

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HOUSE, TRAFALGAR STREET NELSON ON THURSDAY 30 APRIL 2009 COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

- PRESENT:** Councillor M Holmes (Chairperson), His Worship the Mayor (K Marshall), Councillors I Barker, A Boswijk, G Collingwood, M Cotton (Deputy Chairperson), D Henigan, P Rainey, R Reese, D Shaw and G Thomas
- IN ATTENDANCE:** A Louverdis (Senior Executive, Technical Services) and R Palmer (Administration Adviser)
- APOLOGIES:** Apologies from Councillors A McAlpine and A Miccio were received and accepted.
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1.0 PUBLIC FORUM

1.1 Nelson Wastewater Treatment Plant (Ponds)

Kerry Neal and the Principal and Caretaker of the Clifton Terrace School spoke to the Committee outlining their concerns regarding the odours emanating from the Sewerage Ponds.

They explained that although they had been led to understand that the upgrade of the plant would remove any future danger of unpleasant odours assailing the residents of Atawhai and beyond, this had not proven to be the case.

The meeting was advised that as far as the residents were concerned the odours were the worst in memory and had a particular effect on the pupils and visitors to the Clifton Terrace School, with odours remaining in the classrooms overnight.

Mr Louverdis explained that as the ponds were a biological process there would always be the possibility of odours and no guarantee in this matter could be given, however he accepted that the Resource Consent condition relating to odours had been breached.

Mr Louverdis went on to detail the history of the ponds and detailed the suite of consents applicable to the upgrade of which odour was one. He explained that the odour consent required that there be no smells past SH6. He pointed out that notwithstanding this problem the discharge quality parameters were being achieved.

He explained that the design of the upgrade had been to provide a clarifier and trickling filter as a means of balancing the loads being placed on the ponds, so as to prevent this type of failure, however the operator in managing the Plant, had made an incorrect call and had been unable to manage the situation in time to prevent the smells occurring. This was also exacerbated by the fact that the sludge tanks were out of commission due to repair works.

He explained that once the smells set in there was no quick solution to the problem and it was a matter of managing the situation so as to ensure that the ponds recovered as quickly as possible.

Mr Louverdis advised that as far as he was aware, the last recorded smell was on 4 April and he was surprised to hear from those attending the Public Forum that as recently as yesterday it was still smelling.

Mr Louverdis advised that he would arrange for tests to be carried out at the School to determine the type of gas which was being experienced so as to assure everybody regarding possible health hazards.

He also advised that there was no guarantee that it would not happen again, and that as the Council was in a contractual situation there was only so much it could do, although he acknowledged that the Council had the ultimate responsibility.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

19 March 2009

Resolved

***THAT** the minutes of the Infrastructure Committee meeting, held on Thursday 19 March 2009, be confirmed as a true and correct record.*

Barker/Reese

Carried

3.0 STATUS REPORT – MAY 2009

Document number 630999, agenda pages 6-7 refer.

- a) The meeting was advised that the report on the Total Mobility issues would now be going to the next meeting of the Infrastructure Committee.
- b) Mr Louverdis advised that the facilitator for Jenner Road had met with the residents and although the residents were still unhappy with the outcome, they had been advised that the Council policy in relation to such accesses had been confirmed.
- c) The meeting discussed the issue regarding cycleway signage, acknowledging that there seemed to be some confusion between sign posting for way-finding and sign posting to resolve some of the conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists. Mr Louverdis advised that staff were presently working through the various issues and work would be undertaken to resolve the situation.
- d) The Committee agreed that when open ended resolutions were passed, thought should be given to adopting a date by when the issues might be resolved.

Resolved

***THAT** the Infrastructure Committee Status Report for May 2009 be received.*

His Worship the Mayor/Boswijk

Carried

4.0 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson requested that when Councillors received concerns from members of the public, before raising it at the public meeting they undertake some research through the Chief Executive or the appropriate member of the Executive Team.

Mr Louverdis advised in response to a query from Councillor Barker that in the last 6 months there had been 5 reported incidences of taste and odour and that these were professionally handled by staff. In reply to a question about staff taking bottled

water to a resident who had lodged a complaint Mr Louverdis noted that in this instance this had been an appropriate response.

5.0 INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE REPORT

Document number 746007, dated 21 April 2009, agenda pages 8-21 refer.

Resolved

THAT the Infrastructure Finance Report for the eight months ended 28 February 2009 be received.

Reese/Marshall

Carried

6.0 STUDY INTO THE EFFECTS OF ARTERIAL TRAFFIC FLOWS

Document number 732104, dated 21 April 2009, agenda pages 58-63 refer.

Attendance: Andrew James, Transport Manager, presented the Report.

Mr James advised that the NZTA had been provided with a copy of the report and had advised that it had no comments, however it would still need to consider a funding proposal.

The Committee agreed that the stakeholders should include the emergency services.

The meeting discussed whether or not the Committee should be involved in selection of the consultants who would be undertaking this study.

Mr James advised that the intention was that the Council should be kept isolated from the process as Councillors had clearly indicated their preferences, and therefore he would be making use of an independent auditor, who would audit the process as it progressed to ensure that it was completely unbiased.

Concerns were expressed that the study was based on traffic modelling which used projections the validity of which nobody could test, and that therefore it could well be slanted to more roads and give little consideration to travel demand management and other alternative issues.

Mr James advised that while it was difficult to make accurate predictions as to the future, the study would be based on internationally and nationally recognised practices related to modelling to ensure that the result was as accurate as possible.

Resolved

THAT subject to the New Zealand Transport Agency approving its share of the funding, a study be commissioned into the effects of arterial traffic flows in accordance with the Terms of Reference (document number 756015) attached to the report document number 732104.

His Worship the Mayor/Cotton

Carried

Attendance: Councillor Reese left the meeting.

7.0 MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Document number 647115, dated 30 April 2009, agenda pages 22-26 refer.

Mr Louverdis drew the Committees attention to the LTCCP projection versus year end forecasts under paragraph 4.2 of the report pointing out that the transport item was anticipated to be \$97,000 overspent at the end of the year, as it was proposed to undertake work on the Chings Road retaining wall, which was an important outstanding work.

He pointed out that notwithstanding this overexpenditure the total of the Infrastructure projects would still be substantially under budget. The Committee agreed that it would be appropriate for the Chings Road retaining wall to proceed.

Resolved

***THAT** the report on Major Infrastructure projects to 30 April 2009 be received and the overexpenditure in respect of transport projects be acknowledged.*

Cotton/Barker

Carried

8.0 WASTE ASSESSMENT 2009

Document number 737704, dated 16 April 2009, agenda pages 27-57 refer.

Attendance: Andrew James presented the report.

Mr James advised that Clause 6 of the report needed to be amended to make it clear that the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan to be prepared under the new Waste Minimisation Act 2008 will supercede the existing Waste Management Plan 2005, and that once the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan was adopted the Councils Solid Waste Asset Management Plan would need to be reviewed.

Mr James also advised that at the present time the Ministry for the Environment was consulting on a review of the targets set in the 2002 NZ Waste Strategy with the aim of developing a new National Waste Strategy by mid 2009.

It was generally accepted that it would be appropriate for the Council to not move on its own Waste Management and Minimisation Plan until the new National Strategy had been released and that it would also be logical for the Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council to develop a joint Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

Mr James also advised that there were a number of inaccuracies and inconsistencies in the Waste Assessment which accompanied the report and if the suggested deadline of October 2009 for the preparation of a new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan was not adopted, the appropriate opportunity would be taken to reassess the Waste Assessment as this was a vital starting point for the development of the main plan.

The meeting agreed that a revised Waste Assessment should be sent to all Councillors who could then provide their suggested alterations to staff.

In conclusion, Mr James advised that in order to satisfy the provisions of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, the Council should formally resolve that its Waste Management Plan 2005 would be the Councils Waste Management and Minimisation Plan pending the development of a new plan.

Resolved

THAT the Councils Waste management Plan 2005 be adopted as the interim Waste Management and Minimisation Plan required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008;

AND THAT the Council pursue the development of a joint Nelson City Council/Tasman District Council regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan;

AND THAT the Nelson City Council Waste Assessment 2009 be revised and corrected and submitted to the next meeting of the Infrastructure Committee;

AND THAT a working party comprising Councillors Shaw, Barker, Holmes and His Worship the Mayor be set up to formulate a submission to the consultation presently under way in respect of the 2002 New Zealand Waste Strategy.

Holmes/Shaw

Carried

9.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES

9.1 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting in accordance with section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 on the grounds that the public conduct of this part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists.

Boswijk/His Worship the Mayor

Carried

9.2 Confirmation of Minutes – 19 March 2009

Resolved

THAT the minutes of part of the meeting of the Infrastructure Committee held with the public excluded on Thursday 19 March 2009, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Barker/Cotton

Carried

9.3 Status Report Public Excluded – May 2009

Document number 630999, agenda page 2 refers

Resolved

THAT Infrastructure Committee Status Report (Public Exclude) for May 2009 be received.

Holmes/Boswijk

Carried

9.4 Re-admittance of the Public

Resolved

THAT the public be re-admitted to the meeting.

Holmes/His Worship the Mayor

Carried

The meeting closed at 11.20am.

CONFIRMED AS A CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

_____ CHAIRPERSON _____ DATE