

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HOUSE, TRAFALGAR STREET, NELSON ON THURSDAY 12 JUNE 2008 COMMENCING AT 9AM

- PRESENT:** Councillor M Holmes (Chairperson), Councillors I Barker, G Collingwood, M Cotton (Deputy Chairperson), D Henigan, A McAlpine, R Reese, D Shaw and G Thomas
- IN ATTENDANCE:** V Altmens (Chief Executive), F Galloway (Divisional Manager Infrastructure), M Schruer (Manager Infrastructural Assets) and R Palmer (Administration Adviser)
- APOLOGIES:** Apologies from His Worship the Mayor K Marshall and Councillors A Boswijk, A Miccio and P Rainey were received and accepted
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1.0 PUBLIC FORUM

1.1 Car Pooling Scheme

Christine Musgrave and Thomas Forrow of Sustainable Transport Futures spoke to the Committee regarding a proposal for a car pooling scheme utilising private cars in the capacity of 'community buses'.

Ms Musgrave explained that the basic operation would be to designate and sign post car stops at which people wanting a ride would wait to be picked up by drivers utilising the scheme.

It was stressed that this was not seen as being in opposition to The Bus, but more as a first step in developing appropriate links for a community bus service.

The Committee was advised that the group had estimated that to engage an appropriate person to develop and introduce the scheme would be \$83,000 and that this would be a cost to the Council.

The meeting discussed the Council's existing car pooling scheme, noting that the District Health Board was setting up its own. The representatives expressed the opinion that the Council's website was not user-friendly, was hard to access, boring and it was not unexpected that there had only been a small take up of the scheme.

It was noted that the Council had made no provision within its budgets to meet such costs as presented by the group. However, it was acknowledged that there were other ways in which the Council could assist, particularly in relation to the designation of "car stops", and publicity.

The Committee noted that the proposal would also be presented to the Tasman District Council for its consideration.

1.2 Rocks Road Footpath

Mr Peter Phillips of 581 Rocks Road spoke to the Committee regarding his opposition to the proposal to construct a footpath from Days Track to the Tahunanui shops. Mr Phillips expressed the opinion that the path would have limited use and on this basis, the high cost to the rate payers was not justified. Whereas a pedestrian refuge to enable pedestrians to cross to the footpath on the seaward side of the road would be a better investment.

2.0 PUBLIC FORUM DISCUSSION

2.1 Sustainable Transport Futures – Car Pooling Scheme

Councillors agreed the project should be supported in principle, but it needed further development in relation to a number of issues such as car stops, publicity and staff resources.

It was agreed that this type of project would be among those considered by the new Sustainable Transport Adviser who was starting work with the Council on Monday 16 June and whose first priority was to develop a Travel Demand Management Plan. This Plan which would cover a range of actions aimed at reducing congestion and the use of private motor vehicles, and as such would include car pooling.

It was noted that there was no provision in the Council budget for the project as an individual operation, however some funding for promotion could be available and Council staff would look into the matter.

It was agreed that staff would provide a verbal report on the matter to the next meeting of the Committee.

2.2 Rocks Road Footpath

The Divisional Manager Infrastructure advised the Committee that the contract in relation to the path had recently been let and work was anticipated to start within the very near future.

Mr Galloway also explained that the work would not disturb the toe of the slip, nor interfere with parking places alongside Mr Phillips house which had been formed on the road verge.

It was acknowledged that it was essential that there be a safe route provided from Days Track to Tahunanui and it was agreed that such would encourage greater use of this route by residents up the hill.

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8 May 2008

Resolved

***THAT** the minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure Committee held on Thursday 8 May 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record.*

Shaw/Holmes

Carried

4.0 INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT – JUNE 2008

Document No 630999, agenda pages 7-8 refer.

It was agreed that future status reports which included recommendations which were ongoing should include reference to any progress which might have been made at each of the previous meetings.

Resolved

THAT the status report to the Infrastructure Committee for June 2008 be received.

Shaw/Thomas

Carried

5.0 FINANCE STATEMENT FOR 10 MONTHS ENDED 30 APRIL 2008

Document No 668752, dated 30 May 2008, agenda pages 9-19 refer.

Attendance: Chris Fitchett, Chief Financial Officer, presented the report.

The comment regarding savings and carry-overs was noted and it was acknowledged that staff worked to avoid under-spends in any financial year, but there were a large number of variables including contractors' workloads, which meant that money allocated was not always able to be spent.

Resolved

THAT the finance statement for ten months ended 30 April 2008 be received.

Holmes/Shaw

Carried

6.0 MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE OF PROJECTS 2007/2008

Document No 647115, dated 12 June 2008, agenda pages 20-24 refer.

Resolved

THAT the report on major infrastructure projects 12 June 2008 be received;

AND THAT the \$171,000 additional funding required for the Campbell Street project be funded from the surplus in the sub-division contributions cost centre.

Cotton/McAlpine

Carried

7.0 NELSON REGIONAL SEWERAGE BUSINESS UNIT – BUSINESS PLAN 2008/09

The Committee's attention was drawn to the 2008/09 business plan for the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit, which had been circulated as a separate document for the information of Councillors.

Committee members noted the capital projects proposed by the Business Unit and the work which was presently being undertaken in relation to the re-use of effluent from the Bells Island plant.

Resolved

THAT the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit business plan 2008/2009 be received.

Thomas/Collingwood

Carried

8.0 LATE LATE BUS

Document No 670380, dated 30 May 2008, agenda pages 25-32 refer.

Attendance: Margaret Parfitt, Transport and Road Safety Co-ordinator, presented the report.

Mrs Parfitt outlined the background to and the history of the service, and the usage which the bus had at various times of the year.

She stressed that the survey carried out in respect of users indicated that people mainly congregated at McDonalds and the Shell Service Station to socialise and to get food, not to catch a bus, and in her opinion any additional service could actually exacerbate the problem.

Resolved

THAT the Environment Committee be advised:

- i) *the cost of putting on a bus to provide additional service at 3am would cost approximately \$50,000 per annum*
- ii) *a survey undertaken over the weekend of 23/24 May has shown that very few people in the area of Shell/McDonalds are waiting for the Late Late Bus (18 out of 220 responses)*
- iii) *the vast majority of people were in the area to socialise and obtain food*
- iv) *additional bus services would not resolve anti-social behaviour occurring in the Shell/McDonalds area. A later bus service is likely to exacerbate it.*

Barker/Shaw

Carried

9.0 PARKING AND VEHICLE CONTROL BYLAW 2004 NO 207 – AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULES

Document No 663937, dated 7 May 2008, agenda pages 33-34 refer.

The Divisional Manager Infrastructure explained that the changes to taxi stands were as a result of comments from taxi operators and the re-arrangement of time limited parking areas outside the old and new Post Shop premises was to acknowledge the change of location.

It was acknowledged that if necessary the P5 for Civic House customers could be extended in Trafalgar Street.

Members of the Committee expressed some concern regarding the provision of time limited parking spaces within the Buxton car park, but it was agreed that the most appropriate step would be to trial the changes in the period between the Committee Meeting and the Council Meeting at which time alternative arrangements could be made if necessary.

Recommendation to the Council

THAT the following alterations be made to the Schedules Bylaw No 207, Parking and Vehicle Control – 2004, as outlined in report number 663937:

- i. Schedule 4 – Special parking Areas*
- ii. Schedule 8 – Time Limited Parking Areas*

Barker/Shaw

Carried

10.0 CONTRACTS ACCEPTED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Document No 669954, dated 29 May 2008, agenda page 35 refers.

Resolved

THAT the report outlining the contract accepted under delegated authority in the period 11 April 2008 to 29 May 2008 be received.

Collingwood/Barker

Carried

11.0 DELEGATION

The Committee discussed the delegations proposed for the Infrastructure Committee and those flowing from it to Council staff.

It was raised that the Council should look closely at extending the delegations to staff wherever possible and reserving to the Committees and the Council itself only those ‘bigger picture’ issues which represented strategy or policy issues.

Councillor Henigan explained that the recent meeting of the Total Mobility Committee had looked at amending its purpose and role to encompass accessibility issues.

Attendance: Councillor Cotton and Councillor Reese left the meeting.

The Committee agreed that because of the wider issues, it was appropriate that any further decision on the Committee delegations be deferred to the Council meeting.

12.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 Nelson Information Sign

It was raised that it could be appropriate for the Council to pursue with Transit New Zealand the installation of advice / direction sign at the strategic state highway junctions of Waipara and Kawatiri at which tourists might otherwise take roads other than those leading to Nelson.

The meeting closed at 12.10pm.

CONFIRMED AS A CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

_____ CHAIRPERSON _____ DATE