

TAUMARUNUI / OHURA WARD COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MEETING OF TAUMARUNUI / OHURA COMMITTEE HELD AT THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-63 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI
ON THURSDAY, 24 JUNE 2021, AT 5:35PM

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Present

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| Chairperson | Karen Ngatai | Taumarunui Ward |
| Councillors | Graeme Cosford | Taumarunui Ward |
| | Adie Doyle | Taumarunui Ward |
| | Robyn Gram | Taumarunui Ward |
| | Lyn Neeson | Ohura Ward |
| | Kim Wheeler | Taumarunui Ward |
| Mayor | Don Cameron | |
| Staff | Clive Manley | Chief Executive (via Zoom) |
| | Pauline Welch | Executive Manager Community & Economic Development (via Zoom) |
| | Stuart Watson | Environmental Manager |
| | Andrea Nicol | Manager Land Transport |
| | Tasha Paladin | Governance Officer |
| In attendance | Elaine Wheeler | |
| | Fiona Kahukura Chase | |
| | Deanna Wanakore | |
| | Eva-Sophia Wanakore Barton | |
| | Bernice Te Ahuru | |
| | Sarah Carter | |
| | Yvette Skogstad-Archer | |

1 Apologies

No apologies were received.

2 Declarations of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3 Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders

The Committee temporarily suspended Standing Orders in their entirety.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Neeson

Seconded: Cr Doyle

- 1 *That the Report on Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders be received.*
- 2 *That pursuant to section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Board temporarily suspends Standing Orders in their entirety to allow Members and the public to address the Committee.*

The Committee received addresses as follows:

- Elaine Wheeler expressed her concerns regarding the lack of a Stop sign at the end of Short Street leading onto Hakiaha Street, and the potential for traffic accidents. Ms. Wheeler requested if Council could have a conversation with McDonald's to adjust its banner to improve visibility of traffic exiting the BP station. Officers undertook to further the discussion;
- Fiona Kahukura Chase requested the Taumarunui/Ohura Ward Committee resolve to establish a Taumarunui/Ohura Community Board in 2022; Ms. Chase will prepare a petition to support the request if needed. Additionally, Ms. Chase rejected the concept of Freedom Camping Parking Rights at the Taumarunui Playground and shared the community dissent should the Board resolve to allow Freedom Camping;
- Deanna Wanakore spoke of her concerns of excess rubbish if Freedom Camping were permitted at the Taumarunui Playground. Her daughter Eva-Sophia, who was recently recognised by Council a young 'litter champ', hated seeing rubbish all over the town park;
- Bernice Te Ahuru expressed her concerns about Freedom Camping in Taumarunui and asked the Board to consider the existing Bylaws when making a decision;
- Sarah Carter expressed her concerns about Freedom Camping and shared the item was on a National Freedom Camping Facebook page. Her concerns lay around the safety of children using the playground. Ms. Carter felt the Police Station being close by would not impact on the behavior of Freedom Campers;
- Yvette Skogstad-Archer spoke of her concerns of Freedom Camping in Taumarunui based on her observations at Reid's Park Farm Freedom Campground in Taupo. Ms. Archer suggested campers could be diverted to the National Park Park and Ride instead.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Cosford

Seconded: Cr Gram

That, pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Committee reinstates Standing Orders in their entirety for consideration of the Agenda.

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| 4 | Confirmation of Minutes: 22 April 2021 |
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RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Doyle

Seconded: Cr Neeson

That the Public-Business Minutes of the Taumarunui / Ohura Ward Committee meeting held 22 April 2021, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

L1 Late Agenda Item: Freedom Camping Site at Taumarunui Playground, Turaki Street

Members received report to enable the Committee to consider the establishment of a Freedom Camping Site at Taumarunui Playground Carpark, Turaki Street. The Taumarunui/Ohura Ward Committee has previously debated the topic of Freedom Camping without reaching decision. The extension of the parking area at the playground on Turaki Street provides for a safe site with existing amenities, toilet facilities and rubbish bins in close proximity to the Police Station. Cr Ngatai spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

The intent of the Agenda Item was to stimulate discussion amongst the Elected Members and the community. Cr Ngatai accepted the concerns voiced at the Public Forum.

Local Government's Remit on Freedom Camping includes recommendations for self-containment ability for three days and limited duration of stay; this currently sits with a working group and is likely to be reviewed in 2022.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Cosford

Seconded: Cr Neeson

- 1 *That the report on Late Agenda Item: Freedom Camping Site at Taumarunui Playground, Turaki Street be received.*

L2 Late Agenda Item: Predator Free 2050 Strategy

Members received report to enable the Predator Free 2050 Strategy to be considered at this meeting. Towards a Predator Free New Zealand is a New Zealand Government initiative. Ruapehu District Council own and manage reserves within the District and has a role to play to support the goal of a predator free New Zealand. Cr Ngatai spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

The intent of the Agenda Item was to bring the Strategy to the attention of the Ward Committee and seek ideas to support the work within Council's reserves.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Cosford

Seconded: Cr Neeson

- 1 *That the report on Late Agenda Item: Predator Free 2050 Strategy be received.*
- 2 *That the Taumarunui/Ohura Ward Committee recommends to Council that it investigates options to develop a Predator Free policy in its reserves.*

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| 5 | Annual Tree Programme North 2021-2022 |
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Members received report to advise of planned tree work in Taumarunui and Ohura for the 2021/2022 financial year. This list includes new maintenance requirements, as well as work approved in previous years but not yet undertaken. Items remain on the tree programme until the work is completed, as budget allows.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Doyle

Seconded: Cr Wheeler

- 1 *That the report on Annual Tree Programme North 2021/2022 be received.*
- 2 *That the Taumarunui/Ohura Ward Committee approves the 2020/21 planned tree work for the northern part of the District (north of National Park Village).*

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| 6 | Capital Works and Other Items of Interest 2020/21 List |
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Members were provided with an update on planned Capital Works and other Items of interest in the Taumarunui / Ohura Ward Committee area in 2020/21. Relevant staff spoke to this report and answered Members' questions.

Key Items discussed:

- C1 Taumarunui Public Toilets: Members expressed their disappointment with the delays. The contractor has confirmed the programme will be completed by the end of August 2021.
Council's Chief Executive confirmed:
- the Hakiaha Street Fishpond will undergo maintenance from Downer;
 - the Planting Wall will be modified at the cost of the Designers and Contractors. Downer has the capacity to maintain the wall;
 - the Pergola and upstairs of the Railway Station are part of the same contract.
- C8 Taumarunui Walkways: Cr Cosford has recommended to the Upper Whanganui River Scheme that, through Horizons Regional Council, they fund and construct a ramp to replace the current steps and make a contribution to the river walkway. Cr Cosford requested this information be added to the Capital Works Report.
- C12 2019/20 Accessible Walkways Capital Budget: Cr Cosford asked if this funding remains in place for the project.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Cosford

Seconded: Cr Neeson

- 1 *That the report on Capital Works and Members' Requests for Information be received.*

Council's Manager Land Transport sought approval for a retrospective item to be submitted to the 26 August for the road closure of Manuaute Street for the Matariki Night Market Friday 9 July 2021

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Wheeler

Seconded: Cr Doyle

- 1 That the Boards approves the one-way section of Manu aute Street has a road closure for the purpose of the Matariki Night Market on Friday 9 July.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Cosford

Seconded: Cr Neeson

- 1 That the report on Capital Works and Members’ Requests for Information be received.

7 Ward Committee Members’ Reports (Verbal)

Members each gave verbal updates on recent and upcoming meetings, events and issues.

Mayor Cameron requested Members provide feedback on the LGNZ AGM Remits. Mayor Cameron will be guided by Council on how he votes.

8 Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Committee Business

Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 gives the Committee the right by resolution to exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on one or more of the grounds contained within that Section.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Gram

Seconded: Cr Neeson

- 1 That the report on Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Committee Business be received.
- 2 That the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the meeting.
- 3 That the general subject of each matter to be discussed while the public is excluded, the reason for passing the resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

| General Subject of each matter to be considered | Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter | Ground(s) under S48(1) for passing this resolution |
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| C1: Confirmation of Public- Excluded Minutes: 22 April 2021 | The reason(s) for excluding the public is/are recorded in the Public Business Minutes of the meeting | 48(1)(a) |

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| C2: Confidential Briefing | Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations). To maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expressions of opinions by, or between, or to members of or officers or employees of any local authority, or any persons to whom Section 2(5) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 applies, in the course of their duty. To protect the privacy of natural persons. To maintain legal professional privilege | |
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- 1 *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 are listed above.*

The Public Business part of the meeting concluded at 6:40PM.

Confirmed this 26th day of August, 2021.



Karen Ngatai
CHAIRPERSON