

**These minutes are subject to confirmation by the chair at the next meeting to be held
Monday 7 September 2015.
HUTT CITY COUNCIL**

CENTRAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held in the Hutt Art Society, 9-11 Myrtle Street, Lower Hutt on
Monday 15 June 2015 commencing at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Mrs S Lafrentz (Chair) Ms D Mulligan (from 6.35pm)
Deputy Mayor D Bassett Cr C Milne
Mrs J Thompson

APOLOGIES: Mr D Jones

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr T Stallinger, Chief Executive (part meeting)
Mr G Stuart, Divisional Manager Regulatory Services (part meeting)
Mr B Hodgins, Divisional Manager Parks & Gardens (part meeting)
Mr P Maaka, Urban Design Manager (part meeting)
Mr L Earl, Traffic Assets Manager (part meeting)
Mr G Sewell, Principal Policy Advisor (part meeting)
Ms S Haniel, Committee Advisor

PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. APOLOGIES

RESOLVED: Minute No. CCC 15301

"That the apology received from Mr D Jones be accepted and leave of absence be granted."

Ms Mulligan joined the meeting at 6.35pm.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments are recorded under the item to which they relate.

PRECEDENCE OF BUSINESS

RESOLVED: Minute No. CCC 15302

"That in terms of Standing Order 25.5, precedence be accorded to item 6 c) dealing with the Margaret Street Proposed Bus Stop."

This item is recorded in the order in which it is listed on the order paper.

3. PRESENTATIONS

a) Presentation by Local Councillor from Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC)

Cr Laban elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, Cr Laban said that he would forward information to members concerning the availability of buses on the day of the heavy rain and floods, 14 May 2015. He requested Cr Milne to contact him about the issue of putting bikes on buses and trains. He noted that members requested information about river dredging with regard to flood protection.

b) Presentation by NZ Police

Apologies were received from Senior Sergeant P Holt.

c) **Presentation from the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO)**

Deputy Mayor Bassett left the meeting at 7.50pm

The WREMO Community Resilience Advisor said that the development of a Community Response Plan (CRP) in the Central Ward would be to empower the community in the first 72 hours after a large scale emergency.

Deputy Mayor Basset rejoined the meeting at 7.55pm

The Community Resilience Advisor asked the Committee to be the Plan Champions for the Central Hutt Ward. She said that the CRP would be developed over five sessions.

In response to questions from members, the Community Resilience Advisor said that as part of the process for establishing a Community Response Plan, the Plan Champions could advise WREMO about how communities affiliate with each other. She noted that an electoral boundary could have many suburbs which may not necessarily have much communication with each other.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15303

"That the Committee appoints a working group of Ms Lafrentz, Ms Thompson, Ms Mulligan, Mr Jones, Cr Milne and Deputy Mayor Bassett to be the representatives on the Central Community Response Planning Group."

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15304

"That the minutes of the meeting of the Central Community Committee held on Tuesday, 7 April 2015, be confirmed as a true and correct record."

6. **REPORTS REFERRED FOR COMMITTEE INPUT BEFORE BEING CONSIDERED BY STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL**

a) **Pilmuir Street: Proposed No Stopping At All Times Restrictions** (15/842)

Report No. CCC2015/3/166 by the Traffic Engineer

The Traffic Engineer elaborated on the report.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15305

"That the Committee endorses the recommendations contained in the report."

b) **Huia Street : Proposed Pedestrian Refuge Islands and Give Way Control**
(15/920)

Report No. CCC2015/3/169 by the Traffic Engineer

The Urban Design Manager elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, the Urban Design Manager said that cars were not slowing down sufficiently when turning from Myrtle Street into Huia Road and that pedestrians could have difficulty crossing the road. He said that the refuge islands would be part of Council's Walkability project which was to develop better access for pedestrians to walk to facilities in the city. He added that there were a significant number of people using the intersection due to the proximity of colleges and Huia Pool.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15306

"That the Committee endorses the recommendations contained in the report."

c) **Margaret Street Proposed Bus Stop** (15/923)

Report No. CCC2015/3/168 by the Urban Design Manager

Speaking under public comment, **Mr M Lear, Project Manager, representing Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC)**, said that GWRC strongly supported the proposed bus stop because Hutt City was a key transport interchange. Buses delivered around 3,700 people per day to the city centre which represented approximately 2,300 individual car trips and reduced road congestion. He said bus drivers considered that the stop on Queens Drive had safety concerns. He added that Council and GWRC had considered a number of options and the Margaret Street option met the criteria for a safe and viable bus stop.

In response to questions from members, Mr Lear said that the proposed Margaret Street stop would take approximately 35% of the bus service traffic, which would be about one bus every five minutes. He said that the services which would move to Margaret Street were the 110 and the 120. He added that the street would be sufficiently wide enough for buses heading north, in one direction only. He said that with regard to passenger behaviour, there would be closed-circuit television (CCTV) which covered the street.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr P McLaughlin, representing the Rock Shop**, said that he opposed the proposal because he would need more staff and have fewer customers because of passenger behaviour. He added that the Gibson Sheat building would be earthquake strengthened later this year which would interrupt his access through the back of the building, therefore he would need to load stock through the front of his shop. He requested a temporary loading zone on Queens Drive of three parking spaces. He also said that there would be a risk of damage to his shop during the construction of the bus stop, should it proceed.

In response to questions from members, Mr McLaughlin said that he and the other retailers had been consulted by officers on the proposal last week, on Wednesday 10 June 2015 at a breakfast meeting.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr R Small, representing Pacific Legal**, said that he opposed the proposal because he had made an investment to move to the Gibson Sheat building from Taita and grow his business to nine staff. He added that there were instances of annoying, threatening behaviour from some bus users and that this would not alter between the different suburbs the buses were servicing. He said that he opposed the removal of five carparks because they were important for his business, particularly courier deliveries. He considered that the consultation period of six days was inadequate for the GWRC 10 yearly bus review. He proposed that it would be feasible to extend the current Queens Drive bus stop north instead of moving buses to Margaret Street.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr T Stevenson, representing Empire Skateshop**, said that he opposed the proposal. He added that there would be better options such as, by the Mad Butcher or outside Countdown, and there had not been enough time to explore these options.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr A Cromie, representing Maxam Corporation**, said that he opposed the proposal. He considered that this would be a temporary solution and there would be better options, such as using Bunny Street and putting buses on the periphery and keeping them out of town. He added that Margaret Street was a boutique street and he would like that to remain.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr G Cromie, representing Res Nullius**, said that the bigger issue for retailers was the dying of retail space in the strip shopping space. He added that there had been insufficient time for consultation.

Ms J Thompson read out four written public comments:

- **Mr B Blackler and Mr B Smith, representing Blackler Smith & Co**, who said that they opposed the proposed bus stop because of antisocial behaviours, potential for damage to their property, increased business expenses and loss of carparks. They proposed a compromise which would entail only one bus service using Margaret Street.
- **Senior Sergeant P Holt, representing Lower Hutt Police**, who said that the proposal made sense and Police supported the bus stop in Margaret Street.
- **Ms B Whiteside, representing Cash Converters**, who said that she supported the proposal for another bus stop to be put into Margaret Street to avoid any more congestion in Queens Drive, which was already highly congested with traffic coming in and out of Westfield.
- **Ms A McKone**, who said that there would be more space for bus users on Margaret Street. She said that she had concerns about the turning circle for buses into High Street where there was angle parking which limited visibility for drivers.

The Urban Design Manager elaborated on the report. He said that the delay in consultation had arisen because officers had been working on wider road network strategy and that it had not been until early May when they had been able to explore the bus issues again. He added that GWRC had a fixed timetable and needed to implement changes in November 2015. He said that he had been as transparent over the past week as he could have been, given the tight schedule for implementation. He said that buses in Queens Drive had a safety issue of buses backing up into the carriageway and large numbers of pedestrians on the footpath. He considered that this would be an opportunity to fix a number of problems, and added that recent improvements had reduced the crime rate considerably on Bunny Street. He said that officers had investigated other options, extending the stop on Queens Drive conflicted with private driveways, Bunny Street could not accommodate all bus services, southern Queens Drive had service lane conflicts, and that all three streets were too narrow to accommodate adequate waiting facilities. He added that New Zealand Bus may consider decommissioning the Queens Drive stop if the safety problems were not resolved.

In response to questions from members, the Urban Design Manager said that officers may be able to delay the proposal for a month and still meet the implementation date in November 2015. He said that if the Queens Drive stop was

decommissioned, then the next closest stop would be on High Street north of McDonalds. He added that a bus stop outside Countdown did not offer line-of-sight for connecting bus services.

In response to questions from members, the Traffic Assets Manager said that officers had reviewed the turning circle for buses from Margaret Street into High Street and that there would be sufficient space for the angle parks to remain. However the situation would be reviewed after implementation of the bus stop. He added that a bus consultation group, the Bunny Street Stakeholder Group, had been set up in 2011 which included NZ Bus, Westfield, Retail Holdings, taxis, Police and Capital Properties. He added that he was not aware of an accident record for the Queens Drive stop.

Members considered that the consultation period needed to be extended to a six week period to allow the Committee to further consider submitters' ideas and concerns and undertake an on-site visit. Members asked officers to read out the public speakers' comments of this meeting at the Traffic Subcommittee to be held on 16 June 2015.

RECOMMENDED:

Minute No. CCC 15307

"That the Committee:

- (i) recommends that the Traffic Subcommittee reads out public speakers' comments relating to the proposed Margaret Street bus stop at its meeting to be held on 16 June 2015; and*
- (ii) recommends that the Traffic Subcommittee defers the Margaret Street Bus Stop proposal for six weeks to enable the Committee to further consider submitters' ideas and concerns and undertake an on-site visit."*

d) **Dog Control Bylaw** (15/835)

Report No. CCC2015/3/165 by the Principal Policy Advisor

The Divisional Manager, Regulatory Services elaborated on the report.

The Principal Policy Advisor said that any changes to the Dog Control bylaw would go through a consultation process and results of submissions would come back to the Committee for consideration before Council made its final decision.

In response to questions from members, the Divisional Manager, Parks and Gardens, said that officers would correct the Avalon Park prohibition area with regard to the stop bank area, as shown on map 53, attached as Appendix 2 to the report. He further said that officers would consult with Greater Wellington Regional Council about whether a fenced dog park on the eastern side of the stopbank at Avalon Park could be feasible.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15308

"That the Committee:

- (i) *considers the proposed Schedule of dog prohibited and dog exercise areas as it relates to their Ward, as attached as Appendices 1 and 2 to the report;*
- (ii) *requests that Council approves the proposed Schedule subject to removing the stop bank area from the Avalon Park prohibition, as shown on map 53, attached as Appendix 2 to the report; and*
- (iii) *notes that the Committee's recommendations will be presented to the Policy and Regulatory Committee for its consideration."*

7. **COMMITTEE ADVISOR'S REPORT** (15/759)

Report No. CCC2015/3/26 by the Committee Advisor

The Committee Advisor elaborated on the report.

Ms D Mulligan said that the Daisy Blanket sculpture had been well received by the community and that it would be going to Days Bay next. She added that it was currently being repaired after suffering some solar damage.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15309

"That the Committee receives the report."

8. **CENTRAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE'S SUBMISSIONS** (15/661)

Report No. CCC2015/3/127 by the Committee Advisor

The Chair elaborated on the report.

Deputy Mayor Bassett said that Council had approved funding for a light box in response to the Committee's submission to Council's Long Term Plan. He added that the City Development Committee would welcome submissions from the Committee regarding suggestions for the light boxes.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15310

"That the Committee:

- (i) *notes that its submission in respect of Council's Long Term Plan requires retrospective endorsement;*
- (ii) *endorses its submission attached as Appendix 1 to the report;*
- (iii) *notes that its submission in respect of Council's Class 4 Gaming Venue and Board Venue Policy requires retrospective endorsement; and*
- (iv) *endorses its submission attached as Appendix 2 to the report."*

Deputy Mayor Bassett abstained from voting on the above matter.

9. **CENTRAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FUND ROUND 2 - 2014-2015** (15/927)

Memorandum dated 8 June 2015 by the Community Advisor Funding and Community Contracts

The Chair elaborated on the memorandum.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15311

"That the Committee:

- (i) *approves the application from Hutt Valley Youth Trust for funding from the Community Engagement Fund for a total of \$1,475.75 for the purchase of workstation, chair and bookcase; and*
- (ii) *approves the application from the Lower Hutt Women's Centre for funding from the Community Engagement Fund for a total of \$1,805.00 for the purchase of brochure display units."*

10. **CHAIR'S REPORT** (15/746)

Report No. CCC2015/3/128 by the Chair

The Chair elaborated on the report.

Deputy Mayor Bassett and Cr Milne said that they would abstain from voting on the Committee's upcoming submission to Council's Alcohol Ban bylaw.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CCC 15312

"That the report be noted and received."

11. **REPORT BACK FROM THE NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITY BOARD'S CONFERENCE 2015** (15/894)

Report No. CCC2015/3/131 by Ms Mulligan.

Ms Mulligan elaborated on the report.

12. **REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

Labyrinth Committee (15/747)

Report No. CCC2015/3/190 by Ms Thompson.

Ms Thompson advised that there was nothing to report.

13. **QUESTIONS**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Mrs S Lafrentz
CHAIR

**CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 7th day of September 2015**