

TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE BUDGET/LONG TERM PLAN MEETING OF THE TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DISTRICT COUNCIL BUILDING, KING GEORGE PLACE, TIMARU ON TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 9AM

PRESENT Mayor Damon Odey, Clrs Nigel Bowen, Peter Burt, Dave Jack, Andrea Leslie, Paddy O'Reilly, Sally Parker (from 9.13am until 1.50pm and from 2.45pm), Kerry Stevens and Steve Wills

APOLOGIES Clr Parker (part meeting)
Clr Richard Lyon

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive (Bede Carran), Group Manager Infrastructure (Ashley Harper), Group Manager Environmental Services (Tracy Tierney), Group Manager Corporate Services (Tina Rogers), Group Manager Community Services (Sharon Taylor)(until 4.40pm), People and Capability Manager (Symon Leggett), Corporate Planning Manager (Mark Low), Finance Manager (Adrian Hodgett), Communications Manager (Stephen Doran), Council Secretary (Joanne Brownie)

OPENING PRAYER The Mayor opened the meeting with a karakia.

1 Conflicts of Interest

Clr O'Reilly declared an interest in the Temuka Holiday Park budget consideration.

2 Introduction

The Mayor thanked the team for the work undertaken to present the budget information and reports to this stage in the process, and appreciated that the team had been open to being challenged by the Senior Leadership Team, Chief Executive, Mayor and Councillors.

3 Draft Long Term Plan and Budget for the Period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2028

The Council considered the draft budget and fees and charges for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2028 and the covering report by the Group Manager Corporate Services and Corporate Planning Manager. Also considered were the –

- Additional expenditure requests
- Draft Long Term Plan Consultation Document
- Draft Long Term Plan Council Activity Statements.

Clr Parker joined the meeting.

Budget Document

The Council worked through the budget document and asked a number of questions and sought clarification on some issues.

The following requests and amendments were made –

- **P37 Summary** – Talbot St Geraldine siphon upgrade – the Geraldine Community Board’s request to bring this project back into the 2018/19 year was noted. The Chief Executive and Group Manager Infrastructure will discuss how this might be implemented.
- **P19 Caroline Bay Soundshell** – the back of the soundshell building needs upgrading. A review is requested in the coming year with a view to upgrading this part of the building to a higher standard.
- **P56– Swimming Pools** – add in charges for 2018/19 aquafit classes
- **RL 8 Parks and Recreation** – suggest an increase in the budget for a higher level of service for lawnmowing and gardens. The work done by the parks team within the current budget was acknowledged.
- **RL8b Caledonian Ground cycletracks** – the meeting noted that the cycling group has not yet taken up the opportunity to develop the cycletrack. It was agreed to retain the amounts already in the budget for another year but review the position at the next budget round, continue to maintain regular dialogue with the cycling group, and note that the track may need total replacement in a few years
- **Freedom Camping Areas** – following the Mayor’s attendance at an upcoming meeting on freedom camping, the Council will be in a more informed position to assess its position on freedom camping and any pressures in the District. A report may be requested following the meeting.
- **CS1 Economic Development and Promotions** – a report was requested to be prepared in the coming year on costings and objectives for domestic tourism promotion, noting that our tourism spend is relatively low, despite tourism growth in New Zealand.
- **Pg 12-13 Special Funds and Discretionary Expenditure** – a request was made for an outline of the contingency funds in the budget and an outline of what they are for and what they are not for.
- **CS5 Timaru Airport** – it was agreed that over 80’s parking exemptions will not apply at the Timaru Airport as it would be difficult to implement the exemption system at this site.
- **CS7 Cemeteries** – a report is to be prepared on the standard of cemetery maintenance across the District to assess if the budget needs to be reviewed to maintain the desired level of service.

Caroline Bay Soundshell Seating

Discussion took place on the replacement of the deteriorating soundshell seating. This raised the issue of needing to look at the whole soundshell seating area and what is now needed or could be provided – officers are to present an estimate for an investigation to be undertaken over the next 12-18 months, and signal in year 4 in the Long Term Plan that this will be a significant project, with the exact nature being subject to further consultation, \$1.68m to be included in year 4 of the budget.

Proposed Clr Wills
Seconded Clr Jack

“That a report be prepared on an investigation into options for the replacement of the Caroline Bay soundshell seating, with \$1.68m put in year 4 of the budget to allow for ‘like with like’ replacement seating.”

MOTION CARRIED

Temuka Reservoir

Proposed Clr O'Reilly
Seconded Clr Bowen

"That the Temuka Water reservoir project (W8) remains in year 1 of the Budget."

MOTION CARRIED

Geraldine Christmas Lights

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr Wills

"That the budget for Christmas decorations in Geraldine be extended to \$5,000 per year for 2018/19 and 2019/20."

MOTION CARRIED

Geraldine Cameras at Kennedy Park

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr O'Reilly

"That the budget in 2018/19 be allocated to security and lighting in Kennedy Park and the money that was in 2018/19 for the CBD cameras be transferred to the following year."

MOTION CARRIED

Unsealed Road Metalling

P36 Summary Pages – the budget for unsealed road metalling to remain at the new base level of \$500,000 for the 10 years (ie not decrease to \$350,000 from year 2021/22).

Geraldine Community Rate Increase

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr Wills

"That the Geraldine Community Rate be increased from \$2 per rateable property per year to \$3 per rateable property per year."

MOTION CARRIED

Double Glaze Timaru Library Windows

Proposed Clr Wills
Seconded Clr Parker

"That funding for double glazing the Timaru Library windows be included in the Budget."

MOTION CARRIED

Timaru Library External Toilet Upgrade

The Timaru library external toilet upgrade is to be removed from the additional proposals list.

Aigantighe Toilets Upgrade

Proposed Clr Jack
Seconded the Mayor

“That \$50,000 for upgrading of the Aigantighe Art Gallery toilets be included in the Budget in year 3.”

MOTION CARRIED

Heritage Exhibition Space / Theatre Royal Back of House/Front of House

Proposed Clr Jack
Seconded Clr Wills

“That funding for the Heritage Exhibition Space, Theatre Royal Back of House Upgrade and Theatre Royal Front of House Upgrade be included in the Budget, subject to the staging of the work being planned to cause minimal disruption to users and the community.”

MOTION CARRIED

Shared Urban Tracks

Proposed the Mayor
Seconded Clr Wills

“That \$100,000 each year increasing to \$150,000 each year from 2023/24 be included in the Budget for shared urban tracks work.”

MOTION CARRIED

Timaru Botanic Gardens New Paths

Proposed Clr Jack
Seconded Clr Bowen

“That \$38,000 in year 4 and \$38,000 in year 5 for new paths at the Timaru Botanic Gardens be included in the Budget.”

MOTION CARRIED

Sportsfield Drainage

Council discussed spending the allocation for sportsfields drainage work over a shorter period of time in order to achieve the improved outcome within 5 years, instead of 10 years.

Proposed Clr Bowen
Seconded Clr Stevens

“That \$50,000 each year for 5 years be included in the Budget for sportsfield drainage work.”

MOTION CARRIED

New Neighbourhood Parks

Proposed Clr Wills
Seconded Clr Burt

“That \$50,000 for both years 9 and 10 be included in the Budget for the establishment of new neighbourhood parks.”

MOTION CARRIED

Nature Park Improvements

Proposed Clr Jack
Seconded Clr Wills

“That the nature park improvements be included in the Budget.”

Council requested further information on the number of nature parks in the District and the need for the planned expenditure.

The meeting agreed that the **motion lie on the table** until further information could be provided.

Growth Management Strategy Review

The meeting noted the importance of keeping the Growth Management Strategy current, especially as it informs other plans such as the District Plan Review and Infrastructure Strategy.

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr Burt

“That the growth management strategy review additional expenditure be included in the Budget.”

MOTION CARRIED

Significant Natural Areas Fund Increase

Proposed Clr Wills
Seconded Clr Burt

“That an additional \$70,000 (now in total \$100,000) for significant natural areas be included in the Budget for 3 years and the situation be reviewed in 3 years.”

MOTION CARRIED

Glass and Soft Plastics Trial

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr O'Reilly

“That the additional expenditure for the glass and soft plastics trial be included in the Budget.”

MOTION CARRIED

Peel Forest Walkway/Cycleway

It was noted that this proposed walkway/cycleway, while desirable, may only get limited use, and may be problematic to establish, given it would traverse private land.

Proposed Clr Burt
Seconded Clr Bowen

“That the Peel Forest Walkway/cycleway does not proceed.”

MOTION CARRIED

New Bridge Powerhouse Stream

It was noted that the new bridge on Rangitata Gorge Road across Powerhouse Stream will only proceed if financial assistance for the project is received.

Proposed Clr Jack
Seconded Clr Leslie

“That the new bridge at Powerhouse Stream be included in the Budget, subject to receiving external financial assistance for the bridge.”

MOTION CARRIED

Taitarakahi Creek Flooding Mitigation

The Council agreed that other stakeholders (such as NZ Rail) should be required to contribute to this project as there will be mutual benefit from the flood mitigation work.

Proposed Clr Wills
Seconded Clr Burt

“That the Taitarakahi Creek flood mitigation work be included in the Budget subject to the other stakeholders contributing.”

MOTION CARRIED

Chlorination of Geraldine and Pleasant Point Water

Proposed Clr Bowen
Seconded Clr Leslie

“That the chlorination of the Geraldine and Pleasant Point Water Supplies be included in the Budget.”

MOTION CARRIED

Washdyke Water Network Improvements

Proposed Clr Jack
Seconded Clr Burt

“That water network improvements at Washdyke be included in the Budget.”

MOTION CARRIED

Urban Universal Water Metering

The Council agreed it was important to provide accurate information to the public on the option to install water meters across urban supplies.

Clr Parker retired from the meeting at 1.50pm.

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr Jack

“That urban universal water metering be included in the Budget.”

MOTION CARRIED

Information Technology Backscanning

Proposed Clr Leslie
Seconded Clr Wills

“That the backscanning of building files be included in the Budget.”

MOTION CARRIED

Nature parks

More background information was provided on the number of nature parks and the improvements required.

The motion lying on the table from earlier in the meeting was put.

Proposed Clr Jack
Seconded Clr Wills

“That the funding for the nature park improvements/development be included in the Budget.”

MOTION CARRIED

Differentials

Proposed Clr Bowen
Seconded Clr O'Reilly

“That the rate differential for the primary sector be amended from 0.4 to 0.5.”

MOTION CARRIED

Additional TDHL Dividends

Discussion took place on the application of additional TDHL dividends including whether to allocate them for special projects, to apply them to reduce debt or to reduce rates requirements. It was noted that repayments of the TDHL loan from Council are due to commence within the next 3 years which can be used to repay council debt.

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr Wills

“That the TDHL dividend be amended to \$2.85m (ie an additional \$100,000) from 2019/20.”

MOTION CARRIED

Dividends from Forestry

It was suggested that dividends from forestry be allocated for additional expenditure projects such as nature parks, sportsfield drainage etc.

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr Wills

“That \$360,000 over a 3 year period (\$120,000 each year for 3 years) from the forestry dividend apply to additional projects approved at today’s meeting.”

MOTION CARRIED

Special Funds - Investments

The meeting discussed the best use of special funds/contingency fund. It was noted that the parking fund is negative and a review is being undertaken in this area.

Clr Parker returned at 2.45pm.

Proposed Clr Stevens
Seconded Clr Bowen

“That \$300,000 not be put into the contingency fund but be allocated to loans repayment instead.”

MOTION CARRIED

Aoraki Development

It was noted that no funding increase has been sought by Aoraki Development for the 2018/19 year but there may be a request in the future.

Appendix C

Museum

Proposed Clr Bowen
Seconded Clr Leslie

“That an additional allocation for the museum of \$30,000 per year from 2018/19 be included in the Budget, and the Museum Director be granted authority to allocate the funding as appropriate.”

MOTION CARRIED

Waste Minimisation

It was suggested that the opportunity to include kerbside monitoring in the contractor's contract be explored.

Proposed Cllr Stevens
Seconded Cllr Jack

"That allocation for business advice and kerbside monitoring for 1 full time equivalent from year 2 onwards (noting year 1 is already funded) be included in the Budget."

MOTION CARRIED

Land Transport Unit

Proposed Cllr Stevens
Seconded Cllr Bowen

"That the funding for the programme coordinator be included in the Budget subject to part funding being secured from NZTA."

MOTION CARRIED

Additional Requests

Livestreaming

Further information on the possibility of livestreaming Council meetings is to be obtained.

Alexandra Lifeboat

Background work is ongoing to investigate the possible relocation of the Alexandra lifeboat, including the possibility of a coordinated approach with a service club.

Bridge Street Bridge Link

A request was made to investigate the arrangement made in regard to the Bridge Street bridge to allow continued public access to the walking and cycling track.

Children's Roadway Learning Environment

It was suggested a roadway learning experience area be established possibly at Caroline Bay, similar to the example on the waterfront at Oamaru. It was noted that a service group may already be investigating such a project.

Port Loop Road

A suggestion was made to increase parking on the outside of the Loop Road and also make improvements to inside the loop, as use by workers for all day parking and for campervans is increasing.

Draft Activity Statements

The Council approved the draft Activity Statements as presented, subject to the necessary amendments as a result of decisions made at this meeting.

Draft Consultation Document

The draft Consultation Document was approved subject to minor amendments as presented –

- Page 20 – add ‘archive’ after ‘research’ under service provided
- Page 7 – highlight environmental benefit of water metering and repeat last sentence at top of page 8 elsewhere and possibly give some indication of the likely charge
- Page 39 - last years financial result was a \$14m surplus – have a sub bullet point to further explain, also to add information regarding the value of Council assets
- ‘Our place, our future’ to be in Te Reo.

4 Draft Infrastructure Strategy 2018-68

The Council considered a report by the Group Manager Infrastructure presenting the draft Infrastructure Strategy 2018 – 68 to the Council for inclusion in the 2018-28 Long Term Plan (LTP) consultation.

Proposed Clr Jack
Seconded Clr Leslie

- a “That the report be received.
- b “That the Draft Infrastructure Strategy 2018-68 be approved for inclusion in the 2018-28 Long Term Plan consultation.”

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting concluded at 5.06pm.

Chairperson