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## ***Council Minutes – 18 August 2021***

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 18 August 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: Toni Durham (Recovery Manager/Strategy & Policy Manager), Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Brian Fauth (Roading Manager), Ian Hyde (District Planning Manager), Ian Soper (Open Spaces Manager), Richard Mabon (Senior Policy Advisor), Emily Read (Corporate Planner), Mel Neumann (Policy Advisor), Simon Worthington (Economic Development Manager), Colin Windleborn (Commercial Manager) and Michelle Hydes (Property Officer) .

### **Deputations**

Donald Whyte – Mt Possession (1.23pm-1.36pm)

John Chapman – Inverary Station (1.37pm-1.42pm)

### **Presentations**

Key Research – 2.16pm-2.36pm

EA Shareholder Committee – 3.17pm-3.50pm

Ashburton Contracting Ltd – 4.03pm-4.43pm

### **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:

- Rates penalty delay

Cameron/Rawlinson

Carried

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

Nil.

### **4 Confirmation of Minutes – 28/07/21**

**That** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 28 July 2021, be taken as read and confirmed.

McMillan/Rawlinson

Carried

**5 Methven Community Board – 26/07/21**

**That** Council receives the minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on 26 July 2021.

Lovett/Letham

Carried

- **Methven Strategic Plan**

**That** the Methven Community Board requests that Council staff provide a cost estimate and process for the review of the Methven Community Strategic Plan and report back to the Board.

McMillan/Rawlinson

Carried

Cr McKay recorded his vote against the motion.

**6 Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee**

**That** Council receives the minutes of the Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee meeting held on 3 August 2021.

Cameron/Rawlinson

Carried

**7 Biodiversity Advisory Group – 3/08/21**

**That** Council receives the minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group meeting held on 3 August 2021.

Lovett/Braam

Carried

**8 Youth Council – 14/07/21**

**That** receives the minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on 14 July 2021.

Rawlinson/Braam

Carried

**9 Replacement of bridge to Surrey Hills**

Council supported the loan being funded against the roading activity but over a five year period, rather than 20 years.

The Group Manager Infrastructure Services confirmed that the bridge is listed on the assets register and as such will be subject to an insurance claim. Payment would offset Council's \$175k bridge replacement contribution.

1. **That** Council replaces bridge 134 to an improved standard, as agreed with the Surrey Hills Station owners.
2. **That** Council splits the improvement standard difference with the Surrey Hills Station owners - \$52,500 each to pay for the improvement costs to the bridge (\$105,000).
3. **That** the Council contribution will be loan funded up to 5 years against the roading activity.
4. **That** Council transfers ownership and ongoing responsibility for bridge 134 to the Surrey Hills Station property, once the bridge is constructed and commissioned.
5. **That** Council removes bridge 134 from its asset register once the bridge is constructed and commissioned.

McKay/Lovett

Carried

**11 Replacement of bridge to Mt Possession**

Donald Whyte joined the meeting at 1.23pm.

Mr White reported that the situation around ownership of Bridge 78 and its deterioration has been an issue for the family who have owned the station since 1980.

Council has maintained the road and bridges 78 and 79 to Mt Possession and Edendale boundary for 80 years, until 2012. Mr Whyte confirmed that if the bridge ownership is handed over by Council, he will continue to maintain the portion of road back to Gorge Road.

He referred to a legal opinion obtained previously (Cavell Leitch) which showed that ADC owned the bridge. The Whyte's decision to take insurance cover of \$200k didn't imply ownership and instead is to help with bridge repairs, should they be required at any time.

Mr Whyte estimates that around 200 truck trips have been made over the past 12 months which shows how vital the bridge link is. Public access requires permission, but common sense will prevail.

It was noted that from Gorge Road to the bridge there is no public road and from the bridge to the station boundary there is no public road for 50 metres, then it becomes public, crosses another small bridge and is then private land. The portion of road from Gorge Road to the bridge is over private land owned by Castle Ridge Station who have given Mr Whyte an undertaking that they will extend the opportunity to form a legal easement for that portion.

Mr Whyte has undertaken to consult with three different contractors to replace the bridge. He has asked them to provide a 100 year bridge to get past or minimise the risk of a similar flood event. The bridge option they are going with is within the parameters of what was there – it's the same length as the previous but with a 25m clear span in the centre (allowing for more water/debris to travel through) and approximately 800mm higher than the height of the May floodwaters.

Council generally agreed that the ownership agreement should be progressed now and a loan funded contribution be made towards the net cost of bridge replacement.

Mr Whyte was thanked for his presentation and left the meeting at 1.36pm.

1. **That** Council contributes up to \$230,000 (33% of \$700,000) towards the net cost of replacement of the bridge on Mount Possession Station Road over the South Branch of the Ashburton River.
2. **That** the Council contribution will be loan funded up to 5 years against the roading activity.
3. **That** Council formalises the ownership and ongoing responsibility for the bridge to the Mt Possession Station owners before releasing the Council contribution.

Rawlinson/Braam

Carried

## 10 Replacement of bridge to Inverary Station

John Chapman joined the meeting at 1.37pm (*Unable to be heard due to audio-visual issues*)

Mr Chapman was able to confirm that the bridge isn't insured and on that basis Council agreed that the recommended funding contribution be two thirds of any net costs and that the loan funding be for a period of five years.

1. **That** Council contributes up to two thirds towards the net cost of replacement of the bridge (Blands Bridge) over the South Branch of the Ashburton River to Inverary Station.
2. **That** the Council contribution will be loan funded, for up to five years, against the roading activity.
3. **That** Council formalises the ownership and ongoing responsibility for the bridge (Blands Bridge) to the Inverary Station owners before releasing Council funds.

McMillan/Falloon

Carried

The Group Manager Infrastructure Services advised that staff will review the assets register to ensure that it has a complete record of the bridging network and any irregularities. This will be reported back to Council through the activity briefings.

**12 Lake Clearwater Huts Settlement**

- 1. That** Council receives the report.
- 2. That** Council undertakes public consultation to identify the wishes and expectations of the community for the Lake Clearwater Settlement and surrounding areas under Council control or management.

Braam/McKay

Carried

**13 Sensitive Expenditure Policy**

**That** Council adopts the amended Sensitive Expenditure Policy as attached in Appendix 1.

Falloon/McMillan

Carried

**15 End of Year Performance Report**

Council was reminded that the report reflects the performance measures set in the 2018-2028 LTP. The new LTP provides for reporting on minor compliances which will be undertaken through Council's activity briefings rather than the performance report.

**That** Council receives the end-of-year non-financial performance report.

Mayor/Falloon

Carried

**14 2020/2021 Annual Residents' Survey**

Key Research Director, Mike Hooker joined the meeting at 2.16pm and presented the results of the annual residents survey. A total of 847 responses were received with 21 of the 41 attributes showing improvement (only 10 showed levels of dissatisfaction). Council noted the success of having four points of data collection throughout the year.

**That** Council receives the 2020/21 Annual Residents' Survey report.

Lovett/Cameron

Carried

Mr Hooker was thanked and left the meeting at 2.36pm.

**16 District Promotion Contracting**

Clarification was sought on whether the visitor nights measure is still relevant, noting that the end of year performance report has shown this couldn't be measured. The Economic Development Manager acknowledged the inconsistency and will report back. He explained that there are two figures to be measured – market share (visitor nights) and proportional gain, i.e. the increasing amount people spend during their stay in the district.

- 1. That** Council agrees to staff signing the attached contract with ChristchurchNZ, for the delivery of Ashburton district promotion, for a 3 year period; and
- 2. That** KPI's are reviewed and agreed on an annual basis between ADC and ChristchurchNZ.

Braam/Lovett

Carried

**17 Naming of Road – 37 Pudding Hill Road**

**That** the road to vest in Council as part of Subdivision Sub19/0068, at 37 Pudding Hill Road, be named Westward Way.

McKay/McMillan

Carried

## **18 Replacement of public conveniences – Tourism Infrastructure Fund**

1. **That** the Council instructs staff to bring forward \$172,000 of capital expenditure from year three to year one of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan to enable the Council to uplift a further contribution from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund for the replacement of public conveniences and landscaping enhancements at Awa Awa Rata and Taylors Stream Reserves.
2. **That** the Council approves the \$172,000 capital expenditure to be fully loan funded.

Lovett/McMillan

Carried

## **19 Financial Variance report**

The Group Manager Business Support advised that this is the preliminary report without final accruals. Council will be updated with the final June report in approximately four weeks, along with the July variance.

**That** Council receives the draft June 2021 financial variance report.

Falloon/Cameron

Carried

## **20 Mayor's Report**

### **• Calendar**

The Mayor attended the Fonterra farmers vs Politicians rugby fund-raising match held in Ashburton on 14 August. Money raised will assist local farmers affected by the May floods.

### **• Covid-19 wastewater testing**

The Mayor has inquired about the possibility of testing Ashburton wastewater. This is being progressed through ESR and Council will be advised when further information is available.

[Post meeting note: Ashburton wastewater has been included as a testing location]

**That** the Mayor's report be received.

Mayor/ McMillan

Carried

## **21 Councillor reports**

**That** the Deputy Mayor's report be received.

McMillan/Falloon

Carried

## **Extraordinary business**

### **Rates penalties 2021/22 – Instalment one, and annual penalty**

1. **That** Council delays applying the 2021/22 rates instalment penalty until five consecutive days after a reduction to Covid alert level two or less.
2. **That** Council delays applying the 31 August 2021 annual arrears penalty until five consecutive days after a reduction to Covid alert level two or less.

McKay/McMillan

Carried

### **Covid-19 – ADC services in Alert Level 4**

The Chief Executive provided a brief overview.

- Essential services continue to be delivered
- Road maintenance is impacted but will continue where there are safety issues

- Rubbish collection of red and yellow bins. Green (glass) bins not being collected until further notice
- Regulatory services / consent processes continue but without physical inspections
- Rates payments – addressed today with the penalty extension
- Public toilets on main freight routes open, with more frequent cleaning
- Public-facing facilities closed.
- Council meetings via Zoom and live-streamed
- Staff are working from home, wherever possible. A quick response following government's announcement last night meant Council was fully functional this morning.

**That** the Chief Executive's update be received.

Mayor/Cameron

Carried

### **Business transacted with the public excluded – 3.17pm**

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:

<b>Item No</b>	<b>General subject of each matter to be considered:</b>	<b>In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:</b>	
<b>22</b>	Council 28/07/21 Emergency Relief Funding Sale of Land Freeholding of Glasgow lease Land purchase	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(h)	Protection of privacy of natural persons Commercial activities Commercial activities Commercial activities
<b>23</b>	Executive Committee 29/07/21 • Emergency relief funding	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
<b>24</b>	Library and Civic Centre PCG 10/08/21	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
<b>25</b>	Freeholding Glasgow Lease	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
<b>26</b>	EA Shareholders Committee	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
<b>27</b>	Ashburton Contracting Ltd	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Cameron/Lovett

Carried

**Council adjourned from 3.17pm until 3.31pm.**

### **Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting**

- **Property Holdings Policy** [Council 28/07/21]

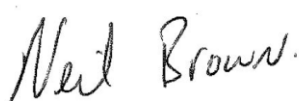
**That** Council does not accept any further applications to freehold Glasgow leases until a review of the Property Holdings Policy has been undertaken.

McKay/Lovett

Carried

The meeting concluded at 4.51pm.

Confirmed 1 September 2021



MAYOR