

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 22 June 2016 commencing at 9.01 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

Cr Woodhead welcomed staff and members of the public forum.

Cr Woodhead respectfully acknowledged the passing of Mr Ron Hore. Mr Hore had served four terms as an Otago Catchment Board member and also spent a term as the chairman. He was a long standing contributor to regional bodies.

Apologies: No apologies advised.

In attendance:

- Peter Bodeker
- Nick Donnelly
- Fraser McRae
- Scott MacLean
- Gavin Palmer
- Caroline Rowe
- Sharon Bodeker
- Lauren McDonald

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda as circulated was accepted.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No Conflicts of Interest noted

PUBLIC FORUM

Cr Woodhead welcomed Mr Peter Dowden and Mr Alex King from Bus Go Dunedin and supporters for a presentation of a statement to Council on the proposed Dunedin Bus Hub.

Mr King thanked Council for the opportunity to speak and advised that consultation was sought with Council. He asked for consideration for bus users, as a group, many of whom did not actively engage and seek information on decisions made by Council, even though they were well documented from Council's perspective. He gave the example of the change of location of the Bus Hub, even though well consulted he estimated that 95% of the public/bus users were unaware of this change. He requested awareness by Council of their "audience" and for consideration on how consultation and the message communication could be managed.

Mr King advised the letter being presented to Council was developed from a meeting hosted by Bus Go Dunedin on 30 May, attended by approximately 12 members to discuss the proposed Bus Hub site location at Great King Street.

He advised he believed that it was incumbent on the Council to get the message out, making the public aware of the route changes affecting them. He confirmed Bus Go would be pleased to meet with staff for further discussions and was pleased with the process happening to date.

Mr Dowden asked that Council place signs on each bus to mention the consultation process so the information was easily visible for the public.

Cr Woodhead thanked Mr King and Mr Dowden for a comprehensive list of ideas and feedback together with the helpful information contained in their letter to Council. Cr Woodhead also thanked the Bus Go Dunedin supporters in attendance and encouraged them to be part of the process. He assured the public forum that Council would be doing everything to assure the community, in particular the bus users, of any changes being proposed and those changes occurring and that this was a key part of the work programmes.

Bus Go Dunedin representatives and members of the public left the meeting at 9:09am

MINUTES

Cr Kelliher requested that his comments made in regard to the Remuneration Authority report, prior to the motion being placed for vote, be recorded. He advised he had commented that some Committee Chairs, such as the Finance & Corporate Committee Chair, have a heavier workload than others and thought the motion as tabled was unfair and was the reason for his vote against the motion.

Cr Woodhead asked that the minutes with the addition of the comment made by Cr Kelliher around the Committee Chair workload be accepted.

Moved Cr Croot
Seconded Cr Kelliher

The minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 11 May 2016, having been circulated, be accepted with the inclusion of Cr Kelliher's comments.

Motion carried

Matters arising from the minutes

None

PART A – CHAIRPERSON'S AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS

Item 1
2016/890 **Chairperson's report.** Chair,

The report provided an overview of the Chairperson's activities for the period to 3 June 2016.

Cr Woodhead summarised the content of his report and highlighted the Local Government Excellence Programme available for interested councils. The deadline for expressions of interest is 24 June. Mr Bodeker was requested to advise LGNZ of Council's interest "in principle" for the Excellence Programme by the deadline.

Regional Sector Group – The Ministry for the Environment is part way through a review of the implementation of the NPS for Freshwater management and that will also look at how councils are implementing.

A result of the meeting with Minister Guy in regard to the Velvetleaf response was an agreement to progress the agreement between regional councils and MPI which will provide a better framework for a smoother response to incursions in the future.

Land, Air, Water Aotearoa (LAWA) Cr Woodhead encouraged councillors to view the new module on the ORC site.

A question was raised in regard to discussion held at the Regional Sector Group meeting on whether a cap of the SuperGold card was to occur.

Cr Woodhead confirmed that there is to be a cap on the SuperGold card and that the Ministry of Transport and the NZTA had recently agreed that the same methodology used for the card in the current financial year will be used for the next financial year, effectively meaning the cap will be breached but the following year there could be problems.

Mr Bodeker was requested to provide Council with an update on the SuperGold card status for the next committee round.

A question was raised on the background to the formulating of a business plan for the Local Government Risk Agency.

Cr Woodhead advised that the plan would be across all local business and assets not specifically to civil defence and that the business plan was as a result of the Christchurch earthquake when it became clear that local government has variability around the knowledge of its assets, register of assets of their sites and also the difference between the value of the assets and what is covered by insurance. It was found that in many cases there was quite a large knowledge gap. The Crown has identified its exposure to local government risk and is currently reviewing the 60/40 agreement.

Cr Woodhead advised that the focus of the business plan was not around insurance but rather local government understanding of the infrastructure and risks and the making of informed decisions around this. The business plan will look for significant Crown support to allow the Local Government Risk Agency to run for three years which will allow for better understanding and risk management. Cr Woodhead concluded that this was an issue for regional councils especially around drainage schemes, natural hazards, landslides etc.

Item 2

2016/0861 **Chief Executive's Report.** CE, 3/6/16

The report provided an overview of the Chief Executive's activities for the period to June 2016.

Health & Safety - Mr Bodeker confirmed under the Health and Safety Act, particularly with regard to CDEM activities, that if an individual acted on their own, without instruction from the PCBU then it was their own self responsibility.

He confirmed that around the area of response that volunteer organisations were starting to question what their role is. The Red Cross will not be involved in the response activity but will be involved in welfare and to a lesser extent in recovery.

Mr Bodeker confirmed it was very pleasing to see staff were reporting near misses and that both office based and field staff were taking health and safety seriously. He advised the executive team reviewed the health and safety reports fortnightly and then this information was provided to Council. He and Mr MacLean will be visiting depots shortly, looking for specifically at health and safety preparedness.

Mr Bodeker was requested to consider the “top five” health and safety risk for Council and how this could be addressed and provide this as a discussion paper to Council.

Public warning systems – Mr Bodeker encouraged Councillors to check out and download the Red Cross hazards app to receive a wide range of hazard and disaster warnings. He commented that ORC needed to consider the data it collected and held, how to provide this to organisations such as Red Cross, especially as the app becomes more and more widely used and accessed.

Environmental Enhancement Fund - The executive team have considered 3 applications. The HALO project application was a result of the Annual Plan hearings. Mr Bodeker confirmed that the Environmental Enhancement Fund funding criteria was clear, in that funding is for capital items, not operational. Further discussion is to be held with the HALO project applicants to establish the further details required around capital items.

Mrs Rowe confirmed that the Stakeholder Engagement directorate will promote the two groups who have received the EEF funding once this released to the media.

Local Government Excellence Programme. Mr Bodeker confirmed that he has been part of the team developing the programme and that it was too earlier to commit ORC to this yet. He would register Council “in principle” with LGNZ by the 24 June deadline and then discuss further with Council at a workshop.

Biological rabbit control – Mr MacLean confirmed that there will be a comprehensive nationwide education programme for the release of the K5 virus in 2017. The programme will include meetings to ensure the specific requirements, e.g. for landholders to retrieve bait within a 24 hour period, are clearly understood to ensure a consistent approach. He agreed an education package was an absolutely critical part of the programme.

Moved Cr Deaker
Seconded Cr Bell

That the Chair and Chief Executive’s reports be received.

Motion carried

PART B – RECOMMENDATIONS

Item 3

2016/0874 **Proposed South Island Regional Transport Collaboration.** DPPRP, 13/6/16

The report outlined the key reasons for the Otago and Southland Regional Transport Committees collaboration since 2014 and sought Council agreement

for the continued collaboration with other regional councils, including the developing and implementing of shared work programmes.

Cr Kempton provided a summary of the report and advised there were good opportunities for learning across other regions. All areas of transport were reviewed rather than just road users. The purpose of the paper tabled was to seek Council permission for staff to communicate and collaborate with each other on a practical, useful level. He advised it was important that Council agrees to being involved in a South Island initiative and that regional transport planning needed to keep in mind as it is significant to the economic development of regions and a place Council can make a direct difference.

Moved Cr Kempton
Seconded Cr Deaker

That the Council:

- 1. Agree that Council supports the Otago Regional Transport Committee participating in a South Island wide collaboration of Regional Transport Committees, which will develop and implement a shared programme of work.*
- 2. Note that future updates will be presented to Council when a work programme is agreed*

Motion carried.

Cr Bell confirmed his attendance at the South Island Regional Transport Committee Chairs meeting and advised it was important that Environment Canterbury had agreed to administer this collaboration and that it would not be a cost to ORC.

Item 4

2016/0880 2016/17 **Annual Plan Adoption.** DCS, 13/6/16

The 2016/17 Annual Plan presented for adoption by Council.
The 2016/17 Annual Plan is circulated separately with the agenda.

Cr Shepherd advised that the report outlined the process and the revenue policy recommendations made through the Finance and Corporate Committee and the impact on the annual plan for those three recommendations.

Cr Shepherd as Committee Chair advised he was pleased to report the Annual Plan process had been successful, largely due to the staff work in producing a factual, concise consultation document.

Cr Deaker left the meeting at 10:23am

Cr Neill reinforced Cr Shepherd's comments that the Annual Plan process was mostly "harmonious" which was in no small part due to the staff and requested to be on record in thanking the staff involved.

Cr Bell commented that both CDC and CODC submitted to the Annual Plan in regards to funding of the maintenance of the STEDs and would like this matter to be considered at a Council workshop.

Moved Cr Shepherd
Seconded Cr Neill

That:

- 1. this report be received*
- 2. the Revenue Policy, incorporating the recommendations from the Finance and Corporate Committee be adopted.*
- 3. The 2016/17 Annual Plan, incorporating the recommendations from the Finance and Corporate Committee be adopted*

Motion carried

Cr Deaker returned to the meeting at 10:26am

Item 5

2016/0884 Rating Report and Rating Resolution 2016-2017. DCS, 16/6/16

The report provides details of each of the rates to be set, and to recommend that Council adopts the rates resolution for the 2016/17 year.

Moved Cr Shepherd
Seconded Cr Croot

That:

- 1. the report be received*
- 2. the attached Rating Resolution for the 2016/17 year be adopted*

Motion carried.

PART C – ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 6

2016/0865 Financial Report to 30 April 2016. DCS, 10/6/16

The report provides information in respect of the overall Council finances for the 10 months ended 30 April 2016.

Mr Donnelly advised that the surplus profit and loss was running at variance to budget of \$3.4 million, with \$1.7m in surplus. The details of project expenditure will be reported to Council in the 12 month review at year end.

Moved Cr Shepherd

Seconded Cr Neill

That the report be received

Motion carried

Item 7

2016/0892 **ORC Head Office Accommodation Update.** DCS, 16/6/16

The report provides an update on the Council and staff workshops held to help inform the next stage of the project.

Cr Woodhead summarised the report and welcomed the Feldspar consultants (Mr Riley and Mr Booth) and Mr Collings to the meeting.

Mr Bodeker commented the established new building staff group have provided feedback that they would like consideration for staff parking.

Mr Bodeker advised nothing additional had been raised by the staff group and he was not aware of anything that had been overlooked. The executive team will report back to council for further discussion on the role of the Taieri facility e.g. the need for workshops, wet labs etc and where civil defence might be housed.

Cr Shepherd commented that the report accurately reflected the process to date and acknowledged it has been a "team effort" by governance and staff to find the most suitable accommodation for council in the future.

Cr Eckhoff expressed his concern not to repeat the costs of the preliminary work undertaken with the Birch/Kitchener St site and the costs involved in the preliminary investigations. He sought assurance that what has been decided on from the reports and information received is the Council's best option.

He queried if due process has been followed as there has been no plan that the public could access at this early stage, where changes could be made after taking notice of what the public have to say, albeit at this preliminary stage, as discussions have been held in workshop and not open to the public.

He requested financial probity around the engaging of consultants for the preliminary exercise in establishing a site for the new ORC office accommodation

Mr Bodeker advised that the recommendation made at Committee was for Council to agree to undertake a detailed investigation, including the level of accommodation required and then be able to indicate after this investigation, the likely cost. This report on the Dowling Street site will be provided back to Council, with the cost indication, to allow Council to be in a good position to consider what is being proposed is fiscally responsible and then go out to the consultation process.

Cr Kempton advised he understood the disquiet by Cr Eckhoff but that effectively the work is at the stage of finding out what the costs are and that he felt the project was advancing as it should, i.e. that a comprehensive consultation process will occur but needs something to consult on. The preliminary investigations were at a cost of less than 1% of the cost of the project to allow Council to have to effective consultation.

Cr Kelliher advised he saw the investigations were needed as the next step in process to be able to make an informed decision. He advised he supported the report and proceeding with the recommendation.

Moved Cr Shepherd
Seconded Cr Deaker

That the report be noted

Motion carried

Item 8

2016/0895 **Documents signed under Common Seal.** DCS,

Informing the Council of delegations which have been exercised.

Moved Cr Croot
Seconded Cr Kelliher

That the report be noted

Motion carried

Item 9 **Reports from Councillors**

Cr Bell

Attended the South Island Regional Transport Committee Chairs meeting in Christchurch. He commented that the retiring CE of the Ministry of Transport, Mr Martyn Matthews, a speaker at the meeting, would be of value to speak to Council at a workshop re updating thinking for future transport networks.

Cr Croot

Attended the recent architects and design film festival and viewed a Swedish film entitled "Bikes v Cars" mainly set in Sao Palo, Brazil and a little in Los Angeles and Copenhagen which portrayed the gridlock caused by having more and more roads and the adding on of more and more lanes resulting in decreasing quality of life in urban areas because of this. Another film was based on Japan and related to the roads at different level set over suburban streets and the risk of collapse. She advised it was pleasing to see some ORC staff members there as well.

Cr Kelliher

Cr Kelliher advised that the previous meeting of the TBfree committee had been postponed with the next meeting set for 1 July and that he will provide an update council on this meeting.

PART E – MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- Item 10 **Recommendations of the Technical Committee meeting held on 8 June 2016, for adoption**

Moved Cr Scott
Seconded Cr Brown

That the recommendations of the Technical Committee meeting held on 8 June 2016 be adopted

Motion carried

- Item 11 **Recommendations of the Communications Committee meeting held on 8 June 2016, for adoption**

Moved Cr Kempton
Seconded Cr Croot

That the recommendations of the Communications Committee meeting held on 8 June 2016 be adopted

Motion carried

- Item 12 **Recommendations of the public portion of the Finance and Corporate meeting held on 8 June 2016, for adoption**

Moved Cr Shepherd
Seconded Cr Kelliher

That the recommendations of the public portion of the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting held on 8 June 2016 be adopted

Cr Eckhoff expressed his concern that not all comments had been captured in the minutes on discussion held at the Finance & Corporate Committee on 8 June. He advised he wanted Council not to show predetermination and to be flexible and able to “change our minds” on information that was still to come. He sought the opportunity for a joint venture or private/public partnership to be considered. He commented that he felt Council were duty bound to assess the merits of these opportunities.

Cr Eckhoff advised that he had written to the Auditor General to try to get a clearer picture of what the Regional Council's requirements were, and was awaiting a reply. He reiterated it was important that Council ensured the processes are absolutely impeccable because there will be challenges during the process. He confirmed he did support the recommendation but felt Council must approach this matter with an open mind.

Motion carried

Item 13 **Recommendations of the Regulatory Committee meeting** held on 8 June 2016, for adoption

Moved Cr Eckhoff
Seconded Cr Croot

That the recommendations of the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 8 June 2016 be adopted

Motion carried

Item 14 **Recommendations of the Policy Committee meeting** held on 8 June 2016, for adoption

Moved Cr Robertson
Seconded Cr Deaker

That the recommendations of the Policy Committee meeting held on 8 June 2016 be adopted

Motion carried

PART F - EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Robertson 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>

Item 15	Recommendations of the In Committee portion of the Audit & Risk Subcommittee of 24 February reported to the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting held on 8 June 2016, for adoption	To enable council to carry out on commercial negotiations, without prejudice or disadvantage (LOGIMA S7(2)(i))	S.48(1)(a)(i)
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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

Following the discussion of item 15

Cr Woodhead moved

Cr Croot seconded

That the meeting resume in open session

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 11:06am.



Chairperson