



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE, ON TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2009, AT 7.35 pm**

**PRESENT** His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks JP), Crs Bolger, Davis, Dixey, Dixon, Gardyne, Harvey, Heller, Highsted and McLennan.

**IN ATTENDANCE** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), General Manager, Corporate Services (Mr Russell Duthie), Roading Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Asset Manager, Utilities (Mr Ross Haslemore), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith Hovell), District Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones) and five members of the public in the Gallery.

**APOLOGIES** Crs Grant and Sharp apologised for absence.

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**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr McLennan, THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the Gore District Council, held on Tuesday 16 December 2008, 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 Heller, THAT the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Gore District Council, held on Tuesday 10 February 2009, as presented, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor as a true and complete record.**

Page 7, paragraph 4, line 2 – The Council *noted* Cr Gardyne’s clarification that he had referred to the *ratepayers* survey, not the *roading* survey.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Dixey, **THAT** the Report of the Meeting of the Operations Committee, held on Tuesday 10 February 2009, as presented, be accepted as an accurate and complete record.

Clause 1 – Operations Bulletin (Report of the Roding Manager)  
(2.1.7)

Page 2, line 1 - The Council *noted* Cr Dixon had spoken with the roading engineer, not the grading engineer.

Clause 2 – Gore Pakeke Lions Club – Recycling (10.15)

In respect of paragraph 5 of the item, the Council *noted* Mr Falconer said “... sometimes equivalent to a \$3 cup of coffee a week.”

Page 3, line 1 – the Council *noted* the deletion of the word “not”.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Harvey, seconded by Cr Dixey, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the Operations Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 February 2009, as presented, be ratified.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr McLennan, seconded by Cr Dixey, **THAT** the Report of the Meeting of the Regulatory and Planning Committee, held on Tuesday 10 February 2009, as presented, be accepted as an accurate and complete record.

Clause 4 – Croydon Ground Water Take Resource Consent Application (8.46)

Paragraph 3 – the Council *noted* Cr Dixey had said he wanted more information about “*increasing the quantity of water*”, not “*improving the quality of water*”.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Gardyne, seconded by Cr Heller, **THAT** the recommendations contained within the report of the Regulatory and Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 February 2009, as presented, be ratified.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Davis, **THAT** the report of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 February 2009, be accepted as an accurate and complete record.

Clause 1 – Elected Members’ Remuneration (46.18.2)

Page 2, paragraph 5, last sentence – the Council *noted* His Worship had said “*the current economic circumstances would be reflected at next year’s review.*”

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Harvey, THAT the recommendations contained within the report of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 February 2009, as presented, be ratified.**

2. MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD REPORT (46.36.2)

A copy of the report of the ordinary meeting of the Mataura Community Board held on 26 January 2009, had been circulated.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr McLennan, seconded by Cr Dixon, THAT the report of the meeting held on 26 January be received,**

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

**2009/03**

3. LOSS OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS – PROPOSED McDONALDS RESTAURANT – MAIN STREET, GORE (11.1.4)

A memo had been received from the Planning Consultant following approval to grant resource consent to establish a McDonalds restaurant and drive through at 140-142 Main Street, Gore. A copy of the approval had been circulated.

Cr Harvey advised he had a very small shareholding in McDonalds and wondered if that precluded him from being involved in the discussion.

His Worship replied that unless his holding was such that it would influence the decisions of the company he did not see a problem.

The Consultant reminded the Council that it had no opportunity to require protection of the Southland Farmers building for the reason that it was not listed in the district plan as a heritage structure.

The District Arts and Heritage Curator provided a presentation via power point incorporating a series of historical photographs

of various buildings around the Gore township. He advised that when the heritage register was being compiled a number of years ago, due to two serious fires in the 1950s many building records had been lost and it had been impossible to ascertain who had designed and built many of the buildings in the central business area. However, historical copies of the Mataura Ensign had proved useful in determining some information.

He said because many of the original facades were no longer intact, that should not preclude the Council from protecting the streetscape of the town.

In response to Cr Gardyne, the Curator said in most cases it was the façade of buildings that were listed on the heritage register.

It was suggested the Council approach McDonalds to work with it and develop a building that was aesthetically pleasing.

Cr Harvey said he struggled to find any character in the Southland Farmers building. He expected McDonalds would want to be good corporate residents and did not think it would take much to retain some of the character of it.

In response to His Worship, the Curator said the building may just be 100 years old, but from the records held, it was difficult to confirm. If it was, then it would be deemed to be an “archaeological site.”

The Consultant said under the Historic Places Act an archaeological site was required to be registered, however, he was unsure upon whom the onus fell, but the Council was not partaking in the process.

Cr Davis asked if the process was happening.

The Consultant confirmed there was dialogue taking place.

Cr Davis asked if an approach from the Council would be helpful to retain the façade.

The Consultant was unsure.

**Cr McLennan moved THAT the Council request a review of the list of heritage buildings within the Gore District, to determine whether any buildings or facades not on the Council register should be included.**

Cr Gardyne said in relation to the Southland Farmers building, time was of the essence. He wanted to know if the façade of the building was sound and thought it was significant in terms of its history. He suggested the Council write a letter of support to the Historic Places Trust and convey to the developer of the building that it consider retaining the façade at least.

Cr Davis suggested the Council consider two motions. She spoke in support of retaining the facades and historical features of buildings wherever possible. The Council needed to be more proactive in retaining that for future generations.

**Cr Dixey moved THAT a letter be sent to McDonalds to acknowledge the present building in some way in the new construction.**

**The motion was seconded by Cr Harvey.**

His Worship thought rather than writing perhaps a round table discussion would be more beneficial.

**The motion was put and it was lost.**

**Cr Gardyne moved THAT a report be commissioned on the quality of the façade in terms of the desirability of protecting it,**

**THAT the Council hold discussions with the Historic Places Trust supporting its submissions to the new owners of the building,**

**AND THAT the Council make contact with McDonalds to note the desirability of protecting the older facades in the Main Street of Gore as has occurred elsewhere.**

In response to a question from His Worship, Cr Gardyne suggested the Council's Building Inspectors provide a report on the façade.

The Chief Executive did not think the Inspectors were in a position to give a structural report on the facade which may require specialist engineering advice.

Cr Harvey said the resource consent had already been issued so was a report being sought not superfluous?

The Consultant said the resource consent for the new building had been issued and the application for a building consent had

been received as well as an application for demolition of the building. Further information had been sought for that. The other issues were the Historic Places Trust procedures that would be implemented if the building was 100 years old. McDonalds took over ownership of the site at the end of March.

**The motion was seconded by Cr Davis.**

**With the agreement of Cr Davis, Cr Gardyne withdrew the first part of the motion - requesting the report.**

**The motion was put and it was carried.**

**2009/04**

**Cr McLennan's motion was seconded by Cr Davis. It was put and it was carried.**

**2009/05**

*The Planning Consultant and District Arts and Heritage Curator now departed the meeting.*

**4. SHARED SERVICES FORUM (46.34.1)**

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with the minutes of the most recent meeting of the Southland Shared Services Forum held on 30 October last year.

The Council's attention was drawn to item 8 of the minutes relating to the employment of a consultant to further advance shared services amongst the four Councils in Southland. He felt given the current tight economic climate the employment of a consultant at a cost of \$50,000 could be seen as a luxury rather than a necessity. If the Council decided to participate in the project as proposed, an additional \$12,500 would need to be added to the 2009/10 Council budget.

A copy of a report prepared by the Chief Executive of the Southland District Council that would be considered by the next meeting of the Shared Services Forum to be held on 26 February, had been tabled at the meeting.

**Cr Bolger moved THAT the minutes of the Shared Services Forum held on 30 October 2008 be received,**

**AND THAT the Council resolve to not support the engagement of a consultant to progress shared services in Southland, at this stage.**

**The motion was seconded by Cr Davis.**

Cr Gardyne thought questions needed to be asked about who decided who contributed what. The Regional Heritage Trust for example had a very different funding mechanism to the one being proposed by the Forum.

Cr Harvey thought the politicians and senior officials of the local authorities should be driving the proposal not engaging a consultant.

**The motion was put and it was carried.**

**2009/06**

5. PROPOSED FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS – 2011 RUGBY WORLD CUP (46.43)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a letter and accompanying proposal forwarded by the Invercargill City Council which sought to secure a regional funding arrangement to enable a local bid to host a home union rugby team (ie England, Wales, Scotland or Ireland) and have two rugby games involving a home union at Rugby Park as part of the Rugby World Cup 2011. The Council had made a financial commitment of \$4,000 in 2006/07 to investigate the possibility of having one of the five competition pools domiciled in the deep south.

The proposed contribution of the Council was \$13,687 which had not been included in the draft 2009/10 estimates.

Cr Davis had attended a meeting with other local authority representatives on 20 January. She said the funding proposal was tiered and subject to hosting a game or games.

His Worship recalled the success of the Lions tour in 2005 and the large number of freedom travellers in particular who benefited the province. He saw the world cup involvement as an economic development opportunity.

Cr McLennan felt the event should be totally user pays and any shortfall should be met by the New Zealand Rugby Union, not the ratepayers.

His Worship said the freedom travellers who travelled with the teams spent a lot of money and their presence would generate economic benefit. He supported it being included in the draft LTCCP.

Cr Davis said she had no firm view, but would support it going into the draft LTCCP and hearing any submissions from ratepayers.

Cr Heller was concerned the Council did not have the population to support the proposal. He was looking at what was in it for the ratepayers of Gore. He thought the only winners would be the Mataura Licensing Trust and accommodation. He supported Cr McLennan that the request be declined.

His Worship felt the accommodation benefit would be minimal as the travellers used campervans. The real benefit would be the business community, and in particular, the Gore business area.

Cr Gardyne thought it most unlikely that one of the home unions would be based in Southland.

His Worship reminded the Council that if one of the home unions did not base themselves in Southland then the proposal would not proceed.

Cr Gardyne said the LTCCP process would not finish until June and the Council was being led into something that it could not get out of. The proposal to use ratepayer money was a disgrace.

Cr Bolger disagreed with the opposition. It was based on potential return for the community and the benefactors would be the commercial ratepayers. It hinged on attracting home union teams and if it did not come to fruition the proposal fell over and there was no commitment. He was happy for it to be included in the LTCCP but suspected it may not get a lot of support. The Council deserved the potential to be involved. He believed there would be a return for the ratepayers.

Crs Dixey and Harvey did not believe there would be much support for the District at all.

**Cr Davis moved THAT the Council make provision for an investment of \$13,687 towards a Southland Rugby World Cup 2011 game hosting bid,**

**THAT the proposed investment be incorporated in the draft LTCCP,**

**AND THAT the Council note that the investment will not be confirmed until such time as the consultation process with**

**the draft LTCCP has been completed and community views to the proposal have been ascertained.**

**The motion was seconded by Cr Bolger, was put and it was lost.**

**Cr McLennan moved THAT the request be declined.**

**The motion was seconded by Cr Dixey, was put and it was carried.**

**2009/07**

**6. STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS IN SOUTHLAND  
(50.49.2)**

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a copy of a strategy for sustainable business in Southland developed by Venture Southland.

**Cr McLennan moved THAT the report on the Strategy for Sustainable Business in Southland be received,**

**THAT the Strategy for Sustainable Business in Southland, Resources and Opportunities be endorsed,**

**AND THAT as the costs associated with implementing the Strategy have yet to be established, any funding implications of the Strategy be considered as they arise.**

**The motion was seconded by Cr Dixon.**

Cr Davis asked what would happen with the document. Would it be sent to every business to read?

Cr Gardyne thought it had been produced by Venture to make it look good.

**Cr Bolger moved as an Amendment, THAT the information be received.**

**The motion was seconded by Cr Gardyne.**

Cr Davis could see another consultant having to be employed. No one running a business would have time to read it.

His Worship suggested inviting Venture Southland to make a presentation to the next Council meeting.

**With the agreement of Cr Dixon, Cr McLennan withdrew his motion.**

**Cr Bolger subsequently withdrew his amendment.**

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Harvey, seconded by Cr Dixey, THAT the matter lie on the table until a representative from Venture Southland has made a presentation to a future Council meeting.**

**2009/08**

7. EMERGENCY COMMITTEE (46.12.9)

The Chief Executive had advised that the Emergency Committee established by the Council at its December 2008 meeting had not met over the Christmas holiday period.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Dixey, THAT the Emergency Committee comprising of His Worship, Cr Bolger and Cr Sharp, be disbanded.**

**2009/09**

8. COMMUNITY SERVICES BULLETIN

The Council perused the Community Services Bulletin containing reports from the District Arts and Heritage Curator, Library Manager, Parks and Recreation Manager and Aquatic Services Manager.

Report of Library Manager (25.1.1)

Cr Harvey commented on the good work undertaken with the children's reading programme during the Christmas holidays.

Report of Parks and Recreation Manager (18.1.2)

Cr Dixon thought it rich for the Council to send letters to residents for overhanging foliage when trees in streets like Milton and Crombie had overhanging branches.

The Manager replied that an annual inspection of all street trees was made and pruning undertaken when necessary.

In response to Cr Dixon, the Manager said once the grass was about half a metre high a notice was served.

Report of Aquatic Services Manager (24.11.1)

Cr Harvey thought the increase in patronage at the Gore pool was very encouraging.

**RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Harvey, seconded by Cr Dixon, THAT the bulletin be received.**

**2009/10**

9. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (46.12.9)

Cr Davis reminded Councillors that the gala opening of the refurbished St James Theatre would be held on 28 February. The Project Manager had done a wonderful job and as a result of having the project completed under budget, some other additional refurbishments had been able to be undertaken.

Cr Gardyne had attended a river liaison meeting with Environment Southland.

Cr Bolger reported on the rural sector meeting held in Wellington on 12 and 13 February, that he had attended with the Chief Executive.

He also extended congratulations to the fantastic work undertaken by Richard Pasco with the moonshine trail event.

His Worship reported on his recent visit to Tamworth and acknowledged an award that Tamworth had received for its sister city relationship with Gore. The Tamworth Council subsequently presented its award to His Worship. He attended the official opening of the new Tamworth equine centre which had cost over \$30 million. Tamworth was keen to further develop the sister city relationship with Gore.

Cr Dixon said the Moonshiners Festival was reasonably successful given the weather conditions. About 700 people had attended.

The meeting concluded at 9:17 pm