

Date: Tuesday 22 November 2022 at 3.00PM  
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

### Present

The Deputy Mayor – M McKay (the Chairperson), the District Mayor N C Volzke Councillors: S J Beck, G W Boyde, A M C Dudley, J M S Erwood, , A K Harris, V R Jones, M McKay, W J Sandford, C M Tongaawhikau, M J Watt

Via audio visual link: Councillor E E Hall

### In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Acting Director Assets – Mr S Bowden, 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 Services Asset Manager – Mr J Cooper (*part meeting*), the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain (*part meeting*), the Community Development Manager – Mr C Julie (*part meeting*), the Graduate Asset Engineer – Ms K van Hout (*part meeting*), the Projects Manager/Engineer – Mr S Taylor (*part meeting*), the Community Development Officer – Mrs V Fischer (*part meeting*), the Community Development Officer – Mrs A Kingston (*part meeting*) and Mrs J Patterson (Venture Taranaki (*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

An apology was noted for the Director – Assets Mrs V Araba.

#### Recommendation

THAT the apology be noted.

BOYDE/HARRIS  
Carried  
P&S/22/150

#### 3. Announcements

The Chief Executive requested that item 11.4 (Monthly Report – Corporate Services) be moved to be the first report under item 11 – Monthly Reports. This was approved.

#### 4. Declarations of members interest

Elected members were asked 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, including Hearings, was attached.

## 6. Confirmation of Minutes

### 6.1 Policy & Services Committee – 27 September 2022 D22/37381 (Open) & D22/37381 (PE) Page 10

#### Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting, including the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 27 September 2022 be received.

VOLZKE/SANDFORD  
Carried  
P&S/22/151

## 7. Matters Outstanding

D16/47 Page 23

#### Recommendation

THAT the Matters Outstanding be received.

HARRIS/JONES  
Carried  
P&S/22/152

The Chief Executive noted the following points:

- The Street Numbering project was a result of being contacted by LINZ a couple of years ago that a number of streets in Stratford were not compliant with street numbering standards. Officers have been working through a number of issues identified and will address the remaining two on this list in the new year.
- Discussions on the old swimming pool complex were put on hold as the new complex was fast tracked due to the government funding received. It was decided that the old complex would be considered as part of the next Annual or Long Term Plan process due to the planning work required, staff availability as a result of the capital work projects and funding requirements.

## 8. Information Report – Economic Development Quarterly Report – Quarter One

D22/42927 Page 24

#### Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/BOYDE  
Carried  
P&S/22/153

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that the stickers in empty shop windows on Broadway was a council led project that was done in conjunction with the launch of the Stratford 2035 initiative. This has not been re-visited since then and it was noted that it was a costly exercise. Councillor Boyde noted that there were unoccupied buildings with quite a few looking terrible. The Community Development Manager noted

that stickers could be explored alongside the Stratford Business Association and would first look into the costs and what could potentially be done.

Mrs Patterson, Venture Taranaki noted the following points:

- There have been some structural changes at Venture Taranaki recently and a bit of a change in direction in terms of the business plan process.
- The newly formed executive team has Kelvin Wright (Chief Executive), Stacey Hitchcock as the General Manager for Regional Investment, Jenn Patterson as General Manager for Economic Development and Brylee Flutey as General Manager Destination.
- This newly formed, and much smaller team, is now focused very much on the three key sectors (high tech, food and fibre and energy transition) and are in the business planning phase for 2023 onwards. The business plans will be transparent and will show value across the region including jobs created, revenue created, inward investment created and will ensure these are displayed transparently to be able to see where Venture Taranaki is investing and revenue for council's contribution.
- It is envisioned these plans will be finished towards the end of February and will be brought back to council to seek feedback to incorporate into the plans between March and June. These will be launched in June.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that the app that is being developed to promote exploring Taranaki is in its development phase and forms part of the visitor futures project. This will be a regional app and will encourage people to visit different places around the region and the ability to provide feedback on these places. Stratford will be included in this.
- It was clarified that the \$250,000 Regional Business Partners target on page 32, was the regional target.

Ms Patterson left the meeting at 3.17pm

## 9. Information Report – Summary of Domains and their Uses

D22/42216 Page 42

### Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/DUDLEY  
Carried  
P&S/22/154

2. THAT the information contained within the report is duly noted.

HARRIS/BECK  
Carried  
P&S/22/155

### Recommended Reason

This report provides information relating to the continued operation and ownership of numerous domains located within the Stratford district. This matter was raised as a discussion point for the during the adoption of Domains Policy at the Policy and Services Committee meeting on 27 September 2022.

The Property Officer noted that environmental should also have been ticked under section 3- Local Government Act.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was confirmed that the lease for Taranaki Off-Road Incorporated did expire in 2035, it is a ten year lease which may have a right of renewal in it.
- It was confirmed the tennis courts are part of the Midhirst Domain.
- It was clarified that if the incorporations do not submit their financials then officers will contact them.

- The District Mayor noted the request had originally been to provide council with information regarding the domains with the possibility that if the properties were not being used or did not have a function then they could potentially be disposed of. This report has highlighted that in all cases the domains are functioning well for their communities. He felt if any changes were required these would be initiated by the committees.
- Councillor Beck queried the size and boundary of the Croydon Domain. The Chief Executive clarified later in the meeting that the correct land size was 0.426 hectares and the boundary on the map was the neighbouring property. The correct location of the domain was the property on the north eastern side of the intersection.
- Councillor Boyde noted that the use of York Road and Rowan Road domain were fundamentally different from the others. He questioned if the lease was fit for purpose, if the lease was reviewed regularly and if council would be better to dispose of the land. Mr Hanne clarified that these domains could not be sold and if council chose to dispose of them they would go to the crown so there would not be any financial benefits to council. Councillor Boyde suggested these domains could be used to plant trees for carbon but Mr Hanne noted the land area was too small to see financial benefit from trees.

## 10. Decision Report – Proposed Road Closure – Tāpoi Taranaki Cycle Event

D22/44204 Page 53

### Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

TONGAAWHIKAU/VOLZKE  
Carried  
P&S/22/156

2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, Council approves the closure of the following roads on Saturday 28 January 2023 during the times stated below for the purpose of the Tāpoi Taranaki Round the Mountain Cycle Race:

- Manaia Road from the National Park Boundary to Dawson Falls Lodge between the hours of 09:30am to 12:00 noon;
- Pembroke Road from The Mountain House to the Plateau Carpark between the hours of 11:00 to 13:00.

ERWOOD/DUDLEY  
Carried  
P&S/22/157

### Recommended Reason

The organisers of the cycle race approached Stratford District Council officers in May 2022 seeking our approval to close both Manaia Road and Pembroke Road for the purposes of a round the mountain cycle race which also incorporates four hill climbs. This event replaces the historical Round the Mountain Cycle Challenge, previously organised by Selwyn Brown.

The Acting Director - Assets noted the following points:

- This race is a result of the retirement of the organiser of the previous round the mountain cycle race. Coastal 5 have taken the opportunity to do a similar but different event. This report covers one of the four “pinnacle” hill climb ascents.
- These pinnacle races have restricted numbers, there are 200 registrations for them with 800 registered in total for the other circuits.
- Organisers have held conversation with the Department of Conservation and Iwi regarding access on the Manaia Road and Pembroke Road entrances. An agreement to leave the Stratford Mountain House access road open has been made, but the road to the plateau will be closed.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was clarified that it had been requested to amend the the time of road closure to 9.30am after the application had submitted.

## 11. Monthly Reports

As approved item 11.4 was received by the committee first.

### 11.4 Corporate Services Report D22/44132 Page185

#### Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

JONES/BOYDE  
Carried  
P&S/22/158

#### Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Jones noted that the rate for re-borrowing was going up, he questioned how re-financing would impact council's interest rates? The Director – Corporate Services noted it had been mentioned in the report that it is expected to exceed the budget by around \$200,000 for this financial year as a result of interest rates having been so much lower when the annual plan was set. She noted there were loans maturing in April (currently 1.55%), May (currently 3.47%) and August next year and advice will be sought in terms of what is happening in the economy at these times. It was noted that council had managed its interest rate exposure pretty well over previous years.
- The District Mayor requested that the report being taken to the Audit and Risk Committee on the impact of the water services being taken away from council include clarification on the debt to revenue ratio. Mrs Radich clarified that the debt may remain with council but the net debt will equal out as it will be on-lending to the new entity.

### 11.1 Assets Report D22/38540 Page 143

#### Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

SANDFORD/TONGAAWHIKAU  
Carried  
P&S/22/159

#### Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted that the \$500,000 spent on Puniwhakau Road shows that the decision made by council around the targeted roading rate for forestry was the best decision to make, however it still indicates that council was behind in making this decision with the amount of money spent on damage caused by forestry.
- The District Mayor agreed with Councillor Boyde and felt this reiterated the fact that there is an excessive amount of money spent on some of these logging roads. The rate that has been put on these properties is still short of covering this expense so a subsidy is still required from everyone else.
- It was clarified that the work undertaken on Salisbury Road was required as a result the detour while works were undertaken on the state highway. Mr Bowden noted that further conversations had been held with the neighbouring councils to provide a business case to Waka Kotahi to cover the costs of any damages caused by diversions which could include road closure due to an accident.

*The Director – Corporate Services left the meeting at 3.45pm.*

- Councillor Harris noted she had received compliments from residents for the contractors who had been undertaking repair work recently, in particular she noted Geoff Hart and Neil Moratti.
- It was clarified that the Roding Level of Service table should read 2022/23 YTD.

- It was clarified that the road maintenance in the level of service table covers the amount of sealing and metalling done every year which has not started yet.
- It was clarified that the road condition level of service relates to smooth travel is based on traffic volumes on a 24 hour basis, distance travelled and the roughness measured. The roughness survey is completed every other year and within these results consideration is given to the category of the road e.g. a lower category of road can have a rougher surface.
- It was clarified that the feedback from the Youth Council and the community on the Skate Park has been collated and is being looked at as one of council's capital projects. The Projects Manager will be contacting skate park designers to present the feedback and to create a ten year plan with the main questions being how much will this cost, and what can council get for \$100,000. A project plan will be formed from there.
- It was clarified that the fallen tree on Matau Road occurred at night and was from a private property. There was no liability to council.

*The Services Asset Manager, the Parks and Reserves Officer, the Project Manager/Engineer and the Graduate Assets Engineer left the meeting at 3.53pm.*

**11.2 Community Services Report**  
D22/41460 Page 166

**Recommendation**

THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/DUDLEY  
Carried  
P&S/22/160

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Harris noted there was only one application in round one of the Sport Rural Travel Fund being Toko School Touch Rugby.
- Councillor Harris noted that Whangamomona Republic Day was to be held on 21 January 2023 with bus tickets being available from the Library and Visitor Information Centre. Bus tickets will be \$10 each and will be available once the passports have arrived.
- The Director – Community Services clarified that the funding received from the Taranaki Electricity Trust had not yet been allocated as officers were awaiting the result of the Better Off Funding Application which included the Victoria Park Drainage.
- The District Mayor noted that he had attended the TET Stadium Committee meeting last week and the rent for the tenant had been discussed. This had been reduced due to the downturn as a result of Covid-19 and the committee was now looking to reinstate that to a market level. The committee receiving higher revenue would reduce financial impact on council.
- The District Mayor noted the ongoing success of the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs and had recently attended a ceremony where the arrangement with FloJo Coffee had been celebrated. This arrangement will see the taskforce providing funding towards barista training costs which will be ongoing when the trainee goes into employment. Next month the forestry course is holding its graduation ceremony with another 10 graduates. This scheme was funded by the taskforce to around \$35,000 and is still going well with a lot of interest. He acknowledged the work of staff who are continuing to promote the scheme.
- Councillor Sandford extended an invitation to councillors to the Positive Ageing Forum on Thursday at 10.30am. He acknowledged the work of the Community Development Officer – Mrs V Fischer in organising this event.

*The Community Development Manager and Community Development Officers left the meeting at 3.59pm.*

**Recommendation**

THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/HARRIS  
Carried  
P&S/22/161

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- It was confirmed that investigations were continuing into the water issues at the Brecon Road subdivision.

**12. Questions**

There were no questions.

**13. Closing Karakia**

D21/40748 Page 202

The closing karakia was read.

*The meeting closed at 4.01pm.*

M McKay  
**Chairperson**

Confirmed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023

N C Volzke  
**District Mayor**