

## **Whangarei District Council meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013.**

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

[LINK to Supplementary Agenda No 1](#) - Northland Events Centre Appointment of Trustee

[LINK to Supplementary Agenda No 3](#) - Further submissions to the Proposed Regional Policy Statement

[LINK to Supplementary Agenda No 4](#) - Local Government in Northland

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

He releases them from standing and allows them to sit down.

At 1000hrs Morris remains standing and went on saying he wished to alert us to (Wow that's a Big word ....A LERT - Check out which one was he was referring to?) two incidents he had been involved with. One was attending an award ceremony on Thursday where approximately 60 awards were made to some new immigrants, the other about the guy that he met at the back door of the council chamber looking for a job. *Don't tell me, has he heard about back door deals?*

There was one apology for today's meeting for Cr Phil Halse.

Moved: Cr Shelley Deeming, Seconded: Cr Aaron Edwards.

Morris advised that today's meeting was to be recorded with both audio and video.

Carolyne Brindle, Senior Meeting Co-ordinator, advised of Supplementary Items for today's agenda.

This next item, below, was showing in the agenda but was not mentioned in the meeting.  
*Perhaps 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.

[Link to Morris Cutforth Christmas email.](#) - 21<sup>st</sup> December 2010 - Just to remind you all why he stood for mayor

Time still at 1002hrs and Supplementary Item No.1, the 'Public Forum' (Page 1)

**As reported in the agenda:-**

## **Speakers**

There were no applications to speak at this month's Public Forum received prior to the agenda being circulated. *Now that was not accurate as I know of a person that applied on the 20<sup>th</sup> February to speak and their application was declined.*

It was briefly discussed that council after a previous months speaker had concerns about a Pedestrian crossing outside Totara Grove School, was looking into options for it. *I reckon a couple of Pukekos with a tin of white and brush could have easily outperformed this lot with a critical issue such as safety for school children.* [Link](#) to see what I mean.

It was now 1003hrs. Item No. 2. (Minutes of a Meeting of the Whangarei District Council held 19 December 2012. (Page 2)

Moved: Cr Jeroen Jongejans, Seconded: Cr Sharon Morgan.

Morris advised this also included the confidential minutes.

There was no discussion on this item.

With time still at 1003hrs it was Item No.3. Minutes of an Extra-ordinary Whangarei District Council meeting held 12 December 2012. (Page 6)

Moved: Cr Shelley Deeming, Seconded: Cr Sue Glen.

Again Morris advised this also included the confidential minutes after it was moved and seconded.

There was no discussion on this item.

With time now at 1004hrs it was Item No.4, Minutes of an Extra-ordinary Whangarei District Council meeting held 13 February 2013. (Page 8)

Moved: Cr Brian McLachlan, Seconded: Cr Sue Glen.

This was subject to Cr Crichton Christie being recorded as departing the meeting being recorded in the minutes.

With time still at 1004hrs it was Item No.5. Police Report. (Page 10)

The report can be found in the on line agenda.

Morris Cutforth invites Area Commander Tracy Phillips to speak to the meeting.

Tracy Phillips advised how she was privileged to attend Waitangi celebrations. She claimed all she saw was an amazing family day with many people enjoying themselves. Tracy was also present at another amazing event 'People in Park' which was fantastic. They had experimented with mounted police at that event which had been successful. She advised they had started new initiatives at work; daily tasking meetings and also had monthly meetings to keep on top of situations and trends. There were some issues such as repeat victimization that they needed improvement on. *I can offer a fine example of that to you Tracy where a certain person has been victimized on a personal level for a very long time.*

Tracy Phillips advised that they were trying to make a real difference in the community.

Tracy was willing to take questions about her report or other issues.

Cr Crichton Christie asked if they were happy with the changes on manning the beaches over the Christmas break.

Area Commander Tracy Phillips advised that the way they had done it over Xmas had worked exceptionally well. They were also looking at having 'horse patrols' next holiday

season to patrol the beaches. She has her own trained horse that they have been working with.

Morris Cutforth thanked her for the report.

This report was received and moved: Cr Greg Martin, Seconded: Cr Aaron Edwards.

With time at 1013hrs it was Item No.6. Carry Forward List 2012-2013. (Page 12)

Moved: Cr Crichton Christie, Seconded: Cr Brian McLachlan.

Cr Merv Williams advised that procedurally they were incorrect with the Hockey field project. Cr Crichton Christie, to his feet, hoped Councilor's had learnt a lesson from what they had done. The LTP (Long Term Plan) allocation was made in June last year and was now being changed. This builds up an element of distrust in this Council. *Can it get any worse?* Within two months of setting the budget we have stopped it and hence in several places it has hurt people.

Cr Aaron Edwards claimed he agreed with Cr Christie as they needed to be up front about our programs. It was difficult to push something back.

Cr Greg Martin suggested that we were hearing interesting comments now its election year. *Yes Greg this is a regular cycle it appears to go through every three years; Councilors sit on their hands and agree with everything for two years then wake up and decide to do something. Pity more didn't come and see the real true performances of their elected.*

Greg continued by claiming that not everything went into the pot.

Cr Merv Williams advised it was the ninth year he had been on council and the first time he had seen a report like this. Because the LTP was unpractical he will be voting for this as it is a way forward and we have some prioritization on projects.

Cr Sue Glen claims that they have been through a rough patch. She claims "she didn't see it properly last year. It was like a blinding white light and looked good. We all want to stick to the budget".

Cr Crichton Christie in his 'right of reply' hoped that every time we speak we don't get quoted but its election year. Some of these deferrals are capital maintenance, like stop buying library books as these actions puts us a year behind.

The recommendation was passed.

With time at 1027hrs it was Item No.7. Review of District Living Group User Charges. (Page 17)

Moved: Cr Warwick Syers, Seconded: Cr Shelley Deeming.

Cr Aaron Edwards asked if they had investigated any out sourcing for costs.

Cr Shelley Deeming claimed that it was unfortunate but they were a 'user pays' council.

Cr Crichton Christie informed that it was always easy to put the rates up but they should look at some of the staff rates being charged at \$160 per hour.

Cr Warwick Syers, in his right of reply, claimed if we didn't increase fees it would come out of the general rates. *Was he trying to say, salaries could be reduced to achieve the same result?*

With time at 1031hrs it was Item No.8. Local Government Plus a Supplementary Item.

Moved: Cr Warwick Syers, Seconded: Cr Aaron Edwards.

There was no discussion on this item.

With time still at 1031hrs it was Supplementary Item No. 4. Local Government in Northland. (Page 56)

Moved: Cr Warwick Syers, Seconded: Cr Aaron Edwards.

Cr Shelley Deeming advised that she was absolutely going to support this as it had been forced upon them by the Far North District Council. We have not been able to consult with the people; we have not been given the time to include the public with consultation Yep it's definitely election year, I can hear it clearly.

Cr Aaron Edwards claims he agrees whole heartedly the FNDC had put them in this situation.

Cr Merv Williams advised that they should have continued with the last council's investigation into this but we were accused of predetermination. *Just check the records about what did happen.* Merv continued that the Northland Regional Council was making heavy moves in this direction.

Cr John Williamson claimed that the FNDC is battling for themselves. NRC has moved for a single Unitary Authority; it is highly likely it will be a very different space for the 2016 elections.

Cr Jeroen Jongejans claims there will be lots of opportunity for us all to submit on this.

Cr Greg Martin advised that they had asked for an extension of time but they (government) has a timeframe. We need to work with the Regional Council as we all represent the same people. *It's sounding more and more like people are tuning into election year.*

Cr Warwick Syers claims this council hasn't been sitting on its hands while the Far North was working on it. We have been working on our own plan and we need to have a proposal on the table by 29<sup>th</sup> April.

The report was received.

With time at 1046hrs it was Item No.9. Te Karearea Strategic Partnership Forum – Vision, Mission, Values and Operating Framework (Page 71)

Moved: Cr Warwick Syers, Seconded: Cr Shelley Deeming.

Cr Warwick Syers advised this was a partnership between the WDC and representatives of hapu of the Whangarei District.

Cr Kahu Sutherland claims "that he has a problem with this committee as it was to have a number of Te Karearea to be approved. As yet that has not happened and here we are entering into binding agreements with an appointed group by council. I can't support this".

Cr John Williamson wished to compliment the people in this forum, the staff and the people on it.

Cr Warwick Syers, in his right of reply, explained that in the terms of reference that approval was to be within 9 months and that had not happened.

Cr Kahu Sutherland wanted his vote against it recorded.

There was no further discussion on this item.

With time now at 1054hrs it was Item No10. Review of Reserve Management Plan for Williams Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island (Page 80)

Group Manager Infrastructure and Services Simon Weston was asked to provide an overview of this project which he did.

With the amended recommendation it was moved by Cr Merv Williams and Seconded: Cr Sharon Morgan.

Cr Kahu Sutherland asked if this will 1/ confirm the relocation of the Old Boys Rugby Club?  
2/ be an amalgamation of Marist and Old Boys RC?  
3/ be for a third rugby field?

CEO Mark Simpson claimed "that this was a consultation process; there is no predetermination". *Watch it Simo, you could get snapped up for the Tui Ads.... Yeah right!* Cr Kahu Sutherland advises that he wanted to bring it to all the councilors' attention. Simon Weston gave some more clarification.

Mayor Morris Cutforth advised that it was an amendment to the current Management Plan.

Cr Merv Williams, attempting again to speak, insists "I want my right to speak. We are bringing up changes and any changes have to be proposed and go out for submissions.

Cr Brian McLachlan asked if they had a formal proposal for the new rugby building.

CEO Mark Simpson, advised, not to his knowledge

Simon Weston informed that it was still fluid at this time, asking if they were talking about Old Boys as they have a footprint for that. *And Simo says he has no knowledge! YR.*

Cr Shelley Deeming claims the attachment showing the proposed layout fits pretty much inside the 2010 Pohe Island management Plan.

Cr Sue Glen advises that she needs to be concerned that a passive park has rugby fields at its entrance. It's quickly changing from the passive park that we envisaged years ago. It has to come from the public; not from this end.

Cr Warwick Syers advised "that this was a review of the previous plan and reminded them by saying, yes, councilors we had a workshop around the plan" and attempted to go through the process.

Paul McDonald, Parks and Recreation Manager, gave some clarification to the process to be undertaken. *So are the councillors fully aware of the process or is it being bulldozed through?*

There was no further discussion on this item.

With time now at 1110hrs it was Supplementary Item No. 1. Northland Events Centre Appointment of Trustee.

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

There was no discussion on this item apart from Cr Deeming claiming she had confidence in this appointment being made.

With time now at 1111hrs it was Supplementary Item No. 3. Further submissions to the Proposed Regional Policy Statement

This was moved by Cr John Williamson and seconded: Cr Shelley Deeming to discuss this item under urgency.

It was moved that an item, Supplementary Item No C2, be accepted for the Confidential section of the meeting.

Moved: Cr Sharon Morgan, Seconded: Cr Warwick Syers

Then there was a vote for the public to be excluded before going into the **confidential** section of the meeting.

This was moved by Mayor Morris Cutforth, Seconded: Cr Greg Martin.

*Not bad for campaigning on having open and transparent meetings in his campaign in 2010.*

The public part of the meeting finished at 1116hrs.

*Just a reminder, didn't Morris campaign that he wanted open and transparent council? And he always also tends to vote for it to go into confidential. Just another thing he did an 'about turn on'.*

#### **CONFIDENTIAL INDEX**

- C.1 Confidential Minutes of a Meeting of the Whangarei District Council held 19 December 2012 (Page 1)

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