

## WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL

### **SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Special Meeting of Council to Adopt the Draft Long Term Council Community Plan and to Adopt the Earthquake Prone Buildings and Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policies held in the Wairoa District Council Chambers, Coronation Square, on Thursday 25 May 2006 at 2:00 pm.

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**PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Ms D Eaglesome (Chair)

**COUNCILLORS**

S Birrell, G McIntyre, B McKinnon, B Shortt, D Caves

**IN ATTENDANCE:** T Cook (Administration Manager)  
R Snow (Finance Manager)

#### APOLOGIES

An apology was received from His Worship the Mayor, Mr Probert.

<b><u>Resolved:</u></b> <i>That the apology received from His Worship the Mayor, Mr Probert, be accepted.</i> <b>Caves/McIntyre</b>
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#### GENERAL BUSINESS

##### **STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL AND LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2006-16 F01.02**

<b><u>Resolved:</u></b> <i>That the report be received.</i> <b>Caves/Birrell</b>
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The Finance Manager spoke to the report advising Councillor's that volume one and two of the Long Term Council Community Plan had been thoroughly audited by Council's auditors, Ernst & Young. Council had received an Opinion from the Office of the Auditor General that was embargoed until 3:30 pm, however Councillor's were informed that the Long Term Council Community Plan had received an 'All Clear' Opinion, which was the highest result attainable.

Councillors were informed that Council would not meet its legislative requirements in adopting the Long Term Council Community Plan by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 for a variety of reasons. The primary reason being the amount of extra work that needed to be completed to enable audit to give their 'all clear' opinion. By putting in the extra effort, Council had avoided being given an opinion that was 'Qualified – Except For' or 'Adverse.' Receiving an 'all clear' opinion was an achievement to be proud of, given the small number of resources that Council had to call on, particularly when compared with much larger Councils that had not received an 'all clear' opinion.

Councillor's acknowledged the amount of work and time that staff had put into completing the Long Term Council Community Plan, and asked that their appreciation and congratulations be passed on to Council staff members involved in the process. Most people outside of the organisation were unaware of the amount of time and work put into forming the plan, particularly for those staff that were also expected to carry out their day to day functions and responsibilities. Staff were to take pride in the fact that they had achieved a clear audit, as many other Council's had failed to do so.

<b><u>Resolved:</u></b> <i>That pursuant to sections 83 and 84 of the Local Government Act 2002, Council adopts the Statement of Proposal and Draft Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-16 for release for public consultation.</i> <b>McIntyre/McKinnon</b>
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The Finance Manager advised Councillors that they needed to determine dates and venues for public meetings. Wairoa had been suggested for a launching of the Long term Council Community Plan, and Tuai and Mahia had been identified as communities requiring public meetings, particularly given the number of significant issues that impacted on ratepayers in these areas.

Councillor McIntyre advised that space had been made available on his business premises for a static display. The Administration Manager stated that the display would not be put in place until the public had had an opportunity to absorb the contents of the plan. It was suggested that the display be put in place from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2006, and that Councillor's and staff be in attendance at the static display between 11am and 3pm, being the peak hours of foot traffic flow. Councillors were to advise the Administration Manager of their preferred days for being in attendance at the shop display to answer public enquiries.

<b><u>Resolved:</u></b>	<i>That the following dates and venues be set for public meetings to consult on the Long term Council Community Plan.</i>	
	7:00 pm Thursday	08 <sup>th</sup> June 2006 – Wairoa Community Centre
	1:00 pm Monday	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2006 – Tuai Hall
	7:00 pm Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup> June 2006 - Mokotahi
		<b>Caves/Birrell</b>

Responding to a request from Councillor Caves, the Finance Manager advised that he would contact Hau Ora at Nuhaka, Mahia, Tuai and Raupunga to determine whether copies of the Long Term Council Community Plan could be made available for public access on their premises.

**BALANCED BUDGET REQUIREMENT**

**F01.22**

<b><u>Resolved:</u></b>	<i>That the report be received.</i>	<b>McKinnon/Shortt</b>
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The Finance Manager spoke briefly to the report, advising Councillor's that for the duration of the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006/2016 there would be an operating surplus. Under section 100(2) of the Local Government Act 2002, a local authority may set projected operating revenues at a different level from that required for each years projected operating revenue, and resolve that it is financially prudent to do so.

Councillor Caves stated that there was a need for Council to incorporate such safety features as a fall back, particularly when the operating revenue forecast for each of the ten years of the plan was a matter of 'crystal ball gazing.' Having an operating surplus would provide Council with what was likely to be a needed buffer.

Councillors McIntyre and Shortt pointed out that the Wairoa District Council, as a result of prudent financial management in the past, was one of only a few Councils that didn't carry debt. Having a surplus operating revenue ensured that Council were in a sound financial position to address issues and problems that may unexpectedly arise during the term of the plan. Councillor Shortt went on to state that no other organisation or business in the country was expected to produce a ten year plan, three years at most, and to assume that projected operating revenues for the ten years of the plan would be accurate, would be foolish.

<b><u>Resolved:</u></b>	<i>That pursuant to section 100 (2) of the Local Government Act 2002, Council accepts that it is prudent to have a surplus of income over expenditure in the ten years of the Statement of Proposal and the Draft Long Term Council Community Plan from 2006/2007 to 2015/2016.</i>	<b>McKinnon/McIntyre</b>
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**EARTHQUAKE-PRONE BUILDINGS POLICY  
DANGEROUS & INSANITARY BUILDINGS POLICY**

**I03.14**

<b><u>Resolved:</u></b>	<i>That the report be received.</i>	<b><i>McIntyre/Shortt</i></b>
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The Administration Manager spoke briefly to the report, advising that both policies had been out for public consultation as per legislative requirements, and that no submissions had been received. Sections 131 and 132 of the Building Act 2004 required Council to adopt a Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy, and an Earthquake Prone Buildings Policy by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2004.

Councillor Shortt stated that he was amazed that no submissions had been received, particularly in relation to the Earthquake prone Buildings Policy, given the costs that were likely to be incurred by building owners upon which the Policy would have an impact.

<b><u>Resolved:</u></b>	<i>That Council Adopt the Earthquake Prone Buildings Policy, and Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy.</i>	<b><i>Birrell/Shortt</i></b>
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There being no further General Business, the Deputy Mayor declared the meeting closed:

**MEETING CLOSED: 12:28 PM**