

**These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next Committee meeting to be held
on the 12th November 2015
HUTT CITY COUNCIL**

WESTERN COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Report of a meeting held in the Hardwick-Smith Lounge, Norfolk Street, Belmont on
Thursday 10 September 2015 commencing at 7.00pm

PRESENT: Ms M Bowmar Ms G Berridge (Chair)
Mrs K Wick Cr MJ Cousins
Mr P Matcham (Deputy Chair)

APOLOGIES: An apology was received from Cr M Shierlaw.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr L Earl, Traffic Assets Manager, Road and Traffic (part meeting)
Ms S Haniel, Committee Advisor

PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. APOLOGIES

RESOLVED: **Minute No. WCC 15401**
"That the apology received from Cr Shierlaw be accepted and leave of absence be granted."

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments are recorded under the item to which they relate.

3. PRESENTATIONS

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

Speaking under public comment, **Ms P Sissons** said that with regard to the proposed flood plain upgrades, she supported keeping the river corridor unaltered between Melling Bridge and Kennedy-Good Bridge. She added that the public, including mums and dog walkers used the area, and that a large population of monarch butterflies were coming to the river. She proposed that Hutt City celebrate the flora and fauna of the river each year because of its beauty.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr G Birkinshaw** said he did not support the proposed flood protection measures because he considered that GWRC's premise of 400 year flood control was based on unsubstantiated theorem and scaremongering. He added that he would be interested in evidence to support the

proposed flood protection plans. He further said that to alter the floodplain would be to diminish the natural asset.

Speaking under public comment, **Ms H Vink** said that she did not support the proposed flood protection measures because access and enjoyment of the river in its natural state would be destructive to the way locals lived. She further said that financial damage could be fixed, but if the access to the river were to be diminished then increased clashes between people or between dogs would be harder to rectify.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr R Maud** said that he was on the steering committee for the river trail and supported keeping the current walking area for public access along the river corridor.

Mr Graeme Campbell, Flood Protection, Manager, Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) provided a brief presentation on the following: a history of flooding in the Hutt; the project to upgrade the stop banks between the Ewen and Melling Bridges; the impact of flooding on communities; the Melling Bridge intersection; and the analysis of cost effective options. He advised that the consultation period closed on Monday 14 September 2015. He said that GWRC would consider the balance of ecological habitat and that the detail of the river edge had not yet been designed. He strongly urged people to send in submissions on the matter and that GWRC could work with experts, such as ecologists, during the design process.

Cr Greig said that costs for flood protection work would be apportioned out between the New Zealand Transport Agency, Hutt City Council and GWRC.

Cr Greig elaborated on the GWRC report for the period. She said that GWRC would be adding another 200 carparks to Petone Station. She added that a concept design for a passenger shelter at Melling Station had been proposed but as yet there was no timeline for construction.

Members considered that GWRC should provide a budget and timeline for the construction of the shelter and platform upgrade for passengers at Melling Station. Members further considered that GWRC should include the item in its Annual Plan for the next financial year.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. WCC 15402

"That the Committee requests that Greater Wellington Regional Council:

- (i) provides a budget for the construction of a new shelter and a platform upgrade at Melling Station; and*
- (ii) includes the Melling Station upgrade in its Annual Plan for the 2016/17 financial year."*

b) **Presentation by NZ Police**

There was no presentation by NZ Police.

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

The Community Resilience Advisor, Ms M Hill, advised that WREMO would be able to begin a Community Resilience Plan (CRP) with the Western Community Committee in early 2016. She asked members to start considering organisations or facilities that could contribute to the CRP.

4. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**

Cr Cousins declared a conflict of interest in item 6 (a), Block Road – proposed No Stopping At All Times Restrictions, item 6 (b), 68-70 Pharazyn Street – Proposed P30 Parking Restrictions, and item 11 (6), Chair’s Report, Dog Control Bylaw Submission, and took no part in discussion or voting on the matters.

Ms Bowmar declared a conflict of interest in item 7 (7), Community Engagement Fund and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

5. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

Minute No. WCC 15403

“That the minutes of the meeting of the Western Community Committee held on Thursday, 18 June 2015, be confirmed as a true and correct record subject to the amendment under item 6 c) Dog Control Bylaw to read ‘Acacia Avenue and North.”

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

a) **Block Road - Proposed No Stopping At All Times Restrictions** (15/1225)

Report No. WCC2015/4/227 by the Traffic Engineer

Cr Cousins declared a conflict of interest in Block Road – Proposed No Stopping At All Times Restrictions and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

The Traffic Assets Manager elaborated on the report.

Mr Matcham said that the capacity of parking at Melling Station was overflowing onto Block Road and considered that not all of the proposed No Stopping At All Times Restrictions were required because some of the cars parked on Block Road did not restrict traffic flows.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. WCC 15404

“That the recommendation contained in the report be endorsed.”

Mr P Matcham requested that his dissenting vote be recorded against the above matter.

b) **68-70 Pharazyn Street - Proposed P30 Parking Restrictions** (15/1226)

Report No. WCC2015/4/228 by the Traffic Engineer

Cr Cousins declared a conflict of interest in 68-70 Pharazyn Street – Proposed P30 Parking Restrictions and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

The Traffic Assets Manager elaborated on the report.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. WCC 15405

“That the recommendation contained in the report be endorsed.”

7. **COMMITTEE ADVISOR'S REPORT** (15/1141)

Report No. WCC2015/4/39 by the Committee Advisor

Ms Bowmar declared a conflict of interest in the Community Engagement Fund and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

The Committee Advisor elaborated on the report.

Members considered a request from the Community Advisor Funding and Community to fund up to \$500.00 from the Community Engagement Fund for registrations to the Weetbix Tryathlon 2016 in Lower Hutt. The Committee agreed that it would support a contribution for children in need who lived in the Western Ward.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. WCC 15406

"That the Committee:

- (i) approves funding up to a total of \$500.00 from the Community Engagement Fund for the Weetbix Tryathlon for children in need who live in the Western Ward; and*
- (ii) approves Mr P Matcham's upcoming attendance at the Financial Governance Course - Local Governance New Zealand, on 11 September 2015 at a cost of \$680.00 from the Training Budget."*

8. **LEAVE OF ABSENCE** (15/1305)

Report No. WCC2015/4/175 by the Committee Advisor

The Chair elaborated on the report.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. WCC 15407

"That the Committee:

- (i) grants Jill Berridge (Chair) and Pete Matcham (Deputy Chair) leave of absence on 12 November 2015 for the reasons of travel and family commitments;*
- (ii) elects Ms Bowmar as Chair and Ms Wick as Deputy Chair to preside at its meeting to be held on 12 November 2015; and*
- (iii) notes that the Chair may exercise, at that meeting, the responsibilities, duties and powers of the Chair."*

9. **WESTERN COMMUNITY COMMITTEE SUBMISSION ON THE HUTT RIVER CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT STOPBANK UPGRADE** (15/1311)

Report No. WCC2015/4/179 by the Committee Advisor

The Chair elaborated on the report.

Members considered that its submission on the Hutt River Central Business District Stopbank Upgrade required updating to include views expressed by members of the public earlier in the meeting. Members noted that its submission would be endorsed at its next meeting to be held in November 2015.

10. **REPORT BACK FROM THE NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITY BOARDS' CONFERENCE 2015** (15/1137)

Report No. WCC2015/4/178 by the Ms Bowmar

Ms Bowmar elaborated on the report.

Members noted that the Community Engagement Fund had criteria and considered that they would liaise with officers regarding community projects for the potential use of this fund.

Cr Cousins suggested that the Committee liaise with officers and then provide Council with community improvement ideas and budgets for worthwhile projects. She further suggested that the Committee request Council to include such projects into the Annual Plan for the 2016/17 financial year.

11. **CHAIR'S REPORT** (15/1297)

Report No. WCC2015/4/176 by the Chair

Cr Cousins declared a conflict of interest in the review of the Dog Control Bylaw and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr A Sloan** expressed concern that the southern end of Belmont Domain would not be a dog exercise area. He queried the validity of statistics which showed that children would stop using play areas where dogs were exercised off leash.

In response to questions from members, Mr Sloan said that few children were using the Belmont Domain play equipment because there were no challenges for them, the slide was low, there was no spinning machine, and it had a mini climbing frame.

Mr Matcham supported Mr Sloan's comments querying the validity of statistics regarding children and dogs, and that the Belmont Domain playground had limited challenges for children.

Speaking under public comment, **Ms C Petrey, representing the Avalon Dog Training Club**, said that she was an instructor at the club and owners were educated about meeting their obligations as dog owners. She added that the dog exercise area by Belmont Domain was a favoured area because dogs were safe from State Highway 2. She further said that mothers would approach her and ask for their children to meet her dogs and she supported Belmont Domain as a dog exercise area.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr A Petrey, representing the Avalon Dog Training Club**, said that he supported Belmont Domain as a dog exercise area and that the playground could be fenced if necessary.

Speaking under public comment, **Ms T Cochrane, representing the Avalon Dog Training Club**, said that she supported the Belmont Domain as a dog exercise area. She added that she supported the Otonga Heights site as a dog exercise area although queried whether Council could proceed with the proposal given that the roads to the park were private roads.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr P Deere** said that he supported the Belmont Domain as a leashed area for dogs. He said that he lived near the Domain and uncontrolled dogs had rushed at him on a few occasions and could be a problem in the play area. He added that the dogs from the dog obedience club were a pleasure and he supported them being off lead.

The Chair said that the Committee would be putting its submission on the Dog Bylaw review to Council. Members noted that its submission would be endorsed at its next meeting to be held in November 2015.

The Chair elaborated on the report.

RESOLVED:**Minute No. WCC 15408**

"That the report be noted and received."

12. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

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

Ms G Berridge
CHAIR

**CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 12th day of November 2015**