
Foxton Community Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Foxton Community Board held in the Blue Room, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, 22 Harbour Street, Foxton, on Monday 10 December 2018 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson Mr D J Roache
Deputy Chairperson Ms P R Metcalf
Members Mr D A Allan
Cr N G Gimblett
Ms J M Lundie

IN ATTENDANCE

Reporting Officer Mr M J Lester (Group Manager – Corporate Services)
Mrs K J Corkill (Meeting Secretary)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor M Feyen
Cr R Brannigan
Miss M Davenport (Student Appointee) (to 6.10 pm)
Mr K Hunia (Student Appointee for 2019)

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Five at the commencement of the meeting.

1 Apologies

An apology was recorded for Mr Girling.

MOVED by Mr Allan, seconded Ms Metcalf:

THAT the apology from Mr Girling be accepted.

CARRIED

2 Public Participation

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----|---|
| Mayor Feyen | 7.1 | <u>Monitoring Report</u>
<i>18/423 Sand Dune Management</i> |
| | 7.2 | <u>Chief Executives Report 'Signage'</u>
<i>3.5 Signage – Foxton & Foxton Beach</i>
<u>Christmas Message</u> |
| Olaf Eady | 7.1 | <u>Monitoring Report</u>
<i>16/16 Increased parking capacity in Thomas Place</i>
<i>18/642 Marketing Plan/Te Awahou Signage</i> |
| | 7.2 | <u>Chief Executive's Report to 10 December 2018</u>
<i>3.2 Foxton Community Board Meeting Schedule 2019</i> |
| Christina Paton | 7.1 | <u>Monitoring Report</u>
<i>18/423 Sand Dune Management</i> |
| | 7.2 | <u>Chief Executive's Report</u>
<i>3.5 Signage – Foxton & Foxton Beach</i> |
| Hannah Street | 7.2 | <u>Chief Executive's Report</u>
<i>3.5 Signage – Foxton & Foxton Beach</i> |

3 Late Items

There were no late items.

4 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

5 Confirmation of Minutes – 29 October 2018

MOVED by Ms Metcalf, seconded Mr Allan:

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Foxton Community Board held on Monday, 29 October 2018, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6 Announcements

Student Appointee – Meghan Davenport

The Chair presented Meghan with a bouquet of flowers and gift, reiterating his thanks from the previous FCB meeting for her time and contribution as the Board's inaugural youth representative. Having another engagement to attend, Meghan then withdrew from the meeting (6.10 pm).

New Zealand Police

Thanking for Board for the invitation and commenting this was the first Community Board meeting he had attended, Acting Sergeant Mike McKenzie said the Police in Foxton had had a busy year and currently it was also busy because it was the time of year when things were ramping up. Whilst there had been an increase in some types of crime, there had also been reductions in others and in a small community like Foxton it did not take many incidents to impact on the statistics.

A successful operation had been run at the Beach on Labour Weekend. They had tried to send a strong message for the up-and-coming summer season to those who accessed the Beach unlawfully, with a number of infringement notices issued. There had not been many calls since then in terms of unlawful beach usage, but that would continue to be monitored.

A Community Patrol was being set up at Foxton Beach. The base of operations would be the Foxton Beach Police Station and it would hopefully incorporate the Beach Wardens. There was a process that needed to be gone through as people were required to be vetted.

Acting Sergeant McKenzie confirmed that Sergeant Fraser had taken advantage of an opportunity that had arisen and had gone back to Feilding. His replacement had been appointed and would be taking up the role early in the New Year so the Foxton Police would then be back up to full strength.

Horowhenua District Council Update

Cr Gimblett said in terms of big initiatives, it was a quiet time with nothing particular to report. However he thought it worthwhile to comment on the fact, particularly at an operational level, that Council was working quite strongly in partnership with the community, with examples being:

- the Foxton River Loop – some action was still being pushed for through the Provincial Growth Fund;
- the Foxton Development Plan - Officers were working to ensure that the different projects would work well for the community, particularly in terms of water and wastewater;
- the issue of signage which had been raised at the last meeting - it was great to hear how that was progressing and to know that Council Officers were working with the local community to meet their aspirations;
- the investment through the Foxton Beach Reserves Investment Plan - it was good to see the close relationship with the Foxton Beach Progressive Association;
- FTDA - had been getting some support from Council to promote the Foxton/Foxton Beach area;
- MAVtech – was getting Council support to turn itself into a very valuable attraction to be run in parallel with Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom and that would assist bringing people into town and providing investment for the community.

Cr Gimblett concluded by saying the big issue for which a response was awaited was the designation of the new road with this expected prior to Christmas.

Update from the Foxton Community Board Chair

Mr Roache reported:

- on Armistice Day he had represented the Board and the Foxton RSA at the 100 year commemoration. He thanked Council staff for their support, and Board Members Metcalf, Lundie and Allan for laying the wreath on behalf of the Community Board.
- following correspondence from Paul Mathews that a new Clydesdale had been purchased and new tram drivers had come on board, he had met with the Parks Team and the tram drivers at Te Awahou to discuss the addition of a concrete strip for the tram and a rear exit for safe operation. This was to be up and running in time for Christmas.

- he had also met with staff from Council's Roading Team and addressed the following items:
 1. the exit from Te Awahou for the tram and the finishing of the rear exit into Harbour Street with kerbing and drainage and a safety strip (similar to the Warf Street entry). The objective of the safety strip was to slow down the increased traffic that was now using Harbour Street;
 2. one of the street lights at the Cenotaph that had not worked since it was installed;
 3. the footpath at the Beach Road and Palmer Road intersection upgrade. The footpath was going to be raised and Council staff had suggested chip sealing in keeping with the new shared pathway that had been installed down Palmer Road. With regard to the proposed chip sealing, Mr Roache said it was his suggestion that this be replaced with concrete. The Board placed on record their support for Mr Roache's suggestion that the footpath be done in concrete, not chip seal.

Mr Roache concluded by thanking Board Members for their year's work and wishing the Board, Council Officers and the community a very Merry Christmas.

Foxton Beach Progressive Association

Katharine Wilkinson, President of the Foxton Beach Progressive Association and David Roache, Chair of the Foxton Community Board, signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations.

Mr Allan acknowledged the significant work done in the background by Mr Roache and Ms Wilkinson and Mr Melton which underpinned tonight's signing of the MOU and the enormous spirit of goodwill that existed between the two organisations, with there being a clear understanding of the differing roles of the two groups which was important along with the core anchor values.

7 Reports

7.1 Monitoring Report to 10 December 2018

Purpose

To present to Foxton Community Board the updated monitoring report covering requested actions from previous meetings of the Community Board.

MOVED by Ms Metcalf, seconded Mr Allan:

THAT Report 18/535 Monitoring Report to 10 December 2018 be received.

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

CARRIED

Public Participation

Speaking to 18/423, Sand Dune Management, Mayor Feyen said this had raised a lot of angst in the past and he did not want that to occur again, or for it to end up in litigation. As Mr Roache had been the contractor for the seawall, Mayor Feyen raised a concern about a possible conflict of interest. He also noted that his understanding was that once the wall had been put in place, HDC was to maintain it, which clearly had not happened as it had turned into a sand dune which some people wanted gone and some people did not.

There was regulations around this issue and Mayor Feyen said he was loathe to see more money spent on it. Reiterating his view that the issue had been caused by lack of maintenance by HDC, Mayor Feyen said he did not think remediation should be undertaken with money from the Foxton Beach Freeholding Account.

Responding to the comment about a conflict of interest, Mr Lester said that as there was no decision on the table this evening in relation to the matter, in his view that was not an issue. In terms of possible litigation, conflicting advice had been received from Horizons Regional Council (HRC) and that was being followed up on. The initial indication had been that some maintenance could be done under the existing consent, but that had not yet been formally confirmed.

Also speaking to 18/423, and responding to a comment from Mayor Feyen, Mrs Paton said the sand dune had been requested and required by the Department of Conservation during the appeal process. Also, given that full information had neither been requested by the Board nor provided in today's agenda, she recommended that the public meeting date be clarified as the precise date was not clear. If it was December 2019 that would provide adequate time for reporting and reviewing instructions as contained in the Foxton Beach Seawall Consent 102904/1 dated 15 July 2009 (as contained in the Agenda) to be implemented.

As a legally recognised party to the aforesaid Consent, Mrs Paton said she had contacted HRC (the Consent Administrator) earlier in the day but was not able to be supplied with up-to-date reports. Similarly, HDC (the Consent Holder) had not supplied her with the requested reports. If non-compliance was presently an issue then, in her view, Mrs Paton said it would be a waste of time and money, and unfair to involve other parties, until the Consent Holder and Consent Administrator had their processes in order.

With regard to any expenses associated with this item, Mrs Paton said that the coastline was an integral part of the Horowhenua District and therefore did not qualify for specific funding from the Foxton Beach Freeholding Fund. The current funding of \$23,000.00 per annum to maintain the carpark by way of contract was rated district-wide.

Mrs Paton concluded by saying that the parking available was not up to speed as originally there had been provision for a disabled car park, which nobody had pushed for. She suggested it would be a mistake to hold a meeting on the matter this year as there was a big gap in the information available and those wanting it were operating on emotion, when it would come down to the science. She also showed a copy of the "Listener" containing an article "Coasts in Crisis", which she said was worth reading.

Mr Eady queried when the increased parking in Thomas Place (16/16 page 10) would be done as it was dated 21 November 2016, with Mr Lester responding that it needed to wait until next financial year as there was not budget set aside for it. Mr Roache further added that he would follow it up and perhaps it could be included in the Annual Plan.

In relation to 18/642, Mr Roache explained to Mr Eady that this item was in relation to the Te Awahou Riverside Cultural Park and there had been a presentation on it at the last FCB meeting. Whether or not funding for that should be included in the Annual Plan was also being considered.

Working through the Monitoring Report:

Page 8 14/674 - Target Reserve Strategic Plan
It was clarified that this was the plan that would be considered in parallel with the potential development of Victoria Park.

Page 9 16/16 – Kings Canal and Purcell Street Stormwater
Responding to a query from Mr Roache in relation to the design and build being "out to market" without the requested meeting between the parties having occurred and with it not being clear how or who was going to pay for it, Mr Lester suggested this was just seeking RFPs to identify

an organisation that may be able to provide that service.

- Page 10 Increased Parking in Thomas Place
It was queried if it would be possible to get some joint venture funding together with the Foxton Beach Freeholding Account, with a further view expressed as to why the Freeholding Account should be used if other funding could be sourced.
Mr Lester said he would investigate the funding options for the project.

18/209 – MAVtech

Ms Metcalf reported on the positive workshop that had been held which had looked at a concept plan of what MAVtech might look like in the future. It was still at a very early stage and a feasibility study would be the next step.

Saying that whilst in the past he had challenged the continuation of MAVtech and he still had some concerns as to how it would be funded, Cr Gimblett expressed his support for the concept as it had been presented and his interest to see a business case/feasibility study as it could be a major draw-card to bring people to the town and give them a reason to stay. Whilst still cautious, Cr Gimblett said he was fully supportive of taking it to the next level and for the Board to get behind it.

- Page 11 18/423 – Sand Dune Management
Whether or not there would be any benefit in holding a public meeting at this juncture was discussed. with Board Members expressing their views as to the information that should be sought from such a meeting.
Bringing it back to the resolutions on the issue from the previous meeting, Mr Lester suggested that a public meeting could be somewhat premature, particularly as a response had not yet been received from Horizons as to whether any work could be done under the existing consent.

7.2 Chief Executive's Report to 10 December 2018

Purpose

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

MOVED by Ms Metcalf, seconded Mr Allan:

THAT Report 18/637 Chief Executive's Report to 10 December 2018 be received.

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

CARRIED

Public Participation

Speaking in relation to 3.5 Signage, Mayor Feyen said he would like the initial emphasis to be on the State Highway signage. With regard to his Christmas message, Mayor Feyen the Chair had already covered what he had intended to say.

Also speaking to 3.5 Signage – Foxton & Foxton Beach, Mrs Paton said to stop looking at the Foxton Beach Freeholding Account. Signage was a district-wide issue. If the intention was to attract people to Foxton and Foxton Beach it would start at the district boundary and the whole district would benefit.

Following on from her presentation to the last FCB Meeting, Hannah Street acknowledged staff at HDC who were working with FTDA on what signage they

would like and where they would like it placed. A drive around Foxton and Foxton Beach had been undertaken on 5 December with Jenny Braithwaite, Council's Roading Operations Team Leader, with the suggestion made that FTDA draw up a map to indicate more particularly what they wanted and where.

Progressing that suggestion, Hannah tabled a document, "Signage for Foxton and Foxton Beach" and worked through its content, which indicated:

- where they would like new signage located;
- the location of current signage for removal;
- the current location of signage that needed to stay.

With Council proposing to move to a monthly meeting schedule for 2019, Mr Eady said that the Community Board moving to a bi-monthly schedule did not seem valid. If it was adopted, he suggested turning the months with no meeting into some sort of meeting for members of the public in Foxton and Foxton Beach to air their views on matters in which they were interested.

3.1 Foxton Beach Progressive Association Incorporated

With the MOU now signed, Katharine Wilkinson and Ted Melton joined the table to speak on behalf of the Association. Addressing the issue of signage, they reiterated the reasons why this should be expedited, particularly noting that directional signage to the beach should be done before Christmas. Mr Melton acknowledged the work done by FTDA to get this issue moving. He also noted discussions that had been held with Councillors, Board Members and staff and was complimentary about the strategic thinking and strategic planning that was going on in the Horowhenua. He said it boded well for the future, not only for Foxton and Foxton Beach, particularly with the predicted growth and the Association wanted to be involved in those discussions.

Mr Lester said he would have a discussion with Mr Nelson in relation to the possibility of having signage in place by Christmas, but it would likely not be possible because of the time of year.

With Ms Lundie, as a Foxton Beach resident, not in a position to undertake the liaison role because of other commitments, it was proposed that Mr Allan be appointed to the role, with Mr Roache to be his alternate.

MOVED by Mr Roache, seconded Ms Metcalf:

THAT David Allan be appointed as the liaison person between the Foxton Community Board and the Foxton Beach Progressive Association Inc.

CARRIED

3.2 Foxton Community Board Meeting Schedule 2019

The change from six weekly to bi-monthly meetings for the Board was discussed. Concerns were expressed that:

- there was risk that this could lead to a lack of continuity and the Board losing momentum;
- there had not been an opportunity for elected members to obtain feedback from the community;
- meetings could go on for a lot longer.

Holding quarterly workshops was raised and discussed with it noted that these could be open to the public which would provide more flexibility in terms of discussion. Key documents such as the Monitoring Report could be circulated to Members more regularly if required.

Mr Lester confirmed that if the Board did chose to meet bi-monthly, the Monitoring Report, as a key accountability document, could still updated and circulated monthly. With regard to strategic workshops, that would align with

what the Mayor was looking to do with the Council, and would also align with the FBPA wanting to get more involved strategically.

With the addition to the recommendation that the Board hold quarterly workshops that would not be subject to Standing Orders, and with Mr Lester to bring back a workshop format which would include public involvement from time to time depending on what was being discussed, it was

MOVED by Mr Allan, seconded Mr Roache:

THAT the Foxton Community Board:

- (i) adopts the meeting schedule for the period January to December 2019;*
- (ii) holds quarterly workshops to progress strategic issues;*
- (iii) it notes that additional ordinary or extraordinary meetings may be scheduled from time to time in consultation with the Chair and Chief Executive;*
- (iv) that the Terms of Reference in relation to meeting frequency be amended to reflect the change.*

CARRIED

Ms Lundie ABSTAINED from voting

3.3 NZ Community Boards' Conference 2019

This was discussed with the Chair clarifying that attendance for this bi-annual conference was by rotation. Mr Allan advised that he would be unable to attend and Ms Lundie said she would like to see the Agenda before making a final commitment.

MOVED by Mr Roache, seconded Mr Allan:

THAT, subject to what is included in the Agenda, Board Members Lundie and Metcalf (with the Chair as a reserve) be the attendees at the NZ Community Boards Conference scheduled for 11-13 April 2019 in New Plymouth.

CARRIED

Mr Roache said he would like to see some of the Board's outstanding projects, such as the Pump Track, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, and Main Street, entered into the Community Boards' Best Practice Awards.

3.4 Harbour Street Reserve

Appreciation was expressed at Mr Hester's Briefing Note which addressed the issues that had been raised by Dr Hoskins on behalf of the volunteers of SORT. It identified clearly what was being done and what could be done, and Council was also working to ensure a coordinated response from other organisations.

3.5 Signage – Foxton & Foxton Beach

Speaking as a Trustee of the Manawatū Estuary Trust, Ms Metcalf also raised the issue of signage and the need for that to be coordinated. It was suggested that the Trust liaise with Hannah Street and Cathy McCartney.

With it again expressed that the need for signage needed to be expedited, Mr Lester said he would follow that up with Officers. If there was no capacity in existing budgets it would need to be considered as part of the exceptions Annual Plan.

7.3 Resource Consenting (Planning) Matters Considered Under Delegated Authority

Purpose

To present details of decisions made under delegated authority in respect of Resource Consenting (Planning) Matters.

MOVED by Cr Gimblett, seconded Ms Metcalf:

THAT Report 18/537 Resource Consenting (Planning) Matters Considered Under Delegated Authority be received.

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

CARRIED

7.4 Recording of Foxton Community Board Meetings

Purpose

For the Foxton Community Board to consider putting in place a mechanism to regulate the recording (both audio and visual), of its meetings by Elected Members and members of the public.

MOVED by Ms Metcalf, seconded Mr Allan:

THAT Report 18/661 Recording of Foxton Community Board Meetings be received.

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

CARRIED

Mr Lester spoke to this report advising that the recording of meetings had been considered by Council and it had been resolved, after lengthy discussion, that it would amend Standing Orders to make recording of meetings, both full Council and Committees, the exception rather than the rule. Recording of meetings was not allowed unless Council resolved otherwise. The Community Board was now being given the same opportunity.

Whether or not this was an issue for the Community Board was discussed, particularly as Board meetings were not currently recorded nor live-streamed, and some reservations were expressed as to whether it was necessary. Various options were discussed to allow recording but to also address privacy issues, and how it could be monitored.

It was AGREED that Recommendations 2.3 and 2.4 would lay on the table to allow Mr Lester to bring back some guidelines for the Board's consideration as to how this could be tailored for Community Board meetings.

8.20 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF THE FOXTON COMMUNITY
BOARD HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....