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## *Council Minutes – 16 June 2021*

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 16 June 2021, commencing at 1.00pm, in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

### **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) – via Zoom; Paul Brake (GM Business Support), Jane Donaldson (GM Strategy & Compliance), Steve Fabish (GM Community Services), Sarah Mosley (Manager People & Capability), Brian Fauth (Roading Manager) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Toni Durham (Strategy & Policy Manager), Richard Mabon (Senior Policy Advisor), Mel Neumann (Policy Advisor) and Rachel Sparks (Finance Manager).

### **Presentations**

Waitaha Health Board – 1.01pm to 1.20pm

#### **1 Apologies**

Nil.

#### **2 Extraordinary Business**

Nil.

#### **3 Declarations of Interest**

Nil.

### **Waitaha Health Board presentation**

Georgie McLeod and Bill Eschenbach provided an update on the Board's current initiatives and programme support being delivered.

- Waitaha are focusing on the Civil Defence flood event and dealing with the wellbeing of people affected. Bill facilitated a meeting last week with parties involved in the welfare response, including Council's Welfare Recovery Manager and the Emergency Operations Manager. An information booklet is being prepared outlining services and resources available to people. Copies will be made available to GP practices who will be fully funded to see a patient (co-funded payment not required).
- Additional mental health services have gone into some of the Board's GP practices. Additional funding from 1 July will hopefully enable a full complement of staff in this area.
- GPs are busy. There's a shortage and a number are actively recruiting, including from overseas where delays in the process are being experienced.
- The issue of people being able to access a GP in Ashburton is being worked through and Waitaha are receiving support from Ashburton Hospital's AAU.
- Flu vaccinations have been rolled out. Not a high incidence yet, but this is being monitored.

- Covid-19 vaccination programme now moving to Tier 3 (includes over 65's). Information is being prepared by the Ministry for public release and GP practices will be directly contacting their patients. Looking at including over 55's in the Maori and Pasifika groups. A copy of the Ministry's communications release will be made available to Council.
- The mandate from the Ministry to CDHB was to deliver approximately 100,000 vacs by the end of June and that's on track.

Georgie and Bill were thanked and the presentation concluded at 1.20pm.

#### **4 Confirmation of Minutes – 2/06/21**

**That** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 June 2021, be taken as read and confirmed.

Mayor/Rawlinson

Carried

#### **5 Rates Remission Policy 2021**

Reference was made to the Maronan and Lynnford Halls and Council questioned whether halls that are no longer in use should remain on the policy's schedule.

The Senior Policy Advisor advised that the facilities review proposed in the near future could be an opportunity to determine the requirements and ongoing use of halls. The schedule will remain unchanged in the meantime.

**That** Council adopts the Rates Remission Policy 2021.

McKay/Falloon

Carried

#### **6 Development and Financial Contributions Policy 2021**

**That** Council adopts the Development and Financial Contributions Policy 2021.

Braam/Falloon

Carried

#### **7 Community Engagement Policy**

**That** Council adopts the Community Engagement Policy to take effect 1 July 2021.

Lovett/Braam

Carried

#### **8 Financial Variance Report – 30/04/21**

- **Flood costs**

Options available to Council to meet the cost of flood damage were briefly discussed and further information was requested. The Finance Manager will report back on the amount of funding available in Council's reserves and the Disaster Insurance Fund.

The issue of stockwater races contributing to road damage in the flood event was raised with a comment that Council needs to make a final decision on the stockwater network.

- **Subsidised funding**

The Roading Manager reported that subsidised funding for low cost / risk capital work not completed in the CBD by 30 June will be carried over. All other capital work has been completed other than some unsealed road work where crushed material had to instead be used to deal with flood damage. Officers are endeavouring to complete as much of the maintenance, operations and renewals work as possible before 30 June; otherwise unspent money will be lost.

**That** the financial variance report for 30/04/21 be received.

Falloon/Braam

Carried

**9 Submission to Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency – Speed Limit Setting Rule 2021**

The Senior Policy Advisor outlined minor changes made to the draft submission following this morning’s workshop. He will further advise whether Council has the opportunity to present the submission in person.

**That** Council approves the submission to Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency on the review of the Speed Limit Rule 2021.

Wilson/Cameron

Carried

**10 Mayor’s Report**

The Mayor recorded his appreciation of the Chief Executive and staff who were involved with manning the emergency operations centre. He also acknowledged the partner agencies who supported Council. Offers of assistance were made from all around the country and with the event now in its recovery stages, it is pleasing to see the huge support from volunteers who are helping those who have sustained significant damage.

The Mayor confirmed that central government is aware of the financial impact that the flood damaged Ashburton bridge has had on the roading network.

**That** Council receives the Mayor’s report.

Mayor/Letham

Carried

**11 Councillor Reports**

**That** Council receives Cr Cameron’s report.

Cameron/McMillan

Carried

**12 Draft Recovery Action Plan**

Minor additions were made to the draft plan. The Strategy & Policy Manager confirmed that elected members will be kept informed of the recovery process and will receive the fortnightly updates given to the Executive Team.

**That** Council receives the draft Recovery Action Plan for the May 2021 flood.

Lovett/Falloon

Carried

**Acton Farmers Irrigation Co-operative presentation**

Steve Booker presented AFIC’s proposal to transfer the Scheme’s water races from Council to AFIC ownership. He outlined the background to the Acton Scheme, built in 2010 with consent to take 3m<sup>3</sup> of water from the Rakaia River, under a licence from the Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Scheme. In addition the AFIC network conveys stockwater for ADC.

The consent allows 680 litres / sec to be taken of which BCI take 50 litres/sec at their offtake, leaving 630 litres/sec into the Acton network. The transfer of Council’s consent will include the headworks.

Mr Booker commented that AFIC’s core business is conveying water. The proposal would see Council’s liability removed with the same level of service continued.

Council supported the process that is being followed. It was noted AFIC is required to present Council with a transfer petition and a transfer proposal.

The statutory process will then see Council formally notify affected persons and conduct a poll. If valid objections are received the matter will be referred to the Local Government Commission, otherwise Council will be able to implement the scheme.

Mr Booker was thanked and left the meeting at 2.31pm.

**Welcome to new staff (2.31pm)**

Sarah Mosely, Manager People & Capability, acknowledged the long service of Natasha Muller (People & Capability Advisor) – 5 years, and David Hampton (Facilities Management Officer) – 10 years.

New staff introduced – Dean McDonnell (Open Spaces / Mower Operator), Natalie Liverant (Museum Collections Registrar), Peter Murphy (Building Official), Chaak San Lui (Building Official), Simon Worthington (Economic Development Manager) and Linda Clarke (Communications Advisor).

**Business transacted with the public excluded – 2.39pm**

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:	
13	Council 2/06/21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council grants</li> <li>• C-19 Economic Recovery Advisory Group [now in open meeting]</li> <li>• Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund</li> <li>• Plains Museum Trust appointment</li> </ul>	Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities Commercial activities
14	Library & Civic Centre PCG – 8/06/21	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Lovett/Wilson

Carried

The meeting concluded at 2.40pm.

Confirmed 30 June 2021



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MAYOR