



caring about you & your environment

Report 01.298

29 March 2001

File: E/6/16/2

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Landcare Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington, on Thursday, 29 March 2001 at 9.30am

Present

Councillors Werry (Chairperson), Bonner, Laidlaw, Long, Macaskill, McQueen, Shaw, Shields and Thomas and Mr Gilbert

Also Present

Councillor Turver.

Officers Present

Messrs Andrell, Annakin, Ballantine, Cross, Darroch, Dick, Anne Manley, Margaret McLachlan, Oliver, Paul,

Public Business

Procedural Items

LC233 Apologies

Resolved

(Cr Werry/Cr Laidlaw)

That the apology from Mr Ross be confirmed.

LC234 Public Participation

Mr M Taylor, Tararua Tramping Club

Mr Taylor said he was pleased that non-commercial groups will not be getting different treatment than commercial organisations but he was concerned the comments in the analysis had not been changed to reflect this. Mr Taylor also requested there be a clear distinction between profit and private gain as it applied to commercial and non-commercial groups. He was also concerned that the level of discretion given to WRC Managers was not well described in the policy document.

Mr Kevin Wharfe, Farmer, Belmont

Mr Wharfe said he owned a farm adjacent to Belmont Regional Park. Mr Wharfe said he had recently attended a meeting in Porirua called by the 'Friends of Belmont Regional Park'. As a result of comments at the meeting he was concerned about the future plans for the Park and the impact it would have on his ability to farm.

Mr Wharfe was advised the Terms of Reference for the 'Friends of Belmont Regional Park' were still in the formative stage; members were keen to see more Porirua participation. These will be endorsed by the Landcare Committee. The Regional Council will continue to be responsible for the Park and will ensure the rights of adjacent land owners are protected.

LC235 Confirmation of the Minutes

Resolved

(Cr Werry /Cr Thomas)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2001, Report 01.122, and the Special meeting held on 21 February 2001 ,Report 01.179, be confirmed.

Matters for Recommendation

LC236 Kapiti Minor Watercourses – Status Report

Report 01.202

File: N/60/1/1

Members discussed whether early progress could be made planning matters for the watercourses in Kapiti, especially the Waitohu and Mangaone Streams. There was a need to clarify the objectives and responsibilities of the Kapiti Coast District Council and the Regional Council. Mr Annakin stressed that projects had the link to the resources available in the Annual Plan and the Long-Term Financial Strategy. Members were keen to pursue community consultation. Members then resolved as follows:

Moved

(Cr Thomas/Cr Shaw)

That the Committee:

(1) Receives the report and note the contents.

- (2) *Recommends to the Policy and Finance Committee that it:*
- (a) *Agrees that the Council's current management of Kapiti minor watercourses requires review and that a number of broad management options are open to Council.*
 - (b) *Agrees that for the purposes of any review that the Kapiti minor watercourses be broken into five groups and that the review proceed on a group by group basis commencing with the Waimeha Stream.*
 - (c) *Notes the potential for new 'scheme plans' on the Waitohu and Mangaone streams, and that consideration for developing such scheme plans should follow completion of the programmed flood hazard assessments.*
 - (d) *Agrees that the 1991 Kapiti Coast Watercourses Agreement with the Kapiti Coast District Council should be reviewed on an on-going basis as each stream group is considered.*
 - (e) *Agrees that officers should consider the merits of setting up 'scheme consultative groups' for the Waitohu and Mangaone Streams following completion of the respective flood hazard studies.*
 - (f) *Notes that a report concluding investigations into a rating scheme for the Otaki River and its floodplain is due to be presented to the Landcare Committee by December 2001 and that this report will consider consistencies in funding of other Kapiti watercourses work.*

Amendment*(Cr McQueen/Cr Macaskill)*

That the following motion be added as (2) above, with the existing (2) becoming (3), as follows:

That it be recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that it notes the major changes in land use, both rural and urban, which have caused significant changes in river/stream behaviour and will continue to do so and notes the need to consider an exacerbator/beneficiary convention in developing new management policies in this area.

CARRIED**Amendment***(Mr Gilbert/Cr Laidlaw)*

That the following motion be added as a new (3)(d) as follows:

Agrees that discussions are held with landowners including Iwi and other interested parties, to explore future options with respect to managing the Waitohu and Mangaone streams.

CARRIED

The motion as amended was then put and **CARRIED** as follows:

Resolved to Recommend

That the Committee:

(1) *Receive the report and note the contents.*

Recommends to the Policy and Finance Committee that it:

- (2) *Notes the major changes in land use, both rural and urban, which have caused significant changes in river/stream behaviour and will continue to do so and notes the need to consider an exacerbator/beneficiary convention in developing new management policies in this area.*
- (3) (a) *Agrees that the Council's current management of Kapiti minor watercourses requires review and that a number of broad management options are open to Council.*
- (b) *Agrees that for the purposes of any review that the Kapiti minor watercourses be broken into five groups and that the review proceed on a group by group basis commencing with the Waimeha Stream.*
- (c) *Notes the potential for new 'scheme plans' on the Waitohu and Mangaone streams, and that consideration for developing such scheme plans should follow completion of the programmed flood hazard assessments.*
- (d) *Agrees that discussions are held with landowners, including Iwi and other interested parties, to explore for the future the options with respect to managing the Waitohu and Mangaone streams.*
- (e) *Agrees that the 1991 Kapiti Coast Watercourses Agreement with the Kapiti Coast District Council should be reviewed on an on-going basis as each stream group is considered.*
- (f) *Agrees that officers should consider the merits of setting up 'scheme consultative groups' for the Waitohu and Mangaone Streams following completion of the respective flood hazard studies.*
- (g) *Notes that a report concluding investigations into a rating scheme for the Otaki River and its floodplain is due to be presented to the Landcare Committee by December 2001 and that this report will consider consistencies in funding of other Kapiti watercourses work.*

Councillor Turver left at 11.10am.

LC237 Recreation and Tourism in WRC Parks and Forests, Policy Adoption

Report 01.205

File: R/16/2/1

*Resolved to Recommend to the Policy and Finance
Committee that the Council:*

(Cr McQueen/Cr Long)

- (1) *Agrees to the amendments to the draft policy as outlined in Attachment 3;*
- (2) *Adopts the “Policy for Recreation and Tourism in Wellington Regional Council Parks and Forests” as drafted for public consultation, along with the amendments proposed in Recommendation (1), as Council policy;*
- (3) *Agrees that the revised policy (including the revised charges) take effect from 1 July 2001;*
- (4) *Notes that this will replace the “Commercial Recreation and Related Services on Regional Council Lands - Concessions Policy” (January 1994) and “Charges for Services in Regional Parks” (adopted in February 1997);*
- (5) *Notes that Parks and Forests officers will work with Communications to publicise the changes to the current policy and charges and the reasons why (emphasising cost recovery, rather than profit and the criteria for waivers and discounts), and to advise current concessionaires of the changes likely to affect them when their contracts come up for renewal;*
- (6) *Agrees that Parks and Forests officers make any typographical changes and minor amendments to ensure consistency with Recommendation (1).*

Councillor Shaw requested that officers contact Mr Taylor of the Tararua Tramping Club before the next Policy and Finance Committee meeting to discuss his concerns about the wording in the policy document.

Members noted the interest in “Green Dollars” but sought general application.

Matter for Decision

LC238 Whitireia Park: Five-Year Maintenance Work Programme

Report 01.206

File: R/1/15/1

Resolved

(Cr Macaskill/Cr Long)

That Council:

- (1) *Receive the report.*
- (2) *Endorse the five-year maintenance programme for Whitireia Park for consideration by the Whitireia Park Board.*
- (3) *Request Officers to report annually on the implementation of the Whitireia Park maintenance programme.*

It was agreed that Mr Annakin, Divisional Manager, discuss a timely implementation of the maintenance programme with the Department of

Conservation and if necessary arrange an early meeting of the Whitireia Park Board.

Matters for Information

LC239 Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan

(1) Report of Advisory Committee Meeting – 8 March 2001

Report 01.150

File: E/6/10/6

Councillor Bonner left at 12.00pm.

Moved

(Cr Macaskill/Cr Thomas)

That the Committee confirm the report of the meeting of the Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee held on 8 March 2001, Items HRF 104 to HRF 111, and the recommendations contained therein.

It was agreed that the above motion would lie on the table until the completion of the presentations.

(2) Consultative Draft Presentation

Councillor Shields left at 12.25pm.

Mr Cross, Resource Planner, gave a presentation on the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan Consultation Draft. Members complimented the Flood Protection staff on the quality of the planning work. The Hutt River is a significant regional asset and all Council divisions had a role; media releases should reflect this.

Resolved

(Chairperson/Cr Werry)

That the information be received.

(3) Environmental Strategy Update

Mr Cross also gave a presentation on the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan Environmental Strategy.

Resolved

(Cr Macaskill/Cr McQueen)

That the information be received.

(1) Report of Advisory Committee Meeting (Continued)

The motion:

That the Committee confirm the report of the meeting of the Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee held on 8 March 2001, Items HRF 104 to HRF 111, and the recommendations contained therein

was then put and **CARRIED**.

LC240 Divisional Manager's Report

Report 01.207

File: E/6/16/3

Councillor Laidlaw left at 12.45pm.

Resolved

(Cr Long/Cr Thomas)

That the report be received and its contents noted.

LC241 Questions

Cleary's Road, Akatarawa Forest

In reply to a question from Councillor Long, Mr Annakin said that following further discussions with the Akatarawa Action Committee (ARAC) a report on the Cleary's Road alternative route will be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

Drought

Councillor Thomas asked what impact the drought may be now having on the parks and forests.

Mr Andrell said there will be a long term stress problem for trees and a negative impact on plant regeneration.

Public Utilities and Rating

Councillor Shaw referred to recent Select Committee Hearings on the Electricity Act and asked whether the Regional Council should list the Public Utilities using our lands and examine whether the Regional Council could earn any additional revenue from these utilities.

Councillor Macaskill said many of the Public Utilities had protected occupancy and it would not be wise to pursue such a course at this time.

LC242 General

There were no matters of general business.

LC243 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved

(Cr Werry/Cr Thomas)

That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely:

Report Back on Land Purchase Proposal : York Bay

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons 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:

<i>General subject of each matter to be considered:</i>	<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<i>Report Back on Land Purchase Proposal : York Bay</i>	<i>To enable the Council to carry on negotiations without prejudice or disadvantage.</i>	<i>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist (ie. to enable the Council to carry on negotiations without prejudice or disadvantage.</i>

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1) (a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act of 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:

Wellington Regional Council

The open part of the meeting closed at 12.55pm.

COUNCILLOR R WERRY
Chairperson

Date