

Date: Tuesday 27 July 2021 at 3.00pm  
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

### Present

The Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson (the Chairman), the District Mayor N C Volzke, Councillors G W Boyde, P S Dalziel, J M S Erwood, R W Coplestone, A K Harris, V R Jones, M McKay, W J Sandford and G M Webby.

### In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Executive Administration Officer – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Roading Asset Manager – Mr S Bowden, the Community Development Officer – Mrs A Kingston (part meeting), the Community Development Officer – Mrs S Shepherd (part meeting), the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain (part meeting), Ms J Gilliland, Dr A Probert and Mrs J Patterson (Venture Taranaki, part meeting) and one member of the media (Stratford Press)

#### 1. Welcome

The Deputy Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, staff, Venture Taranaki representatives and the media.

The Deputy Mayor reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

#### 2. Apologies

There were no apologies received.

#### 3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

#### 4. Declarations of Members Interest

The Deputy Mayor requested Councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

The Deputy Mayor and Councillor Erwood declared an interest in Item 11 – 2021 External Funding Application. The District Mayor would fill the chair role during this item.

The District Mayor declared an interest in Item 9 – Stratford District Licensing Committee – 2020/2021 Annual Report.

#### 5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance Schedule for Policy and Services Committee meetings was attached

## 6. Confirmation of minutes

### 6.1 Policy and Services Committee Meeting – 22 June 2021 D21/21264 (Page 9)

#### Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 22 June 2021 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BOYDE/COPESTONE  
Carried  
P&S/21/98

## 7. Matters Outstanding D16/47 (Page 20)

#### Recommendation

THAT the matters outstanding be received.

SANDFORD/JONES  
Carried  
P&S/21/99

## 8. Information Report – Economic Development Quarterly Report – Quarter Four D21/23062 (Page 21)

#### Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/DALZIEL  
Carried  
P&S/21/100

Ms Gilliland and Dr Probert presented the report to Council. Points noted in the presentation:

- This report highlights a busy quarter and that significant progress has been made in integrating Tapuae Roa and Taranaki 2050 with the process to integrate with Te Aranga o Taranaki now underway and the key task now being progress in terms of action.
- The Taranaki Catchment Communities was granted \$1.25 million from MPI. It was clarified that Venture Taranaki would remain heavily involved as part members of the lead group but the group will now be able to contract with MPI themselves. Venture Taranaki will remain closely connected and support any further work or business cases required for future funding.
- The We Create Futures was launched which provided the opportunity to look to what the future trends will be, what visitors want, our regional strengths and desired future outcomes. This resulted in identifying items to take forward into the future and utilise funding from the government.
- The Power Up finals night was held with really great ideas being presented on the night.
- There is still high demand for enterprise support and good engagement with the start up clinics. The demand is high for support and advice and work is being undertaken to manage the high numbers to allow staff to reply in a timely manner.
- The launch of the Taranaki Story has been really successful. It has been heavily accessed already by regional enterprises with lots of downloads of the materials. There has been a few approaches by other regions wanting to do a similar thing.

- Venture Taranaki won the supreme award for Business Support Recovery after COVID-19 and Ms Gilliland thanked Council for its support with this.
- Projects coming up include progressing product development, visitor future work, coastal arts trail, looking into the niche sectors in Taranaki and energy solutions for rural communities.
- Dr Probert noted the Branching Out event was being held in Stratford tomorrow with 80 people registered. This will focus on trees and connecting enterprises through the value chain.
- A lot of work is being done with the energy sector for Power to X. This is the development of a local thought piece underpinned by genuine information which looks at the potential of the whole Country and the sort of energy it could produce. We know that Taranaki has incredible capacity with offshore winds and the products that could produce, the hub it could provide and energy that could be exported. This is being done in conjunction with a number of companies and will be put forward to the government.

Points of Clarification/Questions:

- The Deputy Mayor congratulated Venture Taranaki on their win for the Business Support Recovery award and acknowledged the difference it had made to businesses in the region.
- It was clarified that engagement with iwi was still occurring regarding the integration of Tapua Roa, Taranaki 2050 and Te Aranga o Taranaki. Once this is completed it would then be time to consider what the integrated framework will be called which will be a discussion for Ngā Kaiwhakatere o Taranaki. There will be several other documents that will sit within the consolidated framework such as Just Transitions.
- It was clarified the funding received after the Oil and Gas announcement has been used in setting up Ara Ake which is now up and running. The funding for science and research is administered by MBIE and there are projects underway from this. The integrated regional plan will help with putting forward plans for the future for other funding avenues.
- It was clarified there is a lot happening in the hydrogen space. The Kapuni Plant is just working through the consent process for turbines. Meridian and Contact are also talking about hydrogen potential in southland which increases the overall potential for New Zealand. A progress report will be released soon for Taranaki's own H2 journey.

*Ms Gilliland, Dr Probert and Mrs Patterson left the meeting at 3.21pm.*

*The District Mayor departed the table at 3.21pm.*

9. Information Report – Stratford District Licensing Committee – 2020/2021 Annual Report  
D21/23652 (Page 54)

Recommendations

1. THAT the Annual Report for Stratford District Licensing Committee for 2020/2021 be received and contents noted.
2. THAT subject to any amendments the Annual Report will be forwarded to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority.

COPLESTONE/BOYDE

1 abstained

Carried

P&S/21/101

The Director – Environmental Services noted the following points:

- This is the annual district licensing report that is required each year to be provided to ARLA.
- There was a significant change this year in the appointment of a new commissioner.
- It was a stable year in terms of hospitality which is reflected in license numbers and application numbers which fall within the range over the last five years.

*The Community Development Officers left the meeting at 3.23pm.  
The District Mayor re-joined the table at 3.23pm.*

#### 10. Decision Report – Road Closure For A Car Club Event

D21/24543 (Page 61)

##### Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

JONES/HARRIS  
Carried  
P&S/21/102

2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that the Stratford District Council proposes to close the following roads on Sunday 15 August 2021 between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm for the purpose of the Stratford Street Sprint 2021

- Orlando Street from Warwick Road to Celia Street
- Romeo Street from Orlando Street to Cordelia Street
- Cordelia Street from Romeo Street to Warwick Road
- Warwick Road from Cordelia Street to Orlando Street

BOYDE/COPLESTONE  
Carried  
P&S/21/103

##### Recommended Reason

The South Taranaki Car Club have approached the Stratford District Council with the view of holding their annual Stratford Street Sprint Event on Sunday 15 August. This is their 31st year of running the event. The proposed road closure requires formal endorsement by a Council resolution.

The Roading Asset Manager noted the following points:

- This is repetition of the report submitted last year for the annual South Taranaki Car Club time trial event.
- It seeks the approval of Council to allow these four roads to be closed.

Points of Clarification/Questions:

- It was clarified that a \$2,000 bond is held from the club which is used to fix any significant damage caused by the event.

*The Deputy Mayor and Councillor Erwood vacated the table at 3.26pm.  
The District Mayor undertook the role of Chairman.*

11. Decision Report – 2021 External Funding Application  
D21/25932 (Page 71)

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

WEBBY/SANDFORD  
2 abstained  
Carried  
P&S/21/104

3. THAT Council's funding application to the Taranaki Electricity Trust (TET) for \$832,925 is approved to be submitted.

BOYDE/COPELSTONE  
2 abstained  
Carried  
P&S/21/106

**Recommended Reason**

The opportunity to have projects externally funded will reduce the rating impact for ratepayers.

The Director – Community Services noted the following points:

- This is the annual report seeking a recommendation from Council to apply for funding from the Taranaki Electricity Trust which is to be submitted every August.
- There are eight projects which are detailed in 4.4 of the report.
- All projects listed are part of the work programme, however some are not budgeted for.

Points of Clarification/Questions:

- It was clarified the correct amount of the total application was \$902,925 as detailed in the resolution in the report.
- Councillor Boyde noted that having looked at the exercise equipment in Palmerston North and the damage that happens to it he no longer supported this project and suggested Council look at Option 2 to approve the application with changes. The Chief Executive noted he had observed the equipment in Ohakune being used as play equipment only.
- It was clarified that the Trust had granted \$500,000 towards the pool project in 2020 with an invitation to apply for further funding at the end of the financial year, the amount requested for the pool in this application was in addition this. The additional funding from the end of financial year review had not yet been confirmed in writing.
- It was clarified that the Taranaki Electricity Trust had funded Economic Development in the past with the exception of the 2020 application. It had not been in Council's budget in the past as it had historically been supported by the Trust, however it is included in the budgets now after being unsuccessful with the funding for this activity last year.
- Councillor Sandford supported the removal of exercise equipment from the application and noted he would prefer to see this amount used on play equipment to enhance the playground further as it will have more use than it has ever had before when the bike park opens.

Recommendations

2. THAT Project 8 (Victoria Park – Exercise Equipment \$70,000) be removed from the application.

BOYDE/SANDFORD  
2 abstained  
Carried  
P&S/21/105

- It was clarified the original plan had been to put the exercise equipment around the lake at Victoria Park which would make the area more attractive and provide the equipment for use to the public and sports clubs.
- It was felt that the inclusion of play equipment should not proceed as it was not budgeted for.
- It was clarified that Trustees had visited Council Officers last year to discuss the priority items on the application which may be done again this year. Last year this resulted in the pool obtaining funding but not the other items applied for.
- The District Mayor requested that the application reflects on the thousands and thousands that use the pool currently and that being a Council owned facility, and not for profit, then every ratepayer benefits from any debt reduction.

*The Deputy Mayor and Councillor Erwood re-joined the table at 3.42pm. The Deputy Mayor resumed as Chairman.*

## 12. Monthly Reports

### 12.1 **Assets Report** D21/21383 (Page 78)

#### Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/HARRIS  
Carried  
P&S/21/107

The Director – Assets noted the following points:

- The year has been very busy and Mrs Araba acknowledged the assets staff for the incredible work done throughout.
- There were three performance measures not achieved this year. The first was minor water disruptions which was 6 with a goal of <5, the solid waste recycling measure which is set very high and patronage at the War Memorial Centre which was partly due to the unavailability due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Points of Clarification/Questions:

- It was requested that a regular summary be provided on the aquatic centre project on the project, progress, budget and timeline.
- The Roading Asset Manager clarified that the One Network Framework (ONF), which is replacing the One Network Roading Classification, would recognise the volume of traffic going down the road but will recognise the function and importance of the location as well. There are various levels of classifications for the roads which will be funded accordingly. It was noted there are 100 key performance indicators that are part of this change, 30 of these are mandatory. There will be quite a lot of work involved in capturing the information required for these.
- Councillor Sandford noted his concern regarding the suggestion the service lane be used for teacher parking for the Stratford Primary School. He noted this area needed to be clear for emergency vehicles as well as noting his concern over the amount of heavy vehicles using this at the moment for the pool construction. Mr Bowden noted that this was just one of the suggestions put forward when meeting with the principal. He noted the school is looking to create its own staff carpark behind the school. The issue with kids walking through the hockey turf required a bit of re-education. It was noted that if a crossing was to be installed then the location needed to be considered carefully to ensure the kids are coming out by the crossing to use it.

*The Parks and Reserves Officer joined the meeting at 3.48pm.*

- It was clarified that Council was able to review the speed limits outside of schools prior to the ONF coming into force. The proposed speed limits are 30km/hr outside a school except for Huiakama, Toko and Marco Schools which would have a 60km/hr limit. Mr Bowden confirmed it is envisioned that kindergartens and day-cares will be included in this review. A report will be brought back to Council to consult on the suggested changes.

- It was clarified that the intention of a suspended recycling collection was to support those offending households in what aspects of recycling is being done wrong.
- Councillor Boyde noted the concrete had been poured for the yards at the Farm and it was now in use with about 20 cows in so far.

*The Parks and Reserves Officer departed the meeting at 3.59pm*

*The Community Development Officers joined the meeting at 3.59pm.*

**12.2 Community Services Report**  
D21/22487 (Page 103)

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

WEBBY/VOLZKE  
Carried  
P&S/21/108

The Director – Community Services noted the following points:

- Funding was approved for two new roles for the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs to continue the great work that has been done so far. Applications for these roles close this week.
- There is really positive work being done through the Community Relationships Framework alongside the Wheelhouse specifically with the Stratford Positive Ageing Group, Stratford Business Association and Taranaki Pioneer Village.
- It was noted that further explanations will be given in the Annual Report on the performance measures for visitor numbers which were not met.

Council Organisations and Council Representatives on Other Organisations

- The District Mayor noted his attendance at the MTFJ AGM last week. There had been 23 rural Councils and 4 Provincial Councils which were eligible for the funding that Stratford received. It has been a really successful scheme right across the country. This has been recognised by the Minister that Local Government can provide a service more efficiently and less bureaucratically than other means. He commended the staff on the work undertaken with this project.
- Councillor McKay noted she was undertaking a review of the MOU agreement between the Stratford Business Association and Council, she noted specially that she was working through the allocation of hours for the secretary to create a work plan, prioritising what was important and what aligns with the strategic plan. This will then be presented for committee approval before being brought to Council for final approval. The next BA5 is tomorrow at Tūtaki Youth inc which is a great opportunity to see the work being done there and she encouraged Councillors to attend. The Romeo awards are going well with nominations and entries coming in which is pleasing given the different format of the awards this year. It was noted the sponsorship slots for the awards all filled up really quickly for the Romeos. The next Women in Business event will go on sale next week.

*The Community Development Officers departed the meeting at 4.06pm*

12.3 **Environmental Services Report**  
D21/21380 (Page 113)

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/DALZIEL  
Carried  
P&S/21/109

The Director – Environmental Services noted the following points:

- This report contains the final figures for the year:
  - There were 288 building consents issued which is quite a bit above the previous year with over double the amount for new dwellings.
  - There was an increase of 10 resource consents.
  - There were eight more LIMs than the previous years.
- The average processing time for consents has reduced, however another one has gone over the timeframe.
- There is a small number of building consent inspections that have had a longer wait time and is a result of resourcing levels with staff.

Points of Clarification/Questions:

- It was noted there was a meeting schedule for Wednesday evening to discuss the guidelines which have been issued for instruction on how to satisfy the rules under the legislation. The guidelines are about providing clarity but it was noted this introduction could have been done better. It was noted that it has been reported that there is a large number of work that has been stopped, however Mr Sutherland noted this was not on the scale that has been implied.

12.4 **Corporate Services Report**  
D21/25865 (Page 121)

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

SANDFORD/ERWOOD  
Carried  
P&S/21/110

The Director – Corporate Services noted the following points:

- The final results will not be known until the final audit is completed, for which a date hasn't been confirmed by Audit NZ as yet. These initial end of year results are still changing as further expenditure is identified.
- Revenue is above budget as a result of external grants, higher than expected user charges, increased milk proceeds, project specific funding and financial contributions that were not budgeted for.
- Expenditure is higher than budgeted with personnel costs over budget which were largely offset by grants received for some positions however this is significantly over in the Building Control area.
- Capital Expenditure is significantly under budget but this included the full cost of the pool project so 79% of the underspend is specifically related to this. Some projects did not go ahead or were completed under budget. It was requested that a full explanation be provided to Council on the budgeted projects that were not required.



Points of Clarification/Questions:

- It was requested that the farm income be separated from the user charges in the monthly reports.
- It was requested a full financial summary of the Subdivision project be provided to Council.
- It was clarified that the total expenditure table did not include the grants received which caused a variance in some of the totals.
- It was clarified that the extra revenue above budget in the Community Development activity was due to grants received for the MTFJ project and Community Engagement roles.
- It was noted that the outsourcing for building consents is quite different to the revenue received, however the department was working to get this back in house now.

### 13. Questions

- It was clarified that the Taranaki Regional Council would receive the data to update their Regional Explorer valuations by the end of the week.
- The District Mayor noted the significant items coming out of the Local Government New Zealand Conference were related to the Local Government reforms and the 3 Waters reform. He noted the Local Government reform was in its early stages but that it was turbo charged in terms of the timeline with the report expected to be released in September. Councillors were already up to date with the 3 Waters reform except to note that the \$2.5 billion funding package to support Councils from the Government would be funded by \$1 billion from the Government and \$1.5 billion from the entities themselves who will get it from their customers. It is expected the governance arrangement for the 3 Waters entities would be a partnership agreement with representatives from Councils (not every Council). A selection committee will appoint the Council directors with the other governance roles coming from Iwi. The Minister had been questioned if the opportunity to opt in or out. She had noted that the case to change is compelling why would you opt out? There have been a lot of emails between the Mayors since conference with a lot of views expressed.

*The meeting closed at 4.28pm*

A L Jamieson  
**Chairman**

Confirmed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021.

N C Volzke  
**District Mayor**