

Northland Regional Council meeting - 17th September 2013

[LINK to appropriate Agenda.](#)

It was 1300hrs and Chairman Craig Brown welcomed all to the meeting.

1.0. APOLOGIES

Item No.1.0 There were apologies for Cr John Bain and Cr Ian Walker and these were duly moved by Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr Joe Carr.

Craig continued and explained the 'house rules', explaining the emergency exits and position of rest room facilities.

Craig Brown advised there were a couple of extra items to be tabled;

1/ Oyster Farm Bonds and 2/ Property item.

Moved by Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.

2.0. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Craig Brown reminds them that any '**Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**' were to be advised item by item as they progressed through the agenda and they would be dealt with accordingly and then decided what, if any action is to be taken case by case.

3.0 COUNCIL ADOPTION OF THE HEARING COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PROPOSED REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR NORTHLAND

(Pages 1-12) at 1303hrs

Craig Brown spoke on the RPS. He wished to thank Cr Ian Walker and the Regional Policy Committee for the work done on the RPS. They had 2 of the 3 commissioners with them that morning and it was moved and now open for discussion.

Craig asked for councillors to declare Conflicts of Interest in the RPS;

Cr Bill Rossiter declared he had a conflict of interest in North Power.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley declared he had a conflict of interest in both North Power and Pipiwai Investments.

Cr Joe Carr declared a conflict of interest and claimed he had been denied 'natural justice' during the RPS proceedings and chose to leave the meeting.....*not to be seen again.*

Cr Graeme Ramsey declared he had no conflict of interests.

Craig Brown declared he had a conflict of interest as he was an elected member of the NDHB and had abstained from voting because of this.

Craig also explained that Cr John Bain was also an elected member of the NDHB and had also abstained from voting.

It was decided that Cr Tony Davies-Colley was able to remain in the meeting during this item as his interest had been declared.

Recommendation 1; Moved by Cr Tony Davies-Colley, seconded by Cr Bronwyn Hunt.

Commissioner Brent Cowie was present at the meeting and explained how other commissioners; Chair Alan Watson, Dave Sergeant and himself had heard 217 submitters over 19 days and had made changes in areas of water, mapping and policy. However with those changes the substance stays pretty much as notified. Commissioner Brent Cowie praised the Proposed RPS as a modern, innovative and balanced document that would serve the region well into the future.

Regional Policy Senior Programme Manager, Kathryn Ross informed the meeting that the NRC had won an award for excellence in the field of management in the RPS.

Craig Brown read out the recommendations and all were voted on accordingly.

Recommendation 2a; Moved by Cr Tony Davies-Colley, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey. Cr Graeme Ramsey advised that on reflection about what Cr Joe Carr had said, he had some sympathy; we accepted a process. If we don't accept the final recommendations from the commissioners we have to start the process again. We have to look at the document in total. Is this an improvement on what we already have for Northland? Yes it is.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley claimed 'Well said Cr Ramsey'. It was about understanding the full process and knowing when and when not to take part in it. There was an important lesson learnt here and it was an excellent document.

Cr Bill Rossiter commented that the commissioners had done an excellent job. Majority rules and the commissioners took regard of what they heard.

Craig Brown informed Cr Ramsey that he agreed with him. It was no different to a lot of council matters but resulted in a good document. It is not over yet as people have an appeal process they can go through.

This item was carried.

Recommendation 2b; Moved by Craig Brown, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.

This item was carried.

Recommendation 2c; Moved by, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.

This item was carried.

Cr Bronwyn Hunt rejoined the meeting at 1325hrs.

Recommendation 2d; Moved by Craig Brown, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.

This item was carried.

4.0 PRESENTATIONS

Time now at 1334hrs. Item No. 4.1 Minerals Exploration (Pages 13-16)

Jonathon Gibbard, Manager Regional Relationships at New Zealand Petroleum & Minerals was present and introduced Rob Addison, Senior Advisor Regional Relationships at New Zealand Petroleum & Minerals to the meeting. Jonathon previously worked at Whangarei District Council and Northland Regional Council. A presentation was shown and Northlands Competitive Process was discussed.

Cr Bronwyn Hunt and Cr Graeme Ramsey asked an array of questions.

It was most interesting to learn that De Grey Mining, that is believed to be prospecting in the Puhipuhi – Whakapara area has permits to explore for Gold, Silver, Lead, Copper, Zinc and Mercury.

Vaughan Cooper, Growth and Infrastructure Manager gave a brief presentation at 1412hrs on Environmental Management around these projects. He explained we are to manage the

affects of mineral extraction. He explained the differences between Minor and Major activities.

Time now at 1420hrs. Item No. 4.2 Digital Forum (Pages 17-18)

Moved by Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr Bronwyn Hunt.

A presentation about Ultra Fast Broadband was given by Mike Preece from Northland Inc.

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

5.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO COUNCIL (Pages 19-20) at 1442hrs.

Moved by ?, seconded by ?

There was no discussion on this item.

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL (Pages 21-58)

Item No. 6.1 Cross Disciplinary Projects (Pages 21)

Item No. 6.2 Resource Management (Pages 22)

Item No. 6.3 River Management (Pages 33)

Item No. 6.4 Economic Development (Pages 37)

Item No. 6.5 Hazard Management (Pages 37)

Item No. 6.6 Transport (Pages 38)

Item No. 6.7 Community Representation and Engagement (Pages 43)

Item No. 6.8 Support Services (Pages 44)

These reports were moved by Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr Bronwyn Hunt with the time now at 1443hrs.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley had a question on the National Marine Park (Page22) claiming no progress had been made there in 3 years.

Cr Bronwyn Hunt had a question on Plan Change 4 (Page 22)

Cr Tony Davies-Colley had a question on Farm Water Improvements Plans (FWQIPs) on Page 33.

Cr Bronwyn Hunt had a question on Water Allocation on page 35.

Cr Graeme Ramsey had a question on Mediterranean Fan Worm (Page 30) and what had happened with the discussions with Auckland.

Nothing was the reply. A bit of debate followed these comments.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley asked if the trust Deed was modified with the Northland Event Centre (Page 43)

Lisa Aubrey, General Manager Finance and IT advised it was still being modified.

GOVERNANCE MATTERS

7.0 CONFIRMATION/RECEIPT OF MINUTES

Time now at 1457hrs. Item No. 7.1 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 27 August 2013 (Pages 59-74)

Moved by Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley claimed there was a bit missing in the minutes.

No further discussion was entered into on this item.

Time still at 1459hrs. Item No. 7.2 Minutes of the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group – 3 September 2013. (Pages 75-82)

Moved by Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Cr Bill Rossiter.

There was no discussion on this item.

NB. I had to at this time leave the meeting at 1500hrs as I had another election meeting to attend to speak at along with other candidates.

Item No. 7.3 Continuity over Council Recess (Pages 83-87)

Moved by, seconded.

There was no added discussion into on this item.

8.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Item No. 8.1 Financial Report to 31 August 2013 (Pages 88-100)

Moved, seconded by.

Item No. 8.2 Northland Inc. - Going Concern at 30 June 2013 (Pages 101-104)

Moved by, seconded by.

9.0 DECISION MAKING MATTERS

Item No. 9.1 Support for Smokefree Whāngārei Bus Shelters (Pages 105-108)

Moved by, seconded by.

Item No. 9.2 Shareholder Representative Northland Inc. Ltd (Pages 109-110)

Moved by, seconded by.

Item No. 9.3 Solar Photovoltaic Array to Generate Electricity and Save Electricity Costs – NRC Water Street (Pages 111-114)

Moved by, seconded by.

The meeting duly finished at hrs, Chairman Craig Brown thanking those of us who attended and then the Councilors went into business with the public excluded.

10.0 BUSINESS WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED (Pages 115-116)

10.1 Confirmation of Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting – 27 August 2013
(Pages 117-120)

All information in regards to this meeting's agenda and others are available on the Northland Regional Council website by clicking on this [link](#).