
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL ON TUESDAY 11 AUGUST 2020 AT 4.00PM

PRESENT

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairman), the Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson, Councillors G W Boyde, R W Coplestone, P S Dalziel, J M S Erwood, A K Harris, V 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 Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Executive Administration Officer – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Environmental Health Manager – Ms R Otter (*part meeting*), the Corporate Accountant – Mrs C Craig, two members of the public and two members of the media (Stratford Press and the Taranaki Daily News).

1. **WELCOME**

The District Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, staff and the media.

He reiterated the health and safety message.

2. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTEREST**

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

The declaration of member's interest was circulated for updating.

There were no real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to the items on the agenda.

5. **ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE**

The Attendance Schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings was attached.

6. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

6.1 **Policy & Services Committee Meeting – 14 July 2020 – Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control Policy Hearing**
D20/18857 (Pages 7-11)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the confirmed minutes of the Policy & Services Committee, to hear and consider submissions to the Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control Policy, held on Tuesday 14 July 2020 be received. DALZIEL/BOYDE
DALZIEL/BOYDE
Carried
CL/20/69
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy & Services Committee, to hear and consider submissions to the Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control Policy, held on Tuesday 14 July 2020 be adopted.
SANDFORD/WEBBY
Carried
CL/20/70

It was noted that the updated bylaw and policy had both been pre-circulated to Councillors to highlight the changes had been made as requested including better clarity of defined areas on the maps.

6.2 **Ordinary Meeting – 14 July 2020**
D20/18831 (Pages 12-16)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 14 July 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

ERWOOD/DALZIEL
Carried
CL/20/71

6.3 **Audit & Risk Committee Meeting –21 July 2020**
D20/20660 (Pages 17-25)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2020 be received.

McKAY/DALIZEL
Carried
CL/20/72

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2020 be adopted.

McKAY/HARRIS
Carried
CL/20/73

The Environmental Health Manager departed the meeting at 4.06pm.

6.4 **Policy and Services Committee Meeting – 28 July 2020**
D20/12016 (Pages 26-35)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 28 July 2020 be received.

BOYDE/JAMIESON
Carried
CL/20/74

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, including those in the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 28 July 2020 be adopted.

HARRIS/McKAY
Carried
CL/20/75

7. **DISTRICT MAYOR'S REPORT**
D20/20917 (Pages 36-39)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the District Mayor's report be received.

VOLZKE/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/20/76

2. THAT Council approves that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday 25 August 2020 at 2.00pm.

BOYDE/JONES
Carried
CL/20/77

The District Mayor noted that the visit from the Prime Minister during July had been a great opportunity for the group of civic leaders (including political leaders, Iwi leaders and some business leaders) to have a good discussion about issues affecting the Taranaki region. Also announced during this visit was \$10 million of funding for the Stratford District with \$8 million for the pool project and \$2 million for the children's bike park.

8. **INFORMATION REPORT – FARM AND AERODROME
COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

D20/20224 (Pages 40-45)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.

JONES/BOYDE
Carried
CL/20/78

2. THAT the amended Farm and Aerodrome Committee Terms of Reference be received and noted.

HARRIS/JONES
Carried
CL/20/79

Recommended Reason

This report is to formalise the final updated Terms of Reference for the Farm and Aerodrome Committee, recommended by the Farm and Aerodrome Committee meeting in June 2020, and approved by Council at the Ordinary meeting on 14 July 2020.

The Director – Corporate Services noted that this report was a formality to bring the changes made to the Terms of Reference by the Farm and Aerodrome Committee to Council. It was clarified that Council had approved these changes when the minutes of the committee came to Council on Tuesday 14 July.

9. **DECISION REPORT – PROPOSED LOCATION OF NEW AQUATIC CENTRE**

D20/20224

(Pages 46-78)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.

JAMIESON/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/20/80

- ~~2a. THAT Council reiterate its earlier decision to co-locate the new aquatic centre with the TET Multi Sport Centre and instruct staff to proceed with seeking the Minister of Conservation's consent pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977,~~

OR

- 2b. THAT Council take public feedback into consideration as well as the pros and cons of the various site options and instruct staff to bring back a further report in order to reconsider the location of the new aquatic centre.

ERWOOD/SANDFORD
Division
For 7
Against 4
Carried
CL/20/81

Recommended Reason

In view of the majority of the small number of submitters to the request for public feedback, Council may wish to reconsider its earlier decision to co-locate the new aquatic centre with the TET Multi Sport Centre.

The District Mayor noted that this process was different to a full consultative procedure with submissions usually being referred to the Policy and Services Committee for their recommendations. This process was seeking public feedback only and the summary of those received was available on page 56 and 57 of the report.

Points raised in feedback and noted:

- Disruption to the TET Multi Sports Centre during construction.
- Glare and natural light is a disadvantage to a pool complex affecting required chlorine levels and creating health and safety issues for lifeguards. A balance of background and artificial lighting would need to be reached rather than letting natural light in. It was noted that outdoor pools required heavier doses of chlorine and lifeguards wore sunglasses and used lifeguard towers to alleviate restrictions caused by glare.
- It was clarified that shovel ready definition had a longer time frame for projects to begin which had been a point of confusion in the feedback.
- The appearance of the park from the road.
- It was clarified there would not be any greater proximity for water supply at either location.
- Parking causing traffic congestion during school pick up and drop off times.
- Parking and distance to walk for members of the public to the entrance.
- It was noted that some feedback was more directed at what would be in the complex rather than the location.

- It was noted the location of the pool had not been a deciding factor in the construction of the Hub in Hawera this was related to the sports fields.
- It was noted Council was appreciative that the Cricket Club was accepting of the impending changes and that conversations were already occurring with officers regarding future options for cricket.

The Chief Executive noted the following points:

- The Reserve Act requires the Ministers consent for construction on a reserve and to apply for this it was required to seek community feedback but not the special consultative procedure.
- It was noted there had been no objection by the community for the construction of the complex on the reserve. Therefore this will be acceptable for the application to be submitted.
- This decision today was about the reserve and not about the construction of the complex.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Erwood moved the resolution 2b to request a report be brought back to Council to consider an alternative location. He stated the biggest disadvantage with the proposed location was the relocation of the netball courts as this had not been accounted for and would be a significant cost, especially as extra facilities such as changing rooms and toilets would also potentially be required. He felt consideration of the disruption that would be caused to the stadium while construction was being undertaken had not been accounted for nor had the impact on the Malone Gates. He felt that tinted windows would be a good option to stop the complex becoming a cave and also that the land at the netball courts would cause issues for access for elderly and injured users due to it being multi levelled.
- Councillor Jones questioned the costs of relocating the netball courts and what distance between the pool and stadium would be considered too far away for synergies to be in play. The Chief Executive noted that local netball clubs had indicated that 4 courts would be sufficient and it was anticipated that it would be between \$600,000 and \$800,000 for construction of these – this did not include lights, dug outs etc. He noted that even a distance of 10meters between the buildings would lose any synergies between the facilities. Councillor Jones noted his support for option 2b until costs were known.
- The Deputy Mayor noted his opposition to option 2b due to the amount of consultation that had been undertaken including the long term plan and A&P show and previous conversations had shown everyone had been in favour of the proposed location at the netball courts. He felt the synergies available by co-location with the TET Multi Sports Centre outweighed locating the pool anywhere else. He noted the government funding of \$8 million was a huge bonus as Council would not have to ask rate payers to assist with the costs.
- Councillor Dalziel noted his support for option 2b. Initially he had been supportive of co-locating with the TET Multi Sports Centre due to the synergies that would present, however he had altered his thinking due to the layout looking squeezed and the restrictions on any further development at a later stage – e.g. hydrosides or an outdoor area. This is a 60-70 year investment and Council has the opportunity to build a very smart complex without the constraints of the current stadium. He noted he did not feel the issues at the stadium would be rectified by combining the facilities.
- Councillor Webby endorsed Councillor Dalziel's comments and noted that she felt the netball courts were in an ideal position with the tiered layout not having made a difference as injuries were suffered on courts and not from going up and down the levels. She did not think the underutilisation of the stadium would be solved with the addition of the pool.
- Councillor Boyde noted his support of the netball courts as the location. He noted the report stated that netballers felt the tiered courts were a health and safety hazard and this was reiterated when speaking with netballers in the weekend. He noted the small amount of submissions was less than 1% of the population and there had been much more engagement during the control of dogs bylaw and dog control policy process. He noted the Council had moved to combine the library and iSITE due to the tangible benefits and felt this was similar. He felt there would be plenty of natural light in the proposed location and that by combining it with the stadium Council would be looking long term and creating a real multi sports centre

– soccer could also be included as he noted complaints regarding soccer balls from households surrounding those fields. He was 100% in favour of co-locating the pool and TET Multi Sports Centre.

- Councillor Coplestone felt by using the grassed area suggested it would be taking away opportunity to build on the stadium in the future. The proposed plans for the pool had plenty of room to move in either direction in the future and he did not want to waste a field that could be utilised in the future. He noted moving the netball courts would get them out of the wind and could potentially include a roof. He did not feel there would be any negative impact on the Malone Gates.
- Councillor Sandford noted that netballers had not wanted anything over the courts when the stadium had initially been built. He stated that if moving the netball courts toilets would be a minimum requirement due to the high use of the ones at the TET Multi Sports Stadium during netball. He objected to the thought that Council would eventually run the stadium as this was not a core activity of Council and also noted the noise from the pool would be a hindrance on the users of the stadium. While there was a small amount of submissions he was appreciative of those who had something to offer and perhaps added a different perspective that there weren't that many users of the pool. He felt that Council had not gone out and said this is where the pool is going and that option 2b at least gave Council a chance to look at an alternative and see some facts and figures.
- Councillor McKay noted she had taken into account the opposing views and also spoken to members of the public. Her preference was to attach the complex to the TET Multi Sports Centre but would like to see a direct comparison before making a final decision.
- Councillor Harris supported the co-location with the TET Multi Sports Centre but noted the decision today was to give the ability to assess the options side by side. She agreed the stadium needed to be utilised more and felt the addition of the pool would help. She did feel the tiered courts were a health and safety issue and noted the courts had recently been resurfaced but felt there would be more longevity to be gained with new courts.
- Councillor Erwood noted he did not want to reinvent the wheel by mirroring what was already in the TET Multi Sports Centre and would prefer to see a coffee machine only at the pool to ensure lifeguards were not baby sitters. He noted only the netball courts location had been given as an option at the A&P Show and that the soccer fields had been turned around and were not creating an issue for the houses surrounding them now. He felt a simple solution at the current netball courts would be a netting fence.
- The District Mayor noted that should option 2 be carried then Councillors should give some clear indications of what they wish to be covered in the subsequent report – e.g. parking, appearance etc.
- It was noted the consent from the Minister of Conservation could not be sought until a decision had been made. The District Mayor noted that there is reasonable assumption the consent would be granted due to no objections having been received.

A division was called.

Those voting for the motion were: The District Mayor, Councillors: Erwood, McKay, Sandford, Dalziel, Jones, Webby

Those voting against the motion were: The Deputy Mayor, Councillors: Boyde, Coplestone, Harris

- The Chief Executive noted that due to the time restraints as a result of the shovel ready project this report would be brought to the Extraordinary Meeting on Tuesday 25 August that had been called earlier in the meeting.
- Council was instructed to discuss with the Chief Executive exact details they wished to be included in the report.

The Corporate Accountant departed the meeting at 5.09pm.

10. **QUESTIONS**

The meeting closed at 5.10pm.

N C Volzke
CHAIRMAN

Confirmed this 8th day of September 2020.

N C Volzke
DISTRICT MAYOR