

MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL, HELD IN THE TWIZEL COUNCIL OFFICE, TWIZEL ON TUESDAY 4 APRIL 2013 AT 9.33 AM

PRESENT:

Claire Barlow (Mayor)
Crs John Bishop
Peter Maxwell
Annette Money
Graeme Page
Evan Williams (from 12:20pm)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Wayne Barnett (Chief Executive Officer)
Paul Morris (Manager – Finance and Administration)
Garth Nixon (Community Facilities Manager)
Keri-Ann Little (Committee Clerk)

I OPENING:

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all present. The Mayor informed the Councillors' and Staff that there would be a change of Agenda order, delaying the Forestry Board Council Approval decision to wait for Cr Williams arrival.

The Mayor tabled two emails from Alpine Recreation and Tim and Penny Rayward, 8 Mackenzie Street, Lake Tekapo expressing their concerns at the proposed harvesting of the Tekapo Plantation. *A copy of these emails are Appendix A of this record.*

The Mayor also tabled a letter received prior to the Meeting from Stephen Crone, President of the Lake Tekapo Lions Club expressing the Tekapo Lions Club interest in the felling of the Pinus Muricata trees in the Tekapo Plantation. *A copy of this letter is Appendix B of this record.*

II APOLOGY

Resolved that apologies be received from Councillor Graham Smith, Asset Manager Bernie Haar and an apology for lateness from Councillor Evan Williams.

John Bishop/Annette Money

III DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cr Page asked The CEO if he believed there was a conflict of interest concerning the Forestry Board agenda item requesting Council decisions on the harvesting of the Tekapo Plantation taking into consideration that Cr Page is the Chairman of the Forestry Board and Cr Page's concerns regarding the public's perception.

The CEO did not believe this was a conflict of interesting stating that this was not a personal or unrelated business deal.

There were no further declarations of interest.

IV BEREAVEMENTS:

The Mayor referred to the recent death of Victoria Condon, Margaret Bennett and Dick Thompson.

A moment of silence was observed and a motion of sympathy was passed and the Chief Executive Officer was directed to pass this on to those concerned.

V MAYORAL REPORT:

This was the report of The Mayoral activities to 27 March 2013.

Resolved that the report be received.

Annette Money/ John Bishop

Cr Money commended Elected Members and Council staff for the outcome of the meeting with Ms Pat Shuker who outlined her concerns regarding water supply rating at Manuka Terrace. This issue has now been resolved.

VI INFORMATION REPORTS:

1. GENERAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

This report from the Chief Executive Officer referred to Committee and Fairlie Community Board Meetings, and Other Meetings and Activities.

Resolved that the report be received.

Peter Maxwell/ Graeme Page

VII REPORTS REQUIRING COUNCIL DECISION:

1. TWIZEL PUBLIC TOILETS:

The Mayor welcomed Twizel Community Board Chairman Peter Bell at 9:49am.

This report from the Manager – Community Facilities refers to The Twizel Community Boards requests that Council provides an additional budget for the proposed new Twizel Public Toilets.

The report was accompanied by an email from Mr Murray Ackroyd registered Architect from DLA Architects LTD outlining a three month construction programme this email is *Appendix C* of this record.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received

Annette Money/John Bishop

In the long term plan Council made provision for new public toilets in Twizel with an initial estimate of \$200,000. The proposed new toilets for Twizel were advertised last year as requests for proposals.

We received two proposals for consideration. One from DLA Architects and the other from Draftline.

The Community Board has met with both Designers and discussed both proposals.

Estimates provided for both proposals exceed \$300,000.

To summarise, DLA Architect's proposal is the preferred design and that Council be requested to engage Murray Ackroyd to complete the design and specifications in preparation for putting this work out to tender.

At the Twizel Community Board Meeting on 11th of March the Twizel Community Board recommended:

1. That the Twizel Community Board recommends to Council that they proceed to tender for the new toilets using the preferred design by DLA Architects.
2. That the Twizel Community Board recommends to Council that Council make provision for the additional funding required and that any unspent capital be carried over to the next financial year.

Annette Money/John Bishop

The Mayor thanked Mr Bell, Twizel Community Board Chairman, for attending and Mr Bell left the meeting at 10:01 am.

VI INFORMATION REPORTS CONTINUED:

2. LAKE ALEXANDRINA CONSERVATION TRUST:

The Mayor noted the letter of thanks to the Mackenzie District Council for the grant of \$10,400.00 provided to the trust in April 2012, stating it was lovely to receive a letter of thanks and appreciation.

3. COMMON SEAL AND AUTHORISED SIGNATURES REGISTER:

This report from the Committee Clerk advised of documents listed on the Common Seal and Authorised Signatures Register from 12 February 2013 until 28 March 2013

Resolved:

1. That the report be received.
2. That the sealing of document numbers 767 to 768 be endorsed.

Annette Money/ Graeme Page

Paul Morris – Manager Finance and Administration was asked to check the contract with Earth and Sky LTD to clarify if on-going maintenance and general tidiness of the section is a requirement of the agreement.

VIII COMMUNITY BOARDS:

This report from the Chief Executive Officer was accompanied by the Minutes of the meetings of the Fairlie Community Board held on 13 March 2013 and the Twizel and Tekapo Community Boards held on 11 March 2013.

Resolved that the report be received.

Peter Maxwell /Annette Money

FAIRLIE COMMUNITY BOARD

2. **Princes Street Upgrade**

That the Council notes that the Community Board will hold a public meeting on Wednesday 3rd of April 2013 at 5pm in the Council Chambers, Fairlie with residents to discuss options for Princes Street Landscaping.

TWIZEL COMMUNITY BOARD

3. Greenway Trees:

That the Council notes that the Twizel Community Board in conjunction with Community Facilities Manager, Mr Nixon's approval, resolves that the approved trees are felled from the Greenway behind Simons Street in Twizel.

4. Litter Bins at the Southern Entrance to Twizel:

That the Council notes that the Twizel Community Board resolves that The Community Facilities Manager compile costing's for three 140 litre Wheelie Bins to be kept at the Southern Entrance of Twizel. The Community Board then asked The Community Facilities Manager to approach Mr Hocken and ask for payment for installation and maintenance in full for the use of the Wheelie Bins mentioned.

5. Twizel Water Supply

That the Council notes that drilling had started in front of the Ben Ohau Cottage with promising results. Mr O'Connor, Utilities Manager will email the Board Chair with updates to the drilling and water supply topics.

6. Twizel Public Toilets

- That the Twizel Community Board recommends to Council that they proceed to tender for the new toilets using the preferred design by DLA Architects.
- That the Council notes that the Twizel Community Board recommends to Council that Council make provision for the additional funding required and that any unspent capital be carried over to the next financial year.

7. Market Place – Bikes, Skateboards, Scooters and Dogs

That the Council notes:

1. that *No Dogs* and *No Cycling and Skateboarding* signs are to be erected around Market Place within the next few weeks.
2. that the relocation of bike stands to more visible sites is to be investigated with the view to providing enhanced security for bicycles.

8. Land Sales:

That the Council notes that the empty section on the corner of Jollie and Huxley Street's be valued and listed on the Market for sale.

TEKAPO COMMUNITY BOARD:

9. Photographic Convention Request for Grant

That the Council notes that a sponsorship grant from The Tekapo Community Board of \$500 to help offset cost of the Community Centre be donated to the Photographic Convention to be held in Lake Tekapo from the 3rd to the 5th of October 2013.

10. Tekapo Community Board Meeting Date Re-Scheduling

That the Council notes dates below are now confirmed as the new Tekapo Community Board Meeting dates – due to a clash of dates with Tekapo Fire Brigade Meetings:

- Monday 22nd of April
- Monday 22nd of July
- Tuesday 24th of September

IX COMMITTEES:

Resolved that Minutes of the meetings of the Mackenzie Forestry Board, Finance, Planning and Projects and Strategies Committees held on 19 March 2013, including such parts as were taken with the Public Excluded, be received.

John Bishop/ Annette Money

X CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Mackenzie District Council held on 19 February 2013, including such parts as were taken with the Public Excluded, be confirmed and adopted as the correct record of the meeting.

Annette Money/ Peter Maxwell

XI ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18am for a morning tea and reconvened at 10:50am.

VII REPORTS REQUIRING COUNCIL DECISION CONTINUED:

2. **FORESTRY BOARD COUNCIL APPROVAL:**

At the Forestry Board Meeting of 19 March 2013 it was resolved that Council make the decision as regards to the future of the Lake Tekapo Plantation.

Resolved that the report be received

Annette Money/ Graeme Page

The Mayor welcomed Ms Bruan-Elwert and two members of the Public to the Meeting.

The decision to seek Council approval recognises that undertakings given at Public Meetings in relation to replanting and track reinstatement will cause the Board to incur abnormal costs. These expenses will reduce the operational profit from the harvesting operation. By accepting

the remedial obligation the Board may be seen to be foregoing its mandated objective of maximising profit.

- The Mayor spoke to the Meeting stating she does understand there is a need to remove the trees and that some felling is required, however she feels there is not enough information sought and noted there is a lot of public interest and would like to see the existing mess cleaned up before more harvesting is done. The Mayor also said that she would like to see a plan in place as to how this plantation will be felled both during the works and afterwards and also how this plantation will be budgeted for in the future. The Mayor said she feels sometime should be taken to consider all important information and until a plan can be put in place The Mayor recommends harvesting is delayed for a further year.
- Cr Peter Maxwell spoke to the Meeting saying he has lived in Lake Tekapo since 1986 and stated that if there was anything to happen in the town to risk viability he would be the first to object. Cr Maxwell feels this is a huge opportunity going forward and understands there is some concern for Murray Place residents in regards to safety with some big trees falling and also the apparent fire risk. Cr Maxwell believes this is a package deal and the money gained will be reinvested making the area a special place with big opportunities. Cr Maxwell stated there is a current premium price for trees of that size and said that tourism won't die and they can still walk through via a new route with more opportunities.

Cr Maxwell responded to Mrs Bruan-Elwerts report stating the following points:

1. The loss of wind shelter will happen anyway from the removal of the trees from the back of Murray Place.
2. The sewer system will actually work better.
3. There is a lot of existing forestry areas and plantations in and around Lake Tekapo to "play in"
4. The Tekapo Community Board has identified a high level of clean-up will take place and with no financial cost to the Community Boards budget.

Cr Maxwell concluded by stating that he believes there are so many positives and thinks if it is going to be done it is done now while the price is right.

- Cr Bishop stated that he is prepared to listen and support the Community Board as a Councillor and said the Community Board has more information on this as a whole and believes that we have to look to the future.

- Cr Money said that she also supports the Community Board and thinks the one thing that needs to be assured to Tekapo residents is that what is left behind will be of more recreational value going forward and that the Forestry Board does have a job to do and that they have to think long term. Cr Money believes there is no need to delay but there has to be a guarantee that the area left will be of more value.
- Cr Page spoke to the meeting stating that he understood the tress had the potential to last another 10 to 15 years before they would deteriorate and felt that the decision today would only postpone what has to happen in the future. Cr Page stated that trees are always controversial and that he has received several phone calls and feedback from people who are in favour of the harvesting. Cr Page said that he supports proceeding with the harvesting and do the best possible job to clean up the area afterwards.

Cr Maxwell said that the Community Board will put a proactive plan together.

The Mayor welcomed Ms Braun-Elwert to speak to Elected Members and Council staff.

Ms Braun-Elwert asked the meeting to bear in mind that the Community Board made the decision to support the Forestry Board without consulting with the residents and did not hold a public meeting until afterwards. Ms Braun-Elwert stated that she believes it is being done the wrong way around and that a management plan should have been done before the milling and asked what is the purpose of the forest going forward.

The Mayor thanked Ms Braun-Elwert for her comments.

The Mayor put forward a motion: that the felling of the Lake Tekapo Plantation is delayed for 1 year to enable a proper cost benefit analysis to be done and a long term management plan to be drawn up in consultation with the community sector.

Mayor Claire Barlow/ Annette Money

The Mayor called a division of votes and asked the Chief Executive Officer to take down the names of the elected members voting for and against the motion and abstentions.

Cr Annette Money and Mayor Claire Barlow voted for the motion. Cr John Bishop, Cr Peter Maxwell and Cr Graeme Page voted against the motion.

The motion lapsed.

Resolved:

1. To proceed with harvesting of the trees in Section A and B of the Lake Tekapo Plantation.
2. That the Forestry Board be authorised to expend funds to meet rehabilitation commitments from Public Meetings at Tekapo.

Peter Maxwell/John Bishop

Cr Annette Money and Mayor Claire Barlow voted against the resolution.

XII VISITORS:

The Mayor welcomed Mr Stephen Gubb and Ms Leigh Harris to the meeting at 11:18am

XIII PUBLIC EXCLUDED:

Resolved that the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely:

1. Stephen Gubb and Leigh Harris

<u>Reason for passing General subject of each matter to be considered</u>	<u>Ground(s) under this resolution in relation to each matter</u>	<u>Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</u>
Stephen Gubb and Leigh Harris	Commercial Sensitivity	48(1)(a)(i)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a)(i) 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, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows: *Stephen Gubb and Leigh Harris* Section 7(2)(b)(ii)

Peter Maxwell/ Annette Money

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11:19
AM**

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE: _____