

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Paul Sharland (Zoom)

In attendance

Mr Kevin Ross, Chief Executive
Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy and Planning
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager - Community
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services
Mr Jarrod Calkin, Economic Wellbeing Lead
Mr Eswar Ganapathi, Senior Project Manager
Mr Pieter Haasbroek, Project Manager
Mr Graeme Pointon, Strategic Property Advisor
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome / Prayer

His Worship the Mayor opened the meeting at 1.00pm.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/120

Apologies were received from Cr Carter, Cr Lambert and that Cr Sharland (noting he may join via zoom).

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Maughan declared a conflict of interest during Item 7 Follow-up Actions, regarding the Putorino Project.

Cr Hiroa declared a conflict of interest during Item 9 Chief Executive's Report, regarding Nga Iwi o Mōkai Pātea Services Trust.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was a change to the order of business relating to item 13.7 - Road Maintenance Contract Extension in the public excluded section of the meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/121

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 April 2024 **without amendment** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr S Loudon. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Item 2 - Putorino Project

Cr Maughan declared a conflict of interest with this action.

Mr Ross advised that even though this project is considered completed there are some final checks to be undertaken.

Item 6 - Gorges to See

Ms Prince advised there is progress with the group as they are looking at becoming an incorporated society.

Item 9 - Otara Bridge

Councillors advised that the bridge was unexpectedly closed this morning without any communication to the community. Staff were asked to provide feedback on the handling of this project by Manawatu District Council and to investigate why the bridge was closed.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/122

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings' be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr D Wilson. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - 30 May 2024

Councillors discussed the meeting on the 23 April with the Road Controlling Authority and His Worship the Mayor noted that Minister Simone Brown has specific expectations of NZTA Waka Kotahi.

The Council congratulated everyone involved with the Nga Awa Block project, noting the award the project recently received.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/123

That the Mayor's Report – 30 May 2024 be received.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - May 2024

Cr Sharland joined the meeting via zoom at 1.43pm.

External Submissions

Mrs Gordon noted the Māori Wards consultation had a very tight timeframe, and this feedback was included in the LGNZ submission that Council endorsed. His Worship the Mayor noted that a report would be coming back to Council on this.

Council acknowledged the work being done by Ben Caldwell on communications on the Council website and Facebook page and his responds to feedback.

Update on Council Owned Buildings- Broadway/High Street Marton

Council questioned why some agents weren't interested in putting a proposal in to sell these building and Mr Calkin advised this was due to challenges associated with the building.

Esbigh's Eatery (Bulls Fish & Chip Shop)- Request for Fee Waiver and Compensation

Mrs Gordon noted that as Mr Esbigh had requested compensation and a full 100% fee waiver, rather than the 50% offered by the Chief Executive, that both requests were put for the consideration of full Council.

Long- Term Plan (LTP) Submission Items

1. Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)
This will be relooked at the start of the Annual Plan process alongside the Revenue and Financing policy.
2. Toilet Facilities at Walker Park, Bulls
There were questions regarding the usage of Walker Park and staff responded that this is not monitored.
3. Nga Iwi o Mōkai Pātea Services Trust (Mōkia Pātea Services) in relation to their Taihape Wellness Project – request for assistance to maintain the grounds and gardens as a joint venture.
Cr Hiroa declared a conflict of interest in relation to this item.

Write off Old Debts

1. Mokai Gravity Canyon
Mr Tombs will check after the meeting if the amount includes the penalties and will report this back to Council.
2. Land Information New Zealand (LINZ)
In response to a question staff advised there are water meters in place.

Health and Safety Dashboard

Council noted their concern regarding the increase in abusive behaviour towards staff.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/124

That the Chief Executive's Report – May 2024 be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/125

That Council approves the rollover of Contract 1121 – Road Pavement Marking to the current contractor Roadrunner Markers LTD for the second 3-year term from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2027.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/126

That Council agrees to grant Mr Esdot a 100% waiver (\$315) on his annual verification visit fee;

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried Cr Loudon against

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/127

That Council does not agree to provide financial compensation to Mr Esdot.

Cr G Maughan/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/128

That the UAGC is reviewed as part of the 2025/26 Annual Plan process.

Cr G Duncan/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/129

That in relation to toilet facilities at Walker Park, Council agrees to ask staff to consider this as part of the 2025/26 Annual Plan.

Cr D Wilson/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/130

That Council agrees to write-off the outstanding debtor balances for Mokai Gravity Canyon of \$22,785.50 (excl gst).

Cr C Raukawa/Cr G Maughan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/131

That Council agrees to write-off the outstanding debtor balances for LINZ of \$28,023.85 (excl gst).

Cr G Duncan/Cr Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/132

That Council notes the key principles of the 'Local Water done Well' policy (section 4)

Cr Hiroa/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/133

That Council notes the government's intention to develop a new class of financially separate council-owned organisation.

Cr S Loudon/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/134

That Council proceed at pace on developing its preferred service delivery model and continue discussions and negotiations with neighbouring councils to achieve this.

Cr S Loudon/Cr D Wilson. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Certificate of Exemption - Remote Camping Grounds

Ms Prince responded to questions that staff do undertake regular visits to its campgrounds.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/135

That Council grants a Certificate of Exemption (under clause 14(3) of the Camping Ground Regulations 1985) to the current operators of the Mangaweka, and the Scotts Ferry camping grounds (both of which are designated as remote camping grounds) from 1 May 2024 to 30 September 2027.

,HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

11 Reports for Information

11.1 Project Management Office Report – May 2024

Marlon to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation

Staff advised there was a workshop on the 29 May to understand what the next steps are. The project group does include governance and Mr Benadie undertook to confirm the structure put in place previously by Mrs Foley.

Ratana Wastewater Discharge to Land

Councillors noted that it says in the report that iwi receive regular updates, but the Ratana Community Board provided feedback that this has not been happening.

Taihape/Papakai wastewater pump station

It was noted that until the security fencing is up there is no access available to the park.

Marlon Water Strategy

Mr Benadie noted a risk with the power supply, and the potential there could be a major delay due to the need for a specific piece for equipment.

Council noted there are high expectations from the public on this project. It was requested that the infographic continue to go out to the public.

Scotts Ferry

The community has been engaged with and a meeting is scheduled for 6 June.

Taihape Hautapu Bridges

Council thanked the Friends of Taihape for their work on this project and credit was given to Matt Thomas for reestablishing the relationship with the army.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/136

That the report 'Project Management Office Report - May 2024' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/137

That Council approve the Project Work Plan for the Marton Office and Library Redevelopment without amendment.

Cr G Maughan/Cr D Wilson. Carried

12 Minutes from Committees

12.1 Minutes from Committees

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/138

That the following minutes are received:

- Youth Council Meeting- 26 March 24
- Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa- 09 April 24
- Ratana Community Board- 09 April 24
- Taihape Community Board- 10 April 24
- Marton Community Committee- 10 April 24
- Hunterville Community Committee- 15 April 24
- Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund- 24 April 24
- Finance and Performance- 24 April 24

Cr Hiroa/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

13 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session 2.55pm.

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/139

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

1. Public Excluded Council Meeting - 24 April 2024
2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings
3. Poplar Grove Boundary Adjustments
4. Marton Seafood Lease
5. Taihape Town and Library Redevelopment
6. Water Service Delivery
7. Road Maintenance Contract Extension

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
13.1 - Public Excluded Council Meeting - 24 April 2024	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 24 April meeting.	S48(1)(a)
13.2 - Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings	To consider the matters arising from previous public excluded meetings. s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.3 - Poplar Grove Boundary Adjustments	To protect the privacy of the people involved. s7(2)(a) - Privacy	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.4 - Marton Seafood Lease	To protect privacy of the people involved and their financial position. s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.5 - Taihape Town and Library Redevelopment	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations for this work.	s48(1)(a)(i)

	s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	
13.6 - Water Service Delivery	To enable discussion on sensitive information relating to staff. s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.7 - Road Maintenance Contract Extension	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations for this work. s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position	s48(1)(a)(i)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding or the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

Cr D Wilson/Cr S Loudon. Carried

14 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 5.21pm

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/140

That the public excluded meeting move into an open meeting, and the below recommendations be confirmed in the open meeting:

24/RDC/140 - 24/RDC/161

Cr D Wilson/Cr S Loudon. Carried

The meeting closed at 5.21pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 June 2024.

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Chairperson