

MINUTES

TITLE: Engineering Services Committee
DATE: Thursday 15 February 2007
TIME: 9.30 am
VENUE: Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond
PRESENT: Cr T E Norriss (Chair), Mayor J C Hurley, Crs T B King, E J Wilkins, N Riley, R G Currie, J L Inglis, S G Bryant, E E Henry, M J Higgins, R G Kempthorne, E M O'Regan, S J Borlase
IN ATTENDANCE: Engineering Manager (P W Thomson), Transportation Manager (R Ashworth), Utilities Manager (J Cuthbertson), Minute Secretary (V M Gribble)

APOLOGIES

Moved Crs Bryant/Inglis
WK07/02/01

THAT apologies for absence from Cr P K O'Shea and for lateness from Crs Kempthorne, Higgins and O'Regan be sustained.
CARRIED

The Committee expressed sympathy to Cr P K O'Shea on the tragic death of her son in a forestry accident.

1 PUBLIC FORUM

1.1 G Stocker

Mr Stocker said the Automobile Association has made a submission on the Appleby Highway speed review. Their policy is to oppose any speed reduction on a State Highway, but agreed Council's submission made good sense.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 30 NOVEMBER 2006

Moved Crs Henry/Inglis
WK07/02/02

THAT the minutes of the Engineering Services Committee meeting held on 30 November 2006, containing resolutions numbered WK06/11/01 to WK06/11/18 be confirmed as a true and complete record of the proceedings of that meeting.
CARRIED

3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Norriss commented on the need for attention to be given to the build up of gravel and general rubbish in some of our major rivers. He said there is a staff report

recommending no gravel be moved which is being adhered to, but hasn't been adopted and it should be referred to the Environment and Planning Committee.

Cr Higgins requested a report on the maintenance of riverbeds and pushing the gravel around on an ongoing basis. The issue other Councillors are talking about is taking gravel out. He asked for a steer on how to go forward.

Mayor Hurley said it is both a planning and engineering matter and needs urgent reprioritising.

Cr Currie said the riverbed in the Motueka River is almost level with the paddocks surrounding and Council needs to look at some level of control in the riverbed itself.

Cr Norriss said from an engineering perspective, the report should only look at river management and maintenance. Both departments need to help compile the report.

Mr Thomson said we have endeavoured to keep the Committee advised of our annual operating and maintenance programme. With the river programme for this year, it is business as usual, operating under our river works consent, identifying areas where gravel removal from riverbeds is being undertaken to assist with riverbed management. We recognise the consent is limited in its timeframe and also that Council is developing a new part of the plan and that is a policy development issue. The Environment and Planning Department reviewed our annual operating and maintenance programme in July/August 2006 and they made suggestions about the way we could carry out work in the riverbed. They are outside the scope of the conditions allowed in our consent. Engineering is in discussion with Environment and Planning about how the consent can be varied to allow that to happen.

Cr Higgins appreciated the Manager's comments and said he is interested to read about the concept of sweeping off 10% of each river each year.

**Moved Cr Higgins/Mayor Hurley
WK07/02/3**

**THAT a staff report be presented on how to go forward with riverbed management and stopbank maintenance.
CARRIED**

**Moved Crs Bryant/Currie
WK07/02/04**

**THAT the Chairperson's report for February 2007 be received.
CARRIED**

4 ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT

4.1 Road Maintenance Contracts

Cr O'Regan noted the road maintenance in Murchison is excellent.

Cr King said Waimea/Moutere maintenance contract has always struggled to meet performance standards. Regardless of who is doing it, there is an issue with how it works, as various contractors have been doing the work over the years.

Mr Ashworth said Waimea/Moutere is the largest contract. He believes the contractors have been under-resourced and that matter is being addressed by the contractors and he expects to see improvement in the future. The contractor has five mowers working in the Waimea area to get the growth under control.

4.2 Sandy Bay – Marahau Road Foreshore Parking at Marahau Boat Ramp

Mr Thomson said complaints have been received from private motorists and boat owners who had had to compete for space to park their vehicles and boat trailers with the commercial operators operating in the Marahau area. He said staff will be looking at controls over the peak holiday times. Discussions will be held with commercial operators and Marahau Ratepayers Association and recommendations will be brought back to the Committee at a subsequent meeting.

Cr Norriss said all the commercial operators have room on their properties to park their vehicles and could have someone take them back to the base over the peak period.

4.3 Land Transport Programme

This programme was submitted and all budgets are in line with the current LTCCP and LTNZ approval is awaited.

4.4 LTNZ – Financial Assistance Rates

Cr Norriss said Council needs to hold discussions with DOC to see how it can get extra funding for special purpose roads which LTNZ no longer funds.

Cr Inglis commented on the condition of Riwaka Kaiteriteri Road and requested that more improvements be made to it.

Mr Ashworth said there is a preferred route and property has been purchased to allow that route to proceed, but in order to complete the roading works \$2.4 million is needed. In the absence of significant capital funding only minor improvements can be made using the Minor Safety Works budget.

5 Transit NZ Speed Limit Proposal – Appleby Highway

The report contained in the agenda supported Transit New Zealand's proposal to lower the current speed limit on SH 60 from the Appleby over bridge to the western side of McShane/Pugh Roads intersection.

Moved Crs Kempthorne/King
WK07/02/05

THAT a letter be sent supporting Transit New Zealand's proposal to lower the speed limit on SH 60 between the old railway over bridge and a point on the western side of the intersection with McShane/Pugh Roads.

CARRIED

6 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS APPLYING WITHIN THE COASTAL TASMAN AREA FOR WATER SUPPLY ACTIVITY

The report provided an introduction and background to issues to be addressed by developer Mr Chris Edmonds in his presentation to the Engineering Services Committee at 11.00 am.

Mr Edmonds main points of concern are:

- a) whether Council's proposed coastal pipeline is a necessary or appropriate means of providing water supply to new development within the CTA.
- b) The water supply DC per household unit of demand in the CTA currently set at \$11,528 is too great and unaffordable.
- c) The Council's process for consultation with developers through the adoption of the 2006 LTCCP was too limited and inadequate for genuine input from concerned developers and landowners.

Moved Crs Currie/Henry
WK07/02/06

THAT the Development Contributions Applying Within the Coastal Tasman Area for Water Supply Activity Report be received.

CARRIED

Mr Edmonds addressed the Committee on his concerns about aspects of the LTCCP process and wording of the Development Contributions Policy. The availability of water from the deep aquifer could provide a bridging solution between the current situation where there is no water and when a pipeline goes through. He asked the following questions:

- is the current apportionment based on a fair and robust model?
- is the CTA/rest of district divide fair approach to infrastructure in the CTA given the approach elsewhere?
- is the pipeline proposal the best way of supplying water to the zone?

Cr O'Regan said the development contributions for water supply in Coastal Tasman Area includes a service connection fee built into it.

Mr Edmonds said he is testing that the systems are equitable and fair. He said some of the wording in the LTCCP doesn't make sense and commented that in the amended version there is wording that is more confusing than the original one was.

Cr Norriss asked Mr Edmonds to pass his comments onto Mr Ward.

Mr Edmonds said water released from the southern zone would give a temporary supply. He said a temporary robust supply, other than rainwater is required.

J Thomas said it is a complex issue, overlapping issues with water in the Moutere.

Cr O'Regan said Mr Thomas presented an interim report on Moutere groundwater and he understood a final report on those wells that Council with AGMARDT funding put in was in the course of preparation.

Mr Thomas said the bores are a Council asset. He gave Council a technical assessment but there is a public process that needs to be run. Council hasn't given a direction for staff to proceed with a policy option and consulting the public.

Cr King said there are a lot of conflicting objectives and the issue of climate change and afforestation and relationship between forest and water is considerably more complex and the use of Moutere land as much as Moutere water will make the next round of policy discussion more complicated. If the LTCCP revision is brought forward a number of issues Mr Edmonds raised will give opportunity for Council to look at them altogether.

Cr O'Regan asked Mr Thomas to bring to the Committee the objectives of Council when it went into the AGMARDT study and drilled the wells.

Cr Higgins said now that forest plantation has been cut down, there should be enough water released to meet the housing in this area. If not, he would like an explanation. One of the difficulties Council faces is the quality of water supply and guarantee and cost is something we haven't come to terms with. If there are a multitude of supply points future costs would appear prohibitive. If we supply a temporary point of supply how can you guarantee the quality?

Mr Edmonds said water from the deep aquifer is very high quality and we provide treatment and are obligated to test and prove quality.

Mayor Hurley asked Mr Edmonds if water availability was an impediment to the full development of Rural 3 at the present time.

Mr Edmonds said it's an attraction that we've got a good water supply, even though it is somewhat rationed. From a developers viewpoint, you need a credible solution. He doesn't like developing without a credible water supply. He has no problem with the developer paying connection fees, but when you pay \$5,000 per lot, upfront, years ahead of a property being occupied, it's a real financial burden on the developers. He said developers have asked Council to consider deferring contributions until we've got sales. Connection fees should be paid at connection time.

Mayor Hurley said security of supply would be a key issue.

**Moved Crs Kempthorne/O'Regan
WK07/02/07**

**THAT Environment and Planning be asked to report on the process for allocation of available water from Moutere deep water aquifer.
CARRIED**

7 UTILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

7.1 Borck's Creek/Headingly Lane Channel

Mr Thomson agreed to report back to Council on the funding of the channel.

7.2 Kaiteriteri Kerbside Collection

Mr Thomson said the proposed targeted rate will include recovery for the trial this summer.

Cr Inglis suggested putting a shed at the corner of Martin Farm Road. He said the problems would occur from now on when the daily collection concludes.

Cr Norriss said the trial was to get away from putting a shed there.

Mr Thomson said resource consents would be required and it would be contentious as to where a good site would be. It is an option, but the Committee decided to trial the daily collection.

7.3 Greenwaste

Greenwaste to Zero takes greenwaste directly from public and also from Mariri and Takaka for Council. They have indicated their intention to increase from \$12 per cubic metre possibly up to \$15 per cubic metre next year.

**Moved Crs Henry/Kempthorne
WK07/02/08**

**THAT the Utilities Manager's report for February 2007 be received.
CARRIED**

8 TDC-NCC SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL ACTIVITIES

The report recommended the appointment of two committee members to participate on a combined Tasman District Council-Nelson City Council Working Party to look at the possibility of a single regional landfill operation as was suggested at the joint meeting of the two Councils on 7 September 2006.

**Moved Cr Henry/Mayor Hurley
WK07/02/09**

THAT Crs Norriss and Bryant be appointed to represent Tasman District Council on a joint TDC-NCC Technical Working Party to consider the possibility of a single combined solid waste landfill operation in the Nelson-Tasman Region, and to report back to the Engineering Services Committee on its findings.

CARRIED

**9 WASTEWATER URBAN DRAINAGE AREA MAPS
 STORMWATER URBAN DRAINAGE AREAS MAPS
 WATER SUPPLY AREA MAPS**

The Report informed the Engineering Services Committee of the current year's revised wastewater and stormwater urban drainage and water supply areas. It is also intended that these respective area maps be included in Council's 2007/2008 draft Annual Plan.

Cr Higgins considered the residents of Tahi Street, Mapua have a strong case for not paying stormwater rates.

Mr Cuthbertson said Council has spent considerable amounts of money in Mapua resolving flooding issues for the benefit of all residents of Mapua. The Tahi Street residents get benefit in that they don't now have to travel through flood waters to get to their properties.

Cr Norriss said to say they don't receive a benefit from the general stormwater upgrades in the area, is not correct. If that stormwater/drainage facility was not there they would be coming to Council wanting one.

Cr Riley said Mr Schmuke benefits from stormwater at his Tata Beach property.

Cr O'Regan said the two sections right at the end of Fairfax Street are in the riverbed and should be removed.

**Moved Crs Bryant/Borlase
WK07/02/10**

THAT the Wastewater Urban Drainage Area, Stormwater Urban Drainage Area and the Water Supply Area maps be included in Council's 2007/2008 Draft Annual Plan.

CARRIED

10 SERVICE ACTIVITY CONTRIBUTION MAPS

The report informed the Committee of the areas where development contributions are required to be paid and for these maps to be included in Council's 2007/2008 Draft Annual Plan.

**Moved Crs Kempthorne/Inglis
WK07/02/11**

THAT the Service Activity Contribution maps for Wastewater, Water and Stormwater be included in the Tasman District Council's 2007/2008 Draft Annual Plan.

CARRIED

**11 PROPOSED CHANGES TO REFUSE TARGETED RATING AREAS
FOR 2007/2008**

Mr D Stephenson was in attendance for discussion on this item and explained the changes to the areas.

The purpose of the report was to inform the Committee of proposed extensions to the kerbside recycling and refuse collection service (and associated rating areas) and to seek approval for inclusion of modified rating areas in the 2007/2008 draft Annual Plan.

**Moved Crs Bryant/Wilkins
WK07/02/12**

THAT the amendments to the Refuse/Recycling Rating Area and the new Kaiteriteri Refuse Rating Area be included in the 2007/2008 Draft Annual Plan.

CARRIED

12 RICHMOND WEST INFRASTRUCTURE

The report provided information to the Committee regarding the proposed land zone changes for Richmond West and how these changes will affect infrastructure.

**Moved Crs Currie/King
WK07/02/13**

THAT the Richmond West Infrastructure report be received.

CARRIED

13 FUNDING REBATE

The report advised the Engineering Services Committee that Council has received a \$225,000 credit from the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit and sought support for the funds to be credited to the Wastewater Club account.

**Moved Crs Henry/Borlase
WK07/02/14**

THAT the rebate received from the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit for the sum of \$225,000 be credited to the Wastewater Club account.

CARRIED

**14 DEVELOPMENT/CUSTOMER SERVICES – CUSTOMER SERVICES
THREE MONTHLY UPDATE – OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2006**

The report reviewed and highlighted development and service levels to customers throughout the Tasman District.

Cr King asked that comparative figures for the previous year be included in the complaints section.

**Moved Crs King/Riley
WK07/02/15**

**THAT the Development/Customer Services – Customer Services Three Monthly Update – October – December 2006 report be received.
CARRIED**

**15 PROPOSED WAIMEA WATER AUGMENTATION TARGETED
RATING AREA FOR 2007/2008**

The report informed the Committee of the proposed targeted rating area for the new proposed Waimea Water Augmentation Rate for inclusion in the 2007/2008 Draft Annual Plan.

**Moved Crs Kempthorne/Currie
WK07/02/16**

**THAT the proposed new Waimea Water Augmentation Rating Area be approved for inclusion in the 2007/2008 Draft Annual Plan.
CARRIED**

Chair:

Date: