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Minutes of a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee of the Waikato District Council held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia on **TUESDAY, 9 FEBURARY 2021** commencing at **9:30am**.

**Present:**

Cr JM Gibb (Chairperson)  
His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson  
Cr AD Bech  
Cr JA Church  
Cr SL Henderson  
Cr SD Lynch  
Mrs Maxine Moana-Tuwhangai [*from 9:48am*]  
Cr RC McGuire  
Cr EM Patterson  
Cr JD Sedgwick  
Cr NMD Smith  
Cr LR Thomson  
Cr CT Woolerton

**Attending:**

Mr J Dawson, Chief Executive, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism  
  
Mr D Whyte (Huntly Community Board Chair)  
  
Mr G Ion (Chief Executive)  
Mr T Whittaker (Chief Operating Officer)  
Mr C Morgan (General Manager Community Growth)  
Ms A Diaz (Chief Financial Officer)  
Mr R McCullough (General Manager Service Delivery)  
Mr C Bailey (Finance Manager)  
Mr J Ebenhoh (Planning & Policy Manager)  
Mr B Burnand (Project Manager – Long Term Plan)  
Mr M Horsfield (Democracy Advisor)

## **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Resolved: (Cr Woolerston/Patterson)**

**THAT** an apology be received from Cr Eyre and Cr McInally.

**CARRIED**

**S&F2102/01**

**Post-Meeting Note:** The Chairperson advised that Mrs Moana-Tuwhangai had notified her apology for lateness prior to the meeting commencing.

## **CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Woolerston)**

**THAT** the agenda for a meeting of the **Strategy & Finance Committee** held on **Tuesday, 9 February 2021** be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda item 8 which shall be considered with the public excluded;

**AND THAT** all reports be received;

**CARRIED**

**S&F2102/02**

## **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Cr Church advised members of the committee that she would declare a non financial conflict of interest in Item 7.2 [*Council Controlled Organisations Annual Reports*] in relation to Waikato District Community Wellbeing Trust Performance Report.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved: (Crs Sedgwick/Patterson)**

**THAT** the minutes of a meeting of the **Strategy & Finance Committee** held on **Wednesday 25 November 2020** be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**CARRIED**

**S&F2102/03**

## **ACTION REGISTER**

### Agenda Item 5.1

The report was received [*S&F2102/02 refers*] was taken as read. No discussion was held.

## **REPORTS**

### Hamilton & Waikato Tourism Six-monthly report to Waikato District Council 17

1 July – 31 December 2020

### Agenda Item 6.1

Tabled Item: [Waikato District Council Six monthly update: July-December 2020]

The report was received [*S&F2102/02 refers*]. In speaking to the report and a powerpoint presentation, Mr Dawson highlighted, and responded to questions, on the following matters:

- Visitors expenditure was down but remained the fourth largest domestic regional visitor destination and fifth largest international visitor destination.
- Enhanced domestic marketing with increased online campaigns and publications.
- Coordination with other regions for marketing campaigns as well as Tourism NZ.
- Programmes launched relating to promotional campaigns, trip and travel data and sustainability.
- Revised KPI's with 0% increase goal reflecting impact of Covid-19; conference bookings still being received but on a smaller scale.
- International markets remained in focus with ensurance that New Zealand is safe for travel once borders opened. Online travel webinars still active in overseas markets.
- Room capacity given managed isolation facilities and emergency housing requirements.
  - Example of a temporary campervan village for Fieldays exhibitors discussed.
  - Loss of Air BnB facilities, moving to long-term rentals.
- Freedom camping
  - experiences of other councils in relation to funding;
  - tourism funding expectations with central government.

**ACTION:** Hamilton & Waikato Tourism to provide an update regarding visitor costs and economic impact of freedom camping once compiled by Department of Conservation (taking into account other councils' experiences).

Mrs Moana-Tuwhangai joined the meeting at 9.48am during discussion on the above item.

## Long Term Plan 2021-31 Update

## Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received [S&F2102/02 refers] and discussion was held.

The Long Term Plan Project Manager gave a verbal update and the following matters were discussed:

- Main LTP components would be discussed in the next few weeks, with the draft LTP scheduled to be presented for Council's consideration on the 23rd March.
- Impact of Covid-19 – reflected in significant forecasting assumptions and reduced revenue forecast.
- Follow up to the initial Business Survey – staff were working through the logistics on how a follow-up survey could be undertaken.

## Treasury Risk Management Policy – Compliance Report at 31 December 2020

### Agenda Item 7.1

The report was received [S&F2102/02 refers]. The Chief Financial Officer spoke to the report and noted there was an error in the staff report related to a comment in Item 6 that is not applicable to the report.

The following matters were discussed:

- Interest Rates and Swaps.
- Raising Capital – Not looking to raise capital; though initial steps had been undertaken to attain a credit rating via Fitch and Moodys.
- Media report associated with outstanding unpaid rates for the 2019/20 year.

**ACTION:** Staff to look into the media report on unpaid rates outstanding for the 2019/20 financial year and report back to the Committee..

## Council Controlled Organisations Annual Reports

### Agenda Item 7.2

Cr Church declared a conflict of interest in this item and did not participate in the discussion on this item.

The report was received [S&F2102/02 refers] and the Chief Financial Officer outlined the purpose of the CCO reports, and highlighted, and responded to questions, on the following matters:

- Waikato Regional Airport Limited

- Good result despite Covid-19.
- Audit NZ's views on the long-term valuation of investment properties.
- Profitability of airport going forward. Land sales coincided with leasing arrangements.
- Airport was focused on diversifying business opportunities, particularly in light of the impact on travel due to Covid-19.

## **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Agenda 8

**Resolved: (Cr Patterson/Lynch)**

**THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.**

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Item 1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item No.	Section	Interest
Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes		Refer to the previous Public Excluded reason in the agenda for this meeting.

**CARRIED**

**S&F2102/04**

*Resolutions S&F2102/05 – S&F2102/06 are contained in the public excluded section of these minutes*

.Having resumed the open meeting, and there being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10:18am

Minutes approved and confirmed this                              day of                              2021

**Cr J Gibb  
CHAIRPERSON**