MINUTES

TITLE: Corporate Services Committee

DATE: Thursday 21 July 2005

TIME: 9.30 am

VENUE: Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.

PRESENT: Mayor J C Hurley (Chair), Crs T B King, S G Bryant,

R G Currie, E E Henry, M J Higgins, J L Inglis, N Riley, R G Kempthorne, P K O'Shea, E J Wilkins, E M O'Regan

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (R G Dickinson), Corporate Services

Manager (D G Ward), Corporate / Engineering

Administrator (V M Gribble)

APOLOGIES

Moved Crs Kempthorne/O'Regan FN05/07/20

THAT apologies from Crs Norriss and Borlase for absence be sustained. CARRIED

1 PUBLIC FORUM

1.1 Mr Clelland

Mr Clelland was concerned about Croucher Street being closed to traffic, especially for access in emergencies.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 Information and Publicity Subcommittee – 23 March 2005 and 20 April 2005

Moved Crs Henry/Kempthorne FN05/07/21

THAT the minutes of the meetings of the Information and Publicity Subcommittee held on 23 March 2005 and 20 April 2005, containing resolutions numbered FN05/03/01 to FN05/03/04 and FN05/04/01 to FN05/04/04 respectively, be confirmed as a true and complete record of the proceedings of those meetings.

CARRIED

2.2 Corporate Services Committee – 28 April 2005

Moved Crs O'Regan/Kempthorne FN05/07/22

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held on 28 April 2005, containing resolutions FN05/04/05 to FN05/04/10 be confirmed as a true and complete record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED

2.3 Information and Publicity Subcommittee – 25 May 2005

Moved Crs Henry/Kempthorne FN05/07/23

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Information and Publicity Subcommittee held on 25 May 2005, containing resolutions FN05/05/25 to FN05/05/27 be confirmed as a true and complete record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED

2.4 Council Enterprise Subcommittee – 8 June 2005

Moved Crs Bryant/Inglis FN05/07/24

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Council Enterprise Subcommittee held on 8 June 2005, containing resolutions FN05/06/01 to FN05/06/08 be confirmed as a true and complete record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED

2.5 Information and Publicity Subcommittee – 22 June 2005

Moved Crs Henry/Kempthorne FN05/07/25

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Information and Publicity Subcommittee held on 22 June 2005, containing resolutions FN05/06/01 and FN05/06/02 be confirmed as a true and complete record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED

3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr King noted that the LTCCP Model 2 and the Representation Review will have a significant influence on the shape of the district and what and how things are done for some considerable time to come.

Cr O'Shea noted comments that submitters to the annual plan process had made on the time between hearing submissions and Council making decisions. Mayor Hurley said it is important the Council remains proactive to new initiatives and said any attempt to become more regulatory adds to the destabilising effect.

Moved Crs Bryant/O'Regan FN05/07/26

THAT the Chairman's Report for July 2005 be received. CARRIED

4 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

4.1 Golden Bay Rural Property Identification Project

The project is progressing well and to date over 500 of the anticipated 1,800 properties within the Golden Bay Ward have been identified. It is expected the project will be completed by the end of September 2005.

Cr Riley commented that emergency services are very pleased with the system and the ratepayers are happy with it also.

4.2 Rates Rebate Scheme

The agenda contained a memorandum from Department of Internal Affairs detailing the new Rates Rebate Scheme which comes into effect on 1 July 2006.

4.3 Publicity Workshop

It was proposed that delegated authority for allocating community consultation grants be given to the Information and Publicity Subcommittee.

Cr Bryant had concerns that there are two wards with no representation on the Information and Publicity Subcommittee, whereas the Community Consultation Subcommittee had representatives from all wards. He suggested that representatives from the other wards be co-opted onto the Subcommittee for community consultation allocation.

Mayor Hurley agreed with Cr Bryant. He suggested the Corporate Services Committee retain the authority for allocating community consultation grants.

Cr Inglis was concerned about the money the Council is giving away to different groups.

Cr Higgins was happy for the Information and Publicity Subcommittee to have delegated authority to allocate community consultation grants. He considered the Council received good value from the ratepayer association groups.

Cr O'Shea said the ratepayer groups undertake work that saves Council a lot of money. She reminded Councillors that they can attend subcommittee meetings.

Cr Kempthorne said it would be helpful to have one of the Councillors from Lakes/Murchison and Moutere/Waimea Wards on the Subcommittee when considering community consultation grants.

Moved Crs Henry/Kempthorne FN05/07/27

THAT the Information and Publicity Subcommittee plus Crs Bryant and Higgins be given delegated responsibility to allocate community consultation grants for the 2005/2006 financial year.

CARRIED

Cr Henry advised the Information and Publicity Subcommittee proposed to have a six month trial of a two weekly edition of Newsline – The Mag, commencing from 1 October 2005. A telephone survey will be undertaken in the second week of February 2006 to see what the public response is to the two weekly edition. The results will be reported back to the Corporate Services Committee. It is proposed to register Newsline – The Mag as a newspaper.

Moved Crs Kempthorne/O'Shea FN05/07/28

THAT the Corporate Services Manager's Report for July 2005 be received. CARRIED

5 CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

A Citizenship Ceremony was held for the following people, and was followed by morning tea.

Mrs Carole Bennett
Mr Anthony Thomas Bennett
Miss Hannah Louise Crystel Bennett
Master Samuel Anthony Bennett
Mrs Joanna Mary Deaville
Miss Annabel Deaville
Mr George Edward Ditchfield
Mrs Sheilagh Doris Watson-Ditchfield
Mr Vincent Edward Emms
Mrs Gurbax Kaur
Mr Trung Thanh Le

Ms Gillian Ann Richardson
Mr Stephen Paul Hendy
Mrs Kathleen Dale Van Eyndhoven
Mrs Gwendoline Mary Ward
Master Alexander James Lean
Mr Gary John Webber
Mrs Cheryl Dayle Wood
Mr Ian James Wood
Master Joshua Richard Wood
Master Daniel James Wood

6 CONSIDERATION OF 2005/2006 RATE REMISSIONS

Mr Ward and Cr Bryant declared an interest in the Nelson A & P Association remission application.

Anthea Campbell, Rates Officer, was in attendance for discussion on this item.

Cr Kempthorne noted that The Estuary Park Trust is just a reserve and questioned why they don't get 100% remission.

Mr Ward noted that with the Village Green, they received 50% remission until it was vested in Council.

Mr Ward noted that Nelson Speedway does not fit clearly within any category.

Cr O'Regan understood Nelson Speedway didn't qualify because they charge an entry fee, but noted that golf clubs also charge a fee. He couldn't see why they did not qualify.

Cr O'Shea said a lot of rugby and golf clubs occupy Council-owned land, and asked for further information before we reconsidered the Nelson Speedway application.

Cr Kempthorne said with golf clubs people pay and use the facilities but with Speedway it is clearly a commercial venture.

Mr Ward said the primary source of income for sporting clubs is through their membership, whereas the primary source of income for Speedway is by people paying at the gate.

Cr Currie said Speedway is a voluntary organisation and it is an incorporated society and considered it should qualify for a remission.

Cr King said the structure of Speedway should be checked out and said he needs more information before he could make a decision.

Moved Crs O'Regan/Kempthorne FN05/07/29

THAT a report be presented as to the relationship of the Nelson Speedway Association with the criteria for rate remissions. CARRIED

Mr Ward declared an interest in the Mapua Health Centre.

Crs King and Bryant declared an interest in the Wakefield Medical Centre.

Cr Higgins declared he was a Council-appointed representative to the Mapua Health Centre. He said they have paid the rates for the last six months and it is a health centre provided and fundraised by the community. Wakefield Medical Centre is in the same situation. He considered all health centres should receive a 50% rebate.

Cr Inglis said this would be a good way of helping the communities.

Moved Crs Kempthorne/Higgins FN05/07/30

THAT rates remission policy be looked at for health centres, including the implications of such a policy. CARRIED

Cr O'Regan asked if the Murchison Toy Library owned the property and if they are the ratepayer.

Mr Ward said a report would be needed to consider the use of the facility compared to the previous use of the property.

Moved Crs O'Regan/King FN05/07/31

THAT rates remission policy be looked at in relation to the Murchison Toy Library.

CARRIED

7 LTCCP DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The agenda contained a report that provided Councillors with details of the process that staff will be following in the preparation of the 2006 LTCCP.

The Local Government Act 2002 requires Council to carry out a process that will enable the community to identify its desired outcomes for the future of the District in relation to environmental, social, economic and cultural wellbeing.

Cr Higgins did not consider the Cultural Wellbeing section in the draft booklet that accompanied the agenda to today's meeting was balanced.

Mr Ward said the comments in the Cultural Wellbeing section are what have come from a workshop held in April 2005. They are not Council comments.

Cr King suggested feedback from workshops should be included as information in an appendix.

Cr Higgins raised the issue of community spirit and the family unit. He suggested these matters are raised to a minor extent only and then covered off as a social welfare activity. He is of the view that as a Council we need to actively encourage the family structure as a basis of our society. He is concerned that family structure as we've known it over centuries has been dis-established. As a society, children need parents and grandparents. He asked what we could do as a Council to encourage family structures. There is nothing in the document that addresses that.

Cr O'Shea said Cr Higgins raised an important aspect and it comes back to cultural wellbeing. Cultural wellbeing is the ability to continue to be "kiwi", to have the ability to carry on doing family stuff, like going to the beach, or playing sport, as that is what we do.

Cr King said the use of the word "culture" is not used appropriately and asked for that section to be reworked.

Mr Ward said Council has to own the booklet, and we do have the ability and background information to put in the booklet. He said focus group meetings may be delayed while we get the book right.

Cr Kempthorne said the points on the cultural wellbeing have been well covered, but deciding what additional information that goes into that section of the discussion document could be difficult.

Cr O'Regan concurred with the tone of discussion. He made reference to the egalitarian society that had open access to state housing loans for all people in the society. Over the last 20 years that has been slipping into recess. He also asked how much staff time was involved in doing the self assessment audit.

Mr Ward said it took a fortnight to do the audit, which was forwarded to the Office of the Auditor General. They will report back to Council with an assessment of its processes in November 2005, which is just ahead of a series of workshops to be held in early December 2005.

Cr O'Regan said if this is going out as a Council document, the figures need to be accurate. He referred to the wetlands section which he disagreed with. He referred to a report by John Priest that had been prepared on wetlands in the District.

Mr Ward asked for assistance with wording in the document.

Cr Higgins asked where we are going as a district in a business sense. With rapid change in the world it is incredibly difficult to answer. Council has talked about economic development and felt the Economic Development Agency wasn't for us. In our ten year strategy we need to address it as an item. It will be more asking questions than coming up with answers. The opportunity for our residents to earn a living, to be productive in tomorrow's society is something we as a Council need to take into account and provide ground work to enable it to happen. Council has permitted large subdivision because it believed it was relatively low fertility land and allowing people to make a living gave us an opportunity to go forward.

8 WEBSITE DEMONSTRATION

Mr P Darlington demonstrated the new website to the Committee.

9 ADOPTION OF NINE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

The nine monthly financial report had been distributed to Councillors earlier.

Moved Crs Currie/Wilkins FN05/07/32

THAT the Nine Monthly Financial Reports be received. CARRIED

10 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – APRIL, MAY AND JUNE 2005

Moved Crs Henry/Kempthorne FN05/07/33

THAT the accounts for April, May and June 2005 be approved for payment. CARRIED

The meeting concluded at 1.50 pm.	
Confirmed:	Date: