



- *Copy of editorial from the Otago Daily Times dated 12 March 2010, Regional Rates, for Council to make comment on if necessary during discussion of Report No. 10-41, Draft Annual Plan 2010-11 and Draft Amendment to the Community Plan 2009-19 Adoption for Consultation.*

**CARRIED**

**MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There were no conflicts of interest advised.

**PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS**

There were no petitions or deputations.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Cr Bailey raised an issue of concern on page 8 of the minutes, Annual Plan Variations, Reclassification of rural advisor costs to 100% General Rate. She expressed her disappointment that the subject had not been discussed at the Council meeting of 23 February and wanted to ensure that the item would be considered at the next review of the Funding Policy.

**10-519**

***Moved***

***Murfitt/Guy***

*that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**CARRIED**

**PROPOSED TURAKINA RIVER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

*Report No. 10-39*

This report was to inform the Council of the outcome of the submissions hearing on the proposed Turakina River Management Plan (the proposed Scheme), and to obtain Council endorsement of Hearing Committee recommendations for inclusion in the draft 2010-11 Annual Plan.

The Group Manager Operations (GMO) presented the item and outlined the background and process followed for investigating flood and erosion risks for the Turakina River. He noted that the Turakina Catchment was one of the few significant catchments in the Region that did not have a river scheme in place at the present time. The proposal presented to the community involved the lowest level of activity that could be considered while still satisfying a long recognised need for proactive management in the Turakina River, and was also sufficiently flexible to accommodate any outstanding concerns that the affected community may have, particularly in relation to Old Man's Beard control.

*Cr Main entered the meeting at 10.15am*

Cr Chettleburgh questioned recommendation (c) proposed by the Hearing Committee (Upper Reach) *'That enhanced Environmental Grant subsidy of 60% is made available to encourage landowners to clear willow congesting the channel (already agreed by Council)'*, and asked that the quantum and timeframes involved for the environmental grant subsidy of 60% be indicated. The GMO explained that the application of enhanced environmental grant subsidy would be subject to annual budget provisions and demand/availability of funds in any particular year. Cr White also referred to the enhanced Environmental Grant subsidy of 60% and asked for an explanation as to why the subsidy was to be made available to landowners in the upper reach. Cr Meads explained that the Grant was an incentive to encourage landowners to address a serious willow congestion problem (unrelated to the 2004 flood event as in the case for the lower reach), and thereby to encourage the ultimate inclusion of the upper reach as part of the proposed Scheme.

Cr Bailey expressed concern at being able to confidently support the introduction of the proposed Scheme given the small number of submissions received overall.

Crs Main and Meads expressed confidence around the decision of the hearing panel to obtain Council's endorsement to include the proposed Scheme in the draft 2010-11 Annual Plan. They referred to the positive feedback received from affected landowners at the public meetings held prior to the non-statutory consultation process.

After further discussion it was agreed that a letter be written to all proposed Scheme ratepayers, advising them of the proposals to be included in the draft Annual Plan, and of the specific proposal to undertake further consultation with respect to Old Man's Beard control, and informing them of the opportunity to make further submissions through the Annual Plan submissions process.

Accordingly, the Hearing Committee recommendation (c) (Upper Reach) under recommendation (c) below was altered to reflect the discussion. A further recommendation (f) was also agreed to.

**10-520**

**Moved**

**Meads/Main**

*that the Council:*

- a. **notes** the contents of Report No.10-39;
- b. **endorses** the recommendations of the Hearing Committee meeting held on 1 March and 9 March 2010 to hear and consider submissions on the Proposed Turakina River Management Plan;
- c. **approves** the proposed Turakina River Management Plan, amended in accordance with the following recommendations from the Hearing Committee, for inclusion in the Draft Annual Plan 2010-2011 and Long-term Council Community Plan Amendment;

**Lower Reach**

**Recommendation (a)**

That the Scheme proceed as proposed for willow control and channel management, with provision of Emergency Reserves to cover the cost of clearing major river blockages.

**Middle Reach**

**Recommendation (b)**

That the Scheme proceed as proposed for willow control only.

**Upper Reach**

**Recommendation (c)**

That enhanced Environmental Grant subsidy of 60% is made available subject to annual budget provision and demand/availability of funds in any particular year, to encourage landowners to clear willow congesting the channel (as already agreed by Council).

**Contributor Rate**

**Recommendation (d)**

That the proposed 20% Contributor Rate (rating category CN) be adopted

**Old Man's Beard (OMB)**

**Recommendation (e)**

That the OMB rating category (CO) be established but zero rated in year 1 while further community consultation is undertaken on that component of the Scheme.

**Recommendation (f)**

That a separately Council-funded trial is undertaken to help establish if cost-effective OMB control in the Turakina valley is viable.

**Recommendation (g)**

That the CO rating category apply to all that part of the catchment upstream of Makuhou Road.

**Emergency Reserve  
Recommendation (h)**

That an emergency reserve fund be established to facilitate the clearance of channel blockages on an as-required basis.

**District Council Contribution to Scheme costs  
Recommendation (i)**

That staff lodge a submission to the Rangitikei District Council Draft Annual Plan, seeking a contribution towards on-going Scheme costs, in recognition of potential benefits from the Scheme in respect of the significant length of road adjoining the river.

**Name of Scheme**

**Recommendation (j)**

That the new Scheme for implementation of the Turakina River management plan be referred to as the Turakina River Scheme;

- d. ***instructs*** the Group Manager Operations to finalise the rating system and prepare the rating database for the Turakina River Scheme in time for striking the rates in 2010-11;
- e. ***notes*** that all submitters will be advised with individual letters where necessary of the outcome of the current non-statutory consultation process;
- f. ***instructs*** the Group Manager Operations to write to all proposed Scheme ratepayers advising them of the proposals included in the Draft Annual Plan, and of the opportunity to make further submissions through the Draft Annual Plan submissions process.

**CARRIED**

**LATE ITEM**

**LOWER MANAWATU SCHEME – KOPANE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT – LAND PURCHASE**

*Report No. 10-42*

The purpose of this item was to seek Council's endorsement of the Group Manager Operations' intention to initiate the compulsory land acquisition process, as prescribed in the Public Works Act 1981, in respect of land required for the Kopane Bridge replacement project.

The Group Manager Operations (GMO) thanked Members for accepting the report as a late item. He advised that urgency was required in order to initiate the process as soon as possible and have absolute certainty around land ownership before physical works contracts were awarded. There was still an opportunity, at any time outside the formal process, for agreement to be reached with the one affected party with whom agreement had not been reached.

As the GMO was requesting Council to endorse the compulsory land acquisition process, Cr Chettleburgh asked that the wording in recommendation (b) be altered to '*instruct the Chief Executive to initiate...*'

The GMO agreed that he would again contact the one affected landowner where agreement had not been reached and outline the process that Council had endorsed in order to initiate compulsory acquisition of the land required for the proposed road realignment works on the right bank of the Oroua River, including an explanation of the reasons for that action. He also undertook to make available a copy of Report No. 10-42 to the landowner concerned.

**10-521**

***Moved***

***Guy/Burnell***

*that the Council:*

- a. ***receives*** the information contained in Report No. 10-42; and

- b. **instructs** the Chief Executive to initiate the formal compulsory acquisition procedure, as prescribed in the Public Works Act 1981, in respect of land to be acquired for Public Works, being proposed road realignment works on the right bank of the Oroua River.

**CARRIED**

**COUNCILLORS' REMUNERATION: 1 JULY 2010 TO 2010 LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS**

*Report No. 10-38*

This item was to inform Members of the levels of remuneration for Councillors from 1 July 2010 to election day, and advise Members about meeting fees for One Plan hearings and deliberations.

The Group Manager Corporate and Governance presented the item.

Cr Plowman did not believe that Councillors' should suffer any loss of remuneration in order to cover meeting fees for One Plan Commissioners.

**10-522**

**Moved**

**Chettleburgh/Guy**

*that the Council:*

- a. **receives** Report No. 10-38;
- b. **notes** that from 1 July 2010 to 9 October 2010 (election day), the Chair's salary and the indicative pool will be held at the level initially set by the Authority for the current financial year, ie \$551,373;
- c. **notes** that the amount of the indicative pool, post election, will be made available by mid-year;
- d. **agrees** to continue the current system of weightings and allocation of One Plan meeting fees into the 2010-2011 financial year; and
- e. **directs** the Chief Executive to forward Council's resolution(s) to the Remuneration Authority.

**Against:** Cr Plowman

**CARRIED**

**WANGANUI NAME CHANGE**

*Report No. 10-37*

This report was to inform Members of the Minister of Land Information decision regarding the application to change the spelling of Wanganui to Whanganui, and its impact in terms of its usage for Horizons.

The Group Manager Corporate and Governance spoke to the item and was available to answer questions of clarification around any possible cost to Horizons in regard to signage, advertising, and promotional materials if a change to the spelling of Wanganui was approved.

Cr Walker tabled an extract from Wanganui District Council Minutes, Council Extraordinary Meeting, 22 May 2009 which released the final results of Referendum 2009. Out of nearly 61% of eligible electors, 77.32% of electors voted for Wanganui without the 'h', 22.28% voted for Whanganui including the 'h'. Cr Walker believed the results gave a clear indication of what the people of Wanganui wanted and he would therefore be voting against the use of the letter 'h' in the spelling of Wanganui.

Members indicated their views and preference around the spelling of Wanganui or Whanganui and it was ultimately agreed that the 'h' be included and recommendations (a), (c), and (d) were agreed to. Recommendation (b) *'approves the continued use of the current spelling of Wanganui for all business activities'* was therefore deleted.

**10-523**

**Moved**

**Guy/Main**

*that the Council:*

- a. **receives** Report No. 10-37 and **notes** that the Parliamentary process is not complete;
- c. **approves** the use of the letter 'h' in the spelling of Whanganui for all business activities; and
- d. **instructs** the Chief Executive to implement this change once legislated, and on a phased approach.

**Abstain:** Crs Plowman, Rieger, Meads

**Against:** Cr Walker

**CARRIED**

## **AFFIXING OF THE COMMON SEAL**

*Report No. 10-40*

This paper reported on documents to which Horizons Regional Council's Common Seal had been affixed.

**10-524**

**Moved**

**Chettleburgh/White**

*that the Council **acknowledges** the affixing of the Common Seal to the following documents:*

- Warrant Card Staff: Evan Lloyd – Environmental Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Ross Brannigan – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Jeff Cooke – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Alison Russell – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Leigh Christensen – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Fran Harrison – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Greg Bevin – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Rebecca Fryett – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Blair Sowman – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Harold Barnett – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Paul Peters – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Jacob Channon – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Gareth Gray – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Shane Bayley – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Staff: Pita Kinaston – Enforcement Officer

**CARRIED**



Members congratulated the Chairman on a well presented report.

**10-528**

**Moved**

**Murfitt/White**

*that the Chairman's report be received.*

**CARRIED**

*The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.*

*The meeting reconvened at 1.00pm.*

## **DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2010-11 AND DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY PLAN 2009-19 ADOPTION FOR CONSULTATION**

*Report No. 10-41*

This report provided the background for the adoption of the Draft Annual Plan (DAP) 2010-11 and Draft Amendment to the Community Plan 2009-19 (Draft Plan) for public consultation.

The Chief Executive acknowledged and extended appreciation to Councillors for their contribution to the Draft Annual Plan process.

Mr Duggan, Acting Chief Financial Officer advised that Audit New Zealand was satisfied with the Summary of Proposal and the Statement of Proposal (main document) and had issued a draft audit opinion.

There was discussion around the audit process and the involvement of Audit New Zealand relating to the DAP.

Members considered the documents and asked questions of clarification.

Cr Chettleburgh commented on an editorial from the Otago Daily Times which he had tabled as a late item. He pointed out that there had been no increase in the general rates for core Otago Regional Council rates. He asked that a clear message be publicised to Horizons Regional Council ratepayers showing the separation between the general rate increase and the targeted rate increase.

Cr White referred to the Summary of Proposal Draft Annual Plan 2010-1, page 43, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, Additional Costs, and asked that words 'Totara Reserve' be included, as well as various other places in the document.

There was full discussion around the proposed Animal Health Board Tb vector funding targeted levy/rate. Questions were asked on how the levy/rate would be collected, and the implications should ratepayers make a decision not pay it. Mr Duggan advised it was not voluntary and collection of the rate would be treated in the same way as any other rate. There was considerable discussion around the introduction of a 3% Prompt Payment Discount and the impact of that to the ratepayer. Accordingly it was agreed that these two key issues be separated out from the main recommendation.

**10-529**                      **Moved**    **Plowman/Main**

*that the Council:*

- a. **adopts** the Summary of Proposal for the Draft Annual Plan 2010-11, the Summary of Proposal for the Draft Amendment to the Community Plan 2009-19 and the Combined Statement of Proposal the Draft Annual Plan 2010-11 and Draft Amendment to the Community Plan 2009-19, as amended in response to Audit New Zealand's comments, for public consultation with the community, with the exception of items contained in 1. and 2. below:

**CARRIED**

**10-530**                      **Moved**    **Plowman/Murfitt**

1.        **agrees** that the Animal Health Board Tb Vector Levy be collected as per the Draft Annual Plan.

**Against:** Crs White, Main, Walker, Bailey

**CARRIED**

**10-531**                      **Moved**    **Rieger/Meads**

2.        **agrees** to introduce a 3% Prompt Payment Discount as per the Draft Annual Plan.

**Against:** Crs Bailey, Burnell, White, Main, Walker

**CARRIED**

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive (CE) introduced his report and elaborated on points of interest.

There was discussion around the Foxton Loop development and the role that Horizons would have in the project. It was suggested that a workshop be organised at an appropriate time for further discussion. There was comment and discussion around progress against targets as contained in The Dairying and Clean Streams Accord which was annexed to the CE's report.

**10-532**                      **Moved**    **Murfitt/Rieger**

*that the Chief Executive's report be received.*

**CARRIED**

## **MEMBERS' REPORTS AND QUESTIONS**

**Cr Burnell** attended the usual Council and Committee meetings.

**Cr Chettleburgh** attended the usual Council meetings, the Esplanade Day held in Palmerston North, Zone 3 on 1-2 March, visited various sports facilities in Auckland, Napier, and Wellington, attended the Linton Commander function at Linton, the Turitea Wind Farm hearing, a Rotary Team function, and attended several funerals.

Cr Chettleburgh expressed disappointment that the Councillor Strategy Session had been changed from May to July. The Chief Executive considered that it was better to hold the Strategy Session after the Draft Annual Plan Hearings and Deliberations were finalised.

**Cr Guy** attended the usual Council and Committee meetings, chaired the Dairy Forum, attended a meeting with Mr Alastair Bisley, Chair of the Manawatu River Leaders Summit, attended the Ngati Rangī signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Horizons Regional Council, and the launch of Ngati Rangī 'Whanau Ora', had a trip to Mana Island with Forest and Bird, and expressed appreciation to Mr Cook, Group Manager Operations for the interesting Foxton Loop visit.

**Cr Main** attended a Navigation Safety Bylaws meeting, a Whanganui River Institute Seminar which looked at potential for economic opportunities on the Whanganui River and the Region, chaired the Proposed Turakina River Management Plan Hearing, attended part of the Zone 3 meeting, and visited Balgownie to look at progress on the stopbanking work.

**Cr Meads** attended the usual Council meetings, looked at progress on the Balgownie stopbanking works, sat on the Committee for the Proposed Turakina River Management Plan Hearing, attended a meeting with Mr Bisley, Chair of the Manawatu River Leaders Summit, attended a meeting of the Rangiwahia Community Committee, the Mangatainoka, Te Kawau, Moutoa, and Rangitikei Liaison Committee meetings, the Ballance Farm awards, and thoroughly enjoyed the Foxton Loop visit.

**Cr Plowman** attended the usual Council meetings and the Ballance Farm awards.

**Cr Rieger** attended the usual Council meetings and the Ballance Farm awards. He gave an update on the process for minuting changes that Council may make to resolutions contained in the Reports of a Committee meeting.

**Cr Walker** attended the usual Council meetings, resolved problems relating to two ratepayers, enjoyed the Foxton Loop visit, and the Ballance Farm awards.

**Cr White** attended the usual Council meetings, the Ballance Farm awards, and updated Members on progress with the One Plan.

**Cr Bailey** attended Zone 3, the Regional Transport Committee meeting, meetings in regard to the Manawatu River Leaders Summit on 2 and 15 March, the Environment Committee meeting, Strategy and Policy Committee meeting, the Koputaroa, Te Kawau, Moutoa, and Makerua Scheme Liaison Committee meetings, a site visit to Foxton Loop, a Foxton Community Board meeting, and Council meeting on 23 March.

## **TRAINING CONFERENCE AND ATTENDANCE OPPORTUNITIES – 2010**

The Chief Executive noted some overseas training opportunities that he was considering. He was interested in attending the World Water Week held in Stockholm in September 2010, followed by a week in Norway to observe the functions of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr Grant, Group Manager Corporate and Governance presented a paper outlining potential Training/Conference Attendance Opportunities for Councillors' consideration.

Cr Bailey asked that the cost of purchasing only the conference papers, be investigated and included in the spreadsheet.

**10-533**

**Moved**

**Murfitt/Walker**

*that the Council **receives** the Training/Conference Attendance Opportunities-2010 and that it **continues** to be updated and presented for Councillors' information.*

**CARRIED**

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Grounds under section 48 (1) for passing this resolution
PX1 Confirmation of Minutes of 23 February 2010	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.
PX2 Endorsement and adoption of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee resolutions and recommendations (Tender) of 26 February 2010	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.
PX3 Endorsement and adoption of the Environment Committee resolutions and recommendations of 8 March 2010	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.
PX4 Endorsement and adoption of the Strategy and Policy Committee resolutions and recommendations of 9 March 2010	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.
PX5 Endorsement and adoption of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee resolutions and recommendations (Tender) of 9 March 2010	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.
PX6 Council to <b>consider</b> whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain, and <b>define</b> the extent of the release.		

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 3.10pm and resumed at 3.28pm.

The meeting closed at 3.29pm.

Confirmed