

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

**Minutes of Meeting No. JRS6 of Joint Road Safety Committee
held on 8 May 2018 in the Council Chamber, Barks Corner, Tauranga
commencing at 10.04am**

Present

Councillor Margaret Murray-Benge (Chairperson) and Stuart Harvey (Western Bay of Plenty District Council), Councillor Bill Grainger (Deputy Chairperson) and Karen Smith (Tauranga City Council), Councillor Andrew von Dadelszen and Jenny Mack (Bay of Plenty Regional Council), Sergeant Wayne Hunter (NZ Police), Marcell Davison (NZ Transport Agency), Jessica Davis (Accident Compensation Corporation) and Peter Bedford (Automobile Association)

In Attendance

G Allis (Deputy Chief Executive), Justine Wilton (Westlink), and Michelle Parnell (Democracy Advisor)

Others

Paul Howard (WestLink), Senior Constable Dennis Bidois (NZ Police) and J Brider (Accident Compensation Corporation).

Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Member Martin Parkes.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / Grainger

THAT the apology for absence from Member Martin Parkes be accepted.

Public Forum

Resolved: Members Harvey / Hunter

THAT the meeting adjourn for the purpose of holding a public forum.

Mr Jean-Paul Thull spoke to a tabled document and outlined concerns around pedestrian safety in residential subdivisions and state highways in rural towns such as Katikati, and problems with State Highways Two and 29, along with some suggested solutions.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr Thull clarified:

- In his opinion, it was not just driver error causing some of the issues on local roads but the roads themselves. He thought that cars being more powerful and drivers being more stressed had compounded existing issues.
- He confirmed he had never had issues with the reflectors on side of the roads but he had issues with the narrowness of the Wairoa bridge and being able to see pedestrians on it.
- In his opinion, there needed to be a change of culture in subdivision areas to encourage people to walk, take their bikes or use public transport instead of using their vehicles.
- Raised intersections would encourage drivers to slow down further at intersections to avoid damaging their vehicles. Putting a pedestrian crossing on these raised areas was recommended as drivers were travelling at reduced speeds already.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Thull for his presentation and advised that his comments would be circulated amongst the organisations represented in the meeting.

Resolved: Councillor Murray-Benge / Member Harvey

THAT the meeting be reconvened in formal session at 10.28am.

Late Item

The Chairperson advised there was one late item for the Committee to consider for inclusion in the open of the agenda, being Road Closure Regulations.

The reason that this item was not included on the agenda was that it had come up after the agenda had been produced and it could not be delayed to the next scheduled Joint Road Safety Committee meeting because three road closures have been requested in the next six weeks and the next meeting was three months away.

Resolved: Murray-Benge / Davis

THAT, in accordance with Section 46A (7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act the following item be considered as a late item of open business:

- *Road Closure Regulations*

JRS6.1 Road Closure Regulations

Stuart Harvey gave a verbal report to the Committee about the current regulations around road closure advertising specifically that road closures had to be advertised in a local newspaper. He advised that, in his opinion, road closures should also be advertised through at least one other relevant and commonly used advertising forum as well as the newspaper including but not limited to Facebook and via email.

Mr Harvey sought agreement from the Committee that best practice would be over and above the legislative requirements.

Resolved: Members Harvey / Smith

THAT the Joint Road Safety Committee agree that best practice around advertising road closures involved more than just advertising in the newspaper and supported staff advertising road closures in the newspaper AND in at least one other relevant and commonly used communication forum.

JRS6.2 **Minutes of Meeting No. JRS5 of the Joint Road Safety Committee Held on 6 March 2018**

The Committee considered the minutes of JRS5 of the Joint Road Safety Committee meeting held on 6 March 2018 as circulated with the agenda.

Resolved: Councillor von Dadelszen / Member Smith

THAT the minutes of Meeting No. JRS5 of the Joint Road Safety Committee held on 6 March 2018 as circulated with the agenda be confirmed as a true and correct record.

JRS6.3 **Western Bay Joint Road Safety Operations Meetings Minutes**

The Committee considered the minutes from the Western Bay Joint Road Safety Operations Meeting dated 14 March 2018 as circulated with the agenda.

Resolved: Members Smith / Hunter

THAT the minutes from the Western Bay Joint Road Safety Committee Operations dated 14 March 2018 be received.

JRS6.4 **Membership of the Joint Road Safety Committee 2018**

The Committee considered a report from the Democracy Advisor dated 18 April 2018 as circulated with the agenda.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

- 1. THAT the Democracy Advisor's report dated 18 April 2018 and titled Membership of the Joint Road Safety Committee 2018 be received.*
- 2. THAT the report relates to an issue that is considered to be of low significance in terms of Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.*
- 3. THAT the membership of the Joint Road Safety Committee be*

amended to remove:

- *Senior Sergeant Ian Campion (NZ Police)*
- *Adam Francis (NZ Transport Agency)*
- *Alex Finn (Western Bay of Plenty District Council)*

and replace with:

- *Acting Senior Sergeant Wayne Hunter (NZ Police)*
- *Marceli Davison (NZ Transport Agency) and Alex Jeffcoat (NZ Transport Agency alternate)*
- *Stuart Harvey (Western Bay of Plenty District Council).*

JRS6.5

New Zealand Police Report

The Committee considered a report from the New Zealand Police dated 13 April 2018 as circulated with the agenda.

Senior Sergeant Hunter explained that through the recent Kiddiclick programme every vehicle that was stopped had a safety issue with their car seats. The more serious issues were fixed onsite and those with less serious issues were given advice to remedy the situation. In a few instances free car seats were given to some drivers with unrestrained children in their vehicles.

He also advised that a boy racer operation in Paengaroa that had been successful and had resulted in the boy racers protesting the following weekend.

Senior Sergeant Hunter introduced his colleague Senior Constable Dennis Bidois. Senior Constable Bidois advised of his connection to the local community. He spoke to a tabled powerpoint presentation about a programme that he had developed called "Awhi", which was in the process of being rolled out nationwide.

He explained he had been given a mandate from his Area Commander to create a programme that caused a change in the culture of the community and how the Police were seen. The Awhi programme connected police with support groups in their vicinity that helped address the reasons why people were offending. Police officers had access to Awhi partners on their mobile devices and could send messages instantly to connect the public with these services.

There was a requirement of Awhi partners to confirm by email that the referral was accepted and again to confirm engagement with the referee, and a quality measurement that partners needed to meet. NZ Police also worked with partners to explain police processes and educate the community further helping to improve the way people in the community viewed the police.

Senior Constable Bidois advised that statistics showed that 68% of recidivist offender's first offences were around road safety and that the largest number of Awhi referral in the area came from the Road Safety

Officers. He explained that the Awhi programme was running in many areas in the Bay of Plenty and that other areas in the country were actively seeking to implement the programme.

In response to questions, the NZ Police representatives explained:

- Statistics presented in the presentation were national statistics unless stated otherwise.
- The Awhi programme would be reviewed regularly by the NZ Police to measure change created in the communities that ran it.
- The NZ Police worked very well with Customs Officers.
- Awhi was an opportunity to lead the horse to water but people could not be forced to drink. If they refused help through the Awhi programme they were ticketed or arrested.

11.10am Councillor von Dadelszen left the meeting.

- Awhi partners included social change organisations that were well established in the community. The Awhi programme was a way of collating these services and bringing them to people's attention.
- Some of the programmes people were being referred to covered the same information as education programmes in schools because many of the offenders they were offering the programme to did not go all the way through school.
- Senior Sergeant Bidois particularly enjoyed hearing about Pākeha officers offering Awhi to Māori offenders, who tended to be blown away by the offer.
- Road Police Officers found Awhi particularly useful in connecting with offenders.
- The programme was easy, relevant and provided timely intervention. The strength of Awhi was in relationships.
- Those referred to the Awhi programme were still issued a ticket but if they completed their Awhi referral and recommended programme then the ticket was voided.

The Chairperson thanked Acting Senior Sergeant Wayne Hunter for his report and Senior Constable Bidois for his presentation.

Resolved: Councillor Murray-Benge / Member Davis

THAT New Zealand Police's report dated 13 April 2018 be received and recommended to each Council that they .

JRS6.6 **Accident Compensation Corporation Update**

The Committee considered a report from the Accident Compensation Corporation dated 24 April 2018 as circulated with the agenda. She introduced her manager, Jo Bridger, Injury Prevention Manager Regions of Accident Compensation Corporation.

11.27am Councillor Grainger left the meeting.

Ms Davis spoke to the report in the agenda and the Ride Forever programme. She advised of the advertising campaign for this programme and explained that the Bay of Plenty had been identified as an area that had higher than average motorcycle accidents. She explained that there would be an advertising campaign in June, and that the peak time from motorcycling was between October and March so there would be another campaign in spring targeted to this.

Ms Davis also pointed out that alongside the Ride Forever On-Road Coaching Programme that Accident Compensation Corporation also had an online coaching tool available on their website. Motorcyclists who had been through the course were statistically less likely to be hurt in an accident.

The Drive Website had been developed as a joint effort with central government specifically targeted towards young drivers. It was designed to resemble a video game and had a low requirement for literacy. Drive Toolkits had also been developed that would enable instructors to run the same programme without access to the website. These kits will be provided free to Councils and Accident Compensation Corporation was working with regional Road Safety Coordinators to distribute these.

Resolved: Members Davis / Mack

THAT the Accident Compensation Corporation's report dated 24 April 2018 be received.

JRS6.7

Travel Safe Road Safety Action Plan Report

The Committee considered a report from the Travel Safe Programme Leader of the Tauranga City Council dated March 2018-May 2018 as circulated with the agenda.

Ms Smith informed the Committee that a national cycle skills programme was being developed and that the existing programme she ran work well with the national direction and she was meeting with partners to ensure this.

She showed some photos from the recently run cycle helmet competition and also spoke about the Accident Compensation Corporation young drivers workshop where learners in the Western Bay area were given one hour with a driving instructor and instructions in car maintenance and insurances.

11.39am Councillor Grainger re-entered the meeting.

With regards to those who had attended recent mobility scooter workshops, Ms Smith advised that there was concern about the recently advertised larger models of mobility scooter advertised as suitable for use on roads and that these people were not interested in purchasing one. Mr Bedford confirmed that he had checked through the Automobile Association and that the NZ Transport Agency had not approved these vehicles despite the vendors advertising them as approved. Acting Senior Sergeant Hunter advised that, despite that, Police were unable to prosecute drivers of these vehicles because of the low wattage, which would be problematic since they are being advertised as being able to be used on the road.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / Grainger

THAT the Tauranga City Council Travel Safe Programme Leader's report dated March 2018 - May 2018 be received.

THAT a letter be written by the Travel Safe Programme Leader of the Tauranga City Council and Acting Senior Sergeant Wayne Hunter on behalf of the Joint Road Safety Committee to the Minister of Transport and copied to Accident Compensation Corporation and the NZ Transport Agency communicating the concern expressed about overly large mobility scooters and the need for rules and regulations to be drawn up regarding their use and the licensing of those who drive them.

JRS6.8

Transport Agency Update

The Committee considered a report from the Regional Road Safety Advisor dated April 2018 as circulated with the agenda.

Ms Davison introduced herself to the Committee. She confirmed the outcome regarding the Belk Road matter was positive and explained that with the recent change in government that the projects that NZ Transport Agency were working through were being reviewed under the new governments mandate of improving current roads and road safety.

In response to questions, Ms Davison explained the Poripori Road and Pongakawa Station Road project would be re-scoped with the rest of the pending NZ Transport Agency projects. At the Chairperson's invitation Ms Wilton from WestLink advised that the works had been applied for but were declined at this stage as they had a low Death and Serious Injury Cost score and projects with higher scores would be prioritised.

Resolved: Members Davison / Harvey

THAT the New Zealand Transport Agency Regional Road Safety Advisor's report dated April 2018 be received.

JRS6.9 **Road Safety Action Plan**

The Committee considered a report from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Sustainable Transport Officer dated 18 April 2018 as circulated with the agenda.

11.58am Councillor Bill Grainger left the meeting.

Ms Mack explained that the majority of her work was made possible with the partnerships within this committee and advised how the programmes that they reported on worked in with other organisations like the Police.

Resolved: Mack / Davis

That the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Sustainable Transport Officer's report dated 18 April 2018 be received.

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr Bedford from the Automobile Association advised of information that had been brought to the attention of the Automobile Association about the build up of CO² in cars over the last decade and how this affected drivers.

The Chairperson thanked the Committee and its guests for their attendance.

The meeting concluded at 12.12pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

Councillor Margaret Murray-Benge
Chairperson

Date

JRS6