



# MINUTES

## Ordinary Council Meeting Tuesday, 23 June 2020

Ref: 1347318

**Minutes of Timaru District Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting  
Held in the Council Chamber, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru  
on Tuesday, 23 June 2020 at 9am - Council/Annual Plan Hearing**

**Present:** Mayor Nigel Bowen (Chairperson), Cr Allan Booth, Cr Peter Burt, Cr Barbara Gilchrist, Cr Richard Lyon, Cr Gavin Oliver, Cr Paddy O'Reilly, Cr Sally Parker, Cr Stu Piddington, Cr Steve Wills (Cr Wills was excused from 11.25am to 12.18pm)

**In Attendance:** Chief Executive (Bede Carran), Group Manager Commercial and Strategy (Donna Cross), Group Manager Environmental Services (Tracy Tierney), Group Manager People and Digital/Acting Group Manager Community Services (Symon Leggett), Chief Financial Officer (David Codyre), Senior Programme Delivery Manager (Ashley Harper), Strategy and Corporate Planning Manager (Mark Low), Corporate Planner (Ann Fitzgerald), Governance Advisor (Jo Doyle), Governance Support Officer (Joanne Brownie)

**1 Opening Prayer**

Alistair Pike of the Church Street Bible Chapel offered a prayer for the work of the Council.

The prayer was followed with the Timaru District Council Waiata

**2 Apologies**

There were no apologies.

**3 Public Forum**

There were no public forum items.

**4 Identification of Urgent Business**

There were no matters of urgent business.

**5 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**

There were no matters of a minor nature.

**6 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

Cr Allan Booth – Aoraki Development

**7 Reports**

**7.1 Deliberations on Submissions to Draft Annual Plan 2020/21**

Council deliberated any changes to the draft Annual Plan 2020/21 having regard to submissions received on the Annual Plan 2020/21 Consultation Document and supporting information.

The following submitters spoke to their submissions:

- Simon Bird – Central South Island Cycle Trails Inc
- Cate Laurenson
- Roslyn Fauth & Juliette Crawford – Friends of the Aigantighe
- Owen Jackson & Roslyn Fauth – Cplay
- Sue Connolly – South Canterbury Art Society
- Phillipa Guerin – Fraser Park Community Trust
- Rhys Taylor & Ross Wells - Sustainable South Canterbury Trust
- Nicky Snoyink – Forest and Bird Society – Via Zoom Video Link
- Shaun Campbell – Sport Canterbury
- Graham Clarke – Environment Canterbury
- Aaron Wilson-Jones
- Don Binney
- Gary Rooney – Rooney Group Limited
- Chris Thomas & Ella Thomas
- Bronte Davenport
- Jon Dewit

The Council then worked through the submission topics report in the agenda, with the following discussion and additional comments made:-

### **Art Gallery**

The Acting Group Manager Community Services provided an update on progress with the Art Gallery project. A governance group is in place with senior staff and 3 Councillors to review the current issues and to oversee the project moving forward.

What started as a project to explore options to provide more art storage, turned into a requirement for earthquake strengthening following the closure of the House Gallery. Further assessment of the art gallery has identified additional issues.

Today has shown the passion and commitment from the Community. Work is being undertaken to look at the options of securing the House gallery from weather then presenting the range of solutions. Discussions are underway with a potential provider to assist with feasibility and access to central government funding/fundraising.

The timeline and feasibility study with options will be fed into the activity management plan this year and then included in the Long Term Plan 2021-31 discussions.

### **Biodiversity**

Opportunities are available in the district for nurseries and planting of natives and group funding through a coordinated approach with agencies. Employing a specific Biodiversity role can be considered in the long term plan.

An update will be requested from the Parks and Recreation Manager to discuss the current strategy around the planting of natives in different locations.

### **Coastal Erosion**

The reports undertaken on coastal erosion by Environment Canterbury are yet to be peer reviewed and will then come back to Council.

### **Cycleways**

The accessibility for the entire community of walkways and cycleways in the District was discussed. Good signage should be provided as well as bollards in place to stop larger vehicles.

Where the stimulus fund approved support for projects that would require Council to consider the vesting of assets, a report would be provided to Council considering the full range of options of vesting the assets for Council and any reprioritisation of the existing budget. If a vested asset, it will come with an annual cost from year 2 onwards.

### **Equestrian Activities**

The Parks and Recreation Manager is seeking areas in the District for consideration of equestrian activities.

### **LED Street Lights**

The lighting in Geraldine is being investigated by Council.

### **Public Transport**

The Myway transport trial is proving a great success of the collaborative relationship between ECan and Timaru District Council.

### **Rates Remission**

The possibility of rates remissions for waste minimisation could be an option for sports clubs to offset costs would be considered through the LTP process. It was suggested that Sport Canterbury could advise clubs of current funding options available to assist with their budgets.

### **Recreation Fees and Charges**

Increasing pool fees across the district has been discussed with community members, the fees are increasing by 50 cents and the affordability for 65s who may take their grandchildren with them. The fee increase is considered appropriate as a user pays component.

### **Social Housing**

The aim with the social housing activity is to break even with costs not covered by the ratepayer. Rents have increased in small increments over previous years and have not kept up with the cost of maintenance and ownership. The rents are also being increased to cover the cost of compliance to healthy homes guidelines and associated expenses.

### **Soundshell Seating**

The seating is considered essential and need to be replaced, a report is expected on the next step in this project.

### **Stimulus Fund**

Discussion was held on the fund and how the funds could be distributed. Providing Council assistance to enable projects to access other funds was supported to help get them underway. Also helping smaller projects that impact the entire community in the wake of COVID-19.

The length of the fund was also discussed and that it would only be available for the 2020-21 financial year and not rolled over to each year.

The fund should encourage outcomes across the four wellbeings, and not just economic wellbeing outcomes. The project should be shovel ready and assist in reigniting the community.

Event applications should be ring-fenced and delegated to Aoraki Development with funding provided from the Stimulus fund. The remainder of stimulus fund applications would be considered by Council.

It was hoped to get the fund operational as soon as possible after the Annual Plan adoption.

### **Walkways**

Significant funds are budgeted for walking and cycling tracks, there are opportunities with NZTA in regards to the Timaru to Pleasant Point cycle track. A report from the Land Transport Manager and Parks and Recreation Manager should be requested to consider priorities.

### **Waste Contracts Mobilisation Officer**

Discussion was held whether this position could be tied in with the Biodiversity position.

As the Waste Contract is currently being renegotiated, having this position in place will ensure all is in order for the contractor to commence work immediately once the contract is completed.

### **Water Tanks**

The use of water tanks for catching rain water for gardens should be encouraged and is a positive for the environment. The District Plan will be looking into this option.

### **General**

The ability to make a submission and remain anonymous was discussed. All submissions are treated with the same openness and transparency and anonymous submissions have been accepted as a matter of course. Some advice into the approach to Anonymous Submissions for the future was requested.

### **Resolution 2020/61**

Moved: Cr Steve Wills

Seconded: Cr Barbara Gilchrist

That Council receives the written and verbal submissions on the draft Annual Plan 2020/21 Consultation Document and supporting information and all submitters are thanked for their input.

**Carried**

### **Resolution 2020/62**

Moved: Cr Paddy O'Reilly

Seconded: Cr Barbara Gilchrist

That Council receives the summary of the submissions and endorses the officer comments in response to the submissions.

**Carried**

### **Resolution 2020/63**

Moved: Cr Peter Burt

Seconded: Cr Steve Wills

That Council:

- (a) Directs staff on any other decisions or reports resulting from submissions to the draft Annual Plan 2020/21.
- (b) Directs the Chief Executive to prepare the final Annual Plan 2020/21 and associated rating resolution for Council to adopt at the 30 June 2020 Council Meeting.

**Carried**

#### **Resolution 2020/64**

Moved: Cr Steve Wills

Seconded: Cr Barbara Gilchrist

That Council approves an amendment to the draft Annual Plan to include the proposals made by the Waste Minimisation Unit to reallocate \$19,500 of waste levy funding to the Contracts Mobilisation Officer position; approves the reallocation of \$90,000 for the landfill lids pilot, to be funded from the landfill operations budget.

**Carried**

#### **Resolution 2020/65**

Moved: Cr Steve Wills

Seconded: Cr Paddy O'Reilly

That Council approves the amendment of the draft Annual Plan to approve the proposal made by the Parks and Recreation Unit for \$200,000 to be included in the budget for the further development of the preferred option for the development of the Highfield Recreation Area, to be loan funded.

**Carried**

#### **Resolution 2020/66**

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Cr Richard Lyon

That Council confirms the creation of proposed Stimulus Fund of \$2M. \$150,000 of the fund to be administered by Aoraki Tourism/Aoraki Development for community-wide events applications and the remaining \$1,850,000 to remain in the Stimulus Fund with parameters to be set in place.

**Carried**

#### **Resolution 2020/67**

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Cr Peter Burt

That Council approves an amendment to the draft Annual Plan to include the Aoraki Development and Promotions Limited (AD) Visitor Operational Grant of \$350,000 which includes a transfer of the tourism budget to AD.

**Carried**

### **Resolution 2020/68**

Moved: Cr Richard Lyon

Seconded: Cr Peter Burt

That Council confirms Option 1 (rate increase of 2%) is the preferred total rates revenue increase for the Annual Plan 2020/21 discussed in the Draft Annual Plan Consultation Document.

In Favour: Clrs Nigel Bowen, Allan Booth, Peter Burt, Barbara Gilchrist, Richard Lyon, Gavin Oliver, Paddy O'Reilly, Sally Parker and Steve Wills

Against: Clr Stu Piddington

**Carried 9/1**

### **8 Consideration of Urgent Business Items**

There was no urgent business.

### **9 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters**

There were no minor nature matters.

### **10 Public Forum Items Requiring Consideration**

There was no public forum.

**The meeting closed at 2.32pm.**

**Minutes Confirmed 30 June 2020**

**Mayor Nigel Bowen  
Chairperson**