

Whangarei District Council meeting – 27th March 2013

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

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.

Morris wishes everyone good morning and informs them they may be seated.

At 1000hrs Morris remains standing and begins his speech; "Often in our council there is negative stuff to be recorded but I want to talk about something positive..... We had a bus trip around and looked at all the positive things; the bridge, Pohe Island sports fields, Springs Flat. Last month I spoke about someone I met at the bottom of the stairs....."

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

There was one apology today for Cr Kahu Sutherland at 1003hrs.

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

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.

Carolyne Brindle, Senior Meeting Co-ordinator advised of some Supplementary Agenda items; C1 Property Transaction and there was some additional information for Item No 7.

Time was now at 1004hrs and Supplementary Item No.1, the 'Public Forum' (Page 1)

It was advised that there had been no applications to speak at today's meeting.

I know for a fact that may be incorrect as I have been made aware of an application and even seen the reply to the applicant denying them speaking rights at today's meeting; so that could be an untruthful statement.

It was now still at 1004hrs. Item No. 2. Minutes of a Meeting of the Whangarei District Council held 27 February 2013 (Page 2)

Morris advised this also included the confidential minutes

Moved: Cr Aaron Edwards, Seconded: Cr Jeroen Jongejans.

There was no discussion on this item.

With time still at 1004hrs it was Item No.3. Minutes of a meeting of the 20/20 Inner City Development (City Centre/UrbanDesign) Subcommittee held 14 March 2013. (Page 7)

Moved: Cr Phil Halse, Seconded: Cr Merv Williams.

Cr Aaron Edwards made comments on the loop walkway but was duly advised by Morris Cutforth this was to receive the minutes not open for discussion.
There was no more discussion on this item but Aaron had got his point across.

As Area Commander Tracy Phillips had been delayed, Item No.4. Police Report was to be held until her arrival.

With time now at 1006hrs it was Item No.5, Parua Bay Village Plan. (Page 11)
There was a presentation by the Chairman of the Parua Bay Community Focus Group Glenn Mortimer, who was supported by members Moira Pagan and Jock Whitley, being present. This presented some great options for the development of the area with short, medium and long term plans. Have a read of the report. A real great initiative by a group of community focused residents determined to achieve some requirements for their community.
Cr Phil Halse asked if the bypass around the village is still planned.
Glenn Mortimer replied "Yes it is still talked about, like the bypass at Onerahi is".
Cr Merv Williams wanted to know the catchment area for Parua Bay.
There were questions by Cr Sharon Morgan and Cr Sue Glen.
Glenn Mortimer answered questions fielded at him.
Cr Crichton Christie advised that it was nearly six years ago that this was muted and Parua Bay Community Focus Group people have been on board since day one.

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

Cr Warwick Syers claimed it would never have happened without the right people driving it. The members that turn up to their meetings are fantastic; we don't need Community Boards as we have them already with groups like this. He thanked Glenn and hoped he kept up the good work.

With time now at 1026hrs it was Item No.4. Police Report. (Page 8)

The report can be found in the on line agenda.

Morris Cutforth invites Commander Tracy Phillips to speak to the meeting.
Commander Tracy Phillips apologised for being late as there had been a couple of messy things she had to tidy up that morning. It was good news that there had been 8 arrests for burglaries in the Oakura and Whananaki areas as reported earlier in the report. They were looking for someone or a group to do a mural on the inside of the police station. Police had been great at Onerahi where there had been 4 arrests for a variety of incidents. Over this long weekend there was going to be 'Operation Fire Alarm' where they would be setting up checkpoints over the city encouraging safe driving practices. They were also trialing a horse patrol for such things as ceremonial, Anzac day, Surf and Sand etc. Tracy wanted to give a big thank you to City Safe and the work they are doing. Tracy was happy to answer any questions.

Cr Sharon Morgan informed Tracy that she was most welcome to contact CHART for a mural as she was sure someone could assist with that.

CEO Mark Simpson also offered access to a large portfolio of 'Love it Here' posters that could be made available.

Morris Cutforth interjected to Tracy, that she would have a variety of graffiti experts available to her.

Was that meant to be funny Morris? Tracy is used to dealing with tossers.
Commander Tracy Phillips left, after again, making an apology for her lateness.
Morris Cutforth thanked the Commander for the report.

This report was moved: Cr Phil Halse, Seconded: Cr Jeroen Jongejans.

With time at 1031hrs it was Item No.6. Hearing of Submissions on Proposed Whangarei District Solid Waste Management Bylaw. (Page 36)

CEO Mark Simpson declared a Conflict of interest. So did Cr Warwick Syers and both moved from the table.

Group Manager Infrastructure and Services Simon Weston filled in for the CEO. *You look good in that chair Simon.*

Moved: Mayor Morris Cutforth, Seconded: Cr Jeroen Jongejans.

There were a number of submitters to be heard.

Dean from Transpacific Industries Group NZ Ltd spoke to his company's submission. (Page 39-46)

Next it was Jeremy Busck who spoke about his concerns for waste minimization (Page 49-50)

Mr Paul Reid from Northland District Health Board spoke on behalf of Dr Loek Henneveld. (Page 37-38)

They were thanked for their submissions.

With time at 1100hrs it was Item No.7. Review Submissions on Proposed Whangarei District Class 4 Gambling Policy and the Proposed Whangarei Board Venue Policy. (Page 51)

CEO Mark Simpson declared he had a Conflict of Interest. *What is it?*

Cr Phil Halse declared he had a Conflict of Interest being involved with *Saorsa Retirement Village*, Stonehaven Retirement Village and gymnastics.

Cr Sharon Morgan declared she had a Conflict of Interest being involved with a number of bodies.

Cr Crichton Christie felt he had a Conflict of Interest.

They all left the table.

Cr Shelley Deeming declares that she has some interest in all organizations, she respects what people had declared but would like to move a motion to separate the recommendations and remove No 3.

Cr Aaron Edwards asked for clarification on the procedure for this item to have changes made.

For Recommendations 1 & 2-

It was moved: Cr Shelley Deeming, Seconded: Cr Greg Martin.

Cr Aaron Edwards moved that Recommendation No 3 be for a sinking lid policy.

Cr Brian McLachlan claimed he would support Cr Edwards with this proposal as pokies are one of the worst forms of gambling.

Cr John Williamson claims he has a conflict with this proposal as he is a trustee of an organization that applies for funds from gambling and also trustee of one that doesn't apply for funding from gambling. He claims he opposes how Problem Gambling gets its funds from gambling. He also had concerns how Sky City can do a deal and get extra Pokie machines, being the same number of what Whangarei has.

Cr Sue Glen asks how are we going to look after our community. She advises that she will be voting for a sinking lid policy.

Cr Warwick Syers claims that he sees pokie funds as if we didn't have it would we have funding from another source. He commented that he was moved a lot by a lot of the submissions but must now make a decision. He believes it is a central government issue as they have allowed it. He asks are we going to make decisions about obesity; close down McDonalds and KFC etc. What about smoking? There are other areas that need attention. New Zealand is a democracy, should we have a say in what the Kamo Club does? Why not talk about prohibition? He informed that he didn't think it was their role there and was happy to go with the 'sinking lid' policy. *Well Warwick Syers LCPL, was certainly on a roll with this one; is that because its election year?*

Cr Jeroen Jongejans claims this is a controversial issue; there are emotional interests but we need to have an intelligent debate. 99% enjoy gambling and 1% get into trouble with it. There is a good range of help available for people who have problems with it; so if you are going to get into trouble this is possibly the best place to be. It is in a controlled environment so capping is a mature step forward.

Cr Greg Martin advises that according to page 73 capping worked better than sinking lid.

Cr Merv Williams claims we are not having a vote today about eliminating gambling. The most positive thing we can do is have a 'sinking lid' policy.

Morris Cutforth claims he believes the WDC has good control of the gambling act. Any form of gambling is destructive so he will be voting for sinking lid.

*That's an interesting comment from the mayor, remember when on 26th September 2012, they moved into confidential and approved a \$200,000-00 grant and \$100,000-00 loan to a **gambling business** in Ruakaka, or has he suffered 'Brain Fade' about that. Now does he want to be seen as a purist come election time? He didn't stick to his last round of promises.*

Cr Shelley Deeming, in her right of reply, wished to thank the staff for their excellent and comprehensive reports during this process.

There was a vote for the sinking lid policy and a division was called for

Those **for**; Cr Aaron Edwards, Cr Merv Williams, Cr John Williamson, Cr Brian McLachlan, Cr Sue Glen and Morris Cutforth.

Against; Cr Shelley Deeming, Cr Greg Martin, Cr Jeroen Jongejans and Cr Warwick Syers

There was a substantive motion for which a division was also called. The results were the same as above and it was carried. There was a short delay while councilors who had vacated the chamber returned for duty.

With time at 1148hrs it was Item No.8. 2013 Triennial Elections. (Page 109)

Council had agreed to stay with alphabetical order for election papers so there was no discussion on this item.

Moved: Cr Brian McLachlan, Seconded: Cr Greg Martin.

Cr John Williamson commented that as some were at the bottom of the voting papers and this could be seen as a disadvantage, does being elected mean they must have been working harder.

I have always found it intriguing how people are always born or die in alphabetical order as you see reported in the newspaper 'Family Notices'. Just kidding!

Cr Phil Halse had a query about when Election Services contract was due for renewal.

With time at 1151hrs it was Item No.9. Kotuku Retention Dam. (Page 116)

Cr Aaron Edwards declared a Conflict of Interest and left the chamber. *Yes that's right he left the chamber.*

Moved: Cr Merv Williams, Seconded: Cr Brian McLachlan.

Cr Greg Martin interjected that maybe Cr Crichton Christie who is on the NRC Environment Committee may wish to give some detail to the process. *This certainly looked like an attempt by Greg to put Crichton on the spot. Lucky no one tried a similar stint on Greg regarding his visit to Aussie looking at waste water, as Greg told us on his return after the trip, that 'after the first few sentences the rest went over his head'.*

Cr Crichton Christie gave some very involved detail as to the process and some of the history of different sites that were considered.

Cr Merv Williams insisted that they should proceed with this as flooding is an issue and has been discussed for a long time.

Cr Phil Halse confirms same as Merv Williams states, 'we have looked at it years ago, but he will be voting against it as we need to keep this link open', *referring to the paper road between Raumanga Valley Road and Kotuku Street.*

Cr Greg Martin advises that we are confused because we are following the gambling policy. *Is there a lot of sense in that?*

Cr Sharon Morgan claims that the intersection of State Highway 14 and Puriri Park Road is dangerous anyway, *let alone if a link to Raumanga was included.*

CEO Mark Simpson informed that council thinks this is a link which is worthwhile for the future. He added that there were concerns by WDC about the viability of this project. *That about sums up some of WDC's projects also.* He confirms that this is a NRC project. *Oh is that why they are against it?*

Cr Crichton Christie clarifies that this project was given to the NRC to address as WDC did not want it.

Group Manager Infrastructure and Services, Simon Weston advises that this project will have an effect about 17% of flow to the CBD.

Cr Merv Williams claims a 'point of order' quoting "this is a shambles; we are only meant to speak once and now we have people speaking more and more.

Morris Cutforth gave some clarification, *if that's what you call it.*

Cr Merv Williams called for a division.

A division was called for

Those **for**; Cr Merv Williams, Cr John Williamson, Cr Brian McLachlan, Cr Greg Martin, Cr Sue Glen, Cr Jeroen Jongejans, Cr Crichton Christie, Cr Sharon Morgan and Cr Warwick Syers.

Those **against**; Cr Phil Halse, Cr Shelley Deeming and Morris Cutforth.

With time now at 1221hrs it was Item No10. International Rally of Whangarei. (Page 132)

Moved: Cr Phil Halse, Seconded: Cr Shelley Deeming

Cr Shelley Deeming advises that this is a fantastic event, *how right she is.*

There was no further discussion on this item.

With time at 1223hrs it was Item No.11. Temporary Road Closure – International Rally of Whangarei 2013. (Page 154)

Moved: Cr Greg Martin, Seconded: Cr Brian McLachlan.

Interesting that Cr Greg '*not past my gate*' Martin moved this item after his dummy spitting outburst when the Targa Rally went past his gate and inconvenienced his life for a few hours. *It's ok when it is past someone else's gate eh? Is that 'double standards'?*
There was no added discussion on this item.

The meeting finished at 1225hrs.

There was a vote for the public to be excluded before going into the **confidential** section of the meeting for Item No C1

This was moved: Cr Jeroen Jongejans, Seconded: Cr Warwick Syers.

There was then a vote for the public to be excluded before going into the **confidential** section of the meeting for Item No C2 & C3.

Moved by Mayor Morris Cutforth, Seconded: Cr Aaron Edwards.

Not bad for open and transparent meetings that Morris promised during his campaign speech? Maybe someone else wrote his speech and he just didn't understand?

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 27 February 2013 (Page 1)
- C.2 Property Transaction (Page 2)
- C.3 Property Transaction (Page 6)

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