



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL
HELD AT 9AM ON THURSDAY 18 MARCH 2004**

PRESENT: The Mayor, Garry Moore (Chairperson).
Councillors Oscar Alpers, Carole Anderton, Paddy Austin, Helen Broughton, Sally Buck, Graham Condon, Barry Corbett, David Cox, Anna Crighton, Carole Evans, Megan Evans, Ishwar Ganda, Pat Harrow, Alister James, Lesley Keast, Denis O'Rourke, Linda Rutland, Gail Sheriff, Barbara Stewart, Ingrid Stonhill, Sue Wells, Chrissie Williams, Norm Withers and Ron Wright.

APOLOGIES: Nil.

1. APPOINTMENT AND INSTALLATION OF COUNCILLOR: FERRYMEAD WARD

It was **resolved**, pursuant to section 118(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, to confirm the appointment of Linda Rutland to fill the extraordinary vacancy in the office of Councillor in the Ferrymead Ward.

Councillor Rutland then completed her declaration as a Councillor, and assumed her seat at the Council table.

2. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF A STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL BEING THE DRAFT LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN

Councillor James read the following statement:

"I am pleased to move the recommendations of the Annual Plan Subcommittee. This is our first plan produced under the new Local Government Act. I am grateful for the valued contribution of all elected members and staff and encourage the public to look at our work and let us know how they think it could be improved. Following this meeting, the draft plan is published and released on the internet. Printed copies will be available from early next month and people have until the 6th of May to let us know what they think of it, or of any part of it.

With a few exceptions, this draft plan is largely supported by my colleagues on the subcommittee. The main exception to that, I suppose, is the proposed flat water sports facility – the Lake Isaac Watersports Park idea. I will come to that later.

In the current plan, we forecast that this coming year would see a rate increase of around 3.6 per cent. I'm pleased that the plan before you today has reduced that to 3.25 per cent. It's done that while still providing some important new projects and initiatives.

The most significant improvements come from work done by the Council's Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee. These include:

- *The collection and processing of kitchen waste. This is an important part of our commitment to reducing the amount of waste to landfill and achieving our target of zero waste. In the first year this project requires a little over \$3 million for the processing plant. That figure replaces an existing budget for an in-vessel compost plant. In year two, there are capital costs of \$5.4 million and \$2 million for the collection containers. As well, there are significant operating costs – to collect and process this material. Some of this will come from the waste minimisation levy and there will be savings from sending less material to the landfill.*
- *The second major project is to put into practice the Metropolitan Christchurch Transport Strategy (MCTS). As our city grows and the numbers of private motor vehicles increases, this major new initiative will ensure that Christchurch avoids the transport woes and traffic jams suffered in Auckland. I am pleased that the strategy deals with passenger transport infrastructure and cycleways as well as road networks and improved traffic safety.*
- *This Plan also include extra budget for waste minimisation, to be spent on community education, recycling at Council events and reducing hazardous waste. An extra \$200,000 for central city street cleaning will result in improved litter collection in the heart of the city. This will be supported by a \$50,000 anti-litter education programme.*

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- *To ensure wastewater capacity at the Belfast works continues to meet demand, around \$670,000 is being set aside for years 1 and 2. Also in this waste area, an extra \$200,000 is budgeted in each of the coming years for bio-solids application.*

Last year's citizen's survey showed the Botanic Gardens was the number one attraction in Canterbury. Councillors are very aware of the Gardens' vital role in tourism and in the way Christchurch people regard their city and, as a Council, we need to ensure the Gardens continue to be a source of pride. At the time of last year's plan, I warned that the Council would need to make this central city treasure a priority for upgrades and service improvements.

What we're proposing is major capital spending in years 3 and 4 -- \$5 million in each of those years for new staff and visitor facilities and greenhouse renewal. In years 1 and 2 there is funding for the design work and consultation on the new plans and for the replacement of trees, creating a database of the existing collections and labelling of plants. This is a major new enhancement.

This Draft Plan also signals a commitment to provide new civic offices. I believe the proposal needs to be advanced and prioritised but leave that to Cr Wright and the Property and Major Projects Committee to attend to. That committee will look at options and review the maintenance programme for this building. Budget provision for a new facility runs from Year 2 to Year 6 – 2009/10. Those numbers replace the current budget lines to keep and extend this current set of offices.

To ensure we meet audit compliance standards and our obligations to produce effective reporting and planning, it has been necessary to budget additional funds in the coming year for an upgrade of our financial planning system.

At Annual Plan time, there is often a debate around basic services – what's essential and what's optional, what's bread and butter and what's icing. If you look at our budgets for city streets, solid and liquid waste and water services there can be no doubt that in Christchurch we're meeting our obligations in regard to these essential services.

I want to remind councillors that last year there was significant additional money budgeted for transport planning and for roading construction as a result of cost increases. We are now addressing the need for improved and additional transport infrastructure.

Along with the budget to start the kitchen waste scheme, our plan includes substantial budget provision for solid waste, both in regards to landfill costs and waste minimisation initiatives. The new ocean outfall, with additional budget set aside to add another kilometre to the planned pipeline, and improved wastewater treatment standards at significantly greater costs all demonstrate our commitment to not just adequate but enhanced basic services.

We need to remind ourselves of the new Local Government Act. This law says that the point of local government is to "promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of our communities, in the present and for the future".

This isn't optional. The point of a council community plan is to attend to the present and future well-being of our communities.

There can be no doubt that we are meeting our requirements as regards the cultural well-being of our community.

In last year's budget there were a number of new initiatives relating to the arts, culture and heritage. In particular, funding of the Christchurch Museum project and \$2.3 million towards the Theatre Royal. Other initiatives supported by the subcommittee include more funding for public art and art in the suburbs as well as the central city, a creative industries expo to explore economic and cultural development, and some funding for COCA – the Centre of Contemporary Art -- to enable access for the disabled and elderly. As well, our magnificent new Art Gallery has significantly greater operating costs and there is extra funding so that Our City could open at weekends and for the continuing restoration of the Arts Centre.

I reflect on these initiatives because they have some impact on this year's budget.

The coming year will also see a new library in Parklands and the development of a new library in Upper Riccarton. When these new facilities open, they too will require ongoing extra funding to operate, as does having the central Library open on weekends and, in year 2, extending the hours of suburban libraries.

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This draft plan also includes additional funding for urban planning, heritage research and new grants from Year 2 to maintain character houses. It also provides for a grant of \$240,000 a year to the Christchurch Cathedral.

We had a good debate about putting money towards greater promotion of the city throughout New Zealand. This was not supported, but the subcommittee does recommend continuing to support the New Zealand PGA Golf tournament for the next three years, although at a reducing rate each year. This event, with an estimated television audience of more than 300 million people, promotes Christchurch and Canterbury around the world.

This year's draft plan provides increased support for new Canterbury Development Corporation initiatives, to be funded from the Capital Endowment Fund. Central City marketing is also being addressed, with new funding from extra parking revenue. This idea is supported by central city retailers and the Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce.

I now turn to the Recreation and Sport area. This budget includes no plans for new sport, recreation or leisure facilities.

The subcommittee did not support a call for extra capital for boating facilities at Lyttelton. The existing budget of \$3 million remains.

Last year's budget had funding for a new aquatic leisure centre around 2011. We are suggesting this project be sped up – perhaps as early as 2008.

As I said earlier, the Lake Isaac project was probably the issue of greatest contention. As you will recall, this project was deferred from last year's budget consideration so that staff could provide reports on available and alternative land options, costs, likely demand for such a facility and about strategies to manage birds and avoid bird-strike at the airport.

One of the councillors on my subcommittee said on the radio after we decided not to support this scheme that it was now "dead and buried". In fact, that's not true. That is for this City Council to decide.

I believe we must make a firm decision on this now – whether we support it or whether it is, in fact, dead and buried. Because there's little chance of it proceeding without ratepayer support and it's not reasonable or fair to put it off any longer.

I am not with the pall bearers on this issue. That may seem strange to those of you who know that most of my sport is enjoyed from the couch, but the truth is I believe good sports facilities and programmes are not optional add-ons, as another councillor has suggested.

If we're serious about being an active and healthy city, sports programmes and facilities are essential and basic. You will know that aside from being a councillor I work as a lawyer in the Youth Court and in the pilot Youth Drug Court. In my experience, young people actively involved in organised sport do not get into crime. There's a saying that's true – "a kid in sport's a kid not in court".

I think we should support new initiatives that promote sport and recreation, particularly for our young people. I understand the reservations of other elected members, but that's why I've supported the flat water facility.

To finish, Christchurch City's public accounts are in good shape. We are one of just three local authorities in the country with an AA+ credit rating and we remain well within all of the monetary measures we use to ensure the city's funds are being well looked after. To have maintained this with a modest rate increase and a range of new projects and programmes as planned is I believe a good result and I commend the plan to you.

To the public, I say "Get Involved". A great deal of what I've mentioned here this morning has been about money – money for projects and services – but this first long term council plan for Christchurch City also includes many wider ideas about the kind of place we want to be in the future. The City Council needs to hear from people about those long-term targets just as much as it needs to hear what people think about next year's spending plans. Copies of the draft plan will be available early next month for anyone who wants one, and I urge people to get involved and let us know if you think the city's on the right track or not.

Councillor James then moved the motion contained in the first paragraph of his statement. The motion was seconded by Councillor Stewart.

(9.40am Councillor Austin arrived)

FLAT WATER FACILITY

Councillor Condon moved by way of amendment:

"1. *That funding be allocated for this proposal for the Lake Isaac Water Sports Park because it is necessary and appears to be the best proposal to support flat water sports as follows:*

2004/05	\$630,000
2005/06	\$3,400,000
2006/07	\$3,400,000
2007/08	\$3,570,000

subject to the following:

- (a) *The Council being able to fund the proposal through the capital programme.*
- (b) *A satisfactory resolution to the nuisance bird management issue and a completed bird management strategy.*
- (c) *Council funding being made available for Stage 1 once other funding has been raised by the Trust.*
- (d) *All other environmental and resource management issues being resolved.*

2. *That the funding detailed in recommendation 1 be included in the draft LTCCP for consultation."*

(11.10am Councillor Austin retired)

The amendment was seconded by Councillor James and when put to the meeting was declared **lost** on division no 1 by 10 votes to 13, the voting being as follows:

Against (13): Councillors Broughton, Buck, Corbett, Crighton, Ganda, Harrow, O'Rourke, Rutland, Stewart, Stonhill, Wells, Williams and Withers.

For (10): Councillors Alpers, Anderton, Condon, Cox, C Evans, M Evans, James, Keast, Wright and the Mayor.

Councillor O'Rourke then moved by way of further amendment:

"1. *That an assessment be carried out of the possible future demand within 10 years for funding of new facilities for sporting organisations, and groups of them, requiring significant council capital funding, with a view to establishing a strategy to assist in planning for such demands for the purposes of the Council's 10 year capital programme.*

2. *That a more comprehensive search than that already done be commissioned in partnership with the relevant sports organisations, for alternative sites for a new flat water sports facility:*

- (a) *within 50 kilometres of Christchurch; and*
- (b) *which do not raise bird-strike or other such operational problems for Christchurch International Airport; and*
- (c) *are reasonably likely to gain the necessary RMA consents.*

3. *That a provisional capital budget allocation in year 2007/08 of \$4 million be made as the Council contribution to such a facility.*

4. *That Kerrs Reach continue to be available, with necessary Council support, for flat water sports in addition to any new flat water sports facility which might be established in the future."*

The further amendment was seconded by Councillor Harrow. When put to the meeting, each clause of the amendment was taken separately, clauses 1 and 3 thereof being declared **lost**, while clause 4 was declared **carried**. On being put to the meeting clause 2 of the further amendment was declared **lost** on division no 2 by 6 votes to 17, the voting being as follows:

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Against (17): Councillors Alpers, Anderton, Broughton, Condon, Corbett, Cox, Crighton, C Evans, M Evans, Ganda, James, Keast, Stewart, Williams, Withers, Wright and the Mayor.

For (6): Councillors Buck, Harrow, O'Rourke, Rutland, Stonhill and Wells.

Councillor James then moved by way of further amendment "*That the following funding be allocated for a flat water facility:*

2004/05 \$630,000
2005/06 \$3,400,000
2006/07 \$3,400,000
2007/08 \$3,570,000

subject to:

- (a) *The Council being able to provide such funding through the capital programme.*
- (b) *The Council being satisfied as to a suitable site being available.*
- (c) *Environmental and resource management issues being resolved."*

The further amendment was seconded by Councillor Williams and when put to the meeting was declared **carried** on division no 3 by 19 votes to 4, the voting being as follows:

For (19): Councillors Alpers, Anderton, Broughton, Buck, Condon, Corbett, Cox, Crighton, C Evans, M Evans, Ganda, James, Keast, Rutland, Stewart, Williams, Withers, Wright and the Mayor.

Against (4): Councillors Harrow, O'Rourke, Stonhill and Wells.

The foregoing amendment was then put to the meeting as the substantive motion (incorporating clause 4 of the earlier amendment moved by Councillor O'Rourke and seconded by Councillor Harrow) and declared **carried**.

(Note: Councillor Sheriff declared an interest in this item as a director of Christchurch International Airport Ltd, and withdrew from the discussion and voting thereon.)

CAPITAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Councillor Stewart moved by way of amendment:

"1. *That the interest from the capital endowment fund be allocated as follows for the next three years:*

<i>Economic development</i>	<i>70%</i>
<i>Civic and community projects</i>	<i>30%</i>

2. *That one third of all future unbudgeted special dividends be paid into the capital endowment fund."*

The amendment was put to the meeting in two parts. Clause 1 of the amendment was declared **lost** on division no 4 by 7 votes to 16, the voting being as follows:

Against (16): Councillors Anderton, Buck, Condon, Crighton, C Evans, M Evans, Ganda, James, Keast, O'Rourke, Rutland, Sheriff, Stonhill, Wells, Williams and the Mayor.

For (7): Councillors Broughton, Corbett, Cox, Harrow, Stewart, Withers and Wright.

Temporarily Absent: Councillor Alpers.

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Clause 2 of the amendment was declared **lost** on division no 5 by 4 votes to 20, the voting being as follows:

Against (20): Councillors Alpers, Anderton, Buck, Condon, Corbett, Crighton, C Evans, M Evans, Ganda, Harrow, James, Keast, O'Rourke, Rutland, Sheriff, Stonhill, Wells, Williams, Withers and the Mayor.

For (4): Councillors Broughton, Cox, Stewart and Wright.

The recommendation made by the Subcommittee was then adopted without amendment.

(12.40pm Councillor Austin returned)

REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

Councillor Broughton moved by way of amendment *"That recommendation 3 be amended to provide:*

- (a) *That a refuse bag targeted uniform annual charge not be set for the 2004/05 financial year.*
- (b) *That the UAGC be maintained at its current level \$105."*

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Harrow and when put to the meeting was declared **carried** on division no 6 by 20 votes to 4, the voting being as follows:

For (20): Councillors Alpers, Anderton, Austin, Broughton, Corbett, Cox, Crighton, C Evans, M Evans, Harrow, James, Keast, Sheriff, Stewart, Stonhill, Wells, Williams, Withers, Wright and the Mayor.

Against (4): Councillors Buck, Condon, Ganda and O'Rourke.

Abstain: Councillor Rutland.

CIVIC OFFICES ACCOMMODATION

Councillor Wells moved by way of amendment *"That clause 5 of the recommendation be amended to provide 'That all future work on the Civic Offices, apart from essential maintenance and minor work required to enable the continued functioning of the building, be suspended'".* The amendment was seconded by Councillor Austin and when put to the meeting was declared **lost**.

Councillor Withers moved by way of further amendment *"That clause 1 of the recommendation be amended to refer to a new building on an 'alternative' site, rather than an 'adjacent' site".* The amendment was seconded by Councillor Williams and when put to the meeting was declared **carried**.

The five recommendations made by the Subcommittee were then adopted, subject to the inclusion of the foregoing amendment to clause 1.

SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Councillor Williams moved by way of amendment:

- "1. *That an enclosed compost plant be established from 2004/05 for processing food waste.*
- 2. *That food waste from commercial sources be collected for composting, with costs shared between the waste producer and the Council.*
- 3. *That a kerbside domestic kitchen food waste collection not be proceeded with at this stage, and not allowed for in the current budget.*
- 4. *That options for reducing both food waste and garden waste to landfill be further developed taking into account social, environmental, cultural and economic factors.*
- 5. *That from July 2004 the Council reduce the cost of separated green waste at the refuse stations to 50% of the refuse tipping fee."*

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The amendment was seconded by Councillor Crighton and when put to the meeting was declared **carried** on division no 7 by 20 votes to 5, the voting being as follows:

For (20): Councillors Alpers, Anderton, Austin, Broughton, Condon, Corbett, Cox, Crighton, C Evans, M Evans, Ganda, Harrow, Rutland, Sheriff, Stewart, Wells, Williams, Withers, Wright and the Mayor.

Against (5): Councillors Buck, James, Keast, O'Rourke and Stonhill.

The amendment was then put to the meeting as the substantive motion in place of clause 1 of the Subcommittee's recommendation, and declared **carried**.

Clause 2 of the Subcommittee's recommendation was adopted without amendment.

WASTE WATER

Adopted, subject to the deletion of the reference to "*3km pipeline instead of a 2km pipeline*" on page 28 of Appendix 1 to the Subcommittee's report (ie the provision shown is to simply refer to an ocean outfall pipeline).

(2.15pm Councillor O'Rourke retired)

STREET CLEANING - LEVELS OF SERVICE

Also considered in conjunction with this item was the report of the seminar meeting of the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee held on 2 March 2004.

Councillor Stonhill moved by way of amendment "*That in addition to the \$200,000 already provided in the proposed draft budget for increased emptying of litter bins, a sum of \$180,000 be provided for a new broken glass sweeping service, for additional spot cleaning and wet cleaning, for more litter patrol services, and for more footpath sweeping*". The amendment was seconded by Councillor Austin and when put to the meeting was declared **lost**.

It was then **resolved**:

1. To confirm the provision of \$200,000 already provided in the proposed draft budget for the increased emptying of litter bins.
2. That a report to the Council via the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee be provided this year on the scope and methodology available through Council bylaws for greater accountability by fast food outlets and similar generators in respect of street litter, and on penalties in respect of individuals for littering in public spaces in the city.

(Note: Councillor Sheriff recorded her vote against the adoption of the foregoing resolution.)

(2.40pm Councillor Condon retired)

NEW ZEALAND PGA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Adopted, subject to the reference and provision for this item being shifted from page 32 (Community Services) to page 36 (Economic Development) of the draft Plan.

QEII SPORTS HOUSE

Adopted.

(Note: Councillor Withers retired from consideration of this item, and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.)

CATHEDRAL FUNDING

Councillor Sheriff moved by way of amendment *“That clause 1 of the Subcommittee’s recommendation be altered to provide ‘That the Council provide annual support from the Community Grants Budget of \$240,000 for a period of three years towards the costs associated with the Cathedral’s availability as a visitor attraction and icon of the city, such assistance to be reviewed at the end of three years.’”*. The amendment was seconded by Councillor Stewart and when put to the meeting was declared **carried**.

The five recommendations made by the Subcommittee were then adopted, subject to the inclusion of the foregoing amendment.

(3.12pm Councillors Alpers and Buck retired)

CENTRAL CITY MARKETING

Councillor Withers moved by way of amendment:

- “1. *That recommendations 2 and 3 be deleted.*
2. *That the Council investigate alternative funding sources (including the possible introduction of a tourism-targeted rate) to provide \$850,000 per annum to fund the central city retail business promotion and not by raising off-street parking charges.”*

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Sheriff and when put to the meeting was declared **lost** on division no 8 by 7 votes to 13, the voting being as follows:

Against (13): Councillors Anderton, Austin, Crighton, C Evans, Ganda, James, Keast, Rutland, Stewart, Stonhill, Williams, Wright and the Mayor.

For (7): Councillors Broughton, Corbett, Cox, Harrow, Sheriff, Wells and Withers.

Abstain: Councillor Megan Evans.

(3.29pm It was **resolved** that the present meeting continue until 4pm.)

(3.35pm Councillors Austin and James retired)

The four recommendations made by the Subcommittee were then adopted, subject to recommendation 2 being altered to provide:

That the Council agree to provide \$850,000 per annum for a period of three years to fund the central city retail and business promotion by raising off street parking charges as follows:

- Reserved parking - increase by 15%*
- Casual parking - increase from \$1.40 to \$1.80 per hour*
- Earlybird - increase to \$8 per day*

It was further **resolved** that during this three year period the Council work with the relevant parties to develop a long term funding strategy for marketing the central city.

(Note: Councillor Withers recorded his vote against the adoption of the foregoing resolution.)

GREENSPACE UNIT

Information for LTCCP - Draft Biodiversity Strategy

At the request of Councillor Anderton, it was **resolved** that the following statement be included in the relevant section of the draft LTCCP:

"Draft Biodiversity Strategy

A Biodiversity Strategy is being developed in response to recent policy changes at a national level and to better co-ordinate the many aspects of Council work that benefit indigenous biodiversity. The strategy provides a framework for the Council to work with local communities to protect, restore and celebrate the plants, animals and ecosystems that occur naturally in Christchurch. In order to successfully implement the programmes and initiatives in the strategy a budget plan has been prepared. This budget plan recognises that approximately 75% of the funding requirements are already included in existing budgets. However an additional investment is proposed to enable the strategy to be fully implemented.

The budget implications for the additional funding identified in the strategy equate to a five year total of between \$1,790,000 and \$4,190,000 for capital projects and \$2,967,000 operational expenditure.

The budget for this strategy will be considered as part of the Council's 2005/06 Annual Plan process and is not currently included in the Council's funding plan."

STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL AND SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

It was **resolved** that the draft Statement of Proposal and Summary of Information in the Proposal be approved.

It was further **resolved**:

1. That the Chief Executive be authorised to change the Statement of Proposal (being the draft Long Term Council Community Plan) and the Summary of Information to include a flat water sports facility.
2. That the Chief Executive be authorised, where necessary, to review and amend the performance measures set out in the Long Term Council Community Plan prior to publication of the Long Term Council Community Plan.
3. That additional material be included in the reference in Volume 2 of the draft Plan to development of Maori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes, to disclose the cost of consultation with Maori.
4. That a statement also be included outlining the role of elected members in the formulation of the draft Plan, and describing how the objectives and strategies included in the Plan were identified, formulated and measured.

2004/05 RATE INCREASE

The Director Strategic Investment advised that the amendments made at the meeting resulted in an overall rate increase of 3.62% for 2004.

The recommendations contained in clause 34 were then adopted, subject to the inclusion of:

- The revised Schedule of Changes recommended by the Annual Plan Subcommittee as shown shaded in the separate schedule which had been circulated on 16 March 2004.
- The further adjustments made at the meeting.

3. CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 4pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 22ND DAY OF APRIL 2004

MAYOR