

Whangarei District Council District Living Committee meeting – 10th April 2013.

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

Chair Cr Shelley Deeming welcomes all with a good morning, to all those present at 1000hrs. She advised was unable to welcome the press, *as there were none here again.*

There were apologies for Cr Crichton Christie and Cr Kahu Sutherland. She advised that Cr Phil Halse was running a bit late to this meeting.

Moved Cr Jeroen Jungians, seconded by Cr Greg Martin.

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.

It was now 1001hrs and Item No.1. Minutes of a Meeting of the District Living Committee held 13 March 2013. (Page 1)

Moved Cr Brian McLachlan, seconded by Cr John Williamson.

These were accepted and no discussion was necessary.

With the time still at 1001hrs it was on to Item No.2. Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Funding Subcommittee held 13 March 2013. (Page 5)

Moved by Cr Merv Williams, seconded by Cr Warwick Syers.

Cr Merv Williams commented that the Whangarei Art Museum Trust who received \$280,000-00 in funding and then there were reports in the media that they were unhappy with that.

Maybe after the media reports they may wish to refund some.

Cr Sharon Morgan explains that the Whangarei Art Museum Trust was very happy and Scott Potham, the Museum curator had got caught off guard and apologises for the error that was reported in the media.

Mayor Morris Cutforth quipped maybe they should apologise through the media.

Cr Shelley Deeming suggested they 'let sleeping dogs lie'; the curator realises that he got it wrong.

These were duly passed and no further discussion was entered into.

Cr Shelley Deeming advised that there was another item; Item No.7. New Road Name and Council Facilitated New Road Name. This had been missed off the agenda 'Index' page but was in the agenda general. *It was also available in the agenda on line before the meeting, but also not on the 'index' page. It could get better though. Check the item later for more as details of the item unravel.*

It was now 1003hrs and Item No.3. Minutes of a Meeting of the Creative Communities Assessment Committee held 26 March 2013. (Page 7)

Moved Cr Sharon Morgan, seconded by Cr Aaron Edwards.

These were duly passed and no discussion was necessary.

With the time now at 1004hrs and Item No.4. District Living Group Monthly Report March 2013. (Page 9)

Cr Deeming advised councillors that they would go through this item, page by page.

This item was moved by Cr Warwick Syers, seconded by Cr Jeroen Jongejans.

Group Manager District Living Paul Dell made brief comments advising that the number of documents going through their office had increased. He advised that the environmental health team hosted and organized the NZ Institute of Environmental Health National Conference in Whangarei in Feb/March and it was a great success.

Paul Dell advised that as per page 11, Building Consents and Resource Consents are up and down.

Cr Sharon Morgan commented that the 'Fritter Festival' (Page 10) had resulted in great reports coming in.

Cr John Williamson, in reference to pages 16 &17 that they were waiting on a number of decisions from the Environment Court.

Cr Sharon Morgan had a query on the Coastal Population Survey; as a coastal property owner she had not received a survey form.

Some explanation was given as to the process..... *She hadn't got one!*

Cr Merv Williams wanted an update on Liquor Licensing and wanted Paul Dell to give some details. (Page 25)

Paul Dell advised that 'Malbas' had challenged the policy which meant it was before the Liquor Licensing Authority for discussion, particularly on opening hours and the one way door policy.

Cr Sharon Morgan advised (Page 20) that Community Funding was to have another round in June as there were some funds still available.

Paul Dell advised that the CCTV cameras had been exceptionally successful doing a sterling job in helping identify offenders in the CBD. They had caught taggers and also people '[fly tipping](#).'

Cr Kahu Sutherland joined the meeting at 1016hrs.

Cr Merv Williams claimed there were also concerns over roading with numerous red light infringements apparently occurring; what can be done. Would red light cameras assist? *Maybe that is a way to raise funders for the HW project. Or perhaps some 'red light camera operating' signs may be a deterrent.*

Cr Aaron Edwards asked if they believed cost was a factor for fly tipping; people not being able to afford to dump legally. Do the photos depict wealth by the cars they are driving or not. *Aaron that doesn't really tell a true picture; some people are driving really nice cars and that is because they are driving a 'company car'. So not necessarily a solid assessment; like some of the worst crooks wear suits.*

Cr Greg Martin sneered "I would say the people driving the Mercedes that dumped rubbish on Helena Bay hill were probably having problems with their payments" *Did he mean their car HP?*

Cr Kahu Sutherland queried what was the plan for long term funding of the D'Tag program for youth offenders as the funding was running out.

Paul Dell advised that funding was available.

Cr Jeroen Jongejans had a query about the Positive Aging Advisory Group as he had heard there was not enough pensioner housing.

Owen Thomas, Senior Community Services Advisor advised that we have an aging population.

Cr Greg Martin asked if the pensioner housing was for pensioners or for social housing also. Owen Thomas replied "Pensioner".

With the time at 1035hrs and Item No.5. 2013-2014 Annual Operating Fund. (Page 35).

Moved by Cr Warwick Syers, seconded by Cr Merv Williams.

Cr Phil Halse informing the meeting claimed we have already passed the minutes for this.

Cr Phil Halse added that he noted there was no increase in funding for Surf Lifesaving.

Paul Dell advised that they will place a submission in the Annual Plan.

CEO Mark Simpson commented that with professional lifeguards you pay for what you get and one of the key attributes is that we have it over the school holidays and until Waitangi weekend.

Paul Dell, to a question, advised that the money is paid directly to the club. (*Ocean Beach?*)

Cr Jeroen Jongejans asked as all these are for existing recipients of funding, was there an opportunity for new organizations to apply for funding.

Paul Dell gave details of the opportunities available.

Cr Merv Williams wanted it to be that it should be deferred to the Annual Plan process so that all councilors are involved and not only those on a small committee to get their 'hobby horses' funded. *What does Merv really know, to bring that comment up?*

This was duly passed with no further discussion.

Time now at 1040hrs and Item No.6. Whangarei Growth Strategy Implementation Plan.

(Page 45)

Moved Cr Jeroen Jongejans, seconded by Cr Sharon Morgan.

Paul Dell gave a brief on the history.

Cr Greg Martin had a query about Hikurangi not being in the plan.

Cr Brian McLachlan asked the meeting how much was this is going to cost.

Cr Shelley Deeming claimed it is hard to get a balance between the fiscal costs between doing a plan and not doing a plan.

Dr Kerry Grundy – Team Leader - Futures Planning advised that there are no other additional costs other than his time ([see page 12 of this pdf. for an idea of his time costs](#))

Kerry informed that over the next thirty years we will get cost savings from this by more efficiencies. *Great but whom will people hold to account if that is not correct, in 30 years?*

Cr Jeroen Jongejans advised that item 8.3.62 on page 63 had already been addressed.

Cr Phil Halse claims he supports long term plans but has some concerns about some facets of the environmental issues. He advised of wild pig issues in the bush on his property and the damage being done yet DOC (Department of Conservation) and the NRC (Northland Regional Council) do nothing in these areas. *Isn't it great when councillors come out when a problem affects them personally; when it effects others they tend to bury their heads in the sand; the old "not in my backyard" syndrome.*

These were duly passed.

It was now 1050hrs and Item No.7. New Road Name and Council Facilitated New Road Name (Page 77)

Moved Cr Greg Martin, seconded by Cr Sue Glen.

Cr Merv Williams asked “why name a private road? Is this for one section?”

Paul Dell gave an explanation. *Well no really he didn't say much about it at all; well not that it clarified the questions raised.*

Cr Shelley Deeming suggested that it could be planning for a further development. *REALLY!*

Paul Dell added that you need to look at the scale (Size of the property)

[Link to property details](#)

A 7.4675 HA site is an indication that it is well on the chances to be a subdivision; don't have to be a 'rocket scientist' to work that out, so why all this secrecy which isn't finished yet.

Cr Shelley Deeming, chairperson, suggests “those questions are better asked before the meeting”. *Does that comment mean 'we don't want this discussed in the public domain?*

Cr John Williamson asks how much is driven by the landowner.

Cr Sue Glen adds her bit “I see that this is a development; you can't find it without a name”.

There was extra discussion which consisted of “this became an issue when an accident occurred and emergency services were confused and were unable to locate the road as it does not appear on any maps”

Now is this 'smoke and mirrors stuff' to hood wink those that hadn't read the agenda properly and has it worked again on this occasion? The above incident described referred to the application to name Marusumi Road. Read the agenda (page 66) and you will see I am correct. There's a terrible smell; and it's not me!

These new road names were duly accepted *amongst all the smoke.*

So, that's it, all over till the next episode, with Cr Shelley Deeming calling the meeting to a close at 1056hours and thanking all for attending.

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