

Minutes of a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee of the Waikato District Council held by audio-visual conference on **WEDNESDAY, 10 JUNE, 2020** commencing at **9.30 am.**

**Present:**

Cr JM Gibb (Chairperson)  
Cr AD Bech  
Cr JA Church  
Cr CA Eyre  
Cr SL Henderson  
Cr SD Lynch  
Cr FM McNally  
Cr RC McGuire  
Mrs M Moana Tuwhangai (Maangai Maaori)  
His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson [*until 11.25am*]  
Cr JD Sedgwick  
Cr NMD Smith  
Cr LR Thomson  
Cr CT Woolerton

**Attending:**

Mr B MacLeod (Raglan Community Board Deputy Chair)  
Mr S Jackson (Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board Chair)  
Mr D Whyte (Huntly Community Board Chair) [*from 9.52am*]  
  
Mr G Ion (Chief Executive)  
Mr T Whittaker (Chief Operating Officer)  
Mr R MacCulloch (General Manager Service Delivery)  
Mrs S O’Gorman (General Manager Customer Support)  
Mr C Morgan (General Manager Community Growth)  
Mr V Ramduny (Strategic Projects Manager)  
Mr C Bailey (Finance Manager)  
Mrs J Dolan (Economic and Community Development Manager)  
Mr M Davey (Community Growth Analytics Manager)  
Mr J Quinn (Communications, Marketing & Engagement Manager)  
Mr G King (Chief Information Officer)  
Ms M Russo (Team Leader, Planning and Policy - Corporate Planning)  
Mr J Fuller (Senior Environmental Planner)  
Ms A Brodie (Development Contributions Coordinator)  
Ms G Brady (Democracy Advisor)  
Mrs LM Wainwright (Committee Secretary)

The chair welcomed the new Maangai Maaori representative, Mrs Moana Tuwhangai.

## **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Resolved: (Crs Church/McInally)

THAT an apology be received from Cr Patterson.

**CARRIED**

**S&F2006/01**

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

Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Sedgwick)

THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee held on Wednesday, 10 June 2020 be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda item 7 which shall be considered with the public excluded;

AND THAT all reports be received;

AND FURTHER THAT in accordance with Standing Order 9.12 the Committee resolves that the following item be added to the Open Agenda as a late item as advised by the Chairperson;

- Late Item 5.3 - COVID-19 Analytics Report - May 2020

AND FURTHER THAT the Chair of the Onewhero Tuakau Community Board, Mr Jackson, Deputy Chair of the Raglan Community Board, Mr McLeod, and Chair of Huntly Community Board, Mr Whyte, be given speaking rights for the duration of the open section of this meeting.

**CARRIED**

**S&F2006/02**

## **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Mr S Jackson (Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board Chair) advised Committee members that he had an interest in item 5.1.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Sedgwick)

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee held on Wednesday, 18 March 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**CARRIED**

**S&F2006/03**

## **REPORTS**

### Progressing the River Communities Spatial Intent in light of Council adopting Waikato 2070 Agenda Item 5.1

The report was received [*S&F2006/02 refers*]. The Strategic Projects Manager spoke to a PowerPoint presentation and the following matters were discussed::

- Process of consultation with Community Boards and Community Committees had been put on hold as a result of Waikato 2070.
- Key areas of focus had been a cluster of settlements, as identified on the presentation map.
- Acknowledged that Taupiri should be an area of future growth and development for industrial and residential uses and.
- Ohinewai had potential for industrial and residential growth, which was important to the development of Huntly. Development north of Huntly, due to topography, was the only safe development option. Local employment possibilities in relation to potential building growth in this area was discussed.
- Further discussion would be required to enable agreement between Waikato District Council and Waikato Regional Council in relation to future development, particularly around Ohinewai.
- Staff indicated that Waikato 2070 would need to be updated subject to the completion of the Future Development Strategy, phase 2 of the Future Proof review. This update would incorporate the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Spatial thinking.
- The Strategic Projects Manager acknowledged Te Kauwhata's potential in growth to 8,500 people in next 50 years and the document recognised the aspirations of the town, based on the Blueprint adopted by the community last year.

**ACTION:** Staff to present a roadmap of planning and implementation with definitive timelines to a future Committee meeting.

- Projected growth for the District was currently unknown due to post-Covid impact.

**ACTION:** Staff to provide more accurate projections of growth in future updates.

Mr Whyte joined the meeting at 9.52am during the discussion on the above item and was given speaking rights.

Submission National Policy Statement – Indigenous Biodiversity  
Agenda Item 5.2

The report was received [S&F2006/02 refers]. The Senior Environmental Planner spoke to his report and the following matters were discussed:

- The Committee supported the report in general but stated that it was essential that Council partnership for land owners and incentivisation continued.
- Concern expressed over land values and rates due to reduced land productivity.

**ACTION:** Staff to provide clarity on details of partnership and framework in relation to page 36, question 30 of the report.

**Resolved: (Crs Eyre/Woolerton)**

**THAT the Strategy and Finance Committee notes that the approved submission on the Draft National Policy Statement – Indigenous Biodiversity (as attached to the staff report) was lodged with the Ministry for the Environment on 19 March 2020.**

**CARRIED**

**S&F2006/04**

COVID-19 Analytics Report - May 2020  
Late Item 5.3

The report was received [S&F2006/02 refers]. In speaking to the report, the Analytics Manager highlighted the following points:

- There would be an estimated 12-24 month period of difficulty for the District in relation to unemployment and business closures, and that negative effects were widespread and not geographically contained.
- Survey respondents were very positive about hearing from Council during this difficult time. Over 90% stated they would like to hear from Council again.
- Findings for the survey were taken during Levels 4 and 3, which impacted the results. Further surveys would be carried out.
- A large proportion of ratepayer home owners in the Waikato District had experienced decreased income levels. The wage subsidy scheme would end shortly. Unemployment in Waikato District was disproportionately higher than in other areas in the country.

The following matters were raised by the Committee members:

- A lot of employees in New Zealand had not received their wage subsidy even though their employer had.
- The report mainly reflected home-owners and the report's high level findings section was misleading and overly optimistic.
- Ongoing support would be required for primary industries such as agriculture and forestry, particularly following previous hardships such as drought.
- Concern about Council diversifying from core business.
- A clear line was required between Council's ability to support community partnership and its level of resourcing.
- Report lacked perspective in terms of family violence and suicide incidences in relation to population. Proportionality relative to population was required.

The Committee discussed the next survey to be undertaken, including timing to take into account the general elections.

**ACTION:** Staff to hold a workshop with Committee members ahead of the next survey and the proposed date be reassessed by staff.

### Financial Performance Summary for Period Ending 30 April 2020

#### Agenda Item 6.1

The report was received [*S&F2006/02 refers*]. The Finance Manager spoke to the report and the following matters were discussed:

- Point 17 in the Treasury report should refer to \$15 million and not \$10 million.
- The impact Covid would have on Council's ability to deliver services. The Finance Manager noted that the Annual Plan was based on no impact on services and that no reduction of level of services were planned for next financial year.
- Some projects which had commenced in the current financial year would be carried over to next year. Projects would be prioritised and it was anticipated that next year's Annual Plan would include a large proportion of carry over.
- Streamlining had taken place to make reporting easier and more transparent.
- Staff considered that public consultation of the Annual Plan, with the exception of water services, was not triggered.
- Staff were concerned about expenses that would arrive later this year when cash income may be down.
- Consistency across the Annual Plan was key. The Plan was based on value of assets invested this financial year, with depreciation accounted for to allow for sufficient funds to cover project costs.

- The Finance Team had taken a conservative approach in terms of liquidity and charges.
- Staff agreed that it was essential that the organisation had the ability to deliver on projects post-Covid.

## **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Agenda Item 7

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

**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 6 or Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)
Item 2.1 S&F Actions Register		
Item 3.1 Director Appointments – Civic Financial Services Limited		
Item 3.2 Draft Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Spatial Plan		
Item 3.3 Development Contributions Policy – Rangimarie Road		

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		Refer to the previous Public Excluded reason(s) in the Agenda for this meeting.

Item 2.1		Refer to the previous Public Excluded reason(s) in the Agenda for this meeting.
Item 3.1	7(2)(a)	To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.
Item 3.2	7(2)(c)(i)	To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source and is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.
Item 3.3	7(2)(j)	To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.
	7(2)(b)(ii)	To protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

**CARRIED**

**S&F2006/05**

*Resolutions S&F2006/06 – S&F2006/11 are contained in the public excluded section of these minutes.*

Having concluded the public excluded meeting, the following item was released into open meeting:

**REPORTS (CONTINUED)**

**Development Agreement - 25 Rangimarie Road, Ngaruawahia**  
**PEX Agenda Item 3.3**

It was resolved [*Resolution No. S&F2006/10*] during the public excluded section of the meeting that the following resolution be released into open meeting but the report remain confidential and unavailable to the public:

