

MINUTES

Title: Engineering Services Committee
Date: Thursday 20 January 2005
Time: 9.30 am
Venue: Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond
Present: Mayor J C Hurley, Crs T E Norriss (Chair), S G Bryant, S J Borlase, T B King, R G Kempthorne, R G Currie, J L Inglis
In Attendance: Cr N Riley, Motueka Community Board Member, A C Fry, Chief Executive (R G Dickinson), Engineering Manager (P W Thomson), Transportation Manager (R Ashworth), S Elkington, Road Asset Engineer, Utilities Manager (J Cuthbertson), Service Centres Manager (D Blake Gillard), Corp/Eng Administrator (V M Gribble)

Apology

An apology was received for absence from Motueka Community Board Member, B Dowler.

1 Public Forum

1.1 R Hellyer

Mr Hellyer spoke about recycling facilities at Motueka Service Centre, roading contractor Fulton Hogan, bridge maintenance on Drummond Road and Holdaway Road and Drummond Road ford grass mowing.

1.2 A C Fry

Mr Fry spoke about the recycling facilities at Motueka Service Centre and Motueka Airport issues.

2 Confirmation of Minutes – Engineering Services Committee 16 December 2004

Moved Crs Bryant/Inglis
WK05/01/01

**That the minutes of the Engineering Services Committee meeting held on 16 December 2004, containing resolutions numbered WK04/12/1 to WK04/12/23 be confirmed as a true and complete record of the proceedings of that meeting.
Carried**

3 Chairman's Report

Cr Norriss commented on a sewage spill at Tapu Bay, rubbish issues, roadside drains and Motueka sewage ponds.

Cr King said it is important that the problems with the recycling stations are addressed and the public needs to be educated on how to use them. It is imperative that they are kept clean and tidy.

Cr Bryant expressed concern about the standard of road maintenance over the Christmas period in the Tapawera area. He said roadside mowing is also not being cut to specifications.

Cr Inglis commented on the roadside mowing along the Kaiteriteri Road and said it is a disgrace.

Cr Currie said he has received a request for the Easby Park car park to be swept to dissuade cars from skidding in the loose gravel.

Mr Ashworth advised the Committee of the roadside mowing specifications.

Moved Crs Bryant/King
WK05/01/02

**That the Chairman's Report for January 2005 be received.
Carried**

4 RAPID Numbering – Road Name Changes

Mr Dickinson arrived at the meeting.

Mr Elkington spoke to his report contained in the agenda which sought Committee approval to proceed with the public consultation process to delete road names on unformed roads in Golden Bay and for two sections of SH 60 to be given local names.

Mr Fry said with some of these changes, historic road names are going to be lost.

Mr Elkington said a historic road names database will be established.

Moved Crs King/Bryant
WK05/01/03

**That the Engineering Services Committee receive this report and the public consultation process proceed.
Carried**

5 Tourism Subsidy Scheme

Mr Cuthbertson was present to speak to his report which advised of the government initiative and the limitations that the subsidy has. He tabled extra information concerning timing for the proposed process.

Cr Currie asked if there was a plan for a wastewater scheme in Marahau.

Mr Thomson said there was a strategic review of community needs done for Marahau several years ago. While there is a plan for a reticulated wastewater system in

Marahau, it is only an intention that is signalled in the LTCCP. Specific detailed investigation looking at how Council would reticulate, treat and dispose of effluent has not been commenced at this stage.

Moved Crs King/Kempthorne
WK05/01/04

That:

- a) a detailed application be drafted and sent to the Ministry of Tourism for consideration for both wastewater and water in the Marahau area;**
- b) staff determine other potential areas where this subsidy could be applicable and make the appropriate application.**

Carried

6 Review of Video and Flooding – Richmond

Cr Riley arrived at the meeting.

The Committee reviewed a video of flooding in the Croucher Street/D’Arcy Street/Bird Street area of Richmond and considered the report in the agenda.

Mayor Hurley said it is a problem that has been around for a long time, and considered it necessary to keep the project alive.

Moved Crs Kempthorne/Borlase
WK05/01/05

That the work required to remedy the flooding in Bird Street be included in the 2005/2006 Annual Plan.

Carried

7 School Wastewater Charges

Mr Cuthbertson spoke to the report contained in the agenda which illustrated the different methods other councils use for charging schools a wastewater charge (pan charge).

Mr Dickinson said Tasman District Council treats all bulk users the same and he considered it very unwise to have a special treatment for schools alone. The working party needs to consider all bulk users.

Cr Norriss reminded the Committee that any reduction for one sector results in an increase for others.

Cr King considered the present system is acceptable. He questioned the use of water in/water out charging.

Mr Dickinson undertook to investigate the use of water in/water out charging.

Cr Norriss considered it advisable to explain to the schools how the charges operate, consequences on everyone else of reducing charges to schools and explain what is happening in other areas.

Cr Inglis suggested the schools approach government for a subsidy to pay for their pan charges.

Moved Cr Kempthorne/Mayor Hurley
WK05/01/06

That the working party use the information provided to form a basis for discussions with the schools explaining the policy for school wastewater charging.

Carried

8 Water and Wastewater Assessments

Mr Cuthbertson spoke to the report which indicated the progress made thus far with all of the assessments.

Mr Thomson said Council has obligations under the Local Government Act and it needs to take reasonable steps to comply with the Act.

Cr Borlase said government should be advised of the effect that the extra costs will have on ratepayers.

Moved Crs King/Bryant
WK05/01/07

That the Water and Wastewater Assessments Report be received.

Carried

9 Trial Recycling Stations

Mr Cuthbertson spoke to his report concerning trial recycling stations. Facilities were provided at Motueka, Mapua, Wakefield and Takaka, with further stations to be sited at Upper Moutere and Marahau.

The material being placed in these stations was more than was envisaged. He considered the contractor had done a very good job. 400 tonnes of recycling material has been picked up and refuse to landfill has reduced dramatically. A meeting was held with MWH NZ Ltd, Streetsmart, Councillors and staff to discuss the problems and to work out what to do. It was decided Council should persevere, perhaps find an alternative location for Mapua, change the operation of how the containers are unloaded and look at frequency of unloading them.

Mr Cuthbertson said Kaiteriteri had a bag collection service provided, but it didn't suit holiday makers so instead of taking domestic rubbish to the Mariri station, it was left at street corners.

Cr King said the whole point of having a trial was to find ways of doing things better. The sooner kerbside recycling is introduced to those areas, the better. He considered

the trial has done what it was intended to do and the volume issue would be resolved by having kerbside recycling. He said the issue of broken glass around the recycling stations needs to be addressed.

Mr Thomson said the public would be notified in the draft annual plan that the service is being extended through Mapua, coastal Tasman, Motueka, Kaiteriteri, Marahau, Golden Bay. We've seen through the trial there is strong public support for recycling. The tonnage received over a five or six week period was overwhelming and positive. If Council wants to carry on using the recycling stations it needs to come up with a safe and efficient operation for maintaining them. He said there is no issue if Council wants to proceed with the extension of kerbside recycling early, but it can't start rating people where the zone has not been designated. Time would be required to order plastic bins and it would probably be a couple of months minimum to get the service underway. The issue is the cost comparison against starting kerbside compared to ongoing cost of running the depots as an interim measure.

Cr Borlase considered the trial was very successful, with Council filling a community need. He suggested a press release advising that Council believes the trial has been successful and advising residents that kerbside recycling will be starting sooner rather than later.

Mr Fry asked about the service at Kaiteriteri with the Reserve Board.

Cr Norriss said the collection area was an agreement between the previous contractor and the camp, not between Council and the camp. When contracts were drawn up, Council was not aware of it. Any agreement would need to be negotiated between Council, Streetsmart and the Reserves Board.

Mr Fry said the Reserve Board previously picked up all the rubbish and the Council paid them to clear the bins along the beach front. He said refuse is a community responsibility and suggested Council look at introducing a refuse rate.

Mr Thomson said funding for refuse comes from general rates, sale of Council bags (currently \$1.35 per bag) and other funding comes from fees and charges received at resource recovery centres and landfill at Murchison.

Cr Inglis said a lot of problems at Kaiteriteri come from holiday makers leaving and putting their rubbish out at the gate. He considers there will still be a need for a shed or collection point as the refuse is put out on days other than the collection day.

Cr Riley said there is no way he would support having a refuse skip at Takaka because of the abuse that would occur, including disposal of animals etc. He said he had received comments from an Australian visitor who said recycling is compulsory in Australia and there is no mixed refuse allowed.

Cr Kempthorne agreed that kerbside recycling will deal with a lot of the refuse problems. He acknowledged the work that J Cuthbertson had done over the holiday period with the refuse.

Cr Bryant believed recycling had been driven by the increased price of Council's refuse bags as a lot of the facilities were available prior to the new contract. In outlying areas, Tapawera, St Arnaud and Murchison they have had a decrease in

size of the rubbish bag, plus an increase in cost of the bags, but they have no place to put their recyclables. There is a collection in that area and hopefully the sub contractors will have bins available. He said there has been an increase in fly-tipping which is causing a problem in Tapawera.

Cr Currie said the tensile strength of the smaller bags is less than it used to be. He noted there are no complaints from Richmond residents and that is because they use private wheelie bins.

Mr Thomson said the effect that private contractors have had on the Council's service, doesn't necessarily save money because wheelie bins fill up the landfill, and secondly, the more people who use Tasman District Council bag service, particularly in the urban areas, the lower cost per unit collection we can offer.

Cr Norris asked if Council should be in the bag collection service. He noted that one local company is offering the 60 litre bag around Richmond and Motueka but they are not providing a rural pickup.

Cr Kempthorne said Council should ban mixed refuse.

Mayor Hurley commented that the process of introducing kerbside in the next six months is too slow. He considered it should be brought forward as people have asked for it and they are prepared to pay for it. He accepted there will be a funding implication and the cost needs to be spread over the 16 months. He considers the new bags are poor quality. He asked for the bin to be removed from Motueka by Monday afternoon and suggested it should be put at Mariri and notices be inserted in newspapers advising of the bin's relocation.

Mr Thomson said the facility at Motueka has been well used and there has been a lot of complaint and abusive comments but a lot have not been associated with bin location. If we move the bin to Mariri, there is a minority of people who will change their habits and be prepared to travel to Mariri to use the recycle bin. There will be a backlash reaction, even though we tell them they will have their own bin.

Mr Cuthberston believes the bin is in the right area. In Dunedin they are located by supermarkets and they are encouraged to be put there. He said staff are looking at putting two containers to see if the overflow can be addressed and asked for a fortnight trial to see if that works.

Mr Thomson said there is also a similar issue at Mapua.

Cr Norriss said the day the rubbish was dumped at the Council offices there were also bottles smashed on the back of Council vehicles. He said if the two bins could be placed next week, and it be left to J Cuthbertson, P Thomson, Mayor Hurley and Chair of Engineering Services to make a decision as to whether they be removed.

D Blake Gillard supported the recycling bin and said it has been a great success, and to remove it would have a back lash. She supported putting another bin and having them changed on a daily basis. She emphasised the importance of cleaning up around the bins. She asked permission for the litter bin person around Motueka to be approached through Our Town Motueka to clean up the glass left.

Mr Cuthbertson said the new proposal is that the container will be brought back full to the Richmond centre, so there should be no more problem with glass left around.

D Blake Gillard accepted that with two containers the amount of debris left behind should be minimal.

Cr King said Council shouldn't admit defeat at this stage, and that the trial with two bins be allowed.

Cr Inglis asked that the two containers be trialled for a week and then a decision be made at next Thursday's meeting.

Mayor Hurley said while there will be a \$40 rate levied in the next financial year for kerbside recycling, it is not necessarily a rate increase, as residents can save that money by recycling. If we can provide the service within budgets, and if the bins are cost neutral with introducing recycling then we could do it.

Cr Bryant left the meeting at 12.55 pm.

Moved Crs Kempthorne/Inglis
WK05/01/08

**That delegated authority be given to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chair Engineering Services and Engineering Manager to determine the operational requirements for recycling depots at Motueka, Mapua, Wakefield and Takaka.
Carried**

Moved Crs King/Borlase
WK05/01/09

**That the Committee approve in principle the implementation of kerbside recycling in other parts of the district subject to further information being provided on costs and practicalities.
Carried**

Moved Crs Borlase/Inglis
WK05/01/10

**That the report entitled Trial Recycling Stations dated 13 January 2005 be received.
Carried**

10 Wastewater Treatment Facilities Upgrade

R Lester, MWH NZ Ltd was present for discussion on this item.

Mr Cuthbertson spoke to the report in the agenda entitled "Wastewater Treatment Facilities Upgrade".

The report was to inform the Committee of the state of Council's wastewater treatment facilities and the proposed upgrade needed to comply with present and future consent conditions.

The Motueka facility has consent until 2008/2009, however the disposal system is blocked and the treated effluent is overflowing in an uncontrolled manner into an area adjacent to the existing disposal beds. Also, the treatment system needs upgrading to meet future load requirements and to address the seasonal odour issues that arise every summer. It is considered likely that an air discharge consent will need to be obtained when the existing consent comes up for renewal.

The Takaka area is facing significant growth and the facility needs to be upgraded to meet projected loads. An upgrade concept had been developed and a subsidy has been applied for. However, the plant resource consent conditions are not well suited to the plant or the environmental issues that need to be addressed. Therefore in order to get the subsidy and to ensure that the plant has a record of compliance leading into the next consent renewal, it is proposed to vary the consent conditions and upgrade the plant.

Cr Riley left the meeting at 2.30 pm.

A new resource consent has been applied for at Upper Takaka and we are awaiting the awarding of this. The wetland area needs to be cleaned out and replanted. It is proposed to organise this with the Takaka pond de-sludge operation.

The resource consent for Tapawera expired some time ago. In preparing for a renewal, it was identified that the sub-soil disposal field was not operating effectively and this needed to be addressed prior to a consent renewal. It has been concluded that a new disposal field is required. A preliminary design has been completed on this and subsequent environmental investigations have been undertaken to support a new consent application.

The Murchison plant is exceeding the resource consent disposal volume condition of consent. This indicates a high level of inflow and infiltration in the reticulation. Further, the pond is experiencing some performance problems that threaten the disposal fields. It is apparent now that the Murchison camp ground will soon be connected to the Murchison plant. This will increase peak loads and flows, therefore the need to upgrade the plant is increased. An upgrade concept has been developed and a proposal to implement the necessary upgrade is being prepared. This will require a variation to the existing resource consent.

The present wetland at St Arnaud will need to have some of the wetland plants removed so as to provide open areas of free water.

The Collingwood plant has been upgraded to meet the new conditions imposed by the renewed consent. Over and above these works is the installation of an UV disinfection system on the plant effluent and modifications to the plant to screen influent and increase treatment capacity.

Mr Cuthbertson was asked to prepare a report for a future meeting on subdivision development standards for connecting to wastewater, water and stormwater schemes.

Mayor Hurley left the meeting at 2.50 pm.

11 Asset Management Report

11.1 Owen Bridge Opening

The Owen Bridge opening will be held on Tuesday 8 March 2005 and Committee members were invited to attend.

11.2 Council's Regional Walking & Cycling Strategy

Mr Fry said the upgrade on the corner of Lodder Lane has created a speedway for vehicles come off the bridge and it is dangerous for cyclists. He considered the mirror in place is too small and in the wrong place. He also noted there is no clear vision to the left coming out of Lodder Lane.

11.3 Riwaka Stopbanks

Mr Fry said the public have access to the stopbanks. He said the rivers in the Motueka area have been neglected. He asked where the funding was coming from for the Brooklyn upgrade. He said the Brooklyn Stream from Anderson Bridge down to the mouth needs maintenance works.

11.4 Redwood and Eves Valley Streams Upgrade

Correspondence has been received from Mr Moseley and it will be presented at the next Engineering Services Committee meeting.

11.5 Wai-iti Valley Community Dam

Programming of the projects timeline is under review with the contractor to establish their commitment to achieving the 20 May 2005 completion date for the critical elements of the project.

11.6 Mapua Water Upgrade

Work has also been completed on the booster pump station adjacent to the Mapua chemical site. Water service connections have been completed and the pump station has been commissioned.

Moved Crs Kempthorne/Borlase
WK05/01/11

**That the asset management plan be received.
Carried**

The meeting concluded at 3.40 pm.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: