

Unconfirmed minutes



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ASSET MANAGEMENT AND BIOSECURITY COMMITTEE**

Date: Wednesday 15 August 2007

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Venue: Council Chamber
Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
NAPIER

Present: E H von Dadelszen
M Apatu
B Blake
A J Dick
N F Kirton
E McGregor
G R McIntyre
A Olsen
K J Rose
C H Scott
A M Williams

In Attendance: A Newman – Chief Executive
M Adye – Group Manager Asset Management
C Leckie – Manager Biosecurity – Items (9, 10 & 11)
G Clode – Items (6, 7 & 8)
C Goodier – Items (6, 7 & 8)
L McGlinchey – Items (6, 7 & 8)
T Little – Minute Secretary

Chairman Rose welcomed Committee members to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 MAY 2007

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15 May 2007, copies having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed.

**von Dadelszen / Olsen
CARRIED**

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY 15 MAY 2007

There were no matters arising from the minutes of 15 May 2007.

4. CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS

- (a) Update on ERMA 1080 reassessment outcome
- (b) Matters of appreciation

6. FLOOD FORECASTING SYSTEM

Mr Goodier gave a presentation on the HBRC Flood Forecasting System, which was created to help forecast the location, timing, magnitude and duration of flooding in the major rivers. This system produces output that is easily viewed by a variety of others on HBRC Web Page or can be printed or emailed so others can quickly see the current state, as well as the forecast.

Councillors congratulated the engineering section for the presentation and the ongoing work with the in-house flood forecasting system.

Key points discussed included:

- Weather radar system to be set up in the next couple of years
- Ensure sufficient software licences to run the flood forecasting model system
- Identification of hazardous flooding areas
- Is there commercial benefits of selling the programme to other Councils?

Resolution:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend Council receive the Flood Forecasting System report.

**von Dadelszen / McGregor
CARRIED**

7. COUNCIL WATERWAY MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHY

Mr Clode gave a presentation on the proposed Council Waterway Management Philosophy. He outlined the programme that would implement change of management of streams and drains to one of multiple values.

Councillor Kirton queried what the rationale was for not setting an objective around drains owned by Territorial Local Authorities (TLA's). Mr Adye replied that Council are the asset managers for the drains in question, and if Council wishes to influence TLA's then it can do it either by regulation or through setting an example.

Councillor Dick suggested that Council should be more proactive in developing partnerships with TLA's particularly for waterway development in urban areas.

Replying to a question from Councillor Dick, Mr Clode advised that Council had instigated an Envirolink grant funded project using a \$20,000 grant from central government to undertake a baseline ecological study of the current drains.

Resolution:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend Council:

- (a) Agree that the decisions to be made are not significant under the criteria contained in Council's adopted policy on significance and that Council can exercise its discretion under Sections 79(1)(a) and 82(3) of the Local Government Act 2002 and make decisions on this issue without conferring directly with the community and persons likely to be affected by or to have an interest in the decision due to the nature and significance of the issue to be considered and decided.
- (b) Endorse a waterway management philosophy that streams and drains administered as part of a Council Flood Control and Drainage Scheme flowing through public land are managed using a multi-value approach, which where appropriate creates improved ecological, recreational, heritage, cultural, landscape and drainage values within the waterway network, and that communities take ownership of, and have pride in, their waterways.
- (c) Instruct staff to prepare an Implementation Plan that can be used to advance 'showcase' areas and provide a funding basis for inclusion in the 2009-19 LTCCP.

**Williams / Kirton
CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 10.15am and reconvened at 10.35am

9. PRESENTATION BY ANIMAL HEALTH BOARD (10.30 A.M.)

Mr Adye welcomed Mr William McCook, Chief Executive of the Animal Health Board to the meeting. Mr McCook gave a presentation updating the Committee on the status of Bovine Tuberculosis within in New Zealand and specifically within in Hawke's Bay, and commented on a proposal for the provision of Vector Management services in the future.

Replying to a question from Mr Newman, on the impact of reduced possum numbers on the capacity of forests as carbon sinks, Mr McCook advised there were obviously some benefits but that the AHB had not quantified them and there doesn't seem to be hard facts available regarding the contribution from reduced possum browsing.

Replying to a question from Councillor McGregor, on the 2% allocated for research in the budget, Mr McCook advised that \$2 to \$3 million a year has been spent on

research and the AHB tended to focus on applied research including finding new and better ways of control.

Chairman Rose thanked Mr McCook for a very thoughtful and well presented presentation.

Resolution:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee receive the presentation.

**Scott / McIntyre
CARRIED**

8. SUMMARY OF FLOODING: 17-19 JULY 2007

Mr Clode gave a presentation on the significant rainfall event that occurred between 16 and 19 July 2007, over parts of the Heretaunga Plains, and many places inland. Several communities (Maraekakaho, Puketapu, Flaxmere, and possibly others) suffered severe surface flooding which caused some damage.

Mr Adye advised that a meeting had been held with Central Hawke's Bay District Council during which positive comment was expressed by CHBDC on the performance of recently completed work at Wanstead Swamp. Council have now agreed to do the next stage of work in the 2007/08 year.

Councillor von Dadelszen asked if there was a protocol in place between ourselves and the TLA's when it comes to subdivisions. Mr Adye explained that TLA's generally seek comment from this Council on new subdivisions, particularly when they are in an area of known flood risk.

In moving the resolution Councillor von Dadelszen thanked the staff who were on duty during the two days of the flooding.

Chairman Rose on behalf of the Committee thanked Mr Clode, Mr Leckie and their staff for the work they had performed over the past 3 years and particularly for what they have done for this Committee in providing information and material for agenda items. He thanked Mr Leckie and his staff for the work on the Pest Management Strategy.

Resolution:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend Council receive the Summary of Flooding report.

**Von Dadelszen / McIntyre
CARRIED**

Mr Newman left the meeting at 12:00 noon

10. PRIVET

Mr Leckie outlined the result of a review staff have undertaken on implementation of Council's approach to privet. This showed that a significant number of occupiers who removed privet did not treat the stump immediately after removal and as a result vigorous regrowth from the cut stump was occurring. Mr Leckie believed that a better result could be achieved if a professional contractor was responsible for this.

Mr Leckie advised that using a contractor for removal will reduce the cost of the privet programme after year one. However, in year one of the amended control programme the cost of the programme is likely to increase. This is because staff time freed up in year one by using a contractor will be committed to a systematic reinspection programme on all previous privet removals that have occurred over the last four years.

Mr Leckie outlined the 3 possible options for implementation of the privet programme.

1. Continue with the current combination of voluntary/ regulatory approach.
2. Take a more aggressive regulatory approach.
3. Use a contractor to undertake privet removals.

The committee agreed with option 3, which was recommended by staff.

Councillor Dick asked for the wording to be changed to the end of recommendation (b) to read funded from scheme reserves and from general funded contingency funds.

Councillor Scott in moving the recommendation supported a pragmatic solution to the problem.

Resolution:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend Council:

- (a) Agree that the decisions to be made are not significant under the criteria contained in Council's adopted policy on significance and that Council can exercise its discretion under Sections 79(1)(a) and 82(3) of the Local Government Act 2002 and make decisions on this issue without conferring directly with the community and persons likely to be affected by or to have an interest in the decision due to the nature and significance of the issue to be considered and decided.
- (b) Agree that a Contractor be employed to undertake privet removal in areas where the Regional Pest Management Strategy defines it as a total control plant, with costs to be confined within a budget of \$35,000 in the 2007/08 year and funded from scheme reserves and from general funded contingency funds.

**Scott / Dick
CARRIED**

11. REGIONAL PHYTOSANITARY PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – OPERATIONAL PLAN

Mr Leckie outlined the reviewed Operational Plan 2007/08 for the Regional Phytosanitary Pest Management Strategy for Council endorsement. Mr Leckie advised that no amendments had been made to the Operational Plan as a result of the review.

Resolution:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend Council:

- (a) Agree that the decisions to be made are not significant under the criteria contained in Council's adopted Policy on significance and that Council can exercise its discretion under Section 79(1)(a) and 82(3) of the Local Government Act 2002 and make decisions on this issue without conferring directly with the community and persons likely to be affected by or to have an interest in the decision due to the nature and significance of the issue to be considered and decided.
- (b) Adopt the Regional Phytosanitary Pest Management Strategy Operational Plan for the 2007/08 financial year, after the inclusion of any amendments made as a result of the Committee's consideration.

**Kirton / McIntyre
CARRIED**

12. NATURAL HAZARD RESEARCH

Mr Adye updated the Committee on the programme of hazard identification work excluding flooding from last year.

In responding to a question from Councillor Scott, Mr Adye advised that while the coastal wave climate work was done by a different consultant than that normally used by Council, Council's normal consultant was involved in the decision and has reviewed the report.

Councillor Scott asked where Council was at with the inundation modelling and whether this work is likely to have an impact on the inundation assessment that has already been done and included in the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan (PRCEP). Mr Adye advised that the PRCEP identified the areas assessed to be at risk from inundation, the new work was required to determine the frequency of occurrence of possible inundation.

Resolution:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend Council receive the Natural Hazard Research report.

**Kirton / McIntyre
CARRIED**

13. GENERAL BUSINESS

(a) Update on 1080

Councillor Olsen asked what impact the additional restrictions imposed on 1080 as a result of a recent Environmental Risk Management Authority (ERMA) review under the HSNO Act would have on Council's operations. Mr Adye advised that he had yet to sight the new requirements but understood that they would have no impact on Council's operations as Council already generally exceeded the minimum requirements currently required before 1080 could be used.

(b) Appreciation

In closing the meeting Chairman Rose then acknowledged the work that Mr Adye had contributed to this Committee. Chairman Rose thanked the other members of the staff that had assisted the Committee and he asked his appreciation be passed on to staff.

Chairman Rose on behalf of the Asset Management & Biosecurity Committee thanked Councillor Williams for her contribution and commitment to the Committee and wished her well for her ongoing career.

Chairman Rose also acknowledged the valuable contribution that Bill Blake and Marei Apatu had made to this Committee, representing Tangata Whenua.

Chairman Rose thanked the Committee members for their work over the last 3 years and for allowing him to Chair this committee.

Councillor von Dadelszen thanked Chairman Rose on behalf of the Council for his service and efforts during his 3 years as Chairman of this committee.

Closure:

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 12.25pm

Signed as a true and correct record.

DATE:

CHAIRMAN: