

HUTT CITY COUNCILCITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Report of a meeting held in the James Coe 1, Dowse Art Museum, 45 Laings Road,
Lower Hutt on

Tuesday 23 February 2016 commencing at 5.30pm

PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor D Bassett (Chair)	Cr M Willard
Cr B Branch	Cr M Cousins
Cr A Finlayson (until 7.15pm)	Cr T Lewis (until 7.00pm)
Cr G McDonald	Cr C Milne
Mayor WR Wallace (from 5.45pm)	Cr M Shierlaw

APOLOGIES: Mayor Wallace for lateness. Cr Lewis and Cr Finlayson for early departure.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr T Stallinger, Chief Executive
 Ms K Kelly, General Manager, Strategic Services
 Mr B Sherlock, General Manager, City Infrastructure
 Mr M Reid, General Manager, Community Services
 Mr B Hodgins, Divisional Manager Parks & Gardens (part meeting)
 Mr G Craig, Divisional Manager, City Development (part meeting)
 Ms S Simcox, Communications and Marketing Team Leader (part meeting)
 Ms P Rotherham, Development Liaison Manager (part meeting)
 Ms C Murray, Community Projects Coordinator (part meeting)
 Mr A Hopkinson, Senior Traffic Engineer, Road & Traffic (part meeting)
 Ms S Haniel, Committee Advisor

PUBLIC BUSINESS1. **APOLOGIES****RESOLVED:****Minute No. CDC 16101**

"That the apologies received from Mayor Wallace for lateness, and Cr Lewis and Cr Finlayson for early departure be accepted and leave of absence be granted."

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

4. ACTIVITY REPORT - PARKS & RESERVES (15/1772)

Report No. CDC2016/1/17 by the Divisional Manager, Parks and Gardens

The Divisional Manager, Parks and Gardens elaborated on the report. He highlighted that Hutt City's performance in the Parks Yardstick project had ranked it first of all participating Council's on a combined assessment of management key performance indicators (KPIs). The KPI's covered operations, asset management, planning, environmental sustainability and social benefits.

Mayor Wallace joined the meeting at 5.45pm

In response to questions from members, the Divisional Manager Parks and Gardens, said that officers considered that the Reserves Act 1977 was not fully adequate to meet the needs of modern day parks management. He noted that the issue had been brought to the attention of the New Zealand Recreation Association through its national conference. He further said that Council was constructing a graded track in the Eastern Hills to improve public access into bush reserve. He added that the cricket field at the Hutt Recreation Ground had been voted as the best in the region and also as park of the year.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CDC 16102

"That the Committee:

- (i) notes the information contained in this report;*
- (ii) notes that this review also meets the intent of section 17A of the Local Government Act 2002;*
- (iii) agrees that a full section 17A review should not be undertaken at present for the reasons outlined in paragraph 31 of this report;*
- (iv) notes that the Reserves Act 1977 requires updating;*
- (v) requests officers to keep the Committee informed of any Local Government New Zealand initiatives regarding the Reserves Act 1977; and*
- (vi) agrees that Central Government be informed of any concerns regarding the Reserves Act 1977."*

5. **HUTT VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SIX MONTHLY REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2015** (16/122)

Report No. CDC2016/1/18 by the Divisional Manager City Development

The Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce (“the Chamber”) Chief Executive, Mr M Futter, elaborated on the report. He highlighted that Hutt Valley business confidence had increased over the last quarter, and was up compared to other cities in the region. He added that the businesses engaging with the Chamber was high and it was operating near full capacity.

Chamber Board Member, Mr M Skelly, said that the Chamber’s income had increased with its increased business engagement.

Members congratulated the Chamber on its growth, increased business confidence and for its Regional Business Awards. The Chair asked officers to write formally to the Chamber, on behalf of Council, to commend it on its effort and results.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CDC 16103

“That the Committee receives the report.”

6. **JACKSON STREET PROGRAMME SIX MONTHLY REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2015** (16/131)

Report No. CDC2016/1/19 by the Divisional Manager City Development

The Jackson Street Programme (JSP) Co-ordinator, Ms Swales, elaborated on the report. She highlighted that Jackson Street was considered by retailers as a desirable place to be and there were few vacant shops. She added that the JSP had promotional strategies which targeted bringing visitors to the street.

In response to questions from members, Ms Swales said that six monthly reporting to the Committee kept the connections and network with Council and the community strong.

Members noted that Jackson Street had increasing patronage and JSP had initiatives for increasing visitor numbers further. Members further noted that JSP would be accountable to ratepayers and targeted-ratepayers. Members queried whether the JSP could report back directly to officers.

The Chair asked officers to report back to its next meeting with further information on the JSP process for funding and reporting back to members.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CDC 16104

“That the Committee receives the report.”

7. **PROPOSED TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE OF TAINE STREET FOR THE TUMEKE TAITA FESTIVAL** (16/160)

Report No. CDC2016/1/30 by the Senior Traffic Engineer

The Senior Traffic Engineer elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, the Senior Traffic Engineer said that the consultation period had been short, however, all businesses that would be directly affected by the road closure had been individually consulted.

The Chair asked officers to review the process regarding consultation. The Chair highlighted that future road closure reports include data to support the officer's recommendations.

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CDC 16105

"That the Committee agrees to approve the proposed road closure subject to the following:

- (a) confirmation by officers that the legal requirements to consult have been met; and*
- (b) the conditions listed in the Proposed Temporary Road Closure Impact Report attached as Appendix 1 to the report: Taine Street from High Street to Churton Crescent, on Saturday 19 March 2016, from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm for The Tumeke Taita Festival."*

8. **GENERAL MANAGERS' REPORT** (16/18)

Report No. CDC2016/1/20 by the General Manager, Strategic Services

The Chief Executive elaborated on the report. He said that the proposed average rates increase of 2.7% had not changed since the rate had been announced with the 2016/17 draft annual plan, and debt would stay within the limits established by Council.

The Chief Executive said that Council's major projects were overseen by project steering groups which were kept fully apprised of costs and progress of developments such as Riddiford Gardens, Administration Building and Halls, Avalon Park and Huia Pool. He further said that Council appointed Councillors to these. He added that the major projects had been through a process of public consultation, steering groups, Council briefings, general managers' reports, and Community Plan Committee meetings. He added that KPMG had undertaken an independent review of Council's reporting process and its recommendations were acted upon by management. He said that Standard & Poors had reviewed the Council, found it to have very strong financial management, and issued the highest credit rating available to local government.

In response to questions from members, the General Manager City Infrastructure said that the hard and soft landscaping for the Administration Building and Halls had always been included in the Riddiford Gardens design budget. He further said that there had been no movement of funds between the Civic buildings and Riddiford Gardens. He added that the two areas could have different descriptors, which would assist the public in understanding the plans.

Cr Lewis left the meeting at 7.00pm.

The Chair reiterated that the Civic Precinct Steering Group would be undertaking a close review of the remaining works being considered for the gardens, and noted that \$3.5M had been included in the draft annual plan for these works. He said that a further consultation meeting was planned with interested parties.

Cr Finlayson left the meeting at 7.12pm

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CDC 16106

"That the Committee notes the updates contained in the report."

9. **INFORMATION ITEM**

City Development Committee Work Programme (16/17)

Report No. CDC2016/1/38 by the Committee Advisor

RESOLVED:

Minute No. CDC 16107

"That the work programme be received."

10. **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.25 pm.

Deputy Mayor D Bassett
CHAIR

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 15th day of March 2016