

Council Briefing Agenda

Date: Thursday, 12 September, 2019

Time: 12:30 pm

Location: Council Chamber
Forum North, Rust Avenue
Whangarei

Elected Members: Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai
(Chairperson)
Cr Gavin Benney
Cr Crichton Christie
Cr Vince Cocurullo
Cr Tricia Cutforth
Cr Shelley Deeming
Cr Sue Glen
Cr Phil Halse
Cr Cherry Hermon
Cr Greg Innes
Cr Greg Martin
Cr Sharon Morgan
Cr Anna Murphy

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact
the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

1. Apologies

2. Reports

- 2.1 Riverside Hotel and Entertainment Precinct Development Update 1

3. Closure of Meeting

2.1 Riverside Hotel and Entertainment Precinct Development Update

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 12 September 2019
Report Author: Councillor Phil Halse

1 Purpose

To update Council on progress on the proposed Riverside Hotel and Entertainment Development.

2 Background

At its 24 April meeting Council resolved to appointed representatives to act as a conduit between Council and Northland Development Corporation (NDC), the developers of the proposed Riverside Hotel and Entertainment Centre development.

Council resolved:

“That the Council

- a. Acknowledges the presentation by Northland Development Corporation.*
- b. Approve Councillors Benney, Halse and Cocurullo to represent Council interests and act as a conduit between Council and Northland Development Corporation in relation to the proposed Riverside Hotel and Entertainment Centre.*
- c. Approve staff to provide technical assistance and support to Councillors Benney Halse and Cocurullo in their duties.*
- d. Agrees that the resolutions be released to open record.”*

Following the presentation to councillors from the NDC and being informed that the NDC had successfully obtained a Grant from the Government's Provincial Growth fund to complete a feasibility study on their proposed development of the Riverside Hotel and entertainment Centre, the subcommittee met with staff and a brief of finding out information was agreed upon.

Members of the NDC and councillors Christie, Benny and Halse visited the Q Theatre in Auckland, meeting with their Operations Manager and were given a guided tour through the entire complex and during a lengthy question time much information was gained. Key questions about the size, operation, management, staffing, show capacity and bookings were answered.

The group then met at Smale's Farm on the North Shore (Takapuna) and different aspects of design and layout were looked at. Once again a guided tour was organised and the group presented questions and were impressed with the layout and presentation.

On the 9th of July Councillors Benny and Halse joined members of the NDC to a Visit to Hamilton to visit the impressive Claudeland's show ground. This is a complex that can

change the size of participating areas and can cater up to 5000 seated guests, with a variety of set ups. This complex has a fly tower and a built height of 34m. We discussed the staffing required, the Promoters requirements , the logistics of holding shows and other events. A very worthy trip. We were well hosted by their manager.

On the 15th of July Councillors Benny, Cocurullo and Halse took part in a workshop where invited parties (of about 45 made up of, engineers, designers, architects, business people, promoters and WDC staff) there to share insights, learn from others fields of enterprise and how to integrate the different elements into the overall design and functions of the HEP (Hotel and Entertainment Precinct).

Today's presentation is the next step.

Next steps

WDC staff set up a workshop in November to discuss this project further with the incoming council.