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Report 02.750

19 November 2002

File: E/6/16/2

File: landcare/report 02.750docpw

Report of the Meeting of the Landcare Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington, on Tuesday, 19 November 2002 at 9.30am

Matters for Council Decision are shown in bold type and enclosed in a box.
Matters for Information of Council are in italic type.

Present

Councillors Barr (Acting Chairperson), Evans, Kirton, McDavitt, Thomas, Werry and Yardley and Messrs Gilbert and Ross

Also Present

Councillor Turver

Officers Present

Messrs Ballantine, Darroch, Dick, Forlong, Oliver, Waititi, Dr Crisp, Amanda Cox and Tina Walker

Public Business

Procedural Items

LC 78 **Apologies**

Resolved

(Cr Barr/Cr Yardley)

That the apology from Councillor Laidlaw and the apology for lateness from Councillor Kirton be confirmed.

LC 79 **Public Participation**

Kate and Barry Malcolm – Korokoro Walk

Kate and Barry Malcolm said they would like a new walking track from Korokoro to Belmont Regional Park. This would mean opening up the old mill workers track from Rahui Grove down to the Korokoro Stream track at the head of Cornish Street.

Councillor Kirton arrived at 9.45am.

Mr Hugh McCracken and Mr Stephen Porter: Proposal to Reinststate the Rimutaka Railway

Messrs McCracken and Porter referred to Item 8 on the Order Paper concerning the proposal to reinststate the Rimutaka Railway. They said it was important for the proposal to gauge the degree of support from the Wellington Regional Council before preparing a feasibility study or business plan.

In the first instance the group needed to determine whether it could use Wellington Regional Council land. Other issues could be addressed later.

Mr McCracken said that the group was not necessarily seeking financial assistance from the Wellington Regional Council (although financial assistance would be appreciated).

Councillor Barr said that he now proposed, with leave of members, to consider Item 8 on the Order Paper *The Proposal to Reinststate the Rimutaka Railway* be as the next item of business.

Matters for Decision

LC 80 **Proposal to Reinststate the Rimutaka Railway**

Report 02.688

File: R/08/02/02

Resolved

(Cr Yardley/Cr Werry)

- (1) That while the Committee appreciates the ongoing efforts of Messrs McCracken and Porter to re-establish the Rimutaka Railway, it also notes that a feasibility study and business plans are yet to be completed.*
- (2) That the Committee confirms that while it is unable to make a financial contribution to the proposal at this time the Council is prepared to assist where practicable in providing information and assistance that will help the proposal to be progressed.*
- (3) That the implications of access for the Railway's proposal will be considered during the development of the Forest Lands Management Plan.*

LC 81 **Confirmation of Minutes**

Resolved

(Cr Kirton/Cr Yardley)

That the minutes of the meeting of 8 October 2002, Report 02.651, be confirmed.

LC 82 **Draft Regional Parks Network Management Plan**

Report 02.683

File: R/01/01/18

Resolved

(Cr Barr/Cr Shields)

That the draft Regional Parks Network Management Plan be referred to a workshop for further consideration.

LC 83 **Report of Hutt River Advisory Committee – 24 October 2002**

Report 02.660

File: E/6/10/6

Resolved

(Cr Werry/Cr Evans)

That the report of the meeting of the Hutt River Advisory Committee held on 24 October 2002, Items HRA 17 to HRA 24 inclusive, and the recommendations contained therein, be confirmed.

LC 84 **Waitohu Flood Hazard Assessment**

Report 02.708

File: N/06/30/05

Resolved

(Cr McDavitt/Cr Evans)

- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- (2) That the scope and programme for implementing the Waitohu Flood Hazard Assessment project be endorsed.*
- (3) That the draft LTCCP will imply an increase in the 2003/04 budget to provide a total project budget of \$120,000.*
- (4) That as part of the consultation, landowners and the community are informed of the funding constraints and processes.*

EnviroMark © Gold Awards from Landcare Research Ltd

Mr R Gordon, Landcare Research Ltd, presented a Gold EnviroMark Award for the continual improvement by the Landcare Division in the areas of flood protection, and parks and forests. Councillor Barr, Deputy Chairperson, Landcare Committee and Mr Forlong, Divisional Manager, accepted the awards on behalf of the Division.

Councillor Shields and Councillor Turver left at 11.30am.

LC 85 Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan Implementation: Belmont Encroachment Guidelines

Report 02.736

File: N/03/09/17

Mr Peter O'Brien, Property Consultant, was present.

Resolved

(Cr Evans/Cr Thomas)

(1) That the report be received and the contents noted.

(2) That the Guidelines provided as Attachment 1 to Report 02.736 as a basis for managing encroachments on Council land at Belmont, be approved.

LC 86 Wellington Conservation Board (WCB) Meeting: 15 October 2002

Report 02.710

File: E/07/10/17

Resolved

(Cr Barr/Cr Yardley)

(1) That the report be received and the contents noted.

(2) That the need to talk to the Department of Conservation about greater co-ordination with interested parties over joint management of the Lake Wairarapa Wetlands be considered.

LC 87 Divisional Manager's Report

Report 02.723

File: E/6/16/3

Councillor Kirton left at 12.20pm.

Mr Dick introduced Trina Marshall, and Mr Waititi introduced Fiona King and Amanda Cox.

Belmont Edge Protections

Following comments from members Mr Dick, Manager, Flood Protection, said he would be presenting a report to the Hutt River Advisory Committee in February 2003 to obtain guidance on the proposed House Raising project at Belmont.

Resolved

(Cr McDavitt/Cr Thomas)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

LC 88 **Questions**

There were no questions.

LC 89 **General**

Closure of Kaitoke Regional Park on 13 November 2002

Councillor Barr said he had had complaints from the public about the closure of Kaitoke Regional Park, Tunnel Gully and the Rimutaka Incline on 13 November 2002.

Mr Oliver, Principal Ranger said that the Council's Biosecurity Department had arranged for a 1080 drop in the area on that day subject to the conditions of a Resource Consent granted by the Upper Hutt City Council. One of the conditions included the closure of the above parks.

The Wellington Regional Council had placed radio advertisements advising of the closure of the parks and signs were erected at park entry points. Mr Oliver noted that one track (the Puffer track) on WRC land was used as an entry point to Tararua Forest Park. Some people attempting to enter Tararua Forest Park may have thought that parts of the Forest park were closed.

Councillor Barr suggested that in future it would be necessary for WRC to produce evidence against closure of hand poisoned areas to protect recreational users access rights.

Mr Oliver said that while explanations had been given to the public on the day of the closure there will be a de-briefing session when all issues will be discussed with a view to ensuring better arrangements for future 1080 drops.

The meeting closed at 12.45pm.

Cr H BARR
Acting Chairperson

Wellington Regional Council – 10 December 2002

To be moved:

That the report of the meeting of the Landcare Committee held on 19 November 2002, Items LC 78 to LC 89 inclusive, be adopted.