

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 6 May, 2005 commencing at 10.00 a.m.

1. Present

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

In Attendance

Mr R. Taylor	-	Governance Manager
Miss M. Martin	-	District Marketer

2. Apologies

2.1 Nil

3. Personal Matters

3.1 ***That the Board's congratulations be conveyed to the Eketahuna Rugby Club on their successes at the Tararua Sportsperson of the Year Awards.***

Harman/Death ***Carried***

3.2 Board Member Fraser-Davies was congratulated on the merit ward which she received from the Balance Farm Environmental Awards for the production of her cheese.

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:

- Grass cutting

5. Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 ***That the minutes of the Eketahuna Community Board meeting held on 1 April, 2005 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting, subject to item 5.7 being amended by altering the word "Rongomai" to "Rongokokako".***

Best/Fraser-Davies ***Carried***

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes
- 6.1 Painting of the Fence on the State Highway Entrance to the Town From Masterton (Item 7.2)
- 6.1.1 The Eketahuna Mainstreet Committee is willing to supply the paint to undertake this work, but arrangements to provide the necessary labour needs to be considered.
- 6.2 2005 New Zealand Community Boards Conference (Item 9.2)
- 6.2.1 Board Member Best tabled notes from the 2005 New Zealand Community Boards Conference concerning the proceedings, and encouraged board members to read the presentations regarding Civil Defence and Emergency Services.
- 6.3 Draft Annual Plan 2005/2006 (Item 8.3)
- 6.3.1 The Board's public consultation meeting concerning the Draft Annual Plan was well attended.
- 6.4 Anzac Day Service (Item 11.1)
- 6.4.1 The Anzac Day Service in Eketahuna was successful, with a good attendance being present for the occasion.
7. Tararua District Council Report
- 7.1 ***That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 April, 2005 (as circulated) be received.***
- Davidson/Death*** ***Carried***
- 7.2 Tararua Sportsperson of the Year Awards (Item 10.1.7)
- 7.2.1 ***That the Board convey its congratulations to the Tararua Recreation Co-ordinator for the arrangements of a very successful Tararua Sportsperson of the Year Awards, and a highly entertaining and enjoyable evening.***
- Death/Davidson*** ***Carried***
8. Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities
- 8.1 Location of Speed Restriction Signs.
- 8.1.1 The Board Identified the following areas which it requests that the District Roading Manager review the location of the speed restriction signs:
- Stanley Street – Reinstate the signs to their original site near the old Ekeslea Home, on the grounds of safety.

- Alfredton Road – Locate the 70 kph signs at the start of the rugby grounds in the vicinity of the Alfredton end, for safety reasons.

Also provide the Rugby Club with access to temporary 50 kph signs for use when significant events are being held at the rugby grounds.

8.2 Tararua Safer Community Council

8.2.1 Victim Support still urgently requires suitable volunteers.

8.3 Eketahuna Community Centre

8.3.1 The benches at the Community Centre have been refurbished.

9. Eketahuna Information Centre Proposal

9.1 The Chairperson welcomed Margaret Parsons and Katrina Dimock (Eketahuna Steering Committee), and Melissa Martin (District Marketer), to the meeting.

9.2 Katrina Dimock gave a presentation to outline the Steering Committee's proposal to establish a stand alone Eketahuna Information Centre based on the concept of an Eketahuna Kiwi Country icon.

Fundraising would take place to generate the necessary capital to establish the facility, and an annual Council grant of \$25,000 is to be requested for ongoing operational costs.

The Information Centre would be operated by a paid co-ordinator with the assistance of volunteers.

9.3 The District Marketer indicated that she supported the concept being proposed, but had reservations about relying on volunteers to operate the Information Centre.

9.4 The Board then directed their questions and comments to the representatives of the Eketahuna Steering Committee

9.5 The Chairperson thanked the Eketahuna Steering Committee representatives for their presentation, and wished them well in their endeavours to progress the project which they are proposing.

10. Correspondence

10.1 *That the correspondence as listed be received:*

(a) **Waireka Home** **21 April, 2005**
Re: Letter of appreciation

(b) **Russell Gaskin** **22 April, 2005**
Re: Eketahuna War Memorial Hall

(c) **Eketahuna School** **22 March, 2005**
Re: Request to remove a tree on Alfredton Road

(d) **Dannevirke Community Board**
Re: Invitation to Sir Joh Bjelke Petersen
Commemorative Memorial Service

(e) **Colin Veale, Community Assets Manager 6 May, 2005**
Re: Eketahuna War Memorial Hall

Best/Death

Carried

10.2 Eketahuna School Tree Removal Request

10.2.1 The Eketahuna School's request to remove a tree on Alfredton Road for safety reasons will be submitted as a service request.

10.2.2 As the tree is outside the property of Athol Rowden Cr Davidson will contact him and advise of the school's request concerning this matter.

10.3 Russell Gaskin – Eketahuna War Memorial Hall

10.3.1 The concerns raised by Mr Gaskin regarding the state of the War Memorial Hall were noted by the Board.

10.3.2 It was agreed that a copy of the Community Assets Manager's report relating to this matter be forwarded to Mr Gaskin.

10.3.3 The Board will also endeavour to follow up on the completion of the work still to be undertaken by a local painter.

11. Chairman's Remarks

11.1 Nil

12. Extraordinary Business Not on the Agenda

12.1 Grass Cutting

12.1.1 Concern was expressed that the grass cutting being undertaken from Macara Street to the service station is blowing grass over the footpath, causing the surface to become slippery and dangerous when it is wet.

12.1.2 A service request will be submitted regarding this matter.

13. Draft Annual Plan 2005/2006

13.1 ***That with regard to the Council's Draft Annual Plan for 2005/2006, the Eketahuna Community Board makes the following submission:***

Amnesty Day for the Removal of Wrecked Vehicles

The Board supports the Council considering providing an amnesty day for the removal of wrecked vehicles.

This will assist to overcome the problems that they cause in many areas, and would encourage the removal of derelict vehicles from properties without any charges being incurred.

Environmental benefits would result from taking this initiative, and it may assist in contributing to reducing the number of wrecked vehicles being abandoned in public places.

Minor Safety Works.

The Board supports the acceleration of the programme to seal single lane bridge approaches within the district.

This work is considered to be essential in the interests of safety, and will assist to provide a better standard of metal roads by reducing the incidence of pot holes within the vicinity of bridge approaches.

In addition to the safety benefits there is the potential to reduce the cost of maintaining unsealed roads through upgrading them by placing increased emphasis on this work.

Landfill Charges

The Board considers that there is merit in offering to all ratepayers the opportunity of using the landfill once a year at a reduced cost.

This entitlement could be provided through issuing to each ratepayer a coupon that offers a discount of 50% from the normal charges which would apply.

An arrangement of this kind is considered to induce the use of the landfill, and does not have such an impact on reducing revenue when compared with other concessions previously granted.

Seal Extensions

The Board supports the seal extension project for Putara Road as included in the 2005/2006 budget.

It is pleased to note that the Council is committed to proceeding with this work, and the Board urges the continuation of a seal extension programme in the future.

Roading

The Board considers that the Council should review the performance measure for roading, which states as follows:

- ***From 2005/06, 90% of the district's road network will be maintained to a similar or better standard than the previous year, assessed and reported annually by Council management.***

By setting such a target the Council is implying that it is acceptable for 10% of the district's roads to deteriorate in standard from the previous year.

This is seen as a retrograde approach to roading management, and the Board believes that this performance measure should be changed to 100% as the level of service to be achieved.

Water

The provision of an adequate water supply to Eketahuna has been an ongoing issue which the Board continues to raise with the Council.

It is of concern to the Board that the limits placed on the community by the resource consent granted by the Regional Council can not be achieved.

This situation has been acknowledged by the Council through agreeing to request the Regional Council to review the consent later this year.

In light of these circumstances and the apparent deficiencies with the ability of the current water supply to service the community's needs, the Board requests the Council to investigate options to provide an appropriate water storage facility relevant to Eketahuna's future requirements.

Eketahuna Information Centre Proposal

The Board supports the concept which has been proposed by the Eketahuna Steering Committee community group to establish a stand alone Eketahuna Information Centre using the kiwi as a town icon.

This will require the ongoing financial support of the Council, which the Board notes is already occurring to assist other information centres within the district.

Therefore the Council would not be setting a precedent by providing some funding towards the costs of an Information Centre based in Eketahuna.

Uniform Annual General Charge

The Board notes that the Council is proposing to reduce the percentage of the revenue required from the uniform annual general charge.

Previously a level of 29.5% was adopted, and the Board considers that the Council should maintain a consistent approach to this matter.

Davidson/Fraser-Davies

Carried

- 13.2 The Board requests the opportunity to present its submission to the Council, and the Chairperson is to be advised of the arrangements for this to occur.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 1.25 p.m.

Chairman