

HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLAINS WARD COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLAINS WARD COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WILLIAM STREET, PAEROA ON TUESDAY 12 JULY 2016 COMMENCING AT 9.00 AM

PRESENT

Crs G R Leonard (Chairperson), G A Harris, B A Gordon, D H Swales and His Worship the Mayor J P Tregidga

IN ATTENDANCE

Messrs A de Laborde (Group Manager - Engineering Services), D Sales (Community Services Manager), P Matthews (Parks & Reserves Manager), S Hornby (Community Services - Pools, Facilities and Events Officer) and Ms C Black (Council Secretary)

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

Introductions of newly appointed Community Services Staff

The Group Manager – Engineering Services introduced newly appointed Community Services staff, Mr Daniel Sales (Community Services Manager) and Mr Paul Matthews (Parks & Reserves Manager).

LATE ITEMS

Pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the Chairperson called for late items to be accepted.

RESOLVED

THAT pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the following late items be accepted for discussion.

- Operation Daydream – Methamphetamine – P Activity

The item was not on the agenda because the item was unavailable at the time of the agenda deadline.

Discussion on the item could not be delayed because the matter needed to be considered, if supported, initiated prior to the next meeting.

PLWC16/47

Swales/Harris

CARRIED

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cr Gordon declared a conflict of interest in the request for financial assistance towards Ms Brylie Gordon.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2016 (1548472)

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Plains Ward Committee held on Tuesday 14 June 2016 are confirmed and are a true and correct record.

PLWC16/48

Tregidga/Harris

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Freedom Campers – Ngatea Service Centre (Road Reserve area)

Members asked if the wifi availability from Councils Ngatea Service Centre has been reduced as was proposed at the June meeting. The suggestion was made as a way of deterring some campervan users who are utilising the camp site only for accessing the free internet, from congregating in increasing numbers putting pressure on the facilities available at the site.

Staff suggested as part of the overall review of how the overnight camp site is working, that investigations be undertaken to look at the level of economic benefit the freedom campers bring to the community.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

COMMUNITY SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2016 (1553402, 1553426, 1547595)

The Community Services monthly report on activities for the month of June 2016 was presented for the Committee's consideration.

RESOLVED

THAT the Community Services monthly report for June 2016 be received.

PLWC16/49

Harris/Gordon

CARRIED

Community Development

In the absence of the Community Development Officer, the Community Services - Pools, Facilities and Events Officer presented the requests for financial assistance.

Requests for Financial Assistance [CDV-30-100]

The Plains Ward Committee has been allocated \$11,187 for discretionary grants for the 2016/17 financial year. The Plains Ward also resolved to transfer the unallocated 2015/16 discretionary fund to the 2016/17 budget.

Declaration of Interest

Cr Gordon declared a conflict of interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion and decision.

Brylie Gordon [Appendix A – 1553426]

Ms. Gordon has been selected for the New Zealand Junior Rowing Team that will be competing at the World Junior Rowing championships in Rotterdam Netherlands next month.

Travel expenses to the championship are estimated to be \$9,200; Ms Gordon seeks financial assistance towards this expense.

RESOLVED

THAT the correspondence from Brylie Gordon and be received, and

THAT a grant \$500.00 of is contributed from the Plains Ward Community Assistance Fund to Ms Brylie Gordon in support of her representation in the World Junior Rowing championships in Rotterdam Netherlands in August.

PLWC16/50

Swales/Tregidga

CARRIED

Ward Discretionary Social Fund Initiatives

The Plains Ward Committee has \$5,000 from the 2015/16 term that was not allocated and a further \$5,000 for the 2016/17 term making a total of \$10,000 for discretionary grants of a social services nature.

Significant District Funded Projects

Ngatea Northern Estate Subdivision: Progress on the Subdivision Works

Site work continues to progress. Power and Telco installation is now completed and the sealing of the roadways is also finished. Street lights will be completed by end of July 2016.

A report on the proposed street names for the subdivision will be presented to the next Council meeting on 20 July for formal approval.

Service Requests for Consideration

Positively Promoting the Plains Group (PPP)

The Chair for the Group has written identifying a number of concerns they have for various assets within the Ward and seek direction on how to address these concerns.

- Plains beautification – town entrances.
- Maintenance and management of community halls.
- Graffiti management.
- Road maintenance

Halls

The group have raised their concern as to the state of the community halls in both Waitakaruru and Kopuarahi. The buildings are looking neglected and unkempt and do not reflect well on the community.

Waitakaruru Hall

Cr Swales suggested that the Waitakaruru Hall Committee advise of their budget and provide a list of maintenance projects they propose to bring the building up to an improved standard.

Cr Gordon asked that the ownership of the hall be confirmed and that an overall inspection of the hall be undertaken to evaluate what upgrade/maintenance work is required.

Cr Harris asked the question regarding the community 'use' of the hall. How much use does the hall actually receive?

It was suggested that the Committee meet with the Group Manager – Community Services to review all matters of management and maintenance concerning the districts community halls in general.

Cr Leonard supported Cr Swales proposal that Plains Ward Committee meet with the Waitakaruru Hall Committee to discuss funding towards projects to upgrade and maintain the hall to an improved standard.

The Community Services Manager suggested that there could be merit in seeking feedback from other hall committees in the district to see how they manage their halls.

RESOLVED

THAT the Plains Ward Committee writes to the Waitakaruru Hall Committee asking to meet with them on site to discuss concerns from the community as regards to the present condition of the hall.

PLWC16/51

Leonard/Gordon

CARRIED

Positively Promoting the Plains Group (PPP) – other issues raised.

Plains Ward - Town Entrances

Discussion was held around the Positively Promoting the Plains groups concern that the entranceways into Ngatea, Turua, Waitakaruru, Kaiaua and Kerepehi are in need of upgrade and beautification.

The members agreed that the Ward Committee members meet with the PPP group to discuss options on how the entrances could be upgraded and amenity enhanced.

Graffiti

The group have raised concern as to the upsurge in graffiti to both public and private property. Discussion was held regarding the process for addressing incidences of graffiti identified in the urban and rural areas within the Plains Ward.

Cr Leonard proposed that a copy of Councils Graffiti Policy be provided to the PPP group with the view to Council working with the group in addressing graffiti on a jointly basis.

Road Maintenance

PPP members noted that the seal of some sections of the state highways in the district are in very poor condition causing possible safety issues to road users. There is also a notable amount of litter and weeds along roadsides. This does not give a good impression of the Plains area.

In view of issues raised of public safety, the Group Manager – Engineering Services advised the members that Council's roading staff meets with NZTA on a monthly basis to review any maintenance and road safety issues. Maintenance contracts for SH25, 27 and 2 are undertaken by NZTA approved contractors as they have the responsibility of the state highway network.

The members concurred with the PPP group's comments about the poor condition of sections of the state highway network, and of the increasing amount of litter and debris apparent along the state highway roadsides.

RESOLVED

THAT the Community Services Manager and Chair of Plains Ward writes to the Positively Promoting the Plains Committee to thank them for their letter and request a meeting be held with them to discuss the matters they have raised regarding town entrances, graffiti and road maintenance.

PLWC16/52

Leonard/Gordon

CARRIED

GENERAL

Swimming Pool

Currently, the pool is closed and staff are undertaking remedial work during the off season to upgrade the facilities and also work around creating a safer environment for the patrons of the facilities.

New concreting is required around a man hole because of the roughness of the existing concrete which is causing a safety issue. Staff are investigating increasing the illumination of the lighting at the far end of the pool.

Staff are investigating the costs of changing to an electric heat pump that is supplied by Heat Pumps New Zealand as a heating system, considering that the current heating system is unsafe to use. The aim is to have this completed before the start of the new season.

WARD MEMBERS MONTHLY UPDATE ON COMMUNITY MEETINGS ATTENDED AND COMMUNITY MATTERS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cr Swales

Attended Kaiarau Ratepayers meeting.

Cr Harris

Attended the Kaihere Community meeting.

Cr Gordon

Attended the Turua Hall & Domain Committee meeting. They Committee have put forward a proposal that consideration be given to establishing a walking track from the Turua Domain through to Piako Road.

Cr Leonard

Attended the Positively Promoting the Plains meeting and the 'Elephant in the Paddock' workshop.

LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Operation Daydream – Methamphetamine – P Activity (1558097)

The report summarised the follow up on the presentation provided to Council by the NZ Police representatives from Hamilton to Council on 29 June on the issue of Methamphetamine, its manufacture and use and the effects it has on communities.

The report sought feedback from the Ward Committee on how Council can engage with communities on the issue and initiate discussion around how communities can work with the police in addressing it.

Cr Leonard proposed that the P3 Trust Group be approached as an active group working with the rural sector, and due to this issue to a degree affecting the farming community, to ask if they would be interested in hosting a workshop on Methamphetamine.

RESOLVED

THAT Cr Leonard approaches the P3 Trust seeking their support to host a methamphetamine workshop.

PLWC16/53

Leonard/Harris

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 10.15am.

CONFIRMED

G R Leonard
Chairperson

16 August 2016