

# **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 5 September, 2008 commencing at 10.05am.

## **1. Present**

Board Members J M Harman (Chairperson), C C Death (Deputy Chairperson), Elizabeth Fraser-Davies and K A M Dimock.

### **In Attendance**

Mr R Taylor - Governance Manager

## **2. Apologies**

2.1 ***That an apology be sustained from Cr W H Davidson for non-attendance at the meeting.***

***Death/Dimock***

***Carried***

## **3. Personal Matters**

3.1 The Board recorded its regret on noting the decisions of Roger Twentyman and Trevor Bennett to leave their employment with the Council, and expressed its thanks for the long and dedicated services which both of them have given to the Tararua District.

3.2 It was acknowledged that Roger's ability to unite both the Council and the district, along with his financial management and social awareness concerning the four towns and small communities throughout Tararua, will be a legacy that is hard to match.

3.3 The Board wishes both Roger and Trevor and their families every success in the future, and it thanks them for their endeavours.

## **4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda**

4.1 The following matter was notified as an item of general business not on the agenda for discussion at today's meeting.

- Cullen Street dump

## **5. Establishment of a Public Transport Coach Service From Masterton to Eketahuna**

5.1 The Chairperson welcomed Denise MacKenzie (Labour Wairarapa Candidate) and Les Cockeram (Tranzit Coachlines Ltd) to the meeting, and invited them to address the Board.

- 5.2 Denise MacKenzie and Les Cockeram spoke on the issues which needed to be considered to enable the establishment of a public transport coach service from Masterton to Eketahuna.
- 5.3 It was noted that if a public transport coach service is to be established on a regular basis then it must be financially viable, and this will require a minimum of nine to ten passengers paying a fare to recover the associated costs. Revenue which could be derived from freight is minimal, and the potential for a commercial return is very limited.
- 5.4 The possibility of considering the operation of a public transport service to the Masterton Hospital based on accessing health funding was suggested.
- 5.5 Alternatively the most viable option for the Eketahuna Community to consider is the establishment of an informal car pooling arrangement set up by residents regularly travelling to Masterton.
- 5.6 The Chairperson thanked Denise MacKenzie and Les Cockeram for attending the Board's meeting to explain the situation regarding the possibility of providing a public transport coach service for the Eketahuna Community.

## 6. Confirmation of Minutes

- 6.1 ***That the minutes of the Eketahuna Community Board meeting held on 1 August, 2008 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.***

***Death/Fraser-Davies***

***Carried***

## 7. Matters Arising from the Minutes

### 7.1 ***Mobile Recycling Bin*** (Item 6.3)

7.1.1 The area around the mobile recycling bin in Eketahuna is very untidy and littered with rubbish.

7.1.2 It was suggested that the recycling bin should be relocated to the Community Centre car park as this area is sealed, and it is also away from the vicinity of the children's playground and the swimming pool facilities.

### 7.2 ***Morgans Road*** (Item 6.1)

7.2.1 Regular grading is being undertaken to maintain the condition of Morgans Road.

### 7.3 ***Alexander Turnbull Library*** (Item 6.2)

7.3.1 The Alexander Turnbull Library has been requested to provide copies of the three Aubrey watercolours of Eketahuna which are on permanent loan to them.

### 7.4 ***Alfredton Road*** (Item 8.1)

7.4.1 The Chairperson has spoken with the resident concerned regarding the small pine trees that he planted on his property adjacent to the footpath.

- 7.5 ***Eketahuna Community Centre Woodcarving Project*** (Item 9.4)
- 7.5.1 Board Members Death and Fraser-Davies will be visiting Jeff Bryan next Thursday to review his progress on making the woodcarving.

7.6 ***Eketahuna Swimming Pool*** (Item 9.3)

- 7.6.1 The Community Assets Manager will be inviting board members to a meeting with Tony Loughnan from Hastings to discuss the Eketahuna Swimming Pool's leakage problems.

7.7 ***Inter-town Fibre Connection*** (Item 11.2)

- 7.7.1 Board members were circulated with information regarding the inter-town fibre connection project being undertaken within the Tararua District.

**8. Tararua District Council Report**

- 8.1 ***That the minutes of the Council meetings held on 13 and 27 August, 2008 (as circulated) be received.***

***Fraser-Davies/Death***

***Carried***

**9. Reports From Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities**

9.1 ***Tararua Safer Community Council***

- 9.1.1 Board Member Fraser-Davies presented a verbal report on the recent meeting of the Tararua Safer Community Council, and this included reference to the following matters:-

- Opening of a brothel in Dannevirke
- Gang problems in Eketahuna
- Crime statistics

9.2 ***Tararua District Road Safety Group***

- 9.2.1 Board Member Death presented a verbal report on the recent meeting of the Tararua District Road Safety Group, and this included reference to the following matters:-

- Double yellow lines in the Manawatu Gorge
- Road Safety Co-ordinator's report
- State highway matters
- Accident statistics
- Proposed roundabout at the intersection of Jones Street and State Highway 2
- Effluent disposal dump station facility

**10. Correspondence**

10.1 *That the correspondence as listed be received:*

*(a) Tararua District Council  
Re: Rating review*

*20 August, 2008*

*Dimock/Fraser-Davies*

*Carried*

10.2 *Rating Review*

10.2.1 *That with regard to the rating review being undertaken by the Council, the Eketahuna Community Board makes the following comments.*

- *The Board commends the Council on undertaking this review and providing the information regarding the options and models considered for discussion.*
- *The issue of establishing a fair and equitable rating system is complex, and there are no easy answers or solutions to determining how to apportion the rates required from each sector of the community.*
- *Presently the existing system and model is based on a district-wide approach to funding the costs of major community infrastructure and services, and this policy has been the foundation to working in the best interests of maintaining the Tararua District as a viable community.*
- *In particular the current rating system and model acknowledges the composition of the district based on its large rural area with four towns and many small communities.*
- *Whilst it may be possible to modify the existing rating system the economic benefits will be minor, and the financial gains received by any one sector shall cost and disadvantage the other sectors.*
- *If any change is to occur to the basis of the rating system then this should not be rushed, and the objective must be to achieve a positive outcome for the majority of the district's ratepayers.*
- *The Board's conclusion is that the current rating system should be retained, thereby maintaining the status quo in terms of providing a relatively satisfactory option to fund the costs of the Council's community services, facilities and activities.*

*Dimock/Fraser-Davies*

*Carried*

**11. Chairman's Remarks**

11.1 Nil.

**12. Items Not On The Agenda**

12.1 ***Cullen Street Dump***

- 12.1.1 The Urban Roding Supervisor has requested the Board's comments on the possibility of Infracon Tararua using the Cullen Street dump area to dispose of green waste on a controlled basis.
- 12.1.2 The Board agreed that it did not support this proposal, and it is still concerned that rubbish is being dumped in Cullen Street along the fence line.
- 12.1.3 It was suggested that Infracon Tararua seek access to the Eketahuna Landfill through being given a key to provide entry for dumping green material at any time outside of the opening hours.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 12.30pm.

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Chairperson