

Minutes of a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee of the Waikato District Council held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia on **WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST 2019** commencing at **9.00am**.

Present:

Cr JM Gibb (Chairperson)
His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson *[until 10.21am and from 10.57am]*
Cr AD Bech
Cr JA Church
Cr DW Fulton
Cr SD Lynch
Cr RC McGuire
Cr BL Main
Cr EM Patterson
Cr JD Sedgwick
Cr NMD Smith
Cr LR Thomson

Attending:

Mr B MacLeod (Raglan Community Board Chair)

Mr G Ion (Chief Executive)
Mr C Morgan (General Manager Community Growth)
Mr T Whittaker (Chief Operating Officer)
Ms A Diaz (Chief Operating Officer)
Mr R MacCulloch (Acting General Manager Service Delivery)
Ms C Wratt (Acting Team Leader Resource Management and Policy Team)
Mrs B Connolly (Policy Planner Community Development)
Ms D Dalbeth (Business Improvement Analyst)
Mrs C Pidduck (Legal Counsel)
Mrs R Gray (Senior Committee Secretary)

Ms E O'Dwyer (Waikato Times)

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Church)

THAT an apology be received from Crs Henderson and McNally.

CARRIED on the voices

S&F1908/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Crs Smith/Sedgwick)

THAT the Chair of the Raglan Community Board, Mr MacLeod, be given speaking rights for the duration of the open section of this meeting.

CARRIED on the voices

S&F1908/02

Resolved: (His Worship the Mayor/Cr Patterson)

THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee held on Wednesday 28 August 2019 be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda item 7 which shall be considered with the public excluded;

AND THAT all reports be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the Committee resolves that the following item be withdrawn from the agenda:

- **Item No. 5.3 – Climate Change (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill.**

CARRIED on the voices

S&F1908/03

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Gibb, Councillor Fulton and Councillor Sedgwick advised members of the Committee that they would declare a non-financial conflict of interest in item 5.1 [*District Plan Review Update*].

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Bech and Councillor Church requested that it be noted that they had a non-financial conflict of interest in item 6.2 [*Final Statements of Intent 2019/20 - Wellbeing Trust*].

Councillor Sedgwick advised that she would declare a non-financial conflict of interest in item 2.1 [*Professional Negligence and Weathertight homes Claims Report*] included in the public excluded section of the meeting.

Councillor Bech advised that he would declare a non-financial conflict of interest in item 2.2 [*Development Agreement Sanderson Group Limited and Tamahere Country Club Limited*] included in the public excluded section of the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Main)

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee held on Wednesday 26 June 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED on the voices

S&F1908/04

REPORTS

District Plan Review Update
Agenda Item 5.1

The report was received [*S&F1908/03 refers*].

Councillor Gibb vacated the Chair owing to declaring a conflict of interest and withdrew from the meeting. Councillor Bech assumed the Chair for this item. Councillors Fulton and Sedgwick also declared a conflict of interest and withdrew from the meeting.

The report was taken as read. In speaking to the report, the Acting Team Leader Resource Management and Policy Team highlighted the following:

- Ambury Properties Hearing – The applicant had requested an early hearing date and decision regarding the opening of the Sleepyhead company. The hearing would be held over three stages, approximately nine weeks, commencing 13 September 2019. Options were being investigated on dates and venue.

Councillor Bech vacated the Chair following discussion on the above item. Councillors Gibb, Fulton and Sedgwick re-entered the meeting. Councillor Gibb assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Consideration of Conservation Fund Applications
Agenda Item 5.2

The report was received [*S&F1908/03 refers*].

The report was taken as read by the Policy Planner Community Development who summarised the report.

ACTION: Feedback is sought on the criteria and results for Conservation Fund applications.

Resolved: (Crs Lynch/Patterson)

THAT Strategy & Finance Committee recommends to Council that the Conservation Fund application of \$4,474.80 from Mike Honiss be approved in full.

CARRIED on the voices

S&FI908/05

Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill
Agenda Item 5.3

This item was withdrawn from the agenda [S&FI908/03 refers].

General Rate Position for the year ended 30 June 2019
Agenda Item 6.1

The report was received [S&FI908/03 refers].

The report was taken as read by the Chief Financial Officer who summarised the report.

The following points were discussed:

- The Chief Executive highlighted the significant level of carry forwards when discussion was held on including additional work.
- Funding source required for three projects, eg District Plan Review, the Horotiu Bridge, and potential works in Council's Ngaruawahia office, that had been raised between the LTP periods.
- The Whatawhata Community Facilities Project.

Resolved: (Crs Smith/Main)

THAT the Strategy & Finance Committee recommends to Council that the 2018/19 surplus of \$2,211,080 is apportioned between the general accounting reserve fund (\$1,100,378) and the gearing for growth and greatness reserve fund (\$1,110,702);

AND THAT funding be allocated for a maximum Seed Funding of \$250,000 from the GARF total surplus for the Whatawhata Community Facilities Project.

CARRIED on the voices

S&FI908/06

Final Statements of Intent 2019/20

Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received [*S&F1908/03 refers*].

The report was taken as read by the Chief Financial Officer who summarised the report.

Summary of Movements in Discretionary Funds

Agenda Item 6.3

The report was received [*S&F1908/03 refers*].

The report was taken as read by the Chief Financial Officer who summarised the report.

Treasury Risk Management Policy – Compliance Report at 30 June 2019

Agenda Item 6.4

The report was received [*S&F1908/03 refers*].

The report was taken as read by the Chief Financial Officer who summarised the report and, in response to questions, noted that the focus was currently on opportunities with interest rates and benefits of a credit rating.

Submission on the Local Government Funding and Financing Draft Report

Agenda Item 6.5

The report was received [*S&F1908/03 refers*].

The report was taken as read by the Chief Financial Officer who summarised the report and responded to questions on the following issues:

- Special purpose vehicle financing options – staff were currently looking at how this would work in setting up a separate company with Council's responsibility for a levy.
- Tourism levy and distribution, eg concern with the impact of tourism on Air B&B in Raglan. Two recommendations were being discussed to support this area.

Resolved: (Crs Sedgwick/Lynch)

THAT the Strategy & Finance Committee approves the submission on the Productivity Commission's Local Government Funding and Financing Draft Report (Attachment D to the staff report).

CARRIED on the voices

S&F1908/07

2018-2019 End of Year Non-Financial Performance Report
Agenda Item 6.6

The report was received [S&F/908/03 refers].

The report was taken as read by the Business Improvement Analyst who summarised the report and responded to questions on the following issues.

- To address priorities as opposed to business as usual – Council was focussing on the survey results in terms of digesting feedback to ensure that staff focussed on priority issues.
- Messages on Councillor mobiles from ratepayers – suggested that the call centre staff, when transferring calls to Councillor mobiles, advise callers that the Councillor may be in meetings and would return their call later.
- Interpretation of information in the survey – cost versus benefit of the survey, eg perception of rates to outcomes compared to playgrounds, underground assets were invisible etc.
- Consultation questions showed less satisfaction with a younger age group. There was a need to look at innovation to engage youth.

His Worship the Mayor withdrew from the meeting at 10.21am and re-entered at 10.57am.

The meeting adjourned at 10.25am at the end of the above item and resumed at 10.57am.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC
Agenda Item 7

Resolved: (Crs Church/Thomson)

THAT the public be excluded from the whole or part of the meeting to enable Council to deliberate and make decisions on the following items of business:

Confirmation of Minutes dated Wednesday 29 June 2019.

REPORTS

a. Professional Negligence and Weathertight Homes Claim Report

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) and 48(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by sections 6 or 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part(s) of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Reason for passing this resolution to withhold exists under: **Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution is:**

Section 7(2)(a)

Section 48(1)(a)

b. Development Agreement Sanderson Group Limited & Tamahere Country Club Limited

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) and 48(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by sections 6 or 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part(s) of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Reason for passing this resolution to withhold exists under: Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution is:

Section 7(2)(b)(ii)

Section 48(1)(a)

CARRIED on the voices

S&F1908/08

Resolutions S&F1908/09 – S&F1908/11 are contained in the public excluded section of these minutes.

Having resumed the open meeting the following item was released into open meeting:

REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Development Agreement Sanderson Group Limited & Tamahere Country Club Limited
Agenda Item PEX 2.2

It was resolved [Resolution No. S&F1908/10] during the public excluded section of the meeting that the following resolution be released into open meeting but the report remain confidential and unavailable to the public:

‘Resolved: (His Worship the Mayor/Cr Smith)

THAT the Strategy and Finance Committee recommends that Council approve the draft Development Agreement with Sanderson Group Limited and Tamahere Country Club Limited (Attachment 1 to the staff report);

AND THAT the resolution be released into open meeting but the report remain confidential and unavailable to the public.

CARRIED on the voices’

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 11.17am.

Minutes approved and confirmed this day of 2019.

JM Gibb
CHAIRPERSON