

**Whangarei District Council Infrastructure and Services meeting
– 10th July 2013**

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

Chair Cr Greg Martin called the meeting to order at 0900hrs and welcomed all to this month's Infrastructure and Services meeting.

There was an apology for Mayor Morris Cutforth being away for today's meeting. *Shouldn't they apologise for him being there?*

Moved by Cr Merv Williams, seconded by Cr Shelley Deeming.

Time was still at 0900hrs and it was Item No.1. Minutes of a Meeting of the Infrastructure and Services Committee held 12 June 2013. (Page 1)

Moved by Cr Sue Glen, seconded by Cr Sharon Morgan.

These were duly passed, with no discussion necessary.

With the time now at 0901hrs it was on to Item No.2. War Memorial Proposal. (Page 5) Archie Dixon, RSA Whangarei President, addressed the meeting claiming he was happy with the rapid process council had made with this project. He had clarification about the monument; it was about the loss of lives, not about the departure place. He advised how the Anzac Day Dawn service now attracted in excess of 6000 and the Rose Street site was unable to cope with these numbers. This project would enable them to celebrate the 100 years in 2018 by 'celebrating the peace'.

Moved by Cr Sue Glen, seconded by Cr Phil Halse.

Cr Merv Williams wished for some clarification on Recommendation 2 (page 6) regarding the funding as he felt the wording made no sense.

Cr Phil Halse advised this was the estimated project cost.

Cr Merv Williams, back to my comment, point 2 makes no sense.

Group Manager Infrastructure and Services Simon Weston gave some explanation that the project was going to cost \$5million. He was not sure how council will contribute, depending on other funds but agreed it should be worded to go forward to be considered.

Cr Aaron Edwards believed there should be an amendment to read 'consider the funding in the 2014-2015 Annual Plan'.

Cr Warwick Syers, to his feet, Archie Dixon has spoken of the importance of Gallipoli commemorations in 2015; a lot of work has to happen before April 2015. He added that the occasion is huge and should get the respect it deserves. *Rightly so, my grandfather was seriously wounded at Dardanelles, Gallipoli on 7th August 1915.*

Cr Sue Glen, to her feet, claimed 'this should take effect, it will take effect and we will be doing it'. 'The price of peace is worth everything we can do'. I liked Archie Dixon's letter and we must prioritise to work on this.

Cr Sharon Morgan commented that it was mentioned in the conservation plan that all descendants would be contacted; who would be doing that?

Simon Weston advised that the RSA was working on this.

Cr Greg Martin advised that he and Cr Glen would be meeting with the RSA this week.

Cr Kahu Sutherland questioned the memorial on Mt Parahaka and where they were with that project?

Simon Weston asked Paul McDonald, Parks and Recreation Manager to give an update.

Paul McDonald advised that there had been upgrade on the car park; other plans had been deferred for 5 years and gave some details.

Cr Kahu Sutherland thanked Paul for the update; suggesting that Recommendation 2 be removed. Parahaka should be completed as part of this project and was worthy of being completed. He wanted Part 2 be deleted. *Are there not other unnecessary projects that could be deferred in preference to this one of such high importance and other maintenance work?*

Cr Crichton Christie had a query on deferred works and on receiving an answer he too rose to his feet; 'we need to recognize those people that didn't return, Parahaka should be off the 'deferred list' and be done; both should be done'.

Cr Kahu Sutherland withdrew his amendment.

Cr Merv Williams interjected, we have just had an Annual Plan process and that should stand. *Here, here Merv how right you are!* Merv continued 'that no deferments had come from inside this chamber; they had come from outside the chamber'. *Is Merv trying to tell us that staff are running the show? Is this another Marryatt show?*

This was duly passed.

With the time now at 0922hrs and Item No.3. 2013 Drought – Water Supply Review of 2013 Summer Period. (Page 60)

Moved by Cr Brian McLachlan, seconded by Cr Aaron Edwards.

Cr Brian McLachlan advised that this showed they were in a very good position.

Simon Weston gave details of the resources in the review.

Cr Shelley Deeming, to her feet, claimed 'this is an example of early planning by council and staff and recognised the effort gone into with forward planning.

Cr Crichton Christie, to his feet, advised that water supply has to be planned 50 years ahead; it was the source that has to be protected.

The information was received with no added discussion necessary.

With the time at 0926hrs and Item No.4. Whangarei District Civil Defence Management Update. (Page 63)

Moved by Cr John Williamson, seconded by Cr Shelley Deeming.

Cr John Williamson, to his feet, gave details of the Civil Defence Plan and congratulated Victoria Randall (Civil Defence Emergency Management Officer, Whangarei District) for putting this summary together. He also wished to acknowledge the NRC for leading this role.

Cr Sharon Morgan wanted it known that now with the website for all info and fire permit applications etc.

Cr Greg Martin wished to thank Victoria and Cr John Williams for all the time they had out in. The information was received with no added discussion necessary.

It was now 0930hrs and Item No.5. Contract 08007 Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Maintenance Extension to Contract Value. (Page 74)

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

Cr Phil Halse advised that after sitting in traffic at Maunu Road for a length of time this morning, we could take out all the traffic lights as he didn't think it could go any slower. He

continued that it had been a problem for some time; Hamilton has 5 or 6 roundabouts and all works well, we are years behind on a State highway, it should be roundabouts and/or a bypass.

Cr Greg Martin gave clarification about the intersection being discussed and its close proximity to the hospital have a fair amount of cycle and pedestrian traffic, suggesting try to walk through a five fingered roundabout with a walking stick. *Better still Mr Martin; try negotiating many of our dilapidated footpaths with any disability, as even non disabled people have many issues with our paths, kerbing and potholes also.*

Cr Warwick Syers commented that the new Riverside roundabout was working well since the hot mix had been now laid fully. *That's very different from what we are hearing and what has been said by locals and social media sites that it is slowing down the flow.*

Cr Phil Halse voted against the item.

This was duly passed.

With the time now at 0934hrs and Item No.6. Ingenium Award – Ruakaka Wastewater Treatment Scheme. (Page 75)

Moved by Cr Shelley Deeming, seconded by Cr Phil Halse.

Cr Shelley Deeming, to her feet, explained how as a new councilor she had been thrown in the deep end with this project. She advised that all agencies were around the table for consultation; 24 options were considered and the process was outstanding. Shelley continued 'She was so stoked that this award was given to this project'. It was nationally and internationally recognized.

Simon Weston in response to Shelley's comments advised that they worked on this as a team. They had out in the time on the consent process and that had been good. It had taken a long time, about 5 years, but they had ended up with a very good outcome and the latest technology.

Cr Phil Halse wished to echo the words from Cr Deeming. He claimed council gets lambasted for not doing things but they were future proofing our district; it is for the next 35 years.

The information was received.

Interesting today how councillors are now standing more often to speak to the items; but of course its ELECTION YEAR and many now want to be noticed. TICK ME, TICK ME!

Chair Cr Greg Martin thanked all for attending and concluded the meeting with the time at 0940hours

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

Those present left the chamber, off to the library (or to the NRC) to have a coffee before the next meeting at 1000hrs.