



Eketahuna Community Board

Minutes of a meeting of the Eketahuna Community Board held in the Eketahuna War Memorial Hall, corner of Jones Street and State Highway 2, Eketahuna on Monday 8 June 2020 commencing at 10.00am.

1. Present

Board Members C C Death (Chairperson), S C McGhie (Deputy Chairperson), T M Carew, D F Clifton and Cr R A Treder (Council appointed Community Board member).

In Attendance

Mrs T Collis - Her Worship the Mayor
Mr R Taylor - Governance Manager

2. Apologies

2.1 Nil

3. Personal Matters

3.1 Nil

4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

4.1 The following matter is notified as an item of general business not on the agenda for discussion at today's meeting:

- Creating economic growth

5. Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 *That the minutes of the Eketahuna Community Board meeting held on 9 March 2020 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

Carew/Clifton

Carried

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes

6.1 Nil

7. Tararua District Council Report

7.1 *That the reports of the Tararua District Council meetings held on 29 April 2020 and 27 May 2020 (as circulated) be received.*

Carew/McGhie

Carried

7.2 Community Remembrance Time for Victims of Christchurch Mosques Terrorist Attack

7.2.1 The event held in the Council Chamber on 15 March 2020 to join with the Muslim community to enjoy the bond of friendship, and commemorate the day New Zealand as a nation showed unity, compassion and love in response to terrorism and an act intending to divide us is commended.

7.2.2 These arrangements brought the district together to establish that link with the Muslim community, and a similar annual event is to be considered on an ongoing basis.

7.3 Drought

7.3.1 Functions are to be held in the district for the rural community to support farmers recovery from the stressful period dealing with the impact of the severe drought recently experienced.

8. Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities

8.1 Creating Economic Growth

8.1.1 The Deputy Chairperson spoke on the potential to create economic growth for the district through Council considering providing funding support in the interest of attracting the establishment of new businesses.

8.1.2 In raising this topic for discussion the Deputy Chairperson referred to the example of his father's commercial property for sale, and a number of prospective buyers viewing the property to establish a new business with the intention of employing staff.

8.1.3 However, those that had proceeded to consider undertaking due diligence were deterred on contacting Council and finding they would incur costs such as to seek an assessment for land contamination resulting from hazardous substance use, storage or disposal.

- 8.1.4 Requirements associated with assessing potentially earthquake-prone buildings through engineering assessments is a further cost that causes a barrier to determining the viability of buildings for new businesses.
- 8.1.5 The Governance Manager explained the approach Council takes to economic development in the district by providing business friendly and welcoming support for new residents and businesses.
- 8.1.6 Its focus is directed through the Tararua Business Network to support business development, progress in regional development and to support entrepreneurs and start-ups in the district.
- 8.1.7 Tararua Business Network continues to support the district's business community through providing economic knowledge, statistical data and project management support to community stakeholders, local business and industry.
- 8.1.8 While the Council is committed to be enabling and business friendly its strategy does not extend to providing financial assistance towards offsetting commercial expenditure of a due diligence nature, noting the precedent this would set and the cost impact for ratepayers.
- 8.1.9 The Governance Manager emphasised Council in fulfilling its regulatory functions is undertaking them based on statutory legislative requirements. The Hazardous Activities and Industries List is referenced in the Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health) Regulations 2011.
- 8.1.10 The Mayor suggested the Eketahuna Charitable Trust which is set up to provide key buildings in Eketahuna for essential services and infrastructure could be approached where a business case is being considered that may potentially create economic growth through new employment opportunities in the town.

9. Correspondence

- 9.1 ***That the correspondence as listed be received.***
- (a) Loreen and Kerry Cunningham***
Re: Eketahuna Camping Ground February, March and April reports
- (b) Tararua District Age on the Go Expo Organising Committee 18 March 2020***
Re: Postponement of Tararua Age on the Go Expo and request that Board's funding grant remain committed for rescheduling of event later in the year
- (c) Eketahuna Our Town Incorporated***
Re: 12 March 2020 Annual General Meeting and Committee Meeting minutes and reports

Clifton/McGhie

Carried

9.2 **Tararua District Age on the Go Expo Organising Committee**

9.2.1 The Board note the postponement of the Tararua Age on the Go Expo due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and agree its funding grant of \$250 can remain committed for rescheduling of that event later in the year.

9.3 **Eketahuna Camping Ground**

9.3.1 April was the first month Eketahuna Camping Ground only had Kiwi visitors with no overseas visitors due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

9.3.2 This situation has changed the market for those using Eketahuna Camping Ground to stay, with its previous main market being young overseas visitors.

9.3.3 During the period of the Covid-19 lockdown all visitors staying at the Eketahuna Camping Ground were in self-contained accommodation within their bubbles.

9.4 **Eketahuna Our Town Incorporated**

9.4.1 Eketahuna Our Town Committee is making applications for funding during 2020 to assist with undertaking various projects, including the following:

- Lime track phase 2
- Increased Flagtrax installations
- Paint for painting the Eketahuna Information Centre wall
- Traffic management for the 2020 Santa Cruise community Christmas parade

10. **General Assistance Grants Scheme 2019/2020**

10.1 The Board's General Assistance Grants Scheme is to be re-advertised as a result of being impacted by the Covid-19 lockdown, and the new closing date for applications is 31 July 2020.

11. **Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award**

11.1 The 2020 Alf Rowden Humanitarian Award is to be re-advertised as a result of being impacted by the Covid-19 lockdown, and the new closing date for nominations is 31 July 2020.

12. **Love Local Tararua**

12.1 Promotion of the Love Local Tararua message to support businesses throughout the district is a positive way to advance the recovery following the Covid-19 pandemic.

12.2 The new signs coming into Eketahuna promoting the town include reference encouraging shopping locally.

13. Community Event

13.1 A community event to bring people together following the removal of Covid-19 restrictions is proposed to be held in the Eketahuna Community Centre on 26 July 2020 commencing at 2.00pm.

13.2 The arrangements for this event shall be coordinated through the Board working in conjunction with the Eketahuna Our Town Committee, and Board Member Carew will follow up this matter in liaison with the Chairperson.

14. Anzac Day/Armistice Day

14.1 The Anzac Day civic service was not able to be held this year due to the Covid-19 lockdown. It is proposed the 75th Armistice Day service on 11 November 2020 will provide an opportunity for the community to remember those who gave their lives over many years in different conflicts around the world.

14.2 It is intended the visit to Eketahuna previously planned by Terry Kingi and the horse riders of the Anzac Mounted Troopers will now occur on Armistice Day along with the afternoon tea event held in the Nireaha Hall.

15. Connecting with Rural Communities

15.1 The Board's visit to Alfredton School to liaise with residents from that community is proposed to be rescheduled to occur on 10 August 2020 at 3.30pm, and Cr Treder will follow up this matter in liaison with the Chairperson.

16. Chairperson's Remarks

16.1 Town Centre CCTV Security Cameras Monitoring System

16.1.1 The Chairperson is working with the Manager Strategy and District Development Peter Wimsett and Eketahuna Police Officer Jymahl Glassey to consider extending the area covered by the Eketahuna town centre CCTV security cameras monitoring system.

16.2 Eketahuna Civil Defence Response Group

16.2.1 The Eketahuna Civil Defence Response Group annual catch-up will be held at the Eketahuna Fire Station next month.

17. Venue for Board's July Meeting

17.1 The Board's meeting on 13 July 2020 at 10.00am will be held in the Pukaha Mount Bruce National Wildlife Centre.

- 17.2 The General Manager of Pukaha Mount Bruce National Wildlife Centre, Emily Court will join the Board’s meeting at 10.30am to speak on the funding secured from the Provincial Growth Fund to develop the facility.
- 17.3 This involves work starting immediately on constructing a forty bed accommodation and education centre to host school and community groups and vocational training programmes.
- 17.4 A new nocturnal boardwalk to enable visitors to experience the forest at night is also being funded.
- 17.5 The Chairperson is also endeavouring to arrange Eketahuna Police Officer Jymahl Glassey to attend this meeting.

18. Items Not on the Agenda

- 18.1 Refer to the item set out in section 8.1 of these minutes.

18.2 Mayor’s Acknowledgement and Thank You

- 18.2.1 The Mayor spoke on the vibrancy of Eketahuna, and acknowledged the work undertaken by Robin and Pauline Wilson in maintaining the very good appearance of the town’s gardens.
- 18.2.2 The Mayor commended the resilience of the community throughout the district’s water shortage, declared drought and Covid-19 crisis’, and is considering arranging some high teas around the district to say thank you.
- 18.2.3 The support provided to residents during the Covid-19 lockdown by the dedicated team at the Eketahuna Health Centre and manager of Eketahuna Four Square was tremendous and greatly appreciated.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 11.45am.

Chairperson