



# Rangitikei District Council

## Council Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 25 March 2010 – 1:00 p.m.

---

### Contents

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 1  | Council prayer .....   | 2  |
| 2  | Public Forum .....   | 3  |
| 3  | Apologies/leave of Absence .....   | 3  |
| 4  | Confirmation of order of business .....  | 3  |
| 5  | Confirmation of minutes from Council, 25 February 2010 .....   | 3  |
| 6  | Confirmation of minutes from Council, 11 March 2010 .....  | 3  |
| 7  | Confirmation of minutes Finance Committee meeting, 11 March 2010 and adoption of resolutions .....   | 3  |
| 8  | Confirmation of minutes Assets Committee meeting, 11 March 2010 and adoption of resolutions .....  | 4  |
| 9  | Confirmation of Minutes of Hearings Committee meeting 25 February 2010 and adoption of resolutions .....   | 4  |
| 10 | Mayor's report .....   | 5  |
| 11 | Management report.....   | 5  |
| 12 | Taihape West Management Plan .....   | 7  |
| 13 | Dudding Lake – Alternative management proposal.....  | 8  |
| 14 | Draft Historic reserves (Part One) and Draft Bulls Old Courthouse And Goal Management Plan (Part Two) .....  | 9  |
| 15 | Draft Recreational Parks and Reserves Management Plan (Part One) and Draft Taihape Memorial Park Reserve Management Plan (Part Two) Submissions..... | 11 |
| 16 | Receipt of committee minutes and resolutions to be confirmed .....   | 11 |
| 17 | Documents signed under seal .....  | 11 |
| 18 | Updated delegations .....  | 12 |
| 19 | Late items.....  | 12 |
| 20 | Date of next meeting .....   | 12 |
| 21 | Meeting closed.....  | 13 |

**Present:** His Worship the Mayor, Chalky Leary  
Cr Andy Watson  
Cr Don Brown  
Cr Jan Byford  
Cr Ed Cherry  
Cr Grant Collie  
Cr Sarah Harris  
Cr Mike Jones  
Cr Kathleen Murphy  
Cr Soraya Peke-Mason  
Cr Lynne Sheridan  
Cr Jill Strugnell

**In attendance:** Mrs C Hadley, Chief Executive  
Mr M Hodder, Community Services Group Manager  
Mr R Kirby, Assets Group Manager  
Mr S Rostron, Strategy Finance Leader  
Ms Angela Coleman, Executive Officer

## **1 Council prayer**

His Worship the Mayor read the Council prayer.

## **2 Public Forum**

There were no speakers for public forum.

## **3 Apologies/Leave of Absence**

Cr Byford advised that she would be unavailable for Council business from 6 to 25 April 2010. Cr Collie recorded his apologies for the next Strategic Planning and Policy meeting to be held on 8 April 2010.

## **4 Confirmation of order of business**

There was no change from the original agenda.

## **5 Confirmation of minutes from Council, 25 February 2010**

**Resolved minute number 10/RDC/056**

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 25 February 2010 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Crs Watson/Harris. Carried

## **6 Confirmation of minutes from Council, 11 March 2010**

**Resolved minute number 10/RDC/057**

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 11 March 2010 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Crs Cherry/Brown. Carried

## **7 Confirmation of minutes Finance Committee meeting, 11 March 2010 and adoption of resolutions**

Cr Jones advised he did not attend this meeting and should be removed from the list of those present.

**Resolved minute number 10/RDC/058**

That the Minutes as amended of the Finance Committee meeting held on 11 March 2010 be

taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting and all recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Crs Peke-Mason/Watson. Carried

## **8 Confirmation of minutes Assets Committee meeting, 11 March 2010 and adoption of resolutions**

Cr Strugnell requested that under item 5, line 1, 'work' should be replaced by 'proposed additional paving'.

In answer to a question, the Chief Executive advised that the investigation bore drilled on Tutaenui Road had shown satisfactory results with three significant aquifers. The next step was for the bore to be developed to assess water production capacity in the most suitable aquifer, based on chemical analysis of the water samples. This would be done in order to provide the information necessary for the report on options.

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/059**

That the Minutes as amended of the Assets Committee meeting held on 11 March 2010 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting and all recommendations contained therein adopted.

Crs Strugnell/Peke-Mason. Carried

There was discussion about the West Taihape Stormwater and whether the whole of Taihape or just West Taihape should pay for the drainage work that Council is carrying out on private property in the area. It was noted that further discussion would take place under item 12 below.

**Undertaking**                                      **Subject**      **West Taihape Stormwater**

Cr Cherry asked staff to check title information for easements in West Taihape.

Council adjourned 1.13pm/1.17pm with arrival of Cr Byford.

## **9 Confirmation of Minutes of Hearings Committee meeting 25 February 2010 and adoption of resolutions**

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/060**

That the Minutes of the Hearings Committee meeting held on 25 February 2010 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting and all recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Crs Strugnell/Byford. Carried

## 10 Mayor's report

**Resolved minute number**                    **10/RDC/061**

That the Mayor's report to Council's meeting of 25 March 2010 be received.

Crs Cherry/Harris. Carried

## 11 Management report

**Resolved minute number**                    **10/RDC/062**

- 1 That the Management Report to Council's meeting of 25 March 2010 be received.

Crs Watson/Harris. Carried

Council considered which members should attend the upcoming Local Government NZ Conference 2010 to be held in Auckland on 25-28 July 2010 (registration by 18 June 2010). Four Councillors (Crs Murphy, Brown, Harris and Strugnell) are eligible to attend. It was recommended that current Councillors should have an open discussion and review this policy, before a new Council is elected.

There was no concern among Councillors warranting a remit to the LGNZ AGM for 2010.

**Resolved minute number**                    **10/RDC/063**

- 2 That His Worship the Mayor and the eligible Councillors who wish to go to the Local Government New Zealand Conference 2010, notify the Chief Executive in time to take advantage of the early bird rate.

His Worship the Mayor/Cr Sheridan. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                    **10/RDC/064**

- 3 That the Ruapehu Wanganui Rangitikei Regional Economic Development Trust ('RED Trust') be exempt for the purposes of section 6(4)(i) of the Local Government Act 2002 and thus not to be a council-controlled organisation under that Act, and that this exemption applies for the year ending 30 June 2011 unless the Trust's circumstances change.

Crs Watson/Cherry. Carried

There was discussion about promotional signage for the region. There was support for a permanent generic sign (unique for each town), and that iconic events should be advertised with a skin put over

the sign, at the expense of those advertising that specific event. There was consideration of removing the signs completely due to the capital and ongoing cost to Council, but it was felt this would demonstrate a lack of pride and confidence in the region.

**Resolved minute number                    10/RDC/065**

- 4        That the Council adopts the following as principles for managing the three billboards on SH-1: non-commercial; a focus on district and event promotion aimed at attracting visitors; iconic events to be funded by organisers.

Crs Watson/Harris. Carried

**Resolved minute number                    10/RDC/066**

- 5        That the Council invite Rangitikei Tourism to enter a contract with it to take over management of the billboards.

His Worship the Mayor/Cr Watson. Carried

**Resolved minute number                    10/RDC/067**

That the Chief Executive invite the Chair of Rangitikei Tourism to make a submission to the draft 2010/11 Annual Plan regarding billboards on State Highway 1.

Crs Strugnell/Harris. Carried

**Resolved minute number                    10/RDC/068**

- 6        That, subject to confirmation by all member councils, Manawatu-Wanganui Local Authority Shared Services Ltd ('MW LASS') be exempt for the purposes of section 6(4)(i) of the Local Government Act 2002 and thus not be a council-controlled organisation under that Act, and that this exemption applies for the year ending 30 June 2013 or until member councils determine an earlier date when this exemption should no longer apply.

Crs Watson/Brown. Carried

Council appreciated the thorough report provided by Mr James Allen, Chair of Project Marton on the history of the chestnut trees on Broadway. This suggested the white chestnut trees were planted in error and that they are the ones causing problems with the pavements and the camera. Cr Sheridan raised the point that the original concern was in relation to security cameras and not the appropriateness of the trees. There was a general view that as both the Marton Community Committee and Project Marton are now in favour of limited removal, Council should support Project Marton's recommendation.

**Resolved minute number 10/RDC/069**

- 7 That the three trees at the southern end of Broadway, Marton be removed (white chestnut on the SW side and two white chestnut trees on the SE side) and replaced with trees of the same genus as the red chestnuts in the remainder of Broadway.

Crs Watson/Jones. Carried  
Cr Sheridan. Against

**Resolved minute number 10/RDC/070**

- 8 That the red chestnut tree outside the offices of GHD on Broadway, Marton be pruned by the removal of the two lower branches to provide better visibility for the security camera system.

Crs Watson/Jones. Carried

Council received a tabled paper on the technology required to manage building consents. The Chief Executive explained the three options which included (a) lease, (b) purchase or (c) lease software and purchase hardware. There was concern that the total cost of \$78,000 over three years was outside the usual procurement procedure, but noted that splitting the hardware to the IT budget and software to the building office is the most common sense approach.

**Resolved minute number 10/RDC/071**

- 9 That approval be given for the Chief Executive to enter into a lease for a software site licence and user licenses from Master Business Systems Ltd for a three year period at an estimated cost of \$26k per annum (final lease cost subject to annual consent numbers), noting that this is an unbudgeted expense.

Crs Collie/Sheridan. Carried

Moved to discuss Dudding Lake item, preceding discussion of Taihape West Management Plan.

## **12 Taihape West Management Plan**

**Resolved minute number 10/RDC/072**

- 1 That Council inform the Taihape Community Board that its recommendation on the Assets Group report on the West Taihape Area is included in the approach being taken by the Assets Group in implementing the report.

Crs Cherry/Watson. Carried

Cr Cherry was concerned that the plan did not take enough notice of local knowledge. The Assets Group Manager advised that the Tonkin & Taylor report raised a number of aspects. Due to cost,

Council was focusing on the most important aspect which is surface water, and the other issues raised are being monitored. The geology of the area does not allow easy drainage and it is not clear that drain holes at a higher level would provide the protection required. Cr Cherry was encouraged to raise other specific concerns with the Assets Water Manager. Some monitoring equipment has recently been removed, as Council is only monitoring key positions due to the cost, but the equipment would return if any major change was noted.

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/073**

- 2        That Council adopt the Taihape West management plan.

Crs Cherry/Brown. Carried

It was noted that the actions of insurance companies since 2006 has effectively trapped owners in the West Taihape area and distorted the rating base of the town. Whilst the area is recognised as 'slip prone' there has not actually been a slip since before houses were built sixty years ago. Due to the marked decline in residential values, West Taihape residents have gained financially from lower rates, and there was discussion on whether they (rather than all Taihape ratepayers) should pay directly for the work on the open drain from the of Kiwi Road, as that work could help resolve the insurance/mortgage issues that potential purchasers face. There are 200 houses in the affected area and each householder would need to pay approximately \$150 to cover the \$30,000 cost.

There were suggestions that this issue should be referred to the Taihape Community Board; the Finance Committee;, and/or be part of the annual plan process in April/May. It was noted that timing would be an issue.

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/074**

- 3        That on the basis of ensuring rating equity, the Council clarify the expenditure of \$30,000 on maintenance work on the main open drain from the top of Kiwi Road, from the 2009/10 Taihape storm water renewals budget, to be funded 100% by ratepayers within the Taihape West area.

Crs Brown/Harris. Lost

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/075**

Foreshadow a motion: That the resolution be referred to the Taihape Community Board at its next meeting.

Cr Byford. Lapsed for want of seconder

### **13    Dudding Lake – Alternative management proposal**

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/076**

That the alternative management proposal by David Woodbridge, Bruce Gordon, Terry

Hammond and Geoff Mills (together with the officer report tabled at the meeting) be received.

Crs Brown/Harris. Carried

Councillors discussed the fact that Dudding Lake has been a long standing and significant cost to Council, mostly due to low attendance. Without investment, this is unlikely to change. Although the proposal shows good intentions, there is no information about how the lake will be improved and therefore how it can be made financially viable. Information is limited, with no budget or cash flow projections. Councillors also discussed the issue of depreciation of the property and implications should Duddings Lake Ltd undertake those improvements.

The point was also made that camping and camper vans are becoming more popular. If Dudding Lake can be developed, it is a good idea as it will support visitors coming to our region. There was concern that the needs of the travelling public may be met, but that Council's primary concern should be local community use of the facilities.

In negotiating the contract, the Chief Executive should ensure that Duddings Lake Ltd does not have the ability to sublet the property. A non-performance clause must be included, so Council has the ability to terminate the contract immediately and return to its original decision ie returning Dudding Lake to a recreational park.

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/077**

That the Council determine to request the Chief Executive to negotiate terms for a management contract for service for the operation of Dudding Lake with Duddings Lake Ltd, such terms to be confirmed by Council before final adoption of any contract; and that the intention to enter into a management contract with Duddings Lake Ltd for a ratepayer contribution of approximately \$37,500 be communicated publicly and no final decision be taken before Council's meeting on 29 April 2010 to provide the opportunity for public views to be heard.

His Worship the Mayor/Cr Jones. Carried 8/4  
Cr Peke-Mason. Against

Meeting adjourned at 3.02pm/reconvened to discuss West Taihape at 3.20pm

## **14 Draft Historic reserves (Part One) and Draft Bulls Old Courthouse And Gaol Management Plan (Part Two)**

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/078**

That the report 'Draft Historic Reserves (Part One) and Draft Bulls Old Courthouse and Gaol Management Plan (Part Two)' and amendments to the action table be received.

Crs Strugnell/Harris. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/079**

That the term 'historic heritage' be used for the Historic Reserves Management Plan (Part One) where the term 'heritage' is now used.

Crs Strugnell/Collie. Carried

**Resolved minute number                    10/RDC/080**

That having considered objections to the reclassification of the Bulls Old Courthouse and Gaol from Local Purpose (Community Buildings) Reserve to Historic Reserve received from the Bulls and District Enterprises and Mrs Dorothy Hazelwood, the Council does not accept the objections.

Crs Sheridan/Jones. Carried

**Resolved minute number                    10/RDC/081**

That Council adopt the Draft Historic Reserves Management Plan with the amendments suggested by Council officers i.e. extensions to Objectives 1 and 2, a new fifth policy and amended action table.

Crs Harris/Strugnell. Carried

References to 'old' gaol in the plan should replace those for 'original' gaol.

**Resolved minute number                    10/RDC/082**

That Council adopt the Draft Bulls Old Courthouse and Gaol Management Plan (as amended).

Crs Strugnell/Harris. Carried

**Resolved minute number                    10/RDC/083**

That Council proceed with reclassification action prescribed in the Reserves Act 1977, viz:

To forward the Historic Reserves Management Plan to the Minister of Conservation (together with a summary of the objections and comments received and a statement as to the extent to which they have been allowed or accepted or disallowed or not accepted) for her approval under section 41(1) of the Reserves Act.

To forward the Bulls Old Courthouse and Gaol Management Plan to the Minister of Conservation (together with a summary of the objections and comments received and a statement as to the extent to which they have been allowed or accepted or disallowed or not accepted) for her approval under section 41(1) of the Reserves Act.

To forward the results of public advertising of the proposal to change the classification of the reserve from local purpose (community building) to historic reserve together with copies of any objections and a copy of the Council's resolution on the objections under section 24(2) of the Reserves Act.

Crs Harris/Sheridan. Carried

## **15 Draft Recreational Parks and Reserves Management Plan (Part One) and Draft Taihape Memorial Park Reserve Management Plan (Part Two) Submissions**

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/084**

That the report 'Draft Recreational Parks and Reserves Management Plan (Part One) and Draft Taihape Memorial Park Reserve Management Plan (Part Two) Submissions' be received.

Crs Watson/Sheridan. Carried

During discussion it was suggested that the late submission from Angus Gordon warranted further consideration.

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/085**

That Council adopt the Draft Recreational Parks and Reserves Management Plan (Part One) and the Draft Taihape Memorial Park Reserve Management Plan (Part Two), amended to remove references to the specific development of a facility on the site of the Grandstand.

Crs Cherry/Byford. Carried

## **16 Receipt of committee minutes and resolutions to be confirmed**

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/086**

That the minutes of the Leisure Plan Implementation Group meeting on 9 March 2010 be received.

Crs Harris/Watson. Carried

## **17 Documents signed under seal**

There were no documents sealed.

## 18 Updated delegations

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/087**

That the report Updated Delegations Register to Council's meeting of 25 March 2010 be received.

Crs Sheridan/Brown. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **10/RDC/088**

That the proposed new or amended delegations to the Environmental Services Team Leader, Building Office Leader, Building Officer and Consents Administrator be approved.

That, with effect from 1 April 2010, the following delegation is made:

Terence William Kelly – Noise Control Officer (Contract)

Enforcement Officer pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991

That a warrant be issued under section 174 of the Local Government Act 2002 to provide the following officer with authority to enter on to private property for the purposes of carrying out his duties and fulfilling his responsibility as a statutory appointee and Officer of Council:

Terence Kelly

That, with effect from 1 April 2010, any references to Peter Burberry (Contractor) be deleted from the Delegations Register to retain currency.

That the membership of the Omatane Rural Water Supply Sub-committee be confirmed as:

Mr L Bird

Mr N Gregory

Mr L Kelly

Mr A McKay

Mr J Platts

Mr J Taylor

Mr A Ramsay

## 19 Late items

There were no late items.

## 20 Date of next meeting

Thursday 15 April 2010 (Oral submissions to the draft 2010/11 Annual Plan)

Thursday 29 April 2010 (Normal scheduled meeting)

## 21 Meeting closed – 4.27pm

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_