



**Report and Minutes of a Meeting of the
ASSETS & SERVICES COMMITTEE**
held in the Council Chambers and via Zoom, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on THURSDAY, 14 JULY 2022 commencing at 9.00 am

Present

Councillors M J Fitzpatrick (in the Chair), J L Andrews, C J Brooks, B G Dawson, F D Maher, M A Peters

Present via Zoom

Councillor N P Taylor and Mayor J C Leggett

Also Present

Clrs J A Arbuckle, G A Hope, J D N Croad, B A Fauls and T P Sowman

In Attendance

Mr Richard Coningham (Manager – Assets & Services Department), Jamie Lyall (Manager – Property and Community Facilities), Mike Porter (Democratic Services Manager/Zoom Management) and Nicole Chauval (Committee Secretary).

Apologies

No apologies were received.

The Chair acknowledged and welcomed Hara Adams, Council's recently appointed Kaihūtū, to the meeting.

A&S-0722-1 Declaration of Interests -

No interests with items on the agenda were declared.

ATTENDANCE: Jane Tito, Manager, Parks and Open Spaces and Robert Hutchinson, Parks & Open Spaces Officer, were present for the following two items.

A&S-0722-2 Renwick: New Accessway Layout – Funding Request **R510-009-R04-01**

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to secure funding of \$15,000 from the Land Subdivision Reserve to complete the upgraded accessway layout alongside the Renwick Bowling Green and Renwick tennis/netball courts.

Ms Tito noted that at a Land Subdivision Workshop on 2 October 2020 Council approved funding of \$27,000 to upgrade the accessway layout between the Renwick Bowling Green and Renwick Tennis Club. Staff have worked with the Renwick Bowling Club and Renwick Tennis Club to finalise the plans for the upgrade and initial estimates from 2020 have fallen short of the required budget needed to complete project. It was noted that the largest increase in costs was for the replacement of the shed/garage.

In response to a query on the public being able to use the facility Mr Hutchinson advised that the club have exclusive rights for 15 days within any one calendar year to hold their events, all other days the courts are open to the public.

Clrs Peters/Brooks:

That Council confirm funding of \$15,000 from the Land Subdivision Reserve to complete an upgrade to the accessway layout at the Renwick Bowling Green and Renwick Tennis Courts.

Carried

A&S-0722-3

Tree Removal Request, A&P Park, Blenheim

R510-009-A01-03

The following amendments to the agenda item were noted – para 29 '*retaining*' should be '*removing*' and para 19 include the word '*Cedar*'.

Mr Hutchinson advised that the purpose of the report was to consider a request to remove five Cedar trees growing on the Alabama Road Boundary of A&P Park. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 22144969).

It was noted that the request had been received from residents concerned that the trees were creating significant shade to the road and their properties as well as the public danger from limbs falling from the trees.

Members were advised that the large Cedar trees grow near the southern entrance to A&P Park and hang over the footpath running along the south side. The trees have shed branches both in winds and from "sudden limb drop".

Mr Hutchinson noted that as well as the cedar trees the Arboricultural report had included an inspection of four very large and old Poplar trees growing at the Alabama Road entrance of the Park. The outcome of that inspection using a resistograph machine found that there were levels of rot within the trees which were of concern. The recommendation from the Arborist was that the trees be removed for safety reasons as soon as resources became available. As per Policy 6.2.1 & 6.2.2 of the Council Tree Policy, the Parks and Open Spaces team have arranged for the four Poplar trees to be removed due to these safety concerns.

Members queried whether, as part of the planning work being undertaken for the Park, that consideration be given to plantings that created an avenue type layout for that area which could help to provide summer shade and ensure that the park doesn't become treeless.

Ms Tito reassured members that appropriate plantings will be considered as part of the A&P Plan review which is nearing completion.

Clr Arbuckle reflected on the previous discussions had in regard to tree removals and raised that when the Tree Policy is reviewed that the consideration be given to providing Council staff with the ability to remove trees when the situation is appropriate, like in this instance.

Cirs Brooks/Andrews:

That Council confirm the removal of the five Cedar trees from A&P Park.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: David Craig, Council's Management Accountant – Operations, was present for the following item.

A&S-0722-4

Financial Report for the year to 31 May 2022

F275-001-02

The Financial Report for the Assets and Services and Property and Community Facilities (including parking) Departments for the year to 31 May 2022 was presented to members.

Mr Craig noted for the reporting period there is a surplus of \$8.1M. Income is favourable to budget by \$41.0M, expenditure is unfavourable to budget by \$32.9M and Capex is unfavourable to budget by \$42.6M.

The major variances between year to date actual and budget were noted as: Roading emergency reinstatement costs following the July 2021 storm event are above budget by \$30.6M and are offset by increased operational roading subsidies of \$30.4M. Other flood damage repair costs of \$2.2M have been incurred to date, mainly within the Flood Protection Activity, and will be subject to an insurance claim. Any resulting shortfall will be funded from Emergency Reserves. There are associated savings of \$0.6M in minor works contracts.

It was noted that in the capital expenditure area total expenditure of \$55.4M and that includes vested assets of \$8.2M.

In terms of significant activity Council's expenditure is occurring in predominately sewer activity \$22M, roading \$11.7M, water \$8.3M and community facilities at \$7.3M.

For forecasts Council's projected year end operating surplus is \$19.9M, which is ahead of budget by \$6.3M. This includes vested assets which are above budget by \$7.9M, these are accounting entries only and not cash.

Forecast capital expenditure is \$63.1M which is above the \$55.2M funded in the 2021-22 Annual Plan but well under the total revised budget (including carryovers) of \$108.8M.

It was noted that the year end capital expenditure will actually be a little above \$65M as we have had further vested assets for Rose Manor of \$930,000. Council has also allocated a portion of the network and assets management costs across the roading renewal activities as was provided for in budgets, valued around \$1.3M. Both actions will also impact favourably on Council's operating surplus.

In response to a query on whether management is happy with where projects are at, Mr Coningham advised that budgets are purposefully high to achieve as much as possible. We could do more but the resources that are available in the region determine what we are able to achieve. It was noted that a meeting is being held with the Contractors Federation to enable them to prepare and start resourcing for upcoming works in the region.

Proposed works for the Wither Hills farm woolshed was discussed. It was noted that it is part of the Rivers function and Geoff Dick provided an update to members. Members were advised that the budget for the works has been removed.

Members requested that for future reports 'M' or 'K' be included with all figures for ease of understanding.

Cirs Peters/Dawson:

That the financial report for the period ended 31 May 2022 be received.

Carried

A&S-0722-5 Revoke Council Speed Bylaws - Decision

R800-005-03

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to revoke the Council Speed Bylaws in accordance with the requirements of the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022.

It was noted that the new Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022 came into force in May 2022. This new Rule replaces Council Speed Bylaws with a National Speed Registrar. As such, all speed bylaws made by councils within New Zealand need to be revoked once the Council's speed limit data is on the National Speed Limit Registrar.

Members were advised that the speed bylaw data from Marlborough District Council is now on the National Speed Limit Register and the Council Speed Bylaw can be revoked in full.

Members were advised that the new rule does require all local authorities to prepare a 10-year Speed Management Plan, reduce speed limits around schools and ensure our posted speed limits are on the National Speed Limit register. Council is currently focusing on speed limits around schools with 60% to be reviewed by June 2024 and 100% by June 2027.

Cirs Maher/Brooks:

That Council revokes the Speed Limit Bylaw.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Clr Taylor withdrew from the meeting at 10.09 am during the following item.

ATTENDANCE: Geoff Dick, Rivers and Drainage Engineering Manager, was present for the following item.

A&S-0722-6 17 July 2021 Wairau River Flood Event – Damage Repairs Update to 30 June 2022

R710-01-001

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide an update on progress with the approved schedule of repairs. The July 2021 Flood Damage Assessment Schedule – Status at 30 June 2022 was attached to the agenda for members' information. Works to be completed were identified.

Geoff Dick detailed the works completed to date and advised that tributary assistance/channel clearing works including two significant flow diversions to enable landowners to get on with their own repair works have been undertaken. Rivers staff have also attended a number of resident/landowner flood recovery meetings as well as site visits/inspections to assist with the Marlborough Roads recovery work.

Both the Clifford and Simcox quarries are being lined up to supply the final stage of the capital SVIS/Upper Conders works including the final strong head groyne and new edge works in the lower Waihopai. Once this gets underway priority for supply from both these quarries will again go to completing these Government supported capital works.

The remaining lower Wairau and Diversion repairs are planned to be completed from Council's Pukaka Quarry. These can now commence as new titles for the land have been issued. It was reported that it will take some time for the Quarry to be back into full production as there is some significant logistics to be completed. The current target is to have the Quarry back online by Christmas 2022 with the Diversion and remaining lower Wairau repairs commencing early 2023.

Mr Dick advised that the costs of the works to date is likely to be above the estimates that have been provided. Funding assistance claims with both LAPP and NMA for work completed up to 30 June 2022 will be processed.

In response to a query on numbers of contractors Mr Dick advised that the majority of works have been done through Simcox as well as other contractors as necessary. It was noted that a replacement for Dave Aires, who was responsible for the red items not in the schedule, has been found and will start mid-September.

An update on Tuesday's weather event was provided and was considered a 1 in 20 year event. Total volume in Blenheim was about 70mm and South it was 110mm. Mr Dick noted that the Met Service report was excellent. All equipment was maxed out but there were no pump failures. Crews continued to monitor streams throughout the event which as predicted eased off at 3pm.

Members and management acknowledged all functions across Council for their efforts during this significant rain storm event, and being short staffed. A long day for everybody.

Cirs Maher/Peters:
That the report be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Stephen Rooney, Council's Operations and Maintenance Engineer was present for the following item.

A&S-0722-7 Out of District Wastewater Connection application for 140 Morgans Road

W440-003-012-01, PN528669#04

Mr Rooney advised that the purpose of the report was to consider an Out of District Wastewater connection application.

Members were advised that the request for a wastewater connection is in the Morgans Road area and will provide wastewater disposal to a site for Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) accommodation. The site is

zoned Rural Environment Zone under the MEP and is not currently part of the Grovetown combined wastewater system.

It was noted that the existing Council infrastructure has the capacity to serve this proposal. A pump station within the property and a pipeline along Morgans Road will be required to convey wastewater from the site to the Council mains in Swamp Road.

It was noted that parameters have be set to ensure the proposal does not adversely affect the operation of the Grovetown or Spring Creek connections. Pumping rates from the site and the timing of pumping from the site will require controls to work with Council parameters.

Mr Rooney noted that Council do not wish to own or maintain this proposed infrastructure within Morgans Road or the development site. The connection point shall be at Swamp Road, equipped with a boundary kit and flow meter to Council approval. Further approval will be required from Council's Roding Authority to the applicant for a Licence to Occupy Road Reserve.

It was noted that the applicant will be advised that if they get approval it will be subject to them gaining adequate resource consent. The resource consent application is currently before Council.

Members were advised it is proposed that the Development Contribution received be split to allow a portion to reduce the current Grovetown Sewerage Loan. As this connection will only consume some of the capacity of the main Grovetown/Spring Creek pipeline, the calculation of the amount will be based on pipe cost as compared to total scheme cost. The amount calculated will be of benefit to the Grovetown residents that are connected to the wastewater scheme.

**Cirs Dawson/Peters:
That Council:**

1. **Approve the out of district wastewater connection application subject to the following;**
 - a) **That a Wastewater Development Contribution be paid for 25.3 Household Equivalent Units, and applied as per the Development Contributions policy.**
 - b) **The wastewater infrastructure required to achieve a connection and discharge to the Council wastewater system shall be designed and installed to the approval of Council's Infrastructure Projects Engineer. This shall include the pressure infrastructure within the site.**
 - c) **The infrastructure remains in private ownership, and the costs of supply and installation are borne by the applicant.**
 - d) **Application shall be made to Council's Roding Authority for a Licence to Occupy for the services that are to be installed within Road Reserve.**
 - f) **That the property pays Wastewater rates as per Council's Out of District connections rating policy.**
 - g) **That the applicant be advised approval of these service connections does not imply that resource consent approval will be granted.**
 - h) **That the approved connection to this property only be completed following a successful resource consent application. (Current application is U220312). Failure to obtain consent within one year of this approval will result in forfeit of this Out of District wastewater approval.**

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Clr Hope withdrew from the meeting at 10.42 am during the following item.

Clrs Fitzpatrick/Andrews:
That Council:

1. Approves that the community is consulted in November 2022 on the proposed changes to level of service for kerbside collections and transfer stations in line with the Local Government Act 2002, Section 83 (1) (b).
2. Approves the draft statement of proposal that sets out the relevant information to the community on the proposed changes to level of service for kerbside collections and transfer stations and delegates authority to finalise the statement of proposal to the Chair of the Assets and Services Committee, the Chief Executive, and the Manager Assets and Services Department.
3. Approves that the statement of proposal is subject to a legal review prior to its issue.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Clr Sowman withdrew from the meeting at 10.46 am at the start of the following item.

A&S-0722-9 Waste Management and Minimisation 2021-27 Update W300-007-01

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide an update on the progress of the waste management and minimisation plan 2021-27 and seek approval to publish the update to the community.

It was reported that the waste management and minimisation plan (WMMP) 2021-27 was adopted in May 2021. The WMMP has a number of options that have been worked on during the 2021-22 reporting period.

Members noted that the paper provided an update against each option, reported on the next steps, and set out how the information could be disseminated to the community. The WMMP 2021-27 remains valid and no amendments or modifications are required.

Mr McNeil advised that the update will be released to the community through various platforms.

It was reported that the retender of the waste management and minimisation services and award contracts by November 2023 target has been progressed. The timeline has changed to provide alignment with Council annual approval processes whilst retaining a minimum 12 month lead in time for the relevant contractors. The procurement process for this target is currently progressing and a separate paper on the outcome of this procurement will be provided at the appropriate time. The revised Contract start date is 1 July 2024.

Clrs Fitzpatrick/Brooks:
That Council approve the release of the waste management and minimisation plan 2021-27 update to the community.

Carried

A&S-0722-10 Road Naming Sub-Committee R800-007-06-07

The minutes of the Road Naming Sub-Committee meeting held on 19 May 2022 were presented for ratification by the Committee.

Clrs Andrews/Brooks:
That the minutes of the Road Naming Sub-Committee meeting held on 19 May 2022 be ratified.

Carried

A&S-0722-11 Regional Transport Committee D050-001-R01

The minutes of the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 17 June 2022 were presented for ratification by the Committee.

