasgow lease	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
13	Ashburton Business Estate	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
14	Ashburton Airport	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Wilson/Letham

Carried

Council resumed in open meeting at 2.48pm.

Office of the Auditor General

Council welcomed the Auditor General John Ryan, along with Hugh Jory (Sector Manager for Local Government) and Dereck Ollsson (Audit Director). John provided an overview of his role, noting there is an acute shortage of auditors which has resulted in Parliament allowing some auditing deadlines to be extended.

The Mayor spoke about some of the key issues that the district is facing – labour shortages, 3Waters and other local government reforms, vaccination roll-out delays and the recent flood event.

John acknowledged Council's concerns about the cumulative effect of the reform proposals. Audit will, over a period of time, publish information on the web on the performance of those sectors undergoing significant reform.

Business transacted with the public excluded – 3.12pm

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:	
15	Ashburton Domain	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

16	ACL Director recruitment process	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
17	People & Capability annual report	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
18	CEO annual review 2020-21	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons

Mayor/McMillan

Carried

Council adjourned from 3.12pm to 3.28pm.

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **Ashburton Airport – funding for provision of services for future development**

That Council approves loan funding of \$100,000 in order to initiate the installation of water / electrical and fibre /wireless internet connections to current and future airport lessee locations. *(Letham/Lovett)*

That Council requests staff to investigate the mechanism for the full recovery of the loan, plus costs from the lessees who are utilising the services. *(Mayor/Falloon)*

- **Appointment process for Ashburton Contracting Ltd Director vacancy**

That Council approves the appointment committee for Ashburton Contracting Limited (ACL) Director recruitment process for the upcoming vacancy to consist of four members: the Mayor, Cr Carolyn Cameron, ADC Chief Executive and ACL Board Chair. *(Falloon/McKay)*

The meeting concluded at 5.27pm.

Confirmed 6 October 2021



MAYOR