

Northland Regional Council meeting – 27th August 2013

[LINK to appropriate Agenda.](#)

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

1.0. APOLOGIES

Item No.1.0 and there were no apologies.

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

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.

Chairman Craig Brown advised there was a Supplementary item 8.8 Urban Whāngārei Flood Risk Reduction Update - Rust Avenue Bridge Replacement and wanted the meeting to approve it being tabled today.

Moved Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr John Bain.

This item was tabled.

Item No. 3.0. PRESENTATIONS

At 1302hrs it was Item No. 3.1. Peter Nelson Biosecurity Award (Pages 1-4)

Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager spoke about this award and how it had been awarded to the NRC for its "significant efforts and outstanding success in engaging the wider community in a range of pest control initiatives" throughout Northland. Don gave some history of Peter Nelson and his biosecurity award trophy and spoke of Peter Nelson and his qualities. Don presented the trophy to Chairman Craig Brown who claimed he had the power of delegation and gave it back to Don to place it in a presentation case for all to see saying 'it was bloody marvellous to get this award'.

The chair with the meetings permission wished to have Item No 7.2 brought forward and this was agreed to.

Time now at 1310hrs. Item No. 7.2 Northland Emergency Services Trust (NEST) Six Monthly Reporting for Period Ending 30 June 2013 and Approval to Make the First Quarter Payment for 2013/2014 to NEST (Pages 109 -116) **See Links to attachment re this item, in agenda**

Mr Peter Turnbull, CEO presented the report. Mr Tony Morris, accountant for NEST also spoke to the accounts.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley complemented NEST on their performance but asked why don't they promote how NEST moves patients at 40% of the cost of other operators. This could be setting a benchmark in the industry.

Cr Graeme Ramsey supported the benchmark comment made by Cr Davies-Colley and asked where they expected to find their situation at the end of their financial year.

Mr Tony Morris gave an indication of his projections.

Cr Graeme Ramsey asked if half of the grant from the NRC was going into reserves this year.

This was confirmed.

Time now at 1324hrs. Item No. 3.2. Regional Business Partnership Programme (Pages 5-6)

Mr David Templeton from Northland Inc gave a presentation.

Cr Ian Walker queried who made the decision to focus on export industries.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley advised to Mr Templeton 'you say you are working with the willing; the unwilling may be so busy they may not have the time to contact you'.

David Templeton gave some details and a response to the comment.

Cr Joe Carr asked what was happening in Kaikohe.

David Templeton replied nothing was happening there.

Cr Joe Carr suggested a company whose door they should be knocking on.

CEO Malcolm Nicholson made some comments regards the situation of northland Inc.

Questions were raised by Cr Bronwyn Hunt, Cr Joe Carr, Cr Graeme Ramsey and Cr Ian Walker.

Cr Graeme Ramsey claimed it was important that they measured the outcomes.

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

4.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO COUNCIL (Pages 7-8) (1347hrs)

Moved by Craig Brown, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.

There was no discussion on this item.

5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL (Pages 9-60)

Item No. 5.1. 1 Cross Disciplinary Projects (Page 9)

Item No. 5.2 Resource Management (Page 13)

Item No. 5.3. River Management (Page 21)

Item No. 5.4 Economic Development (Page 24)

Item No. 5.5 Hazard Management (Page 25)

Item No. 5.6 Transport (Page 26)

Item No. 5.7 Community Representation and Engagement (Page 33)

Item No. 5.8 Support Services (Page 33)

These reports were moved by Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey with the time now at 1347hrs.

CEO Malcolm Nicholson gave some details about the reports format and how it had changed.

Craig Brown had a question about 'land disturbance' Page 16 in Infringement Notices.

Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Operations Director, Tony Phipps gave some clarification to this question.

The was also some discussion in relation to the 'R' funding.

GOVERNANCE MATTERS

6.0 CONFIRMATION/RECEIPT OF MINUTES

Time now at 1413hrs. Item No. 6.1 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 11 July 2013 (Pages 61-72)

Moved by Cr Graeme Ramsey, seconded by Cr John Bain.
No discussion was entered into on this item.

Time still at 1314hrs. Item No. 6.2 Minutes of the Environmental Management Committee – 30 July 2013 (Pages 73-84)

Moved by Cr Joe Carr, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.
There was no discussion on this item.

Time at 1315hrs. Item No.6.3. 6.3 Minutes of the Audit and Finance Committee – 30 July 2013 (Pages 85-92)

Moved by Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded Cr Bronwyn Hunt.
There was no discussion on this item.

Time now at 1316hrs. Item No.6.4. 6.4 Minutes of the Regional Transport Committee – 7 August 2013 (Pages 93-98)

Moved by Cr John Bain, seconded by Cr Joe Carr.
Cr John Bain advised that there was to be further investigation into the Wellsford to Whangarei road.
There was no further discussion was had on this item.

7.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Time now at 1420hrs. Item No.7.1 Special Reserve Funds at 30 June 2013 (Pages 99-108)

Moved Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by.
Cr Joe Carr suggested they get financial reports on the Recreational Facilities Reserve as mentioned on Page 99 as he believed this was the 'stadium'.
Cr Bill Rossiter claimed the NRC had nothing to do with that now.
Craig Brown gave some details of the situation.
Cr John Bain claimed they had no power to appoint a trustee.
Craig Brown advised they have no right to do it now, we don't have a say and we collected rates on behalf of the WDC and handed them over to them.

Time now at 1424hrs. And this item had been dealt with earlier. Item No. 7.2 Northland Emergency Services Trust (NEST) Six Monthly Reporting for Period Ending 30 June 2013 and Approval to Make the First Quarter Payment for 2013/2014 to NEST (Pages 109 -116)
See Links to attachment re this item, in agenda

Time still at 1424hrs. Item No. 7.3 Request for Approval to Carry Forward Operational Budget from the 2012/2013 Financial Year into the 2013/2014 Financial Year into the 2013/2014 Financial Year (Pages 117-122)

Moved Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Cr John Bain.

Cr Ian Walker commented that as long as it was funds for committed work and not just left over's, then he was happy about it.

No further discussion was entered into on this item.

Time now at 1425hrs. Item No. 7.4 Request for Approval to Carry Forward Capital Expenditure Budget from the 2012/2013 Financial Year into the 2013/2014 Financial Year (Pages 123-127)

Moved Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Craig Brown.

Cr Joe Carr claimed he was reluctant to support this as this was the ultimate test on the Annual Plan.

Cr Graeme Ramsey was also reluctant to support this.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley suggested it was ok as long as you had good reasons for the funding not being spent.

Cr Bill Rossiter gave some details about why this happens.

Craig Brown to CEO Malcolm Nicholson, comments 'we must take this on board, three councilors have concerns.

No extra discussion was entered into on this item.

Time now at 1432hrs. Item No. 7.5 Request for Approval to Set Aside Funds in the Environment Fund Reserve from the 2012/2013 Financial Year into the 2013/2014 Financial Year (Pages 128-131)

Moved Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Cr Joe Carr.

No discussion was entered into on this item.

8.0 DECISION MAKING MATTERS

Time now at 1433hrs. Item No. 8.1 Funding Assistance for Kaeo Flood Vulnerable Homes – Update (Pages 132-137)

Moved by Cr Joe Carr, seconded by Craig Brown.

Cr Joe Carr gave some details and claimed he was pleased it had come forward.

No extra discussion was entered into on this item.

Time now at 1434hrs. Item No. 8.2 Amendments to Elected Members' Expenses and Allowances Policy August 2013 (Pages 138-155)

Moved by Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr John Bain.

Cr Bill Rossiter commented that he was pleased the amendments for mileage and travel time and came into effect in October this year.

Cr Ian Walker advised the difference between Central Government & Local Government is they back date it 3 years and Local Government doesn't.

The recommendation was carried.

Time now at 1436hrs. Item No. 8.3 Northland Port Corporation (NZ) Ltd – Appointment of Directors and AGM 2013 (Pages 156-157)

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

There was no discussion on this item.

Time now at 1437hrs. Item No. 8.4 Environment Fund Resourcing for Land Management Initiatives (Pages 158-161)

Moved by Cr Joe Carr, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.

There was no discussion on this item.

Time still at 1437hrs. Item No. 8.5 Amendments to the Regional Transport Committee Terms of Reference

(Pages 162-167)

Moved by Cr John Bain, seconded by Cr Bill Rossiter.

Cr Joe Carr advised that it is a statutory committee.

Craig Brown advised there has been a change.

Vaughan Cooper, Growth and Infrastructure Manager gave clarification of the legislation under the Act. The Act provides for two representatives from the Regional Council.

Craig Brown gave details of what the situation after the election will be following a query from Cr Tony Davies-Colley.

Vaughan Cooper gave further details and advised there is no such thing as a non-voting member.

There was no added discussion on this item.

Time now at 1442hrs. Item No. 8.6 Request to Support Northland Regional Sports Facilities Plan (Pages 168-191) **See Links to attachment re this item, in agenda**

Moved by Cr Bronwyn Hunt, seconded by Craig Brown.

Cr Ian Walker claimed this was another plan of \$50,000-00.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley claims \$50k is a huge amount.

Cr John Bain advised that we must get the best advice before money is spent.

Craig Brown advises he will be supporting this as it is needed across Northland; there is a difference between Regional facilities and Local facilities.

Cr Tony Davies-Colley wanted an amendment to reduce it to \$15k and do an internal report.

Moved by Cr Tony Davies-Colley, seconded by Cr Ian Walker.

This amendment was lost.

Cr Graeme Ramsey wanted an amendment to pay the \$25k if a project plan meets the approval by this council.

Time now at 1456hrs. Item No. 8.7 Kai Iwi Lakes – Support for an Integrated Management Regime (Pages 192-197)

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

Cr Tony Davies-Colley claimed it was not the piper that calls the tune; it's the fund that calls the tune. It should be handed on to the Domain Board to handle it.

Tony Phipps gave some details about how the Reserve Management Plan details it. Kaipara District Council is facing its problems; meanwhile there are threats to this outstanding resource. Pest and Water management needs attention now.

Craig Brown advised the Domain Board looks after this reserve. If we consider this to be a significant water reserve in Northland we need to attend to this; we either think this is important to support, or not.

Cr Joe Carr suggested there are some basic things that could be done without a gold plated report at great expense.

Cr Ian Walker claims they have the staff and expertise to do this and not get consultants in to do it.

Cr Graeme Ramsey also gave his ideas on this issue. He advised it was like an onion; once you start peeling it away, who knows. *Gee it used to be Kaipara Kumara, is it now Baileys Onion? We now have competition, with an onion filled kumara.*

Tony Phipps gave an update on some of the earlier questions raised during the meeting.

Time now at 1514hrs. Supplementary item

8.8 Urban Whāngārei Flood Risk Reduction Update - Rust Avenue Bridge Replacement

See Links to attachment re this item, in agenda

Cr Joe Carr wanted this item discussed as separate recommendations.

The first recommendation was moved by Cr Joe Carr, seconded by Cr Graeme Ramsey.

This was duly passed.

Cr Joe Carr wanted to briefly discuss the 2nd italic paragraph on page 2/3 of the Supplementary Item.

Cr Ian Walker wanted an amendment that this item lay on the table to be discussed further. CEO Malcolm Nicholson gave some details of the situation.

Craig Brown advised that this was about a project that needs to be done for Northland and he will be supporting recommendation No 2.

Moved by Craig Brown, seconded by Cr John Bain.

This was also duly passed.

The meeting duly finished at 1520hrs, Chairman Craig Brown thanking those of us who attended and then the Councilors went into business with the public excluded.

This exclusion was moved by Cr Bill Rossiter, seconded by Cr Bronwyn Hunt

9.0 BUSINESS WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED (Pages 198-199)

9.1 Confirmation/Receipt of Confidential Minutes

9.1.1 Confirmation of Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting – 11 July 2013
(Pages 200-205)

9.1.2 Confidential Minutes of the Audit and Finance Committee Meeting – 30 July 2013
(Pages 206-209)

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