

Confirmed Public minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 24 September 2020

Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
Level 2, 15 Walter Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.30am

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (Chair)
Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Blakeley
Councillor Brash
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Nash
Councillor van Lier

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Brash

That the Council accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Lee.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3 Public participation

Russell Bell, Friends of Queen Elizabeth Park, spoke to agenda item 7 – Land Management at Queen Elizabeth Park.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 20 August 2020 – Report 20.310

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Lamason

That the Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 20 August 2020 – Report 20.310.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Update on progress of action items from previous meetings – September 2020 – Report 20.346 [For information]

Strategy, policy or major issues

6 Applications to the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund – Report 20.352

Updated report recommendations were tabled.

Andrea Brandon, Programme Lead, Climate Change, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Gaylor

That the Council:

- 1 **Notes** the two applications for projects to reduce Greater Wellington's corporate carbon footprint, as submitted to the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund for consideration.
- 2 **Approves** the funding for two projects through the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund, as follows:
 - a \$1,399,101 (GST exclusive) (being \$1,271,910 plus a 10 percent contingency) from October 2020 to June 2026, to restore 128.5 hectares of peatland (a rare type of wetland) and dune forest at Queen Elizabeth Park
 - b \$370,810 (GST exclusive) from October 2020 to June 2025, to restore 21.8 hectares of pasture land at Kaitoke Regional Park.
- 3 **Agrees** to explore opportunities for local iwi to contribute to the design and implementation of the two projects.

The motion was **carried**.

7 Land management at Queen Elizabeth Park – Report 20.330

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, introduced the report.
Amanda Cox, Manager, Parks, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Nash

That the Council:

- 1 Notes that the Council has previously signalled its intention to exit farming at Queen Elizabeth Park, for the protection and restoration of sensitive ecosystems, such as peaty soils and wetlands.
- 2 Authorises officers to proceed to public consultation on the Greater Wellington intent to offer a three year grazing licence over approximately 225ha of Queen Elizabeth Park.
- 3 Delegates to the Chief Executive the development and implementation of a consultation plan in conformity with the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 (Reserves Act) that enables officers to maximise the value of the process.
- 4 Notes the Council's approval of a Parks Department application to restore and revegetate approximately 128ha of Queen Elizabeth Park, over a period of five years.
- 5 Determines that the licence shall include a provision that enables early retirement, including for the purposes of ecological restoration, when early retirement is determined appropriate by Council resolution.
- 6 Notes that all relevant information, including public feedback received, will be reported to Council for final decision, with officer recommendations as to whether the licence should be granted under the Reserves Act 1977.

The motion was **carried**.

Note: The meeting adjourned at 10.18am during questions on the report, and reconvened at 10.36am.

8 Proposed Paekākāriki Surf Life Saving Club lease – Report 20.350

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, Wayne Boness, Principal Ranger, Parks, and Tracy Plane, Manager, Strategic and Corporate Planning, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Gaylor

That the Council:

- 1 Agrees to put forward the Paekākāriki Surf Lifesaving Club lease proposal for public consultation under section 49 of the Conservation Act 1987 (the Act).
- 2 Delegates to the Chief Executive the development and implementation of a consultation plan in conformity with the requirements of the Act that enables officers to maximise the value of the process.
- 3 Notes that all relevant information, including public feedback received, will be reported to Council for final decision with recommendations as to whether the concession should be granted under the Act.

The motion was **carried**.

9 Proposed variation to the Wellington RLTP 2018-21: Colombo Road Bridge, Masterton – Report 20.347

Shan Lu, Senior Strategic Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Lamason

That the Council:

- 1 Adopts the proposed variation to the Wellington Regional Land Transport Plan Programme 2018-21, as set out in Attachment 1, to include the Colombo Road Bridge Replacement, Masterton.
- 2 Agrees to the adopted variation being forwarded to Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, requesting that the variation is included in the National Land Transport Programme.

The motion was **carried**.

10 Predator Free Wellington funding agreement amendment – shareholder resolution approval – Report 20.340

Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Nash

That the Council:

- 1 Approves execution of the special resolution (Attachment 1)
- 2 Authorises the Council Chair to execute the special resolution on behalf of Council
- 3 Notes that there is no change to the Greater Wellington funding approved for payment to PFWL (Report 18.205)
- 4 Notes that a future decision will be sought prior to 30 June 2022 about whether Greater Wellington will increase and/or extend the funding provided to PFWL.
- 5 Notes that, if approved, the additional \$7.6 million provided by PF2050 to PFWL will enable the field services that Greater Wellington provides to PFWL to be increased during 2020/21 and 2021/22.

The motion was **carried**.

Note: The Council requested officers to arrange a workshop on regional predator free arrangements in the context of the Long Term Plan.

Governance

11 Establishment of a Māori Constituency – Report 20.326

Francis Ryan, Manager, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Nash

That the Council:

Representation arrangements

- 1 Notes that four of the Wellington Region's six iwi authorities have formally advised Greater Wellington that they do not wish to have a Māori constituency established in the Wellington Region at this time.
- 2 Notes the report (in which case the current representation arrangements are retained).

Poll of electors

- 3 Notes that Council can decide that a binding poll of electors is to be held on a proposal that a Māori constituency be established.
- 4 Notes the statutory poll provisions.

The motion was taken in parts: Part 1 was **carried**, Part 2 was **carried**, Part 3 was **carried**, and Part 4 was **carried**.

12 Delegation under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 – Report 20.361

Francis Ryan, Manager, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Hughes / Cr Lamason

That the Council:

- 1 Notes, due to the upcoming consideration by an external consenting panel of a listed project (Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone shared path) under the new COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020, the need to establish a process to enable the nomination of a member to an expert consenting panel.
- 2 Delegates to the Chief Executive and the General Manager Environment Management (acting individually) the power, under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 and following consultation with the Chair of the Environment Committee, the Chair of the Climate Committee, and the Council Chair, to nominate the local authority member of an external consenting panel.

The motion was **carried**.

13 Meeting schedule for 2021 calendar Year – Report 20.302

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Staples

That the Council:

- 1 Adopts the meeting schedule for Council and committees for the 2021 calendar, as outlined in Attachment 1.
- 2 Notes that the schedule does not include meetings of advisory bodies or external organisations to which Councillors have been appointed.
- 3 Authorises the Kaiwhakahaere Matua/Manager, Democratic Services, to circulate the adopted meeting schedule to key stakeholders and to modify the meeting schedule as, and when, required.

The motion was **carried**.

14 Remuneration for external Chair of the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee – Report 20.215

Moved: Cr Hughes / Cr Lamason

That the Council:

- 1 Notes the intention, at this meeting, to appoint an external Chair to the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee.
- 2 Resolves that the remuneration for the external Chair of the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee is an annual taxable honorarium of \$13,500, a taxable daily meeting fee of \$1,300, and Greater Wellington Regional Council's standard mileage allowance.

The motion was **carried**.

15 Regional Transport Committee meeting – 8 September 2020 – Report 20.338
[For information]

16 Wellington Regional Strategy Committee meeting – 8 September 2020 – Report 20.356 [For information]

Corporate

17 Wellington Regional Stadium Trust – Statement of Trustees Intent 2020/2021 – Report 20.323

Moved: Cr Hughes / Cr Lamason

That the Council receives the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust Statement - Trustees Intent for the year ending 30 June 2021.

The motion was **carried**.

18 Health, Safety and Wellbeing update [For information]

Julie Barber, Manager, Health, Safety and Wellbeing, spoke to the report.

Exclusions

19 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 20.357

Moved: Cr van Lier / Cr Brash

That the Council:

1. Excludes the public from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Confirmation of the Public excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 20 August 2020 – Report PE20.309

Loan to Water Wairarapa Limited – Report PE20.292

Appointment of the external Chair of the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee – Report PE20.321

Appointment to the Upper Ruamahanga River Management Advisory Committee – Report PE20.336

Confirmation of the Restricted public excluded minutes of the Council meeting 20 August 2020 – Report RPE20.317.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific ground/s under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 20 August 2020 – Report PE20.309	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Information contained in these minutes relates to negotiations with Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) and other public transport authorities (PTAs) in New Zealand. Release of this information would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Council to carry on negotiations with Waka Kotahi and the PTAs.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(i) of the Act (to enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)).</p>
Loan to Water Wairarapa Limited – Report PE20.292	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Information contained in this report includes the terms of a proposed loan. Release of this information prior to Council's decision is likely to prejudice the Council in the negotiation of the proposed loan agreement.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(i) of the Act (to enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including</p>

<p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>commercial and industrial negotiations)).</p>
<p>Appointment of the external Chair of the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee – Report PE20.321</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>
<p>Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about a proposed candidate for appointment. Release of this information prior to Council’s decision is likely to prejudice the privacy of natural persons as releasing this information would disclose the candidate’s consideration for appointment as the external Chair of the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act (to protect the privacy of natural persons).</p>
<p>Appointment to the Upper Ruamahanga River Management Advisory Committee – Report PE20.336</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>
<p>Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about a proposed candidate for appointment. Release of this information prior to Council’s decision is likely to prejudice the privacy of natural persons as releasing this information would disclose their consideration for appointment as a</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act (to protect the privacy of natural persons).</p>

<p>member of the Upper Ruamahanga River Management Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	
<p>Confirmation of the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting 20 August 2020 – Report RPE20.317</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>
<p>The information contained in these minutes relates to the current Chief Executive's full year performance and remuneration review. Release of this information would prejudice the privacy of Greg Campbell, Chief Executive, by disclosing information pertaining to the relationship between the Chief Executive and Council.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override Mr Campbell's privacy.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act (to protect the privacy of natural persons).</p>

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.

2. Authorises John Stevenson, Director, Wairarapa Water Limited, and Robyn Wells, Chief Executive, Wairarapa Water Limited, being permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of matters related to the proposed loan to Wairarapa Water Limited. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because it is the subject of the report on the proposed loan to Wairarapa Water Limited.

The motion was **carried**.

The public part of the meeting closed at 11.55am.

A handwritten signature in red ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a final horizontal stroke.

Councillor D Ponter
Chair

Date: 29/10/20