



Date: Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 12noon

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

Councillor G W Boyde (the Chairman), the District Mayor N C Volzke, Councillors S J Beck and V R Jones, and Committee Members the Property Officer – Mrs S Flight and the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich.

In attendance

Deputy Mayor M McKay, Councillors A M C Dudley, E E Hall, C M Tongaawhikau (*part meeting*) and W J Sandford.

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds and the Parks and Reserves Officer – Mrs M McBain.

7. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive, Councillors, and staff.

1.1 Opening Karakia D21/40748 Page 6

The opening karakia was read.

1.2 Health and Safety Message D21/26210 Page 7

The Chairman reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

8. Apologies

An apology was noted from Councillor A K Harris.

9. Announcements

There were no announcements.

10. Declarations of Members Interest

The Chairman requested Councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. There were no conflicts of interest declared.

11. Attendance Schedule

The attendance schedule for Farm & Aerodrome Committee meetings was attached.

12. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Farm and Aerodrome Committee Meeting – 5 December 2023 D23/48502 Page 6

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Farm and Aerodrome Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5 December be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
F&A/24/1

13. Matters Outstanding

D20/11504 Page 12

Recommendation

THAT the matters outstanding be received.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
F&A/24/2

14. Programme of Works

D20/28552 Page 13

Recommendation

THAT the Programme of Works be received.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
F&A/24/3

Councillor Tongaawhikau joined the meeting at 12.04pm.



15. Decision Report – Committee Self-Review of Terms of Reference

D24/8690 Page 14

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

JONES/VOLZKE

Carried

F&A/24/4

2. ~~THAT the amended Terms of Reference in Appendix 1 to this report be approved and become effective from 1 July 2024, AND the Farm and Aerodrome Committee is renamed the Farm and Investments Committee.~~

OR

3. ~~THAT the current Farm and Aerodrome Committee Terms of Reference remain in place as per Appendix 2 to this report, with any further amendments as requested by the Committee.~~

Recommended Reason

It is timely that the Farm and Aerodrome Committee Terms of Reference be reviewed, since the Terms of Reference were established in June 2020.

The Director – Corporate Services noted the following:

- 2.2 of the report should state “At a workshop for the Farm and Aerodrome Committee in December 2023”, not 2020.
- There are two options presented in the report, with any changes to potentially be applied 1 July 2024.

Questions / Points of Clarification:

- The Deputy Mayor queried that an option is for it to be called the Farm and Investment Committee, however it reads heavily around the farm, is this because Council does not have other investments? It was confirmed this is correct. She then questioned if the committee will be looking at potential investments, as that does not seem to be clear. Ms Radich advised the feel of the room at the workshop was for the focus to remain on the farm, as there are no other significant investments at this stage, however the committee could produce mechanisms for future investments.
- Councillor Boyde questioned if it is believed the skill sets for a farm committee are the same as needed for an investment committee? Ms Radich advised they would be different and the thought would need to be on the fit if the committee is expanded into investment.
- The District Mayor noted at the time of the creation of the committee it was sensible as the operation was linked with some grazing arrangements and shared cost. In hindsight these could be separated out, and he is not opposed to removing the aerodrome from the committee to be managed by officers and through Policy and Services, which would leave the committee to be purely a farm committee. He noted he was surprised to see the investments included as an option as there are no investments to supervise. He noted he sees a better place for this in the Audit and Risk or Executive committees. He also advised he believes consideration should be given to the number of meetings a year, possibly down to two or three.
- Councillor Beck noted he is in favour of option two, and noted he would be ok with the removal of the aerodrome. He believes the committee requires four meetings a year, to line up with the seasons. He noted in the current terms of reference he could see a problem if the committee does not have the same number of farmers as it has now, that expertise could be lost. He enquired if on page 27, the committee could appoint a local farmer as a committee member for expertise. Mr Hanne advised, that this could be addressed through the appointment of a farm advisor. Councillor Beck does not believe farm advisor has the same expertise in running a farm as a farm owner. He would like to see the committee able to appoint a farmer if there was not a minimum of two farmers on the committee.
- Councillor Sandford noted he sees the committee as very important given it is Council’s only classified investment. He is interested in why the buildings rented out by Council, the pool and its

subdivisions are not classed as investments, however does not believe an investment committee is needed.

- Councillor Boyde noted he does not believe there is any room for an investment committee, particularly beside the farm. He noted he does not have an issue with removing the aerodrome, and now would be a good time to set it into the Policy and Services Committee. He advised he believes anything less than three meetings a year would be problematic, and the dates would need to change to fit in with the seasonal changes.

2. THAT the Farm and Aerodrome Committee name be changed to the Farm Committee, with the updated terms of reference be adopted with references to the aerodrome and inclusion of investment removed, and the number of meetings updated to three per year.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
F&A/24/5

16. Information Report - Farm Annual Business Report 2023

D24/8823 Page 28

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

JONES/BECK
Carried
F&A/24/6

2. THAT the committee notes that the remaining 2022/2023 surplus reserve amount of approximately \$70,000 has been allocated for rates mitigation in the Long Term Plan.

Recommended Reason

To inform the Committee of the financial actuals for the Farm in the 2022/23 financial year.

BECK/JONES
Carried
F&A/24/7

Questions / Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Jones questioned the figure included in item 6, Financial Budget 2023/24 as he believed there were discrepancies, as he does not believe there is \$208,046 left for loan repayment. Ms Radich will confirm the correct figures with Mrs Flight.
- The District Mayor noted page 37 includes the composition of the Committee, however believes it should include four Elected Members to include the District Mayor.
- Councillor Jones noted page 43 notes a 10 cent Co-Operative Difference payment however there is no mention on what the sharemilker is doing to achieve the extra three cents. Councillor Boyde advised last year there was an issue with the Somatic Cell Count, so a lot of culling was done. Councillor Jones questioned if they received any of the three cents. Mrs Flight will confirm this. Councillor Jones questioned if this is something which should be reported on, how well the farm is doing in terms of quality of milk.
- It was agreed to add to matters outstanding to confirm if there are issues with quality control.

17. Quarterly Report – Risk Register

D24/7040 Page 45

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

Recommended Reason

To update the Committee of any changes to the Farm and Aerodrome Risk Registers and advise the Committee of any incidents in relation to the identified risks.

BOYDE/VOLZKE
Carried
F&A/24/8

The Property Officer noted the following:

- There has been a new risk added which was identified at the last farm quarterly meeting. When the sand traps are emptied there is a risk of the tractor hitting the powerlines above. Ways to mitigate this are being investigated.

18. Quarterly Report – Farm and Aerodrome Business and Financial Report

D24/7040 Page 51

Recommendation

1. THAT the report be received.

BECK/BOYDE
Carried
F&A/24/9

2. THAT the Committee supports the proposed changes to the stock rate number that was provisionally agreed by the Sharemilker and Council.

BOYDE/JONES
Carried
F&A/24/10

Recommended Reason

This report provides a quarterly business and financial update of the Farm and Aerodrome activities. It highlights the milk production from the current season at the farm and reports on the key activities at the Aerodrome. It recommends a revised farm stock number for approval.

The Property Officer noted the following:

- The stocking number reduction will take effect October 2024 if adopted.

Questions / Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted there will have to be a change of the contract as currently it includes 400 cows which is unrealistic and unsustainable.
- Councillor Beck questioned if there has been any discussion over a grass bank being produced or extending lactation at the start and end of the season? Councillor Boyde advised maize was dropped out this season, so there should be more grass after dropping the stocking rate, which is the cheapest form of feed. He advised the farm is quite wet so the lactation start or end dates will stay the same. It shows on the report an increase in supplement, however this is purely because young stock were kept on farm.
- The District Mayor questioned the strip hire fee mentioned in the executive summary 2.4, if this was too high and if this was changed in the fees and charges. Councillor Boyde noted he also believes the fee is too high, with \$10 being more realistic.

3. THAT the strip hire fee be set at \$10 per tonne, to be recommended for the Long Term Plan fees and charges.

VOLZKE/BECK
Carried
F&A/24/11

The Director – Assets and the Director – Corporate Services left the meeting at 12.51pm.

19. Quarterly Report – Health and Safety Update

D24/7039 Page 127

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
F&A/24/12

Recommended Reason

To update the Committee on Health and Safety matters from December 2023 and February 2024.

20. Questions

- Councillor Beck questioned when the review for the aerodrome was happening. Mrs Flight advised it should be coming to the June meeting, however this will depend now on where the aerodrome sits at the time.

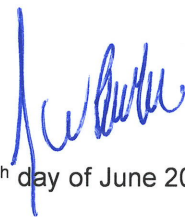
21. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 56

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 1.04pm

G W Boyde
Chairman



Confirmed this 18th day of June 2024.



N C Volzke
District Mayor