

Chairman's report to policy and planning

February 2016

Welcome to today's meeting,

As you will have seen I am attending the meeting via Zoom, and my able deputy chair Cr Hiroa is chairing on my behalf. As you may all be aware I am recuperating from a surgical procedure that was undertaken 1 week ago, almost to the second.

My apologies for the tabling of the report, I will do better in the future.

I would like to comment on a couple of things,

Firstly the local speed by-law maps must be updated and be accurate to reflect what we have written in our as they do influence the process around the altering of the "open road speed" on the Waka Kotahi (NZTA) network, I think there may be an anomaly in one of them currently (Taihape) that we may well need to question.

The second thing I would like to raise , and this is not an agenda item or council policy item, but in a way much bigger is how we as an organisation and even more importantly how our ratepayers react to change. I along with many folk bought myself a number of books to read over the summer holiday period, one of those being a book called "Upheaval, how nations cope with crisis and change" written by Jared Diamond. Whilst all the points that he raises are not directly transferrable into local government in a New Zealand sense, there are a number of commonalities that may be worthwhile thinking about in terms of the big things that are coming at our district and others and ultimately our ratepayers. In the near future I will try and distil down some of the ideas that may have relevance and share them with you all.

Look forward to your inputs to todays meeting.

Angus Gordon

Chairman