

Whangarei District Council District Living Committee meeting

- 8th May 2013.

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

Chair Cr Shelley Deeming welcomes all with a good morning, to visitors, press and staff at 1000hrs.

Shelley wished to advise that today's meeting was to be recorded with both audio and video. Shelley advises that the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is present and they too will be taking some photographs.

There were no apologies.

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 10 April 2013. (Page 1)

Moved ? seconded by ? *Could not hear what was being said because noise in refreshment room at rear of chamber.*

These were duly passed 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 10 April 2013. (Page 4)

Moved by Cr Warwick Syers, seconded by Cr Greg Martin.

These were duly passed and no discussion was necessary.

With the time now at 1003hrs and Item No.3. District Living Group Monthly Report April 2013. (Page 6)

Cr Deeming advised councillors that they would go through this item, page by page and pertinent questions would be accepted.

This item was moved by Cr Merv Williams, seconded by Cr Brian McLachlan. Group Manager District Living Paul Dell made brief comments to the report. He advised that a wrap up was held in the council chamber as a thank you to volunteers. (Page 7)

Cr Merv Williams thanked the volunteers who had worked on the 'Summer Safe' program.

Cr Sharon Morgan had a question on the volunteer centre proposed for Whangarei asking, where council fits into this mix.

Paul Dell gave some details explaining the position was a working relationship. Paul Dell advised Plan Change 93 – urban Transition Environment (Page14) has been signed off by the court.

Cr Phil Halse in reference to d/ Landscape (Page 17) advised that as a council they had not been part of this; staff have, but council has not.

Paul Dell gave some explanation stating 'we understand some changes have been made following our submission to Northland Regional Council.

Cr Phil Halse claimed "we need to keep an eye on it".

With the time at 1016hrs and Item No.4. Draft Youth Policy 2013. (Page 35)

Moved by Cr Merv Williams, seconded by Cr Aaron Edwards.

Cr Merv Williams advised he was proud to move this policy; it showed a review of the goals they have set and the things they want to do. The 'Shape Your City' tee shirt was displayed. Merv also wished to thank the staff for their input into Youth Advisory Group (YAG).

Cr Aaron Edwards claimed it had been an absolute highlight working with these young men and women over the past year. It had fitted in perfect with the 'Love it Here' campaign. The original policy was completely unworkable and he is happy to support this new policy.

Cr Jeroen Jongejans, Cr Sue Glen, Cr Sharon Morgan and Cr John Williamson claimed they were all supporting this policy and congratulated the staff on the work for the policy.

Mayor Morris Cutforth was happy that it was 'youth driven' and he too would be supporting this agenda item.

Cr Merv Williams had his right of reply, again confirming his support for the policy.

It is certainly great seeing the youth having input into our districts future, as youth are our future.

It was now 1026hrs and Item No.5. Resource Consent Monitoring/Development Report. (Page 43)

Moved Cr Aaron Edwards, seconded by Cr Brian McLachlan.

Cr Phil Halse had concerns about some of the content of this report, especially about things like 'change of use'.

Paul Dell advised that there had been an increase in applications for non-compliant activities.

Cr Crichton Christie, referring to the graphs on page 68 & 69, claim they show that the recession has hit us quite hard. It concerned him that they were not a growing area and they need to trend back to where they actually are. He claimed that they had a challenge to grow the district. He wanted to know what was hindering our growth.

Paul Dell advised they had been hit by the recession. He claimed he could take you to a number of subdivisions without a house being built. *Then why have they been*

hell bent on spending on projects that are not necessarily of a high priority when the district is lacking income from more developer contributions that would be experienced in a buoyant economy.

Paul Dell claimed they were levelling off and will see an improvement.

CEO Mark Simpson, to his feet, explained that population growth was at 1000 per year. *There had been an excessive number of properties that were required for the population growth. In my opinion those numbers had been cranked up to justify their projects that they wanted to push through. In other words the facts were not substantiated only used to fit their purpose of projects. E.g. Like 30,000 vehicles a day on Riverside to justify a bridge; yeah right! Mr Simpson has been a catalyst in promoting a growing district that in reality wasn't. Where is the accountability?*

Cr Crichton Christie had concerns about the graphs on Pages 74 & 75. The following all showed a drop; Living 1 Subdivisions, Living 3 Subdivisions, Business 1 Subdivisions, Business 2 Subdivisions and Business 3 Subdivisions.

Cr Merv Williams wanted to congratulate Mr Dell and the staff on the content of the report.

The report was duly received.

With the time at 1041hrs it was Item No.9. Presentation NRC - Mediterranean Fan Worm. (Page 103)

Don McKenzie, Northland Regional Council Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, gave a brief presentation on Mediterranean Fan Worm. The video of a vessels hull that recently arrived in Whangarei was shown. *This is an issue and we all must take it seriously.* Don explained 'that Marine Pests Cost and affect the way we live'.

[Link](#) to Ministry for Primary Industries info on Mediterranean Fan Worm

[Link](#) to Bio Security New Zealand info on Mediterranean Fan Worm

Moved by Cr Sue Glen, seconded by Cr Jeroen Jongejans.

The presentation was duly received and there was no time for questions of Don McKenzie as time was running out before the next meeting and it was decided at 1055hrs they were adjourn at 1100hrs for Cr Halse to start the 20/20 Inner City Development Sub-Committee meeting and then he could adjourn it for this meeting to continue.

With the time now at 1056hrs and Item No.6. Review of District Plan Built Heritage Provisions. (Page 95)

Moved by Cr Aaron Edwards, seconded by Cr Greg Martin.

Paul Dell gave some details.

Cr Kahu Sutherland queried if it excluded heritage trees.

The report was received and no discussion was undertaken.

With the time now at 1100hrs it was time to break.

Cr Phil Halse advised it was time to start the 20/20 Inner City Development Sub-Committee meeting. He was to move that due to time constraints they would start and adjourn this meeting until 1115hrs.

This action was duly moved by Cr Phil Halse, seconded by Cr Aaron Edwards.

It was now 1100hrs and the District Living Committee meeting resumed with Item No.7. 2013-2014 Annual Operating Fund resumes (Page 98)

Paul Dell advised this item was mainly 'housekeeping'.

This was duly moved and seconded with the information being received.

With the time now at 1101hrs and Item No.8. Operational Support Fund – Review. (Page 100)

Moved by Cr Warwick Syers, seconded by Cr Aaron Edwards.

This item was carried with no discussion.

So, that's it, all over till the next episode, with Cr Shelley Deeming calling the meeting to a close at 1102hours and thanking all for attending.

Cr Crichton Christie wished to make reference to Item No. 9. The Presentation by NRC on Mediterranean Fanworm. He suggested the Mayor or any representatives going to Auckland to meet with people down there should be seen to be supportive of ways to keep the Mediterranean Fanworm out of Northland Harbours.

Cr Shelley Deeming claimed she supported his suggestion whole heartedly.

After today's meeting it has become apparent that the biggest increase in population is the Fan Worm.

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