WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA, ON TUESDAY
21 JUNE 2016 AT 1.00PM

PRESENT

Councillor W Doody (Chairperson), Councillors P Allen, C Faass, J Meyer and
Mayor D Ayers (ex officio).

IN ATTENDANCE

Deputy Mayor K Felstead, Councillors N Atkinson (from item 6 onwards), K Barnett, and
J Gerard.
Messrs J Palmer (Chief Executive), C Brown (Community Green Space Manager),
S Milne (Aquatic Facilities Manager), Mrs P Ashbey (Libraries Manager), Mrs T Sturley
(Community Team Leader), Ms M Burdon (Community Development Advisor),
Ms D Wiggins (Community Development Facilitator) and Mrs L Courtney (Governance
Secretary).

1. APOLOGIES

Moved Councillor Meyer seconded Mayor Ayers

An apology was received and sustained from Councillor Brine for absence.

CARRIED

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1. Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee held
on Tuesday 19 April 2016

Moved Councillor Allen seconded Mayor Ayers

(a) Confirms as a true and correct record the minutes of a meeting of the
Community and Recreation Committee held on Tuesday 19 April 2016.

CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.
5. PRESENTATION / DELEGATION

5.1. Report from N Atkinson on Tagbusters, Kaiapoi.

N Atkinson highlighted that he was reporting in his capacity as a representative of Tagbusters, and not as a councillor of the Waimakariri District Council. He tabled a report (Trim No. 160623060198) with statistics and trends of last three years.

When Tagbusters were awarded the contract six years ago, there few incidents of graffiti in the town centres, they were mainly found in the outer parts of the towns. There was a drop in graffiti in 2015 but it may have been due to Tagbusters having a proactive approach and being more aware and better prepared in dealing with incidents of graffiti. The increase in population has also seen an increase, although minor, of tagging in the central business districts and on new buildings. N Atkinson noted that in 2013, Tagbusters only canvassed town centres.

Rangiora has seen a significant growth in incidents of graffiti compared to previous years and Kaiapoi used to have high incidents of tagging, possibly because of the number of bridges in the town which are popular places for graffiti. Toilets are still the top area for incidents of graffiti, in particular, the inside of the toilets which are out of view of cameras. The internal of some toilets in the district are completely painted one to two times per week due to amounts of graffiti found there. Council parks also have high incidents of graffiti with most being out of view of security cameras.

It has been noted the top ten taggers remain the same for approximately a year, before there is a change taggers who then stay on the top list for that year. It has been surmised it could be age related. There are times when the taggers resurface elsewhere.

The scratching and etching of doors and windows used to be an issue, especially in schools, which cost a lot to repair and replace; the number of incidents have now dropped to almost nothing. Scratchings in paint still occur but that is easier to remedy.

Taggers are more mobile, referencing a tagger whose trail was followed from Oxford to Papanui. It is almost certain that the tagger has a vehicle and a group with him. The fact that taggers can be followed has meant Tagbusters have been able to assist Police, advising where incidents start and finish, which enables the Police to identify the culprits through city and business security cameras.

Prosecutions have been few and far between and Tagbusters have had some difficulty in dealing with the Police due to staffing changes. The information provided by Tagbusters provides GPS positioning and photographs of the tags. However, access to the system used by Tagbusters to track and plot incidents of graffiti, is not permitted by the Police, which has made information difficult to share. Tagbusters are considering dropping the system as it is not required for the purpose intended; information sharing with the Police.

N Atkinson commented that school holidays no longer the busiest times for cleaning tagging, with Friday to Sunday nights, and sometimes Monday nights now the busiest times for graffiti to occur. He added that Tagbusters now do private work. They require private contracts to supply the paint which Tagbusters will use to paint over the graffiti.
N Atkinson commented on the Council’s service request application ‘Snap, Send, Solve’ will require further investigation as to its effect on Tagbusters’ work. The proactive approach Tagbusters have to their work means that some graffiti are removed before they are seen/reported by the public.

Councillor Doody queried incidents of graffiti in other parts of the Waimakariri District. N Atkinson replied that Waikuku and Pegasus have seen an increase in graffiti, especially in the last few weeks.

Regarding the ‘Snap, Send, Solve’ application: Mayor Ayers queried if it was used to report graffiti on private property. Mr Brown replied that all incidents of vandalism are forwarded to the contractor, in this case Tagbusters, to follow up.

Mayor Ayers queried whether Tagbusters move along a street and clean up graffiti as they go. N Atkinson replied Tagbusters use this method but it was not possible to get to all graffiti as some businesses have their own arrangements to clean it up on their buildings. However, private arrangements take time which has reflected negatively on Tagbusters as a perceived lack of action.

Mayor Ayers to Mr Brown, queried how the Customer Service team distribute service requests. Mr Brown believed that all incidents if graffiti come to the Green Space team but would need to confirm it. It was favourable for staff for any incidents to be dealt with in a timely manner. It may be more efficient for the incidents of graffiti to go directly to the contractor, Tagbusters.

Councillor Barnett queried the area covered by the Tagbusters. N Atkinson replied they manage the Waimakariri district.

Councillor Barnett referenced Hastings District Council (HDC), where a levy was introduced so that all graffiti was dealt with immediately, and queried whether it would work in the Waimakariri. N Atkinson did not believe it would, arguing it would be a charge for something that is not required or not needed. He was aware of the HDC’s levy and had discussed the matter with contractors in Hastings. There had been issues with graffiti being painted over with mismatched paint making the area look just as unsightly, highlighting the reason Tagbusters ask private citizens/businesses to provide the paint to cover the graffiti.

Councillor Barnett queried the capacity of Tagbusters to carry out the work required of them, in particular access to graffiti in high places and suggestions on how to encourage private businesses to utilise their service. N Atkinson replied accessing high areas is an issue and usually take longer to clean up because of it. Private business cannot be made to remove the graffiti and Tagbusters have no power over private property owners.

Councillor Barnett queried how best to follow up a complaint on graffiti or the time taken to remove it. J Palmer replied it would be best to use the council’s service request system. Mr Brown added that timeframes for removing graffiti are in the contract with Tagbusters depending on the type of graffiti. Tagbusters advise if the timeframes cannot be met and the reasons why; the reasons are generally reasonable and accepted by staff. Information on the work carried out by Tagbusters can be produced by staff for Councillors’ information. N Atkinson added that most of work Tagbusters carry out is through their own proactive practise rather than from service requests.
6. REPORTS

Community Development

6.1. Community Development Update – Tessa Sturley (Community Team Leader)

Mrs Tessa Sturley, introduced Ms Madeleine Burdon and Ms Denise Wiggins, commenting the PowerPoint presentation would outline three initiatives referred to in her report.

The first project was in relation to 7400 Upgrade, a Rangiora Community Board initiative that has worked on various projects around the Rangiora community to connect and empower local people. This included the ‘Smile Project’, Buskers, street art, engagement with Christchurch Stands Tall project, ANZAC Day commemorations, decorating of construction fences, Christmas hampers, and guerrilla knitting. Regarding the guerrilla knitting, wool was donated from across the community and offers to knit from the local community. There were also had offers of help when the knitting was put up on posts in the Rangiora town centre. 7400 Upgrade have had positive engagement with the community.

Councillor Barnett commented that she had received complaints about the guerrilla knitting on the town’s unique poles and that businesses were not consulted about the project. Mrs Sturley confirmed the group have reported mixed feedback on the guerrilla knitting and acknowledged it could have been consulted better.

The second project was in relation to supporting the district’s newcomers and migrants (N&M). Staff are trying to get tangible data on N&M including where they live in the district. Staff have requested of Statistics New Zealand, a breakdown of Asian resident statistics; the currently generic statistics do not identify specific ethnicities. Staff were fortunate to have put in contact with local Filipino, Bob Bolanos, who has been pivotal approaching the Filipino community in a culturally sensitive manner. Ms Wiggins referred to the Filipino night held in Rangiora which was a success. Staff are also looking at refugee and migrant organisations in Christchurch that could assist with their work including providing interpreters. The long term objective is for the groups to become self-sustaining. Also, based on information gathered, targeted events for specific ethnicities can be organised; the next event being a Migrant Night in Oxford. Staff are developing a N&M Facebook page and will look at having a presence at the Council’s Citizenship ceremonies. Staff would also like to address the Council’s diverse workforce and have been in discussions with the Council’s human resource team about employees sharing their stories. Conversational English is another area that needs developing, in particular, those isolated by their lack of English, in a working/schooling family.

Regarding different migrant groups: Councillor Faass queried whether there was a concentration of ethnic groups in a particular area. Ms Wiggins replied there was an increasing number of Pacific Islanders moving into Rangiora and Kaiapoi as a result of employment at Hellers, Kaiapoi. Local schools have identified a number of Tongans living in Kaiapoi camping grounds also. Staff will seek advice on how to best approach these families with an event suggested in Kaiapoi.

Councillor Gerard queried how far staff go with help and assistance. Ms Wiggins replied staff help newcomers and migrants where they can but do direct them to the appropriate organisations for specialist advice on matters such as work permits.

The third project was the Welcome Ambassadors initiative in Pegasus. Ms Burdon commented that all the groups approached in the launch of the initiative were positive and that it created accessible and affordable activities
for the local community. A short movie clip was presented highlighting the positive activities and connections in the community.

Councillor Faass queried the next area for a similar initiative. Ms Burdon replied that it was dependent on the relationships the area noting interest from Silverstream. Mrs Sturley added that the groundwork has been done with the Beachgrove and Silverstream communities highlighting it needs to be a community led initiative in order to be successful and self-sustaining.

Councillor Faass asked how communities are made aware of such an initiative. Ms Burdon replied that other communities are aware and have approached staff for assistance in getting something similar started.

K Barnett queried whether consideration had been given to the use of former BNZ site which is currently a vacant space. Mrs Sturley replied there had been discussions about utilising the site but other issues prevented any progress.

Councillor Atkinson questioned whether a life span on projects had been considered, so they do not become eye sores. Mrs Sturley replied staff have had discussions regarding the life spans of projects. The guerrilla knitting pieces will be combined into blankets for those in need once they are removed from the town centre poles. She added the 7400 Upgrade group has committed to a mural as a final project.

Moved Councillor Allen seconded Councillor Faass

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

(a) Receives report No 160613055059.

(b) Notes that, in line with long term objectives, the ‘You Me We Us’ Kaiapoi Community Development project will transition to the community as an independent incorporated society.

(c) Notes that the Waimakariri Health Advisory Group sent a letter to Council regarding Smoke Free alfresco dining and that a response has been sent. This is included in this report as an attachment.

CARRIED

Councillor Allen thanked staff for their presentation. The report highlights the importance the Community Team play in connecting with a variety of communities in the district, so they can become confident and functioning members of the community. He commended the events that have embraced the diversity of the community. He noted the closing of Earthquake Recovery Hub in Kaiapoi and community consultation to be carried out regarding smoke free town centres.

Community Facilities, Aquatic Centres, Libraries and Museums

6.2. Aquatic Facilities Update - Stewart Milne (Aquatic Facilities Manager)

Mr Stewart Milne spoke to the report, noting survey returns were low; staff were looking at ways to increase returns for the next survey. The skylight replacement at the Dudley Aquatic Centre was progressing slow but well, as there was some initial difficulty with getting machinery in place. He noted advertising the closure of Dudley Pool was successful with few people turning up for activities unaware.
Councillor Allen queried how it was possible to break a hand basin, as noted in the report. Mr Milne replied the basin possibly had an existing crack which would have weakened it but had not information on how it was broken.

Councillor Allen raised issues regarding a change table for disabled adults at Dudley Aquatic Centre and an inoperative hoist. It had been suggested that the table be located in a bay by the pool which was not appropriate as there was only a curtain for privacy and was used for storage of other pool equipment. Mr Milne replied staff were awaiting the final design elements. The hoist required the hydraulics to be replaced and would soon be operational again. Mr Milne was happy to liaise with Access regarding the location of the change table.

Moved Councillor Doody seconded Councillor Meyer

**THAT** the Community and Recreation Committee:

(a) **Receives** Report No. 160608053949.

(b) **Notes** the Aquatic Facilities year to date achievement against key performance indicators.

(c) **Notes** the 2015/16 financial year customer service initiatives/improvements implemented during the July to April period.

(d) **Circulates** this report to the Boards for their information.

CARRIED

W Doody thanked staff for their report.

6.3. **Library Update – Phillippa Ashbey (Libraries Manager)**

Mrs Ashbey spoke to the report highlighting a current focus on customer service. She advised that the Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre won best in category in the Special Purpose award at the Property Industry Awards on Sunday 19 June.

Customer service improvements include the development of library newsletters for specific genres that members can subscribe to. Mrs Ashbey promoted the link to New Zealand Geographic on the Waimakariri Library website, which is followed up with regular email updates. Curriculum vitae (CV) writing courses have run in the Kaiapoi Library. Hagley Writers’ Institute tutors have provided the assistant and have been engaged for another workshop. The initiative is aimed at job seekers who would otherwise struggle to prepare their own CV.

Learning Connections Coordinator, Jason Clements, recently returned from trip to Bulgaria representing New Zealand at a Haiku festival in Bulgaria. Collection Service Coordinator, Richard Shepherd, won a scholarship to attend the upcoming Australian Library and Information Association conference in Adelaide.

Mrs Ashbey commented on the puppet theatre built by the Kaiapoi MenzShed which special needs adults also attend the performances

The Libraries use a range of social media to promote library activities including Twitter, Instagram and Facebook referring to the running man video library staff made in their own time.

The Libraries Customer Service Survey will soon be conducted and results will be reported back at the next Community and Recreation Committee meeting.
W Doody asked how the CV writing course is being paid for. Mrs Ashbey replied that the Hagley Writers’ Institute have access to funding for adult literacy which covers the initiative.

Moved Councillor Allen seconded Councillor Meyer

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

(a) Receives report No. 160614055456.

(b) Notes that customer service improvements include the:

(i) development of regular library newsletters
(ii) introduction of a new online resource containing articles and videos from the New Zealand Geographic
(iii) CV Writing courses for job seekers
(iv) a puppet theatre for use at the Kaiapoi Library’s Toddler Times sessions
(v) effective promotion of the Libraries’ activities and services via social media

(c) Circulates the report to the Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Councillor Allen commended staff on their work with particular reference to the newsletters of which he is a subscriber. Councillor Meyer also commented on the positive work by staff.

6.4. Surf Lifesaving Statistics 2015/16 – Chris Brown (Community Green Space Manager)

Mr Brown spoke to the report, noting two rescues and eight administrations of First Aid, however, there were a number of preventative actions which will require further investigation into how they can be mitigated in future. Surf Lifesaving New Zealand (SLNZ) presented a plan to staff that works with the budgeting available and was therefore able to be approved and adopted.

Mayor Ayers queried whether SLNZ were receiving a grant or whether they were being contracted. Mr Palmer replied that traditionally they received a grant but now it was more of a contract for service.

Councillor Gerard questioned whether the Council were now liable under the new Health and Safety Act. Mr Brown replied that Surf Lifesaving New Zealand have provided their Health and Safety plans which comply with the new legislation.

Moved Councillor Doody seconded Mayor Ayers

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

(a) Receives report No. 160613054896.

(b) Notes that there is $77,050 allocated for surf lifesaving services for the 2016/2017 season.

(c) Notes that the level of service for lifesaving services for the 2016/2017 season is the same as the 2015/2016 season.

CARRIED
7. MINUTES/REPORT FOR INFORMATION

7.1. Minutes of the Indoor Court Facilities Steering Group meeting of 15 April 2016

7.2. Gladstone Park Master Plan – G Stephens (Green Space Community Engagement Officer)
(copy of report no. 160322025220 to the Woodend-Ashley Community Board meeting of 11 April circulated separately)

Moved Mayor Ayers seconded Councillor Faass

(a) THAT Items 7.1 – 7.2 be received for information.

CARRIED

8. PORTFOLIO UPDATES

8.1. Greenspace (Parks Reserves and Sports Grounds) – Cr Robbie Brine

Mr Brown provided an update on the Rangiora Hockey Turf. He held a meeting with Canterbury Hockey and the North Canterbury Sports and Recreation Trust to make sure the turf meets their requirements. The design and build contract has been awarded. There were issues raised regarding the car park which is currently shingle. The worry was that shingle would be brought onto the turf. Staff believe the use of chip seal will be a good solution. The matter of a scoreboard was raised as a necessity to have one, not just for scoring but for timekeeping purposes; Canterbury hockey are investigating funding for it. A TV area will be required, not for televised games but for live feeds to the coaches box which aides with team management during a game. A grandstand was request but will not be progressed, however staff have suggested creating a bund which would act as an informal stand. An awning shelter was also raised, and staff are investigating the feasibility of moving one on site.

Councillor Felstead asked whether a warm up area was discussed. Mr Brown replied that it was discussed and will be the most expensive part of the development.

Councillor Atkinson queried the use of chip seal, as it could be argued that stones could still be moved on the turf. Mr Brown replied that it would be easier to remove stones from shoes on a chip seal and the use of asphalt is more expensive. There was an issue that the use of the car park area could change. It would not be sensible to invest in asphalt if there was a possibility it would be dug up again. He added that contractors would be required to engage sweep and roll process to mitigate stones.

8.2. Community Facilities (including Aquatic Centres, Halls, Libraries and Museums) – Cr Wendy Doody

- The staff guided walk around Silverstream was informative and worthwhile.
- Movies in the Oxford Town Hall have recommenced.
8.3. Community Development – Cr Peter Allen

- A working party has been set up to progress the establishment of a Community House/Centre.
- Canterbury Clinical Network will be running clinic in Oxford next week.
- There has been a change of leadership at Social Services Waimakariri.
- The Youth Council are revising their terms of reference.

9. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

10. URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no urgent general business.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3.01PM.

CONFIRMED

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Chairperson

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Date