

MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, FAIRLIE, ON TUESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2011 AT 3.15 PM

PRESENT:

Graeme Page (Chairman)
Claire Barlow (Mayor)
Crs John Bishop
Peter Maxwell
Annette Money
Graham Smith
Evan Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:

Glen Innes (Chief Executive Officer)
Bernie Haar (Asset Manager)
Frank Ledingham (Manage – Roading) for part of the meeting
Carl MacKay (Solid Waste Manager) for part of the meeting
Rosemary Moran (Committee Clerk)

I APOLOGY:

There were no Apologies.

II DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest.

III MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting of the Projects and Strategies Committee held on 23 November 2010, including such parts as were taken with the Public Excluded were confirmed as the correct record of the meeting.

Claire Barlow/Peter Maxwell

V VISITORS - REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY

The Chairman welcomed Simon Milner and Nick Bryan of Environment Canterbury who attended to brief the Committee on the background and role of the Canterbury Regional Land Transport Strategy – thinking about the next 30 years of transport in Canterbury.

Mr Milner offered an apology from Environment Canterbury Commissioner Williams who had been unable to attend the meeting.

Messrs Milner and Bryan then provided a power point presentation which referred to:

- The Canterbury Regional Land Transport Strategy and Renewal Process
- Translating issues and challenges into outcomes and options for the future
- What the emerging preferred option could mean for the Mackenzie District
- Next steps.

A number of issues were raised in the course of the discussion on the presentation including:

- The challenge of funding road maintenance in the Mackenzie District in the absence of rating input from the government departments including the Department of Conservation and the NZ Defence Force. (The comparison was drawn with schools which did not pay rates but did pay for local authority services – the Department of Conservation could perhaps contribute towards roading costs.)
- The impact on provision of health services to ratepayers living in communities in the District which could be isolated by adverse weather conditions and were geographically remote.
- The value of the rural roading network in terms of the transport of primary produce for export.
- The need for well maintained roading to attract and cater for both local and overseas visitors.
- A focus on maintenance and renewals could be to the detriment of seal extensions and improvement of the existing roading network.
- Local bridge replacements due in the next ten years which, although very important to the economy of the region, were not significant in terms of traffic density.
- The beauracracy around the process of bridge renewals.
- The proliferation of the use of Satellite Navigation systems which, in providing details of the shortest distance between points, was directing vehicles to use back roads. This could result in safety issues where drivers found themselves on winding gravel roads, as well as unanticipated wear on the roading network. There was a need for better software to address the issue.
- Fonterra's charges to dairy producers for transport and fuel did not come back to the Council to use for road maintenance.
- The importance and promotion of predictable and reliable journey times – supported by passing lanes etc.
- Increasing use of digital and mobile communications for business which would have the effect of decreasing pressure on transport systems.

The Chairman thanked the visitors who left the meeting at 4.05 pm.

IV REPORTS:

1. ASSET MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT:

This report from the Asset Manager referred to Project Progress – Council's Priority List, Project Progress – Staff List, Roothing, Essential Services and Solid Waste.

The Manager – Roading and the Solid Waste Manager joined the meeting to speak to their sections of the report.

Resolved that the report be received.

Evan Williams/Annette Money

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4.45 PM**

CHAIRMAN

DATE