

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Minutes of Meeting No.RUR12 of the Rural Committee held on 28 February 2019 in the Council Chamber, Barks Corner, Tauranga commencing at 3.00pm

Present

Councillors K Marsh (Chairperson), G Dally, M Dean, M Lally, P Mackay, D Marshall, M Murray-Benge, J Palmer, J Scrimgeour, D Thwaites and M Williams

In Attendance

G Allis (Deputy Chief Executive), S Stewart (Policy Analyst), K Elder (Governance Manager), L Nind (Governance Advisor) and M Parnell (Governance Advisor)

Resolved: Williams / Scrimgeour

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 3.04pm to allow for the completion of the Operations and Monitoring Committee.

The meeting was reconvened at 3.28pm.

Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Mayor Webber and an apology for lateness was received from Councillor Murray-Benge.

Resolved: Mackay / Scrimgeour

THAT the apology for absence from Mayor Webber and the apology for lateness from Councillor Murray-Benge be accepted.

RUR12.1 Rural Committee 2019 Programme

The Committee considered a report from the Deputy Chief Executive dated 18 February 2019. The Deputy Chief Executive advised the following:

- The purpose of the meeting was to discuss what the Committee wanted to achieve in the Rural Committee meeting on 14 May 2019.

- The May meeting would have both a social and business focus.
- Feedback relating to previous Rural Committee meetings and Council's role would be provided.

3.29pm Councillor Murray-Benge entered the meeting.

- Conversations about regional transport were taking place at the Urban Form and Transport Initiative (UFTI).
- All those who had presented to the Rural Committee in the past would be invited to the May Committee meeting.
- The meeting could include items like an update from the Policy and Planning team about seasonal worker accommodation.
- The impact of the Rangiuuru Business Park and developments in the east of the District would need to be considered.

Elected Members made the following comments:

- New Zealand Transport Agency, New Zealand Rail and local Members of Parliament should also be invited to the May meeting.
- Success stories of the Tauranga Eastern Link could be used to promote the need for the Tauranga Northern Link.
- Councillors travelling from the eastern end of the district experienced traffic issues and congestion driving to Tauranga and were concerned about how this would affect the kiwifruit season this year.
- The May meeting should be held in the morning or over lunch. Staff advised they would consult the Parliamentary sitting schedule.
- Planning rules needed to be changed to allow for orchardists and farmers to provide onsite accommodation for their workers.

In response to questions, staff advised the following:

- The UFTI Group discussed transportation, land use and industry shift and the impacts of these on the area.
- Part of Council's role was to advocate for change for the benefit of the district.
- Tauranga City Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council had been briefed on the Rural Committee findings through SmartGrowth.

Resolved: Murray-Benge /Marshall

1. *THAT the report from Deputy Chief Executive's report dated 18 February 2019 and titled Rural Committee 2019 Programme 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.*

The meeting concluded at 3.55pm.

RUR12