



Rangitikei District Council

Policy and Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 19 March 2020 – 1:00 p.m.

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Present:

- Cr Angus Gordon
- Cr Tracey Hiroa
- Cr Cath Ash
- Cr Nigel Belsham
- Cr Fiona Dalgety
- Cr Gill Duncan
- Cr Jane Dunn
- Cr Richard Lambert
- Cr Waru Panapa
- Cr Dave Wilson
- His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson
- Mr Chris Shenton (Te Roopu Ahi Kaa representative)

In attendance:

- Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive
- Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager
- Ms Carol Gordon, Manager – Executive Office
- Ms Nardia Gower, Strategy and Community Planning Manager
- Mr Johan Cullis, Environmental Services Team Leader
- Mr Arno Benadie, Principal Advisor – Infrastructure
- Mr George Forster, Policy Advisor (*via teleconference for item 11*)
- Ms Bonnie Clayton, Governance Administrator

Tabled Documents: **Item 7** – Chair’s Report

1 Welcome

Councillor Gordon opened the meeting at 1.10pm.

Mr Beggs briefed the Committee on Council's approach to Covid-19 and the impact it is having on the district, Council properties and the changes required for customer facing staff. Council is being proactive in setting up workstations for staff to be able to work from home.

2 Public Forum

Nil

3 Apologies/Leave of Absence

Nil

4 Members' conflict of interest

Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

Councillors Ash, Duncan and Hiroa all declared a conflict of interest or perceived in regards to item 12.

5 Confirmation of order of business

The order of business was confirmed with the following changes:

Item 11 followed item 9.

Item 14 followed item 12.

6 Confirmation of minutes

Resolved minute number	20/PPL/010	File Ref	3-CT-13-2
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That the Minutes of the 'Policy/Planning Committee' meeting held on 13 February 2020 without amendment be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Dunn/Cr Lambert. Carried

7 Chair's Report

Councillor Gordon took his tabled report as read and briefly made note of how upgrading Council electronic communications and processes may be something to consider in light of the current Covid-19 virus.

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/011** **File Ref** **3-CT-15-1**

That the tabled 'Chair's Report' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 19 March 2020 be received.

Cr Gordon/Cr Hiroa. Carried

8 Oral Submissions for Water-related Services Bylaw

The commentary in the agenda was noted.

9 Review of Burials and Cremations Act 1964 and related legislation

Mr Phillips and Ms Hansen provided a PowerPoint presentation, seeking feedback for a draft submission to go to Council's meeting on 26 March 2020. The main points raised in discussion were:

- Proposals reflected an understanding that local government was the best agency to administer burial grounds and cemeteries– but the additional costs had to be recognised and met.
- Private cemeteries on farms were undesirable as their continuation could not be guaranteed.
- Ecoburials a worthwhile option.
- Various cultural perspectives on disposing of ashes.

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/012** **File Ref**

That the presentation on 'Review of Burials and Cremations Act 1964 and related legislation' to the 19 March 2020 Policy/Planning meeting be received.

Cr Belsham/ Cr Lambert. Carried

11 Dangerous and Insanitary Building Policy

The report was taken as read.

Via teleconference, Mr Forster noted that no changes are required for the policy; however, there was a statutory requirement for the policy to go out for public consultation. He clarified that all houses, all buildings are covered under the definition of a building.

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/014** **File Ref** **3-PY-1-20**

That the draft report 'Proposed Dangerous and Insanitary Building Policy' to the 19 March 2020 Policy/Planning meeting be received.

His Worship the Mayor/Cr Dunn. Carried

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/015** **File Ref**

That to meet the requirements of section 131 of the Building Act 2004, the Policy and Planning Committee recommends to Council that the draft Dangerous and Insanitary Building Policy and supporting consultation material be adopted for public consultation.

Cr Belsham/Cr Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/016** **File Ref**

That the Policy/Planning Committee be delegated to hear oral submissions to the draft Dangerous and Insanitary Building Policy.

His Worship the Mayor/Cr Dunn. Carried

10 Affordable Housing

A slide show was presented to Committee members.

The Committee agreed that this is an important matter and that the district is growing, they would like to see further agenda items in respect to Affordable Housing.

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/013** **File Ref**

That the presentation on 'Affordable Housing' to the 19 March 2020 Policy/Planning meeting be received.

Cr Gordon/Cr Dunn. Carried

12 Partnering Organisations MoU work plan review 2020/2021

Ms Gower took her report as read.

The Committee agreed that the MoU partners do fantastic work within the communities, specifically the hard work and hours put into events. They discussed the varied level of reporting and presentations at the 13 February 2020 meeting and that there is a need for stronger guidance on content and reports, when reporting to Council.

The Committee agrees that staff discuss with the MoU partners to understand the implications of limiting public gatherings on their work programmes and what new opportunities warranted exploring. This issue could also impact on proposals made to the Events Sponsorship Scheme: a briefing on this would be provided to Council's meeting on 26 March 2020.

Councillor Ash, Councillor Duncan and Councillor Hiroa removed themselves from the room in regards to this item in the instance of conflicts of interest and perceived conflicts 2.42pm-3.14pm.

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/017** **File Ref** **4-EN-10-2**

That the That the 'Partnering Organisations MoU work plan review 2020/2021' to the 19 March 2020 Policy/Panning Committee meeting be received.

Cr Belsham/Cr Dunn. Carried

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/018** **File Ref**

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that the Bulls and District Community Trust is granted \$26,500 for their proposed 2020/2021 work plan.

Cr Belsham/Cr Dunn. Carried

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/019** **File Ref**

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that Project Marton is granted \$30,500 for their proposed 2020/2021 work plan.

Cr Belsham/Cr Dunn. Carried

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/020** **File Ref**

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that Mokai Patea Services is granted \$8,500 for their proposed 2020/2021 work plan.

Cr Belsham/Cr Dunn. Carried

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/021** **File Ref**

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that the Taihape Community Development Trust is granted \$20,000 for their proposed 2020/2021 work plan.

Cr Belsham/Cr Dunn. Carried

Cr Hiroa left 3.22pm.

Cr Dunn left 3.28pm.

Meeting adjourned 3.14pm-3.29pm.

14 Update on Communications Strategy

Ms Gordon took her report as read and provided an update on Council's communications around Covid-19, noting:

- a message from His Worship the Mayor and Chief Executive on the Council website and Face Book page
- a dedicated Covid-19 Information page on the website which refers to Guidelines and Information directly from Government, along with the covid19.govt.nz website link for up to date information
- Staff are developing a top 10 FAQ sheet to put onto the website, to answer any questions the public may have around rates etc.
- Staff are being regularly updated every two days or more on the current situation from the internal Incident Management Team

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/023** **File Ref**

That the report 'Update on Communications Strategy' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 19 March 2020 be received.

Cr Ash/Cr Duncan. Carried

13 Legislation and Governance Update - March 2020

Mr Hodder took his report as read and highlighted that the Maori land rating is to be referred to a select committee.

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/022** **File Ref** **3-OR-3-5**

That the report 'Legislation and Governance Update – March 2020' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 19 March 2020 be received.

Cr Belsham/Cr Gordon. Carried

15 Policy & Community Planning Project and Activity Report – March 2020

Ms Gower spoke to her report, briefing Committee members with the departure of the Economic Development officer, she has been attending networking meetings to continue to strengthen those relationships.

Ms Gower noted that 16 Youth Council nominations were received, for the 7 vacancies. Following the Ministry of Educations advice, the Youth Council would no longer be attending River Valley for the training weekend, and have made the decision to hold the inaugural Youth Council meeting and work plan in Council Chambers on Sunday 22 March 2020.

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/024** **File Ref** **1-CO-4-8**

That the 'Policy & Community Planning Project and Activity Report – March 2019' to the Policy/Planning Committee on 19 March 2020 be received.

His Worship the Mayor/Cr Ash. Carried

16 Activity Management

The report was taken as read.

Mr Cullis noted that 154 of 207 inspections of earthquake prone buildings have been undertaken, with 5 assessments returned.

The Committee requested clarification of what a priority building is under the Implementation of the Building (earthquake-prone buildings) Amendment Act.

Cr Wilson declared a conflict of interest to this item and removed himself from discussion.

Undertaking **Subject**

Staff to provide clarification and report back to Council, on what a priority building is considered.

Resolved minute number **20/PPL/025** **File Ref** **5-EX-3-2**

That the report 'Activity Management' to the 19 March 2020 Policy/Planning Committee be received.

Cr Wilson/Cr Ash. Carried

17 Late items

As agreed in Item 5.

18 Future items for the agenda

Effectiveness of the Traffic and Parking By-law

19 Next meeting

Thursday 16 April 2020, 1.00pm

20 Meeting closed

4.44pm

Confirmed/Chair: _____

Date: