

Date: Tuesday 26 July 2022 at 3PM

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, R W Coplestone, P S Dalziel, J M S Erwood, A K Harris, V R Jones, W J Sandford and G M Webby.

Via audio visual link: Councillor M McKay

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Environmental Health Manager – Ms R Otter (*part meeting*), the Roding Asset Manager – Mr S Bowden (*part meeting*), the Services Asset Manager – Mr J Cooper (*part meeting*), the Asset Management Coordinator – Mrs L Campbell (*part meeting*), the Projects Engineer/Manager – Mr S Taylor (*part meeting*), the Property Officer – Mrs S Flight (*part meeting*), the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain (*part meeting*), and one member of the media (Taranaki Daily News).

Via audio visual link: the Director Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, Ms E Goryacheva and Mr J McGregor (Key Research) (*part meeting*)

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read.

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

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

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Announcements

The District Mayor reminded Elected Members that the 2022 Citizen Awards presentation is being held on Tuesday 2 August at 5.30pm.

4. Declarations of members interest

Elected members were asked to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

The District Mayor declared an interest in Item 9 – Information Report – Stratford District Licensing Committee – 2021/22 Annual Report.

5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance schedule for Policy and Services Committee meetings, including Hearings, was attached.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Policy & Services Committee – 28 June 2022 D22/22313 Page 13

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 28 June 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BOYDE/DALZIEL
Carried
P&S/22/98

The Executive Administration Officer undertook to make the following amendment:

- Page 22, resolution for item 13.4 – Corporate Services Report, it was confirmed that the resolution had been moved by the Deputy Mayor and seconded by the District Mayor.

7. Matters Outstanding D16/47 Page 22

Recommendation

THAT the Matters Outstanding be received.

HARRIS/JONES
Carried
P&S/22/99

8. Information Report – 2022 Customer Satisfaction Survey D22/25524 Page 23

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

DALZIEL/COPLESTONE
Carried
P&S/22/100

Recommended Reason

This is an information report only. It gives provides the 2021/22 Customer Satisfaction Survey results.

The Communications Manager noted the following points:

- Budget had been approved as part of the Long Term Plan process to improve the annual residents survey and to be carried out by an external provider.
- This will provide a step forward in council's commitment to how it discuss the data and looks to improves service delivery.
- She introduced Elena Goryacheva and James McGregor from Key Research to present the key findings to the committee.

Ms Goryacheva and Mr McGregor noted the following points in their presentation:

- Using Key Research's rational and methodology that is proven to work well and is efficient Key Research had looked to see how previous surveys conducted by the council could be improved.
- Residents were asked to rate certain services and areas within the council using sets of questions that are used with the other councils that surveys are conducted for.
- Base questions centre around reputation in terms of leadership, direction, sense of trust, financial management, value for money and the overall facilities and services provided by council.
- 3,000 residents were selected from the electoral roll at random selection but it was ensured that it aligned with the nature of population distribution in the Stratford District.
- It was noted council had previously used social media to encourage participation but often this platform is used by people who have complaints or want to vent.
- There was a very good response at 14% - 413 in total. There was an improvement to the spread of respondents as well – for example there were 29 who identified as māori compared to 18 in 2021, and a more even distribution across all age groups.
- The five best performing areas for 2022 were the level of service at the Stratford District Library, the level of service at the Visitor Information Centre, overall satisfaction with the parks and walkways, overall satisfaction with council staff handling requests or enquiries and overall satisfaction with the recycling service.
- The five worst performing areas for 2022 were the service from council for building consents, annual property rates being fair and reasonable, service from council for noise, service from council for parking and the Morgan's Grave public toilets.
- Roads and highways received the most verbatim comments with State Highway 43 getting a lot of mentions as well damage caused by logging trucks and the reduction in speed on Opunake Road.
- The concerns raised regarding how rates are spent is residents not being aware of how they are spent, or rural residents who don't understand what their rates go to. This could be easily managed and mediated by further education for the residents.
- This survey will create very good baselines for future reporting. Preliminary data has Stratford District Council sitting as one of the highest performing councils out of the 17 that the results have been collated for. The reputation result is the highest that has been seen for this reporting period.

The Parks and Reserves Officer joined the meeting at 3.27pm

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Dalziel noted he had also felt sceptical about previous satisfaction surveys and commended the team for engaging an external provider to conduct this. He noted there was really strong material which will be easy to work with moving forward.
- Councillor McKay noted the multiple mentions of Collette from the Transfer Station. She noted her concern that the majority of respondents stated they get most of their information from the Stratford Press yet more and more people are not receiving their copy each week.

The District Mayor left the table at 3.35pm.

9. Information Report – Stratford District Licensing Committee – 2021/22 Annual Report D22/18971 Page 98

Recommendations

1. THAT the Annual Report for Stratford District Licensing Committee for 2021/2022 be received and contents noted.
2. THAT subject to any amendments the Annual Report will be forwarded to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority.

ERWOOD/DALZIEL
Carried
P&S/22/101

Recommended Reason

The report is required to be prepared by the Stratford District Licensing Committee as part of its duties under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

The Environmental Health Manager noted the following points:

- This report provides an overview of the licensing committee's statistics and workload for the year.
- In addition to this report an online survey is provided to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority.
- Application numbers are consistent with previous years and have either increased or decreased slightly.
- Two new premises opened this year.
- There was a significant drop in special license applications.
- Overall compliance for alcohol licensing in Stratford is good.

The District Mayor returned to the table at 3.37pm.

10. Information Report – Dog Control Policy and Practices Report – Year Ended 30 June 2022

D22/24950 Page 105

Recommendation

THAT the Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices for the year ending 30 June 2022 be received and contents noted.

JONES/HARRISs
Carried
P&S/22/102

Recommended Reason

The report is required under section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.

The Environmental Health Manager noted the following points:

- The dog control policy and practices report is required annually by legislation and is sent to the Department of Internal Affairs as part of a nationwide analysis on dog populations, attacks, enforcement and prosecutions. This assists in informing policies, trends and changes to legislation.
- There has been a drop in the numbers of infringements (offences/complaints) for this period and it is believed that this is a result of lockdowns and dog owners being at home.
- In some instances dog owners have moved out of the district, dogs have been sold, transferred to another or are now deceased.
- The council has successfully prosecuted two dog attacks during this period, with other offences resulting in infringements or dog classifications to reinforce dog owner responsibilities.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that it was unknown why the number of registered dogs had increased.
- It was felt that greater compliance was a result of lockdowns and owners being at homes with their dogs.

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/COPLESTONE
Carried
P&S/22/103

2. THAT the information contained herein is noted.

BOYDE/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/22/104

Recommended Reason

This report has been written to bring to the committee's attention the ongoing damaging impacts of the frequent short sharp heavy rainfall events on the roading network, the treatments required to repair the damage and the estimated repair costs.

The Roothing Asset Manager noted the following points:

- The purpose of this report is to highlight the significant damage on the roading network being caused by short, sharp rainfall events.
- He noted he was currently working with a financial advisor from Waka Kotahi to discuss what is needed to satisfy the request for emergency works funding to Waka Kotahi.
- It is anticipated that the damages highlighted in the report will be put in a single application for \$370,000.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was noted that the list was being updated as officers are made aware of problems due to the weather events over the past two weeks.
- The District Mayor noted his concern that the pictures show areas on roads that there has been significant road failure with significant restoration costs, however he noted that some of the damages were on the smaller scale and fell below the threshold of \$100,000. He noted there was an increasing frequency for these weather events and without funding will cause a future problem with budgets. He questioned if Waka Kotahi were going to review the criteria for this fund, particularly the 1 in 10 year event or monitory amount? Mr Bowden noted he would raise this concern at the Regional Transport Committee.
- Councillor Boyde questioned when the result from the funding application will be known as some of this is really dangerous and needs to be done immediately. Mr Bowden clarified that he had been advised by Waka Kotahi to get the work done now while the funding application is being collated.
- Councillor Boyde noted that overall the Stratford rural roads are not bad, but that the state highways were pathetic.
- It was clarified that none of the damage noted in this report was as a result of forestry movements and was all due to natural occurrences.
- Mr Bowden clarified that to project this sort of damage occurring there would need to be extensive geo-tech and surveying work undertaken which would be a huge expense.
- The District Mayor noted that at the recent Regional Transport Committee meeting a list of emergency work currently being undertaken on State Highway 43 was presented, this was being funded by the emergency work fund and the event this damage was caused in was the June 2015 storm.

12. Decision Report – Road Closure for a Car Club Event
D22/25509 Page 122

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

SANDFORD/WEBBY
Carried
P&S/22/104

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 14 August 2022 between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm for the purpose of the Stratford Street Sprint 2022

- 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

ERWOOD/JAMIESON
Carried
P&S/22/105

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 14 August. This is their 32nd year of running the event. The proposed road closure requires formal endorsement by a Council resolution

The Roding Asset Manager noted that this was the 32nd year this street sprint was being hosted in Stratford. He noted that due to the number of entrants there would not be a motorbike demonstration.

The Services Asset Manager joined the meeting at 3.56pm

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Erwood noted his support for this event.

13. Decision Report – Better Off Funding Projects
D22/24931 Page 130

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

WEBBY/VOLZKE
Carried
P&S/22/106

2. THAT the committee approve for submission to the Central Government Better Off Fund, an application for \$2.57M covering three projects including the *Brecon Road Extension; the Town Centre Development - Prospero Place and Broadway Beautification and The Stratford Park*

Recommended Reason

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

The Director - Assets noted the following points:

- This report seeks formal approval from elected members of the projects to be presented within the Better Off Funding application.
- Elected Members were presented with projects during a workshop that had been put in a matrix against criteria from central government. Three projects were then identified from this list to be included in the funding application.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The Deputy Mayor noted his concern that infrastructure for a private business, such as driving training, should not be included in this application. He supported funding for water and sewerage infrastructure but not to fund a driver training facility.
- Councillor Jones noted his concern that council had already funded \$7.2million in terms of a loan to the Stratford Park project but we don't know what their intent is around repaying it. He understood that this funding was to complete water work but unless there is potential for residential development of the town he did not think council should continue with investment towards this project until it is clear what their plans are. He noted his support for more funding to be allocated towards Broadway beautification project and the skate park.
- The District Mayor requested that in light of the workshop help regarding the skate park today that this report be left on the table to allow officers to do an assessment of what the skate park improvement may look like and what it may cost. This could then be brought back to the next council meeting which would still provide enough time to meet the application deadlines. He felt that if funding could not be achieved for the skate park through this avenue then it was highly likely this project would be deferred until the next Long Term Plan.
- The District Mayor noted that elected members have always been very conscious of not spending ratepayers money on private properties along Broadway, however this funding source would not have any rating impact and if elected members want to improve the look of the buildings along Broadway then should that be included in this application as well? The Chief Executive noted that public and private property work had been separated due to elected members not being supportive of work being undertaken on privately owned buildings, however option 2 allowed for consideration of work on private buildings. He noted both the skate park and building improvements could be included in the broader scope of the town centre project. It was confirmed the skate park would be eligible for this funding.
- Councillor Jones noted his support in removing the entire Stratford Park project. This was supported by Councillor Dalziel. It was clarified that the 50/50 split for the infrastructure project was to be co-funded by this funding source and council's network extension budget. It was noted that if this project is successful then planning needs to begin now which is why it cannot be held till the second tranche.
- It was clarified that the infrastructure for the Stratford Park would be going to the boundary and that the current use of the grounds would justify a connection point for environmental benefits.
- It was clarified that filling in of the current skate bowl would be undertaken out of a current maintenance budget, this source would be used for an addition to the existing facility.
- It was noted that the original quote for painting of 54/64 buildings along Broadway had been \$1 million which included scaffolding and allowed for 100% funding of the paint work. It was suggested that \$200,000 be included in the application for building beautification and if this was successful then further funds could be sought in the second tranche.
- It was requested that the Stratford Park project be renamed within the funding application to make it clear that it is a council project for infrastructure to the boundary of the park and not funding to the Stratford Park.
- It was agreed that the report would be brought back to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 9 August, with the addition of approximately \$100,000 for the Skate Park and \$200,000 for building beautification to the Town Centre Project and an amendment to the title of the infrastructure project to the Stratford Park boundary.

The Environmental Health Manager left the meeting at 4.22pm.

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the Committee receives the reports attached to this report and prepared by:
 - Tonkin + Taylor, being “*Taranaki Region Organic Materials Recovery Feasibility Study: Options Assessment Report*”; and
 - Aatea Solutions, being “*He Ara Whai Hua / Taranaki Organic Material Recovery (OMR) Facility Feasibility Study: Iwi and Hapū Engagement Process*”.
3. THAT the committee approves Option 5, Pathway 1 in the Tonkin and Taylor Organic Materials Recovery Facility Feasibility Study Report, which was presented to Elected Members in the Council workshop on 14 June 2022, being:
 - Option 5 - *Commercial and community network of multiple facilities*.
4. THAT the Committee approves further work with our Iwi, hapū and industry partners to explore what co-investment and/or co-governance might look like in the eventual establishment of 2 regional organic materials processing facilities. Further Iwi and hapū partnership development will incorporate the Tiriti-Driven process recommendations outlined in the Aatea Solutions report.
5. THAT the Committee approves the lodging of an application to the Ministry for the Environment’s (MFE) National Waste Minimisation Fund when it opens in October 2022, to seek Government co-funding to progress Option 5.

BOYDE/DALZIEL
Carried
P&S/22/108

VOLZKE/JAMIESON
Carried
P&S/22/109

Recommended Reason

Out of the 5 options recommended in the Tonkin and Taylor report, the most suitable option for Taranaki is Option 5 having 2 possible pathways. ‘*Pathway 1 - Seeking market solutions for combined organic waste management*’ will be initially progressed and if not successful, ‘*Pathway 2 - Developing a full concept plan for the network of facilities*’ - will be implemented. This is expected to capture the district’s smaller content of organic material and help reduce transportation costs and emissions.

The Asset Management Coordinator noted the following points:

- This report sought approval from the committee to allow progress for the next stage of a regional organic waste facility.
- It was noted the most suitable option was Option 5 which has two possible pathways. ‘*Pathway 1 - Seeking market solutions for combined organic waste management*’ will be initially progressed and if not successful, ‘*Pathway 2 - Developing a full concept plan for the network of facilities*’.
- The report also sought approval for lodging an application the National Waste Minimisation Fund to seek co-funding for option 5.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that two sites would be financially viable with huge organic waste producers in both South Taranaki and New Plymouth districts, especially in terms of transportation costs.
- Councillor Boyde questioned why the rail network could not be utilised and one facility established in South Taranaki. He noted his support of the report but struggled with the concept of two smaller facilities.
- The Director – Assets noted that this option is based on extensive review and assessment by the consultants and the resulting recommendation has to be the most environmentally friendly solution, however she noted she would raise the rail network suggestion with them.
- Mrs Araba noted that council has committed to this project through the Long Term Plan process. Funding is not a lot at the moment and it will take some time to get to the point where it is known how much this facility will cost, at that point it will be brought to council for approval. It was noted there was a large amount of national funding available for waste.
- The District Mayor noted that there were strong commercial components to this proposal with large commercial investors interested. What is being presented today is a plan for the future about coordinating what is already happening and filling the gaps to get the best economical return. He felt council's role might not be much more than making sure there is an outlet for organic waste. Option 5 was the best option as it covers multiple sources and he noted he supported the recommendations as presented.

15. Monthly Reports

The Chief Executive noted that there was no monthly report for the Corporate Services Department as a result of staff absences, auditors being on site and the organisation still being in the process of closing out the year-end figures.

15.1 Assets Report
D22/22580 Page 264

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/BOYDE
Carried
P&S/22/110

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that the Diatomix sampling regime was to measure the quantity of the diatoms in the pond and encourage the continued growth of them. This is in order to improve the quality of the ponds and provide a food source for the fish.
- Councillor Boyde noted the response to the points raised by Mr Cam Eyre at the public forum regarding better liaison between forestry operators and council. Mr Bowden noted he had been working with Mr Eyre as he is currently managing a 1,000 acre block but that they have just pulled out of it. He noted he had contacted another forestry company who have confirmed they will be carrying on through winter and had brought up crews from Canterbury to continue this work which will see three truckloads a day being brought out. He noted that they did not have to tell council that they were undertaking this work but felt they should as they know what their work programmes will be. He noted the meeting held at the Taranaki Regional Council had only two attendees. Councillor Boyde noted his concern that this showed a total lack of respect for council and causes a health and safety issue, he noted this would only cause more damage and subsequent costs to ratepayers.
- It was requested for further clarification on the mix rate for glyphosate be confirmed and that this information, including costs, be forwarded to federated farmers and included in the next monthly report. It was noted that if this was undertaken it would be the whole network during the treatment round, it couldn't be completed as spot treatment.

- Councillor Boyde thanked Mr Bowden for the fly-tipping expense chart but noted he knew a lot of people who regularly cleaned up the mess themselves so felt this was a low figure compared to the amount this happened.

The Services Asset Manager, Property Officer, Asset Management Coordinator, Project Engineer/Manager and the Roading Asset Manager left the meeting at 4.43pm.

15.2 Community Services Report
D22/21737 Page 304

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

JONES/COPLESTONE
Carried
P&S/22/111

The Director – Community Services noted the following points:

- The main highlight for June were the Puanga celebrations that were held successfully. The Library had over 250 children attend their activities over the two days.
- The visitor numbers through the pool and AA were below target at year end, some of which will be representative of covid-19 lockdown and also due to more transactions being undertaken online.
- There were 47 positive outcomes from the MTFJ project, this is a real credit to the Community Development Manager and his team.
- It was noted that the results for the ALGIM customer experience mystery shopping had been received and the customer service team scored very well which saw Stratford District Council come ninth out of all councils which is amazing.

Council Organisations and Council Representatives on Other Organisations

- Councillor Webby noted that the Emergence Award for Young Taranaki Exhibition opens with a powhiri at 5pm on Friday 29 July. This has attracted a record number of young artist entrants (58).
- Councillor Boyde noted he and Councillor Harris had attended the bus trip to the MRF and TEMO with the Youth Councillors. He reported that this was a fantastic day and encouraged others to visit both locations. He commended the youth councillors and noted they were very driven.

15.3 Environmental Services Report
D22/21737 Page 314

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/BOYDE
Carried
P&S/22/112

The Director – Environmental Services noted that this was the second consecutive month with a drop in building and resource consents but that these were still stabilised at a strong level.

16. Questions

There were no questions.

17. Resolution to Exclude the Public

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Agenda Item No: 18

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Lease agreement	The withholding of the information is necessary for commercial sensitivity	The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information. Section 7(2)b(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

DALZIEL/COPLESTONE
Carried
P&S/22/113

The media departed the meeting at 4.49pm.

18. Public Excluded Item

Recommendation

THAT the open meeting resume.

JONES/HARRIS
Carried
P&S/22/116

The Property Officer left the meeting at 4.52pm.

19. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 328

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.53pm.

A L Jamieson

Chairman

Confirmed this 23rd day of August 2022.

N C Volzke

District Mayor