
Community Forum Subcommittee

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Forum Subcommittee held in Flowzone, Kakariki House, Grey Street, Hamilton on Wednesday 3 June 2015 at 9.30am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Cr M Gallagher
Deputy Chair	Cr P Yeung
Members	Cr K Green Cr D Macpherson

In attendance	General Manager Community, General Manager Performance, Community Development & Leisure Manager, Social Development Manager, Social Development Policy Advisor, Democracy Manager
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Also in attendance	Yvonne Wilson – Project Manager, Ngā Rau Tātangi (Māori Housing Foundation) Bill Hewitt – Relationship Manager, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA)
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Committee Advisor	Mr B Stringer
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1. Apologies

Resolved: (Crs Gallagher/Yeung)

That the apologies from Cr Tooman and Her Worship the Mayor Hardaker be received and accepted.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

The Chair recommended that Item 8 (Wise Trust CEO Report) be deferred until the next Subcommittee meeting as the presenter was not able to attend due to another urgent engagement. Item 11 (Community Activity Report) would be taken immediately after Item 7 (Action List).

Resolved: (Crs Gallagher/Yeung)

The Committee to confirm the Agenda as updated.

3. Declarations of Interest

No members of the Subcommittee declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. Public Forum

There was no public forum.

5. Chairperson's Report

No Chairperson's Report was required for the Meeting.

6. Community Forum Subcommittee Minutes 15 April 2015

Resolved: (Crs Gallagher/Green)

That the Subcommittee confirm and adopt as a true and correct record the Minutes of the Community Forum Subcommittee Meeting of 15 April 2015.

7. Community Forum Subcommittee Action List

The General Manager Community and Community Development & Leisure Manager updated the Subcommittee and responded to questions on the following points:

- **Community Occupancy Policy**
The six-monthly report would be presented at the next Subcommittee meeting, with a further report in December 2015. In the next report, staff would canvass options and the process for the Subcommittee to review applications received under the Policy that related to community matters.
- **Sustainability Report**
Staff were requested to ascertain the status of the report and when the Sustainability Leadership Forum was due to meet. An update was to be provided at the next Subcommittee meeting.
- **Fairfield Feasibility Study**
There was a delay in the consultation process. Staff remained in contact with the working group.
- **Truancy**
The annual report would be presented at the next Subcommittee meeting.
- **Richmond Park School**
Staff did not find any record of financial investment by Council in the hall located at the school. The Ministry of Education (MoE), which would retain ownership of the hall, have provided assurances that the community would continue to have access. The hall was not currently being used.

Resolved: (Crs Gallagher/Yeung)

That staff:

- a) include the hall facilities at Richmond Park School in the Community Facilities Review;
- b) raise this issue with the MoE at the next bi-monthly meeting; and
- c) initiate a joint consultation, together with the MoE, for community groups in the Richmond Park area for the future use of the hall and area.

- **Social Wellbeing Strategy**

It was clarified that the Subcommittee's role would be to:

- check the strategy remained fit for purpose; and
- assume an audit function in order to ascertain actions that are completed or need to be progressed.

- **DHB - Suicide Prevention Plan**

The Ministry of Health was continuing to work with the Waikato District Health Board on the plan. Staff would enquire as to whether a draft report could be released to the Older Persons Advisory Panel.

- **Older Persons Advisory Panel**

The Chair and Cr Yeung would work with staff to collate topics to discuss with the Advisory Panel.

At the request of Elected Members, staff would ensure that timeframes for completion and reporting of specific items were incorporated into the Action List for future meetings.

Resolved: (Crs Gallagher/Yeung)

That the Report be received.

Item 11 was taken immediately after Item 7 to accommodate external presenters.

11. Community Activity Report

The Community Development & Leisure Manager, supported by the Social Development Manager and Social Development Policy Advisor, spoke to her Report and highlighted the following matters:

- **30 under 30 project**

30 applicants received awards at an event on 29 May 2015. Each of these young people would be profiled over the coming months.

- **Community Profiles**

Staff would consider to what extent the findings from each profile can be compared to those that had been previously compiled in order to analyse and report any trends.

- **Multi-Year Grants**

Staff advised the Subcommittee that they would communicate and work with community groups that may be significantly impacted by the funding allocation decisions. Elected Members noted specific concerns for those organisations that had received Council support for a number of years. The Chair suggested that the Multi-Year Grant Allocation Committee may wish to recommend decisions to Council that could result in a materially adverse impact to a community organisation.

It was clarified that the funding amount requested, through the application process, was approximately \$2.8 million per year compared to the \$900,000 per year that was actually available for allocation.

- **Small Grants**

The maximum amount that could be allocated to an applicant was \$5,000.

Resolved: (Crs Gallagher/Green)

That the Report be received.

8. **Wise Trust CEO Report**

The Report was deferred until the next Subcommittee meeting.

9. **Ngā Rau Tātangi Report**

Yvonne Wilson, Project Manager at Te Rūnanga o Kirikiriroa, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the Enderley Social Housing Project, highlighted the following and responded to questions:

- **Ngā Rau Tātangi (NRT) Origins**

NRT was established to manage Te Rūnanga o Kirikiriroa Trust Inc's housing portfolio. It was in the process of registering to be a charity and was recognised as a Community Housing Provider (CHP), being a social class landlord. The Foundation's focus was the provision of social housing for Māori and Pacific Island people.

- **Resilient Urban Futures**

The Enderley Affordable Housing Project was to be the subject of Otago University research. Ms Wilson would circulate a website link to the Subcommittee in relation to that research.

- **Development Contributions**

The General Manager Performance explained that the Rūnanga would be able to apply for the relevant consent after 1 July that, if granted, would reduce the development contributions payable. Ms Wilson confirmed that that was the process with which the Rūnanga was progressing.

- **Enderley Affordable Housing Project**

The housing development would be called Wairere Village, which would embrace the model of papakāinga in an urban setting. Baileys had been appointed as agents to sell the houses; an advertising brochure was circulated to Subcommittee members. Ms Wilson advised that proceeding through Baileys, rather than through the Rūnanga itself, provided a professional face to the project and avoided any potential conflict of interest.

The Project's aim was to increase home ownership for Māori. Rent-to-buy and Rental properties were part of the Project's 'step-up approach' for those people who would not initially be in a position to purchase a property. The target customer was low to moderate income families.

As a CHP, discounted rental was available to people who qualified. The Project, in partnership with Work and Income, had provided employment opportunities to three people, with an additional two people to commence work shortly.

The development would be unit-titled, with residents agreeing to body corporate encumbrances at the time of purchase – for example, the prohibition of loud parties. A committee was to consider the design of common areas while the Māori Housing Foundation would be responsible for maintenance of general spaces.

- **Enderley Community**

It was stated that any community facility needed to be sustainable to ensure its success with local residents. Ms Wilson indicated the Rūnanga would be happy to support such a facility. The Community Development & Leisure Manager advised that staff had updated the Enderley Community of the work that had started under the Facilities Review, which it was believed would result in useful information being provided to Council to enable it to make better informed decisions.

The Chair thanked Ms Wilson for her presentation.

Resolved: (Crs Gallagher/Green)

That the Report be received.

10. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority Report

Bill Hewitt, Relationship Manager for EECA, noted the apologies of his colleague Alison Johnson and spoke to his PowerPoint presentation. Mr Hewitt responded to questions and highlighted the following:

- **Impact of poor performing houses**

Poorly insulated houses resulted in adverse impacts on health, including respiratory illnesses and rheumatic fever. Standards differed across the country.

- **Warm Up New Zealand: Heat Smart**

278,238 properties of the 1,450,000 houses recorded as uninsulated pre-2000 had insulation upgraded through the Warm Up programme, which provided discounted insulation installation. Heat Smart launched in 2009 and ended in 2013.

Hamilton

In Hamilton, approximately 25% of occupied dwellings had benefited from this programme; half of which are low income households. Evidence indicated rental property owners had also taken advantage of these services.

- **Warm Up New Zealand: Healthy Homes**

Healthy Homes was a three-year \$100 million retrofit programme for home insulation. It was targeted specifically at low income/high health needs households. EECA provided 60% of the funding with the remainder contributed by third-party partners and/or landlords.

- **Voluntary Targeted Rates (VTR)**

VTR enabled ratepayers to include the costs of insulating their home towards the rates payable, subject to certain conditions. About 10 local authorities currently offered VTR schemes and some permitted costs of installing appropriate heating and/or ventilation systems to also be offset. 18,500 houses had benefitted from VTR since 2009.

EECA had promoted VTR to Waikato Regional Council though it had not received any feedback. Mr Hewitt indicated EECA would be happy to talk to other local authorities and committees, including the Mayoral Forum.

The General Manager Performance advised the Subcommittee that Council considered VTR about four years ago but did not support the scheme predominantly due to the impact on Council's debt limits. Mr Hewitt confirmed that Auckland and Greater Wellington Councils had budgeted for \$10 million/year to support VTR.

Staff were asked to present a report to the Subcommittee to summarise how VTR works, what had been submitted to Council previously, offer options for the Subcommittee to consider and, if appropriate, recommend to the Strategy and Policy Committee. Elected Members

requested that the report also addressed the relationship between Council, the DHB and third-party funders and, to this end, suggested that an invitation was sent to the DHB and WEL Networks to attend the next Subcommittee meeting. Mr Hewitt agreed to provide an update as to discussions with the Waikato Regional Council.

- **Beyond Insulation**

There were a number of actions that were advocated by EECA to promote more efficient-performing homes, including use of curtains and improved ventilation.

- **Working with the DHB**

EECA would benefit from the customer information held by the DHB in order to proactively target those in need of better insulated homes.

- **National Priorities**

The current Healthy Homes programme was due to end in 2016 and EECA were awaiting confirmation as to whether there would be an extension. Mr Hewitt noted that Government received \$5 in return for every \$1 spent, principally in relation to health benefits.

The Chair thanked EECA for its presentation.

Resolved: (Crs Gallagher/Macpherson)

That:

- a) the Report be received; and
- b) staff report back to the Subcommittee on options open to Council to support EECA achieve its goals in regards to energy efficiency initiatives, particularly the Warm Up New Zealand programme.

12. Summary Discussion

The Summary Discussion Report was not required by the Subcommittee.

The Meeting closed at 11:40am.

Confirmed by:

Chairperson

Date