

Whangarei District Council District Living Committee meeting - 11th April 2012.

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

Chair Cr Shelley Deeming welcomes all with a good morning, to all those present at 1030hrs.

We were advised that there was a 'supplementary Item No 1' which would be Item No. No.8. New Road Name

Apologies were received for Cr Kahu Sutherland.

It was 1030hrs and Item No. 1 Minutes of a Meeting of the District Living Committee held 14 March 2012. (Page1) these were accepted with no discussion taking place, but alterations of Cr Phil Halse, Cr Greg Martin and Cr Kahu Sutherland's names removed from 'Present' on the earlier minutes. *Just a typo error?*

With the time at 1031hrs it was on to Item No. 2 Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Funding Subcommittee held 13 March 2012 (Page 3)
No discussion was required for this item.

With the time still at 1031hrs and Item No. 3 Minutes of a Meeting of the Creative Communities Assessment Subcommittee held 27 March 2012 (Page 6)
Cr Aaron Edwards made a brief comment in regards to this item but there was no further discussion entered into.

With the time now at 1032hrs it was on to Item No. 4 District Living Group Monthly Report March 2012. (Page 8) Shelley welcomed councillors to ask concise and pertinent questions. Group Manager District Living Paul Dell gave some details and explained that assessments had been undertaken. He commented that there had been good results from Bruce and his team. *(I understand it is Bruce Rogers, Building Compliance Manager)*

Cr John Williamson asked about an item (paragraph 4, page 8) a decision on Clapham Road.

Paul Dell asked the Resource Consents Manager, Alistair Hartstone to give some details of this, which he ultimately did.

Paul Dell explained that this was the result of the transition from urban to rural and reinforced what they were doing with the new benchmarks on Urban Transition. Cr Merv Williams queried Plan Change 65- Longview Estate (page15). He also questioned, (page 18, h Hikurangi Motorsport and Outdoor Recreation Park) Gomez Road.

Paul Dell advised he had conducted meetings since the last newspaper articles. Go Karts had advised that long term they need to move. Motor bikes, Stock cars and 4WD also realized they need to move.

Cr Merv Williams asked if councilors will be seeing any documentation in regards to these organizations requests.

Paul Dell commented that there were mixed views in the community with most concerns being 'noise and traffic'.

Cr Crichton Christie asked Paul to send them documents from supporter groups.

Paul Dell said he could and some sites were not practical.

Cr Sue Glen asked if the support groups had been advised to submit to the draft Long Term Plan.

Paul Dell replied "Yes, they have been encouraged to".

Cr Shelley Deeming interjected claiming "they will need to".

Cr Sharon Morgan had a query on (Page 19, d) Whangarei Harbour Integrated Management Plan; asking 'will we be jointly funding this with the NRC?'

Paul Dell advised that there were some private projects out there giving some details. *Gee he loves to go on and on; was he christened with a gramophone needle?*

Cr Brian McLachlan suggested that any funding opportunities should be in the LTP. (Long Term Plan)

Cr Warwick Syers asked 'if it was appropriate that the documents re Gomez Road be circulated and that they should be after the submission process that council was currently in'. *Is that double standards Warwick, or what? Council has allowed signage to be erected around town to support Hundertwasser, are busy handing out glossy coloured Hundertwasser brochures and have videos on their website promoting what "council wants" but you don't want information about a 'noisy sports park' to be distributed? If it was at Headland Farm Park, in your little paradise, it may be a tad different?*

Cr Merv Williams claimed it was a "council initiated process, so should we be sitting back and waiting till after the submissions?" *I believe as much information needs to be made available to the councilors to make 'informed decisions'; don't rely on Dell to keep you informed as I understand he has with-held information requested under OIA's on this issue. Can he be trusted? What suits him?*

Cr John Williamson had concerns that Kamo region had not been adequately engaged with (Page 19, c)

Cr Jeroen Jongejans also had queries on (Page 19, c) regards the scoping work done.

Paul Dell gave some details. Paul also advised that they had good results from CCTV, it was paying it's way, as in the last 3 weeks had been instrumental in helping with enquiries into vandalism and thefts in town. He commended David Lowe and his team. They involved private security firms and City Safe.

Cr Merv Williams advised that as far as City Safe, the retailer's confidence in it had grown. He explained how graffiti at the 'Wave and Waka' had been solved as CCTV had picked up the perpetrators.

Owen Thomas, Senior Community Services Advisor, advised people to call City Safe if they witness any unlawful activities around town. Their number to call is - **0800 258 258**

It was now 1059hrs and Item No. 5. Final Consideration of Plan Change 83 – Northgate Port Marsden -

Industrial Environment (Page 34)

Cr Aaron Edwards advised he has a conflict of interest and vacates the council chamber for the duration of this item. *That is showing 'integrity' Aaron, not like some others that just lean away or move their chairs back a little as we will witness later in the meeting.*

Cr Shelley Deeming pays compliment to the staff that have put in a large amount of work to get it to this stage.

Cr Phil Halse advises that the developers have been waiting a long time and they should be happy. He added that Land Agents need to be careful that the land being sold is for the correct zone usage.

Time now at 1102hrs and Item No. 6. Report on Initiatives Relating to the Kaipara Harbour (Page 38)

Moved by Cr Greg Martin and seconded by Cr Sharon Morgan.

Cr Shelley Deeming asks "why are we involved with the Kaipara Harbour?" *I even know why and it is explained on Page 38 - 'A number of waterways that flow into the Kaipara Harbour have their source in Whangarei District. These include the Wairua River, the Mangakahia River, and the Tauraroa River. Overall, it is estimated that 55% of land areas of Whangarei District flows westwards into the Kaipara Harbour. Whangarei District Council thus has an important role to play in the managing and improving the Kaipara Harbour.'*

Paul Dell confirms that we were asked to be part of it.

Cr Phil Halse explained it was made clear of its importance as Auckland City grows and it is taken very seriously. He added that it was summed up well by the last bullet point on page 39. "Agree that costs etc." That is why we should be included.

Cr Sharon Morgan asked if the groups below the governance structure were to be funded.

Paul Dell advised there was funding from different parties, NIWA etc. Once it gets to detailed issues then this may then be different.

Cr Phil Halse advised that Graeme Ramsey had been appointed from NRC, rather than the Chair of NRC, as he has lots of information about the Kaipara; being ex- mayor of Kaipara and he has written papers on the Kaipara harbour.

Cr Brian McLachlan queried where it was going?

Paul Dell gave some details and gave some comparison to Whangarei Harbour care groups.

Cr Greg Martin commented that we need to be at the table but was concerned that FNDC (Far North District Council) wasn't there and they have tributaries that run into it. He was concerned that too many may get involved.

Paul Dell claimed that was why there were different levels; governance and management group. Agencies like DOC (Department of Conservation) are in the management group.

It was 1110hrs and Item No. 7. 2012-2013 Annual Operating Grants (Page 85)

Cr Merv Williams gave some details about some of the organizations barely surviving on the original grants. He believed they had done the best job they could on a limited budget.

Cr Sharon Morgan confirmed that most of the organizations had raised money independently. She wanted to thank the council for giving a good spread of funding; thinking that they will be grateful.

Cr Greg Martin wanted to congratulate the staff for their work.

Cr Shelley Deeming wanted to support that comment; it gives a lot of pleasure to contribute this money for the benefit of the community.

Cr John Williamson advised that he had moved away from the table for this item. *Hey John boy; Ain't you meant to vacate the chamber if there is a conflict of interest, or does your integrity fail to step up to that?*

It was on to the supplementary item added; Item No.8 New Road Name at 1115hrs. (Page 94)

There was no discussion for this item so the new road is called Cobble Lane as per the recommendation.

So, that's it, all over till the next episode, with Cr Shelley Deeming calling the meeting to a close at 1116 hours 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](#).