



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

Confirmed

Date: Thursday 9 July 2009

Time: 9.00 am

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

Present: K Rose - Chairman
A Dick
T Gilbertson
N Kirton
E McGregor
F Wilson
C Scott
E von Dadelszen
M Apatu

In Attendance: M Adye – Group Manager Asset Management
C Leckie – Biosecurity Manager
S Chandler – Minute Security

Chairman Rose welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. WELCOME/PRAYER/APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Remmerswaal.

**Gilbertson/Scott
CARRIED**

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2009.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2009, a copy having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed, with an amendment to Item 13 to correct the spelling of Synott to Synod.

**Dick/Scott
CARRIED**

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2009.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

5. ACTION ITEMS FROM MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2009

Mike Adye confirmed that Council staff had initial discussions with Marie Taylor and Janet Takarangi with regard to forming strategic partnerships with Te Mata Park Trust and Creative Hawke's Bay. This item to be carried forward for update at next meeting.

**Gilbertson/Wilson
CARRIED**

6. CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS

- (a) Feral Cats
- (b) Mantell-Harding Update
- (c) Haumoana/Te Awanga/Hastings District Council Update

7. FLOOD CONTROL AND DRAINAGE ASSET AUDIT REPORTS 2007/2008

Mr Adye presented the report, in the absence of Gary Clode, and noted that all schemes were operating well.

Issues raised and items discussed by the Committee included:

- **Condition of groyne on lower Tukituki River** and is it working properly – Mr Adye responded that yes, while it may not look pretty, it is working properly and he proceeded to draw a diagram of how it operates. This showed the prevailing sea conditions etc. Mr Adye also advised that the cost of maintaining this groyne was \$8,000 per year and has a life of 20 years. As it was built in 1999 staff are planning on it being rebuilt in 10 years time the cost will be approximate \$300,000.
- **Sawfly Update** - it was noted that while there was still evidence of sawfly they had not caused widespread destruction of willow edge protection as had

occurred approx 5 years ago. Mr Adye noted that there were significantly less willow trees now used as live edge protection which could have helped with reducing the impact.

- At this stage there was no sign of sawfly causing extensive damage on the upper Tukituki rivers and vigilant monitoring would be continued.
- Plantings of species of Alders and Poplars will also be monitored.
- **Extraction of Gravel** – Mr Adye explained why gravel extraction from stopbanked reaches of the rivers is essential.
- A natural build up of shingle occurring near the mouth of the Tukituki River commonly known as Loafers Island, has concentrated the river flow into the right hand bank and remedial work is planned at this site.

Councillor McGregor congratulated staff on the good work done on protecting our assets.

Resolution:

1. That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend to Council that it receive the Flood Control and Drainage Asset Audit report 2007/2008.

**McGregor/Scott
CARRIED**

8. BIOSECURITY OPERATIONAL PLANS 2009/2010

Mr Leckie presented his report to the Committee. He noted two changes to the Regional Pest Management Strategy – The control of animal pests within urban areas; and Council's participation as part of a multi-agency approach to the long term management of didymo and specifically the objective of maintaining the North Island free of didymo for as long as possible.

Issues raised and items discussed by the Committee included:

- Argentine Ants – Mr Leckie advised that the possible control of Argentine ants is a management situation and not an eradication situation. A local meeting has been held with Battery Road residents with a good turnout. Council staff are also working with Landcare Research and local pest control agents in the community.
- Eradication of Possums in urban areas – Mr Leckie noted that stage 1 had been extremely successful on Napier Hill and that stage 2 the Havelock North urban area would commence in February 2010.
- Feral Cats – This item was brought forward from General Business. Mr Leckie advised that this was being looked at in rural areas only. While we are in consultation with the SPCA who have a mandate to deal with Feral Cats in urban areas.
- Research is being undertaken nationally by Landcare in conjunction with regional councils on the effects that Feral Cats and Mustelids. Staff will review Council plans once this research is completed.
- Feral Pigs – Mr Leckie conformed that as part of the Animal Health Board programme, Council is paying a number of pig hunters for pig heads. Council has carefully chosen the hunters to work with as it is important that reliable information is gathered.

- Management of feral Goats – The next meeting of the feral goat working group is scheduled for Friday 17 July. Richard Wakelin from Meat & Wool NZ will talk on levies available to farmers. It is hoped that a better understanding of the issues and how Council can make a difference will be established. It is also important that any outcomes reached match Council's environmental outcomes.
- Rabbits – Mr Leckie advised that trends haven't changed and while the virus still has some effect rabbit numbers are increasing. Next winter there will be two or three operations taking place costing between \$5k and \$20k. This trend will continue for some time. International research is looking at developing new strains of the virus.

Resolution:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend to Council that it:

1. 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.
2. Adopt the:
 - 2.1. Animal Pest Operational Plan 2009/10.
 - 2.2. Plant Pest Operational Plan 2009/10.
 - 2.3. Phytosanitary Operational Plan 2009/10.

In accordance with the requirements of the Biosecurity Act 1993; after the inclusion of any amendments made as a result of the Committee's consideration.

**Von Dadelszen/Wilson
CARRIED**

The Committee moved into Public Excluded session at 10.15am

14. Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of Meeting Held On Thursday 12 March 2009

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee exclude the public from this section of the meeting being Agenda Item 14 - Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2009, with the general subject of the item to be considered while the public is excluded; the reasons for passing the resolution and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution being as follows:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF THE ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION	GROUNDS UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THE RESOLUTION
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Aramoana Property Purchase

7(2)(c)(i) Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied

7(2)(i) Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)

The Council is specified, in the First Schedule to this Act, as a body to which the Act applies.

**Scott/von Dadelszen
CARRIED**

The Committee moved out of Public excluded session at 10.16am

The meeting adjourned at 10.16am and resumed at 10.35am

9. UPDATE ON PATHWAYS

Mr Adye presented the report which outlined the present situation with the Hastings and Napier Rotary Pathways Trusts, their plans for future pathways and Council ownership of the assets situated on Council owned land. He noted that the HBRC will continue to have input and discussions with the different Pathways Trusts.

Funding – The Hawke’s Bay Regional Land Transport Strategy has a proposal to Central Government for funding of a walking/cycling strategy and should know by August the level of this funding.

Venture HB is also coordinating a bid to the ‘National Pathways’ strategy announced by Government. *(A request was made to have this paper distributed to members of this committee).*

It is important that a regional approach be taken on any proposal to Central Government for funding.

Signage – The Committee agreed that branding be consistent across all walkways and that Council must be recognised where pathways are on Council owned or administered land.

Resolution:

1. That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend to Council that it receive this report.
2. Note that Pathways strategic issues relevant to this Committee be brought to the Regional Council.

**Von Dadelszen/Kirton
CARRIED**

10. AUDIT OF ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS

Mr Adye presented the report and noted the Auditors comments. He highlighted that some process improvements will be actioned as a result of this report.

One comment was that Council's Asset Management Plans lacked sophistication. Mr Adye advised that some councils use Consultants to prepare their plans, and while those documents may be more favourably considered by the auditors, they may not reflect robust underlying process. He would be talking to his counterparts around the country to discuss this further.

Resolution:

1. That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee recommend to Council that it receive this report.

**Scott/Gilbertson
CARRIED**

11. MINUTES OF HEARING PANEL ON PROPOSED WHARERANG-TURIRAU SCHEME

Resolution:

That the Committee recommend that Council:

1. That the Asset Management and Biosecurity Committee adopt the minutes of the Hearing Panel meeting held on Friday 12 June 2009 to consider submissions on the proposed Wharerangi-Turirau Flood Control and Drainage Scheme.

**von Dadelszen/McGregor
CARRIED**

12. PRESENTATION FROM HON RICK BARKER ON A PROPOSED ROWING COURSE IN HAWKE'S BAY

Mr Barker presented a slide show presentation. Rowing Hawke's Bay would like to create a 2000 metre 8 lane racing facility.

Their request to council is for funding for initial exploratory drilling on the preferred site in the vicinity of Bay View, on land that could be purchased or leased from Landcorp. Once the subsurface make up is known it is hoped the sale of fill would fund the cost of building the course.

Landcorp have agreed in principal with the concept. Also other affected parties including DOC and local Tangata Whenua have been approached.

A discussion followed with members of the Committee directing questions to the group.

Some Issues raised and items discussed by the Committee included:

- Would Clive River remain as a rowing facility – Yes, this facility allows for training etc, and would still be required.
- Has any market been ascertained for the sale of the fill – No not yet.
- Have any quotes been requested for drilling to take place – No, but imagine the cost to be between \$2k - \$5k.
- Has a business plan or pre-feasibility study been written – No not yet. A lot depends on what is found once drilling has been done on as to what the next step will be.

Chairman Rose thanked Mr Barker, Mr Bayly and Mr Pierce for the presentation and they left the meeting.

- There was some discussion on whether this funding request should be coming to this Committee and also concern that Mr Adye and his staff should spend any time on it.
- While there was agreement that there was a lack of detail and a bit more effort could have been shown at this time, it was agreed to move forward to the next stage.

Resolution:

That the Committee recommend to Council:

1. That the report be received.
2. The Group Manager, Asset Management bring back a brief report to Council on the concept and implications, should Council assist with pre-feasibility study, including subsurface drilling.

**Gilbertson/Scott/von Dadelszen AGAINST
McGregor/Wilson/Rose/Kirton/Dick/Apatu FOR
CARRIED**

13. GENERAL BUSINESS

- (a) Feral Cats – This item was dealt with in Item 8.
- (b) Mantell-Harding Property

Mr Adye reported that since the announcement of our purchase rumours have been circulating within the community about Council's vision with the property. Staff are planning a public meeting on Sunday 19 July out at Tutira to advise the community of what Council intends to do with the property. . A flyer announcing this has been dropped into local mail boxes.

- (c) Haumoana/Te Awanga – Hastings District Council

Mr Adye advised that a joint working party has been formed with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday 13 August in our Council chamber.

Closure:

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 12.15 pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.

DATE:..10 November 2009.....

CHAIRMAN:K Rose.....