

MINUTES

TITLE: Tasman District Council - Annual Plan Submissions Hearing
DATE: Wednesday 12 May 2010
TIME: 9.30 am
VENUE: Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond
PRESENT: Mayor R G Kempthorne, Crs S J Borlase, S G Bryant, R G Currie, B F Dowler, J L Edgar, B W Ensor, G A Glover, M J Higgins, J L Inglis, T E Norriss and E J Wilkins
IN ATTENDANCE: Strategic Development Manager (S Edwards), Administration Officer (J A Proctor)

APOLOGIES

Moved Crs Wilkins/Glover
CN10/05/01

THAT apologies from Cr Riley for absence be received.
CARRIED

120 - 122	Mr S P Baigent – Tinline Properties Limited Strategic Property Group Limited
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Mr Baigent was in attendance to speak to the submission on behalf of Tinline Properties Limited and Strategic Property Group Limited.

Both companies were against the proposal to increase Development Contributions (DCs) in line with the Producer Price Index (PPI), and the proposed Targeted Tourism Rate (TTR).

Mr Baigent felt Council was inflexible in regard to DCs and he was invited to contact the Chief Executive or Mayor to discuss this issue further. Mr Baigent was of the opinion that DCs were a tax.

In response to questioning, Mr Baigent stated that the proposed TTR required further work and that tourism as an industry, should be self supporting.

101	Mr I MacLennan and Ms J Catchpole – Bishop Suter Trust Board
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Mr MacLennan and Ms Catchpole were in attendance to speak to the submission.

Ms Catchpole requested that Council enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bishop Suter Trust Board and that annual funding be increased to \$100,000.

Mr MacLennan spoke about funding depreciation on an annual basis and confirmed that the Suter Art Gallery was well supported through private donations. Ms Catchpole confirmed that they received funding via the LEOTC fund.

50	Mr D Win
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Mr Win was in attendance to speak to his submission.

Mr Win raised the following issues:

- Council subsidising the tourism industry via Nelson Tasman Tourism Limited (NTT).
- Commended Council for not being involved in the Performing Arts Centre.
- Coastal structures.
- Torrent Bay beach replenishment rate.
- Schedule of Charges – Commercial Operators License.

In response to questioning, Mr Win stated that all commercial operators should contribute to the foreshore reserve.

55	Mr G Batten
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Mr Batten was in attendance to speak to his submission regarding the proposed funding for (NTT) which he vehemently opposed.

Mr Batten stated that it was difficult to follow the amount of funding allocated to NTT since its inception in 1994. A proper analysis of the benefit of *i*-sites was required as, in his view, funding this type of operation was questionable.

56	Mr B McKee
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Mr McKee was in attendance to speak to his submission regarding his objection to the TTR in its present format.

Mr McKee stated that the TTR was highly discriminatory and iniquitous. He said that *i*-sites were a valuable asset that Council should continue to support.

62	Mr N Turtle – Wakefield Community Council
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Mr Turtle was in attendance to speak to the submission regarding the lack of a development plan for the Wakefield and Brightwater areas. Mr Turtle stated that these areas ranked behind Motueka and Richmond in terms of population growth but were largely ignored by Council. The lack of a reliable water supply was an issue for Wakefield and the lack of commercially zoned land available needed to be addressed.

79	Mr R Batt
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Mr Batt was in attendance to speak to his submission and expressed his concern regarding high value agricultural lands being developed for housing or industry. Urban growth sprawl needed to be controlled by ring fencing productive rural lands to prevent further subdivision. A discussion ensued regarding developing new settlements and infrastructure. Mr Batt stated that he was prepared to pay higher rates to ensure productive lands were protected.

The meeting adjourned at 10.59 am.

The meeting resumed at 11.14 am.

85	Ms P Griffith
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Ms Griffith was in attendance to speak to her submission regarding funding for the Tasman Bays Heritage Trust; reduced public access to the Nelson Provincial Museum Research Facility and staff redundancies.

Ms Griffith stated that it was disappointing that there was no current Memorandum of Understanding between the Nelson Provincial Museum and Council.

249	Mr G C Andrews, Mr N Page, Mr T Perring – Keep Richmond Beautiful Committee representing the Native Bird Recovery Group
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Mr Andrews was in attendance to speak to the submission regarding designating the Jimmy Lee Creek and surrounding location as a native bird recovery area; and requested that dogs be leashed whilst exercising in the vicinity.

92	Mr P Robins and Ms F MacKelleny – Trustees of the School of Music
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Mr Robins and Ms MacKelleny were in attendance to speak to the submission and provided an update on the financial status of the School of Music. Mr Robins stated that the Trust was looking to professional fundraisers for ways to generate more income.

Mr Robins and Ms MacKelleny thanked Council for its ongoing support.

96	Mr A Hunter – Nelson Historical Society (Inc)
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Mr Hunter was in attendance to speak to the submission regarding funding for the Nelson Provincial Museum.

Mr Hunter spoke about the value of collections housed at the Museum and for the need to develop storage facilities. Mr Hunter was advised that Council funding for the Museum had increased significantly since 2000. A recent Council survey had shown that funding for arts had ranked as a low priority for residents.

100	Mrs D Hunter
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Mrs Hunter was in attendance to speak to her submission regarding funding provided for the Nelson Provincial Museum.

Mrs Hunter expressed concern at the lack of public access to the research facility at Isele Park and poor storage facilities for heritage collections.

27	Mr C H Blackman
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Mr Blackman was in attendance to speak to his submission regarding the provision of public transportation routes in Richmond and Motueka and cycle planning.

In response to questioning, Mr Blackman preferred that public transport was not subsidised.

52	Mr S Jones – Hoddy Estuary Park Trust Inc
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Mr Jones was in attendance to speak to the submission and requested \$35,000 funding to assist with the installation of a toilet block at the park.

The Trust had raised \$300,000 towards the development of the park which locals were already using. \$17,000 had been spent on foundations for the toilet and tank, and that a further \$35,000 was required to complete the project.

109	Ms S Young and Mr M Holmes – Founders Heritage Park Subcommittee
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Ms Young and Mr Holmes were in attendance to speak to the submission requesting \$6,000 funding from Council.

Tasman residents enjoyed free entry to Founders and additional funding from Council would contribute towards the losses incurred as a result of this gesture. Donation boxes had been installed at the entrance gates and free entry was based on an honesty system. Ms Young confirmed that the land and buildings were owned by Nelson City Council.

The meeting adjourned at 12.35 pm.

The meeting resumed at 1.21 pm.

93	Ms S Lees – G E Aware Nelson
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Ms Lees was in attendance to speak to the submission requesting Council make land use for genetically modified organisms (GMO) trials a prohibited or discretionary activity.

Ms Lees tabled a press release dated 5 May 2010 from the Auckland Regional Council regarding its position in relation to GMO. Ms Lees urged Council to carry out community consultation on allowing genetic engineering trials to be conducted in the District.

Ms Lees stated that she did not want water to be privatised.

174	Mr M Clark and Ms S McBride
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Mr Clark was in attendance to speak to the submission requesting Council develop a policy in respect of rezoning and rates in the Richmond West area.

Mr Clark tabled a map “Richmond West – Subdivision Structure Plan”.

138	Mr R & K Geiger
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Mr Geiger was in attendance to speak to his submission opposing the increase in the TTR and for Council to investigate installing bridle trails throughout the District.

Mr Geiger stated that the TTR was unfair and poorly designed. NTT should not receive any further funding until its benefits had been established. Mr Geiger continued that if NTT is to be funded, then all ratepayers should contribute.

Mr Geiger spoke about horse trekking and the need to develop bridle trails throughout the District.

213	Mr Gibbons – Gibbons Holdings Limited
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Mr Gibbons was in attendance to speak to the submission opposing funding NTT; increasing DCs; and ensuring that General Rates and other levies and charges be held at 0% movement.

Mr Gibbons stated that the tourism industry should be self sufficient and that many within the industry felt that NTT was ineffective.

Mr Gibbons stated that DCs were a tax and that levies should be spent directly in the area in which they related to.

Mr Gibbons felt that Council should learn to budget effectively.

181	Ms A Mackenzie, Mr G Ball, Mr E Newport – Federated Farmers of New Zealand
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Ms Mackenzie, Mr Ball and Mr Newport were in attendance to speak to the submission. They expanded on issues concerning Federated Farmers of New Zealand which were:

- Submission closing dates.
- Inequalities in rating.
- Introduction of remission policy.
- Use of differentials.
- UAGC.
- Inefficiencies in Council's operating expenditure.
- Income generated from Council's forestry interests.
- Roding Cost Allocation Model (RCAM).
- Subsidising the tourism industry.
- Reform of local government funding.

A discussion took place regarding the latest valuations undertaken by QV and the impact they had on rates.

Ms McKenzie advised that Federated Farmers of New Zealand would be preparing a paper on RCAM. It was also advocating for a number of measures in relation to local government funding reform.

Cr Higgins left the meeting at 3.06 pm.

Ms McKenzie clarified the figures presented in 6.1 of the submission.

The meeting adjourned at 3.09 pm.

The meeting resumed at 3.27 pm.

Cr Higgins returned to the meeting at 3.27 pm.

198 & 88	Mr R Stafford, Mr B Thomas, Mr R Taylor, Mr M Ingram, Ms C Hawea and Ms S Tawhai – Wakatu Incorporation and Ngati Rarua Atiawa Iwi Trust: Mr H Briggs – Tiakina te Taiao Ltd
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There was no official powhiri, however the Mayor welcomed the submitters and this was followed by a waiata and karakia by iwi representatives.

Mr Briggs stated that his role was to ensure that the process of consultation between Council and Tiakina te Taiao (Tiakina) was dealt with appropriately. Mr Briggs spoke about the following issues:

- Developing a closer relationship with Council and its staff.
- Council staff developing a greater understanding of iwi issues and values.
- Council considering employing an Iwi Liaison Officer.
- River management and water.

Mr Thomas stated that whilst there were no protocols in place relating to cultural heritage or protection within the TRMP, then Tiakini and iwi would always be reactive. Mr Thomas stated that iwi would like these issues addressed swiftly.

Mr Thomas spoke about the following topics:

- Economic development for the Top of the South.
- Progressing formal and informal relationships with Council.
- Memorandum of understanding regarding mutual interests and common goals.
- Freeholding land in the Motueka area whilst protecting known burial sites.

Mr Thomas was advised that Council wished to enter into discussions with iwi and Tiakini to develop specific ways to resolve issues.

A discussion ensued on the following topics:

- Water in the Motueka area.
- Rates relief for private landowners with identified cultural sites on their land.

- Flood protection in the Motueka area.
- Assistance for local marae, both monetary and in kind.
- Waste oil on roads.
- Financial support for urupa (staff advised that they would investigate correct procedure and respond in due course).
- Motueka's infrastructure needs going forward.

Mr Ingram clarified item L in the submission and advised that it was a typographical error and that it objected to the sale of any properties if the correct procedure had not been followed.

Mr Thomas stated that he was part of the Rugby World Cup Steering Committee and that in 2011 a plaque commemorating the Maori Battalion would be unveiled at Anzac Park. It was hoped that Council would wish to be involved.

The Mayor thanked the delegation for their presentations.

The meeting concluded at 4.24 pm.

Chair:

Date: