

ORDINARY MEETING

OF

WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Time: 5.30pm
Date: Wednesday, 13 May 2015
Venue: Committee Room 1
Ground Floor, Council Offices
101 Wakefield Street
Wellington

PRESENT

Mayor Wade-Brown
Councillor Ahipene-Mercer
Councillor Coughlan
Councillor Eagle
Councillor Foster
Councillor Free
Councillor Lee
Councillor Lester
Councillor Marsh
Councillor Pannett
Councillor Peck
Councillor Ritchie
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Woolf
Councillor Young

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1 Meeting Conduct

1.1 Apologies

No apologies were received.

The Mayor announced a change to the order of the agenda items to be considered. Agenda item 1.3 APW Awards will be presented before item 1.2 Announcements by the Mayor.

1.2 APW Awards

The Mayor presented the Absolutely Positively Wellingtonian Award Citation to Pauline Swann.

It is my pleasure to present an Absolutely Positively Wellingtonian Award to Mrs Pauline Swann for her diverse services to Wellington City.

Pauline joined Save the Children New Zealand in 1967 and has been a member of the Wadestown Group of the Wellington Branch ever since. She served as the Joint Group Convenor for a number of years until she became Convenor in 1982 and served in that role until 1995. That year she became the Brandon Street Shop Manager, a position she held until 2011. During her time as Manager she also ran a very successful mail order department from the shop.

She is an active member of many other well-respected organisations including a local Probus Club and the Victoria Bridge Club.

Pauline joined Waterfront Watch in 1999 and served as president from 2004 until 2014. She devoted considerable time and effort and has been instrumental in guiding the organisation.

Her love for Wellington and her determined articulate contribution has been a positive force in the capital. The 1999 District Plan Variation 17 would have resulted in apartments instead of what is now Waitangi Park. Other successes included a campaign against a casino and hotel on the Outer T. Waterfront Watch made significant contribution to the retention in situ of heritage buildings including Chaffers, Odlin's and St John's.

While Councils, past and present, by no means agree with every challenge made to Wellington's waterfront development, we recognise that vigorous criticism and debate has been essential in achieving quality open space and quality buildings. The "crucible of conflict" has produced an outstanding place for everyone to enjoy.

On behalf of the Council, I'd like to thank Mrs Pauline Swann and declare her an Absolutely Positively Wellingtonian.

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

1.3 Announcements by the Mayor

The Mayor made the following announcements:

1.2.1 Anzac Thanks

Over the past month, Wellington City has been reflecting on an incredibly important time in New Zealand's history, one hundred years since the first landing at Gallipoli.

I'd like to congratulate everyone involved in the Anzac events this month.

We came together to mark the pain, sacrifice, and lives lost or maimed in war, including, but not only, the first world war and the Gallipoli campaign.

I'm proud of our Council staff who contributed to the incredibly successful Anzac Parade, the events at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park, and the many events and exhibitions around the Capital.

A huge thanks as well to everyone across the city who contributed to the creative, contemplative and respectful commemorative events, exhibitions and renewed civic places in the Capital.

It was our opportunity to shine as the Capital City of Aotearoa New Zealand, and we did with grace and class.

This beautiful watercolour painting I have with me will be a permanent reminder of this great occasion for Wellington and the great contributions and I'm pleased to present this to the many people who made such a great effort to ensure our Anzac commemorations went as well as they did.

This work is by Annette Straugheir and is called Red Poppies.

1.2.2 Oral Hearing thanks

As I mentioned earlier, we have been discussing an exciting future for this city during our Long Term Plan debates and oral hearings.

Being able to listen to the ideas, views and opportunities brought to us by Wellingtonians has always been a thrill during the years I've sat on Council and as Mayor, and I'm confident the Councillors around this table feel the same way.

I'd like to publicly acknowledge and thank all the submitters who have let us know what they think about the future of Wellington, whether it was online, in formal written submissions and in oral submissions over the past few weeks.

I'd also like to extend a huge thank you to the staff so far who've assisted us greatly with the LTP process, especially
the Strategy team for preparing the draft Long Term Plan,
the engagement team for managing the community and ward meetings
The web team for their innovative website
ELT and directors for their guidance, especially Andy Matthews and the finance team
And Democratic Services for their efforts managing the oral submissions

The website deserves a special mention: More than double the number of people visiting the website compared to the 2012 LTP website.

There was over 400% increase in the number of people submitting feedback via the web
And four times the level of engagement with the site as measured by page views per visit.

I'd also like to thank our councillors for the courtesy, respect and open minds you've continued to show member of the public. While we might not always agree with what's said, one of the most important things we can do as Councillors is listen.

1.2.3 Sakai Bike

A few weeks ago, we took delivery of a generous gift from the Mayor of Sakai, Mr Osami Takeyama – a Takeda 16-speed road bike.

As you know, I travelled to Sakai, Japan in May 2014 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of sister city relations between Wellington and Sakai, as part of a business and education delegation that I led.

Later in the year Mayor Takeyama travelled to Wellington to attend the 2014 Japan Festival held in August in celebration of the anniversary. During the dinner held for the Sakai Mayoral Delegation, Mayor Takeyama presented Wellington City Council with a gift of a bike from Sakai, presenting a picture of the bike to Celia.

The bike labelled with Wellington Sakai 20th Anniversary on the frame.

I'm delighted to announce that this bike will be available for all staff – and councillors – to use and will be added to the Council pool of bikes located in the foyer.

I'd also like to acknowledge the wonderful relationship that Wellington City shares with Sakai, and offer my thanks to Mayor Takeyama for such an impressive gift.

1.2.4 Smokefree

"After discussion with the Deputy Mayor, Justin Lester, and the Chair of Community, Sport and Recreation, Paul Eagle, the best way forward..."

Following public submissions on the Council's Long Term plan, last year's Smokefree Midland Park and a number of petitions and requests that support continued moves towards a Smokefree Capital, there is public support for more Smokefree places in Wellington.

Proposed Smokefree areas include:

Civic Square

Waterfront

Rose Garden and Dell at the Botanic Gardens

Volunteers Corner

Bus stops

This positive step towards a healthier city is not universally accepted by Wellingtonians.

Therefore the best way forward on this important issue is to request Council Officer advice in the form of a report to the Community, Sport and Recreation committee on August 12th.

Following this, the public will be invited to participate in a consultation process on the proposal to increase the number of Smokefree areas in the city, noting our emphasis is on education rather than enforcement.

1.2.4 Brian Hannah

Finally, on a sad note I'd like to publicly acknowledge the passing of Brian Hannah, our Director of Strategy and External Relations who died in April.

I've spoken of Brian at the Council staff blessing, and in a private session with Councillors. This is the first opportunity to acknowledge publicly both Brian's death and the enormous contribution he made to Council and to Wellington City.

I acknowledge each of us knows a different aspect of Brian, this highly evolved human being, and a kind, intelligent man.

Brian loved this city and his work mattered to him too. Certainly his ideas and arguments will live on in our minds - and in the shape of the city as the Long Term Plan he worked so hard to prepare is implemented.

My tribute is to remember that he "gave a damn!" He said what he thought was true, what would help Wellington, what would set us right for the future.

I enjoyed working with Brian on framing the Long Term Plan this year, on the first steps of the Living Wage last year, and advancing the Ocean Education Centre.

He wasn't afraid of saying "No" to the Mayor occasionally either. Brian possessed a fierce intellect that reminded me that Wellington's wellbeing relies on Council investing for the public good.

At his funeral we were reminded as well of the other, crucial side to Brian: A devoted family man, and our thoughts must forever remain with his family.

The best words to hear at his funeral were Cristin's: "He was there for us, he loved us and we loved him."

Vale, Brian Hannah.

1.4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Nil

1.5 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Mayor Wade-Brown, seconded Councillor Ahipene-Mercer

Resolved

That the Council:

Approve the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 April 2015, having been circulated, that they be taken as read and confirmed as an accurate record of that meeting.

Voting For: Mayor Wade-Brown, Councillor Ahipene-Mercer, Councillor Coughlan, Councillor Eagle, Councillor Foster, Councillor Free, Councillor Lee, Councillor Lester, Councillor Marsh, Councillor Pannett, Councillor Peck, Councillor Ritchie, Councillor Sparrow, Councillor Woolf and Councillor Young

Voting Against: Nil

Majority Vote: 15:0

Carried

1. 6 Items not on the Agenda

There were no items not on the agenda.

1. 7 Public Participation

No public participation requests were received.

2. Petitions

Nil

3. General Business

3.1 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REST OF THE 2013/16 TRIENNIUM

Moved Mayor Wade-Brown, seconded Councillor Lester, the amended Officer's recommendations

Resolved

That the Council:

1. Receive the information.
2. Agree the governance structures for the remainder of the 2013/16 triennium, the key change being to make the four subject based committees i.e. Community, Sport and Recreation, Economic Growth and Arts, Environment, and Transport and Urban Design "committees of the whole".
3. Agree the Terms of Reference and delegations in Attachment 1 of the Officer's report, **to take effect as at 1 July 2015.**
4. Note that no remuneration change is anticipated.

Voting For: Mayor Wade-Brown, Councillor Ahipene-Mercer, Councillor Coughlan, Councillor Eagle, Councillor Foster, Councillor Free, Councillor Lee, Councillor Lester, Councillor Marsh, Councillor Pannett, Councillor Peck, Councillor Ritchie, Councillor Sparrow, and Councillor Woolf, Councillor Young

Voting Against: Nil

Majority Vote: 15:0

Carried

3.2 Local Government Act 2002 - Delegations - Enforcement Officers

Moved Councillor Lester, seconded Councillor Ritchie the amended Officer's recommendations

Resolved

That the Council:

1. Receive the information.
2. Agree, pursuant to clause 32A, Schedule 7, LGA 2002:
 - a. not to limit or restrict the power to issue warrants, impose conditions on that power or prohibit the exercise of it; and
 - b. to delegate to the Chief Executive the power appoint enforcement officers and issue warrants under section 177 of the LGA 2002..
3. Note that this delegation only relates to enforcement officers under section 177 LGA 2002 and does not apply to the power to appoint 'enforcement officers' under other legislation, which has been delegated to the Chief Executive pursuant to the Council delegations to the Chief Executive, dated 14 November 2015 **2013**.

Voting For: Mayor Wade-Brown, Councillor Ahipene-Mercer, Councillor Coughlan, Councillor Eagle, Councillor Foster, Councillor Free, Councillor Lee, Councillor Lester, Councillor Marsh, Councillor Pannett, Councillor Peck, Councillor Ritchie, Councillor Sparrow, and Councillor Woolf, Councillor Young

Voting Against: Nil

Majority Vote: 15:0

Carried

4. Committee Reports

Nil

5. Public Excluded

Nil

The meeting concluded at 6.00 pm.

Confirmed: _____
Chair