

Council Hearing

PUBLIC BUSINESS AGENDA

A Council Hearing
will be held in the Council Chamber,
Torphin Crescent, Tokoroa
on Thursday 15 November 2018
Commencing at 1.00pm

OUR VISION

“Healthy people thriving in a safe, vibrant and sustainable community.”

Attendees

Members	Mayor (Chairperson)	J Shattock
	Deputy Mayor (Deputy Chairperson)	J Gash
	Councillors	G Baldwin A Bell W Cook M Glucina T Lee W Machen A Ngapo-Lipscombe P Schulte H Van Rooijen
Staff	Acting Chief Executive	B Smit
	Group Manager Assets	T Anderson
	Group Manager Regulatory	S Robinson
	Acting Group Manager Community	H Gaby
	Acting Group Manager Corporate	G Naidoo
	Communications Manager	K Fabrie
	Executive Assistant (Minutes)	J Parr

Agenda Confirmed by:

B Smit

Acting Chief Executive

Prayer

The Mayor will lead the Council in Prayer.

*RECOMMENDATIONS contained in Reports are NOT to be construed as COUNCIL DECISIONS.
Refer to Council Minutes for RESOLUTIONS.*

Order of Business

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1. Apologies

2. Confirmation of Agenda

3. Leave of Absences

4. Conflicts of Interest

5. Reports

5.1 Fees and Charges 2018-21 Hearings and Deliberations Report

Document Information

Report To:	Council
Meeting Date:	Thursday, 15 November 2018
Author:	Kiri Diamond
Author Title:	Strategic Planning Manager
Report Date:	Monday, 5 November 2018

Purpose of Report

This report requires a decision from Council.

This report provides the submissions on the Fees and Charges 2018-21 to assist Councillors in the hearings and deliberations.

Background

The issue discussed in this report is aligned with the Council vision, community outcomes, Council policies and the Council Strategy.

Council adopted the 2018-21 Fees & Charges through its recent Long Term Plan process, however it was discovered that a number of errors occurred in twelve areas. It is important to that Council are honest with our community about the errors. Staff decided that the best way forward is a second round of public consultation on the fees that need amending. The reasons for the errors fell into the four categories of inflation, clarity, administrative and conflict.

Each submission point within the summary has been assigned either 'Support', 'Oppose' or 'Note':

- 'Support' means that the submitter has made a submission that supports what was included in the Draft Long Term Plan 2018-2028.
- 'Oppose' means that the submitter has made a submission that opposes what was included in the Draft Long Term Plan 2018-2028.
- 'Note' means that the submitted has recommended something not included in the Fees and charges 2018-21.

Process

In total, there were four submissions received with 10 points raised. Of these, two submitters will be heard as follows:

Roger Drower - 1.10pm

Tim Nicholson - 1.20pm

Discussion

General overview

Members of the public are seeking clarification on the fees and charges and there is also opposition to the fees charged and the increase of some of the fees.

Responses from each submitter are summarised as follows. Full submissions will be attached to the report.

Gregory Cubitt - Swimming Pool Fees – not speaking

Oppose: Requiring clarity on whether annual subscriptions will still be used.

Response by staff:

The annual and six monthly subscriptions will continue to be offered as options alongside this new three monthly subscriptions to continue to offer our community members cost effective options to use the pools throughout the district.

Timothy Nicholson – Financial Contribution Rural Subdivision Increase - speaking

Oppose: A significant increase that could “make or break a project”. Suggests to be held off until 2019/2020 period so that it can be included into developer’s budget. Further consultation is suggested.

Response by staff:

The change from 17/18 year to 18/19 year for rural Financial Contributions was \$3,689. The proposed 18/19 year was \$4,352 which is an increase of 18%. The formula for this fee is roading asset valuation divided by the number of rateable properties charged UAGC. The new valuation was undertaken in June 2017 which increased the value of the roading asset and therefore increased the financial contribution. The previous year was based on the valuation undertaken three years ago. Unfortunately, the incorrect 18/19 year reflected a total cost of \$3,800 (incorrect version) i.e. 3% increase.

There was no urban financial contribution for the 17/18 year for the three waters which is now included in the 18/19 year at 80% discount and was compounded by the urban financial contributions being incorrect.

The proposed urban development contributions should state "urban only" in the fees and charges schedule and which was omitted from the Council resolution (18/59 resolved on 8 March 2018).

Barry Stevens – Dog Registration Fees – not speaking

Oppose: Urban dog fees being charged in Arapuni when it is considered an rural village.

It is important to note that this submitter has received communication from staff on this topic on a few separate occasions. These are summarised as follows:

A letter dated 2 July 2018 from GM Regulatory, in response to an email from Mayor Jenny Shattock requesting clarity on how Council sets fees, particularly urban dog fees as it relates to Arapuni. This letter provides the change in fees table for dog registrations and that it is funded by both dog owners and ratepayers. Refers also to the 50% discount if a person is eligible under the selected owner policy.

An email dated 28 August 2018 from the ex Chief Executive, referring to Arapuni being considered an urban area within the South Waikato in all Council Plans. This was in response to Mr Steven’s information request on 13 August. Also referring to the Dog Control Act 1996 and outlines the Selected Owner policy conditions and reduced fee.

Response to the Fees and Charges 2018-21 submission:

The dog registration fees are set by the planning zoning. If a community receives full Council services, then they are zoned as urban. Animal Control also visit Arapuni often to patrol and deal with complaints. The Animal Control team have to factor in travel time, distance and cost to travel out to Arapuni but the travel cost is covered in registration fees. It needs to be noted that although Arapuni is a small settlement, any time a cluster of people are settled in one area, they are bound to own dogs and the more dogs in one area, the more problems that can occur.

Roger Drower – Multiple points – speaking

1. *Oppose: Building consent fees are too high, assumes that fees increase is due to inflation.*

Response by staff:

The fees did not go up by inflation, fees went up due to the introduction of AlphaOne (online consenting). This is a user pays service.

2. *Note: Dumping SW Rubbish Bags– People need to be informed of the costs*

Mr Drower has suggested that the 2018-2019 fee of \$140 per tonne fee be retained through 2018-21.

Response by staff:

Proposed Fees are: 2018-2019 at \$140 per tonne; 2019-2020 at \$142 per tonne and 2020-21 at \$14 per tonne which should read \$143 per tonne. Fees and charges are consulted on. Council has communications that goes out to the public to inform about illegal dumping of rubbish which includes how material should be disposed of.

3. *Note: Green waste – Why charge a fee when it is included in rates?*

Mr Drower has suggested that green waste should be free or \$30.00 per tonne.

Response by staff:

Fees are set for 2018-19 at \$75.25 per tonne and to increase to \$76.25 per tonne for 2019-2021.

Green waste is not included in the rates. The rates income covers the recycling collection and a portion of the kerbside refuse collection.

4. *Note: Parking offences – Should be for the police to regulate*

Response by staff:

The Police do not deal with the parking issues that arise in the CBD because the Police have more pressing issues to deal with. All District Council's deal with parking in the CBD and officers are trained in dealing with abusive behaviour whilst undertaking the role.

5. *Support: Sports and Events Centre Charges*

6. *Oppose: Closure of runway for any event – weekdays/weekends*

Why are people being charged a higher fee e.g. \$60,000 for the runway to be closed.

Response by staff:

This is incorrect and the amounts are stated in the following table.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Closure of runway for any event - weekends and statutory holidays (aviation event) (per day)	\$195	\$200	\$205	\$210
Closure of runway for any event - weekends and statutory holidays (non-aviation event) (per day)	\$380	\$390	\$400	\$410
Closure of runway for any event - weekdays (aviation event) (per day)	\$130	\$135	\$140	\$145
Closure of runway for any event - weekdays (non-aviation event) (per day)	\$255	\$260	\$270	\$280

Attachments

Submissions to this report:

- Appendix 1 Barry Stevens Submission (DocSet 459447)
- Appendix 2 Roger Drower Submission (DocSet 459544)
- Appendix 3 Timothy Nicholson & Gregory Cubitt (DocSet 459968)

Recommendation

1. *That the Report No 2018-460426, Fees and Charges 2018-21 Hearing and Deliberations Report, be received.*
2. *That the submissions, as attached, be received.*
3. *That the Solid Waste fee for Commercial Operators for 2020-21, be corrected to read \$143 per tonne.*
4. *That the Fees and Charges 2018-2021, with the amendment outlined in resolution 3, be adopted.*

Appendix 1:

Forms and Charges 2018-21

Submission Form

office use

Title Mr First Name BARRY Surname STEVENS
Address 2 LUNN STR Town ARAPUNI
Email THEMIZANNAH@GMAIL.COM Phone 078835677
Group or organisation you are representing (if applicable) _____
Would you like to speak to your submission at the public hearing? Yes No

Council's consultation process is public and your comments will be available for public inspection. Your submission won't be returned to you. If you require a copy, please make one before submitting.

TIPS to a clear submission 1. Print legibly. 2. Use simple language 3. Be clear and concise

My thoughts about the Fees and Charges 2018-21 are...

WHY DOES THE COUNCIL CHANGE URBAN RURAL FEES FOR ARAPUNI DOES WHICH ARAPUNI IS A RURAL VILLAGE?
I HAVE BEEN TOLD THIS BREACHES THE FAIR TRADING ACT.

BS

You are welcome to use additional sheets of paper.

Drop your submission in to the Council offices in Putāruru or Tokoroa or to the Dog in Tirau or mail to Freepost Authority Number 201. 2018-21 Fees & Charges Review, South Waikato District Council, Torphin Crescent, Tokoroa, 3420

Have your say! Wed 26 September to Wed 24 October, 4pm

Appendix 2:

Fees and Charges 2018-21

Submission Form

office use

Title MR First Name ROGER Surname DROWER
Address 105 Papanui st Town TOKOROA
Email rumandcoke@slingshot.co.nz Phone 0211488427 *txt only*
Group or organisation you are representing (if applicable) _____
Would you like to speak to your submission at the public hearing? Yes No

Council's consultation process is public and your comments will be available for public inspection. Your submission won't be returned to you. If you require a copy, please make one before submitting.

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See Att Paper.

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Have your say! Wed 26 September to Wed 24 October, 4pm

Roger Drower.
105 Papanui Street,
Po Box 252,
Tokoroa. 3444
TXT 021 1488427 I am very hard of hearing.
Naomi 0274348236
rmandcoke@slingshot.co.nz

Fees and Charges 2018

Some of the fees are too high

Building Consent fees the inflation does not go up that high.
For example 2017 to 2018 650.00 then 2018 to 2019, 806.00 proposed \$810 bring it down to 700 so on.
When I come to speak I will tell you why.

Some I do agree and do not agree with the price.

Dumping SW Rubbish Bags to dump are free so is recycling centres. Public needs to know.
People is dumping it in our parks on side of the roads and in other properties in business property.

Per tonne I agree with 2020 to 2021 \$14 per tonne lol
Pre tone \$140 right through 2018 to 2021

Green wast
Free or Per Tonne \$30.00.

We pay for this in our Rates.

Part B Inconsiderately parking.
I do think this is for the Police to do. Safety of your staff. People will have ago and do XYZ

Offences against traffic regulations
I do think this is for the Police. Safety of your staff. People will have ago and do XYZ

SWDC sport events centre.
I agree with that.

Closure of runway for any event – weekdays/weekends
Like drag racing drones toy planes ETC.
Why is other people been asked to pay a well higher fee example \$60000 for it to be closed For an event?

Our inflation has gone up 1.5 percent.

Look forward to speak on this.

Roger Drower.

Appendix 3:

Survey Monkey Responses

Fees and Charges - second round consultation - October 2018

Submission 1

Started: Thursday, October 18, 2018 1:28:00 PM

Last Modified: Thursday, October 18, 2018 1:36:49 PM

Time Spent: 00:08:48

Q1 - Which fee(s) do you have feedback on?

Financial Contributions

Q2 - What is your feedback? (Please use the fee title as a sub-heading, so we know which fee each comment relates to)

Financial contributions. These fees are increasing significantly. For rural subdivision from a total of \$3,800.00 to \$4350.00 and for urban subdivision from \$3,800.00 to \$6,069.00. This is huge and for potential subdividers can make or break a project. we have already advised clients what their likely fees are going to be. You need to give both consultants and clients plenty of warning about a hike like this. We are already nearly half way through the 2018/2019. Suggest you put it hold until the 2019/2020 period and carry out some effective consultation starting now so we know what is coming up and can develop budgets and price jobs accordingly. It is totally unreasonable to impose increases of this size with no prior warning or consultation. Even your own staff did not not know what was happening!

Q3 - Would you like to speak to your submission at the hearings?

Yes

Q4 - Full name

Timothy John Nicholson

Q5 - Email address

nich.sur@xtra.co.nz

Q6 - Phone number

0274 480 698

Q7 - Address

43 Arapuni Street, Putaruru 3411

Q8 - Group or organisation you are representing (if applicable)

Nicholson Surveying

Submission 2

Started: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 9:39:19 PM

Last Modified: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 9:56:22 PM

Time Spent: 00:17:03

Q1 - Which fee(s) do you have feedback on?

Swimming Pool charges

Q2 - What is your feedback? (Please use the fee title as a sub-heading, so we know which fee each comment relates to)

If I read the proposed fees schedule correctly, the annual swimming pool subscription is being dropped in favor of a 3 monthly fee. I moved here in 2013 and have had an annual subscription each year until this year. As a disabled person on fixed income, I could not afford a subscription this year. Aqua therapy is my only effective source of pain relief. While I acknowledge breaking the subscription fee into smaller payments helps, it would be beneficial to people like myself if there was a discount (possibly verified by medical certificates).

Q3 - Would you like to speak to your submission at the hearings?

No

Q4 - Full name

Gregory Michael Cubitt

Q5 - Email address

nz.prkstr@gmail.com

Q6 - Phone number

0274406429

Q7 - Address

11 Aberfoyle Place, Tokoroa

Q8 - Group or organisation you are representing (if applicable)

NA

Council Outcomes

Growth - Activities and strategies that facilitate sustainable economic growth and lift community pride.

Resilience - A resilient district with good infrastructure, services, a sound financial position, rates affordability and a healthy environment that has the ability to anticipate, resist, respond to and recover from significant change or events.

Relationships - Strong relationships with Iwi and Māori, Pacific Peoples and community and business groups that can achieve growth and a resilient community.