

**Whangarei District Council Finance and Support Committee meeting**  
**- 25th May 2011**

**[LINK to the appropriate Agenda](#)**

This month's Finance meeting started at 0900hrs with Cr Warwick Syers in the chair. He welcomed all those present.

There was an apology received for Cr Jeroen Jongejans. Mayor Morris '180°' Cutforth had been granted leave of absence and no apology was necessary.

Item No. 1. The minutes of the Finance and Support Committee meeting of 27th April 2011, were received with no discussion required.

Item No. 2. Minutes of Community Funding Subcommittee meeting of 11th May 2011 were received and with the addition of society to Maungakaramea Recreation instead of Centre there was no need for any further discussion at 0901hrs.

Still at 0901hrs it was Item No. 3. Financial Report for the ten months ending 30 April 2011. It was Group Manager Support Services Alan Adcock that gave details that things were on track. There was a big move in current debt as in the last quarter rates were paid. Long Term Debt was \$130million

Cr Kahu Sutherland asked what the value of recent property sales was.

Mr Alan Adcock replied \$39million.

Chair Warwick Syers suggested they wait till the end of the report for questions.

Cr Aaron Edwards required clarification on the item (pg13) Acacia park and Mander Park Trees.

Mr Alan Adcock, *obviously not sure of the answer*, informed that the Group Manager Infrastructure and Services would be able to clarify.

Aaron Edwards stated 'he has asked previously and had no response.' *Aaron, that is possibly because they don't want you to know the answer to a tricky question.*

Cr Brian McLachlan asks a question in regards to debt.

Cr Sharon Morgan had a query on the 81% subsidy on seal extensions. (pg13)

Cr Merv Williams asked Alan Adcock if he was aware of any changes in methodology on IRD depreciation and sinking funds and was it legislation specific.

Alan Adcock replied that they don't use these funds 'willy nilly' but they replace their assets and maintain them. *Looking around town at some of council (or ratepayer assets) that comment is surprising. In my opinion, unfortunately, some of the 'assets' have become liabilities through lack of maintenance. Sometimes a coat of paint can make assets look like assets and not derelict run down facilities.*

Item No. 4. Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) Performance Report - July 2010 - March 2011 at 0909hrs.

In reference to the first item 8.1.1 (pg 18) Cr Kahu Sutherland asked if they were seen to accept the 51% target. He added 'why were they not striving to improve on their performance'.

Cr Warwick Syers claimed he also had concern that it is that low.

Kahu Sutherland's concern was 'that it was acceptable'.

Cr Merv Williams inferred these were the 5/8 reporting standards that he had discussed.

Cr Sue Glen claimed 'these results were the same every year and were getting a bit boring'.

Item No. 5. Delegated Authority - Financial at 0913hrs.

This item was moved by Cr Crichton Christie and seconded by Cr Sharon Morgan with no further discussion necessary.

It was all over, the meeting was over by 0913hours and the smiling Warwick thanked all for attending

It was off to the library for a coffee & chat readying oneself for the Council meeting at 1000hrs.

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