

**REPORT OF THE ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2009, AT 6.01 pm.**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), General Manager, District Assets (Mr Paul Withers), General Manager, Corporate Services (Mr Russell Duthie), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Roding Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), Asset Manager, Utilities (Mr Ross Haslemore), Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Tracey Millan) and three members of the public in the gallery.

**APOLOGY** Cr Grant apologised for absence.

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1. PROPOSED WATER-BASED HOCKEY TURF – WAYLAND PARK: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM EASTERN SOUTHLAND HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (18.14.6)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a letter from the Eastern Southland Turf Redevelopment Committee seeking specific assistance from the Council to enable the proposed water-based hockey turf project to proceed. A budget for both the capital development of the new turf and its annual operation had also been circulated.

In response to Cr Sharp, the Roding Manager advised the carpark surface would be asphalt to enable the surface to have lines painted. The resistant surface would cope better with vehicle tyres when manoeuvring into tight spaces.

The Planning Consultant said other means of transport had been taken into account when determining how many parks

were required. It was unlikely that peak demand for hockey would clash with other sports.

Cr Gardyne thought a sensitivity graph was missing when the budget arrived at surpluses. He applauded what the Eastern Hockey Association was doing but thought it should be cautious as some money was still dependent on charitable trusts. It was not money in the bank.

In response to Cr Bolger, Mr Aynsley said the Mataura facility would still be used for practises in the meantime, as stage one of the new Gore turf did not include lighting. Long term, its future was yet to be decided. Negotiations about transferring assets to Gore were underway. The Trust had been supportive of the move to Gore.

*Cr Highsted declared an interest in the Mataura Hockey Turf Charitable Trust.*

Cr Highsted wondered if the Council could encourage the Southland Building Society to subtly provide some form of infrastructure, in view of the Council providing a guarantee.

The Chief Executive said he could make some inquiries.

Cr Highsted added he had spent some time perusing the budget with Mr Aynsley and thought the assumptions were conservative.

In response to Cr Heller, Mr Aynsley advised the annual \$30,000 repayments allowed for included repayment of principal and interest. Fundraising would be ongoing.

Cr McLennan said the pavilion belonged to the people of Mataura. He thought the grandstand could be transferred to the rugby club as it had been built with funds received from Rayonier.

Mr Aynsley thought it was an issue for the Mataura Hockey Turf Charitable Trust to decide.

His Worship said as time went on he was sure an arrangement would be reached as ownership of the grandstand was with the Mataura Hockey Turf Charitable Trust.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Dixey, seconded by Cr Gardyne, THAT the Council approve an interest free loan of \$65,000 for a period of 10 years in favour of the Eastern Southland Hockey Association, to enable 29 car parks to be**

**constructed at Wayland Park in association with the new water-based hockey turf,**

**THAT the Council agree to act as guarantor for a loan of \$200,000 to be advanced by Southland Building Society in favour of the Eastern Southland Hockey Association,**

**THAT should the Council be required to provide a booking service for the new water-based turf at Wayland Park, this service be provided for a fee to be negotiated between the Council and Eastern Southland Hockey Association and contained in a formal service level agreement,**

**AND THAT the Council discontinue providing financial services to the Matura Hockey Turf Charitable Trust, with this discontinuation taking effect from when the new water-based turf is completed and operational.**

In response to Cr Highsted, the Parks and Recreation Manager advised discussions had commenced regarding the completion of a ground lease.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR AUGUST 2009 (1.1.4)

A financial report for the two months ended 31 August 2009 had been received from the Management Accountant and was perused by the meeting.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr Highsted, THAT the information be received.**

The meeting concluded at 6.20pm.