

Tararua District Council

Eketahuna Community Board

Minutes of a meeting of the Eketahuna Community Board held in the Eketahuna Service Centre Meeting Room, 31 Main Street, Eketahuna on Friday 2 December, 2005 commencing at 10.05 a.m.

1. Present

Messrs J M Harman (Chairperson), P J A Best (Deputy Chairperson), C C Death, W H Davidson and Elizabeth Fraser-Davies.

In Attendance

Mr R Taylor - Governance Manager

2. Apologies

2.1 Nil.

3. Personal Matters

3.1 Nil.

4. Notification of Any Extraordinary Business Not on the Agenda

4.1 The following matter was notified as an item of extraordinary general business for discussion at today's meeting:

- Removal of trees from the Eketahuna Camping Ground.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 *That the minutes of the Eketahuna Community Board meeting held on 4 November, 2005 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting subject to item 11.1 being amended to read as follows:-*

An Information Centre proposal is noted as being a project of importance to the Eketahuna Community, and the Board accordingly requests that some provision is included in the Long Term Council Community Plan for a project.

Best/Fraser-Davies

Carried

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes

6.1 **Civil Defence** (Item 6.6.2)

6.1.1 There was a good attendance from Eketahuna at the radio training for civil defence volunteers held in Dannevirke on 19 November, 2005.

6.1.2 Similar training is proposed to be arranged next year in October, but it has been suggested to the Civil Defence Officer that this date may need to be reviewed.

6.2 **Hire Charges For The Eketahuna School to Use The Community Centre**
(Item 8.2.1)

6.2.1 The Chairperson has spoken to the school's principal regarding this matter, and explained the Board's guidelines for granting assistance from its discretionary funds.

6.3 **Review of the Resource Consent For The Eketahuna Water Supply**
(Item 6.3)

6.3.1 ***That with regard to the review of resource consent no. 101169 – water permit – Makakahi River, Eketahuna, the Eketahuna Community Board makes the following submission to the Horizons Regional Council:-***

The Eketahuna Community Board supports the activity. However, it does seek a review of the conditions for the following reasons.

1. The site of the Hamua measuring station is approximately 20 kilometres from the intake at Kaipororo.

Restrictions are imposed using a formula to calculate the flow at the intake. The formula is not sufficiently accurate (Note 1). Including the actual flow at the intake in the conditions could recognise this.

E.g. that the allowable take be ... cm/d when the Hamua flow is less than ... l/s and the intake flow is less than ... l/s.

We therefore submit that the consent should be altered to include the actual flow at the intake.

2. The abstraction of water from the Makakahi River between the intake and measuring station may increase.

This has the potential to interfere with the formula developed unless allowance is made by also measuring at the intake. We therefore submit that the consent make allowance for increased abstraction by measuring at the intake when the Hamua measurement indicates the flow may be low.

3. The allowable take after 2009 when the flow at Hamua is less than 240 l/s is 165 cu/m day.

This is less than the 300 Cu/m day which is accepted as the basic requirement of a community of the size of Eketahuna for public health needs.

We therefore submit that the minimum allowable take be increased to 300 Cu/m day.

4. **Imposition of total hosing bans.**
We recognise the necessity for restrictions of use during low flows, but question the imposition of total hosing bans.

A total hosing ban has a severe impact on vegetable and flower gardeners, which has the potential to impact on the desirability of Eketahuna as a place to live.

The difference in water usage between restricted use and a total ban is small and the negative effects outweigh the benefit.

We therefore submit that total bans be not imposed.

5. **The low flow restriction is set using data from other catchments which does not necessarily apply to the Makakahi River.**

The local climate is more moderate and the Makakahi River has tree cover and deep pools that reduce the impact of low flows. The area most affected is between the intake and the confluence of the Makakahi River and Bruce stream, a very short distance.

We therefore submit that the minimum flow at the intake reflect local conditions.

6. **Managing water use by rural properties connected to the pipeline presents problems. Water is supplied to a number of properties that bound the Makakahi River. Each adjacent certificate of title has a right to take of 15 cu m day. If supply from the pipeline is severely restricted, the outcome could be that water is obtained from a different location on the same river. Nothing would be gained from the restrictions, but a large cost would fall on the property owners for pumped water extraction.**

We therefore submit that the Eketahuna Water Supply Management Plan is the best option to manage this situation.

We wish to be heard in respect of this submission.

Note 1.

31/1/05 Hamua 440-450 l/s. Calculated intake flow 72 l/s.

Actual flow 90 l/s.

22/2/05 Hamua 240 l/s. Calculated intake flow 28 l/s. Actual flow 67 l/s.

Fraser-Davies/Death

Carried

- 6.3.2 **That the Board thanks the Deputy Chairperson and Cr Davidson for their work in preparing for its consideration a draft submission on the review of the resource consent for the Eketahuna Water Supply.**

Fraser-Davies/Harman

Carried

- 6.4 **Eketahuna Our Town/Mainstreet Committee (Item 8.2.1)**

6.4.1 An update was tabled from the Eketahuna Our Town/Main Street Committee concerning their progress with the Eketahuna Information Centre project, and requesting a letter of support from the Board.

6.4.2 ***That the following response be sent from the Board to the Eketahuna Our Town/Main Street Committee concerning an Information Centre for Eketahuna:-***

The Eketahuna Community Board is committed to ensuring an Information Centre is operating in the town with a higher profile and level of service than the current one is able to achieve.

The Community Board has to consider the proposal put forward by the Chief Executive which we believe has a lot of merit and would meet all your objectives at less cost and with clear benefits to the town. Roger Twentyman and Business Manager, John Walker, are pursuing the possibility of the establishment of a Kiwibank in the Library/Service Centre.

This would involve enlarging the premises and increasing the hours of opening. It is also proposed that an Information Centre could be incorporated with the possibility of the present meeting room being set aside for this purpose.

As a statutory body involved in the governance of the Tararua District we have a responsibility to work closely with Council on budgetary matters and to see that ratepayers money is wisely spent. Roger's proposal is designed to ensure costs are kept to a minimum. We have also been informed that the Council's contribution to any independent Information Centre project is not likely to meet the targeted needs of your proposal.

The duplication of services in the town is also to be considered. The Library/Service Centre already has an information component. The office is geared to provide information, and the strengthening of its functions by the addition of an Information Centre service would enhance its operation and the facilities available to the community.

We have also considered the difficulties of running enterprises using volunteers. Getting and keeping people in voluntary work is not just a local problem but a national one. To succeed, paid staff are required, and in our town we have a Council-run Service Centre/Library. With a Kiwibank and Information Centre attached, further hours for paid staff would be justified.

The Board applauds the enthusiasm and commitment of the Main Street group for their efforts to establish a stand alone Information Centre, and thanks them for their commitment to Eketahuna and maintaining its long term viability.

Fraser-Davies/Best

Carried

6.5 **Naming of a Road** (Item 8.3)

6.5.1 ***That the Board supports the name of Milne Road as the title for the unnamed road located within the Putara Valley locality, and***

That the property owners and residents from that locality be invited to submit to the Council their request for this name.

Death/Harman

Carried

6.5.2 Board Member Death will follow up this matter to complete the proposal for forwarding to the Council.

7. Tararua District Council Report

7.1 ***That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 November, 2005 (as tabled) be received.***

Davidson/Death

Carried

8. Reports From Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities

Tararua District Road Safety Group Meeting

8.1.1 Board Member Death gave a verbal report on the Tararua District Road Safety Group meeting held in Dannevirke on 22 November, 2005. This included reference to the following matters:-

- Height restriction of overhead bridge at northern entrance to Eketahuna.
- Diversion for trucks away from State Highway onto local roads – signage
- Southern entrance, safety concern
- North Road, State Highway turnoff

8.1.2 It was requested that the District Roding Manager arrange an on site meeting with board members and representatives of Transit New Zealand to discuss the southern entrance safety concern and the North Road State Highway turnoff.

Anzac Bridge Project

8.2.1 Board Member Best tabled a draft application to the Heritage Protection Reserve requesting funding for the Anzac Bridge project.

8.2.2 ***That the Board act as the organisation to facilitate the Anzac Bridge project.***

Death/Fraser-Davies

Carried

9. Correspondence

9.1 ***That the correspondence as listed be received:***

***(a) The 2006 EXPO Committee 13 November, 2005
Re: Board's decision to decline request for assistance with charges to hire the Community Centre.***

(b) Masterton Police

15 November, 2005

Re: Storage of totara logs re carving for the Community Centre.

(c) Strengthening Families

Re: Activities for youth in the Community Centre and assistance with the hire charges.

Fraser-Davies/Death

Carried

9.2 Masterton Police

9.2.1 The required lengths of totara for the Eketahuna Community Centre carving will be stored under the stage at the Community Centre.

9.2.2 Board Member Death will follow up this matter to make the necessary arrangements to transport the totara to Eketahuna for storage.

9.3 Strengthening Families

9.3.1 An invitation will be extended to Wendy Lansdown (Tararua REAP Coordinator) to attend the Board's next meeting to discuss Strengthening Families and possible support which may be available to families in Eketahuna.

10. Chairman's Remarks

10.1 The Chairperson welcomed Max Cooper (former Board Chairperson) to the meeting, and invited him to address the Board.

10.2 Mr Cooper spoke on the following matters:-

- Actions being undertaken by the Eketahuna Swimming Pool Management Committee to prepare the facility for opening in the middle of this month.
- The Eketahuna Health Centre will not be charging for consultations, but a donation would be most welcome.

11. Extraordinary Business Not on the Agenda

11.1 Removal of Trees from the Eketahuna Camping Ground

11.1.1 Disappointment was expressed that there was no consultation with board members prior to a significant number of trees being removed from the Camping Ground.

11.1.2 The timing of undertaking this work was also poor as it spoils the appearance of the Camping Ground for the Christmas/New Year holiday period.

11.1.3 The Board requests that the stumps be promptly removed and the area is prepared for sowing in the autumn. It notes the commitment given that this will occur.

12. Closure

- 12.1 The Chairperson conveyed his best wishes for a happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year, and thanked board members for their work throughout the year.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 12.00 noon.

Chairperson