

## OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Council held in the  
Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on  
Wednesday 6 August 2014 commencing at 10.34 am**

**Present:**

- Cr Stephen Woodhead (Chairperson)**
- Cr Gretchen Robertson (Deputy Chairperson)**
- Cr Graeme Bell**
- Cr Doug Brown**
- Cr Louise Croot MNZM**
- Cr Michael Deaker**
- Cr Gerrard Eckhoff**
- Cr Gary Kelliher**
- Cr Trevor Kempton**
- Cr Sam Neill**
- Cr Bryan Scott**
- Cr David Shepherd**

**In attendance:**

- Peter Bodeker**
- Wayne Scott**
- Jeff Donaldson**
- Jane Leahy**
- Fraser McRae**
- Gavin Palmer**
- Janet Favel**

### **CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

There were no changes to the agenda.

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the public portion of the meeting held on 25 June 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Kempton and Croot.

### **Matters arising from minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

## **PART A - REPORTS FROM CHAIRPERSON AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### Item 1

2014/1086 **Chairperson's Report.** Chair, 31/7/14

The Chairperson's report gave an overview of his activities for the period to 31 July 2014.

A question was raised about investigation into the concept of an economic region, which would include a case study of the southern South Island. Cr Woodhead explained that new information had come to light following analysis of census data. Central Government wanted to work with local government to understand regional economies and how they were different from regional government values. He noted that case studies had been undertaken by MoBIE in Auckland, Gisborne, and Horizons, and Mr Bodeker was to follow up on a case study of the southern South Island.

There was discussion about different approaches to water quality in the Canterbury, Otago and Southland regions, and it was pointed out that Canterbury and Southland were not in a position to implement an approach similar to ORC's 6A. Mr Bodeker noted that the Stakeholder Engagement and Science groups were working very closely with Environment Southland and Environment Canterbury, and joint working group meetings with environmental staff at Invermay were common. ORC was a financial contributor to 'look up tables', which were quick guides showing how farm management could contribute to good water quality.

### Item 2

2014/1084 **Chief Executive's Report.** CE, 30/7/14

The Chief Executive's report provided an overview of his activities for the period to 30 July 2014.

Mr Bodeker advised that he had reviewed the ORC's existing capital expenditure (capex) and asset disposal procedures and was confident that the processes protected against fraudulent activity.

Cr Woodhead explained in response to a question that the Audit and Risk Subcommittee would deal with matters of this nature in future, but he had asked the Chief Executive to address the matter now, and not wait until the Subcommittee was operational.

In response to a question Mr Bodeker explained that the CE had delegation to approve large capital expenditure for a specific project, and the delegation process allowed for more expenditure under a special delegation by Council. Mr Scott explained that the total amount was flexible, depending on the project, and needed to be organisationally prudent.

Councillors supported the procedure for staff purchase of surplus assets, including vehicles. Mr Bodeker confirmed that staff could access to the history of vehicles, and could buy them through, for example, Turners or Trade Me. This process avoided negative publicity about influence and fair market price.

A query was raised about the section in the report in relation to the Strath Taieri Irrigation Group, and comment was made that there needed to be a cohesive proposal and confirmation that the scheme was of benefit for the wider community. Mr Bodeker advised that Group members would present a proposal for the scheme, and if that was acceptable under the irrigation fund, a sum would be negotiated. He suggested that for clarity the comment in his report could be amended to read “ORC will offer ~~provide~~ technical and financial support .....” The importance of consistent irrigation funding and support across the region was emphasised.

The purpose of the North Otago River Form and Function meeting was to establish a protocol for what intervention or management, if any, ORC could take in assisting landowners to protect riverside land. It was anticipated that this work would be undertaken by September.

Cr Woodhead moved  
Cr Deaker seconded

*That the Chairperson’s and Chief Executive’s reports be noted.*

**Motion carried**

## **PART B – ITEMS FOR NOTING**

Item 3

2014/1010 **Financial Report.** DCS, 31/7/14

The report provided information in respect of overall Council finances for the twelve months to 30 June 2014.

Mr Scott explained that the income statement and balance sheet were provisional until all year end adjustments had been made. He noted the provisional result showed a \$1.5m surplus, which was mostly because of timing factors. The 12 month review would identify income and expenditure on a project by project basis.

A question was raised as to why there was a lower level of activity undertaken in the Clean Air Initiative project than was provided for in the budget. Mr Donaldson explained that there was low uptake of the programme in Milton for several reasons including close proximity to a coalmine, and the presence of a lot of older homes. He commented that support from Clutha District Council provided a higher subsidy which it

was hoped would make a difference to homeowners' ability to install appropriate heating and insulation. Publicity was carried out through leaflet drops, and an expo was planned for the town. He noted that installations had slowed down in Alexandra. In response to a query as to whether the subsidy was high enough, Mr Donaldson explained that the ORC's subsidy policy was fixed, and in some cases assistance from third parties had been sought. He noted that the subsidy could be considered in the LTP preparation process and funding policies review. Mr Donaldson confirmed in response to a question that Milton was not in Airshed 1, and Mr McRae advised that this issue would be considered when the air quality plan change was considered.

Cr Croot moved  
Cr Shepherd seconded

*That the report be received.*

**Motion carried**

Item 4

2014/1069 **Appointment of Plan Change Hearing Commissioners.** DPPRM,  
28/7/14

The report noted that under the RMA, hearing commissioners had to be appointed by the Council. The Commissioner Appointment Subcommittee submitted a list of commissioners for upcoming Plan Change hearings 3B (Pomahaka minimum flow), 4B (Groundwater allocation) and 4C Cromwell Terrace aquifer groundwater allocation).

Cr Croot moved  
Cr Robertson seconded

*That the report be noted.*

**Motion carried**

Item 5

2014/1083 **Documents signed under Council's Seal.** DCS, 30/1/14

The report listed documents signed under the Council's seal.

Cr Bell moved  
Cr Robertson seconded

*That the report be noted.*

**Motion carried**

## Item 6 **Reports from Councillors**

### *Cr Gretchen Robertson – LGNZ Conference*

Cr Robertson reported that she had attended the inaugural meeting of the Younger Elected Members Network, and was elected onto the committee to develop the role of the network. She noted that the Dunedin population had a relatively high percentage of young people, and encouraged the ORC to consider ways to attract younger elected members. Cr Robertson considered that the conference was successful, and provided good opportunities to network. Presentations given to delegates would be available on line soon.

### *Cr Trevor Kempton*

#### *(a) Regional Tour*

Cr Kempton spoke about the tour which preceded the LGNZ Conference, and noted an address by Devon McLean about a rejuvenation project in Abel Tasman National Park, with removal of wilding conifers being an important part of the project.

#### *(b) Combined ORC/ES RTC meeting Tuesday 1 July*

The meeting considered the first draft of the joint regional transport plan. MoT representatives spoke about the Government Policy Statement which included economic growth, road safety, and value for money. \$3.5b was to be expended on roading projects in Auckland, Hamilton and Tauranga over the next three years. A new activity class was to be created relating to the journey from market to port, which would include some arterial road improvement. There was no change in the funding mechanisms.

#### *(c) Road classification conference 30 July*

#### *(d) Beyond Orokonui forum 2 August*

The forum discussed how to expand the biodiversity values of an area covering North Dunedin and East Otago. Cr Kempton commented that a number of small biodiversity projects were under way, and also noted the presentation by Lyndon Taylor, Senior Technical Advisor, about Regional Services management of the Hamill land, which bordered Orokonui. Consistently the top environmental concern in the area was estuarine values.

### *Cr Michael Deaker – Tertiary Precinct Planning Group meeting 5 August*

Cr Deaker advised that the Otago Museum had joined the group. An update was given on the Leith Flood Protection works, and the Group expressed appreciation for the works.

Cr Deaker was concerned that a major review of traffic, environment, and living qualities being carried out by DCC in the area bounded by Dundas Street, Logan Park, Frederick Street, and the one way system contained very little reference to public transport. This Council was not represented at

the meeting where the matter was discussed and there was no linkage with ORC's draft Passenger Transport Plan. Revisions were to be made to the DCC's Chow Hill report to take passenger transport into account.

*Cr Bryan Scott – ORC/DCC hazards meetings, bus services*

Cr Scott had attended a number of combined ORC/DCC community hazards meetings and considered the meetings established a high benchmark for future collaboration.

Cr Scott had also attended a presentation held in the Meridian to provide information on the bus services. He was pleased that ORC had gone to where the public were.

*Cr David Shepherd – developing interest in rural sector jobs*

Cr Shepherd had met with a science teacher at Kaikorai High School to discuss ways of encouraging pupils to become more interested in rural sector jobs, and to look at an urban farm concept being developed at the school. A management group for the project was to be set up.

## **PART C - MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

- Item 7     **Recommendations of the Communications Committee meeting** held on 24 July 2014, for adoption

Cr Kempton moved  
Cr Bell seconded

*That the recommendations of the Communications Committee meeting held on 24 July 2014 be adopted.*

**Motion carried**

- Item 8     **Recommendations of the public portion of the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting** held on 24 July 2014, for adoption

Cr Shepherd moved  
Cr Kelliher seconded

*That the recommendations of the public portion of the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting held on 24 July 2014 be adopted.*

**Motion carried**

Item 9     **Recommendations of the Policy Committee meeting** held on 24 July 2014, for adoption

Cr Deaker moved  
Cr Croot seconded

*That the recommendations of the Policy Committee meeting held on 24 July 2014 be adopted.*

**Motion carried**

Item 10    **Recommendations of the Regulatory Committee meeting** held on 24 July 2014, for adoption

Cr Neill moved  
Cr Kelliher seconded

*That the recommendations of the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 24 July 2014 be adopted.*

**Motion carried**

Item 11    **Recommendations of the Technical Committee meeting** held on 24 July 2014, for adoption

Cr Scott moved  
Cr Brown seconded

*That the recommendations of the Technical Committee meeting held on 24 July 2014 be adopted.*

**Motion carried**

## **PART D – EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

Cr Woodhead moved  
Cr Shepherd seconded

*That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the meeting.*

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

	<i>General subjects to be considered</i>	<i>Reason under LGOIMA for passing this resolution</i>	<i>Grounds under S.48 for the passing of this resolution</i>
<i>Item 12</i>	<i>Minutes of the In Committee portion of the Council meeting held on 25 June 2014</i>	<i>To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. (S7(2)(h))</i>	<i>S.48(1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>Item 13</i>	<i>Minutes of the In Committee portion of the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting held on 24 July 2014</i>	<i>To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence (S7(2)(c))</i>	<i>S.48(1)(a)(i)</i>

*This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as shown above with respect to each item.*

**Motion carried**

Cr Woodhead moved  
Cr Shepherd seconded

*That the meeting resume in open session.*

**Motion carried**

The meeting closed at 11.45 am.



**Chairperson**