

---

**MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
THE STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS, STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL, MIRANDA STREET,  
STRATFORD ON TUESDAY 27 APRIL 2021 AT 3.00PM**

---

**PRESENT**

The Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson (the Chairman), the District Mayor N C Volzke, Councillors M McKay, V R Jones, R W Coplestone, G W Boyde, W J Sandford, A K Harris, J M S Erwood, P S Dalziel 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 Assets Manager – Mr S Bowden (*part meeting*), the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain (*part meeting*), the Trade Waste Officer – Mr J Cooper (*part meeting*), and two members of the media (Stratford Press & the Taranaki Daily News).

1. **WELCOME**

The Deputy Mayor welcomed the District Mayor, Councillors, staff, and the media. He reminded Councillors to ensure they are familiar with the health and safety message including evacuation procedures.

2. **APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The District Mayor noted with sadness the passing of former Dunedin City Mayor and LGNZ President Dave Cull. He read the message from the President of Local Government New Zealand - Stuart Crosby.

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. There were no declarations of interest.

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 – 23 March 2021**  
D21/10964 (Open) & D21/9613 (Public Excluded) Pages 6-14

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 23 March 2021, including the public excluded section, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

WEBBY/HARRIS  
Carried  
P&S/21/46

7. **MATTERS OUTSTANDING**  
D16/47 Page 15

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the matters outstanding be received.

BOYDE/ERWOOD  
Carried  
P&S/21/47

8. **MONTHLY REPORTS**

8.1 **ASSETS REPORT**  
D21/12685 Pages 16-44

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the reports be received.

JONES/HARRIS  
Carried  
P&S/21/48

The Director - Assets noted the following points:

- Completed road activities were noted in the highlights as well as the activities underway such as the remarking of rural roads and grading of unsealed roads.
- There has been a considerable reduction in consumption of water in Midhirst and Toko but there are still periods of high usage at Toko which is still under investigation.
- Still continuing to talk with Iwi regarding consents.
- Trade Waste Officers are still continuing monthly sampling at the waste water treatment plant

Points of Clarification/Questions

- It was clarified the Diatomix System was a system that is applied to the waste water treatment plant and is a biological system that manipulates the process of the oxidation pond to create better quality discharge.
- Councillor Sandford noted the Big Belly litter bins were a real improvement at Midhirst.
- Councillor Sandford noted he had raised concerns of the quality of the work done by contractors when reinstating lawn following the completion of work on Lysander Street with mainly weeds having grown rather than grass and also that the soil was higher than the footpaths creating deep puddles when it rained. The Roading Asset Manager noted that he

had spoken to some residents who had organised a working bee to reinstate the grass themselves. He clarified the soil was higher than the footpath level to allow for it to compact down. He noted the alternatives to lawn seed would be a hydro-seed or ready lawn approach which would be expensive and time consuming due to the amount of watering required. He would follow up the concerns with the contractors.

- Councillor Boyde noted the response to his outstanding question regarding permanent residents at the Stratford Holiday Park and asked for further clarification on the amount of emergency housing residents over the past year.
- It was clarified the work at Dunns Bridge would be done over two financial years. The first year would see bridge repairs completed at either side of the existing bridge step. The second year would be the realigning of the road on the approach to the bridge.
- It was clarified the Children's Bike Park was expected to be completed in July.

*The Roading Asset Manager, Trade Waste Officer and Parks and Reserves Officer departed the meeting at 3.15pm.*

## 8.2 **COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT**

D21/6428

Pages 45-53

### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the reports be received.

WEBBY/McKAY  
Carried  
P&S/21/49

The Director – Community Services noted the following points:

- A citizenship ceremony was held in March.
- A grant of \$521,200 was received from the TSB Community Trust for the new pool, Puanga and Summer Nights.
- The Long Term Plan is currently out for consultation. The public meeting at the War Memorial Centre was live streamed with 32 people watching it on the night. Since then the video has had over 1,600 views. The final public meeting is tonight at 7.00pm at Whakaahurangi Marae.
- The Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs careers expo will be on 14 May 2021.
- Citizen Awards launch in May with nomination forms being available online and at the Service Centre and the Library.

### **Council Organisations and Council Representatives on Other Organisations**

- Councillor Webby noted the numbers for Percy Thomson Gallery were at 19,218 at the end of March so it was expected to exceed the target of 20,000. Percy's Place has also had a good number of visitors (5,766) and takings were up to \$51,000 in March. There are plans for seating and more natives to be planted at the arboretum.
- Councillor Webby also reported that the Stratford Positive Ageing group was organising an accessibility expo for 22 May 2021 which will include a lot of speakers. She noted she had met with Maryann Jacob of the Taranaki District Health Board who are forming a consumer council for Taranaki which will go out and encourage engagement with the public regarding what is happening at the medical centres in Taranaki.
- Councillor Erwood noted that Ann Coles had been appointed as the new assistant to the Community Safety Officer with the Central Taranaki Safe Community Trust.
- Councillor Harris noted that Kevin Kirk had been appointed as the new caretaker at the Te Wera Valley Lodge.

- Councillor McKay noted the Stratford Business Association was holding a series of events in May centered around wellness and would stretch over three consecutive weeks focusing on mental health and wellbeing, physical health and nutrition, financial coaching and personal development coaching. Tickets have now been opened up to the general public and proceeds will go to the Taranaki Rural Trust.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Boyde noted his disappointment at the amount of funding received from the TSB Community Trust given the amount that had been given to other capital projects in the region. He noted the new pool complex would be a regional asset offering hydrotherapy and indoor swimming. Councillor Dalziel noted he had not been part of the decision or discussion regarding this application but assured Councillor Boyde that Stratford was not seen in a different light due to the Taranaki Electricity Trust operating in the same area and was not being disadvantaged because of this.

### 8.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

D21/10703

Pages 54-60

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT the reports be received.

BOYDE/McKAY  
Carried  
P&S/21/50

The Director – Environmental Services noted the following points:

- There is still a continuation of the last several months of buoyant activity.
- There have been more LIM requests than usual with six in one day during March.
- It was corrected that the number of hard copy building consents was one and the number of digital consents received was 38.
- It was noted there had been four building consents that had gone outside of the statutory timeframes which was as a result of higher than usual numbers and the particular situation the consultant had gotten themselves into.

### 8.4 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

D21/12382

Pages 61-79

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT the reports be received.

HARRIS/ERWOOD  
Carried  
P&S/21/51

The Director – Corporate Services noted the following points:

- Revenue for extraordinary items had been separated out in the table on page 67.
- The new graph for capital expenditure showed a spike in February with a couple of big contracts that were due. The capital expenditure budget had been reforecast.
- \$3million had been refinanced and this had been broken into \$1million blocks over a three year, four year and seven year term.
- There is still \$549,096 owing from debtors.
- Will be relaunching the online dog registration payments and it is hoped this will go well.

Points of Clarification/Questions

- Councillor Boyde noted it was pleasing to see that the parks and reserves signage and plantings were now on target.

9. **QUESTIONS**

- The District Mayor questioned if Councillors believed the threshold for the Elsie Fraser Units was still appropriate at \$150,000 given the rise of property values. He noted he had recently been visited by a ratepayer who was unable to apply for a unit due to the value of his property even though the house was falling down and this was only based on land value. It was noted there are approximately 50 people on the waiting list for these units and are treated on a first in first served basis. It was questioned if prioritisation for urgent cases could be looked at as part of the scope of the policy. The Housing for the Elderly Policy would be brought to Council for review.
- It was clarified there had been no specifications within the contract for a driveway on the piece of land that was sold beside the Colonel Malone statue. The Chief Executive noted he would review the conditions within this agreement.

*The meeting closed at 3.38pm*

A L Jamieson  
**CHAIRMAN**

Confirmed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021.

N C Volzke  
**DISTRICT MAYOR**