

MINUTES

ASSETS/INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, 14 April 2022

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

- Cr Richard Lambert
- Cr Cath Ash *[via Zoom]*
- Cr Nigel Belsham
- Cr Fi Dalgety *[via Zoom]*
- Cr Brian Carter
- Cr Gill Duncan
- Cr Angus Gordon
- HWTM Andy Watson

In attendance

- Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive *[via Zoom]*
- Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
- Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager – Democracy and Planning
- Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager – Corporate Services *[via Zoom]*
- Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services *[via Zoom]*
- Mrs Jess Mcilroy, Operations Manager *[via Zoom]*
- Mr Allen Geerkens, Programme Delivery Manager – Roading *[via Zoom]*
- Mr Philip Gifford, Project Engineer – Roading *[via Zoom]*
- Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome / Prayer

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

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/006

That the apology for Cr Wilson be received.

HWTM A Watson/Cr N Belsham. 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/007

That the minutes of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 10 February 2022, without amendment, 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.

HWTM A Watson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Assets/Infrastructure Meetings

Regarding the Calico Line-Broadway intersection (action item 12), Mr Benadie advised that this will be at the contractors cost. This will cover both the road marking and ramp issues.

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/008

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

Cr R Lambert/Cr G Duncan. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - April 2022

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/009

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

Cr R Lambert/Cr N Belsham. Carried

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Funding of local share of 13 December 2021 Weather Event - Damage to Road Network

The Mayor asked where the unbudgeted expenditure will come from. Mr Benadie advised that Council is slightly behind on maintenance for 2021/22 and some funds may be available from those budgets. Mr Benadie further advised that if any shift in work prioritisations was required (e.g. pulling funds away from large projects) he would bring this to Council for pre-approval.

Cr Gordon arrived at 9.42 am.

In response to a query, staff confirmed that the FAR rate set by Waka Kotahi is currently 65%, reducing to 64% in 2022/23 and 63% in 2023/24.

Mr Geerkens advised that a request for emergency funding has been lodged with Waka Kotahi, and staff are awaiting confirmation of the percentage of funding that will be provided. Mr Benadie explained that for emergency events, Waka Kotahi will consider funding more than the standard FAR rate if higher thresholds are met. If the higher thresholds are not met, the FAR rate defaults to the normal rate (65%).

Mr Tombs advised that this work has currently been allocated to an existing operational budget (“subsidised roading maintenance work”) that is well under its year-to-date spend.

Cr Raukawa joined the meeting at 9.57 am.

Undertaking:

That staff inform the A/I Committee of how the unbudgeted expenditure for these two roading works will be funded.

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/010

That the report ‘Funding of local share of 13 December 2021 Weather Event – Damage to Road Network’ be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/011

That the Council approves additional expenditure of up to \$1,820,000 (plus GST) for roading emergency works. Waka Kotahi’s funding assistance rate is still to be confirmed. The remainder of the cost will be covered by the Council local share as unbudgeted expenditure.

Cr N Belsham/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/012

That Council and the Assets/Infrastructure Committee be informed of any deferrals to the roading maintenance schedule.

HWTM A Watson/Cr A Gordon. Carried

9.2 Funding of local share of 12 February 2022 Weather Event – Damage to Road Network

The Mayor advised that Waka Kotahi will determine the FAR rates for both this weather event and the weather event that took place 13 Dec 21 – he asked that staff confirm these rates and advise the Committee.

In response to a query about whether these two works could be assigned as capital expenditure, Mr Tombs advised that generally repairs are classified as operating expenditure and improvements are classified as capital expenditure.

In response to a query, Mr Benadie confirmed that these works would not be covered by insurance.

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/013

That the report ‘Funding of local share of 12 February 2022 Weather Event – Damage to Road Network’ be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/014

That the Council approves additional expenditure of up to \$341,000 (plus GST) for roading emergency works. Waka Kotahi's funding assistance rate is still to be confirmed. The remainder of the cost will be covered by the Council local share as unbudgeted expenditure.

Cr N Belsham/Cr G Duncan. Carried

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Assets and Infrastructure Report - March 2022

Cr Gordon advised that he had forwarded a number of queries (around road maintenance) to staff via email on 13 Apr 22. This email was not tabled as part of the meeting. He asked staff if they had any updates to these queries. Mr Benadie advised that he had forwarded these queries on to the roading team, and they did not yet have any firm answers.

Mr Gifford advised that there were several factors that were currently reducing the levels of road maintenance that could be carried out. These included the weather (e.g. being too dry to regrade steep gravel roads), the COVID-19 situation, and the recent adverse weather events necessitating emergency work elsewhere. He advised that Okaka Road will be graded next week, and Te Kapua Road will also be graded shortly.

In response to a query, Mr Geerkens advised that the current cost for an unsealed road was \$1,800 per kilometre, and around double that for a sealed road, although he noted that they have different levels of traffic and ongoing maintenance costs.

In response to a query, Mr Geerkens advised that the Corridor Management Plan recommends a speed limit of 80 km/h for the Taihape-Napier Road.

Mangaweka Bridge

The Mayor advised that he had received a series of emails (tabled as part of this meeting) from ratepayers regarding the opening of the new Mangaweka Bridge. Several councillors agreed that the delay of the bridge opening was costing businesses. Mr Benadie advised that the opening date had always been set as June 2022. The bridge may be opened earlier as the project was ahead of schedule, but this could not yet be confirmed. Mr Beggs agreed that the bridge may be able to be opened earlier, but this would be done after consultation and consent from iwi.

It was requested that details on the work still to be completed be advised at the April Council meeting.

Undertakings:

Staff to outline on the Council website what work remains to be completed on the Mangaweka Bridge, before it can be opened to the public.

Staff to provide a report to the next Council meeting on the Mangaweka Bridge, including what risks would be associated with potentially expediting the project.

Papakai Pump Station

In response to a query, Mr Benadie advised that the current budget is not sufficient and will need to be addressed. Staff will bring a report on this to a future Committee meeting, once the contractor

has provided estimates on the cost. Mr Benadie also advised that the Amenities Building in Taihape was in a similar situation – staff will bring a report detailing this to a future Committee meeting.

Marton Footpaths

Cr Belsham advised that several members of the public have raise an issue with him of footpaths in Marton being blocked by barriers that were put in place to prevent cyclists. This is preventing mobility scooters using the footpaths. Mr Benadie advised that he will look into this.

Utilities Budgets

Mrs Mcilroy advised that COVID-19 has presented hurdles for contractors. A paper will be presented to Council at the end of June seeking approval for a test bore and possible production bore contract for the Marton-Bulls Wastewater Centralisation Project.

Water

Mrs Mcilroy advised that staff are purchasing a valve for the Taihape Water Treatment Plant, in order to try and reduce the water intake to compliant levels. Mr Benadie advised that staff are communicating with Horizons Regional Council about this water intake and keeping them informed of Council's efforts to be compliant.

Solid Waste

Mr Benadie advised that a Section 17A (review of service delivery) was underway to compare different supply models. Staff will present a report on this at a future Committee meeting.

Taihape Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mr Benadie advised that the plant is non-compliant with too much aluminium being recorded. Staff are hoping to have more realistic consents in place for issues like this. The Mayor advised that he had asked the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) whether any non-compliance issues for wastewater treatment plants would be passed on to the new water entity (under the Three Waters Reform) – the DIA were unable to provide an answer to this.

Resolved minute number 22/AIN/015

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

Cr R Lambert/HWTM A Watson. Carried

The meeting closed at 11.17 am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Assets/Infrastructure Committee held on 9 June 2022.

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Chairperson