



Minutes of a meeting of the
Finance Committee held in the
Council Chamber on Wednesday 25 November 2020,
commencing at 10:00 AM

Membership

Cr Hilary Calvert *(Co-Chairperson)*
Cr Kevin Malcolm *(Co-Chairperson)*
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Alexa Forbes
Hon Marian Hobbs
Cr Carmen Hope
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Michael Laws
Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr Kate Wilson

Welcome

Cr Kevin Malcolm, Co-Chair Finance, welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

Staff present included: Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Amanda Vercoe (Executive Advisor), Liz Spector (Committee Secretary), Mike Roesler (Manager Corporate Planning), Sean Geary (Management Accountant) and Sarah Munro (Manager Finance – Reporting).

For our future

1. APOLOGIES

Resolution

That the apologies for Cr Deaker, Cr Hobbs be accepted.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

Cr Forbes and Cr Laws were present via Zoom.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as published.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were advised.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

No public forum was held.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 August 2020 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Cr Calvert

Seconded: Cr Wilson

CARRIED

6. ACTIONS

Outstanding actions of resolutions of the Finance Committee were reviewed.

7. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

7.1. Long Term Plan 2021-31: Communication and Engagement Approach

A *Communications and Engagement Plan LTP 2021-31* prepared by ORC staff was provided to inform Committee members about options for engagement in seeking feedback from partners, key stakeholders and the broader Otago community on ORC's proposed Long-term Plan. Mike Roesler (Manager Corporate Planning) and Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services) were present to speak to the report and respond to questions.

Several Councillors had reservations about using a postcard as suggested in Option 1 to initially engage with the community. Chief Executive Gardner said the postcard would be to publicise the consultation, provide a link to an electronic copy of the consultation document and articulate key messages and contact information for Councillors to allow more personal engagement with the community. Mrs Gardner also indicated that the postcard would detail how to contact the ORC for more personal feedback, including customer services and rural liaison staff, as well how to request a printed copy of the LTP consultation document.

Cr Robertson then moved the preferred staff recommendation, Option 1, which was seconded by Cr Noone. Cr Robertson said the key messaging to the community will need to be adapted, proactive and done in a constructive manner. Cr Noone said he had not fully appreciated that 90% of ORC ratepayers engage with the ORC online. He said he is comfortable with the concept and sees a more refined plan further down the track.

Cr Wilson foreshadowed a motion should the motion currently on the floor fail. She suggested Option 2 was the best way to effectively engage the community and several Councillors agreed with her. Cr Forbes said Option 2 was what had always been used, and she thinks the ORC needs to be clever in how they wish to engage the public going forward. She also suggested a printed copy of the document could be automatically delivered to residents in areas without reliable internet. After further discussion of the motion, Co-Chair Malcolm put the motion.

Resolution

That the Finance Committee:

- 1) **Notes** the progress to date on developing the Long-term Plan including the significant matters that have been discussed in Council workshops.
- 2) **Notes** the 'Communications and Engagement Plan Long-term Plan 2021-31 provided as attachment 1 to this report.
- 3) **Agrees** the preferred option 1 for the consultation and engagement approach as outlined in section [9] of this report.
- 4) **Notes** the Communications and Engagement Plan Long-term Plan 2021-31 will be updated to reflect this committee's decision on recommendation three and any other associated decisions.

Moved: Cr Robertson

Seconded: Cr Noone

FAILED

A Division was called by Cr Noone:

For: Cr Forbes, Cr Malcolm, Cr Noone, Cr Robertson

Against: Cr Calvert, Cr Hope, Cr Kelliher, Cr Laws, Cr Scott, Cr Wilson

Motion failed 4 – 6

As she had foreshadowed, Cr Wilson then moved:

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** the progress to date on developing the Long-term Plan including the significant matters that have been discussed in Council workshops.
- 2) **Notes** the Draft 'Communications and Engagement Plan Long-term Plan 2021-31 provided as attachment 1 to this report.
- 3) **Agrees** the preferred option 2 for the consultation and engagement approach as outlined in section [10] of this report.

- 4) **Notes** the Communications and Engagement Plan Long-term Plan 2021-31 will be updated to reflect this committee's decision on recommendation three and any other associated decisions.
- 5) **Asks** the community how they prefer to receive communications on the LTP 2021-31.

Moved: Cr Wilson
Seconded: Cr Calvert
CARRIED

7.2. Quarterly Report - September 2020

This report provided comparative quarterly financial and non-financial performance information for major aspects of service delivery as per the 2020-21 Annual Plan. Mike Roesler (Manager Corporate Planning) and Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services) were present to speak to the report and respond to questions.

Following a discussion of the report, Cr Noone moved:

Resolution

That the Finance Committee:

- 1) **Receives** the attached draft Activity Performance section of the Annual Report for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Moved: Cr Noone
Seconded: Cr Calvert
CARRIED

*Cr Scott left the meeting at 11:12 am.
Cr Scott returned to the meeting at 11:14 am.*

7.3. Finance Report

This paper was provided to deliver Council's Finance Report for quarter one including the preliminary financial result for the 3-month period ended 30 September 2020. Sarah Munro (Manager Finance - Reporting) and Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services) were present to speak to the report and respond to questions. A general discussion was held about the report and Cr Wilson then moved:

Resolution

That the Finance Committee:

- 1) **Receives** this paper and the attached Finance Report September 2020.

Moved: Cr Wilson
Seconded: Cr Hope
CARRIED

7.4. Rates Strike, Collection 31 October, Penalties

This report provided an update on rates collection for the 2020/21 financial year. Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services) was present to speak to the report and respond to questions. After a general discussion of the report, Cr Wilson moved:

Resolution

That the Finance Committee:

- 1) Receives this report.**

Moved: Cr Wilson
Seconded: Cr Calvert
CARRIED

8. RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS

8.1. Recommendations of the 23 September 2020 Audit and Risk Subcommittee

Resolution

That the resolutions of the Audit & Risk Subcommittee meeting held on 23 September 2020 be adopted by the Finance Committee.

Moved: Cr Calvert
Seconded: Cr Noone
CARRIED

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Resolution

That the Council excludes the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting (pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987) namely:

1.1 Adoption of the recommendations of the public excluded portion of the Audit and Risk Subcommittee meeting held on 23 September 2020

Moved: Cr Noone
Seconded: Cr Kelliher
CARRIED

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Adoption of the recommendations of the public excluded portion	To protect information where the making available of the information—would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of	Section 48(1)(a); that the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting

<p>of the Audit and Risk Subcommittee meeting held on 23 September 2020</p>	<p>the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information – Section 7(2)(b)(ii)</p> <p>To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information— would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied – Section 7(2)(c)(i)</p> <p>To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information— would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest – Section 7(2)(c)(ii)</p> <p>To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities – Section 7(2)(h)</p>	<p>would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</p>
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10. CLOSURE

There was no further public business and Co-Chair Malcolm declared the meeting closed at 11:35 am.



Co-Chairperson

24 February 2021

Date