



SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 27 August 2008

- Present: Mayor Adrienne Staples (Chairperson), Councillors Margaret Craig, Dean Davies, Mike Gray, Viv Napier, Diane Phelps, Julie Riddell, Solitaire Robertson, Keith Sexton and Max Stevens.
- In attendance: Dr Jack Dowds (CEO), Louise Lyster (MDC) and Ravi Mangar (MWS) and Sonny Te Maari (MSC) for the entire meeting. Chris Gorman (Senior Planner) for items A-D1.
- Conduct of Business: The meeting was held at the District Council Chambers in Martinborough and was conducted in public between 9.30am-12.30 pm and for the conduct of urgent business between 1.10pm-1.15pm.

A Preliminary Matters

1. Introduction and Apologies

The Mayor opened the meeting and sought leave to introduce the following items of business that were received after distribution of the Agenda:

- Advice from DLA Phillips Fox (20 August 2008) re Execution of Deeds by Council – Changes to Requirements under Property Law Act 2007.
- Arbor House Community Trust Report – Dr RF Tuckett (23 August 2008)
- WRAC/UCOL Meeting Report – Cr J Riddell (27 August 2008)
- Wellington Regional Strategy Office – Broadband Operational Group (letter 21 August 2008) [See D1 and Urgent Business]
- Reserves Management Working Party – minutes of meeting (6 August 2008).
- Greytown Wastewater Upgrade Steering Committee – minutes of meeting (28 July 2008)

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive these items of business. *(Staples/Gray)*

Dr Jack Dowds was welcomed to his first Council meeting as Council's new CEO.

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Minutes for Confirmation:

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 July 2008 were confirmed as true and correct. *(Stevens/Sexton)*

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B Council Committee and Community Board Minutes

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the July 2008 minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee. (*Craig/Gray*)

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the August 2008 minutes of the Maori Standing Committee. (*Davies/Phelps*)

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the August 2008 meeting of the Martinborough Community Board. (*Staples/Sexton*)

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the August 2008 meeting of the Featherston Community Board. (*Robertson/Napier*)

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the August 2008 meeting of the Greytown Community Board. (*Gray/Craig*)

[Action: Rates Newsletter to explain reasons for introducing transfer station charges for recyclable material.]

C Planning and Regulatory

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the July 2008 report on planning activities, the minutes of the Hearings Committee minutes dated 17 July 2008 and the reports of the Applications sub-committee dated 8 and 23 July 2008. (*Staples/Riddell*)

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the July 2008 Building Services Report. (*Gray/Stevens*)

Sierra Warrington and Gay Read, who both worked in the Planning Department, have recently resigned. Council expressed thanks and appreciation for the administrative support these staff members have provided.

The Building Department was congratulated on achieving accreditation and it was noted that under the Building Act 2004, Council can now issue infringement notices for non-compliance with the Act.

[Action: Review whether Council delegations/warrants are required to empower Council employees to act.]

[Action: Councillors have requested colour copies of all colour-coded tables contained in Council reports]

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D Operational Reports

D.1 CEO – Finance – Corporate

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the CEO's report on Finance and Corporate Services for August 2008 and the tabled financial reports for the month ending 31 July 2008.
(Sexton/Robertson)

Monthly Financial Statements to 31 July 2008 (tabled):

- Revenue was below budget for the first month of the new financial year. Cashflow was adequate for current activities but would require monitoring.
- The 2008/2009 financial accounts and draft annual report should be available for review before the end of September.

Wellington Regional Strategy Office: SORT Newsletter no.3 – Broadband (page 44 of the Agenda):

- Members of the Senior Officers Resource Team (SORT) are part of the Broadband Operating Group (BOG) which comprises a cross section of local government, central government and district health representatives with interests in the telecommunications sector. BOG is preparing an expression of interest to the Broadband Investment Fund which will be submitted through the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee and Council will be asked to become a party to the expression of interest. see E.1 Mayors Report (page 52 of the Agenda) and 52H – Urgent Business..
- Urban Protocol: the Wellington Regional Strategy Office will be organising a briefing for SWDC Councillors.

[Action: Advise WRS/BOG of limited resources within SWDC to prepare information to support application to Broadband Investment Fund and concern about overlap with other initiatives (eg Project Probe and Peoples Network) that already provide high speed internet access within the region].

Wairarapa Chamber of Commerce Letter dated 14 August 2008 (page 38 of the Agenda):

- Council is a member of the Wairarapa Chamber of Commerce and supported the Chamber's work in the area of local economic and business development.
- Financial support for the Chamber's activities needs to be considered in the context of Council's financial support and commitment to the Greater Wellington Regional Economic Strategy.

[Action: consider funding of Chamber of Commerce initiatives, including option of a targeted rate, through the LTTCF process.]

Department of Conservation letter – update of Development of the Community Conservation Fund – dated 15 August 2008 (page 47 of the Agenda)

- Full details of the "Community Conservation Fund" will be announced on 23/24 September by the Minister of Conservation.

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D.2 Works and Services

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the Works and Services report for August 2008.
(*Stevens/Craig*)

Harvesting Pines – Hurupi: Noted that \$10,000 from sale proceeds will be kept in reserve for replanting and maintenance costs.

Town Water Usage: Greytown water consumption continues to trend at a higher level than either Featherston or Martinborough. Specialist leak detection tests identified two rural properties with problems (that have now been fixed) and random meter testing is not identifying a general problem.

[Action: Councillors to consider alerting residents of high water usage and recommending that plumbers check for leaks when carrying out routine maintenance.]

[Action: W&S Working Party to review Greytown water consumption, water conservation policies and plan for introducing charges.]

[Action: SWDC website/Rates Newsletter to advise absentee owners of recent heavy rain and the importance of providing contact details to neighbours]

E Representation Reports

E.1 Mayor's report

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive the Mayor's report for August 2008.
(*Staples/Davies*)

Advice from DLA Phillips Fox (20 August 2008) re Execution of Deeds by Council – Changes to Requirements under Property Law Act 2007 was tabled. It proposed that any two Councillors could execute Deeds.

[Action: Revise Council Policy on the Use of the Common Seal].

Correspondence from ratepayers:

[Action: Season tickets and pool inspections referred to W&S Working Party]

[Action: Review (and/or obtain updated advice) legal advice re policy of protecting public roads and not private property from erosion and flood damage and report back to Council].

E.2 Reports from Councillors

COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive representation reports from Councillors. (*Craig/Napier*)

- LGNZ Conference in Rotorua – Cr Craig
- Arbour House Community Trust Report – Dr RF Tuckett
- WRAC/UCOL Meeting Report – Cr Riddell

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- Greytown Wastewater Upgrade Steering Committee – minutes of meeting (28 July 2008)
- Rural Fire Service AGM – Cr Phelps

[Action: Sell one of the surplus fire trucks “as is where is”.]

[Action: Clive Paton was due to report on the National Wildlife Centre Trust Inc in September. Pamela Jefferies would be invited to submit a short report on the activities of the Wairarapa Arts Culture and Heritage Trust.]

[Action: CEO to discuss with other Wairarapa CEO’s how the Councils could work together on strategic initiatives being sponsored by the GWRC.]

F Decision Papers

F.1 Flood Damage

<i>DC2008/334 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> to receive the report on Flood Damage 30-31 July 2008 and allocate \$51,000 from the appropriate reserves to meet Council’s share of the cost of road reinstatement.	27 August 2008 (Sexton/Stevens)
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F.2 Wharekauhau Road (Paper Road) Stopping

<i>DC2008/335 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> to advertise the public notice inviting objections to stop the Wharekauhau Paper Road and offering the land to the adjacent land owners at a mutually agreed price.	27 August 2008 (Napier/Phelps)
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F.3 Recommendations from Committees

1. Policy and Finance Committee – 23 July 2008

<i>DC2008/336 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> that the status of the Works and Services Committee be changed to a working party with membership comprising all Councillors, with no change to the status or remuneration of the Chairperson.	27 August 2008 (Napier/Craig)
<i>DC2008/337 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> that the name of the Rural Services Committee be changed to the “Rural Advisory Committee”.	27 August 2008 (Napier/Craig)

2. Maori Standing Committee – 18 August 2008

<i>DC2008/338 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> that Haami Te Whaiti to advise if the site (Resource Consent. 3516: Rural Subdivision Puruatanga Farm Limited 5 lot subdivision Ponatahi Road, Martinborough) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has cultural or historical significance. If yes, • A cultural and /or archaeological assessment be required prior to the hearing of the application. 	27 August 2008 (Napier/Craig)
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3. Mayor's report - 27 August 2008

DC2008/339 COUNCIL RESOLVED to delegate authority to Councillors Napier and Stevens to hear submissions on the Wairarapa Gambling Policy review and vote on Council's behalf. *27 August 2008
(Staples/Robertson)*

4. Programme of Council, Community Board and Committee Meetings July 2008 – February 2009

DC2008/340 COUNCIL RESOLVED *27 August 2008
(Napier/Craig)*

1. to adopt the programme of Council and Committee Meetings for the period July 2008 – February 2009;
2. to recommend that the Community Boards adopt the Schedule of Community Board meetings for the period July 2008- February 2009.

5. Financial Delegations

DC2008/341 COUNCIL RESOLVED *27 August 2008
(Stevens/Gray)*

1. to approve the writing-off of debts incurred in the 2006/2007(\$11,409.20) and 2007/2008 (\$8,196.60) financial years relating to dog registration fees/infringement notices that are unenforceable and unrecoverable.
2. to approve the early repayment of a loan facility taken out in 2007, subject to advice from financial advisors that liquidity requirements are met, noting that the Liability Management Policy:
 - Enables Council to liquidate loans at any point in time if allowed under the terms of the loan agreement.
 - All matters concerning borrowing which can be lawfully delegated are delegated to the Chief Executive.

6 Wairarapa Library Service – Terms of Reference

DC2008/342 COUNCIL RESOLVED to adopt the recommendation of the Wairarapa Library Service Committee that each Council approve the Terms of Reference for the Wairarapa Library Service Committee. *27 August 2008
(Stevens/Sexton)*

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G PUBLIC EXCLUDED

G.1 Policies on the Use of Council-owned Facilities

<i>DC2008/343 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> that the public be excluded from the following part of the meeting namely: Policies on the Use of Council-owned Facilities	27 August 2008 (Staples/Davies)
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The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this 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:

Report/General Subject Matter	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter`	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this Resolution.
G.1 Report of CEO dated August 2008 – Policies on the Use of Council-owned facilities.	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7	Section 48(1)((a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by 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, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter`	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this Resolution.
Protection of privacy of natural persons. Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs.	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(f)(ii)
Conduct of commercial activities and negotiations.	Section 7(2)(h),(j)

<i>DC2008/344 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> that the wider public interest outweighed the reasons for passing the resolution to exclude the public and revoked the resolution to exclude the public.	27 August 2008 (Napier/Craig)
<i>DC2008/345 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> to refer the paper (G1 Report of CEO dated August 2008 – Policies on the Use of Council –owned Facilities) to the Policy and Finance Committee Meeting following the Council meeting.	27 August 2008 (Staples/Craig)

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H Urgent Business

<i>DC2008/346 COUNCIL RESOLVED</i> to note the Wellington Regional Strategy Office – Broadband Operational Group letter dated 21 August 2008 and the SORT Newsletter no. 3 and authorised Council to be part of an expression of interest to the Broadband Investment Fund.	<i>27 August 2008 (Napier/Craig)</i>
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Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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