

MINUTES

TITLE: Engineering Services Committee
DATE: Thursday 29 March 2007
TIME: 9.30 am
VENUE: Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond
PRESENT: Mayor J C Hurley, Crs T E Norriss (Chair), S G Bryant, P K O'Shea, T E Norriss, N Riley, E J Wilkins, J L Inglis, R G Kempthorne, M J Higgins, R G Currie, T B King, E M O'Regan, S J Borlase
IN ATTENDANCE: Engineering Manager (P W Thomson), Transportation Manager (R Ashworth), Utilities Manager (J C Cuthbertson), Asset Engineer Rivers/Road (P Drummond), Minute Secretary (V M Gribble)

APOLOGIES

Moved Crs Bryant/Henry
WK07/03/01

**THAT an apology or lateness from Mayor J C Hurley be sustained.
CARRIED**

1 PUBLIC FORUM

1.1 Gary Stocker, Nelson Automobile Association

Mr Stocker said the Automobile Association believes that Transit NZ should put the two options for Nelson North Corridor out for public consultation.

1.2 Warwick Savage

Mr Savage talked about the Croucher Square development. He requested Council delay construction from July 2007 to February 2008 and suggested a working party involving those interested persons and businesses be formed to deal with the issues.

1.3 Lou McClelland

Mr McClelland requested that if a working party is formed for Croucher Square development, there be fair representation on that working party from affected residents.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 Engineering Services Committee – 15 February 2007

Moved Crs Kempthorne/Riley
WK06/11/02

THAT the minutes of the Engineering Services Committee held on 15 February 2007, containing resolutions WK07/02/01 to WK07/02/16 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED

3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – MARCH 2007

Cr Norriss said there was an expression of thanks at the Annual Plan meeting in Wakefield last night, from the community, for the work that has been done in their district over the past few years.

Cr Bryant talked about forestry operations and the affect on residents on Tadmor-Bush End Road.

Moved Crs Currie/Bryant
WK07/03/03

THAT the Chairman's Report dated March 2007 be received.

CARRIED

4 RICHMOND TOWN CENTRE (CROUCHER SQUARE)

Mr Ashworth was in attendance for discussion on this item and spoke to his report contained in the agenda which was to update the Committee on progress in consultation, design and timing of the project.

Cr Kempthorne said when this work is done there will be a net increase of about 90 car parks in Richmond car parks.

Cr Henry said there will never be an optimum timing for the work. Richmond Unlimited should be consulted as they run Last of the Summer Fare. She said the Town Square is for everybody, not solely for retailers and it will be especially valuable for out of town people.

Moved Crs Kempthorne/Henry
WK07/03/04

THAT the Croucher Square development construction phase be deferred until February 2008.

CARRIED

5 TRANSPORTATION ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT

Mr Ashworth spoke to his report contained in the agenda.

5.1 Waimea Operations and Maintenance

Mr Ashworth noted that a concerted effort has been made during February 2007 by all parties in an attempt to get the Waimea contract back on track.

5.2 Collingwood-Puponga Road

Cr Riley asked that the Golden Bay Councillors be kept informed on work on Collingwood-Puponga Road.

5.3 Sandy Bay – Marahau Road Foreshore Parking at Marahau Boat Ramp

Progress on resolution of the issues will be reported back to future Committee meetings as it is likely that new Council policies and regulatory processes for use of the road reserve may need to be approved.

Cr Wilkins asked that Ward Councillors be kept informed of what happens with the Marahau Road Foreshore.

5.4 Aerodromes

The rate of deterioration of the sealed runway at the Takaka Aerodrome is causing concern. The cost of both the pre-reseal and reseal works is approximately \$100,000. A meeting is to be held with the Service Centres Manager and the Aerodrome Committee to discuss options for funding.

Cr Higgins would like to know the justification for the sealed runway and who the beneficiaries are.

Moved Crs Henry/King WK07/03/05

**THAT the Transportation Manager's Report be received.
CARRIED**

6 SPECIAL PURPOSE ROADS

The report contained in the agenda advised the Committee of recent discussions between Tasman District Council and Department of Conservation staff with respect to shared maintenance costs on roads leading to national parks.

Mayor Hurley believes a case could be put to government for a greater spend on the Mt Arthur Road. He suggested preparing a video on the road in support of more money.

**Moved Crs Borlase/King
WK07/03/06**

THAT Council agree in principle to contribute an additional \$5,000 towards shared maintenance costs of roading with Department of Conservation in the 2007/2008 financial year.

CARRIED

7 ROAD SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Kirsty Barr, was in attendance for discussion on this report which updated the Committee on work carried out by the Road Safety Co-ordinator for 2006/2007 and what is planned for the 2007/2008 financial year.

Cr Norriss thanked Kirsty for her work for Council and wished her well for the future.

Mr Thomson noted Kirsty's achievements around the district in the three years she has been employed in the role of Road Safety Co-ordinator. He wished Kirsty all the best for the future.

**Moved Crs King/Kempthorne
WK07/03/07**

THAT the Road Safety Co-ordinator's Report be received.

CARRIED

8 ROAD SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR

Mr Thomson spoke to the report contained in the agenda advising that Krista Hobday has been appointed to the position of Road Safety Co-ordinator, commencing work with Council on 2 April 2007.

**Moved Crs Riley/Henry
WK07/03/08**

THAT the Road Safety Co-ordinator report be received.

CARRIED

9 TASMAN DISTRICT COUNCIL MAINTENANCE OF RIVER BEDS

Rivers Asset Engineer, Philip Drummond, was in attendance for discussion on this item. He spoke to the report in the agenda which provided details of a way forward with river bed management and maintenance.

Mayor Hurley said there are various aspects of the report that he was concerned about. He said the wetland conditions have left the Council with huge problems and extractions happening at the present time above the Motueka Bridge are putting the stopbanks at risk and are totally unsatisfactory.

Cr Higgins complimented Mr Drummond on his report which covered the issues that he is facing. The report request arose out of budget debates when Mr Drummond was requesting \$20,000 to do a trial of pushing gravel off the beaches into the wet waterway. It makes sense to put a blade through the rivers as a maintenance process so that each river is covered over a ten year period.

In reply to a question from Cr O'Regan, Mr Thomson said the data Council holds for classified rivers in terms of rating is not in a good form and we are working through that and all the information will be put into digital format which will allow for the consideration of options for changing the river rating system.

Cr O'Regan said Marlborough District Council have delegated total control of rivers to one section of Council. Tasman District Council has two departments dealing with rivers which has caused confusion amongst Councillors, the public and has not been conducive to good management practices.

Mr Thomson said a request needs to be made to both Environment and Planning and Engineering and the planning issues need to be addressed by the Environment and Planning Committee. He was willing to work on that and bring a report back.

Mr Drummond said Crack Willow will be included in Tasman District Council's list of unwanted pest plants at its next review.

Cr O'Regan said in his view it is not an appropriate method, except in large rivers, to do what Cr Higgins is suggesting.

Cr Borlase said farmers in Golden Bay are saying the build-up of gravel in the Takaka River is alarming and they are afraid of flooding. He asked what the problem is of allowing a certain amount of degradation of the river bed.

Mr Drummond said in the case of the gravel levels in Motueka River from Woodman's Corner to Gum Tree Corner, a drop of around 300 mm in the gravel level which will then end up with the same level drop in water levels, can make a difference of one metre in the head of the aquifers in Motueka and Riwaka. Presently we don't have anything that has the same ability as crack willow. It grows four times the root structure to anything else in the world.

Cr Kempthorne acknowledged there are beaches that are high and could cause flooding problems. There is connectivity between the level of gravel in rivers and the level of groundwater. Council needs to be careful how and what it does.

Mr Drummond said Mr Verstappen noted that some of the places where we indicated gravel could be removed that it was better that it was relocated and he supports the idea of relocating in certain areas but we don't have the consent to allow it.

Cr Norriss supports Cr Higgins suggestion. At the moment the global consent does not allow work to be done in the waterway. He asked how we can get a variation to the consent to do what Cr Higgins is suggesting. We have an opportunity to make changes in the Lakes and Rivers Section of the TRMP. He said we can't get a consent to cross through the river.

Cr King said Cr Higgins suggestion needs to be brought forward to the annual plan submission process. He said looking at the shifting of gravel plus other options to retain gravel in places where it is put is worth considering.

Mr Drummond said in the Moutere Ditch there is an investigation going on to place grade control structures.

Cr King suggested that joint department reports should be presented to a Full Council meeting.

Cr Bryant was concerned that in time no gravel will be able to be extracted from the river.

Mr Thomson said under the Global Consent we have the ability to carry out gravel removal in the river done under appropriate consent conditions. Staff will continue to utilise that aspect and do the work. If we were constrained entirely there would be an additional cost to Council of \$200,000 per year. Appropriate gravel removal under the consent must continue as an operational option.

**Moved Crs Higgins/King
WK07/03/09**

THAT:

- a) **the report on Maintenance of Riverbeds be received.**
- b) **Staff be requested to obtain a resource consent to trial gravel relocation within a riverbed.**
- c) **A submission be made to the 2007/2008 Draft Annual Plan round to fund this option.**

CARRIED

10 UTILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

Mr Cuthbertson was in attendance for discussion on this report.

10.1 Borck's Creek/Headingly Lane Channel

Mr Thomson advised that a detailed costing on the Borck's Creek upgrading along Headingly Lane will be presented at the next Engineering Services Committee meeting.

10.2 Mapua Causeway

The tide flap gates at the causeway were purposefully held open for a series of tidal cycles to help flush stagnant estuary water.

10.3 Motupipi Street Sewer Main Replacement

Works Infrastructure has commenced this contract and have had difficulty dealing with the sheer volume of groundwater while excavating the trench to the design depth.

10.4 Agrecovery

Commencement of this national service is scheduled for 1 April 2007 and will be officially launched at Richmond on 19 April 2007.

10.5 Chequer Packaging

Mr Thomson said invoices and payments since the Chequer Packaging receivership situation are progressing satisfactorily. There is an auditor's report due out in early April 2007 which will indicate what will happen to the debt accumulated prior to the receivership.

10.6 Health (Water) Amendment Bill

It has been estimated that this Bill will only provide benefit to approximately 10% of people who consume water from water supplies nationally. Local Government NZ has made a submission relating to cost and cost benefit ratios. There will now be another round of discussions with local government members.

**Moved Crs Riley/Henry
WK07/03/10**

**THAT the Utilities Asset Manager's report be received.
CARRIED**

Cr Borlase left the meeting at this time.

11 MURCHISON LANDFILL – UPDATE

The agenda contained a report which informed the Committee of progress towards the extension of the existing landfill at Murchison or the development of a transfer station and transport operation.

**Moved Crs Currie/Bryant
WK07/03/11**

**THAT the Murchison Landfill Update report be received.
CARRIED**

**12 NELSON CITY COUNCIL/TASMAN DISTRICT COUNCIL LANDFILL
OPTIONS REVIEW – UPDATE**

The agenda contained a report which informed the committee of progress of a working party of Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council reviewing regional waste management (landfill) options.

Mr Thomson reported on a meeting held with Nelson City Council representatives which was a useful progression in identifying things that need to be considered. A follow up meeting will be held in a month's time at which time a briefing report will be prepared to take back to both Councils.

**Moved Crs King/O'Regan
WK07/03/12**

**THAT the Nelson City Council/Tasman District Council Landfill Options
Review Update report be received.
CARRIED**

**13 ENGINEERING STANDARDS AND TASMAN RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT PLAN ALIGNMENT ISSUES**

Development Engineer, D Ley and Policy Planner, S Leusink-Sladen were in attendance for discussion on this report.

Ms Leusink-Sladen spoke to the report contained in the agenda which outlined issues relating to inconsistencies between Council's Engineering Standards and the Tasman Resource Management Plan in the way that they manage particular resources in the Tasman District. The report sought approval and support for Engineering and Environment and Planning Departments to continue to work together towards aligning the two documents.

**Moved Crs King/Henry
WK07/03/13**

THAT:

- a) the report be received;**
- b) the principle that the Engineering Standards and the Tasman Resource Management Plan are aligned to show consistency, be endorsed;**
- c) that in the review of the Engineering Standards a restructuring to specify the asset service outcome, the standard engineering solution and any acceptable alternative solutions, will assist in clarity and consistency with TRMP be noted.**

CARRIED

14 OLD MILL WALKWAY

Mr Thomson spoke to the report contained in the agenda which informed the Committee of progress towards the construction of Stage One of the Old Mill Walkway Coastal Erosion Protection.

Mr Thomson said tender documentation has been finalised and resource consent application has been lodged. Approval has been received from Department of Conservation, iwi and adjacent landowners.

**Moved Crs King/Kempthorne
WK07/03/14**

**THAT the Old Mill Walkway report be received.
CARRIED**

15 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

**Moved Crs King/Inglis
WK07/03/15**

That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- 8.1 Utilities Maintenance Contract 688**
- 8.2 North Nelson to Brightwater Corridor Study**

The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution, are as follows:

Item No.	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
8.1	Utilities Maintenance Contract 688	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	Section 48(1)(a)
8.2	North Nelson to Brightwater Corridor Study	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	Section 48(1)(a)

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

Item No	Reason to withhold information under section 7	
8.1	Utilities Maintenance Contract 688	Section 7(2)(b)(ii)
8.2	North Nelson to Brightwater Corridor Study	Section 7(2)(b)(ii)

CARRIED

(Refer to Confidential Minute Book resolutions numbered WK07/03/16 to WK07/03/18).

**Moved Crs Henry/Kempthorne
WK07/03/19**

THAT open meeting be resumed and the business transacted while the public was excluded be adopted in open meeting.

CARRIED

1 UTILITIES MAINTENANCE CONTRACT – CONTRACT 688

**Moved Crs Kempthorne/King
WK07/03/16**

THAT the Engineering Services Committee approve the Tender Evaluation team's recommendation to accept Works Infrastructure's tender price for Contract 688 of \$9,784,833.93.

CARRIED

2 LATE ITEM – NORTH NELSON TO BRIGHTWATER CORRIDOR STUDY

**Moved Crs O'Regan/Henry
WK07/03/17**

THAT the North Nelson to Brightwater Corridor Study be accepted as a late item and be considered by the Engineering Services Committee. The reason the item was not on the agenda was that the information had not been received and the item cannot be delayed as Council needs to address the issue and have a resolution prior to the Regional Land Transport Committee meeting on 13 April 2007.

CARRIED

**Moved Mayor Hurley/Cr Bryant
WK07/03/18**

THAT Tasman District Council advise the corridor study partners, Transit NZ and Nelson City Council, that its strong preference at this stage is to proceed with Option 1 for public consultation.

CARRIED

The meeting concluded at 2.40 pm.

Chair:

Date: