

Whangarei District Council District Living Committee meeting - 9th May 2012.

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

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

Apologies were received for Mayor Morris Cutforth, Cr Brian McLachlan and Cr Jeroen Jongejans.

Shelley advised there was a Supplementary Item No.1. - No.6. Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) Performance Report – July 2011 to March 2012. She added that there was to be a workshop at 1130hrs with Regional Council staff so suggested councilors don't rush off.

It was 1031hrs and Item No.1. Minutes of a Meeting of the District Living Committee held 11 April 2012 (Page 1)

These were accepted with no discussion taking place.

With the time at 1031hrs it was on to Item No.2. Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Funding Subcommittee held 11 April 2012 (Page 5)

No discussion was required for this item.

With the time still at 1031hrs and Item No.3. District Living Group Monthly Report April 2012 (Page 7)

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

Shelley welcomed councillors to ask concise and pertinent questions informing that they were to go through the report page by page.

Group Manager District Living Paul Dell gave some details advising that the amendments for DIY builders were being received the latest being Amendment No 4. (See bottom of Page 7)

Cr Shelley Deeming, also in reference to page 7 commented that the Environment Court had issued consent to Kiwi Rail for the Oakleigh to Marsden Point rail link.

Awesome news; Personally I believe the Port and Rail could well be Northlands saving.

Paul Dell advises (page 15) Plan Change 112 Te Hape Village, that council had been looking at purchasing a property in an attempt to move the project forward for a positive outcome.

Cr John Williamson queried if the Environment Court had to work within statutory time frames.

Cr Merv Williams asked if there had been no result with Longview. (Page 14)

Paul Dell replied, 'No'.

Paul advised that they were coming back shortly with Rural Development Strategy (page 17) and the Coastal Management strategy (also on page17)

Take note on Page 21. Food Premises Grading. For a long time about 2-3 years ago there was only 1 'A+' Grading; being McDonalds Bank Street. While the large % increase of establishments in the achieving of A+ grading looks great, you have to ask what has changed. Have compliance levels dropped? Is it because of self monitoring? Have there been some changes in the standards? Do eatery's have more time on their hands to do the essential cleaning etc? Have our compliance people got tougher? Have establishments improved to this extent?

We personally haven't noticed a vast difference in the establishments that we visit and the numbers complying up to A+ status appear to have risen dramatically. We understood after earlier questions to the department, that some establishments would never achieve A+ rating because of silly little checks. I am not knocking it but would really like to know 'What's changed'?

With the time now at 1039hrs it was on to Item No.4. Biodiversity Strategy (Page 31)

Paul Dell gave a brief on this item claiming he was pleased with their investigations in how the strategy had been accepted.

Cr Kahu Sutherland asked if the 'covenanted' areas were being cared for.

Paul Dell explained they he personally, had purchased a section with a covenanted area believing that covenants are a positive thing.

Cr Shelley Deeming informed that it appeared people buying areas with covenants were happy to keep them as such and cared for those areas.

Cr Phil Halse queried whether they should be adopting No 2 in the recommendation before they hear the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) from the Regional Council.

Paul Dell advised that he didn't see the RPS impacting on our strategy.

Cr Sharon Morgan commented that she saw it as a great way forward, strengthening our bio systems with Department of Conservation (DOC) and Northland Regional Council (NRC). They also needed to recognize the work that the volunteer groups do.

It was now 1044hrs and Item No.5. Notification of Proposed Plan Changes 123 A Network Utilities Electricity Transmission and 123 B Referencing of Environmental Engineering Standards 2010 Consequential Changes (Page 33)

Paul Dell gave some brief details on this item and there was no further discussion entered into.

Time now at 1046hrs and Item No.6. Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) Performance Report – July 2011 – March 2012 (Page 36)

Paul Dell advised that they should look at the targets. We pretty well don't have 100%, but we are doing pretty good getting into the 90% plus areas. There was no further discussion.

So, that's it, all over till the next episode, with Cr Shelley Deeming calling the meeting to a close at 1048hours 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](#).