

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 7 May 2014 commencing at 11.14 am

Present:

- Cr Stephen Woodhead (Chairperson)
- Cr Gretchen Robertson (Deputy Chairperson)
- Cr Graeme Bell
- Cr Doug Brown
- Cr Louise Croot MNZM
- Cr Michael Deaker
- Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
- Cr Gary Kelliher
- Cr Trevor Kempton
- Cr Sam Neill
- Cr Bryan Scott
- Cr David Shepherd

Requests for Leave of Absence:

- Cr Bell – 17 May to 3 June 2014
- Cr Neill – 3 June to 20 July 2014

The requests for leave of absence were confirmed on the motion of Crs Woodhead and Croot.

In attendance:

- Peter Bodeker
- Wayne Scott
- Jeff Donaldson
- Fraser McRae
- Gavin Palmer
- Janet Favel

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the public portion of the meeting held on 26 March 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Deaker and Kempton.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

PART A - REPORTS FROM CHAIRPERSON AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Item 1

2014/0804 **Chairperson's Report.** Chair, 30/4/14

The Chairperson's report provided an overview of his activities for the period to 30 April 2014.

- Ballance Environment awards – Crs Scott, Bell and Woodhead had attended the awards function. Cr Scott queried whether ORC could do more through other programmes such as dairy farm awards to encourage farmers to improve their standards in order to achieve 6A outcomes.
- LGNZ's proposed communications plan to raise the profile of local government in New Zealand – Cr Woodhead considered the concept was worthwhile, but he did not agree with the proposed separate levy. He asked for comment on the consultation paper which had been circulated to Councillors. Mr Bodeker noted that the ORC was raising local government profile through the recent perception survey of ratepayers, and the organisational restructure, which included increasing public engagement through the creation of the Directorate of Stakeholder Engagement. Councillors noted that each district and region had its own issues which they would work on as needed, and considered it was more appropriate that LGNZ assist councils with existing programmes.

Item 2

2014/0810 **Chief Executive's Report.** CE, 1/5/14

The report provided an overview of the Chief Executive's activities for the period to 1 May 2014.

Health and Safety

Mr Bodeker commented on concerns about the number of field staff working alone, often outside cellphone coverage, and advised that supply of EPIRBs was the most efficient way of addressing this concern. EPIRBs had become economically available in the last five years, and health and safety changes would continue to be made as improved technology became available. In response to a question Mr Bodeker advised that staff were required to adhere to instructions in the Health and Safety Policy in relation to the use of equipment such as EPIRBs. Mr Scott noted that meeting Health and Safety Policy requirements was the responsibility of both

employer and employee, and comment was made that the strength of the linkage between the Health and Safety Manual and Policy might have to be reviewed to comply with proposed new legislation. It was noted that the Audit and Risk Committee would raise awareness of Health and Safety.

Councillors were pleased to note the appointment of the Director Stakeholder Engagement. Cr Deaker acknowledged the work done by Mr Taylor over the last five to six years in transforming the quality and effectiveness of the Council's public communications.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That the Chairperson's and Chief Executive's reports be noted.

Motion carried

PART B – RECOMMENDATIONS

Item 3

2014/0793 **Request to vary the Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-2015: Dunedin one-way system cycle lanes.** DPPRP, 16/4/14

The report explained that NZ Transport Agency had requested the addition of a new project, the Dunedin one-way system cycle lanes, to the Otago Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15. Following discussion of this matter by the Regional Transport Committee, the report recommended that Council vary the RLTP by making this addition.

Cr Kempton explained that NZTA funding was available for this work and Cr Woodhead commented that it was opportune to approve the allocation now rather than having to contest the project through the next funding round. Cr Kempton advised that the business case was yet to be confirmed and the design developed. The concept had been consulted on and had received 5,000 submissions.

Cr Kempton moved
Cr Scott seconded

That the Council approve as a variation to the Regional Land Transport Programme 2012–15, the addition of the Dunedin One-Way System Cycle Lanes activity, set out in the attachment.

Motion carried

PART C – ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 4

2014/0809 **Financial Report.** DCS, 1/5/14

The report provided information in respect of overall Council finances for the nine months to 31 March 2014.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Croot seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

Item 5

2014/0813 **Documents signed under Council's Seal.** DCS, 2/5/14

The report listed documents signed under the Council's Seal.

Cr Kempton moved
Cr Bell seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 6 **Reports from Councillors**

(a) *Cr Brown – Waitaki River Liaison Group meeting*

Cr Brown advised that he, Mr Scott and Dr Palmer attended the Group's annual meeting. There were no major flood events during the past year so the river was fairly stable. No progress seemed to have been made on discussions last year on review of the funding and management model. Cr Brown considered that operation of the Liaison Group and its meetings needed to be improved. Mr Bodeker suggested that ORC engage with ECan to improve operation of the joint river management group.

(b) *Cr Shepherd – Waiwera and Pomahaka minimum flow meetings*

Cr Shepherd attended the Waiwera and Pomahaka minimum flow meetings on 6 May. There were about 35 to 40 people at each meeting. He considered that the meetings were very worthwhile, and there was a lot of good feedback. Community values were high in terms of minimum flow requirements for recreational and environmental reasons, and there was not a lot of support for irrigation. Cr Woodhead noted the intention to notify the proposed minimum flow before the end of the year.

- (c) *Cr Eckhoff – farmer meeting*
Cr Eckhoff advised that he was invited to attend a meeting with 20 farmers in the Lauder-Omakau area. The farmers presented a list of 12 questions covering a range of issues which showed that landowners were giving a lot of thought to environmental management. Bruce Monaghan was also in attendance and was to provide a formal response to the questions.
- (d) *Cr Scott – Oil and Gas meeting*
Cr Scott attended a seminar held at the Ōtākou marae on oil and gas exploration in the Great South Basin. He considered that the seminar, which mainly discussed process, was very useful and the use of the neutral venue was valuable.
- (e) *Cr Brown – Waikouaiti River minimum flow meeting*
Crs Brown and Scott attended a Waikouaiti River minimum flow meeting. About 40 members of the public were present. A number of issues were raised, and Cr Brown considered the meeting was useful.

PART D - MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Item 7 Recommendations of the Otago Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 3 April 2014, for adoption

The minutes of the combined Otago and Southland Regional Transport Committees meeting held on 3 April were circulated separately. Cr Kempton noted the recommendation in the minutes of the combined meeting to develop a combined Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) for 2015-18, and commented that the aim was to tie in with the philosophy of a journey as opposed to stretches of road. Cr Kempton noted that the majority of tourism and commercial journeys went through both regions, and the natural break was the Waitaki River. Staff in both councils were already working together in terms of maintenance programmes. The two committees would be retained and would combine on the RLTP.

Mr Scott explained that by adopting the minutes of the combined meeting the ORC resolved to develop a joint RLTP with Environment Southland.

Cr Kempton moved
Cr Bell seconded

- 1. That the recommendations of the Combined Otago and Southland Regional Transport Committees meeting held on 3 April 2014 be adopted.*
- 2. That the recommendations of the Otago Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 3 April 2014 be adopted.*

Motion carried

Item 8 **Recommendations of the Communications Committee meeting** held on 16 April 2014, for adoption

Cr Kempton moved
Cr Bell seconded

That the recommendations of the Communications Committee meeting held on 16 April 2014 be adopted.

Motion carried

Item 9 **Recommendations of the public portion of the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting** held on 16 April 2014, for adoption

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Bell seconded

That the recommendations of the public portion of the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting held on 16 April 2014 be adopted.

Motion carried

Item 10 **Recommendations of the Policy Committee meeting** held on 16 April 2014, for adoption

Cr Robertson moved
Cr Deaker seconded

That the recommendations of the Policy Committee meeting held on 16 April 2014 be adopted.

Motion carried

Item 11 **Recommendations of the Regulatory Committee meeting** held on 16 April 2014, for adoption

Cr Neill moved
Cr Eckhoff seconded

That the recommendations of the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 16 April 2014 be adopted.

Motion carried

Item 12 **Recommendations of the Technical Committee meeting** held on 16 April 2014, for adoption

Cr Scott moved
Cr Brown seconded

That the recommendations of the Technical Committee meeting held on 16 April 2014 be adopted.

Motion carried

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Croot seconded

That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the meeting.

The general subject of the matters to be discussed while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

	<i>General subjects to be considered</i>	<i>Reason under LGOIMA for passing this resolution</i>	<i>Grounds under S.48 for the passing of this resolution</i>
<i>Item 13</i>	<i>Minutes of the non public portion of the Council meeting held on 26 March 2014, for adoption</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons. (S7(2)(a)), and To enable the Council to carry out commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage. (S7(2)(h)), and To enable any local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations. (S7(2)(i))</i>	<i>S.48(1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>Item 14</i>	<i>Minutes of the non public portion of the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting held on 16 April 2014, for adoption</i>	<i>To enable any local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations. LGOIMA S7(2)(i)</i>	<i>S.48(1)(a)(i)</i>

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as shown above with respect to each item.

Motion carried

Following discussion of Items 13 and 14,

Cr Neill moved
Cr Croot seconded

That the meeting resume in open session.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 12.12 pm



Chairperson