

**Report and Minutes of a Meeting of the  
ASSETS & SERVICES COMMITTEE  
held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim  
on THURSDAY, 12 JUNE 2014 commencing at 9.00 am**

**Present**

Councillors T S Sloan (Chairman), G I T Evans, J L Andrews, J P Bagge, B G Dawson, T E Hook  
J C Leggett, Mayor A T Sowman.

**Also Present**

Cllrs J A Arbuckle, G S Barsanti, C J Brooks, P J S Jerram, D D Oddie.

**In Attendance**

Mr M S Wheeler, Manager – Assets and Services Department, Mr D A Craig, Finance and Information  
Supervisor, Mr A R Besley, Chief Executive and Ms J R North, Support Services Administrator.

**Apologies**

**Cllrs Sloan/Bagge:**

**That the apology for lateness from Mayor Sowman be received and sustained.**

**Carried**

NOTE: Council Treatment Plant Operator, Robin Millard, was presented with his National Certificate in  
Water Treatment by the Chairman, Cllr Sloan, and congratulated on his achievement.

## **P.13/14.440 Financial Report for Period Ended 30 April 2014**

**F045-07**

The Finance and Information Supervisor, David Craig, presented the financial report for the Assets &  
Services Department for the 10 month period ended 30 April 2014. Where possible, accrual entries had been  
completed to account for April revenues and expenditures in that month.

For the reporting period, Departmental revenues were favourable to budget by \$1,138,991 and operating  
expenditures were favourable to budget by \$1,665,903.

Total budgeted capital expenditure for 2013/14, including carryovers, was \$34.5 M with year to date actual  
expenditure of \$19.0 M (55%). The most significant costs incurred to date are for Blenheim/Riverlands  
Industrial sewer treatment upgrade (estuary discharge and wetland development) \$6.9 M, roading additions  
and renewals \$6.3 M and vested assets from Council's Boulevard Park on Taylor development \$2.1 M.

Activity for the month of April was summarised in Mr Craig's report.

The forecast end of year operating surplus was \$1.9 M more than budgeted, through a combination of  
increased revenue (\$0.9 M) and reduced operating costs (\$1 M).

It was noted that a number of capital projects which have been budgeted in 2013/14 have not been able to  
be progressed or were not completed for a variety of reasons. A schedule of those works will be compiled for  
presentation to the Committee at a later date and budget carryovers will be required to be approved to  
enable these projects to be undertaken in 2014/15.

Information on the values and major reasons for variations within the various departmental activities was  
summarised in the Finance and Information Supervisor's report.

**Cllrs Hook/Leggett:**

**That the financial report for the period ended 30 April 2014 be received.**

**Carried**

## **P.13/14.441 Rubbish and Recycling Survey Results**

**W300-007-01**

Alec McNeil, Solid Waste Manager presented the results of the rubbish and recycling survey carried out during April and May 2014 covering the communities of Renwick, Grovetown, Spring Creek, Tuamarina and Rarangi to ascertain what individual households did with their rubbish and recycling. The overall response rate was 48%.

Mr McNeil advised that a rural community recycling RCR project has been started and funded through the Coca Cola Foundation in association with Keep New Zealand Beautiful. A recycling container with four compartments for the collection of cans, glass and plastic bottles, is being trialled at Tuamarina, Spring Creek, Grovetown, Rapaura and Renwick between May and October 2014.

Information from this project combined with the rubbish and recycling survey responses will be brought back to the Committee by November 2014.

**Cirs Bagge/Hook:**

**That the report be accepted and published on the Council website.**

**Carried**

## **P.13/14.442 Awatere Community Pool Building Repair**

**C600-003-03**

Reserves & Amenities Officer, Elisha Oldridge presented a report which requested a budget increase to meet the community requirements for the rebuild of the Awatere Community Pool buildings and the improvement of the concrete surrounds.

Following the Awatere Community Pool buildings and concrete surrounds sustaining significant damage in the Seddon earthquakes, Council's Property Manager obtained a detailed repair costing for insurance purposes. Subsequent to that tenders were sought for the Awatere Community Pool buildings rebuild and concrete replacement. The preferred tenderer was Jeremiah Homes with their proposal being at a cost of \$283,992.00, which was to be met from insurance and a reserve fund.

Additions to the rebuild, taking the opportunity to make further improvements to the Pool, have since been identified which require a budget increase of \$153,558.49. These are improved concrete pool surrounds, changing room, toilet and storage upgrades, and a much safer more easily operated pool cover (with attached seating).

Councillors were very supportive of the budget increase acknowledging the hardship of the community following the earthquakes.

**Cirs Sloan/Andrews:**

**That approval is given to spend an additional \$153,558.49 funded from Forestry and Asset Sales Reserve for the rebuild of the Awatere Community Pool Facility.**

**Carried**

## **P.13/14.443 Indoor Facility Preliminary Review R510-014-006**

In the 2013 Annual Plan submission process Marlborough Cricket Association presented their Outdoor Facilities Plan to Council and requested that it was incorporated into the Marlborough Outdoor Sports Facilities Plan. They also requested that priority be given to exploring the best options for a new indoor sports facility at Horton Park. Marlborough Netball expressed concern that an indoor facility for cricket would not be compatible with netball and that the timelines Marlborough Cricket Association was aiming for would result in a loss of netball courts at Horton Park in the near future.

Reserves & Amenities Officer, Elisha Oldridge, presented to the Committee the Indoor Facility Preliminary review which staff had commissioned Parks and Recreation Infrastructure consultations to undertake.

The Indoor Facility Preliminary Review concluded that Marlborough Cricket Association's demand does not justify an indoor facility at Horton Park and a more feasible option would be a facility associated to a commercial provider. Council investment would be better spent on upgrading outdoor play and practice facilities at Horton and College Parks.

Marlborough Netball's demand and New Zealand Netball trends show that Marlborough Netball would benefit from a partially covered facility at Lansdowne Park. Horton Park netball courts require immediate work but investment in this must be looked at together with long term investment at Lansdowne Park. Possible opportunities to utilise Stadium 2000, to defer Horton Park surface upgrades will also be explored further.

**Cirs Leggett/Evans:**

**That the Indoor facility Preliminary Review recommendations are adopted, being:**

1. Demand does not warrant investment in an indoor cricket centre at this time.
2. The demand for improved cricket outdoor practice facilities is warranted and required at Horton and College Parks.
3. Investigation into the relocation of netball to Lansdowne Park and further use of Stadium 2000 should continue.
4. The Marlborough Indoor Facility Preliminary Review and Marlborough Cricket's Plan will be separate documents.

Carried

## **P.13/14.444 Horton Park – Tree Removal Request** **R510-009-H07-01**

Reserves and Amenities Manager, Rosie Bartlett, presented a report in response to a request from the Horton Park Pavilion Committee for the removal of a plane tree overhanging the Horton Park Pavilion and cricket nets.

The reason for the request for this approximate 90 year old, safe and healthy tree to be removed is that the detritus it drops is causing problems for the Pavilion Committee and users. They are receptive to a 50/50 share of the \$6,820 (GST excl) cost to remove it.

Councillors were very supportive of the Chairman's suggestion that the timber from the tree be used for a seat in Horton Park.

It is Council policy that reserve tree removals be publicly consulted.

**Cirs Hook/Andrews:**

**That staff proceed with the public notification process to gauge public opinion on the request to remove one plane tree from Horton Park.**

Carried

## **P.13/14.445 Easter Storm Damage and Hodder Bridge Update** **R700-003-04**

Steve Murrin of Marlborough Roads spoke to his report and showed photographs of the extent of damage caused by the Easter storm, which caused extensive damage to the roading network in particular in the Awatere Valley and Port Underwood. He found it opportune to give the councillors an update on the storm damage that had occurred in the last few days. Mr Murrin also gave a brief update on the Hodder Bridge.

The Easter storm damage claim submitted to NZTA was for \$815,000.00 and Marlborough Roads are confident work will be completed within the budget.

Restoration works are in progress.

The Hodder Bridge is a suspension bridge with a span of 64m located approximately 50 kilometres up the Awatere Valley.

Analysis of the bridge late in 2013 determined that the bridge was no longer capable of taking Class 1 loads and was to be posted to 70% of Class 1. This has meant that fully loaded trucks are no longer able to use this bridge. Since that time a bypass ford has been in operation for trucks, however during time of high flow in the river the ford is not usable.

Reliable livestock transport is particularly important to the farmers upstream.

Opus has been engaged to look at options for the bridge and these will be reported back to the next meeting.

**Cirs Andrews/Evans:**  
**That the report be received.**

**Carried**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Sowman (9.50 am) during the above presentation.

## **P.13/14.446 Flooding from Easter Storm of 17/18 April 2014**

### **R700-003-04**

Geoff Dick, Rivers and Drainage Engineering Manager presented his report, with the aid of photographs, showing how the floodways coped with the resulting flood flows due to the widespread heavy rainfall along coastal Marlborough from the Sounds, south to the Ure River.

The rainfall caused significant flood flows in the Waikawa, Waitohi and Tuamarina Rivers and a number of outer Sounds streams. The Waikawa and Waitohi River floodways performed to expectation although a build-up of gravel in the lower Waikawa will require attention to maintain flood capacity.

Near Blenheim the Taylor River was the waterway most affected by the storm. Lesser flows were recorded in the Wairau River, Omaka River and other tributaries.

Significant bed and bank edge erosion occurred in the upper Taylor River above the Burleigh Bridge with an initial phase of repair work estimated to cost \$150,000 proposed to be done over winter.

**Cirs Andrews/Leggett:**  
**That the Committee note the contents of the report including the immediate flood damage repair works proposed in the upper Taylor River to be funded from additional revenue in the Rivers and Drainage accounts.**

**Carried**

## **P.13/14.447 Fabians Valley Cemetery**

### **L150-001-F44C**

The District Secretary, Tony Quirk, reported back to the Committee on investigations undertaken following the previous Council decision on a proposal to close a cemetery known as the Fabians Valley Cemetery and to propose alternative action based on the outcomes of those investigations.

It was indicated the cemetery had been established many years ago, becoming a public cemetery by NZ Gazette in 1900 with the last burial in 1943. Following discussion with some residents whose forebears are buried in the cemetery, it was noted some current members of the families would like the opportunity to be buried in what they see as the family cemetery.

A decision needed to be made as to who should manage the cemetery. The last recorded appointment of Trustees held in the records, of what was then the Department of Health dates back to 21 November 1929. The view expressed was that Council should, in accordance with a 1934 Gazettal authority held, (NZ Gazette

No. 30, 30 May 1934 page 127) 'clear the decks' and appoint new Trustees who would then manage the cemetery. The situation has been discussed with current trustees.

An indication has been given that it would be appropriate to continue the family connections and for that reason the proposal is that the Trustees' recommendation for appointment as Trustees would be Eric Warmouth (existing), Alex Macdonald (existing), Brian Powell (existing), Scott Adams (new) and Moston Wadsworth (new). The involvement of Scott Adams goes back to an original Trustee, Archibald Adams. It is also acknowledged the cemetery land was taken from the original Langley Dale property.

Consideration was given to Council managing the cemetery but the preference was that those with a direct family interest should manage it.

There are two distinct areas for the cemetery. There is what is called the 'burial area' where burials have taken place and there is an adjoining block which is currently grazed. The current occupier of that grazing block maintains the cemetery. The rental received covers outgoings such as rates, fencing, gate replacement and the like.

It is considered by Council officers that any party who leases the grazing block should have some tie to the cemetery since any lease should also carry an obligation to maintain the burial area.

**Cllrs Evans/Hook:**

- 1. That the decision under Minute P12/13.370 be revoked.**
- 2. That Council in accordance with section 23 of the Burial and Cremations Act revoke the appointment of Eric Warmouth, Alex Macdonald and Brian Powell being those individuals it is understood may have been appointed in some way as Trustees and approve the appointment of Eric Warmouth, Moston Wadsworth, Brian Powell (Snr), Alex Macdonald and Scott Adams, such revocation and appointments to take effect following public notification as required by the Burial and Cremations Act 1964.**
- 3. That arrangements be approved for a registration to be called by the Trustees for occupation of the area known as the 'grazing block', some requirements being that the occupier of the grazing block should have some family tie to those buried in the Fabians Valley cemetery; must accept an obligation to continue maintenance of the burial area; must pay rates levied on the grazing block; must pay a rental to be negotiated for the occupation of that grazing block; must ensure fencing, electric or temporary, to demark the boundary between the current burial area and the grazing block; must acknowledge that the extent of the burial area could be adjusted at the discretion of Council and subject to any recommendations by the Trustees depending on any future need for burials; must allow access through the gate from the legal road adjacent to the two blocks and adequate parking in the event of any burial service in the burial area, with authority given for the Chairman of the Committee and the District Secretary to approve the final terms of any lease and to approve the grant of any lease, based on registrations received.**

**NB**

Since there is the possibility registrations may be received from families with whom some Trustees have an interest, approval of any registration should be by the Chairman of the Asset and Services Committee and Mr Francis Maher with the addition, if Council requires, of one Wairau member.

**Carried**

NB: Cllr Bagge requested that her vote against the above motion be recorded.

## **P.13/14.448 Road Stopping Proposal – Off Northbank Road, Northbank, Blenheim R800-004-N13**

Council's authorisation of the procedures associated with the stopping of a portion of legal (paper) road which adjoins property belonging to Alasdair Drew and Cherie Maffey at Northbank was sought.

The applicants recently applied to Council for building consent to extend their existing dwelling when it was discovered that the dwelling was located within legal road reserve, and to ensure that the dwelling is located on property owned by them so that their building consent application can be processed, they wish to purchase a portion of unformed road from Council.

The Committee was advised that access had been identified in the area.

### **Cirs Leggett/Evans:**

- 1. That pursuant to Section 342 of the Local Government Act 1974, and subject to the prior consent of the Minister of Lands, Council authorise the procedures associated with the stopping of the road shown on the plan presented.**
- 2. That such approval be on the basis that the applicant be responsible for all survey, legal, administrative and other costs even if the road stopping does not proceed by reason of objection.**
- 3. That when the road has been stopped Council shall sell the land to the applicant for a price to be fixed by a competent valuer to value that part; Council shall appoint the valuer and the valuation shall proceed in accordance with the 'protocols for the valuation of stopped road' adopted by Council.**
- 4. That all valuation costs shall be payable by the applicant for the road stopping regardless of whether or not the stopping is finalised.**
- 5. That the valuation be obtained when the road stopping has been finalised.**
- 6. That it be acknowledged at this stage Council can give no commitment that the road stopping will be completed given the objection rights available under the said Section 342.**
- 7. That a condition of the approval be that the land once stopped be amalgamated with the adjoining property so that both titles are held within the one title, this being in terms of Section 342 of the Local Government Act 1974.**
- 8. That within 14 days of notice that the title is available, settlement is to be completed with interest charged at 14% for any delayed settlement.**
- 9. That if the survey documentation to initiate the road stopping process is not completed within a year of Council consent then the application for road stopping lapses.**

### **Carried**

## **P.13/14.449 Out of District Water Connection, 198 Oakwood Lane, Blenheim PN535264#04, W450-004-004-03**

Engineering Officer, Dianne Shearer, spoke to her report which sought approval for an out of district water connection for a future proposed subdivision at 198 Oakwood Lane, Blenheim.

The property is zoned Rural Residential and has been highlighted in the Marlborough Urban Growth Strategy as an area suitable to be changed to Urban Residential 2 zoning for residential growth.

Council has an existing reticulated water service within Oakwood Lane road reserve, with most of the properties in this area connected.

The existing Blenheim water supply system has the capacity to allow the property to connect; the water connection would be metered.

**Cllrs Dawson/Evans:**

**That the proposed Out of District water connection be approved with the following conditions:**

1. That the water supply only be used to supply domestic activities within the property i.e. irrigation of outside areas will not be permitted.
2. That a 20 mm diameter metered water supply and installation connection fee is to be paid for the new lot.
3. That water Development Contribution fees in accordance with Council's Development Contribution Policy be paid. (The calculation shall be based on one Household Equivalent Unit per additional Lot).
4. That the approved connection only be completed following a successful subdivision application. (Failure to obtain subdivision consent by November 2015 will result in a forfeit of the Out of District water approval).
5. That the site pay water rates as per Council's Out of District connections rating policy.
6. That the applicant be advised approval of the water connection does not imply that subdivision approval will be granted.
7. That the connection is granted on the basis that it will only serve a single house per lot; redevelopment of the property will require further out of district approval.

Carried

## **P.13/14.450 Information Package -**

The Information Package for the Assets and Services Committee dated 12 June 2014 and circulated separately was received and noted.

### **Emergency Services Presentation**

John Foley, Emergency Services Manager gave an overview of emergency services in Marlborough.

## **P.13/14.451 Decision to Conduct Business with the Public Excluded -**

**Cllrs Hook/Leggett:**

**That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:**

- Proposed Land Exchange – Charles Street and Aston Street

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<b>General Subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
<b>Proposed Land Exchange – Charles Street and Aston Street</b>	<b>In order to protect the privacy of natural persons, as provided for under Section 7(2)(a).</b>	<b>That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.</b>

**Carried**

The meeting closed at 10.55 am.

Record No. 14132326