

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 26 March 2019, at 6.42pm

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

**In Attendance** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), General Manager Regulatory and Planning (Mr Ian Davidson-Watts), General Manager Infrastructure (Mr Ramesh Sharma), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), Communications-Marketing Manager (Sonia Gerken), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith Hovell) and one member of the public in the gallery.

**Apology** Cr Sharp apologised for absence.

---

His Worship referred to the tragic events of the mosque shootings in Christchurch on 15 March. Those in attendance stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

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

## 1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Gardyne, seconded by Cr Bolger, **THAT** the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held on Tuesday 12 February 2019, 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 Reid, **THAT** the report of the ordinary meeting of the Community Services Committee, held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, 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 Gardyne, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the meeting of the Community Services Committee, held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, as presented, be ratified.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Beale, seconded by Cr D Grant, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Operations Committee, held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr P Grant, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the meeting of the Operations Committee, held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, as presented, be ratified.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr Dickson, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Regulatory and Planning Committee, held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, 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 Highsted, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the meeting of the Regulatory and Planning Committee, held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, as presented, be ratified.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr D Grant, **THAT** the report of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Dickson, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, as presented, be ratified.

## **2. YOUTH COUNCIL**

Youth Councillors Olivia Chamberlain, Luca Patching and Flynn Chamberlain were in attendance and gave an update on Youth Council activities since the swearing in of the 2019 Youth Council on 4 February. The 2019 Youth Awards would be held on 25 May at the conclusion of Youth Week. A legacy project would be considered and determined that could be handed on to future Youth Councils.

His Worship congratulated the way the Youth Council had started this year and admired the enthusiasm being exhibited.

*The Youth Councillors departed the meeting at 6.52pm*

## **3. RURAL SPORT TRAVEL FUND**

A copy of the report from the Rural Sport travel fund Sub-Committee meeting held on Monday 4 March had been circulated for the Council's information.

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

**2019/25**

4. CREATIVE COMMUNITIES ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

A copy of the report from the Creative Communities Assessment Committee meeting held on Wednesday 6 March had been circulated for the Council's information.

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

**2019/26**

5. 2019 GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS – ORDER OF CANDIDATES' NAMES ON VOTING DOCUMENTS (SC2140)

A memo had been received from the Deputy Electoral Officer setting out the options for the order election candidates' names could appear on voting documents for the 2019 local authority elections, as permitted by the Local Electoral Regulations 2001. Three options were available – alphabetical order of surname, pseudo-random order or random order. Historically, the Council had listed candidate names in alphabetical order. The evidence showed there was the potential for bias toward those candidates with surnames in the first half of the alphabet. Best practice was to list candidate names in random order and the number of Councils using the random order method was growing.

In response to Cr Beale, the Officer advised arranging candidate order on the voting documents would be managed by the electoral provider who had the required software.

Cr Highsted believed pseudo-random order would be a better option to move to.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the names of candidates at the 2019 Gore District Council elections be arranged in pseudo-random order.**

**2019/27**

6. MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD REPORT (SC1522)

A memo had been received from the Administration Manager together with a copy of the report of the meeting of the Mataura Community Board held on 18 March 2019.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Phillips, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the report be received,**

**AND THAT the recommendations contained in the report be ratified.**

**2019/28**

7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE (SC1526)

A memo had been received from the Administration Manager advising that this year's Local Government New Zealand conference would be held in Wellington from 7-9 July. A copy of the programme had been circulated with the agenda. The conference theme was "Riding the localism wave – putting communities in charge".

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the Council delegation to attend the 2019 Local Government New Zealand conference in Wellington comprise of His Worship the Mayor, the Chief Executive and Cr Phillips,**

**AND THAT His Worship the Mayor be the presiding delegate at the Annual General Meeting of Local Government New Zealand, with Cr Phillips being the alternative delegate.**

**2019/29**

8. NOTES FROM SISTER CITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS (SC2338)

A memo had been received from the Administration Manager together with notes from two recent Sister City Committee meetings held on 20 February and 14 March 2019.

Cr Reid referred to a comment that had been made by Cr Dickson that there be someone to escort the Tamworth Queen when she visited Gore at Queen's Birthday weekend. She thought it was a very good idea.

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

**2019/30**

9. DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW (SC2383)

A memo had been received from the Planning Consultant advising that following major amendments to the Resource Management Act being enacted in 2017 and having progressively taken effect, the Council was now able to proceed with a review of its District Plan. The report outlined the anticipated review process and timing. Neither was set in concrete, and would be modified as required to meet the wishes of the Council. A review of the approach would also be undertaken following the local authority elections in October.

Details of the matters to be considered, the role of Councillors and consultation were outlined.

It was difficult to provide a firm timetable for the review process. It was proposed to hold a series of workshops with the Council, starting in April, through to the end of the current electoral term. Experience during that period would enable a firmer guideline

to be provided. It was the target of the planning team to have a draft of the District Plan completed by March 2021.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT the Council endorse the approach proposed for the review of the Gore District Plan, AND THAT the Council invite a representative of the tangata whenua to attend and participate in Council workshops considering issues associated with the review of the Gore District Plan.**

**2019/31**

**10. ADOPTION OF THE SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT BYLAW 2019 (SC0107)**

A memo had been received from the General Manager Regulatory and Planning advising summary of the proposed amendments to the notified draft Subdivision and Development Bylaw 2019 (notified in 2018), as discussed and considered following the Subdivision and Development Bylaw review hearing held on 4 February 2019. The hearing panel, comprising Crs Bolger, Highsted and Dickson heard verbal submissions from three submitters and considered the written submissions. A copy of the hearing panel staff report (summarising the submissions) and minutes from the hearing had been circulated for information. In general, the proposed amendments and intent of the new Bylaw had been supported by the majority of submitters. A further report from the Planning Consultant had been drafted detailing mainly the technical and one policy amendment that had been accepted by the hearing panel. This had also been circulated for the Council's information.

The key amendments to the notified Bylaw were as follows:

1. Rainwater tanks —the current provisions would remain.
2. Permeable areas – these provisions would be removed in their entirety and issues around site permeability addressed through the District Plan.
3. Various technical amendments raised by Mr Hamish Weir had been included/updated, ie map datum etc.
4. Amendments to pavement design and base technical drawings.

The notified Subdivision and Development Bylaw 2019 had been updated to reflect the amendments recommended and had been circulated with the agenda.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Dickson, THAT the Bylaw and accompanying background papers and notes be received,**

**AND THAT the Council adopt the amended, notified Subdivision and Development Bylaw 2019.**

**2019/32**

*The Planning Consultant departed the meeting at 7.22pm*

11. UNIFORM BUILDING CONSENT FEES IN SOUTHLAND (SC2355)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive advising that the concept of uniformity of building consent fees charged by the three territorial authorities in Southland had been a long-standing objective of the Shared Services Committee. After about two years of investigation, a report from the Group Manager Environment Services with the Southland District Council, Bruce Halligan, had been considered by the Shared Services Committee at a meeting held in Queenstown on 5 February. The report had been circulated with the agenda and had been unanimously approved by the Shared Services Committee. A schedule that provided details of the current fee structure used by Councils in the region, including the Gore District had been tabled at the meeting.

Given the change in fee structure and consultation required, it was suggested that the changes be introduced as part of the next review of the Council's Long Term Plan for introduction on 1 July 2021.

In response to Cr D Grant, the Chief Executive said a Certificate of Acceptance fee had been introduced some years ago by the Council to account for work required for those homeowners who had bypassed seeking a building consent.

Cr Bolger said there was a rating component in building consent fees and asked how would that be accounted for in the future. The Chief Financial Officer advised no modelling had been done to date, but it would be reviewed before the next Long Term Plan process. The Chief Executive added in reality, the building consent function as a percentage of the Council's operating costs was very small and any ratepayer input was low. The Chief Financial Officer said the "public good" rating contribution was about 20%.

Cr Gardyne asked how any fee increases would be dealt with. The Chief Executive expected the regulatory executives from each Council would consider fee reviews on a regular basis.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Beale, THAT the Council approve the introduction of uniform building consent fees for Southland as detailed in the report circulated that was endorsed and approved by the Southland Shared Services Committee,**

**AND THAT the Council note that the introduction of these fees will be the subject of a consultation process with the intention of bringing the new fees into effect from 1 July 2021.**

**2019/33**

12. CAPITAL WORKS COMMITTEE – MEMBERSHIP (SC2413)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive advising that the Council had previously approved a draft terms of reference for a new Capital Works Committee,

however, membership of the Committee had not been discussed. One thought that had sprung to mind in the intervening period was whether the Council should consider the appointment of an independent member. The Council may wish to consider the appointment of a professional engineer to assist with the oversight of capital works projects and to probe any emerging issues of concern that may arise from time to time. The Committee would meet on a quarterly basis.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Phillips, seconded by Cr Highsted, THAT the terms of reference for the Capital Works Committee be amended to include the appointment of one independent member with professional engineering qualifications.**

**2019/34**

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT the Council appoint Crs Gardyne and Phillips, to sit on the new Capital Works Committee.**

**2019/35**

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr P Grant, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT Cr Reid be appointed to sit on the new Capital Works Committee.**

**2019/36**

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr P Grant, THAT Cr Highsted be appointed to sit on the new Capital Works Committee.**

**2019/37**

**13. HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT (SC1299)**

A health and safety report had been received from the Human Resources Manager. The report covered Gore District staff training, details of the incident schedule for the period 17 November 2018 until 21 February 2019 and the tragic fatality at the Gore oxidation ponds that had occurred on Tuesday 29 January 2019.

Cr Reid referred to a recent incident at the aquatic centre when a disabled patron had slipped and suffered cuts. She said the care and attention received from the Aquatic Services Manager had been outstanding.

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

**2019/38**

The meeting concluded at 7.41pm