

Whangarei District Council Infrastructure and Services meeting - 8th August 2012

[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.

An apology was received for Cr Aaron Edwards. (*who is on his way to Cuba today*)

Time still at 0900hrs and it was Item No.1. Minutes of a Meeting of the Infrastructure and Services Committee held 11 July 2012. (Page1)

Moved by Cr Merv Williams, seconded by ?

These were duly passed, with no discussion necessary.

Time still at 0900hrs. Item No. 2. Activity Management Plans. (Page 4)

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

Cr Phil Halse had concerns over the quality of roads.

Cr Crichton Christie joined the meeting at this stage, 0901hrs.

Group Manager Infrastructure and Services Simon Weston advised roading is a significant asset that requires a lot of action.

Cr Merv Williams had a query in regards the recommendation shouldn't it read "receive" rather than "adopt".

Simon Weston explained that it was part of the requirements of the Long Term Plan.

Cr Merv Williams continued that he had several problems with some of the items in there regarding their valuations.

Simon Weston explained that the financial situation has been calculated and valuations were done by Opus.

Cr Merv Williams claimed 'that you can pay them to do it'.

Cr Warwick Syers interjected, advising that the books had been audited by Audit New Zealand; he's the expert and has done the job. *Don't they only audit what they are given to audit or is a forensic audit carried out? Isn't there a difference between check what you are given to check and checking everything?*

Cr Shelley Deeming asked 'could it be assumed that if the auditor felt we were over valuing playgrounds for instance in comparison to other councils they could initiate further investigation'.

Cr Greg Martin commented that by having Opus engaged don't they tell us what we need to know, not what we want to know?

Cr Phil Halse had queries over the costs of this process.

Simon Weston gave some details.

Cr Phil Halse replied that he had issues with people getting increased targeted rates. Cr Phil Halse was the only one to vote against the recommendation and wished that be recorded.

Time at 0909hrs. Item No. 3. New Bus Stops – Fairway Drive Route. (Page 7)

Moved by Cr Crichton Christie, seconded by Cr John Williamson.

Cr Kahu Sutherland claimed this was long overdue.

Cr John Williamson complimented the staff for this work; it was an indication that a lot of people want public transport. It was Jane Mander Village that had initiated these changes and he wanted to know more about bus stop facilities.

Simon Weston gave brief details about bus shelters etc.

There was no more discussion on this item.

Time now at 0912hrs. Item No. 4. Time Restricted Parking – Porowini Avenue. (Page 15)

This item was moved and seconded.

These were also accepted with no discussion taking place.

I have a question; this parking restriction was initiated for Cafe Devine. What happens if all other cafes in Whangarei wanted parking restrictions outside their premises? What about dairies, take away bars, book shops, dress shops, appliance shops etc. ANSWER: - We will have parking restrictions everywhere and parking will become a bigger issue. Don't see a lot of sense in this proposal.

Time still at 0912hrs. Item No. 5. No Stopping Lines – Snake Hill. (Page 18)

This item was moved and seconded then accepted with no discussion taking place.

Time now at 0913hrs. Item No. 6. Temporary Road Closure – Bike Northland. (Page 22)

Moved by Cr Phil Halse, seconded by Cr Shelley Deeming

These were also accepted with no discussion taking place.

Time still at 0913hrs. Item No. 7. Temporary Road Closure – Northland Car Club. (Page 26)

Moved by Cr John Williamson, seconded by Cr Crichton Christie

These were also accepted with no discussion taking place.

Time now at 0914hrs. Item No. 8. Morningside Flood Mitigation. (Page 32)

Moved by Cr Brian McLachlan, seconded by Cr Greg Martin.

Cr Brian McLachlan claimed it was good to see this problem was finally getting a solution.

Cr Phil Halse wanted an amendment that 'tenders are brought back to council before the tender is let'.

With this amendment it was also accepted with no further discussion taking place.

Chair Cr Greg Martin thanked all for attending and concluded the meeting with the time at 0915hours with the public being excluded before going into the **confidential** section of the meeting.

Gosh oh gosh, didn't Morris campaign that he wanted open and transparent council? And they always tend to vote for it to go into confidential.

CONFIDENTIAL INDEX

Item No C.1 Property Transaction.

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Those present left the chamber, off to the library (or to the NRC) to have a coffee before the next 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](#).