

MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FAIRLIE COMMUNITY BOARD HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, FAIRLIE, ON WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE 2009 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT:

Owen Hunter (Chairman)
Graeme Page
Ron Joll

IN ATTENDANCE

John O'Neill (Mayor)
Glen Innes (Chief Executive Officer)
Paul Morris (Manager – Finance and Administration)
Bernie Haar (Asset Manager)
John O'Connor (Utilities Engineer)
Frank Ledingham (Manager – Roading)
Rosemary Moran (Committee Clerk)

II APOLOGIES:

Resolved that apologies be received from Tristan Leov and Robyn Warburton.
Graeme Page/Ron Joll

III MINUTES:

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Fairlie Community Board held on 6 May 2009 including such parts as were taken with the Public Excluded, be confirmed and adopted as the correct record of the meeting.

Ron Joll/Graeme Page

IV REPORTS:

1. UPDATE ON VILLAGE GREEN:

The Chairman reported that the Village Green project was underway and the plan had been marked on the ground. He said fundraising had commenced and there was excellent support from the local community.

2. MACKENZIE SCHOOLS' SCIENCE FAIR:

This report from the Community Facilities Manager was accompanied by a request from the Mackenzie Schools' Science Fair Committee for support for the rental of the stadium in the Mackenzie Community Centre on 11 and 12 August 2009.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received.

2. That the request from the Mackenzie Schools Science Fair Committee for support with the rental of the stadium in the Mackenzie Community Centre on 11 and 12 August 2009 be forwarded to the Council with the recommendation that the request be supported due to the District-wide nature of the event.

Ron Joll/Graeme Page

3 WARD MEMBER'S REPORT:

Cr Page reported that a meeting had been held with local MP Jacqui Deans at which St John ambulance problems and compliance with the new drinking water standards had been discussed.

Cr Page also reported on proposals to extend the Fairlie Medical Centre to accommodate a wider range of medical services and facilities for training for medical students interested in general practice in the rural area.

He said he had been involved in negotiations with residents to try and effect a solution to problems associated with pollution from septic tanks in the Reserve.

VI GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. SUBMISSION TO LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN:

The Chairman advised that a submission to the Long Term Council Community Plan had been referred back to the Board for formal endorsement.

The Mayor said the submission had been presented to the Council but he had felt that it should be further considered at a meeting of the Board. He said the Council had authorised himself and Cr Page to accept or reject the submission in its original or amended form.

The Chairman said the reason for the submission, which sought to recast the budgets for the town's water reticulation, renewals and treatment, the Village Green Upgrade, hazard protection, subsidised roading and road reseals, was the projected steep rate rises for Fairlie ratepayers over the following ten years.

The Asset Manager noted that because of the effect of subsidies, for every reduction in the subsidised roading budget, the savings in real terms represented only 46%.

The Utilities Engineer gave a breakdown of the \$141,000 proposed expenditure on the Fairlie Water Supply.

The Manager Roading explained the reasoning behind the budgets for reseals. He noted that projects had been proposed to avoid the risk of the seal failure and subsequent damage to the stability of the underlying pavement. He noted that the community could ill afford

not to carry out maintenance of its roading assets and recommended that preservation of them be a priority.

With regard to the Board's choice of repairing aged water pipes or upgrading the reservoir and treatment facility, the Utilities Engineer considered that it could be possible to reduce the number of repairs, which had been costing about \$900 each, by replacing the reticulation ahead of the main line; the programme could be kept one year ahead of the resealing programme. His view was that by 2016 if a new reservoir had been installed, there would also be more information on the type and size of pipes that would be required.

Cr Page said the reality was that Fairlie couldn't afford to have a debt of \$600,000 on its water supply.

The Asset Manager asked the Board for instructions on what they wanted done and the source of funds for the projects.

Ron Joll referred to the funding of major projects and reiterated the view he had expressed at an earlier meeting that the net present value of replacing infrastructure compared with the cost of maintenance needed to be assessed in order for the Board to make rational decisions.

The Mayor endorsed Mr Joll's view and suggested that the Board undertake that exercise.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the Council was required to adopt its Long Term Council Community Plan by the following Tuesday. He said the only details which would be fixed as a result would be the rates to be levied for the 2009/2010 year. What was planned for the following years might or might not come to pass.

The Asset Manager suggested the budget for the Fairlie Western Catchments flood protection works could be deferred.

Resolved that the expenditure on the Fairlie Western Catchments flood protection works be deferred for two years.

Graeme Page/Ron Joll

The Chief Executive Officer said the effect of that resolution could allow the Board to increase capital expenditure on the water supply by \$20,000. The decision on exactly where it could be spent could be deferred.

Cr Page said that, although it might be a hard call for the community, ignoring the large capital expenditure items in the budget would be at its peril.

The Chief Executive Officer suggested that the Board's submission had sought to re-allocate spending rather than avoid it altogether.

The Chairman concurred that rather than altering the budgets, the Board had wanted to reprioritise projects.

Resolved that the budget for the Fairlie Village Green upgrade be reduced from \$209,000 to \$50,000 - \$20,000 for the 2009/2010 year and \$30,000 for the 2010/2011 year.

Ron Joll/ Graeme Page

It was agreed that the budgets for roading should remain unchanged. The opportunity to reallocate spending within the activity was noted.

2. STATE HIGHWAY 8 WESTERN APPROACH TO FAIRLIE – SPEED LIMIT:

The Asset Manager read a letter from the New Zealand Transport Agency which advised the outcome of consultation they had carried out with the owner/occupiers of properties fronting Mt Cook Road regarding the proposal that the speed limit on the road be raised to 60 kph.

On the basis of the responses to that consultation and earlier submissions from other stakeholders, the Council was asked if it wished to proceed with the proposal to raise the speed limit.

The Asset Manager said that the final decision rested with the New Zealand Transport Agency. He said there was no pressure on the Board to make an immediate decision.

It was agreed that the matter be included on the Agenda for the next meeting.

2. DRAFT WESTERN CATCHMENTS FLOOD PROTECTION REPORT:

The Asset Manager suggested that the Board have a workshop on the project and formulate a way forward. He undertook to make the report available to anyone who wished to read it.

3. LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN:

Cr Page considered it could be useful for members to read the public submissions to the Long Term Council Community Plan. He expressed disappointment at the low number of submissions received from local people.

The Chief Executive Officer undertook to circulate the submissions to the Board members.

4. OPIHI RIVER WALKING TRACK:

Ron Joll circulated copies of a plan and map for the Opihi River Walkway.

He said that following approval gained from Environment Canterbury to develop a walking track from Fairlie to Kimbell on the eastern bank of the Opihi River, Peter Foote, Peter Bell and Peter Hay had pushed the first cut through and once it had dried out it was intended that work would recommence. He said funding was available for signage for the

track. It was also intended to develop a plan to maintain it and the existing walkway.

5. VILLAGE GREEN LIGHTING:

The Chairman undertook to provide a quote for lighting for the Village Green to enable the Community Facilities Manager to contact Helen McKenzie regarding her offer of funding for the project.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED
AT 9.50 PM**

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE: _____