

Marlborough District Council

Report and Minutes of a Meeting of the ASSETS & SERVICES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chambers, District Administration Building, Seymour Street, Blenheim on WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2009 commencing at 8.30 am

Present

Clrs F D Maher (Chairman), N W Weetman, W O Brice, G A Hope, Mr R Hunter (iwi representative) and Mayor A T Sowman.

Also Present

Clrs G S Barsanti and T R Harrison.

In Attendance

Mr M S Wheeler, Manager - Assets and Services Department and Ms J R North, Committee Secretary.

P.08/09.598 Financial Report for Period ended 30 April 2009 F045-07

A detailed financial report for the Assets and Services Department for the period ended 30 April 2009 was presented by David, Craig, Finance and Information Supervisor.

Clrs Weetman/Brice:

That the financial report for the period ended 30 April 2009 be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Frank Porter and Steve Murrin of Marlborough Roads for the following two items.

P.08/09.599 Parking - North End Queen Street P045-03

Marlborough Roads advised of a request which had been received from UFS Dispensary to change the 90° parking to angle parking at the north end of Queen Street.

UFS Dispensary wrote to Marlborough Roads towards the end of 2008 requesting that bollards be placed along the frontage of their store. This request was because approximately three years ago a car mounted the footpath and crashed through the window of their store; the elderly gentleman became confused, and applied the accelerator instead of the brake when parking.

Marlborough Roads declined the request as they had concerns regarding footpath clutter, and people walking into the bollards.

Subsequent to that UFS asked that Marlborough Roads investigate the possibility of changing the 90° parking to angle parking, and the installation of bollards be reconsidered.

Marlborough Roads did not support the change to angle parking as it would mean the loss of at least two parking spaces.

Councillors felt that the issue of parking should be discussed in conjunction with the Kobus Mentz CBD Urban Design Project and accordingly recommended that the request from UFS be declined until such time as a review was carried out with Kobus Mentz Urbanism Plus.

Clrs Maher/Weetman:

That the request from UFS Dispensary for change to angle parking be declined until such time as Council carries out a review of parking with Kobus Mentz Urbanism Plus.

The Motor Camp owners have indicated they would like Council to assume responsibility for the tree and remove it. They would consider contributing 50% of the removal if joint responsibility was determined.

Clrs Weetman/Brice:

That Council assume joint ownership and contribute 50% of the removal costs with the owner of Parklands Motor Camp.

Carried

**P.08/09.603 Memorial Park, Endeavour Park, Waitohi Domain -
Marlborough Sounds Paragliding Concession Proposal
R505-M01**

Marlborough Sounds Paragliding (MSP) who is in the process of establishing a tourism venture offering tandem paragliding flights launching from both Collins Hill and Mt Freeth, had approached Council seeking approval to secure a long term concession to land predominantly at Memorial Park but has also requested Endeavour Park and Waitohi Domain for their commercial operation.

Private individual pilots have been utilising those sites for a number of years successfully and have received positive feedback from neighbours and Picton locals.

Recently Council has been working on developing a stronger relationship with the Picton RSA in particular with regard to Memorial Park. Council is keen to support the Picton RSA particularly with issues relating to this park.

Clr Weetman/Mr Hunter:

- 1. That approval be given to Marlborough Sounds Paragliding for a 12 month trial ending 1 July 2010 to utilise Memorial Park, Waitohi Domain and Endeavour Park for the purpose of landing sites of tandem paragliding trips operated from Collins Hill and Mt Freeth.**
- 2. That 50% of the standard concession fee of \$1,000 per annum be donated by Council to the Picton RSA Youth Development Trust Fund.**

Carried

P.08/09.604 Rarangi - Public Accessways R505-10

Reserves Officer, Robert Hutchinson's report asked councillors to consider the re-designation of accessways within the Woolley subdivisions from Local Purpose Reserve Accesway to Local Purpose Reserve Road.

He reported that under the Local Government Act the accessways' designation states that they are for pedestrian use. The Reserves Act then outlines what is allowable or not on reserve land.

Since the construction of the accessways there have been issues with residents and visitors using them for beach access on quad bikes, motorcycles and motor vehicles. As with all Council accessways, barriers have been installed to only allow pedestrian access; signage is in place disallowing motorbike use.

A petition had been received from a small group of residents seeking one of the walkways be opened to allow emergency access out of the subdivision in the case of fire, recreational vehicle access and consideration be given to a more solid walkway making access easier for prams, trikes and bikes.

To allow vehicle access to Rarangi Beach the Local Purpose Reserve designation would need to change from 'accessway' to 'road' to allow for the requested activities. It was noted that the Department of Conservation would be unhappy with vehicle access being allowed via the accessways to the beach.

Staff were considering options within the accessways to make use easier for prams and trikes.

Clr Hope/Mr Hunter:

That the request for vehicle access to the subdivision accessways be declined.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Robert Hutchinson, Reserves Officer for the following two items.

NOTE: The chair asked those present to stand in a moment's silence in memory of the late Ted McMurtry, a former councillor and deputy mayor.

P.08/09.605 Taylor River Walkway

R505-T01

It was reported by Robert Hutchinson that in 1999 the Taylor River Enhancement Group was formed from interested members of the public.

The group's brief was to collate and facilitate ideas and seek funding for the development of the Taylor River between Hutcheson Street Bridge and Monro Street entrance.

The group's activities were successful in turning the Taylor River berms from overgrown waste land into a significant recreational area for residents and visitors to the province.

It had been requested that recognition be given to the Taylor River Enhancement Group; with particular recognition to two couples associated with the group ie; Alison and Graeme Fuller and Ted and Val McMurtry. The form of recognition was to dedicate the three footbridges that were constructed during the enhancement, to the group and individuals.

It was suggested that the Purkiss Street/Monro Bridge be dedicated to the Working Group, the Millhouse Reserve Bridge to Mr and Mrs McMurtry and Fulton Bridge to Mr and Mrs Fuller.

It was brought to the attention of the meeting of Merv and Loris Wisheart's contribution to the beautification of Marlborough and it was suggested that recognition be given to them with the dedication of the footbridge suggested for the Taylor River Enhancement Group as there would be the opportunity to recognise the Group in the future. There is already a seat and plaque dedicated to the Wishearts.

Clrs Maher/Weetman:

That approval be given to dedicate the bridges as reported above.

Carried

P.08/09.606 Endeavour Street - Removal of Street Trees

R505-08

A request had been received from a property owner at Endeavour Street for the removal of three trees within the traffic island, directly fronting their property.

The property owner has built a passive solar house which requires maximum sun to assist its operation.

Council contractors have been to trim (crown thin) the three trees within the island, but naturally they continue to grow.

The Committee was informed that the trees were some distance (17.5 m) from the property; the trees have grown as a group and the removal of one will not enhance the sun getting through.

Following a site visit, the Committee declined the request.

Clr Brice/Mr Hunter:

That the request to remove three trees in Endeavour Street be declined.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Stephen Rooney, Operations & Maintenance Engineer and Andy Williams, Engineering Officer for the following item.

P.08/09.607 Service Connection Fee Review

W270-01

It was reported that the last review of the costs to install water, sewer and stormwater connections was carried out in 2006. Based on actual costs for the installation of those services, and projected cost increases, a review had been carried out in 2008/09.

It was considered important that all costs associated with the installation of a new connection be recouped and charged for, thus it was inevitable that the existing fee structure for water, sewer and stormwater connections be increased. The proposed fees take into account recent actual costs and a PPI increase for the next financial year.

Historically, Picton costs have been slightly lower than elsewhere in Marlborough, due to the cost structure of the contract for those works. This meant that the costs of some service connections were less than other areas.

Clrs Hope/Weetman:

- 1. That sewer connection fees for Blenheim, Riverlands, Renwick, Spring Creek, Seddon and Havelock increase from \$2,000.00 to \$2,700.00 for 2009-2010.**
- 2. That sewer connection fees for Picton increase from \$1,600.00 to \$2,200.00 for 2009-2010.**
- 3. That water connection fees for Blenheim, Picton, Riverlands, Havelock and Renwick increase from \$875.00 to \$1,000.00 for 2009-2010.**
- 4. That water connection fees for Seddon/Awatere remain at \$1,200.00 for 2009-2010.**
- 5. That water connection fees for Wairau Valley remain at \$1,125.00 for 2009-2010.**
- 6. That single kerb and channel stormwater connection fees increase from \$530.00 to \$690.00 for 2009-2010.**
- 7. That twin kerb and channel stormwater connection fees increase from \$725.00 to \$950.00 for 2009-2010.**
- 8. That underground stormwater connection fees increase from \$1,000.00 to \$1,250.00 for 2009-2010.**
- 9. That connection fees be reviewed annually as part of the Annual Plan/Budget process.**

Carried

P.08/09.608 River Works Contracts

R540-01

A paper presented by Rivers Engineer, Brin Williman, sought Council approval of the manner in which Council river and drainage maintenance contracts were to be re-tendered.

Clrs Weetman/Brice:

- 1. That approval be given to advertise for expressions of interest and then directly negotiate price for a Rivers and Drainage Strategic Labour contract with the most suitable contractor.**
- 2. That the Rivers & Drainage Minor Works Contract (effectively the strategic heavy machinery contract) be tendered in a more traditional manner.**
- 3. That other small non strategic rivers works be let from time to time on a job by job basis to appropriate contractors.**

Carried

P.08/09.609 Blenheim East Infrastructure Planning Update U045-B02

Resource Management Officer, Jon Cunliffe's summary report to the Committee included the key findings from an investigation into the servicing requirements that might arise from more intensive land use scenarios in an area to the east of Blenheim. The physical characteristics of the area were outlined as were the key possibilities and constraints given more intensive land use into the future.

With respect to "the capability of services" the findings from the investigation establish a framework against which the merits of land development proposals can be measured and requirements for services established. Development levies calculations for the zone will also benefit from this work.

It was reported there is "possibility" for changes to more intensive land uses within the study area. Among other things this would help address the long term demand for residential space in Blenheim. Other uses such as commercial and light industrial land use could also be accommodated.

Alongside other logistical matters that will be determined on a site by site basis, two key tasks emerge as being of critical and strategic importance to any development. These are:

- a. Upgrading the existing Stormwater management system.
- b. Establishing a workable roading and access network.

It was recommended that the report and the investigations underlying it be recommended to the Regulatory and Strategic Planning departments for guidance in dealing with future consent applications and strategic planning.

Clr Maher/Mayor Sowman:

That the report and the investigations underlying it be recommended to the Regulatory and Strategic Planning departments for guidance in dealing with future consent applications and strategic planning.

Carried

P.08/09.610 Information Package

The Information Package for the Assets and Services Committee dated Wednesday 10 June 2009 and circulated separately was received and noted.

The meeting closed at 11.05 am.