

HUTT CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of The Hutt City Council held in the Council Chambers,
2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt on
Tuesday 26 May 2020 commencing at 2.00pm

PRESENT:

Mayor C Barry (Chair)	Deputy Mayor T Lewis
Cr D Bassett	Cr J Briggs
Cr K Brown	Cr B Dyer
Cr S Edwards	Cr D Hislop
Cr C Milne	Cr A Mitchell
Cr S Rasheed	Cr N Shaw
Cr L Sutton	

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms J Miller, Chief Executive
Ms A Blackshaw, Director, Strategy and Engagement
Ms H Oram, Director, Environmental and Sustainability
Ms J Livschitz, Chief Financial Officer
Mr B Cato, Chief Legal Officer
Mr G Craig, Head of City Growth (part meeting)
Ms W Moore, Head of Strategy and Planning (part meeting)
Ms J Stevens, Contractor (part meeting)
Ms K Stannard, Head of Democratic Services
Ms T Lealofi, Committee Advisor (part meeting)
Ms H Clegg, Minute Taker
Ms D Hunter, Acting Committee Advisor

PUBLIC BUSINESS**1. OPENING FORMALITIES**

Cr Brown opened the meeting with a karakia.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Dyer)

Minute No. C 20301

"That in terms of Standing Order 10.12 Council:

- (i) *notes that the matters of the COVID-19 Relief for Local Sport and Recreation Organisations and Delegation to Draft LTP/AP Subcommittee for Recycling and Rubbish LTP Amendment Consultation were not included in the order paper for the meeting, for the reasons that the information was not available until after the order paper had been distributed; and*
- (ii) *agrees that the recommendations be considered at this meeting for the reason that the matter needs to be addressed urgently and cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting."*

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments are recorded under the item to which they relate.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Briggs)

Minute No. C 20302

"That Council:

- (i) *temporarily suspends Standing Order 15.1 to allow public speakers to speak to Proposed New Street Names: Subdivision of 1041A High Street, Avalon' on page 282 of the Order Paper; and*
- (ii) *notes that the matter was resolved under delegated authority by the Regulatory Committee at its meeting held on 12 May 2020 and only the Regulatory Committee may revoke or amend the resolution."*

4. MAYORAL STATEMENT (20/399)

Mayor Barry read out his Mayoral Statement attached as pages 17-20 to the minutes.

Cr Brown left the meeting at 4.25pm and rejoined the meeting at 4.30pm.

4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S STATEMENT (20/400)

The Chief Executive read out her statement attached as pages 21-23 to the minutes.

In response to a question from a member, the Chief Executive advised a name for the fenced dog park in Wainuiomata would be decided at a later date. She took note of the suggested name of "Les Dalton Dog Park."

6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

Cr Bassett declared conflicts of interest in relation to item 8b) and the part item 9d) and took no part in discussion or voting on the matters.

Cr Brown declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 8gc) and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

Cr Milne declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 8a). He confirmed that he had been Chair of Technology Valley until his resignation on 18 February 2020.

Cr Sutton declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 8a) and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

7. COMMITTEE MINUTES WITH RECOMMENDED ITEMS

The Chair gave precedence of business to item 9, Regulatory Committee meeting minutes dated 12 May 2020.

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

Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee 5 May 2020

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Bassett)

Minute No. C 20303

"That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 May 2020, with the exception of items 4ii)-4iii), be adopted."

Recommended Items

4ii) Proposed Solid Waste and Minimisation Bylaw 2020 (20/357)

RESOLVED: (Cr Edwards/Cr Dyer)

Minute No. C 20304

"That Council:

- (i) agrees to consult on the Summary of Information, Statement of Proposal, and Proposed Bylaw (draft copies of which are attached as Appendices 1-3 to Report PFSC/20/20/3/87) in accordance with the requirements of the LGA 2002 by means of a special consultative procedure;*
- (ii) agrees to establish a Hearing Subcommittee to:

 - (a) hear submissions on the proposed amendments to the Refuse Collection and Disposal Bylaw; and*
 - (b) recommend the appropriate action to Council for consideration and approval;**
- (iii) notes the Summary of Information, Statement of Proposal and Proposed Bylaw; and*
- (iv) agrees the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Policy Finance and Strategy Committee be authorised to approve any other changes to the Summary of Information, Statement of Proposal and Proposed Bylaw if required prior to the special consultative procedure commencing."*

4iii) 7A Waiu Street Fenced Dog Park (20/358)

RESOLVED: (Cr Edwards/Deputy Mayor Lewis)

Minute No. C 20305

"That Council:

- (i) notes the guidelines in the Hutt City Dog Control Bylaw 2015 for Fenced Dog Exercise Areas;*
- (ii) agrees, having considered the guidelines, to proceed with the process to develop a fenced dog park at 7A Waiu Street for the reason that before making a resolution concerning a proposed Fenced Dog Exercise Area, Council must take into account the Fenced Dog Exercise Area Guidelines criteria; and*
- (iii) asks officers to liaise with Greater Wellington Regional Council over the potential for the former Waimarie Croquet Club north of Melling Bridge to be used as a fenced, off-leash dog exercise area."*

8. MISCELLANEOUS

a) Technology Valley Six Monthly Update to 31 December 2019 (20/92)

Report No. HCC2020/3/105 by the Head of City Growth

Ms Anthea Mulholland, Executive Director, Technology Valley and Mr Hayden Kirk, founding member and current Chair of Technology Valley, elaborated on Technology Valley. Ms Mulholland explained the progress to date for all objectives agreed to under the partnership agreement.

In response to questions from members, Ms Mulholland confirmed Technology Valley had made a submission to the draft Annual Plan. She explained the submission focused on the proposed reduction in financial support. She advised that Technology Valley worked collaboratively alongside the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce.

In response to a question from a member, the Head of City Growth agreed to investigate why Council's financial contribution had been proposed to be reduced.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Hislop)

Minute No. C 20306

"That the Council notes and receives the report."

b) **Extension of Delivery Date for Wellington Water Ltd's Statement of Intent 2020-2023** (20/397)

Report No. HCC2020/3/103 by the Strategic Advisor, City and Community Services

Cr Bassett declared a conflict of interest and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

Cr Milne left the meeting at 4.51pm and rejoined the meeting at 4.54pm.

The Chief Legal Officer elaborated on the report.

RESOLVED: (Cr Barry/Cr Brown)

Minute No. C 20307

"That Council:

- (i) *notes Wellington Water Limited's (the company) refocus on critical front line services due to Covid-19, the central government requirement to only undertake essential services during Level 4 alert and the resulting impact that stopped or scaled back work will have on the company's performance reporting for the 2019/2020 financial year;*
- (ii) *notes the company is currently developing its Statement of Intent (SOI) for 2020-23 and alignment will need to occur with the shareholding Councils' Annual Plans;*
- (iii) *notes the Chief Executive has the authority to exercise the power under clause 4 of Schedule 8 to the Local Government Act 2002 to agree or not agree to extend the deadline for delivery of the company's final SOI by one calendar month (to 31 July 2020); and*
- (iv) *notes the Chief Executive has approved the extension deadline for delivery of the company's final SOI to 31 July 2020."*

c) **Council Controlled Organisation Appointments** (20/405)

Report No. HCC2020/3/104 by the Contractor

Cr Brown declared a conflict of interest and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter.

Mayor Barry elaborated on the report.

The Chief Executive explained that several directors' terms were due to expire in June 2020. She highlighted the reappointment of directors for a limited time period would provide time to plan for continuity in the future.

In response to a question from a member, Mayor Barry confirmed the 10% reduction in directors' fees related only to the named directors.

Mayor Barry advised a letter of acknowledgement had already been sent, on behalf of Council, to the directors who had requested a reduction in fees.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Edwards)

Minute No. C 20308

“That Council:

- (i) notes that requests for a 10% reduction in directors' fees have been received from Mr Brian Walshe and Mr Hugh Mackenzie;*
- (ii) agrees to reduce the annual remuneration payable to Mr Walsh for the period 4 May to 30 September 2020:*
 - (a) by \$833 to \$18,107 per annum for his directorship of Seaview Marina Limited; and*
 - (b) by \$1,000 to \$21,727 per annum for his directorship of Urban Plus Limited;*
- (iii) agrees to reduce the annual remuneration payable to Mr Mackenzie for the period 5 May to 30 September 2020 by \$660 to \$14,485 per annum for his directorship of Urban Plus Limited; and*
- (iv) agrees to reappoint Ms Jess Andrews, Mr Matt Claridge and Mr Phil Gibbons as trustees of the Community Facilities Trust from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.”*

d) Representation Arrangements 2019-2022 Triennium (19/1364)

Report No. HCC2020/3/101 by the Head of Strategy and Planning

Speaking under public comment, **Mr Alex Voutratzis representing the Petone Community Board** outlined the roles and functions of community panels, communities of interest groups, delegations to community boards, the Resource Management Act and City Plans.

In response to a question from a member regarding the Community Boards in Auckland, Mr Voutratzis advised Auckland had 20 Councillors and Local Boards to manage each area. He added Advisory Boards could be used in Lower Hutt to provide niche representation for specific groups eg disability, Maori.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr Max Shierlaw** requested the delegations to Community Boards be extended to cover all activities undertaken on Council owned land. He added this would then enable the public to have an input.

The Head of Strategy and Planning elaborated on the report. She agreed to circulate the previous Community Panels Terms of Reference to members.

In response to a question from a member, the Head of Strategy and Planning explained paragraph 51 of the report referred to the ability of Community Panels to work with their Ward Councillor in developing plans for their communities.

In response to a question from a member, the Head of Strategy and Planning explained the list of Special Interest Groups was included to provide examples of such groups and was by no means exhaustive. She reiterated that the Local Government Commission had directed Council to find better ways to ensure the community was heard and could participate in decision making. She advised that a briefing with elected members and iwi on the matter was to be scheduled in the near future.

The Chief Executive advised that the proposed briefing would include detailed logistics

of the proposal for community representation and address resourcing matters.

Cr Dyer left the meeting at 5.11pm and rejoined the meeting at 5.14pm.

In response to a question from a member regarding the community's perception of representation, the Head of Strategy and Planning advised there had been a variety of public opinions concerning the effectiveness of the Community Panels.

In response to a question from a member, the Head of Strategy and Planning advised work on the Representation Review had not yet commenced. She highlighted that once the review commenced, it would take approximately two years to complete.

Cr Bassett left the meeting at 5.19pm and rejoined the meeting at 5.24pm

Crs Edwards and Briggs expressed concern with the proposal to push the Representation Review to the next triennium. They considered the matter required urgent attention.

Cr Mitchell suggested the proposed briefing include discussions about those areas which used to have Community Panels or committees. He also suggested that the proposed new panels be named "Community Funding Panels" to avoid confusion.

Mayor Barry suggested an amendment to the Community Board General Functions, "Maintain" section, to read: "*b) parks and reserves and associated public facilities, recreational facilities and activities within its local area.*" He also suggested that Community Board members be permitted to sit on resource management hearings across the city.

Cr Shaw left the meeting at 5.50pm and rejoined the meeting at 5.55pm.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Deputy Mayor Lewis)

Minute No. C 20309

"That Council:

- (i) *notes the Local Government Commission's findings and recommendations that a fresh approach to representation in the city is needed as evidenced by efforts through successive representation reviews to address inequities of representation at the community level between the three areas added and the 'old Lower Hutt';*
- (ii) *notes that Community Board functions and delegations have been reviewed several times between 2006 and 2019;*
- (iii) *adopts the delegations to Community Boards attached as Appendix 3 to the report including amendments made at the meeting;*
- (iv) *notes the results of the Community Panels qualitative evaluation;*
- (v) *agrees that Community Funding Panels will continue for this triennium;*
- (vi) *agrees that the role of Community Funding Panels is that of community funders focused on supporting local projects and initiatives and that the terms of reference will be amended to reflect this;*
- (vii) *agrees that the wider issues of second tier representation will be addressed in the next Representation Review;*
- (viii) *agrees that further work is completed on the "new model" including a Council and iwi workshop to:*

- (a) identify communities of interest;*
- (b) develop an approach for deciding which Councillors will work with each group; and*
- (c) develop an agreed approach to ensure city-wide and ward Councillors work together with communities to ensure the best outcomes are achieved; and*
- (ix) agrees that the process for appointing Community Funding Panel members will include:*
 - (a) advertising for expressions of interest – applicants will need to provide a CV together with support from community (references/support can be written or in person, not formal though);*
 - (b) short list by a subcommittee of Council comprised of two city wide and two ward Councillors and the Deputy Mayor, supported by officers as required;*
 - (c) recommendations to Council OR the subcommittee could be given decision making powers and required to report to Council to explain the decisions made; and*
 - (d) Community Funding Panel members appointed by full Council with a powhiri.”*

For the reasons that representation is at the core of Council achieving its purpose of promoting the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of local communities in the present and for the future.

e) **Adoption of Standing Orders** (20/395)

Report No. HCC2020/3/102 by the Contractor

The Head of Democratic Services elaborated on the report.

In response to a question from a member regarding the possible inability to advertise in a daily newspaper due to circumstances beyond Council's control (eg the Covid-19 situation), the Chief Executive advised that the Local Government New Zealand Standing Orders template was written before Covid-19. She stated that officers would investigate rewording the relevant section.

In response to a question from a member regarding the flow charts, the Head of Democratic Services agreed to shift the boxed words in red to under the "Motion Lost" box.

Mayor Barry reminded members that any suggestions or questions of report writers should be advanced to officers prior to meetings.

Cr Lewis left the meeting at 6.01pm and rejoined the meeting at 6.05pm.

In response to a question from a member relating to the cost of applications due to mandatory public notification of such applications, and that readership numbers of public newspapers was falling each year, and that the use of digital media was increasing, could this requirement be waived or removed; Mayor Barry asked that officers investigate the question.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Mitchell)

Minute No. C 20310

"That Council:

- (i) *notes the requirement for local authorities to adopt Standing Orders for the conduct of their meetings and those of their committees;*
- (ii) *notes the amendments made to the Standing Orders as highlighted in Appendix 1 to the report;*
- (iii) *notes the requirement to achieve the agreement of at least 75% of members present at a meeting to adopt Standing Orders; and*
- (iv) *adopts the Standing Orders attached as Appendix 1 to the report."*

For the reason that adopting procedures for the conduct of meetings will provide a framework within which to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of local communities in the present and for the future.

f) **Code of Conduct for Elected Members** (20/374)

Report No. HCC2020/3/17 by the Head of Democratic Services

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Dyer)

Minute No. C 20311

"That the item be referred to the Chief Executive to schedule a briefing/workshop for elected members, prior to being considered at the next Council meeting."

The meeting adjourned at 5.57pm and resumed at 6.15pm.

g) **COVID-19 Relief for Local Sport and Recreation Organisations**

Report No. by the Director, Strategy and Engagement

The Director, Strategy and Engagement elaborated on the report.

In response to a question from a member, the Director, Strategy and Engagement stated that the proposed relief for sport organisations would be advertised on Council's website. She noted that officers would be contacting all sporting organisations.

Cr Briggs acknowledged the work of officers adding that to provide this relief would be a good result.

Cr Shaw requested officers be applauded for recognising the important part sport and activity programmes played in the city.

In response to a question from a member, the Director, Strategy and Engagement confirmed the report would be available via Diligent and Council's website.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Mitchell)

Minute No. C 20312

"That Council:

- (i) agrees to provide two months relief from lease costs for community groups with buildings on reserve land,*
- (ii) approves the provision of grants of up to \$500 for sport and recreation groups via the Community Resilience Fund; and*
- (iii) agrees to the Community Resilience Fund principles and criteria being amended to enable eligibility for sport and recreation groups."*

h) **Delegation to Draft LTP/AP Subcommittee For Recycling and Rubbish LTP Amendment Consultation** (20/464)

Report No. by the Head of Strategy and Planning

The Chief Executive elaborated on the report. She stressed that Morrison Lowe had reviewed the report especially in relation to costs. She stated that oversight of the final draft document would be through the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chairs of Committees.

In response to a question from a member, Mayor Barry confirmed all changes would be emailed to members.

In response to a question from a member regarding how consultation with members of the waste industry would be conducted whilst the tendering process was underway, the Chief Executive explained the proposed consultation was directly with the ratepayers asking for feedback about the waste disposal options they would like to see in the future. She added that clear and transparent reporting from officers would be provided throughout the process.

The Chief Legal Officer supported the Chief Executive's comments. He added that it would be beneficial to receive information from officers as to how the waste industry sector would be consulted with during the period.

In response to a question from a member regarding the timeline for the process, the Chief Executive advised that it was a tight timeframe in order to have the new contract and process underway by 1 July 2021.

Mayor Barry reminded members that public consultation needed to be undertaken prior to the awarding of a contract.

In response to a question from a member regarding the Waste Minimisation Bylaw consultation, the Chief Executive advised that was a separate consultation exercise from the subject of the report which was a Long Term Plan Amendment. She added that Council's Auditors required the two processes to be separate.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Mitchell)

Minute No. C 20313

"That Council agrees to delegate authority to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chairs of Committee to approve the Draft Consultation Document, questionnaires, the draft Long Term Plan Document and associated material to support the consultation on options for recycling and rubbish in Lower Hutt."

Cr Milne requested his dissenting vote be recorded on the above matter.

9. COMMITTEE MINUTES WITHOUT RECOMMENDED ITEMS

a) Long Term Plan/Annual Plan Subcommittee - 11 February 2020

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Deputy Mayor Lewis) **Minute No. C 20314**

"That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2020 be adopted."

b) Long Term Plan/Annual Plan Subcommittee - 18 March 2020

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Deputy Mayor Lewis) **Minute No. C 20315**

"That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2020 be adopted."

c) Community and Environment Committee - 6 May 2020

RESOLVED: (Deputy Mayor Lewis/Mayor Barry) **Minute No. C 20316**

"That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2020 be adopted."

d) Regulatory Committee - 12 May 2020

Speaking under public comment, **Mr Rudy Van Baarle** expressed frustration at the process of naming the streets in the subdivision. He added he and his family had agreed with the officer's report and recommendations for the public street to be named van Baarle Place and the private road to be named Tulip Lane. He noted that he was unaware there would be an opportunity for the Regulatory Committee to overturn the officer's recommendations and approve other names. He further advised he had collected at least 250 signatures in support of the officers' recommendations which honoured the five generations of his family in New Zealand.

Speaking under public comment, **Mrs Barbara Whittington** expressed scepticism of the validity of the 250 signatures collected by Mr van Baarle. She believed street names should be reflective of the area and that the Maori name Motutawa should be endorsed by Council.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr Mark Hofstwede** expressed support for the use of the van Baarle name for the public road. He explained there were very few places in New Zealand which had Dutch names. He believed that van Baarle Place would honour a long line of Dutch ancestry.

Mr Hofstwede read a written statement of support from his sister in law. The statement highlighted the large contribution the Dutch people had made to New Zealand and to Lower Hutt.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr Brian Gillatt** supported naming the public road van Baarle. He believed Mr van Baarle had made a huge contribution to the community of Lower Hutt

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Edwards)

Minute No. C 20317

"That the time period for public comment under Standing Order 15.2 be extended to allow for all remaining members of the public to be heard."

Speaking under public comment, **Mrs Barbara van Baarle** thanked all those who supported her family. She added that the Dutch immigrants were extremely hardworking and it would be the ultimate tribute to the van Baarle elders to name a street after their family.

Speaking under public comment, **Mrs Dawn Dorresteyn** supported the names van Baarle Place and Tulip Lane. She read out a statement from the President of New Zealand Netherlands offering support for the Dutch names for the public and private roads.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr Kees Dorresteyn** supported the names van Baarle Place and Tulip Way. He explained this would be in keeping with existing street names in the area which honoured immigrants.

Speaking under public comment, **Ms Sharon Hendry** expressed support for the comments made by Mrs Whittington. She expressed support for Motutawa Place for the public road name. She also supported the development of the land, but expressed concern with the process that had led to the development including the lack of consultation.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr Peter Whittington** expressed objection to naming the public road van Baarle Place. He reiterated support for the name Motutawa Place as he believed it was an opportunity to recognise the Maori heritage of the area.

Speaking under public comment, **Mr John Ross** expressed support for the name van Baarle Place. He explained the brainstorming session undertaken by the real estate agents in arriving at supporting van Baarle Place and Tulip Lane. He believed the names acknowledged the Dutch connection to Avalon.

In response to a question from a member, Mr Ross advised no Maori names had emerged from the brainstorming session.

Speaking under public comment, **Ms Gemma Sharp** expressed support for the name van Baarle Place. She explained how the closed, private Facebook page operated stressing the page was not public as they invited specific people to add their support to the name. She added many signatures came from Auckland as that was where a lot of extended family members resided.

Ms Sharp read a statement of support from **Ms Catherine McKay** who was also a descendant of early Dutch immigrants. The statement outlined reasons why it was appropriate to name the road after Dutch immigrants.

The meeting adjourned at 3.11pm and resumed at 3.22pm.

Mayor Barry outlined the advice he had received from officers regarding the Naming Policy ('the policy').

The Chief Executive highlighted that officers had followed the correct process with regard to the policy. She acknowledged that the policy may need to be reviewed. She confirmed that the Regulatory Committee had the delegated authority to make a final decision concerning naming of streets. She advised that Council could ask her to refer the matter back to the Regulatory Committee for re-evaluation after receipt of new information.

In response to a question from a member, the Traffic Asset Manager advised manuhua were originally consulted in accordance with the policy. He noted that no feedback had been received prior to the Regulatory Committee meeting on 10 March 2020 when the Regulatory Committee referred the matter to its meeting on 12 May 2020. He added that feedback had now been received which supported the name Motutawa Place.

In response to a request from a member as to the reason why the Regulatory Committee made its decision, Cr Mitchell, as Acting Chair of the Regulatory Committee, explained the mandatory naming criteria as listed in the policy had been assessed and that no local relevance of the van Baarle name had been presented to the Regulatory Committee. He added the name Motutawa had previously been suggested as a replacement name for Avalon Park and was on the Policy Reserve Street Naming List.

Mayor Barry acknowledged the difficult situation that Council faced and reminded members of the requirements of the policy. He suggested officers meet with the van Baarle family to discuss options for the possible use of their name in other subdivisions.

Cr Bassett declared a conflict of interest explaining he had been involved in discussions with all parties. He left the table for the duration of the item.

Cr Hislop advised that there may have been an inadvertent lack of communication with all parties. She believed that if the van Baarles had been aware that the item was being considered by the Regulatory Committee at its meeting on 12 May 2020, members may have arrived at a different decision.

MOVED: (Cr Milne/Cr Hislop)

“That the matter be referred back to the Regulatory Committee for further consideration.”

As mover of the motion, Cr Milne acknowledged the influence of the Dutch heritage in New Zealand and the Hutt Valley. He suggested that in order for a fully informed decision on the street names to be made, the decision should be referred back to the Regulatory Committee.

Cr Hislop expressed support for Cr Milne’s comments. She added that the Covid-19 situation may have affected the situation.

In response to a question from a member, the Traffic Asset Manager confirmed that referring the matter back to the Regulatory Committee would not have a negative

effect on the progress of the development.

Cr Briggs spoke against the motion. He acknowledged the breakdown in communications. He stated that not to honour the Regulatory Committee's decision would be to dishonour Treaty partners.

Mayor Barry spoke against the motion. He advised that he could not support the motion as it was contrary to the policy.

The motion was declared LOST on the casting vote of the Chair.

For

Cr Dyer
Cr Edwards
Cr Hislop
Cr Milne
Cr Rasheed
Cr Sutton

Total: 6

Against

Mayor Barry
Deputy Mayor Lewis
Cr Briggs
Cr Brown
Cr Mitchell
Cr Shaw

Total: 6

The meeting adjourned at 3.56pm and resumed at 4.05pm.

RESOLVED: (Cr Mitchell/Cr Briggs)

Minute No. C 20318

"That the minutes of the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 12 May 2020 be adopted subject to the following amendments:

- (i) *the word "Erurea" be corrected to "Eruera";*
- (ii) *delete the words "Feedback from iwi had not yet been received"; and*
- (iii) *the spelling of Motutawa be corrected."*

10. MINUTES OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Dyer)

Minute No. C 20319

"That the minutes of the meeting of the Hutt City Council held on Tuesday 11 February 2020, be confirmed as a true and correct record."

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Dyer)

Minute No. C 20320

"That the minutes of the meeting of the Hutt City Council held on Wednesday 18 March 2020, be confirmed as a true and correct record."

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Dyer)

Minute No. C 20321

"That the minutes of the meeting of the Hutt City Council held on Tuesday 24 March 2020, be confirmed as a true and correct record."

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Dyer)

Minute No. C 20322

"That the minutes of the meeting of the Hutt City Council held on Thursday 9 April 2020, be confirmed as a true and correct record."

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Dyer)

Minute No. C 20323

"That the minutes of the meeting of the Hutt City Council held on Thursday 7 May 2020, be confirmed as a true and correct record."

11. SEALING AUTHORITY (20/337)

Report No. HCC2020/3/6 by the Executive Assistant, Corporate Services

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Briggs)

Minute No. C 20324

"That Council approves the affixing of the Common Seal to all relevant documents in connection with the items set out in Schedule 1 contained in the report."

SCHEDULE 1 - General Sealing Authority

Subdivision related documents – including Easements to Council. Standard easements and related requirements granting rights to Council as part of the subdivision process:

- a) *Hutt City Council and Blair Stephen Rawson and Kate Teresa Rawson
57 Westminster Street Wainuiomata, Lower Hutt, L20/48*
- b) *Hutt City Council and Eveleigh Limited - 948 High Street, Lower Hutt, L20/50*
- c) *Hutt City Council and J and K Development (Wgtn) Limited
35 Mitchell Street, Lower Hutt, L20/47*
- d) *Hutt City Council and John Walsh as to a ¼ share, John Walsh as Executor as to a ¼ Share and Kilkelly Developments Limited as to a ½ Share
39 Korokoro Road, Korokoro, Petone, Lower Hutt, L20/31."*

12. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

13. CLOSING FORMALITIES

Cr Brown closed the meeting with a Karakia Whakamutunga.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.41pm.

C Barry
MAYOR

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record dated this 28th day of July 2020

Mayoral Statement 26 May 2020

Introduction

- Kia ora everyone
- It's really good to be back in the Chamber this afternoon, and seeing you all in person (in a suitably distanced way of course)!

COVID-19

- Since we last met, New Zealand has transitioned to Alert Level 2. Kids are back at school, and most people are getting back to work
- I'd like to firstly acknowledge the efforts of our entire community, Lower Hutt has played its part in the team of 5 million, and done an outstanding job in combating Covid-19.
- The situation we are in now is a result of a collective effort to stamp out COVID-19. Although we aren't out of the woods yet, we know we are the envy of the world in how we have grappled with COVID.
- Just today, Dr Ashley Bloomfield, a Hutt resident by the way, said that if we were in the same position as the UK, today we would have had 3,500 deaths, and 250 new cases just today.
- Again I'd like to acknowledge the tough and challenging time this has been, and continues to be, for people and businesses across our city
- It will be some time before things return to "normal" as we knew it, and in the meantime, it will be hugely challenging for our businesses who will be feeling enormous pressure
- Our hospitality sector is being, and will continue to be hit particularly hard. They will need our help to get through. It is more critical than ever that we love local, and shop local.

Draft Annual Plan

- Engagement on the draft annual plan wrapped up at the end of last week, and I want to acknowledge the work our Council staff have done throughout this process. Thank you to all the

Councillors and Community Board members who have also been canvassing our community for their feedback.

- As you all know, we consulted on a rates rise of half of what was previously signaled. It was clear that we could not continue with business as usual, and changes had to be made.
- I look forward to hearing submitters this Friday to help inform our deliberations ahead of setting rates in June.

Continuing work

- While our Covid-19 response and recovery has been a focus for the past 8 weeks, We have still progressed important work, and gained traction on some really important projects.
- For instance, 7 out of the 9 shovel ready projects we as a Council put forward to the government have got through to the next stage. Projects like Naenae Pool and the Eastern Bays shared pathway would be fantastic projects for Lower Hutt, and would bring jobs to our city at a time of need.

- Using the words of the Minister of Finance at a HVCC post budget briefing, the Hutt has put its best foot forward to gain Government support – However, while this is the case we need to be realistic in our expectations given the amount of projects Government is considering and the much smaller pot of money they can allocate.
- Additionally, The Lower Hutt Community resilience Fund that we launched in April has surpassed \$15,000 in successful applications. As a Council, we knew people would be struggling in our communities during Alert Level 4 and the following recovery period, and saw an opportunity to empower local communities to build resilience.
- Successful applicants have been able to use their grants to bring people closer together through technology, enabled health clinics to offer virtual consultations, and let community groups store food.
- And we've also been able to make small, yet effective, regulatory changes to help our small businesses. We are waiving encroachment fees so that cafes and restaurants can apply, without financial restriction, to have outdoor seating to increase capacity, maintain physical distancing, and bring back some vibrancy to the hospitality sector. Thank you to the work of Cr Hislop and Mitchell, which is just starting, around what we can do in the regulatory space to support business and people.

Tribute to Les Dalton

Before we move on, I would like to say a few words about Les Dalton, an amazing man who devoted his life to animals.

Les, the former Regional Manager of Animal Services who retired last November after 43 years at Council, passed away on Friday the 15th of May. He is survived by his Mum and Dad, his wife and soul-mate Jill, and his two daughters.

To say Les was an animal services veteran wouldn't do him justice. Les eradicated hydatids in Lower Hutt, introduced dog exercise areas across our communities, won the tender to manage the Wellington City animal services contract, worked with the government to

introduce dog control in Samoa, and was the President of the New Zealand Institute of Animal Control Officers for 13 years.

He left a legacy at a local, national and international level in Animal Services. We are all the richer for Les sharing his time here with us, and I want to pass on our sincere condolences to the family.

Rest in peace, Les.

Chief Executive's Statement to Council 26 May 2020

Kia ora

Thank you Mayor Barry for acknowledging our long-standing Regional Manager of Animal Services - Les Dalton, who sadly passed away on 15 May. Les was incredibly passionate about his work, his family and animal welfare. Our thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues at council at this time.

Alert Level 2

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) closed at the end of last week and their work has been absorbed back into council. I'd like to acknowledge Lester Piggott and all the staff who worked in the EOC. There remains particular work to be done around welfare. Our two recovery managers with statutory powers are Helen Oram and Andrea Blackshaw and they are linking in with the regional recovery effort.

We are now into week two of Alert Level 2. Most of our facilities are open and services have resumed. New health and safety measures have been put in place including screens at reception and signage as people enter our facilities. Contact tracing is in place at staffed facilities. We are working towards using the NZ COVID Tracer app. The changes announced by the government yesterday on allowing 100 people to gather means the return of our programmes in our pools, libraries and hubs and community sport will start up again.

We still have a number of staff working from home as per government advice. They will be returning to the workplace from next week. There will be a mix of office and home-based working to allow for physical distancing and the health and wellbeing of staff.

Public artesian water taps are open at Buick Street and outside the Dowse. We will re-open Waiwhetu as soon as possible working with the Runanga.

Kerbside recycling has resumed for all mixed recyclables and volume is being monitored to ensure recycling is not diverted to landfill due to overloading the recycling processing centre. We are working to reopen the community recycling stations in a staged way due to high levels of contamination before, and unfortunately during the lockdown where people continued to dump their rubbish at these sites particularly at Naenae and Wakefield. Wainuiomata and Kelson facilities will be open on 3 June and Waste Management will open Seaview at the same time. We will look at options to deter people dumping rubbish at the community recycling stations. This includes increased monitoring and enforcement, and patrols by Safe City ambassadors.

Financial Outlook 19/20

The Annual Plan projected net deficit was \$13.3M, which included a net operating result deficit of \$23.9M. The latest forecast is a net operating deficit of \$23.4M which is \$7M unfavourable variance to the revised budget. The situation is now forecast to be worse as we won't be able to realise forecast savings and revenue has decreased. We have also incurred additional costs. A full financial report will be provided to Council at its meeting on 18 June.

The financial implications of COVID-19 and the lockdown are still being assessed. Like most councils across New Zealand, Hutt City Council has experienced a drop in revenue and higher operating costs to provide essential services and increase capacity in areas like water. A \$7M unfavourable operating variance is currently forecast. This includes a \$650K liability for the Events Centre which will be reported on to the next Audit and Risk Committee. Approximately \$3M of the variance is as a result of COVID-19 including:

- Reduced revenue at Community Facilities \$1.1M
- Reduced parking revenue \$0.8M
- Three waters \$0.6M (duplication of running essential services during COVID-19 to ensure that there was the ongoing ability to provide resourcing to meet demand)
- IT \$0.7M (includes cost brought forward)

Other cost impacts for 2019/20 about \$4M

- Main cost increases
 - Increased recycling and refuse collection costs \$0.8M
 - Consents reduced revenue \$0.7M and increased costs \$0.6M
 - Three Waters \$0.4M (mainly water leaks)
 - Depreciation \$2.9M

Capital expenditure has been deferred with an estimated \$21M underspend resulting from roading \$6M, Three Waters \$4M, City Environment (Riverlink, Strategic property purchase) \$7M. Delays are due to consents, and some projects were put on hold due to Naenae Pool. Shovel ready projects also need to be considered and planned for inclusion in the budget should they receive government approval and funding.

Business confidence

There is no doubt that uncertainty around revenue and business confidence will continue for the foreseeable future. For example the CBD is not operating at capacity and less people are using and paying for parking. The Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce reports that following a survey of the Hutt Valley COVID-19 Business Support Group (undertaken before the Government's 2020 budget announcement) that 82% of businesses experienced a reduction in revenue during lockdown but that 3 per cent were considering ceasing trading. The survey drew responses from 447 businesses throughout the Hutt Valley. The majority of Hutt Valley businesses indicated that they are weathering the COVID-19 storm but they're also naturally worried about their trading futures.

We regularly analyse data from various sources including Marketview. Early indications are that spending is bouncing back to pre COVID levels however it is early days.

Water servicing

As a result of increased resourcing for repairing water leaks and less traffic on roads, Wellington Water reports that it is dealing with lower priority jobs very close to the 15 working day requirement as per the agreed KPI in this area. This means that the backlog of water leaks has been reduced significantly.

Draft Annual Plan 2020/21

The two-week engagement period closed on 22 May. Staff worked through the weekend to analyse the 164 submissions (163 from individuals and 1 from an organisation) via our engagement platform Bang the Table (BTT). In addition there were 18 email/post submissions from individuals and 28 email submissions from organisations. The results of the engagement are overwhelming positive and endorse our approach on an emergency one-year budget and 3.8% overall rates revenue increase. 78% of respondents supported Council's preferred option of maintaining the current rate splits.

At this stage 44 submitters have asked to be heard on Friday. Each submitter will have a total of 5 minutes for their submission which includes 3 minutes to present the highlights and 2 minutes for the Mayor and Councillors to ask questions.

Emissions Trading Scheme

Council has been working to register forestry to earn carbon credits. We have now completed the registration under the Emissions Trading Scheme of about 87ha in East Harbour Regional Park (south of Wainuiomata). This will now earn carbon credits. The potential net present value over the next 30 years is between \$263,000 and \$444,000, depending on carbon price assumptions. We are working with our consultants at Carbon Forestry Services to register further plots of native forest land that Council owns. (Council owns a significant amount of land (3,318ha) that either is already forested, or could be put into forest, and thus be eligible for carbon credits.)

Consents

New building consents exemptions are being added to the Building Act and are expected to take effect at the end of August. This means that more building work will be able to take place without needing a building consent. The changes are designed to free up people to do basic home improvements such as building single-storey detached buildings up to 30 m² such as sleep-outs, sheds etc. We are currently working through the changes and the impact on revenue.

District Plan Award - 2020 Best Practice Award - District / Strategic Planning & Guidance

Our Hutt City Medium Design Guide was recognised by the NZ Planning Institute when it received the 2020 Best Practice Award. Work on the Design Guide commenced in 2016 following the completion of a growth study which recommended the development of three new or modified land use zones.

New Directors

I am pleased to announce that Kara Puketapu-Dentice, Director Economy & Development and Anna Welanyk, Director Transformation & Resources will take up their roles from 2 June. We are looking forward to welcoming them. Transitional arrangements will be in place as we await confirmation of when UK resident Chris Marsh will be able to take up his role as Director Neighbourhoods & Communities given current border and immigration restrictions. Temporary arrangements will be in place until the end of September.

Finally, I'm pleased to advise that I have been appointed to the SOLGM executive committee as the Greater Wellington regional representative.

Ngā mihi nui

Jo Miller
Chief Executive Hutt City Council