



## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Unconfirmed

**Date:** Wednesday, 24 March 2010

**Time:** 9.10am

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

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

**In Attendance:** A Newman – Chief Executive  
P Drury – Group Manager Corporate Services  
M Adye – Group Manager Asset Management  
D Lew – Group Manager Resource Management  
L Lambert – Group Manager External Relations  
C Gilbertson – Administration Manager

**1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the leave of absence granted to Cr Christine Scott who was attending a Drought Symposium.

**2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2010**

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2010, a copy having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed.

**von Dadelszen/Rose  
CARRIED**

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2010**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**5. ACTION ITEMS FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**New Zealand Cycle Trail Project**

The Chief Executive advised he has signed a contract for a feasibility study with the Ministry of Tourism to secure the \$40,000 funding from the Ministry for the Cycle Trail Project. There is another process that needs to be worked through to progress the other cycle trails that were submitted as part of this project.

**Community Engagement and Communications Strategy**

Mrs Lambert advised a report will be prepared for the Strategic Planning and Finance committee meeting in May. She noted that the Council's website had not been refreshed since 2007 so a review was appropriate.

**Resolution:**

1. That the Committee receives the report "Action Items from Strategic Planning and Finance Committee Meetings".

**Gilbertson/Wilson  
CARRIED**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS**

There were no items of General Business raised.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

Mr Adye provided the Committee with an update on the top ten risks facing Council and sought the Committee's agreement to the risk mitigation approach proposed for each of these risks.

Mr Adye said the intention is to provide an in-depth six month review on risk management to this Committee. The Committee then proceeded to work through each risk issue one by one and provided comments and suggestions to be included in an update. Mr Adye noted the changes by the Committee and thanked them for their input.

**Resolution:**

1. The Strategic Planning and Finance Committee recommend that Council:

- 1.1. Note the top ten risks currently facing Council; the current and planned future position of the risk issue; the current situation and risk; the proposed mitigation approach; and the impact that mitigation approach will have on the level of risk.
- 1.2. Approve the proposed risk mitigation approach to each of the ten risk issues as set out in the attachments to this briefing paper.
- 1.3. That the risk issue statements be updated following feedback from this meeting and be presented to Council.

**Wilson/McGregor**  
**CARRIED**

## **8. UPDATE ON PASSENGER TRANSPORT ISSUES**

Mrs Gilbertson provided the Committee with an update on passenger transport issues since the previous update in September 2009.

It was noted that the Council's bus provider, Go Bus, had now been providing bus services to the Regional Council for one year so it was possible to provide accurate passenger numbers on a monthly basis and compare to the previous year's totals.

The Committee was disappointed to learn that Napier City Council had decided not to go ahead with a bike shelter at Dalton Street, the Committee then agreed to submit to Napier City Council's Annual Plan to request that this be reconsidered and also write a submission to Hastings District Council to ask them to consider putting secure a bike shelter at the Hastings bus terminus.

It was noted that the increase in services for Saturday had been very successful and there was also a suggestion that these services should be provided later into the evening. Mrs Gilbertson replied that a funding request had been submitted to the NZ Transport Agency on this issue but was declined so no changes to the extension of this service could be considered for a couple of years.

### **Resolution:**

1. That Strategic Planning and Finance Committee recommend that Council:
  - 1.1. Agrees 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.
  - 1.2. Receives the report "Update on Passenger Transport Issues".
  - 1.3. Submit to the Hastings District Council and Napier City Councils Annual Plan's for secure bike shelters at the respective terminus locations.

**von Dadelszen/Rose**  
**CARRIED**

***The meeting adjourned at 10.35am and reconvened at 10.45am.***

## **9. REGIONAL EVENTS STRATEGY**

Councillor Neil Kirton, in his capacity as Chairman of Venture Hawke's Bay presented this report and acknowledged the need for the development of a Regional Events Strategy. Cr Kirton provided an outline of the background to the Strategy, the Terms of

Reference, and the underlying information requirements and assessment methodology to be used for its development.

Councillor Kirton noted that bringing visitors to this region was a significant contribution to the Bay's economy and a comprehensive study of what's going on in the region needs to be undertaken. He also noted that the entire budget for Venture Hawke's Bay is \$1.2m of which \$600,000 is for regional promotion and marketing which is used to its maximum effect but he noted that these figures were approximately five times less than other regions contribute to economic development. He said there is an urgent need to look at the funding approach if the regional event strategy was adopted.

Mrs Janet Takarangi, General Manager for Venture Hawke's Bay acknowledged there was an urgent need to undertake this work and to undertake this with the territorial authorities and other private organisations. She said Venture Hawke's Bay is trying to reposition this region as a good place to visit and revisit.

In summing up, Councillor Kirton reminded the Committee that the reason this was being put in front of the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee was that all Councillors needed to be involved and this needed to be a Council decision to develop a strategy and he expects any research to include Councillors' and the Regional Council's perspective.

**Resolution:**

That the Committee:

1. Agrees 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. Receives this paper and notes that this project will commence within the next few weeks with the final report expected to be tabled at Council before the end of June 2010.
3. Notes that the budget for the development of the Regional Events Strategy will be met by Venture Hawke's Bay from its existing Events project code.

**Rose/Wilson  
CARRIED**

**10. GENERAL BUSINESS**

There were no items of general business raised.

**11. CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2010**

**12. MATTERS ARISING FROM PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2010**

**13. ESTABLISHMENT OF HOLDING COMPANY**

The Chairman reminded Councillors that the formation of the Holding Company had been consulted through the Council's Ten Year Plan processes and was a work in progress. He reminded them this was a Committee meeting and the matter would be fully debated and discussed again at a full Council meeting. This matter needed to be freely and fully debated by Council as it is a major asset.

There was general discussion by Councillors around whether this matter should be discussed in Public Excluded or open session, there was a suggestion that perhaps a Council workshop would have been more appropriate for this.

There was concern that Councillors had not been able to seek input or canvas views from constituents because that matter is discussed in Public Excluded. The Chairman again reminded Councillors that this matter had been discussed and was noted in the Council's Ten Year Plan and whatever was contained in that Plan could be openly discussed by Councillors with their constituents. He said this discussion was to be around the general framework to progress the issue of the Holding Company.

The Chief Executive said that Council was in a process which needs to be progressed. The Chairman then advised that it would be possible to hold a special Strategic Planning and Finance Committee meeting in an open session and this met with the Committee's approval.

GENERAL SUBJECT OF THE ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED	REASONS FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION	GROUNDS UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
20. Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of Meeting held on 27 January 2010	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.
13. Establishment of Holding Company	7(2)(i) Disclosure of new investment strategies, governance and management issues currently being considered and negotiated during the formation of the Council's investment holding company could prejudice the Council's achievement of an optimum structure and could therefore impair future returns from the portfolio.	The Council is specified, in the First Schedule to this Act, as a body to which the Act applies.

And that Mr Robert Philpot, McDermott Miller be allowed to remain in the meeting, due to his expertise on this matter.

**Dick/Kirton  
CARRIED**

**The Committee moved into Public Excluded session at 11.45am.**

**Closure:**

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2.20pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.

**DATE:** .....

**CHAIRMAN:** .....