

CHATHAM ISLANDS COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the Chatham Islands Council, held in the Council Chambers, Tuku Road, Waitangi, on Thursday, 26 May 2011, commencing at 1.30 p.m.

- PRESENT:** His Worship the Mayor, Mr A W M Preece, Deputy Mayor, J I Clarke, and Councillors M Croon, K L Day, G F Horler, N C Ryan, R P Tuuta and N J Whaitiri.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** General Manager, Owen Pickles
Corporate Services Manager, Deborah Goomes
Emergency Response Co-ordinator, Rana Solomon
Council Secretary, Lynette Pickles
ECan Biosecurity Officer, Chatham Islands, Alison Turner
Dave Maitland, Downer NZ (from 1.35 p.m.)
Jack Steed, Downer NZ (from 1.35 p.m.)
- APOLOGIES:** An apology was received from Councillor D I Whaitiri.
- RESOLVED THAT** the apology from Councillor D Whaitiri be received.
J I Clarke / R P Tuuta CARRIED
- MINUTES:** **2.1 Ordinary Meeting, 14 April 2011**
- RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Chatham Islands Council, held on Thursday, 14 April 2011, be confirmed and adopted as a true and correct record.
M Croon / K L Day CARRIED
- MATTERS ARISING:** **3.4 Amendment to LTCCP – Warm Homes**
- Cr Croon stated that she had insulation installed in her home, in the ceiling and under the floor, and had noticed a huge difference in warmth. Once the home was heated up, it was retaining its warmth much longer.
- 4.1 Issues over Slipway**
- Cr Ryan asked who was paying the bills for the removal of the derelict boats from the Waitangi foreshore. His Worship advised that the owners were responsible, but finding the owners was a problem. Cr Clarke advised that

Link Christiansen owned one of them and had told him that he would be shifting it himself. Cr Ryan asked if they could just be covered up. Cr Clarke advised that this had been tried, but the tide had uncovered the boats again.

His Worship advised that he had received a letter from Pauamac regarding boats blocking access to the slip area. Cr Clarke stated that one vessel had been out of the water for maintenance but had been parked on the Port Company side of the road. The Preece trailer and tractor were back and were interfering with access.

Cr Ryan suggested that a letter should be sent to the offending owners. Cr Croon asked if it was worth erecting signage and have the Police enforce the 'no-parking' law if people continue to park illegally. The signage should indicate the cost of infringement. The General Manager advised that Council could get the Police to enforce the parking law as the area was a legal road.

It was agreed that signage should be erected warning that parking infringements would be issued for anyone parking illegally on the road.

His Worship welcomed Dave Maitland and Jack Steed to the meeting.

4.5 Closure of Tuku Gully Road

His Worship asked if the gate for the Tuku Gully Road had been installed. Dave Maitland advised that the gate had been ordered and, once installed, the keys would be delivered to the Council office.

5.2 Memorial Monument

Cr Ryan asked if the Council owned the land at Waitangi Park where the monument was to be installed. The General Manager advised that Council owned half of the land, with the other half being leased from the absentee landowner.

MINUTES:

2.2 Special Meeting, 5 May 2011

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Chatham Islands Council, held on Thursday, 5 May 2011, be confirmed and adopted as a true and correct record.

M Croon / J I Clarke CARRIED

FINANCE:

3.1 Debtor Report for period ending 18 May 2011

The Debtor Report for the period ending 18 May 2011 was presented to Council.

The General Manager advised that the collection of Dues was still a test. He was talking to each of the company representatives weekly, but it was still like “drawing teeth” to get the cash out of them. They were all very apologetic when talking to them, but then no money was forthcoming.

The General Manager stated that the two shippers and the airline were all currently in arrears, not having made payments that were due on the 20th of the month. 44 South had paid a contribution overnight, with Air Chathams promising to make a payment tonight. The hardest to get money from was the Black Robin Freighters Receiver.

RESOLVED THAT the Debtor Report as at 18 May 2011 be received.

J I Clarke / N C Ryan CARRIED

3.2 Financial Statements as at 31 March 2011

The financial statements for the period ending 31 March 2011 were presented to Council.

The General Manager advised that the statements were showing a very similar pattern to the previous ones, with the Council still tracking close to budget. The biggest problem for him to manage was still the Council’s cash flow.

RESOLVED THAT the Financial Statements to 31 March 2011 be received.

N C Ryan / K L Day CARRIED

3.3 Council Dues Report as at 31 March 2011

The Council Dues Report to 31 March 2011 was presented to Council.

The General Manager advised that the line on the graph reflected the receipt of manifests. For a few months it was a struggle to get manifests from 44 South, which led to the fall below the line. Things had improved with that company and the Council was now tracking on or ahead of budget.

RESOLVED THAT the Council Dues Report to 31 March 2011 be received
N J Whaitiri / J I Clarke CARRIED

3.4 Application for Exemption From Rates

Correspondence was received from Jeanette Page, on behalf of her family, requesting exemption from paying rates on the Ngawhata Elisa Rangimata Page Reserve.

Under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, Schedule 1, land that is set apart under Section 338 of Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993, or any corresponding former provision of that Act, and that is a Maori reservation under Section 340 of that Act, can be classified as non-rateable land.

Cr Ryan asked if the land had been subdivided. The General Manager advised that the Council approved the subdivision last year. As all the correct documentation had been received, the Council did not have the ability to decline the application for exemption from rates, with management of the land to come under the Maori Land Court.

RESOLVED THAT the parcels of land contained in Kekerione 47C1 (2.0526 ha) and Lot 3, DP 390707 (3,509m²) be non-rateable.

M Croon / J I Clarke CARRIED

3.5 Rating Valuation for Kaingaroa Factory

The Council received a written request from Hokotehi Moriori Trust (HMT) for the factory at Kaingaroa to be revalued for rating purposes under Section 16 of the Rating Valuation Act 1998. HMT believed that the factory building was grossly overvalued in 2009 at \$175,000 and that it did not have a value of even \$10,000.

The factory is included on the Valuation Roll No. 25340/074, with an overall capital value of \$830,000 (land value \$350,000, improvements \$480,000).

The General Manager reported that any changes made to the valuation would take effect from the next rating year and that they could not be back-dated. Costs associated with the revaluation would be a charge against the applicant. It was noted that HMT did not object to the valuation in 2009.

Cr Ryan asked if the valuation included the wharf and slip, or just the factory, as that might be the reason why it was assessed at \$175,000. The General Manager advised that he was unsure. His Worship thought it was a good question and would be worth checking with the Valuers, but it was not the Council's responsibility to pay for a review.

RESOLVED THAT in terms of Section 16 of the Rating Valuation Act 1998, the property under Roll 25340/074 be reassessed at the applicant's cost.

R P Tuuta / N C Ryan CARRIED

WORKS & SERVICES: 4.1 Downer NZ Report, March 2011

RESOLVED THAT the Downer NZ Report for March 2011 be received.

N C Ryan / M Croon CARRIED

4.2 Downer NZ Report, April 2011

RESOLVED THAT the Downer NZ Report for April 2011 be received.

J I Clarke / N C Ryan CARRIED

Dave Maitland issued an invitation to everyone to attend Les and Carol Woodrow's farewell function on 4 June.

He advised that work was tracking to plan, but it was a shame that the weather had beaten them in relation to the work at Owenga. Road strengthening work on the Port Hutt Road was progressing well, kerb and channel was about to be laid at the far end of Nairn Bridge, and there was a culvert to be tidied up on Tuku Road.

His Worship asked Dave if anyone from Downers had been to Pitt Island to undertake maintenance work. Dave stated that it was hoped that Les Woodrow would go, weather permitting. Les would be working for Downers out of their Christchurch branch and Jack would call on him when required.

Cr Tuuta asked what the policy was on the sealing of accessways into private properties when a particular road was being sealed. He noted that there were some inconsistencies in work carried out at Owenga.

Cr Tuuta declared an interest before asking his question.

Dave Maitland advised that they sought verification from the New Zealand Transport Agency. Jack Steed stated that driveways that went to houses would receive a sealed accessway, but a gateway or farm gate entrance would only have a culvert finished with a gravel surface. Dave stated that he would provide Cr Tuuta with a copy of the policy.

The General Manager advised that the Council had not really decided on a policy in the past as there had not been a lot of road sealing undertaken. The New Zealand Transport Agency set the rules as they provided the subsidy. He had received an enquiry from another property owner where the accessway serviced an empty section. That owner had been advised that if a driveway serviced a dwelling or business, a formed and sealed driveway would be constructed at the time of sealing, but if there were no buildings, it fell back on the Council to decide what happened. As the Council did not have extra funding for this, they would be applying the Transport Agency policy.

His Worship asked what happened if a section was developed with buildings after a sealing process had occurred. The General Manager advised that the costs would fall back on the developer for the construction of a sealed entrance.

His Worship gave an update on the Pitt Island cattlestop saga. He advised that after the Council visit to Pitt Island, they got a clear view that some residents were happy to have a cattlestop on their property. There was some money in the budget to procure the cattlestops and he had received a price from Humes Construction of \$7,000 landed on Pitt Island.

Dave Maitland asked if the price was for a Class I standard cattlestop as the Transport Agency would want that. His Worship stated that they were suitable for a public road. Dave advised that what was installed was dependent on what standard level the Council wanted to set. He believed that the Humes price was close to the cost of Kiwi cattlestops.

His Worship stated that he was keen to make some progress on the issue. He wondered if it would be worthwhile purchasing from Humes rather than constructing on site as he would like to see something done before the Council went back to Pitt Island in 3-4 months time.

Dave Maitland asked if the funding was available to the end of June. The General Manager advised that it was. His Worship would work with Downer NZ on a way forward.

Cr Tuuta expressed concern about vehicles towing large trailers between Owenga and Waitangi hitting the sides of Te Awainanga Bridge. He had seen the trailers actually hitting the bridge and causing damage.

Cr Ryan believed that most of the problem was due to excessive speed. He was concerned that those hitting the bridge and causing damage were not reporting it to the Council. The Corporate Services Manager, as a daily user of that road, stated that there was a problem for the other road users in that the towing vehicle's speed forced them to pull right over to avoid the swinging trailer. She suggested that through the Road Safety Committee or the fishing industry groups, there needed to be some stern warnings made about the driving habits of those towing boat trailers. She believed that if they were hitting the sides of the bridge, they were definitely driving too fast.

His Worship stated that there were some restrictions around the movement of oversize vehicles on a bridge and people needed to be made aware of them. He did not want to stop people going about their business, but they should be made aware of the need to take some care.

Dave Maitland stated that engineering issues for a bridge were dependent on how the weight was spread. Downers truck and transporter could negotiate the bridge fine. He advised that on the Mainland, permits were required for anything too heavy or wide. He believed that the Council had to decide if they wanted to accommodate the bad driving behaviour or do something to stop it. Engineering wise, the Council could not afford to put all the load on the outside of the bridge.

Cr N Whaitiri asked how to go about getting a permit for a wide vehicle. Cr Clarke stated that an application should be made to the Police.

His Worship stated that it would be useful to have a copy of the Regulations for over width trailers included in the Chatham Islander to make fish and farm vehicle owners aware.

Cr Croon asked if a speed restriction could be placed on Te Awainanga Bridge. The General Manager stated that

signs could be erected anywhere, but people tended to ignore them.

Cr N Whitiri asked who paid for the repair to the bridge. The General Manager advised that the costs came back to the Council so it was a loss for everyone. All it took was for drivers to take more care. He was also concerned that if the trailers were not registered, this could affect the chances of the Council obtaining funding for any repairs.

It was suggested that someone should talk to the fishermen about their obligations when using the road. Cr Clarke stated that “it was like talking to a brick wall”.

Cr Croon asked that her thanks be recorded to the Council, Downer NZ and Total Span, on behalf of Te One School, for the installation of the two new bus shelters.

4.3 Engineer’s April 2011 Report

RESOLVED THAT the Engineer’s Report for April 2011 be received.

J I Clarke / R P Tuuta CARRIED

The General Manager advised that the Engineers were still trying to obtain funding from the New Zealand Transport Agency for the Te One Bridge. On 2 May 2011 the Transport Agency gave approval for the bridge to be funded, but on 25 May 2011 the decision was rescinded. He stated that it was unlikely that a project of this type would be funded for at least two years. Unless someone released any excess funds, this problem was likely to be on-going in the immediate years ahead.

His Worship asked what the status of the bridge was with the props underneath it. Dave Maitland advised that in the long term, the bridge would need to be fixed.

Cr Day noted that there seemed to be more water coming from the Wharf Road cliff face. Dave Maitland advised that there had been quite a lot of discharge from the hill, but the drainage work undertaken at the top had reduced it considerably.

4.4 Abandoned Vehicles

A report was presented about Council’s authority with regards to the removal of abandoned vehicles. Motor vehicles which appear to have been abandoned may be removed by the Council or an authorised person.

Where the vehicle was unregistered and had no licence for the current year, and was not claimed within two months and storage expenses paid, the Council may sell the vehicle after giving 14 days public notice. Any proceeds can be applied to the Council's expenses with any surplus being paid to the former owner.

Where the vehicle appeared to be abandoned but had a current registration licence, the Council could take possession of the vehicle and remove it to a place of safety, but if the Council was negligent in the removal or storage, it might be liable to the owner in a civil claim. As far as practicable, the Council had to give notice of all removals to the last registered owner and the immediately preceding owner.

Under separate powers, a Constable could authorise the immediate removal of any vehicle which was parked in breach of a parking restriction, or causing an obstruction, or in an emergency situation. New Zealand Fire Service Officers and Civil Defence Officers had similar powers in emergency situations, and the Reserves Act 1977 had similar provisions with regards to vehicles and boats abandoned on a reserve.

The General Manager reported that to action these provisions, the Council required a secure place to store abandoned vehicles while the appropriate notices were complied with.

His Worship stated that he was not sure if the Council wanted to get into the business of storing abandoned vehicles. The General Manager advised that the key to success with abandoned vehicles was to act early when ownership was less doubtful.

Cr Ryan stated that the bulldozers abandoned at Owenga were the problem. His Worship stated that a final letter should be sent to the owner giving him until 30 June 2011 to remove them and if no action occurred, then the Council would have them removed at the owner's expense.

RESOLVED THAT the information on abandoned vehicles be received.

N C Ryan / J I Clarke CARRIED

4.5 Sanitary Landfill Site

Following the April Council Meeting a letter was sent to Alfred and Robyn Preece to commence engagement with them over the proposed landfill site. Their reply confirmed “the availability of the proposed landfill site pending suitability”, with their preference being a long term lease of the site. They agreed to the appointment of an independent person to assist and advise with price parameters and also basic terms and conditions.

The General Manager advised the Office of the Auditor General of the Council’s intentions to do business with the Mayor. The response advised that no approvals were required if the business resulted in a lease.

RESOLVED THAT the information on the landfill site negotiations be received.

M Croon / K L Day CARRIED

The General Manager stated that it was good that the lease did not trigger members’ interest requirements. He advised that he had briefed MWH’s John Cocks, who was putting a proposal together on the way forward.

4.6 Street Lighting Contract

A proposal was received from the Chatham Islands Enterprise Trust for the operation and maintenance of the Island’s street lighting. This proposal was in a form that was easily understood by both parties and was in line with funding requirements.

Street lighting was a subsidised activity under the Council’s Land Transport Programme. There were currently 20.5 street lights, with any additional requirements being a Council decision. The costs would be factored into the Land Transport Programme.

The proposal included an annual estimate for maintenance costs, with the assumption that each lamp had a three year life before repairs were necessary. On that basis, an allowance had been made for seven lights per annum either requiring repair or full replacement.

Cr Tuuta asked if the light listed as being at Owenga School could be transferred to the Owenga Wharf. There was an abandoned pole where the tsunami warning system used to be that could be used.

Cr Day asked if there could be a light erected at Chatham Motors as the vehicles parked outside near the road could be dangerous in the dark. The General Manager stated that it was the Council that determined where street lights went and whether or not there was a need to add or take away.

The General Manager advised that it was good to now have a formal contract for street lighting as previously there was no accountability for the maintenance. This was a concern to him as street lighting was a subsidised activity under the Council's Land Transport Programme.

RESOLVED THAT the street lighting proposal from the Chatham Islands Enterprise Trust be approved.

J I Clarke / R P Tuuta CARRIED

4.7 New Zealand Transport Agency Procedural Audit

A copy of the Procedural Audit of the Council undertaken by the New Zealand Transport Agency in March 2011 was presented to Council. The report raised some minor concerns which were addressed soon after the Auditor's visit.

Cr Croon asked what the minor concerns were. The General Manager advised that the audits were undertaken approximately every five years. At the time of the last one in 2006, a physical audit of the roading network was also carried out. The Auditor, Tony Pinn, recommended that the Council tidy up some accounting processes to be consistent with the New Zealand Transport Agency's policies. After some discussion between Mr Pinn and the Council's accounting staff, any problems were sorted.

RESOLVED THAT the New Zealand Transport Agency Audit Report be received.

N C Ryan / M Croon CARRIED

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

5.1 Norman Kirk Memorial Reserve Building

A late item was tabled at the meeting. In accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act, the Council was required to consider the item as a late item with reasons, or defer until the next meeting. The item referred to urgent structural and maintenance issues at the Norman Kirk Memorial Reserve building.

RESOLVED THAT the following item be considered by Council as a late item at the May 2011 Council Meeting – “Norman Kirk Memorial Reserve Building”, the reason being that works need to progress with urgency.

N C Ryan / R P Tuuta CARRIED

The General Manager presented a report on the Norman Kirk Memorial Reserve building.

A number of structural and deferred maintenance problems were inspected by Council’s Engineer during April 2011. A schedule of works was offered to James O’Neill for pricing, including waterproofing of the stand over the equipment rooms, replacing corroded cladding, replacement of spouting, and repairs to the timber stand (replace bearers). The quote did not include repainting and waterproofing around the windows as it had been suggested during the inspection that this could be done by others.

The quoted price was \$18,237.02, plus freight estimated to be \$1,500.

The General Manager reported that Council was responsible for the building but did not have sufficient funds. He proposed that a loan of \$25k be raised over a five year period to cover the work, inclusive of the window waterproof and paint. At 6% interest, this would cost \$5,825 per annum, which was affordable within current budgets. Either the Council’s bank, ANZ, or the Chatham Islands Enterprise Trust were possible funders.

Crs Clarke, Day and Horler, as members of the Norman Kirk Memorial Reserve Committee, declared an interest.

The General Manager advised that the maintenance issues had been raised some time ago with the Council and he had asked Council’s Engineer to take a view. The Engineer took James O’Neill along to the inspection.

The General Manager had talked to the Chief Executive Officer of the Enterprise Trust about the possibility of raising a short term loan over five years through the Enterprise Trust. He was favourable in putting the request to the Trust. The General Manager advised that by raising a loan over five years, the Council could remain within its budgets when servicing the loan. He stated that if the Trust chose to decline the request, there was always the option of speaking to the Council’s ANZ Banking Manager who had authority to lend up to \$100,000.

RESOLVED THAT

1. Council submit on its Annual Plan to include these proposed works within its budgets.
2. These be funded by a loan of \$25k.
3. The Chatham Islands Enterprise Trust or the ANZ Bank be offered the chance to fund the proposed loan.

N C Ryan / N J Whaitiri CARRIED

REGULATORY:

6.1 Update from Environment Canterbury

The March/April update from Environment Canterbury covering progress on various projects undertaken on behalf of the Chatham Islands Council was presented.

Alison Turner spoke to the report, reiterating her concerns about the high risk of rats arriving on Pitt Island and feared the day that she would have to come to a Council Meeting and say that the rats had made it. She was maintaining rat bait stations weekly. Cr Horler asked how the rodent problem had been dealt with in the past. Alison stated that she was unsure what happened in the past, but this season the problem had seemed to be much worse. She believed that the amount of product being stored at the Waitangi Wharf was not helping the situation.

On the biosecurity risks, Alison stated that she was pleased to report that there had been an improvement in the reporting of 'things' coming to the Islands on imported items. She was making every effort to respond to any reports and to finding ways to solve the problem. She was also getting more co-operation from anyone who had an interest in weeds and the sharing of information was becoming much better.

The General Manager advised that His Worship the Mayor would be attending an Environment Canterbury Steering Committee Meeting with him on 14 June. The new ECan Chief Executive Officer would also be in attendance. One of the issues that would be raised was the work undertaken by NIWA on the Islands, to check that no duplication was occurring between that body and the ECan staff.

His Worship asked if the accommodation for Alison at the Kokiri Centre had been sorted. The General Manager advised that documentation for the lease was on its way in the mail. He was hoping that it would all be in order by 1 July.

Alison Turner suggested that there could be the chance of space for the Council's use as there were some surplus rooms. Cr Croon stated that there should be a meeting with other users also to see that the Council was not infringing on their usage. The General Manager stated that the lease agreement would outline what space was available for the Council.

Cr Ryan stated that the weed growing in the creek at Owenga had been washed down the creek and was growing profusely. Alison advised that there was a need to be very careful about using any chemical, but arresting the infestation was a high priority.

Cr Day asked if there were more frogs appearing on the Island as she had noticed that the 'croaking' was more persistent. Alison stated that a lot of people were noticing the noise. People had brought tadpoles to the Island and set them free so they were an introduced species. She was unsure what risks there were from the frogs.

RESOLVED THAT the update from Environment Canterbury be received.

M Croon / R P Tuuta CARRIED

6.2 Proposed Volunteer Vet Visit

The ECan Biosecurity Officer, Chatham Islands, Alison Turner, reported that the South Pacific Animal Welfare (SPAW) offer volunteer veterinary services to the Pacific Islands and were interested in extending their service to the Chatham Islands. SPAW's focus was to provide veterinary care, spay/neuter services and humane education programmes, while developing on-island expertise at the same time. Visiting vet teams would pay their own airfares, with recipient communities supporting the team with accommodation and food, venues to work from, and other local support.

The Chatham Islands Conservation Board had raised concerns about the cost and lack of access to cat and dog desexing services on the Chatham Islands, and the proposed visit by SPAW might offer an opportunity to address this community need.

Alison had been providing SPAW's Executive Director, Karen Galvan, with information and encouragement to support a Chatham Islands' visit, and tentative plans had been made for the first visit to be for a week in November this year.

Alison stated that the group were very keen to come to the Chatham Islands. They did not know very much about the Islands so she was filling in the gaps. It was likely that the Department of Conservation would be able to offer support with some accommodation. A final decision about coming to the Chatham Islands would probably be made by mid-June.

Cr Croon suggested that a Uniquely Chathams article could be written should the group decide to come.

RESOLVED THAT Council supports the proposed visit by representatives from the South Pacific Animal Welfare.
K L Day / M Croon CARRIED

6.3 Biodiversity Condition and Advice Funds – Covenant Pest Control Bid

The ECan Biosecurity Officer, Chatham Islands, Alison Turner, reported on a meeting held between Alan White, Manager of the Biodiversity Fund, His Worship the Mayor, Councillors Croon and Horler, the General Manager, the Department of Conservation Area Manager, Ken Hunt, and herself, to discuss opportunities for funding a collaborative pest control project for private land conservation covenants.

With over 40 conservation covenants, kawenata, and protected land agreements on the Chatham Islands, covering over 3,000 hectares, there was increasing demand for pest control, and with the success of the Taiko Trust initiatives, momentum was growing to support wider pest control of, particularly, feral cats and possums.

In the first instance, a bid to the Biodiversity Advice Fund was proposed to engage someone to work with local landowners in planning a programme of pest control in protected private land. A collaborative project between the Taiko Trust, CHART, the Council, the Department of Conservation, Environment Canterbury, and local pest control contractors was needed to develop a viable locally driven plan. The plan would then be the basis for a bid to the Biodiversity Condition Fund for funding to undertake the work.

Chatham Islands Council's administration of the funds, should the bid be successful, had been proposed as the Council's contribution to the project.

Alison Turner advised that she had the bid ready to go and was just waiting on a signature from the Council. It would be an entirely collaborative project, with at this stage just an investigation for a wider Island pest control plan. She had a copy of the details of the application if Council members wished to see it.

His Worship stated that it was a very good initiative and would certainly make an impact on pest control. He believed that it would also offer some employment opportunities.

RESOLVED THAT

1. Council supports and encourages a co-operative approach to pest control.
2. Applications be made to the Biodiversity Advice Fund to provide:
 - (a) funding to engage with local landowners in planning a programme of pest control in protected private land; and
 - (b) funding for a pest control programme.

J I Clarke / N J Whaitiri CARRIED

6.4 Resource Consent – A R Hough, Maipito Road

An application for resource consent was received from Ada Rose Hough of Maipito Road for a dispensation for the construction of a shed inside the set back requirements of the Chatham Islands Resource Management Document, Rule 5.3.4, Rural Management Area.

In granting dispensation, the Council must consider a number of effects. In this case there were little or no effects from the development.

Cr Tuuta asked if the dispensation was being requested because the shed had been constructed before a building permit was issued. The General Manager advised that was the main reason.

Cr Day asked if the Council had received similar requests for dispensation in the past. The General Manager advised that there had been one such request.

Concern was expressed about the amount of gorse growing on the boundary of the property in the vicinity of the shed and it was suggested that the dispensation be granted subject to the removal of the gorse.

RESOLVED THAT the dispensation from the set back rule, to allow a shed to be constructed inside the 10m, be approved subject to the removal of gorse from the boundary of the property.

N C Ryan / N J Whaitiri CARRIED

6.5 Right-of-Way and Electricity Easement – Wind Farm

Survey plans covering easements and a lease over a right-of-way servicing the Wind Farm site at Owenga were presented to Council. The lease was over Part Section 1 Owenga Settlement, and the easements were over Part Sections 1 and 32 Owenga Settlement and Lots 1-3, DP 42227.

His Worship the Mayor, A W M Preece, declared an interest. Cr J I Clarke took the chair.

The General Manager explained that the application was a legal formality giving the Electricity Company rights of easement to erect their poles, etc. where they already were.

RESOLVED THAT

1. The survey plans be approved.
2. Sections 223 and 224 (c) Certificates under the Resource Management Act 1991 be issued.

R P Tuuta / M Croon CARRIED

His Worship the Mayor resumed the chair.

GOVERNMENT:

8.1 LGNZ Combined Zones 5 and 6 Meeting

His Worship the Mayor, Cr Tuuta, and the General Manager attended the Local Government New Zealand Combined Zones 5 and 6 Meeting in Christchurch on 26 and 27 April 2011. A verbal report on key points from the meeting was provided by them at the Council Meeting.

Cr Tuuta gave a report on the Remuneration Authority presentation. He also noted that the members of the Timaru District Council were all using ipads supplied by the Council. He found the information presented on the Christchurch earthquake interesting, but believed that some Christchurch Councillors' aspirations for the city would be overruled by a higher power. Cr Tuuta enjoyed the opportunity to meet new people and speaking with some about the energy issues facing Stewart Island.

His Worship noted that the Meeting had some significance in that it was the last time the Hon Rodney Hide attended a function as the Leader of the Act Party. He stated that the presentation by the Hon Paula Bennett was very good.

RESOLVED THAT the report on the Combined Zones 5 and 6 Meeting be received.

N C Ryan / J I Clarke CARRIED

CLOSURE:

Meeting Closure

After consideration of the In Camera Agenda, and there being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 3.32 p.m.

CONFIRMED THIS 7th DAY OF JULY 2011

MAYOR