

MINUTES

ASSETS/INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, 10 February 2022

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Cath Ash [via Zoom]
Cr Nigel Belsham
Cr Brian Carter
Cr Fi Dalgety [via Zoom]
Cr Gill Duncan [via Zoom]
Cr Angus Gordon
Ms Coral Raukawa (TRAK representative) [via Zoom]

In attendance

Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive
Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager – Democracy and Planning
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager – Corporate Services
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services [via Zoom]
Mrs Jess Mcilroy, Operations Manager
Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome / Prayer

The meeting opened at 9.30 am and Cr Lambert read the Council prayer.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/001

That the apology for His Worship the Mayor (noting he is away on Council business) be received.

Cr A Gordon/Cr B Carter. Carried

3 Public Forum

No public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

No changes to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/002

That the minutes of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 09 December 2021, as amended, be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Amendment: correct the last two sentences under 'Utilities Budgets' on page 10, to read more clearly.

Cr N Belsham/Cr B Carter. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Assets/Infrastructure Meetings

Regarding the diversion rate, Mrs Mcilroy advised that a consultant has been commissioned to draft a waste minimisation roadmap for the district (which includes diversion), and to look at a broader overview of Council's waste management practices.

In response to a query, Mr Benadie advised that the sealing of Edwards Street in Bulls was substandard and he is trying to get a firm date from the contractor for when it will be fixed.

Regarding the increase in landfill tonnage coming through the district's transfer stations, Mr Benadie advised that an engineering company will complete a review of the district's solid waste management.

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/003

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Assets/Infrastructure meetings' be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr R Lambert. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - February 2022

The Chair's Report was tabled and taken as read.

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/004

That the Chair's Report – February 2022 be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Gordon. Carried

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Assets and Infrastructure Report - January 2022

Regarding Mt Curl Road (p. 24): Staff to email the Committee and confirm that the recent slip damage will not alter the completion date listed in the report.

Unsealed Road Network

The Committee discussed soil erosion and the future risk of this from farming practices. Mr Benadie advised that he will check with the roading team to see if there are any heat maps for damages across the district – if so, he will bring this back to the Committee. In response to a query, Mr

Benadie advised that the normal FAR rate from Waka Kotahi is 64%, but this can vary for significant damage (i.e., Waka Kotahi can potentially provide additional funding in specific circumstances).

The Committee discussed the maintenance of the district's unsealed road network. It was noted that many of the roads are of very old construction and have a clay base, making them susceptible to weather damage and soil erosion. Mr Benadie advised that Waka Kotahi and central government set the broader directives and programmes for roading works. Council can add new unsealed roads to the programme, but it will cost money and may not be prioritised against other work. A number of factors will go into considering the relative priority of certain roads, including their perceived economic utility. A schedule of maintenance for unsealed roads has been submitted to Waka Kotahi. Mr Benadie further noted that the request for service (RFS) system is the appropriate avenue for the public to submit maintenance requests.

The Committee and staff agreed that a workshop will be organised for elected members to address the maintenance of the unsealed road network and the impact of logging trucks on the condition of roads that are used for forestry.

Mangaweka Bridge Replacement

The Committee discussed the recent miscommunication between Council and Ngāti Hauiti, regarding the new Mangaweka Bridge. Mr Benadie advised that the contractor allowed vehicles to use the new bridge so that they could complete road works on the old portion. The bridge has since been re-closed and staff have approached Ngāti Hauiti about the appropriate steps moving forwards. Furthermore, the project management office (PMO) will meet with Mr Meihana (Strategic Advisor – Mana Whenua) on a weekly basis, to help ensure that Council's iwi partners are kept up to date.

Mr Beggs advised that he has apologised to the Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti for this miscommunication, and steps are being implemented by staff to ensure that it does not re-occur.

In response to a query, Mrs Mcilroy confirmed that traffic is now going across the historic bridge (not the new one). There is no additional cost to the project arising from this incident. Mr Beggs advised that the project is ahead of schedule, and that there is no opening date currently fixed.

Rubbish on State Highway 1

Cr Duncan advised the Committee that two of the main sections of SH 1 near Taihape have sections of unmown grass (at rest areas) and overflowing rubbish. The Committee noted that the SH comes under the jurisdiction of Waka Kotahi, although due to the negative perception that this could give of the local area, it would be worth raising it with Waka Kotahi for a resolution. The Committee agreed that the Mayor should raise this directly with Waka Kotahi.

Utilities Budgets

In response to a query about the cost for the Papakai Pump Station Diversion project, Mrs Mcilroy advised that the cost of the pump station is yet to be received. Once confirmed, it will be referred to Council for formal approval. Mr Beggs advised that this is a project where Council will have several options for the service level and associated cost of the project.

In response to a query, Mr Benadie advised that the line item for the centralisation pipeline only covers the cost of the pump installation. The pump station itself will have additional costs, although fortunately these should be low as the upwards gradient of the pipe is minimal, and much of the

rest of the pipeline will follow a downwards gradient (these sections will not require pumping due to gravity).

Taihape CBD

Cr Gordon advised that there is a lot of construction debris in Taihape that is washed into the town centre when it rains. He believes that the contractor (Higgins) should resolve this issue as they are the ones causing it. Mr Benadie advised that this is a state highway and the contractor is working on behalf of Waka Kotahi. Mr Beggs advised that staff will ask the Mayor to raise this issue with Waka Kotahi, alongside the issue of rubbish on SH 1 in Taihape.

Water Supply

Mrs Mcilroy advised that WSP are on schedule with their programme, and there are no red flags with either them or Horizons Regional Council (HRC). Some of the technical reports have indicated that there may be a need for a higher capital spend on some assets than has been budgeted.

In response to a query regarding the Taihape water supply, Mr Benadie advised that staff are attempting to find equipment to complete this job and it will then be presented to HRC.

In response to a query about impending water standards from Taumata Arawai (the new water regulator), Mrs Mcilroy advised that these new regulations are outside of WSP's scope – although staff have discussed this issue with MDC, as it would make sense for Council and MDC to submit a joint submission to Taumata Arawai.

Wastewater

In response to a query about the possibility of getting a consent to dump truck effluent at the Hunterville wastewater dams, Mr Benadie advised that this dumping site comes under Waka Kotahi and the Hunterville plant does not have sufficient capacity to accommodate this level of effluent.

Tutaenui Stream Fencing

Mrs Mcilroy updated the Committee on this issue. An iwi group had previously offered to erect fencing at the dams, but they are no longer certain that they will have a surplus of fencing materials or that they will have the time to complete the work. Staff have communicated with the Tutaenui Stream Restoration Society and put them in touch with the iwi group to progress this further. The Committee agreed that this was the right approach to take, and that it was time for staff to step back from the process.

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/005

That the Assets and Infrastructure Report – January 2022 be **received**.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

The meeting closed at 11.11 am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Assets/Infrastructure Committee held on 14 April 2022.

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Chairperson