



Confirmed Minutes of the Wellington Regional Council held in the Council Chamber, Regional Council Centre, 142 Wakefield Street Wellington, on Thursday 3 March 2011 at 9.34 am

Present

Councillors Wilde (Chair), Aitken, Brash, Bruce, Donaldson, Glensor, Laidlaw, Lamason, McPhee, Ponter, Swain, and Wilson.

In attendance

Karen Young, Director, Audit New Zealand, for Agenda Item 6 (Report 11.72).

055 **Christchurch earthquake**

The Chair commented on the devastating Christchurch earthquake of 22 February 2011, and reported on the response of Greater Wellington, including its contribution to the management of the emergency.

Moved

(Cr Wilde/Cr Glensor)

That the Council formally records its support for the people of Christchurch and Canterbury at this immensely difficult time, continues to support the response activities that are underway, commits to doing everything it can to support the recovery process, and expresses its condolences to the families of the deceased through the observation of a minute's silence.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

A minute's silence was then observed

056 **Apologies**

Moved

(Cr Wilde/Cr Wilson)

That the Council accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Greig.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

057 **Conflict of Interest declarations**

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

058 **Public participation**

No members of the public participated in the meeting.

059 **Item not on agenda**

Moved

(Cr Wilde/Cr McPhee)

That under Standing Order 23.5, Report 11.87 (Policy on elected members' allowances and expenses) be added to the agenda.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

060 **Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved

(Cr Lamason/Cr Swain)

That the Council confirms minutes of the meeting of 16 February 2011, Report 11.54.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

061 **Investing in the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Bruce Simpson, Chief Financial Officer, introduced the report. Karen Young, Director, Audit New Zealand advised that Audit New Zealand was in a position to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the Statement of Proposal.

Report 11.72

File: CFO/06/03/01

Moved

(Cr Aitken/Cr Donaldson)

That Council:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. ***Notes that Audit New Zealand has given an unqualified audit opinion on the Statement of Proposal.***
4. *Approves the Statement of Proposal as set out in Attachment 1.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

Noted

The text in bold was added by Council during discussion of the item.

062 **Financial report for the seven months ending 31 January 2011**

Report 11.53

File: CFO/13/02/01

Moved

(Cr Lamason/Cr Donaldson)

That Council:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

063 **Local Governance Statement**

Report 11.61

File: E/11/01/04

Moved

(Cr Wilde/Cr Glensor)

That Council:

1. *Receives the draft document: "How you can have your say – Greater Wellington Regional Council's local governance statement".*

2. *Approves the contents of the document.*
3. *Notes that the Local Governance Statement will be made publicly available following Council's approval of the document.*
4. ***Authorises the Chair to finalise the document, incorporating amendments agreed at this meeting and minor editorial changes.***
5. *Authorises the Chief Executive to make modifications to the document during the course of this triennium, which reflect any changes to Council policies, practices or structures.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

Noted

The text in bold was added by Council during discussion of the item.

064 **Policy on elected members' allowances and expenses**

Report 11.87

File: E/05/02/03

Moved

(Cr Donaldson/Cr Brash)

That Council:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Amends the Elected Members' Allowances and Expenses Policy that was adopted on 18 November 2010 and amended on 14 December 2010 by replacing the "per event" reference relating to mileage and travel time to "per day" and deleting the reference to a maximum number of hours for which travel time may be paid.*
4. *Notes that the amended policy is subject to approval by the Remuneration Authority.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

065 **Proposed change of name for the Audit and Risk Committee**

Report 11.64

File: E/11/01/04

Moved

(Cr Aitken/Cr Wilson)

That Council:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Amends the name of the Audit and Risk Committee to the Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

066 **Exclusion of the public**

Report 11.77

File: E/11/01/03

Moved

(Cr Wilde/Cr Lamason)

That the Council

Excludes the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely:

1. *Public excluded minutes from the 16 February 2010 meeting of Council.*
2. *Appointment of members to the Greater Wellington Accessibility Reference Group.*
3. *Interim appointments to Council committees.*

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons 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:

<i>General subject of each matter to be considered:</i>	<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<i>1. Minutes -Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme – proposal to shift the Tobin Stopbank, and to acquire the Davenport property for flood mitigation works.</i>	<i>The information contained in these minutes relates to Greater Wellington entering into land purchase agreements with four landowners. Having this part of the meeting open to the public would disadvantage the Council if further negotiations were to take place as it would reveal the Council's negotiation strategy. The Council has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override this prejudice.</i>	<i>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7(2)(i) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (i.e. to enable Greater Wellington to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations).</i>
<i>2. Appointment of members to the Greater Wellington Accessibility Reference Group</i>	<i>The information contained in this report relates to the appointment of non-local government members to the Greater Wellington Accessibility Reference Group. Release of this information would prejudice their privacy by disclosing the fact that they are being considered, and have expressed interest, in becoming members of the Greater Wellington Accessibility Reference Group. Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override their privacy.</i>	<i>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (i.e. to protect the privacy of natural persons).</i>

3. *Interim appointments to Council committees*

The information contained in this report relates to the appointment of an interim member to each of Greater Wellington's Economic Wellbeing Committee, Environmental Wellbeing Committee, Social and Cultural Wellbeing Committee to represent the interests of the mana whenua iwi of the Wellington region, and the appointment of an interim member to represent cultural interests on the Regional Transport Committee. Release of this information would prejudice the privacy of the persons proposed for appointment by disclosing the fact that they have expressed interest in, and are being considered for appointment to the committees. Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override their privacy.

That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (i.e to protect the privacy of natural persons).

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as specified above.

The motion was **CARRIED.**

The public part of the meeting closed at 10.30 am.

Cr F H Wilde
(Chair)

Date: