

MINUTES

TITLE: Council meeting to hear LTCCP Submissions
DATE: Monday 18 May 2009
TIME: 9.30 am
VENUE: St John's Hall, Courtney Street, Motueka
PRESENT: Mayor R G Kempthorne (Chair), Crs B F Dowler, E J Wilkins, N Riley, T E Norriss, J L Edgar, J L Inglis, B W Ensor, G A Glover, S J Borlase
IN ATTENDANCE: Strategic Development Manager (S Edwards), Executive Assistant (V M Gribble)

APOLOGIES

Moved Crs Edgar/Norriss
CN09/5/05

THAT apologies for absence from Cr R G Currie and for lateness from Crs M J Higgins, S G Bryant and T B King be sustained.
CARRIED

1 LTCCP SUBMISSIONS

4979 P Lissaman & S O'Grady

Mr Lissaman said they want to see high productive lands not be allowed to be subdivided. Ratepayers should be encouraged to be self-sufficient, eg with rainwater collection. All new consents where there is undue risk to Council should have a caveat registered on the title. Support swimming pool (including therapeutic) for Motueka. Opposed to the rowing facility on Rabbit Island and also motor sport facility.

5032 R & T Boys

Mrs Boys said they are opposed to the proposed targeted Tasman Tourism rate and consider it should be funded through the general rate.

6857 D Mitchell

Mr Mitchell said the high debt level is of concern and also environmental issues, particularly in Mapua.

Cr Glover asked if Mr Mitchell felt the hall at Mapua was necessary.

Mr Mitchell said the proposal is still uncertain and favoured Council taking a conservative position.

4684 G Tucker

Mr Tucker said his land is immediately adjacent to the current stopbanked area and it will flood by another 300 mm when the stopbanks are rebuilt. He objects to having to pay the targeted rate when he is being disadvantaged. He is concerned about debt levels and is opposed to the Motueka water reticulation scheme.

1410 B Knapp

Mr Knapp is concerned about the balance of debt that is forecast. He suggested clearing the Motueka River bed out instead of building new stopbanks. The problem of raising the bank is that a bottle neck could be created at the bridge. He said if Council proposal is to draw water from 22 metres there are pumps available to do that and he said the fire service should be given a pump from Council to pump the water and fill the tankers.

5207 E Iannuzzi and J Kelly

Mr Kelly considered the consultation period was too short and they are unhappy about the debt levels.

Cr Glover said Council is told the stopbanks is a matter of risk. How do you assess that risk?

Mr Kelly said they live on the river (next to Mr Tucker) and built up an acre of their land to build on. They consider there are more options than just raising the stopbank. We submitted because of debt levels and allocation of funding.

5376 K Palmer and Lower Moutere Water Scheme Ltd

Mr Palmer is concerned that Council wants to spend money on the stopbanks. In his view the narrow part of the flood plain is where the bridge is and the only way to get rid of the flood water is to widen the plain at the bridge. He considered it would be easy to shift the stopbank on either side of the bridge. He said gravel should be extracted from below the bridge as this could help increase the outflow.

Cr Norriss said if there is a weakness in the flood bank behind the Motueka township would you see that as a priority to fix? Is it necessary to heighten the stopbank?

Mr Palmer said the plan is to build between 4 and 12 inches and it is a lot of money to spend. He said if the water could have got to the sea faster in 1957 the water level wouldn't have been so high.

Mr Palmer said Lower Moutere Water scheme has wells in the Awamate channel area. They are looking at expanding No 2 water scheme and need to talk to Council staff about the issues. He asked that correspondence be sent to Wildman Road and High Street South area residents to clarify the point of them joining the reticulated water scheme.

5375 B Faulkner

Mr Faulkner submitted that recycling and waste management should be user pay. He is concerned about potholes being repaired but not sealed and they need to be repaired over and over again. He does not support the coastal water pipeline. He supports a swimming complex in Motueka.

5387 B Bryant

Mrs Bryant said the Motueka sandspit area and adjacent estuaries are recognised internationally as significantly important, especially to birds. The biodiversity values of the Motueka sandspit and dog exercising requirements are incompatible. She considers a park should be set aside for dog training areas. A strategic management plan is urgently required for Waimea Estuary.

5396 M Floyd (on behalf of petitioners)

Mrs Floyd requested that the last 0.7 kilometre of metal road along George Harvey Road be sealed.

6322 A & A Hamilton

Mr & Mrs Hamilton requested Council prioritise improvements to the Riwaka – Kaiteriteri Road. They are also concerned about refuse collection in the Kaiteriteri area.

Cr Norriss asked if there would be support for Council to remove rubbish collection and advise ratepayers that they will need to provide their own rubbish collection service, apart from recycling.

Mr Hamilton thought that would be an option that could be investigated.

5437 T Inglis

Mr Inglis spoke to his submission concerning the Riwaka – Kaiteriteri Road. He tabled a letter concerning refuse problems in Little Kaiteriteri. He also spoke about erosion at Little Kaiteriteri because Council had sprayed the ice plant which could lead to an increase in erosion.

5440 J Inglis

Mrs Inglis commented on Kaiteriteri Road, rubbish collection and the beach front at Little Kaiteriteri. She said the beach front has eroded five metres in two years. The ice plant was sprayed because it was not an indigenous plant. This occurred at various beaches around the area, not just Little Kaiteriteri. She asked that Council consider basic infrastructure projects before any feel-good community projects.

6421 I D Franklin

Mr Franklin asked for the boat ramp to be relocated at Marahau. The boat ramp and boat park are sited right opposite a subdivision which will cause more congestion. He considered the Tinline area would be appropriate.

5672 J Loftus

Mr Loftus is concerned about the condition of the Riwaka – Kaiteriteri Road.

Crs S G Bryant, T B King and M J Higgins arrived at the meeting at 1.15 pm.

6000 J Welch (Brown Acre Village Ltd)

Mr Welch is concerned about the Development Contributions Policy proposed which will increase development contributions substantially. He believes there is a strong argument for dealing with development contributions on a catchment by catchment basis, rather than a district wide basis, as proposed.

6350 P & M Copp

Mr Copp is opposed to the proposed tourism rate as, in his view, it is grossly unjust and should come from the general rate. He believes there is a lack of information from Tourism Nelson Tasman as to what they propose for the coming year.

Cr Borlase asked why tourism should get a handout from Council?

Mr Copp said all the community benefits from tourism.

Cr Ensor said if the extra money is collected to market Nelson, would you see the \$7,000 you spend at the moment being reduced.

Mr Copp didn't see it would decrease. He said they link their website to other activities.

6357 Mapua and Districts Business Association

Brigid Ryan and Bob Lancaster presented the submission on behalf of the Association. Ms Ryan said they are aware of the changes that will impact Mapua with the opening of the Ruby Bay Bypass. They consider town signage and entrance gateways are important for Mapua.

Mr Lancaster said the proposed new targeted tourism rate has been insufficiently thought through and the two-tier system is unsatisfactory and unpopular. It should be across all businesses, based on capital value.

Cr Norriss asked if they had a list of priority projects, keeping in mind there is a whole district to find money for.

Ms Ryan said town signage and gateways, cycleways and public transport.

Cr Norriss said the proposal in the plan for public transport is for between Richmond and Nelson. He asked would Mapua businesses be happy to pay for that subsidy in their general rate?

Ms Ryan said there needs to be places for parking and we would hope that public transport would be available from Mapua.

Cr Glover asked how necessary is the upgrade to the Mapua Hall.

Ms Ryan said to get our members together, there are limited venues. Mapua is a growing community and we need a hub.

Mr Lancaster said the existing hall is very dated and with increase in growth we need the Mapua hall upgrade/renewal to be a high priority.

6451 B Fry

Mrs Fry submitted on refuse and recycling, Motueka stopbanks and Motueka water scheme. She was concerned about taking water from Motueka, which has an adequate water supply, to areas of inadequate supply, and that this will eventually cause the water supply to drop in Motueka. She asked that the matter be looked at very seriously. Mrs Fry expressed the view that if the present stopbanks were fixed in the (approximately) eight weak points it would fix the problem for the next 100 years and would be a lot cheaper.

6457 L Senior

Mr Senior spoke of the Motueka water supply and said there is nothing wrong with their water. He suggested a lesser system, mainly for fire fighting.

Cr King asked if it was decided a fire fighting supply was important, would you agree that if it was the same cost, the Council should put in reticulation to houses at the same time?

Mr Senior said that makes sense.

3835 C M Miles

Mrs Miles objects to the expense of upgrading the stopbanks. She said the gravel should be removed from where it is built up on the sides of the river. She believes the Motueka Bridge is not sound and may well be washed away in the next big flood.

6487 M Curnow

Mr Curnow said rebuilding of the Motueka River stopbanks is not required. He suggested encouraging planting of trees in Upper Motueka Valley to reduce speed of runoff. He believes Alexander Bluff Bridge and Motueka Bridge are the choke points in the river.

Cr Higgins said Council has received a lot of expert advice and this is risk management. Trees won't stop that runoff. Council's proposal is to upgrade stopbanks over a 20 year period. What part should we do, ie first stage, channel at Peach Island. Is that a good move?

Mr Curnow said the obvious one is to allow the water to escape. Surely you would start works at the bottom, not the top.

Cr Riley left the meeting at 2.40 pm.

6488 K McGlashen

Mr McGlashen considered doing both the stopbanks and water reticulation at the same time is too big a burden on the ratepayers of Motueka. They would be happy to let the river take its course. He sees benefits to protect people downstream and suggested Council look at the rating system and see if it can be manipulated across more people. He said Kaiteriteri Road should be part of the immediate term plan to do something to improve its safety out of the roads maintenance budget. He believes Motueka water is more important than the stopbanks.

2344 M Tawhai

Mr Tawhai presented his submission in Maori with an English translation. He said his people are very concerned at the rates increases that are being proposed and the water reticulation and recycling and waste collection. He said Council should be looking at different ways to get rid of wastewater. He said affordability is a big issue.

Cr Glover asked Mr Tawhai to identify what could be taken out of the plan.

Mr Tawhai said the cost of the refuse/recycling system is too much. He said if people in Motueka have a good water supply now, they shouldn't have to join into the new reticulation and pay the high costs.

6541 A Upsall

Mr Upsall was in attendance and is concerned about chemical contamination of the bore sites for the Motueka water reticulation. He is concerned that the water supply will be chlorinated in time to come. He is also worried about the cost of the system and how low income people are disadvantaged because they won't be able to afford to pay the \$3,800 upfront so will be paying over \$9,000 over 20 years. He suggested people have a rainwater tank to collect water for drinking and continue to use their bore supplies for other use. He is also concerned about debt levels.

Mayor said the Fire Service have said the water supply is inadequate for fire fighting.

Cr Norriss said the water that is being pumped and trialled for the proposed bore field has been tested. The report was that the water was good quality and wouldn't need treatment and if any proposal was put forward they would be recommending UV.

Mr Upsall said initially treatment is not on the radar but things come up and people say we need UV, then further down the track they add chlorine or fluoride.

6546 P A Barrow

Mr Barrow said sale profits from Motueka properties should go to the Motueka stopbanks project. He believes any targeted rate needs to be based on land area and not value. He is opposed to the Motueka reticulated water scheme and said if fire fighting is an issue then either replace or maintain the current wells. He is opposed to a swimming pool in Motueka. He said rates are far too high and he can't afford them.

6601 Our Town Motueka

Cr Wilkins advised that she was on the Our Town Motueka Committee.

Mr H Timms and Ms J Taylor presented the submission of Our Town Motueka.

Mr Timms said waiting another ten years for enhancements to High Street was too long. They sought a contribution from Council to start plans to build on the original streetscaping theme in Motueka. Our Town Motueka does not support the targeted rate for tourism in its current form, because of inequity between large and small business, inconsistencies between the Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council in regard to collection of the rate, and accountability of Nelson Tasman Tourism. They asked that the status quo be adopted for this year and Nelson Tasman Tourism and Council work together to come up with a fairer way to collect the funding shortfall.

Cr Bryant asked if the streetscaping plan could be funded out of the business rate.

Mr Timms said the budget is fully allocated to having a fulltime co-ordinator and running events.

Cr Edgar asked if they had thoughts about how the direct accountability of Tourism Nelson Tasman could come about.

Mr Timms said there seemed to be top heavy expense towards administration and overheads. They haven't articulated clearly how the new money will be spent.

Cr Norriss said suggestion has been made that businesses that are not registered for GST should be excused from paying tourism rate.

Mr Timms said that would help, but you've still got the issue of a supermarket paying the same as the small organic shop next door.

Mayor Kempthorne said a flat fee over all operators would be a fairer mechanism.

Mr Timms said it would be fairer but there is still the inequity between large and small businesses.

Cr Dowler asked whether Our Town Motueka is applying for charitable status.

Mr Timms said they are struggling to get approval for charitable status. We may have to start another organisation that just does events so we can get funding for, eg Christmas parade.

2104 G & J Knapp

Mr Knapp was in attendance to speak to his submission which opposes the new recycling waste collection system. He said the extra refuse collection at Kaiteriteri over Christmas period needs looking at as Tapu Bay is included in the area and there is very little refuse picked up in Tapu Bay. He said the drivers do not stop to pick up anything that is not in Council bags. He said Council should look at recycling 9 volt batteries.

Cr King said Council could do away with the extra refuse collection over Christmas if people engaged private contractors to collect their rubbish.

4819 Split Apple Rock Owners Association

Mr J Ayling presented the submission on behalf of the Association. The Association has concerns about the rationale by which the Council proposes to fund the proposed stopbank improvements.

6492 R Rayner

Mr Rayner said book stocks in the libraries need to be increased by nearly 50% before they even reached the recommended New Zealand Standard. He urged Council to live up to its stated commitment to upgrade its core library services and put books before buildings. He was disheartened by the selection of weary-looking books on display for subscribers.

Cr King said over time, provision of information via internet and computer services is potentially a growing part of the libraries job.

Mr Rayner agreed but said internet and computer services should only be available to subscribers.

Mayor Kempthorne advised that the computers in Council's libraries are provided by the Aotearoa Peoples Network which is financed by government, not Council.

The meeting concluded at 4.45 pm.

Chair:

Date: