

Waitaki District Council

Assets Committee

**CONFIRMED MINUTES of Assets Committee Meeting of the
Waitaki District Council held in the Council Chamber,
Office of the Waitaki District Council, 20 Thames Street, Oamaru
on Tuesday 9 October 2018 at 9.00am**

Present	Cr Bill Kingan (Chair), Cr Guy Percival (Deputy), Cr Hugh Perkins, Deputy Mayor Melanie Tavendale; and Mayor Gary Kircher (ex officio)
Apology	Cr Jeremy Holding (leave of absence)
In Attendance	Cr Craig Dawson Cr Jim Hopkins Cr Peter Garvan Cr Colin Wollstein Cr Jan Wheeler Fergus Power (Chief Executive) Neil Jorgensen (Deputy Chief Executive / Assets Group Manager) Lisa Baillie (People and Culture Group Manager) Lichelle Guyan (Heritage, Environment and Regulatory Group Manager) Michael Voss (Roading Manager) (part of meeting) Martin Pacey (Water Services and Waste Manager) (part of meeting) Erik van der Spek (Recreation Manager) (part of meeting) Renee Julius (Property Manager) (part of meeting) Lisa Scott (Communications Specialist) (part of meeting) Ainslee Hooper (Governance and Policy Advisor)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9.00am and welcomed everyone present.

1. Apologies

RESOLVED
AC 2018/046

Mayor Gary Kircher / Cr Hugh Perkins
That the Assets Committee accepts an apology from Cr Jeremy
Holding (approved leave of absence).

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

The Chair advised Committee members that, unless anyone wished to speak to the Public Excluded Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting held on 28 August July 2018 (included in this meeting's agenda as Public Excluded Agenda Item 7), he intended to confirm those minutes in the public session of this meeting, as Agenda Item 3(b).

No Committee Members declared an intention to speak to the Public Excluded minutes.

On that basis, the Chair declared that those Public Excluded minutes would be confirmed as Agenda Item 3(b) in the Public section of this meeting.

3. (a) Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED
AC 2018/047

Deputy Mayor Melanie Tavendale / Cr Hugh Perkins
That the Assets Committee confirms the minutes of its previous meeting held on 28 August 2018, as circulated, as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED

3. (b) Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes (Public Excluded)

RESOLVED
AC 2018/048

Deputy Mayor Melanie Tavendale / Mayor Gary Kircher
That the Assets Committee confirms public excluded minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 28 August 2018, as circulated, as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4. Plan for Public Toilets and Dump Stations 2018-28

The report, as circulated, sought agreement from the Committee to recommend that Council adopts the revised 'Plan for public toilets and dump stations 2018-2028'.

Recreation Manager Erik van der Spek introduced the report and the accompanying Plan. He highlighted a few recent changes:

- The cost of waste water systems was higher, and a separate report would be provided to Council on that.
- Funding for some toilets had been secured from MBIE.
- Consultations were ongoing regarding locations for toilets at Palmerston and Otematata.
- The timing of installation of toilets at Katiki Straight had been changed.

When asked, Mr van der Spek confirmed that there was still an opportunity to have further discussions with the New Zealand Transport Agency if there continued to be evidence of a need for toilets to be installed.

RESOLVED
AC 2018/049

Deputy Mayor Melanie Tavendale / Mayor Gary Kircher
That the Assets Committee recommends:
That Council adopts the revised 'Plan for public toilets and dump stations 2018-2028'.

CARRIED

5. Harbour Street Closure

The report, as circulated, sought to determine the timings of when Harbour Street will be closed and reopened on Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays.

Assets Group Manager Neil Jorgensen spoke to the report and explained that Harbour and Tyne Street businesses have been surveyed. A number of them had expressed interest in a longer closure time. The Collective had advised that it needs access on a Saturday evening, so that is why the recommended closure period is from 10.00am to 4.00pm on each of the weekend days and public holidays. That could be amended by a subsequent resolution in future, as required.

It was suggested and agreed that publicity for the closure times be extended to include the Link and the Oamaru Mail as well.

It was noted that Harbour Street was also closed from the Friday of Queen's Birthday through to the end of the Monday for the Steampunk Festival, and that could be added to the existing recommendation, because it was something that benefitted most of the businesses.

An amended motion was posed by the Mayor, and seconded by the Deputy Mayor, as follows:

- MOTION Mayor Gary Kircher / Deputy Mayor Melanie Tavendale
That the Assets Committee recommends:
That Council
1. closes Harbour Street at 10.00am and reopens it at 4.00pm on each Saturday, Sunday and Public Holiday during the Labour Weekend to Easter closure period; and
 2. closes Harbour Street from midday Friday through to 4.00pm Monday on Queen's Birthday weekend 2019.

Discussion on the motion:

It was suggested that there may be other weekends that could also be added, and it might be helpful to have them included as additions to the Recommendations from the Committee report that would go to the 30 October Council Meeting. The mover and seconder agreed to amend the motion further to allow for other opening times to be investigated and added to the Council meeting report as proposed.

- RESOLVED
AC 2018/050 Mayor Gary Kircher / Deputy Mayor Melanie Tavendale
That the Assets Committee recommends:
That Council
1. closes Harbour Street at 10.00am and reopens it at 4.00pm on each Saturday, Sunday and Public Holiday during the Labour Weekend to Easter closure period; and
 2. closes Harbour Street from midday Friday through to 4.00pm Monday on Queen's Birthday weekend 2019.
 3. Investigates any other opening times that could be included.

CARRIED

6. Assets Group Activity Report October 2018

The memorandum, as circulated, sought to inform the Assets Committee about strategic matters and outcomes.

Group Manager Neil Jorgensen introduced the report.

Mayor Gary Kircher sought to move a motion that Council resign its membership to Water New Zealand. The Chair signalled his intention to declare the motion LAPSED when his call for a seconder received no response. Cr Hugh Perkins agreed to second the motion proforma in order that a discussion could ensue.

Mayor Kircher said he questioned why Council would remain a member of Water New Zealand when the organisation was actively campaigning to have water management responsibilities removed from territorial authorities.

Deputy Mayor Melanie Tavendale believed that there could be unintended consequences of such a decision, and that the matter warranted further discussion, both at Committee and Council level. Water New Zealand is lobbying that local government is not appropriately skilled to have the activity going forward, and it would be prudent to show that there is a serious commitment to upskilling and professionalism in order to retain it.

The alternative of relinquishing the corporate membership and retaining a standard membership was also briefly discussed.

Chief Executive Fergus Power also expressed caution, noting that any failure to 'play nicely' with Water New Zealand could be misread. All Councils are struggling with the argument, so he suggested Council could write to Local Government New Zealand and ask that Water

New Zealand be an item on the Rural and Provincial Meeting in November where the organisation could be asked to respond to Council concerns.

Other Councillors concurred with the Chief Executive's view. It was also noted that there was nothing in the agenda for today's meeting to enable a more considered and measured response to be developed.

Mayor Kircher said he would be happy to leave the matter for now. However, as a Council that was doing well looking after its water, and as a Mayor who is very proud of staff, he found it abhorrent that an organisation was being critical of the sector and staff when they have done such a fantastic job of delivering good quality drinking water to over 90% of the district's population.

When asked if Councillors needed to provide anything further to assist the delegation going to the Rural and Provincial Meeting to get the item on the agenda, the Mayor responded that he believed it would be an agenda item anyway, and it was appropriate to have Councillors' support as they had voiced it today.

Taking the discussion into account, the Chair then declared the motion WITHDRAWN.

Roading section of the report:

- It was noted that some road maintenance work seemed to be deteriorating quite quickly. Roothing Manager Michael Voss advised that some work would have to be repeated because it had had to be done in winter when the conditions were not ideal and the sub-strata had been wet.
- People were receiving letters about putting mud on the road, and most of them responded positively. But it had been a wet winter and there was a lot of mud!
- It had been a busy time recently with road closures, due to changing routes and a higher level of plant and equipment involved.
- It was a good to see that an officer was looking after the freedom camping sites. Supervision was believed to be what is required to keep people educated.
- Mayor Kircher said he had been liaising with the Palmerston Lions Club about its plaque, which had been removed whilst work was being done on the bridge. The scaffolding was now gone and there were no workers onsite, and the Club was wondering when the plaque would be reinstated. Roothing Manager Michael Voss undertook to follow up on that matter.

With regard to the new report format, Councillors provided some positive feedback, especially with regard to the clear and concise compartmentalisation. There was a request for more information about increases or decreases in work, budget variances and the like. Mr Jorgensen advised that that was the intention, but with illness and people on leave, there had not been the opportunity thus far to put some of those graphs together. They would appear in subsequent group activity reports.

RESOLVED
AC 2018/051

Deputy Mayor Melanie Tavendale / Cr Hugh Perkins
That the Assets Committee receives and notes the information.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.53am.

CONFIRMED at the Assets Committee Meeting held on the 20th day of November 2018
in the Council Chamber, Office of the Waitaki District Council, 20 Thames Street, Oamaru.

(signed)

Chairman