

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

**Minutes of Meeting No. JRS11 of Joint Road Safety Committee
held on 20 August 2019 in the Council Chamber, Barks Corner, Tauranga
commencing at 10.00am**

Present

Councillor Margaret Murray-Benge (Chairperson) and Stuart Harvey (Western Bay of Plenty District Council), and Phil Consedine and Karen Smith (Tauranga City Council), Councillor Andrew von Dadelszen and Jenny Mack (Bay of Plenty Regional Council), Acting Senior Sergeant Craig Rawlinson (NZ Police), Alex Jeffcoat (NZ Transport Agency), Jessica Davis (Accident Compensation Corporation), Justine Wilton (Westlink) and Peter Bedford (Automobile Association)

In Attendance

Miriam Taris (Chief Executive Officer Western Bay of Plenty District Council), B Williams (Acting Group Manager Infrastructure Services), Kirstie Elder (Governance Manager), Shweta Tripathi (Governance Administrator) and Aileen Alty (Senior Governance Advisor)

Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Bill Grainger (Deputy Chairperson) and Member Marcelli Davison.

Alex Jeffcoat tendered an apology for early departure.

Resolved: Councillor von Dadelszen / Member Davis

THAT the apology for absence from Councillor Bill Grainger and Member Marcelli Davison and the notified early departure from Alex Jeffcoat be accepted.

Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded of the need to be vigilant and to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest that they may have.

Members were advised that if they had an interest (actual, potential, perceived, pecuniary or non pecuniary interest) in any item on the agenda,

then they must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table for the item. (As per the Local Authorities (Members' Interest) Act 1968)

There were no declarations of interest received for any items on the agenda.

Late Items

The Chairperson advised that there were two late items for the Committee to consider for inclusion in the open section of the agenda, being Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Regional Road Safety Action Plan - Update and Delivery for 31 July 2019 and Joint Road Safety Operations Minutes for meetings held on 9 July and 13 August 2019.

The reason these items were not included in the agenda was that they were not available when the agenda was printed and distributed and it could not be delayed to the next scheduled Joint Road Safety Committee meeting because this was the last meeting of the committee in for this triennium.

Resolved: Members Smith / Consedine

THAT in accordance with Section 46A (7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act the following item be considered as a late item of open business:

- Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Regional Road Safety Action Plan Update and Delivery as at 31 July 2019
- Joint Road Safety Committee Minutes for meetings held on 9 July and 13 August 2019

Public Forum

Under Standing Orders Appendix F a period of up to 30 minutes is set aside for a public forum. Members of the public may attend to address the Committee for up to three minutes on items that fall within the delegations of the Committee provided the matters are not subject to legal proceedings, and are not already subject to a process providing for the hearing of submissions. Speakers may be questioned through the Chair by members.

Such presentations do not form part of the formal business of the meeting, a brief record will be kept of matters raised during any public forum section of the meeting with matters for action to be referred through the service request system.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

THAT the meeting adjourn for the purpose of holding a public forum.

Kaimai School Staff and Pupils

The Chairperson introduced members of the Kaimai School staff Justin Bertrand and Trinity Milham and pupils Patrick, Charlise, Ruby and India.

Charlise spoke to the Committee about the dangers of entering and exiting the Kaimai School. She said that taking a right turn onto State Highway 29 was dangerous and many families felt very unsafe when having to turn onto the state highway. She stated that they would like to slow down the traffic and make our school safer.

Kaimai School teacher Trinity Milham spoke about the grave concern for the school and community who had to use the main State Highway 29 route everyday to and from school. She noted the following:

- State Highway 29 was the main route to within the Tauranga, Hamilton to Auckland highway triangle.
- In the past 12 months there had been numerous accidents and close calls, with one fatality in close proximity to the school.
- Speed of the traffic along State Highway 29 was a concerning factor.
- There had been instances where vehicles had crashed into the school boundary fence, with one vehicle crashing through the fence into the school field.
- The danger of the highway and the school entrance/exit access was a hot topic in the community.
- The number of families moving into the area was increasing.
- A new classroom was expected that would increase school pupil and accessing vehicle numbers.
- Changing use of the school bus service meant that more pupils were being dropped off and picked up by private vehicles.
- There was a 'perfect storm' in terms of the location of the school access being immediately outside a set of passing lanes for vehicles travelling to Tauranga and at the end of a set of passing lanes when travelling to Hamilton.
- The current speed on the section of highway immediately outside the school was 100 kmph.
- A speed detection trial revealed that vehicles were travelling along the section of highway at the speeds of 100 to 120 kmph.
- Kaimai School was an outdoor school and the recently completed Kaimai Skate Park was a very popular facility.
- Kaimai residents wanted to see an outcome that gave safer entrance and exit to the school and was safe for vehicles travelling past the school.

Principal Justin Bertrand spoke to the Committee advising that not a day goes by when they do not hear trucks tooting because of dangerous driver behaviours. The biggest fear was that a vehicle would come through the school boundary fence when children were in the playground. He was unsure about the perfect solution was wanted to protect the front section of the school and slow down the traffic when it immediately passed the school.

Mr Bertrand advised that the Kaimai School had contacted NZTA to try and work through solutions but time had passed and no action had been taken.

Committee Members noted:

- School Zone flashing light signage installed a few years ago had little effect in reducing the traffic speed.
- Vehicles had to enter the passing lane on the crest of a hill to make a right turn into the school.
- It was hard to understand why a school accessway was on the crest of a hill of a major state highway.

- A physical barrier to protect the school playground and a solution to slow traffic passing the school needed to be considered on an urgent basis.
- The removal of the passing lane may be the best and most practical and timely solution.
- There was legislation governing speed zones in a school zone.

The Chairperson thanked the attendees from Kaimai School for bringing their concerns to the attention of the Joint Road Safety Committee.

Resolved: Councillor Murray-Benge / Member Rawlinson

THAT the meeting reconvene in formal session at 10.24am.

JRS11.1 **Minutes of Meetings of the Joint Road Safety Committee for Confirmation**

The Committee considered the minutes of JRS10 of the Joint Road Safety Committee meeting held on 21 May 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

Resolved: Councillor von Dadelszen / Member Smith

THAT the minutes of meeting No. JRS10 of the Joint Road Safety Committee held on 21 May 2019 as circulated with the agenda be confirmed as a true and correct record.

JRS11.2 **Chairperson's Report**

The Committee considered a report from the Chairperson dated 12 August 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

The Chief Executive officer advised that she and Western Bay of Plenty District Council representatives and staff were work with Tauranga City Council, the Regional Council and the NZ Transport Agency to maximise a joint approach to central government for key transportation and infrastructure needs for our district.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

THAT the Chairperson's report dated 12 August 2019 be received.

JRS11.3 **New Zealand Transport Agency Report to Road Safety Action Plan Meeting**

The Committee considered a report from the Principal Advisor – Relationships Road Safety for the New Zealand Transport Agency for August 2019. Alex Jeffcoat from the NZ Transport Agency presented his report which covered the following items

- Road Safety Action Plan
 - Waihi to Tauranga Corridor (SH2)
 - Omokoroa to Te Puna
 - Tauranga Northern Link
 - Waihi to Omokoroa Safety Improvements (SH2)

Resolved: Members Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

THAT the Joint Road Safety Committee record their concern at the lack of funding to progress planned safety works in the Eastern and Western Bay of Plenty districts.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

THAT the New Zealand Transport Agency report to Road Safety Action Plan Meeting for August 2019 presented to the Joint Road Safety Committee meeting on 20 August 2019 be received.

JRS11.4 **New Zealand Police Report**

The Committee considered a report from the New Zealand Police for August 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

Acting Senior Sergeant Craig Rawlinson from NZ Police spoke to the report.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

THAT the New Zealand Police for August 2019 be received.

JRS11.5 **Western Bay Joint Road Safety Operations Meeting Minutes**

The Committee considered the minutes from the Western Bay Joint Road Safety Committee Operations dated 14 May, 11 June, 9 July and 13 August 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

Jenny Mack (Bay of Plenty Regional Council) advised the Joint Road Safety Committee that the Regional Transport Committee had requested that the Western Bay of Plenty Joint Road Safety Operations Meeting Minutes be included in the Regional Transport Committee agendas.

Resolved: Councillor Murray-Benge / Member Smith

THAT the minutes from the Western Bay Joint Road Safety Committee Operations dated 14 May, 11 June, 9 July and 13 August 2019 be received.

JRS11.6 Draft Road Safety/Active Travel Action Plan 2018/21

The Committee considered the Draft Road Safety/Active Travel Action Plan 2018/21 for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 June 2021 as circulated with the agenda.

Karen Smith (Tauranga City Council) spoke to the Draft Road Safety/Active Travel Action Plan 2018/21 for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021. The Safer Journey Vision of "A safe road system with Vision Zero approach" was highlighted.

Resolved: Members Smith / Bedford

THAT the Draft Road Safety/Active Travel Action Plan 2018/21 Updates approved for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021 be received.

JRS11.7 Road Safety Action Plan Report 2018/19

The Committee considered the Road Safety Action Plan 2018/2019 for the period June 2019 to August 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

Karen Smith (Tauranga City Council) spoke to the Road Safety Action Plan 2018/2019 for the period June 2019 to August 2019 and highlighted the success of the Young Drivers programme, the Travel Safe Schools programme, the Big Thumbs Up safe crossing campaign and the Park and Stride Programme.

Karen thanked all partners of the Road Safety Action Plan for their work throughout the 2019 year which was highlighted by the positive participation in many of the programmes undertaken throughout the district.

In regard to representatives of the Kaimai School expressing their concern in the public forum section of this meeting about the Kaimai School accessway immediately adjacent to State Highway Two, Karen Smith advised that she would ensure that urgent action be taken to develop a safer environment for the school in respect to the school accessway and the State highway. Representatives of Tauranga City Council and Western Bay of Plenty Road Safety groups, NZ Transport Agency, the New Zealand Police and Western Bay of Plenty District Council roading staff would be requested to work together in the development of a safer accessway for Kaimai School. Karen Smith advised that she would co-ordinate this action.

Resolved: Member Smith / Councillor Murray-Benge

THAT a Travel Safe Programme encompassing the 4 E's of Engineering/Education/Encouragement and Enforcement be developed for the Kaimai School

Resolved: Councillor Murray-Benge / Member Rawlinson

THAT the Road Safety Action Plan 2018/19 for the period June 2019 to August 2019 be received.

JRS11.8 **Accident Compensation Corporation Update**

The Committee considered the Accident Compensation Corporation – Ride Forever Programme – July update as circulated with the agenda.

Jessica Davis from the Accident Compensation Corporation spoke about the success of the Shiny Side Up Programme and planned talk series for older motorbike riders.

Resolved: Member Davis / Councillor von Dadelszen

THAT the report from the Accident Compensation Corporation – Ride Forever Programme – July Update be received.

JRS11.9 **Bay of Plenty Regional Council - Regional Road Safety Action Plan Update and Delivery as at 31 July 2019**

The Committee considered the Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Regional Road Safety Action Plan Update and Delivery as at 31 July 2019.

Jenny spoke about the ACC programmes up to the end of July and reiterated the success of the Young Drivers Programmes, the Winter Pit Stop and Drive to Conditions campaigns. The report also outlined an update from the Regional Transport Committee from the 24 May 2019 meeting, the Regional Land Transport Plan and Road Safety and the Central Government and Road Safety Strategy.

Resolved: Member Mack / Councillor Murray-Benge

THAT the report from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Regional Road Safety Action Plan Update and Delivery as at 31 July 2019 be received.

Thanks

At the conclusion of the meeting the Chairperson thanked members of the Joint Road Safety Committee for their work and commitment throughout the 2016-19 triennium. She extended her respect of the work undertaken by all Joint Road Safety Committee affiliates in their tireless efforts to make our roads throughout the region safer.

Members of the committee thanked Councillor Murray-Benge for her leadership as Chairperson over the last three years.

This was acknowledged with acclamation.

The meeting concluded at 12.03 pm

In accordance with Standing Order 27.4 these minutes are authenticated as a true and correct record:

Councillor Margaret Murray-Benge
Chairperson

Date

M G Taris
Chief Executive Officer

Date

JRS11