

## Whangarei District Council meeting – 25<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

### [LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

We are asked to all stand up for 'His Worship, the Mayor'. A large proportion attending in the public gallery, remain seated for his entry to the chamber.

At 1000hrs Morris remained standing and welcomes everyone to today's meeting saying they may now be seated.

He then rambles off onto someone else's quotes as per normal: - *Does this guy just love the sound of his own voice?*

- 1/ The problems of the world cannot possibly be solved by those whose horizons are limited by the obvious realities. – **John F Kennedy**
- 2/ A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.- **Margaret Mead**
- 3/ A quote about happiness - **Buddah**
- 4/ The man who has no imagination has no wings.- **Muhammad Ali**

*Was there meant to be a message in some of these sayings? Is he not capable of using his own words to express how he feels towards some?*

He advises there is one apology today for Cr Aaron Edwards

Moved: Cr Phil Halse, Seconded: Cr Greg Martin

Item No.1, the 'Public Forum' There were no applications to speak at this month's Public Forum received prior to the agenda being circulated. (Page 1) but at 1001hrs Morris invites Liz Inch, Community Manager with Northland District Health Board to speak on Family Violence and Ngarie Rae, Health Promotion Manager from Mania Health PHO to both give a presentation on the "It's not ok" campaign. Liz thanked Deputy Mayor Phil Halse for his support at last week's launching of the campaign. *Both Pat & I also attended the launch and it was awesome to see the passion from the speakers who had turned their lives around and were now working hard to stop something, that had been a big part of their lives, this negative aspect being family violence. Violence and Bullying happens in our environments and we all must be aware, work on this problem and eradicate it. Watch out for the banners around town, at the hospital and the great signage on the back of one of the green buses.*

Morris Cutforth advises that he did allow a little more time to those speakers (*over the 3 minute limit imposed on some*)

Next speaker up was Vivienne Shepherd, who moved right up the front for her presentation. Vivienne attempted to explain how she had been bullied and treated unfairly by staff at council as she had applied many weeks ago to have public forum speaking rights, only to be phoned at 9.30 that morning to confirm she could speak. (*By the Council Legal Counsel I must add; doesn't that sound fishy?*) As the tension built in Vivienne's speech it wasn't long before Morris began to shut Vivienne down, speaking over her and reading from a

**previously** prepared 'Eviction Notice' quoting the rules etc and asking councillors to vote on whether she be asked to leave the chamber. Vivienne claimed she had been granted 3 minutes to speak and they were to listen. One Councillor, Cr John Williamson raised his hand in an attempt to make a comment, but was ignored. They then voted for her to leave which brought the meeting to an adjournment. Vivienne decided at this stage to sit on the floor. *Talk about a council 'orchestrated prank to exercise again their bully boy tactics'. An absolute appalling example seen of how your elected representative's behave. Just another fine example of predetermination, by his worship the mayor; reading from an already prepared 'eviction notice'. The 'big bully Simo' was tasked with the job to ask for assistance, to remove Vivienne, from the two police officers attending the meeting to present the 'Police Report'. Here you are Officer's; this is a fine example of the "culture" in this council. It was most interesting to see the 'City Safe' staff had promptly left the chamber. Was it that they didn't want to do the sloppy job to remove someone being treated unfairly? Those in the public gallery were asked by Judi Crocombe to leave the chamber as the councillors all vacated, but we claimed we had come for the meeting and were going to stay. This lady (Vivienne) certainly needed some protection and by staying to watch may have prevented her being bullied even more by some of the senior staff in this council. The police, both Inspector Tracy Phillips and Inspector Cliff Metcalfe did a splendid job defusing a situation that had been constructed by a dismal few in this council. To the surprise to council Vivienne was not only allowed to remain at the meeting but here passion was actually recognised. Perhaps it was Vivienne's precise quoting of the 'council staff code of conduct' that finally proved who was following correct procedures here. In my opinion the elected members of council should have stayed in the chamber and not vacated, deserting their constituents; you have proven by your actions that you condone this type of bad behaviour, on the citizens of Whangarei; Shame on You. Do we now have photos of a new 'poster boy' for our anti-bully campaign signs? Had we just experienced our own live 'Punch and Judy' show?*

Cr Sue Glen was the only councilor that had the sincerity to return to the chamber to offer a drink and support to one of her constituents who was sitting on the floor. *Good on you Sue, it shows you have some genuine feelings for people!*

The councilors returned after fleeing from the chamber and it was now 1026hrs. Item No. 2, Minutes of a Meeting of the Whangarei District Council held 27 June 2012. (Page 2)

Moved: Cr Phil Halse, Seconded: Cr Shelley Deeming

There was no discussion on this item.

With time still at 1026hrs it was Item No.3, Minutes of an Extra-ordinary Meeting of the Whangarei District Council held 12 July 2012. (Page 12)

Moved: Cr Sue Glen, Seconded: Cr Sharon Morgan

There was no discussion on this item.

With time at 1027hrs it was Item No.4, Police Report. (Page 14)

The report can be found at the end of the online agenda.

Morris Cutforth invited Acting Inspector Cliff Metcalfe, Relieving Area Commander for Whangarei / Kaipara and Inspector Tracy Phillips to speak to the meeting. But before they had a chance he read an extract in recognition of the fine work Inspector Paul Dimery had done for the district. I have applied for a copy of this document and will link it in due course.

Inspector Tracy Phillips replied in accepting Paul's recognition document. Tracy explained she was filling in for the Area Commander for Whangarei/Kaipara position while it was applied for. She had only been in Whangarei for about a week and 'loved it here' and may even apply for the job herself. *Tracy you would be most welcome; after the way both yourself and Cliff handled the earlier situation certainly portrays your dedication and passion for your jobs and your ability to communicate with people.*

Cliff Metcalfe went through the report explaining the issues raised last month had been answered in the report. One of those was the Blue Lights Cadetship Camp.

Cr Sharon Morgan thanked Cliff for those replies but wanted for more information on the leadership camp and was interested in the pathway these leaders take. *Do you think this may be an opportunity for Morris to get some training?* Sharon also had some concerns over students and alcohol as she was on the alcohol committee.

Inspector Tracy Phillips that she had been preciously very involved with those facets of police work and would be keen to talk with Sharon.

Cr Sharon Morgan felt the issues were not about licensed premises but about front loading of alcohol.

Inspector Phillips agreed claiming it was about economics why people front loaded with the prices bars that were being charged for alcohol.

Cr Greg Martin voiced his concerns about staffing in rural areas.

Inspector Phillips informed that at the present time no changes were anticipated but policing was always changing and she was unable to make any promises.

Moved: Cr Greg Martin, Seconded: Cr Sue Glen

Cr Sue Glen, to Inspector Phillips, said she hoped you are serious about applying for the position.

The time now at 1038hrs. Item No.5, 20/20 Inner City Development (City Centre/Urban Design) Subcommittee. (Page 15)

Moved: Cr Merv Williams, Seconded: Cr John Williamson

Cr Phil Halse made a couple of comments about the chairs being on this committee.

Other than that, there was no further discussion on this item.

With time now at 1039hrs it was Item No. 6. Local Government Act (2002) Amendment Bill. (page 16)

Moved: Cr Warwick Syers, Seconded: Cr Sharon Morgan

Cr Warwick Syers advised that the four well beings should stay as voted on at the LGNZ conference that he had attended. He added 'it would be delinquent nit to have it on their submission'.

Cr Merv Williams thought it was covered by 'e' on page 19 of the agenda in 'Changes sought'.

Cr Warwick Syers advised that 'well beings' were different from 'outcomes'.

Cr John Williamson confirmed, from his attendance at the conference, that the four well beings were most important and that their submission should elevate those feeling about well beings. We are all interrupted by Jeremy's cell phone [LINK](#) at 1045hrs. *Time to wake up?*

Cr Warwick Syers advised that there were a number of small changes to be made to the submission.

Cr Phil Halse wanted to make a comment on well beings. In Auckland they believed the well beings should be there, but they were having an impact in Auckland by not being able to deliver on infrastructure. *Hey Phil we are in Whangarei and can't deliver on infrastructure; but are we not putting the Hundertwasser first?*

Mayor Cutforth, with another of his quotes; *(nothing comes naturally or original from this puppet)* saying David Carter said "You can't have one that fits all".

Cr Brian McLachlan advised that he would be voting against the amendment.

Cr Warwick Syers claims 'I think it's a low bow to ask government to change it back. It came through under council responsibilities that we need to be a lot wider than the three w's'. *We have worked it out; its waste water, water and woads. Unless Warwick wants to share his secrets with us?*

Cr Brian McLachlan voted against this item.

The meeting concluded at 1052hrs, the public being excluded before going into the **confidential** section of the meeting with the urgent addition of some confidential supplementary items.

*Gosh oh gosh, didn't Morris campaign that he wanted open and transparent council? And he always tends to vote for it to go into confidential.*

## **CONFIDENTIAL INDEX**

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C.2 Business Plan. (Page 5)

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