

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE HOROWHENUA DISTRICT COUNCIL'S
FOXTON COMMUNITY BOARD HELD IN THE CHAMBERS, MAIN STREET, FOXTON, ON
MONDAY, 22 MARCH 2010 COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM**

PRESENT

Mr B P Vertongen QSM (Chair)
Ms N J Ellwood
Mr N G Gimblett
Mr J A Murdoch
Mr D J Roache
Cr D A Allan (HDC appointed representative)
Cr A M Hunt (HDC appointed representative)

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr D G Ward (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr D J Tate (Parks Assets Officer)
Mr G M O'Connor (Operations Manager)
Mrs K J Corkill (Meeting Secretary)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

His Worship the Mayor, B J Duffy
Reg Cr L Bailey
Miss C Carlyle (Group Support Officer)

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were seven members of the public in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Speaking Rights

Item 462 - Chief Executive Officer's Report (Page 28) - Wastewater
Mrs C Paton

Members' Conflict of Interest

Item 456 Proceedings Foxton Code of Conduct Subcommittee 3 March 2010
Mr Vertongen would vacate the Chair and the table for this item.
Mr Roache also declared an interest and would withdraw from the table.

Item 464 In Committee Monitoring Report to 22 March 2010
Mr Murdoch would withdraw when Item 447 was discussed.

Horizons Regional Council

Reg Cr Bailey attending to update the Board on issues relating to the Regional Council and Foxton Community Board area.

Reg Cr Bailey was welcomed to the table, with her comments covering:

- the conclusion of the hearing of submissions to the One Plan;
- development in and around the Foxton Loop area;
- funding gained by SORT from Horizons' Environmental Grants scheme for a new wetland area and the visit made this morning by Horizons' Councillors to view the River Loop and the proposed site for the Te Awahou project;
- the outcome was awaited on the tenders for a new pump station for the Moutoa Scheme which closed on 15 March 2010;
- an update on the current round of Flood and Drainage Scheme Liaison committee meetings;
- discussions between Horizons and HDC in relation to the Foxton Wastewater Treatment Plant future disposal options;
- ongoing discussions on the Shannon Waste water discharge;
- the 'Leaders Summit' convened by Horizons Chair, Garrick Murfitt.

A copy of Reg Cr Bailey's report is **attached** to the official minutes.

Mr Vertongen and Mr Murdoch endorsed Reg Cr Bailey's comments about the very positive meeting held earlier in the day when Horizons' Councillors had visited the River Loop and they looked forward to positive results from this collaborative approach.

Cr Hunt expressed her disappointment at not being invited to the meeting and queried if there had been any information provided on the extent to which the Loop could be opened.

Reg Cr Bailey said that is what the study would be looking at so the integrity of the flood protection scheme would not be compromised. The process would identify what could and could not be done and the consequences of any action taken.

In response to a query on whether or not the Flood and Drainage Scheme Liaison Committee meetings were to be open to the public, Reg Cr Bailey said she understood they would not be public at this stage with it felt that far more traction would be gained by getting the small group of stakeholders together. However, there was a responsibility to talk to the public when there were some options identified.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting 8 February 2010 (Minute items 449 - 453)

Resolved

(Roache / Allan)

"THAT the Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8 February 2010 (Minute Items 449-453), as submitted, be confirmed as a true and correct record."

MATTERS ARISING

Cr Hunt noted in relation to the recording of meetings that this was allowed under Standing Orders, with Mr Ward responding, with respect to a recent recording of an FCB meeting, no prior notification or request to record had been received.

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES

Messrs Vertongen and Roache withdrew from the room for consideration of the next item, with Mr Gimblett assuming the Chair.

Item-456 Proceedings Foxton Code of Conduct Subcommittee 3 March 2010

File No 4142

Purpose

To present to the Horowhenua District Council the minutes of the Foxton Code of Conduct Subcommittee meeting held on 3 March 2010.

Resolved

(Murdoch / Hunt)

“THAT Report 4142 be received.”

Mr Ward advised that the next meeting of the Foxton Code of Conduct Subcommittee was scheduled for Thursday, 26 March 2009, at 5.30 pm, at the Foxton Service Centre.

Resolved

(Ellwood / Allan)

*“THAT the Foxton Community Board **receive** the minutes of Foxton Code of Conduct Subcommittee meeting held on 3 March 2010.”*

Messrs Vertongen and Roache rejoined the table, with Mr Vertongen resuming the Chair.

REPORTS

Item-457 Foxton Community Board Monitoring Report to 22 March 2010

File No 4133

Purpose

To provide an update on the Foxton Community Board Monitoring Report to 22 March 2010.

Resolved

(Allan / Roache)

“THAT Report 4133 be received.”

“THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.”

Page 9 Item 401 Foxton Multi-Purpose Facility

The matter of there still being signs in Main Street advising of another public meeting to be held in February would be redirected to Mr Clapperton.

Mr Vertongen advised that the Electoral College had advertised for Trustees, with a good response received. He believed another public meeting would be called at the conclusion of that process.

Page 12 Item 452 CEO's Report - Foxton Youth Council Committee

Cr Hunt was requested to provide Mr Ward with the names of those to whom she had spoken who had not been aware of the adoption of the latest Youth Strategy.

Mr Ward reported on a meeting held with representatives of the Foxton Youth Council Committee on 15 March 2010 which had covered youth initiatives for the Foxton area.

Page 13 Projects - Pinewood Motor Camp

Mr Vertongen advised he would circulate a copy of a report he had prepared on a meeting held at the Pinewood Motor Camp. Good progress had been made and the aim was to hold a further meeting in one month's time to get answers to the questions raised.

It was confirmed that this matter would be at a suitable stage to submit to the Annual Plan process.

Mr Vertongen confirmed when he received the feasibility study he would further communicate with Board members.

NOTED

Item-458 Foxton Amenities - Retention of Foxton Service Centre Facade

File No 4138

Purpose

To clarify the Foxton Community Board's decision in respect of the retention of the façade of the Foxton Service Centre in conjunction with the Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom Project.

Resolved

(Roache / Gimblett)

"THAT Report 4138 be received."

Resolved

(Allan / Ellwood)

"THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002."

"THAT the Foxton Community Board reconfirms its earlier decision in respect of the retention of the existing façade of the present Foxton Service Centre in any new building for the Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom Project."

Item-459 Foxton River Loop Reserve Gravel Track Closure

File No 4141

Purpose

For the Board to decide whether or not to recommend to Council the closure of the Gravel Track on River Loop Reserve.

Resolved

(Roache / Ellwood)

“THAT Report 4141 on Foxton River Loop Reserve Gravel Track Closure be received.”

Mr Tate, in speaking to this report, explained the pedestrian signage envisaged to let drivers know there were pedestrians in the area, noting that under the Land Transport Act there were things Council could and could not enforce. He reiterated that it was also too early to know the future use in that area taking into account the Te Awahou and River Loop developments planned.

Resolved

(Roache / Hunt)

“THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.”

“THAT the Board recommend to Council that the gravel track is not closed, and pedestrian signage is installed onto the track with the signage to include “Children’s Playground - Caution.”

CARRIED

Item-460 Foxton Pools - General Report

File No 4140

Purpose

To provide commentary to the Board on Foxton Pools relating to:

- Brief summary of the season to date.
- Council’s policy for the use of the Pool.
- Why the Swim Club and Surf Club are not using the facility.

Resolved

(Roache / Allan)

“THAT Report 4140 Foxton Pools – General Report be received.”

“THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.”

Mr Tate spoke to this report, noting that charges around facility hireage during periods of current low utilisation would be included in Annual Plan discussions.

The following was raised in discussion:

- it was good to see that utilisation of the pool had increased and there was the possibility of reaching the budgeted year to date target;
- the huge effort made by Mr Tate and Pool staff to attract people to the pool was noted;
- pool usage was now starting to quieten;
- what were the costs in proportion to the incoming revenue?
- concern was expressed that some groups, such as the Surf Club, had indicated they were not using the pool because the costs were too high, although this was contrary to what had been indicated to staff;
- perhaps a workshop could be held with all those with an interest in the Pool (including schools) to promote dialogue and address any issues to ensure maximum utilisation of the facility;
- for next season, a number of operational aspects such as days open and hours of operation would be reviewed;
- whilst the current way of recording patronage did not identify individual swimmers but type of usage, this would be looked at next year to provide a more detailed breakdown of use;
- the percentage of income to operating costs was raised as if the percentage was insignificant then there would be leverage to decide whether or not to decrease fees;
- if the percentage of income to operating costs was too low, then this would become a cost to the ratepayer.

Resolved

(Gimblett / Hunt)

"THAT the Foxton Community Board receives a full report not only on the income, but also on the costs associated with the operation of the Foxton Pool, with the report to include information on the types of groups using the Pool."

CARRIED

It was reiterated that all Council recorded was the different groups using the facility and it was not current possible to provide a complete breakdown of pool usage at this stage.

In relation to the suggested workshop, Mr Ward suggested this was an operational matter and staff were already having discussions with stakeholders.

To keep this matter on the radar, it was:

Resolved

(Allan / Murdoch)

"THAT the Foxton Swimming Pool be included on the Monitoring Report, including the results of discussions held between staff and stakeholders."

CARRIED

Item-461 Council Resolutions relating to Foxton Community Board

File No **4134**

Purpose

To inform the Board of resolutions that the Horowhenua District Council passed at its meetings on 3 February 2010 and 3 March 2010.

Resolved

(Roache / Allan)

“THAT Report 4134 be received.”

“THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.”

Page 25 Item 1858 - Chief Executive Officer's Report - re Sand Dune Encroachment
Mr Ward noted that this would be an Agenda item for the 3 May 2010 Board meeting.

Item-462 Chief Executive Officer's Report to 22 March 2010

File No 4135

Purpose

To present to the Foxton Community Board, for information, issues relating to the Foxton Community Board area.

Resolved

(Roache / Gimblett)

“THAT Report 4135 be received.”

Mr Ward worked through the matters contained in his report.

3.c. Members' Interest Register

Cr Hunt noted that all Councils had recently been contacted in relation to Members' Interests Registers. The response had been dismal from most councils; however, Horowhenua District Council had received a positive mention. The Minister was working to ensure that conflicts of interest were taken seriously.

3.d. Rural and Provincial Meeting - 18 & 19 February 2010

Mr Ward gave a verbal update:

- in relation to the Auckland amalgamation:
 - this involved some 6,500 staff, with some jobs at risk and some not;
 - the powers to be given to Community Boards were still under discussion;
 - the media had become aware of the issue of CCOs and decision making, with only 30% of the decision making to be done by the new Council and the rest by CCOs;
 - the major expenditure in Auckland was in relation to water and waste water and this would be taken away from Council;
- the RMA discount policy should a consent run over time and its implications had been discussed;
- there was a push to remind people to register for the local elections;
- ECAN had received considerable mention;
- it had been noted that New Zealand was the least decentralised OECD nation in the world;
- in relation to government expenditure; 90% of public expenditure is made by central government;

- Vehicle Dimension and Mass Rule Implementation - heavier and longer trucks on the road - had come in for significant mention. This would come into effect on 1 April 2010 and there were issues about who would have to pay for road wear and tear;
- Subsidies for drinking and waste water were still on hold.

3.e. Zone 3 Report

There was a very good range of speakers, with key issues for other authorities in our region being investment and community infrastructure. This was also a good networking opportunity.

Mayor Duffy's involvement in the Mayors Task Force for Jobs had been noted at a national level.

In relation to local body elections, the confusion with regard to absentee ratepayers being aware of their right to vote was raised and how should Council address that issue.

Mr Ward also noted, in relation discussions around amalgamation and unitary authorities, that everyone was somewhat cautious when looking at Auckland. Some of the issues would become clearer in time; however even the Minister had gone quiet with the information coming out of the Minister's office being around shared services rather than amalgamation.

3.f. Maintenance Works - Wastewater

Mrs Paton was welcomed to the table. Mrs Paton expressed concerns in relation to effluent consent reporting which she suggested was not being forwarded by staff for the purpose of accurate reporting and which compromised public safety. She provided data from late December 2009 to 24 February 2010 which highlighted her concerns.

Mrs Paton suggested that the Board request the ELS reports be included on the Agenda, that a 'traffic light' system is implemented in the window of the Foxton Service Centre and appropriate signage is erected on the bank of the River Loop.

She concluded that Foxton could be the tourism hub of the Horowhenua with consistent, good management.

A copy of Mrs Paton's submission is **attached** to the official minutes.

After discussion, which included:

- most of the pollution in the Loop came from cattle and Horizons was making serious moves to address that;
- readings in the main river were considerably higher;

it was:

Resolved

(Allan / Hunt)

"THAT Mrs Paton's submission in relation to the Foxton effluent consent analytical reports be received."

"THAT an Officer report be brought back to the Foxton Community Board responding to Mrs Paton's submission and its recommendations and outlining Council's legal responsibilities and possible ramifications as they relate to compliance with the Foxton effluent consent."

CARRIED

Mr Ward noted that all readings were shared with Horizons and regular meetings were held. No contamination came from the wastewater plant. Discussions about signage had been held with Horizons and that information would be included in the requested report.

Item-463 Resource Consents Issued

File No 4136

Purpose

To receive the listing of land use and subdivision resource consent applications approved under delegated authority.

Resolved

(Roache / Murdoch)

“THAT Report 4136 be received.”

“THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.”

“THAT the list of land use and subdivision resource consents be received.”

Foxton Subdivision Resource Consents Granted Under Delegated Authority 20/01/10 to 11/03/10

Date	File Ref	Subdivider	Address
25-Feb-10	SUB/2883	William Coleman	29 Wylie Road, Foxton Beach Rural

Foxton Land Use Resource Consents Granted Under Delegated Authority 20/01/10 to 11/03/10

Date	File Ref	Applicant	Address
17-Feb-10	LUC/2871	Russell & Christine Newton & Paul Dodd	131A Palmer Road, Foxton Rural
19-Feb-10	LUC/2897	Landcorp Farming Limited	Whirokino Road, Foxton Rural”

MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Resolved

(Roache / Gimblett)

“THAT the Foxton Community Board pursuant to Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolves that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.

