

**Minutes of Meeting No. RUR11 of the Rural Committee  
held on 6 December 2018 in the Council Chamber, Barkes Corner, Tauranga  
commencing at 1.00pm**

**Present**

Councillor K Marsh (Chairperson), Councillors G Dally, M Dean, P Mackay, J Palmer, D Thwaites, M Williams and His Worship the Mayor G J Webber

**In Attendance**

G Allis (Deputy Chief Executive), S Stewart (Policy Analyst), P Martelli (Resource Management Manager), F Low (Senior Policy Analyst Resource Management), L Nind (Governance Advisor) and M Parnell (Governance Advisor)

1.02pm            The meeting was adjourned to continue the Operations and Monitoring Committee.  
2.19pm            The meeting was reconvened.

**Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lally, Marshall, Murray-Benge and Scrimgeour.

**Resolved:**        Marsh / Mayor Webber

*THAT the apologies for absence from Councillors Lally, Marshall, Murray-Benge and Scrimgeour be accepted.*

## Information

### RUR11.1 **Post Harvest and Seasonal Worker Accommodation Review Update**

The Rural Committee considered a presentation from the Senior Policy Analyst Resource Management regarding Post Harvest and Seasonal Worker Accommodation Review Update.

The Senior Policy Analyst Resource Management spoke to a tabled powerpoint presentation and gave an update of what she had spoken on in the Policy Workshop on 18 October 2018. She advised as follows:

- Staff were investigating areas where the Post Harvest Zones could be tweaked to benefit the industry and Council, including the height of buildings and an increase to the number of beds for seasonal workers.
- There was confusion in the public about adhering to the District Plan and other relevant legislation, like the Building Act, that resulted in confusion and non-compliance.
- It was difficult to measure the impacts proposed changes would have in creating larger communal facilities away from urban areas.
- Holiday parks in the area like the Te Puke Holiday Park and Sapphire Springs could also provide possible solutions for the industry, particularly with providing accommodation for backpackers.
- Approaches have been made from building and consulting businesses about facilities they could provide.

In response to questions, staff advised as follows:

- Housing of Recognised Seasonal Employer workers needed to be considered in light of the actual and/or potential effects they had on the environment around them while they stayed, which was where the Resource Management Act came in.
- All kiwifruit orchards need to make basic provisions (toilet, handwashing facilities etc.) for their workers, which could be worked into a camping scenario, although there would be issues with monitoring this kind of solution.
- Solutions needed to be practicable, which should lead to more people applying for activities and being able to measure impact more accurately.
- It would be important to work closely with the industry as to the where and what of proposed solutions.
- The Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme in Australia was far more liberal than the New Zealand scheme, which had led to Recognised Seasonal Employer workers preferring to go there.

**Resolved:** Williams / Dean

*THAT the presentation from the Senior Policy Analyst Resource Management be received:*

## Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act

### Exclusion of the Public

#### Schedule 2A

**Resolved:** Mayor Webber / Williams

*THAT the public be excluded from the following part of this meeting namely:*

- *Direct Management Services (Packhouse)*

*The general subject to each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:*

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
<i>Direct Management Service (Packhouse)</i>	<i>THAT the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would likely result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</i>	<i>Protect information where the making available of the information:</i> <i>(i) would disclose a trade secret; or</i> <i>(ii) would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is subject of the information</i>

*THAT pursuant to Standing Orders 2.16.4 Derek Masters of Direct Management Services (Packhouse) be permitted to remain after the public have been excluded because of his knowledge of his organisation.*