

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 24 October 2017, at 7.36pm

**Present** His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Crs Beale, Davis, Dickson, Gardyne, D Grant, P Grant, Highsted, Phillips, Reid and Sharp.

**In Attendance** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Regulatory and Planning (Dr Ian Davidson-Watts), General Manager Infrastructure (Mr Ramesh Sharma), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Transport Manager (Mr Peter Standing), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mr Matt Bayliss), Communications-Promotions Manager (Sonia Gerken) and 36 members of the public in the gallery.

**Apology** Cr Bolger apologised for absence.

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1. NEW ZEALAND CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY (SC1068)

His Worship conferred New Zealand citizenship on Anne and David Hunt and Sally Brandreth, British citizens, Anlyn Kelly and Agie Peig, Filipino citizens and Lorena Marshall, a Canadian citizen. All read the Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation of Allegiance and each family was presented with a New Zealand kowhai and the New Zealand citizenship story book provided by the Department of Internal Affairs.

*The meeting adjourned at 7.46pm and resumed at 7.57pm with ten members of the St John cadets in the gallery.*

His Worship called for any conflicts of interest. None were declared.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Highsted, **THAT** the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held on Tuesday 12 September 2017, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Reid, seconded by Cr Beale, **THAT** the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held on Thursday 21 September 2017, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Grant, seconded by Cr Dickson, **THAT** the report of the ordinary meeting of the Community Services Committee, held on Tuesday 3 October 2017, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Phillips, seconded by Cr Dickson, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the meeting of the Community Services Committee, held on Tuesday 3 October 2017, as presented, be ratified.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Reid, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Operations Committee, held on Tuesday 3 October 2017, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Grant, seconded by Cr Dickson, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the meeting of the Operations Committee, held on Tuesday 3 October 2017, as presented, be ratified.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr D Grant, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Regulatory and Planning Committee, held on Tuesday 3 October 2017, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr Reid, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the meeting of the Regulatory and Planning Committee, held on Tuesday 3 October 2017, as presented, be ratified.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr P Grant, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on Tuesday 3 October 2017, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr Phillips, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on Tuesday 3 October 2017, as presented, be ratified.

### **3. YOUTH COUNCIL**

A copy of the minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on 11 September 2017 had been circulated with the agenda.

4. MINUTES FROM SHARED SERVICES FORUM

A copy of the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Southland Shared Services Forum held on Friday 18 August 2017 had been circulated with the agenda, for the information of the Council.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Highsted, THAT the information be received.**

**2017/100**

5. CREATIVE COMMUNITIES ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (SC1899)

A copy of a report from the Creative Communities Assessment Committee meeting held on Monday 9 October 2017 had been circulated with the agenda.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Reid, THAT the information be received.**

**2017/101**

6. RURAL SPORT TRAVEL FUND (SC1985)

A copy of a report from the Rural Travel Fund Sub-Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 October 2017, had been circulated with the agenda.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Phillips, seconded by Cr Dickson, THAT the information be received.**

**2017/102**

7. GORE A&P ASSOCIATION JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – ANNUAL ACCOUNTS (SC1653)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager together with a copy of the annual accounts for the 2016/17 year for the Gore A&P Joint Management Committee. The accounts showed an overall operating loss of \$16,715, however, the Committee had spent \$27,000 more in the past financial year on repairs and maintenance. Some repaired items related to improvements directly linked to a health and safety site assessment that had identified areas for improvement.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Gardyne, THAT the information be received.**

**2017/103**

8. REPRESENTATION REVIEW (SC1939)

A report from the Chief Executive had been circulated about a representation review. The Local Electoral Act 2001 provided parameters and obligations for reviewing electoral structures. Section 19H of the Act compelled each territorial authority to

undertake a comprehensive review of its representation arrangements at six yearly intervals.

Details of the current electoral structure of the Gore District, legislative imperatives, communities of interest, effective representation of communities of interest, fair representation, the number of elected members comprising the Council, Community Boards and Maori Wards and constituencies had been canvassed in the report. The Chief Executive noted that the Community Board had at times struggled to ascertain its role which had led to meetings being cancelled due to a lack of business. To assist with role identification, a draft charter had been prepared for the Board to consider. Hopefully it would provide the Board with more clarity about its role.

Cr D Grant asked if there was a set number of meetings the Community Board had to hold each year or could the number be reduced and the Board meet on an as required basis.

The Chief Executive said the Board's meeting schedule tended to be once every second month and he did not think it could get away with meeting on an as required basis. It had been established by the Local Government Commission in 2003 and needed to be governed and administered in accordance with the Local Government Act.

Cr Phillips had been working hard with the Board about the Charter particularly and to ensure agendas contained meaningful topics.

His Worship thought the composition of the Board was as good as it had been during his time as Mayor.

The Chief Executive said the Charter provided for the Board to establish an annual set of objectives in order for members and staff to know what work was required.

Cr Gardyne supported retaining the two rural wards. He knew the Waikaka Ward very well but did not know much about the Kaiwera-Waimumu Ward.

Cr Sharp agreed and said he did not know the Waikaka Ward.

Cr Davis had a different view and thought if there was a single rural ward perhaps there may be more candidates encouraged to stand.

Cr Beale thought the overall number of elected members was adequate. A lesser number would put more pressure on attendance for Councillors.

**Cr Sharp moved THAT pursuant to Section 19K of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Gore District Council resolve to publicly notify its review of representation arrangements on the following basis:**

- (1) The Gore District, as delineated on LG074-2013-W1 deposited with Land Information New Zealand, shall be divided into four wards.**

- (2) The four wards shall be –

  - (a) the Gore Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 11803 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
  - (b) the Maitara Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 11488 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
  - (c) the Waikaka Ward comprising the area delineated on LG074-2013-W2 11482, deposited with Land Information New Zealand; and
  - (d) the Kaiwera-Waimumu Ward comprising the area delineated on LG074-2013-W3 Plan 386071 deposited with Land Information New Zealand.
  
- (3) The Council shall comprise a Mayor and 11 Councillors, elected as follows:

  - (a) five Councillors elected by the electors of the Gore Ward,
  - (b) one Councillor elected by the electors of the Maitara Ward,
  - (c) one Councillor elected by the electors of the Waikaka Ward,
  - (d) one Councillor elected by the electors of the Kaiwera-Waimumu Ward,
  - (e) three Councillors elected by the electors of the District as a whole.
  
- (4) There shall be a Maitara Community, comprising the area of the Maitara Ward as defined in 2(b) above; and
  
- (5) The Maitara Community Board shall comprise five elected members and one member of the Council representing the Maitara Ward and appointed to the Community Board by the Council.

The motion was seconded by Cr Gardyne.

Cr Davis moved as an amendment, THAT pursuant to Section 19K of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Gore District Council resolve to publicly notify its review of representation arrangements on the following basis:

- (1) The Gore District, as delineated on LG074-2013-W1 deposited with Land Information New Zealand, shall be divided into three wards.
  
- (2) The three wards shall be –

  - (a) the Gore Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 11803 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
  - (b) the Maitara Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 11488 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
  - (c) a new Rural Ward comprising the current Kaiwera-Waimumu Ward (as delineated on LG074-2013-W3, deposited with Land Information New Zealand, and the current Waikaka Ward (as delineated on LG074-2013-W2, deposited with Land Information New Zealand; and

- (3) The Council shall comprise a Mayor and 11 Councillors, elected as follows:

- (a) five Councillors elected by the electors of the Gore Ward,
- (b) one Councillor elected by the electors of the Mataura Ward,
- (c) two Councillors elected by the electors of a single Rural Ward,
- (d) three Councillors elected by the electors of the District as a whole.

(4) There shall be a Mataura community, comprising the area of the Mataura Ward as defined in 2(b) above; and

(5) The Mataura Community Board shall comprise five elected members and one member of the Council representing the Mataura Ward and appointed to the Community Board by the Council.

The motion was seconded by Cr Dickson.

The amendment was put and it was carried. The amendment then became the motion, was put and it was carried.

2017/104

*Crs Gardyne and Sharp voted against the motion, and asked for their votes to be recorded.*

#### 9. ADOPTION OF DRAFT 2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT (SC1477)

A memo had been received from the Chief Financial Officer together with the draft 2016-17 annual report. Deloitte had issued an unqualified opinion and the audit had gone smoothly. The auditor's board report would be referred to the next meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee for consideration.

His Worship said the report read well.

In response to Cr Gardyne, the Chief Financial Officer said there was reference to the current status of the Otama water scheme in the notes to the annual report but agreed to update the commentary in the water supply activities.

*The St John cadets departed the meeting at 8.29pm*

Cr Gardyne did not believe running a deficit was acceptable and felt the Council would not make any inroads into debt repayment if it did not make a surplus.

The Officer said the current financial year was forecast to make a surplus and the LTP also forecast future surpluses.

Cr Highsted said the Council had made a deliberate decision to run a balanced budget and the statement of cash flow gave a good indication of the financial situation.

Cr Sharp said in the last ten years there had been eight deficits and two surpluses. He agreed with Cr Gardyne and said the Council could not continue doing that.

In response to His Worship, Cr Sharp said the Council had to either rate more or spend less. He did not think the rating revenue was as competitive as other Councils. In the years when there was no capital expenditure, the Council still ended up with deficits.

His Worship said the Long Term Plan review was pending, and any concrete reductions in spending could be addressed at that time. He would be interested to know where Cr Sharp believed they could come from.

The Chief Executive said while the Council may have had deficits over eight years, the debt had remained relatively stable in that time. The other thing to remember was when a house value was quoted from another area, it needed to be put into context with debt levels. The debt level per capita was a figure to be conscious of.

Cr Sharp said he had raised debt levels in the past and had been chastised for it.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Gardyne, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2017 be adopted,**

**AND THAT the Chief Executive be authorised to make any typographical changes required.**

**2017/105**

**10. CLEAN AIR LOANS QUARTERLY REPORT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2017 (SC1633)**

A quarterly report to 30 September 2017 on the clean air loans scheme had been circulated by the Chief Financial Officer. During the quarter, one new application had been approved and five loans were issued. The approved contractor, Awarua Synergy, had 12 active quotes for properties. Less than 20% of the loans were for insulation upgrades.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Dickson, seconded by Cr P Grant, THAT the report be received.**

**2017/106**

**11. AMENITY HIRE FEE WAIVERS 2016/17**

An annual schedule profiling a full or partial waiver of the hire fees of Council facilities for the 2016/17 year had been circulated with the agenda.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Reid, seconded by Cr Highsted, THAT the report be received.**

**2017/107**

*Cr Phillips abstained from voting due to his membership of the Maitua Fire Brigade.*

12. NEW ZEALAND LOCAL AUTHORITY PROTECTION PROGRAMME DISASTER FUND (LAPP)  
ANNUAL REPORT (SC1914)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a copy of the annual report of the Local Authority Protection Programme (LAPP) for the year ending 30 June 2017. LAPP had been set up by Councils in 1993 for the specific purpose of providing insurance for 3 Waters assets such as pipeline infrastructure, storage and treatment facilities. The Council had been a foundation member of the scheme and currently paid an annual levy of \$60,571.26.

In response to Cr Gardyne, the Chief Executive said the Southland District Council made a decision not to be part of the scheme due to the widespread location of the type of assets that LAPP covered. He suspected Clutha District was the same and he believed Dunedin City had never been in the scheme.

Cr Highsted advised the Audit and Risk Committee had reviewed the competitiveness of the LAPP scheme and decided that remaining in it was the best decision for the Council.

The Chief Financial Officer added that the Council's insurance broker could not match what LAPP provided.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Highsted, THAT the annual report of the New Zealand Local Authority Protection Programme be received.**

**2017/108**

The meeting concluded at 8.45pm