

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

**Minutes of the inaugural meeting of Council held
in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on
Wednesday 26 October 2016, commencing at 9:00 am**

Present:

- Cr Graeme Bell**
- Cr Doug Brown**
- Cr Michael Deaker**
- Cr Carmen Hope**
- Cr Trevor Kempton**
- Cr Michael Laws**
- Cr Maggie Lawton**
- Cr Sam Neill**
- Cr Andrew Noone**
- Cr Gretchen Robertson**
- Cr Bryan Scott**
- Cr Stephen Woodhead**

In attendance:

- Peter Bodeker**
- Nick Donnelly**
- Fraser McRae**
- Gavin Palmer**
- Scott MacLean**
- Caroline Rowe**
- Mark Peart**
- Lauren McDonald**

Chairperson

The Chief Executive, Mr Peter Bodeker assumed the chair as required by Clause 21(4) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 until the election of Chairperson and the attesting of the declaration of office.

Welcome

Mr Peter Bodeker warmly welcomed the family and friends in attendance and thanked them for their support.

Item 1 Declaration of Office by Councillors

The Councillors elect individually took the declaration as required by Clause 14 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 by reading the declaration to the meeting and signing it. The declarations were formally witnessed by the Chief Executive.

Mr Bodeker welcomed Councillors to the Otago Regional Council.

Item 2
2016/1099

Voting System for Certain Appointments. DCS, 19/10/16

The report by the Director Corporate Services provided an explanation of the options provided in the Local Government Act 2002 for the voting system for certain appointments, and proposed a choice of two options (System A and System B) for adoption by the Council.

A motion was tabled for the person or persons nominated to the role of Chairperson to speak, rather than the proposer speaking on their behalf.

Moved Cr Laws
Seconded Cr Lawton

That the person/s nominated for the role of Chairperson of the ORC speak to the meeting to put forward their vision for the role and that questions be allowed, to clarify any issues which may arise.

Motion carried

The recommendations of the report were taken in parts.

Moved Mr Bodeker
Seconded Cr Noone

That the Council:

1) Receives the report

Motion carried

Moved Cr Kempton
Seconded Cr Bell

2) Agrees that, in the event of a tie between voting system A and B, the system to be used shall be resolved by lot as described in section 6 of this report.

Motion carried

Moved Cr Scott
Seconded Cr Laws

3) That System A be adopted as the voting system.

Motion carried

Moved Cr Woodhead
Seconded Cr Deaker

4) Agrees that, in the event of a tie under voting system A, the candidate to be excluded from the next round of voting shall be resolved by lot as described in section 6 of this report.

Motion carried

Item 3

Election of Chairperson

Mr Bodeker called for nominations for the position of Chairperson.

Cr Robertson nominated Cr Woodhead and Cr Neill seconded the nomination. Cr Woodhead accepted the nomination.

Cr Laws nominated Cr Lawton and Cr Lawton seconded the nomination. Cr Lawton accepted the nomination.

Mr Bodeker called for further nominations. There being none, Mr Bodeker declared the nominations closed.

Cr Woodhead and Cr Lawton then spoke to their nominations.

A number of questions were addressed to the nominated Councillors, including the ranking of the top priorities for the role of Chairperson and their leadership qualities, strengths and style.

Mr Bodeker called for a right of reply by the nominators, none was requested.

Mr Bodeker asked Councillors to indicate their vote for either Cr Woodhead or Cr Lawton with a “aye” response.

The vote was taken and the Chief Executive declared Cr Woodhead elected as Chairperson.

Item 4 **Declaration of Chairperson**

Cr Woodhead read and signed the declaration for Chairperson as required under Clause 14 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002. The declaration was witnessed by the Chief Executive.

Cr Woodhead then took the Chair. He thanked Councillors for their ongoing support and to Cr Lawton for the process. He advised he felt privileged to support the Otago region as a Councillor and had enormous respect for the role of Chairperson and understood the responsibility of the position.

He congratulated the re-elected Councillors and welcomed new members Councillors Laws, Lawton, Hope and Noone. He advised he welcomed the new ideas, enthusiasm and experience they brought to Council.

Cr Woodhead then outlined the role, challenges and issues Council faced in the coming triennium.

Item 5 **Election of Deputy Chairperson**

Cr Woodhead called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson.

Cr Scott nominated Cr Gretchen Robertson and Cr Deaker seconded the nomination.

Cr Robertson confirmed her acceptance of the nomination and spoke to the nomination outlining her background and experience.

Cr Woodhead called for further nominations. There being none, Cr Woodhead declared Cr Robertson elected.

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10:38am and reconvened at 11:19am

Item 6 **General Explanation of Relevant Legislation**

Council's solicitor Alastair Logan of Ross Dowling Marquet Griffin attended to present a general explanation of relevant legislation, as required by the Local Government Act. A handout of the presentation was circulated to Councillors which summarised his talk.

Mr Logan spoke about the purpose and principles of local government, and how it was regulated; the need for Councillors to set aside personal and local interests; the requirements of the representative role as

governance; the importance of keeping an open mind; and public accountability.

Cr Deaker sought clarification on the definition of a Councillor withdrawing from discussion in the case of a conflict of interest.

Mr Logan advised his opinion would be that the Councillor should leave the room.

Item 7

2016/1104 Schedule of Meeting Dates to December 2017, DCS 19/10/16

The report presented for consideration a draft schedule of the Ordinary Council and Committee meetings for the period to December 2017.

Mr Donnelly advised that the schedule provided calendar dates for the 8 Council meetings and 8 committee rounds through to December 2017, based on a six weekly cycle.

A request was made to include the dates for the Annual Plan Hearings.

It was requested that Councillors kept the day immediately after Council and Committee meetings available for workshops or additional meetings as required. The second day would usually be a Thursday and Councillors would be advised as early as possible if this was required.

Moved Cr Scott
Seconded Cr Neill

That the Schedule of Ordinary Council and Committee Meetings to December 2017, with the addition of Annual Plan hearings dates, be adopted

Motion carried.

Cr Woodhead declared the meeting closed at 12:36pm



Chairperson  /11 /2016