

## Whangarei District Council meeting – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

Phil Halse wishes everyone a welcome to the meeting and calls the meeting to order.

No one is asked to stand for 'His Worship, the Mayor' as it is Phil Halse in the Chair.

Phil advised there were apologies for Cr Brian McLachlan and Mayor Cutforth.

Moved: Cr Kahu Sutherland, seconded by Cr Sharon Morgan.

This next item, below, was showing in the agenda index, but was not mentioned in the meeting. *Perhaps at times, it's a little alien to this lot?*

### CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Members are reminded to indicate any items in which they might have a conflict of interest.

Time still at 1000hrs and Item No.1, the 'Public Forum' (Page 1)

Cr Halse advised that there were no approved applications to speak for today's meeting.

*I had been told that there had been an application for today's meeting and it had been declined yet again, this time by Deputy Mayor Halse. What don't they want to hear?*

It was now still 1001hrs. Item No. 2. Minutes of a Meeting of the Whangarei District Council held 28 August 2013. (Page 2)

Phil advised this included the confidential minutes also.

Moved: Cr Warwick Syers, Seconded: Cr Sue Glen.

There was no discussion on this item.

With time still at 1001hrs it was Item No.3. Minutes of an Extra ordinary Whangarei District Council Meeting held 11 September 2013. (Page 7)

Moved: Cr Merv Williams, Seconded: Cr Shelley Deeming.

There was no discussion on this item.

With time now at 1002hrs it was Item No.4. Police Report. (Page 9)

The report can be found in the on line agenda.

Cr Phil Halse invites Inspector Tracy Phillips to speak to the meeting.

Phil wished to advise that today's meeting was to be recorded with both audio and video in an unobtrusive manner.

Inspector Tracy Phillips advised the meeting that Police horses will be used over summer.

With the amount of robberies the staff had been extremely busy; they had charged 4 in relation to 9 of the robberies. They were interviewing 1 in regards to 2 robberies, leaving 3 outstanding to sort out.

Tracy Phillips advised, as a general rule we catch the bad ones and hunt them down.  
Tracy advised they were having a remembrance day for fallen staff on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013.  
Cr Sue Glen asked if there was any follow up for victims of serious crimes.  
Tracy Phillips explained how Victim Support is advised for all sorts of crimes.  
Cr Merv Williams has a query regarding the truancy operation and wished to congratulate the staff for their effort wanting to know if there was any cooperation from Ministry of Education or government for this.  
Tracy Phillips advised it had resulted in some good outcomes; reduction in thefts from shops in the CBD however they had now moved to other areas.  
Tracy informed how she was nearly knocked down on the way to the meeting at a light controlled intersection and adorning her hi-vis jacket. *Someone will be in for a surprise.*  
Cr Kahu Sutherland informed the meeting that elderly people were being targeted in Kensington asking for money; only small amounts like 30cents. *But was this in hope of their purses being snatched? Who would know?*  
Cr John Williamson asked if there were any enquires on damage to election billboards.  
Cr Sharon Morgan said it would be interesting to see how the police horses go. *It will be one hoof after the other one would hope.*  
Tracy Phillips explained they will be a great asset in areas of car parks and DOC areas as they portray high visibility and this is being seen in apposite way.  
Cr Phil Halse thanked Tracy her for the report.  
This report was received and moved: Cr Shelley Deeming, Seconded: Cr Jeroen Jongejans.

With time now at 1014hrs it was Item No.5, Policy for allowances and reimbursement of expenses to Elected Members. (Page 12)  
Cr Warwick Syers advised this was put forward by the Remuneration Authority and council is required to provide a policy to them.  
Moved: Cr Warwick Syers, Seconded: Cr Aaron Edwards.  
Cr Kahu Sutherland asked if any input to the authority on the 30km travelling limit was taken notice of.  
CEO Mark Simpson answered with a brief, but factual "No".  
Cr Sharon Morgan also had a query on mileage.  
There was no discussion on this item.

With time at 1017hrs it was Item No.6. William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island Reserve Management Plan 2013. (Page 47)  
Cr Merv Williams wanted an amendment to the recommendations which was circulated; it was to include reference to the 'dog park' and the 'former recycling building for Bike Northland'.  
Moved: Cr Merv Williams, Seconded: Cr Crichton Christie.  
Cr Merv Williams continued giving reasons and explained his amendment.  
Cr Warwick Syers had a question on the leasing, or sale of the building, to Bike Northland. Group Manager Infrastructure and Services Simon Weston gave some details of the present situation.  
Cr Sharon Morgan claimed she was pleased to see the building being leased to Bike Northland and believed the rugby groups appeared to be affiliates.  
Simon Weston gave clarification and details to this question.

Mark Simpson also made comments to this question.

Cr Sue Glen commented that it was good to see the full on efforts the staff had done to address all the submissions received.

Cr Kahu Sutherland claimed he was “interested in the proposed rugby facility; is it for Old Boys, Marist or Northland Rugby?”

Simon Weston confirmed ‘it was all three’.

Cr Kahu Sutherland explained that from talking to members he claims he was told it’s for Old Boys, as we are relocating them. If Northland Rugby is going there they should be a tenant of Old Boys.

Cr Phil Halse advised they were not discussing this today.

Cr Kahu Sutherland insisted “I want the details if I am going to vote on this.

There was also some discussion about the relocation of the Whangarei Terenga Paraoa Marae, however this had not come to a satisfactory result.

Cr Merv Williams claimed they had been asked if they wished to relocate the Marae and weren’t interested in moving and the WDC roading section said they would not take away any of the road bordering the Marae.

CEO Mark Simpson informed the meeting that this had been through a comprehensive process.

Cr Kahu Sutherland asked some extra questions. He had concerns about excluding Maori from this significant site.

Cr Phil Halse interjected, claiming he would not accept that comment.

Cr Kahu Sutherland replied, ‘I’m giving it to you’.

Cr Merv Williams advised that he believed we have listened to all the submitters. He continued that he takes exception to what Cr Sutherland has said. Merv continued that he is happy to move this item.

A division was called for by Cr Kahu Sutherland; all voted for the item except Cr Kahu Sutherland who voted against it.

With time at 1035hrs it was Item No.7. Presentation Upper North Island Strategic Alliance (UNISA) (Page 117)

Cr Phil Halse gave details of the forming of this Alliance. He explained how this group had focused on road, rail, sea and air transport. There had been much discussion on land available for industrial growth and the future of the port at Marsden Point.

Chair, Phil Halse asked Group Manager District Living Paul Dell to speak to the item. Paul explained how there were 6 key areas; Ports, Freight study, Roads of National Significance, Land use inventory, affordable housing and cooperation with tourism.

Phil also asked CEO Mark Simpson to speak. Mark asked ‘What does this mean to us?’ In 5 – 10 years there will be excessive demands on berthage at Auckland and Tauranga ports, in 15 years it will be overloaded. We have Northport and in 10 years rail and more shipping will be needed here. He also explained they were working with the transport industry which was looking at a maximum loading of 62 tonnes.

Cr Phil Halse wrapped it up claiming there were huge benefits for us in this project.

Cr Jeroen Jongejans asked if they were talking with ‘one voice’ in Northland.

Cr Phil Halse replied “Yes”.

Mark Simpson added we have the biggest port in New Zealand when you combine the Refinery New Zealand and North Port figures.

Cr John Williamson had a question on transport.

Cr Phil Halse gave some details in response.

Cr Greg Martin advised that the Wilsons quarry in Hikurangi to Portland link is the first road due for this upgrading.

Mark Simpson explained the setup and personnel of the regional Transport committee at the Northland Regional Council.

Cr Phil Halse advised it was not us attacking Auckland; it's about working with everyone.

Cr Shelley Deeming questioned about making the public aware of what they are doing with this.

Cr Phil Halse advised they can't release any information without the approval of the Upper North Island Strategic Alliance (UNISA)

Cr Sue Glen believes it is admirable that seven can work together. *Interesting it was difficult for four in Northland to work together without egos and personalities getting in the way, which instigated the Unitary Authority changes being sort.*

Moved: Cr Greg Martin, Seconded: Cr Shelley Deeming.

There was no further discussion on this item and the meeting finished.

**Phil advised there was to be a SPECIAL MEETING on the 9th October.** *Will this be about the 'H' project getting snuck through prior to the election and/or 180's farewell?*

There was a vote for the public to be excluded before going into the **confidential** section of the meeting and this was moved by Cr Warwick Syers, Seconded: Cr Aaron Edwards.

Not bad for open and transparent meetings?

## **CONFIDENTIAL INDEX**

C.1 Confidential Minutes of a Meeting of the Whangarei District Council held  
28 August 2013. (Page 1)

C.2 Property Matter. (Page 2)

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