Richard Walls

Colin Weatheral

Dave Cull

Chris Staynes

Torcus Stevenson Kate Wilson

Peter Chir Null Callins Paul Hudson

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April 21 2000

By CHRIS MORRIS
and DAVID LOUGHREY

million Otago stadium within days, after Dunedin councillors yesterday voted to sign a con-struction contract despite the threat of a High Court injunc-A JUDGE will dimmediate fate of decide the of the \$198

church on Thursday Stadium's injunction appli-cation would be the subject of a High Court hearing in Christguaranteed maximum price con-tract for the stadium with Dunedin city councillors voted 10-4 in favour of signing a awkins Construction after yes learning Stop

The signing of the contract was approved by councillors subject to a farourable outcome at the High Court, v. ith the judge by 5pm on Monday. expected to release a decision

stadium would be "all go" if the judge threw out the injunction application, Mayor Peter Chin told councillers. Yesterday's vote meant the

Mr Chin said: "I'm very, very happy with the outcome of a long day and a long process. Speaking after the meeting

"ould rule in "I think the decision is the right decision." was confident the court d rule in the council's

"If the decision is a positive decision, then the way is clear."
Stop the Stadium president Bev Butler walked out of yesterbefore the final vote, and told the Otago Daily Times she was "feeling a bit sick", having lay's meeting at 4.55pm, shortly



"Tortuous" process . . . Mayor Peter Chin at yesterday's Dunedin City Council meeting. PHC/PS OF NO 11, Carl

"Stop the Stadium looks forward to the ratepapers' day in court," she said.
"We feel we have got a good case."

The public section of yester-day's extraordinary council day's extraordinary council meeting was expected to begin about 11am, but vas delayed several times as councillors

weighed legal advice relating to the injunction notice and the inplications of signing — or not — the contract
At 1pm, Mr Chin held a press



Happy . . . Carisbrook Stadium Trust chairman Malcolm Farry yesterday

counsel to represent the counconference to inform waiting media that the council had council's legal advisers and, resolved to defend the proceed-ings with urgency, and had appropriate, to instruct Queen's Harland ings with urgency, and had instructed chief executive Jim δ work with

The council also confirmed its commitment to resolution 7 of its meeting on February 9, which stated the council was committed to the project.

When the meeting eventually moved into public deliberations

come as a grant on July 1.

Mr Chin also tabled a letter million shortly before 3pm, the stadium received a boost with confirmation the Government's \$15 contribution Government's would

from Otago Regional Council chairman Stephen Cairns, confirming its contribution of \$37.5 million would be paid over three years, beginning once the

> The debate then continued as Awatea St site was cleared and

previous stated positions, including raising again the perceived need for more public consultation. councillors largely reiterated

than in the past, with Cr Teresa Sterenson saying, whatever the outcome, she hoped Dunedin could go back to being the strike a more conciliatory tone Several councillors at yestermeeting attempted

Mr Chin said weighing the merits of the stadium during the past few years had been a "very tortuous" process, and the council, with the benefit of hindsight, "could have done the past few years had been a "very tortuous" process, and the council, with the benefit of hindsight, "could have done

Continued Page 6

a genuine risk that our sector

gain access to areas of

exclusive title to Maori, there is

WHAT THEY SAID • Page 6

oil claims

warns against the more.
Te Tai Tonga MP Rahui
Katene said the Maori Party
Vanted the control ersial Act percentage of future mineral claims — but an oil lobbrist it could allo: Miori a Scabed Act is repealed, saying A MAORI Party MP is hoping to strike oil if the Foreshore and

repealed and new legislation to take its place which would recognise the right of Maori under the Treaty of W. Hangi to the foreshore and seabed—and The move would "future-proof" Maori for generations to come, and protect the foreshore a stake in any future mineral

and seabed for all New Zealanders, she said. As part of the Maori Part, 's

confidence and supply
agreement with the
Government, a ministerial
review panel on the Foreshire
and Seabed act is holding a around the country series of hui and meetings They began in Bluff

expressing its members' Zealand executive officer John Pfchiert confirmed to the O(1) Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New submission to the review panel Daily Time: he had lodged a

obtaining exclusive access to exploration areas and the "right to veto" against mineral permit l'hose concerns include Maori

"Future returns might be put at risk if nominated Maori had veto rights on access," the

submission notes present negotiate only with the Oil and gas explorers at

"If the Crown decides to review the Foreshore and Seabed Act, such that the effect and seabed by providing ic to alienate certain foreshore Maori if the Act is repealed negotiate access rights v ith Crown, but may have to

than \$3 billion for the New Zealand economy, with royalty payments to the Gorernment expected to exceed \$700 million exploration and production, Mr Pfahlert said. year expected to gener The petroleum industry is this ate more

O. CI ENINI CONNAIAV

Forced to take

rovernment grant tor 0000

of \$15 million for Dunedin's planned stadium firmed from an "underwrite" to a "grant" yes-A GOVERNMENT contribution

cil meeting, Mayor Peter Chin released a letter he had received from Rugby World Cup Minister Maranan Ward Call. confirming the funding There During a Dunedin City Counhas been some con-Murray McCully,

fusion about how and when the council could access the money. But the letter confirmed "the Crown will provide a grant of the country of the

\$15 million (net) towards the construction of the Awatea St Rugby World Cup 2011" completed and available for the stadium , with an expectation ne stadium will be

decision on the stadiu officials from the Ministry Economic Development would Once the Government was council's stadium,

work with the mayor on arrangement for the grant.
Arr ArcCully commended the council and the Carisbrook Stadium Trust "on the effort and to creating a long-lasting legacy for the city of Dunedin' Mr McCully caid in a subthe commitment you have put in

ordinary council meeting meant its scheduled infrastructure services be a ailable from July 1. sequent email the money would Delays to yenterday's extracommittee was held

The committee meeting, which was scheduled for 2pm yesterday, was opened and immediately adjourned to allow over until today
The commit stadium deliberations. councillors more time to resolve

agenda incl the \$74.3 hrmed the \$74.3 million stage two upgrade of Dunedin's Tahuna wastewater plant, Mr Chin con-The meeting would resume at noon today, with items on the including a proposal for

What they said

 Cr Teresa Stevenson likened the stadium debate to a war, and said during a war people used "hard tactics". like Stop the Stadium's decision to take the council to court

clock on those issues.

Cr Neil Collins said if the Deputy mayor Syd Brown said building Moana Pool and chifting the art gallery from Logan Park to the Octagon had caused the would want to turn back the stadium had, and nobody same sort of debate as the

projects such as the stadium it was "buying into cit, did not support

Cr Michael Guest said he wished people opposed to the stadium would listen to

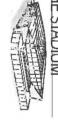
the support for it by University of Otago vice-chancellor Prof David Skegg, one of Dunedin's

pretty good deal". Cr Andrew Noone said the and the city had got "a stadium was affordable,

stadium was "a fantastic project" that would set Dunedin apart from other

centres.
Cr Dave Cull said

THE STADIUM



Cr Richard Walls said the

councillors had been in an

 Cr Chris Staynes said he believed the majority of opportunities for years to

come. • Cr Colin Weatherall debate over which had prompted "absolute chaos" in Australia. The stadium project would prove to be compared the stadium with the Sydney Opera House,

the Rugby World Cup, and due process had been last month, with a \$15 million "carrot" dangled by the Government but tied to short-circuited as a result. "unseemly rush to push this [stadium] through" in the

was being placed in a difficult financial situation with the risk of lost people no longer supported the stadium, and the city

the same, he predicted
Cr John Bezett said councillors had taken appropriate and "robust" "very confident" the

stadium would succeed Cr Bill Acklin said the mone; going into the stimulus to the city, which was "more than the public million in economic alone would bring \$150 stadium's construction

community down through
the lack of consultation, but
—while still opposed to the
project—was encouraged
by the improved guaranteed Cr Kate Wilson believed now before councillors. councillors had let the

to hearing Yes, subject

> From Page 1

will be forgotten a bit, as we collectively make it happen.

Ms Butler last night said für If Thursday's injunction hearing produced a result favourable to the stadium, Mr Chin and he hoped the community and council would "support the project, so that the differences we have had

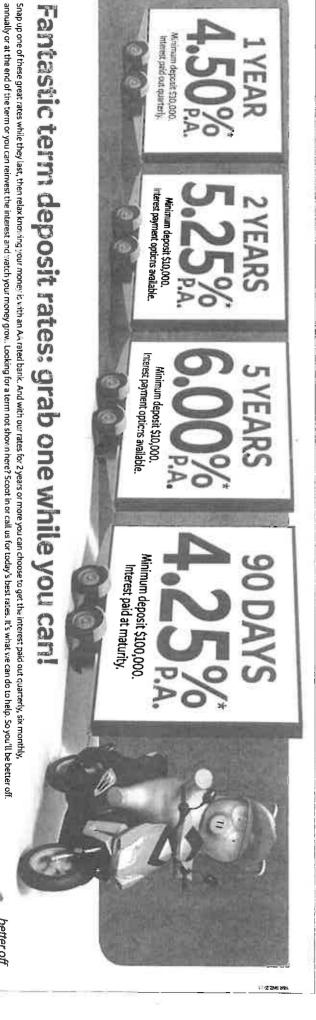
month's council long-term counfurther consultation during next words", given the refusal to allow Chin's comments were 'empt

cil community plan hearings.
She vowed she would "never".
support the stadium — "thy
would you embrace something
that you don't want?" — and also attempt to derail the project.
"You will just have to wait and still planning other ways to indicated Stop the Stadium vas — and also

see. We have to keep our powder dry."

• Cr Fliss Butcher apologised

for not attending the meeting.



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