

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 26 September 2024

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Brian Carter
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Paul Sharland

In attendance

Mr Kevin Ross, Chief Executive
Mrs Carol Gordon, Deputy Chief Executive
Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
Mr Doug Law, Group Manager- Corporate Services
Ms Gaylene Prince, Northern Area and Property Manager
Mr Darryn Black, Roding Transport Manager
Mr Eswar Ganapathi, Senior Project Manager
Ms Joanne Manuel, Manager Mana Whenua and Community Hubs
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor
Ms Zanta Jones, Sport New Zealand
Ms Tania King, Sport Whanganui
Ms Whitney Cox, Sport Whanganui
Mr Lynden Noakes, CLM
Ms Reyna Bradcock Uribe, CLM

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1 Welcome / Prayer

His Worship the Mayor opened the meeting at 1.00pm.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/257

Apologies received for Cr Lambert for leaving the meeting early.

Cr B Carter/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/258

Apologies were received from Cr Raukawa.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Dalgety declared a conflict of interest during item 13.4 - Corner of High Street and Broadway, Marton Buildings - Assessment of Expressions of Interest.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Item 10.1 - Marton Pool Repairs and item 10.2 - He rā ki tua plan – Horizons Region Spaces and Places Plan for Sport and Recreation were moved to be discussed prior to item 9.1 – Chief Executive's Report.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/259

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 29 August 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 P Sharland/Cr R Lambert. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Item 6 - Otara Bridge

Mr Benadie will confirm if the hangers still need to be replaced on the bridge.

Item 2 - Papakai Pump Station

The underspend of the Papakai pump station will be form part of the discussions around the review of the Capex programme.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/260

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

Cr B Carter/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - 26 September 2024

Regional Growth Summit

Councillors noted that some members had not received an invitation to this event. It was clarified that initially this was an invitation only event, due to numbers having to be capped, however this was now an open event for all councillors and members of the public.

Marton OP Shop / Marton Christian Welfare

In speaking to this part of his report the Mayor noted the Marton Christian Welfare (the Op Shop) do good work in the community and due to the increasing costs of dumping goods that are unable to be sold, that Council could consider providing some funding to cover this cost.

It was noted that this could have been referred to the grants funding round held earlier that day.

His Worship the Mayor responded to questions that the reason for suggesting \$5,000 was due to the \$4,800 dumping fees in the past year for the organisation. Staff undertook to provide a further update, with options, for the next meeting.

Capex Programme

His Worship the Mayor introduced the recommendations within his report stating that a review of Council's Capex programme should be undertaken.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/261

That the Mayor's Report – 26 September 2024 be received.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/262

That Cr Loudon and Cr Dalgety LGNZ reports be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/263

That staff provide a report back to Council on the possibility of paying for dumping costs for the Marton Op Shop.

Cr D Wilson/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/264

That Council reviews its Capex Budget for this year's Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan as soon as possible.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/265

That staff provide updates on the likely 2024-25 Capex spend based on best estimates available now.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/266

That staff indicate areas of possible Capex savings for the 2024-25 year.

HWTM/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/267

That staff provide a report on the process required for an amendment to the Long-Term Plan 2024-34.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - September 2024

This item was moved to after Item 10.2 He rā ki tua plan – Horizons Region Spaces and Places Plan for Sport and Recreation.

The meeting adjourned at 2.54pm and returned at 3.05pm at the beginning of this item.

Events held across the district

Council suggested that highlighting future events might be beneficial in this report. Mrs Gordon responded that this may come from the Comms team in the future as part of their report, as the current information is provided by the Parks and Reserves team and is based on application forms to use Council's facilities.

Submissions

Councillors discussed the Tararua tolling submission noting the high cost of the toll charge, that the highway is replacing the gorge and that there are no alternative options to alleviate costs that central government is proposing such as differentiating between locals and tourists.

Councillors discussed the Horowhenua tolling submission noting the difference of cost from the Tararua situation and that if you were travelling both Horowhenua and Tararua drivers would be paying twice.

The discussion highlighted that the cost of roading is increasing and that tolls may be more equitable as a user pays system in some instances.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/268

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

Cr D Wilson/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/269

That Council drafts and submits a submission on supporting the Tararua submission on no tolling.

HWTM/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/270

That Council drafts and submits a submission on supporting the Horowhenua submission on no tolling O2NL.

HWTM/Cr S Loudon. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Marton Pool Repairs

This item was moved to after 8.1 Mayors Report.

His Worship the Mayor ruled that, in relation to this item, Standing Orders (Section 22) relating to the number of speakers for and against would be set aside to allow all Councillors an opportunity to express their views.

Contractors from CLM, Mr Lynden Noakes and Ms Reyna Bradcock Uribe, were in attendance for this item.

Councillors discussed in depth the impact of a temporary fix, noting this could be in place early next year with the open season ending in April. The temporary fix could be in place for a long period of time if required.

There were concerns raised about the impact of the temporary fixture and that this might be a health and safety hazard due to children playing on the structure. Some councillors wanted the risk to be eliminated, others noted that there is a risk with all Council assets and that Council provide best standards and take the best advice.

Councillors noted that feedback from the community during the Long Term Plan consultation showed the public were highly in favour of the pool to be opened all year round and that closing the pool is the opposite approach. Staff explained that the opportunity to take a holistic approach to the pool would enable looking at all options for the pool.

Some councillors highlighted that the temporary fix is an extra cost to Council and that if the pool was closed the work could be completed properly. It was noted that the costs of the repair will come back to Council as a subsequent decision.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/271

That the report 'Marton Pool Repairs' be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/272

That Council agrees to design and construct all the proposed repairs and upgrades as noted in the structural assessment report without reopening the pool for this summer season.

Cr G Duncan/Cr B Carter. Lost

Amendment

That Council agrees to design and construct all the proposed repairs and upgrades as noted in the structural assessment report and alongside investigate more holistic long term future options without reopening the pool for this summer season.

Cr S Loudon/Cr R Lambert. Lost.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/273

Install a temporary fix that would allow the pool to be opened as soon as possible and have staff investigate more holistic long-term future options of all the assets and equipment in the facility to report back to Council at a future Council meeting.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Maughan. Lost

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/274

That Council does not allow for a temporary fix to open the Marton pool for the summer season.

HWTM/Cr R Lambert. Carried

Against Cr Wilson, Cr Maughan, Cr Hiroa, Cr Dalgety.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/275

That staff bring back options with costs for a more holistic discussion about the long-term future options of all the assets and equipment in the facility.

Cr G Duncan/Cr P Sharland. Carried

10.2 He rā ki tua plan – Horizons Region Spaces and Places Plan for Sport and Recreation

Cr Lambert left the meeting at 2.32pm.

The meeting adjourned at 2.32pm and then returned at 2.35pm.

Ms Zanta Jones, Sport New Zealand, Ms Tania King and Ms Whitney Cox from Sport Whanganui were in attendance to present this report.

Ms Jones noted that the plan advocated for facilities that are aged and that these facilities were getting harder to fund and more expensive. This document shows that there is a commitment to collaborate with neighbouring councils and network for the provision of facilities.

There is no cost to being part of the Regional Plan as the recommendation is just to endorse the Plan. Ms King responded to questions, that this is a living document, and changes can be made at any time.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/276

That the report He rā ki tua plan – Horizons Region Spaces and Places Plan for Sport and Recreation be received.

Cr G Maughan/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/277

That Council endorses the He rā ki tua plan – Horizons Region Spaces and Places Plan for Sport and Recreation

Cr F Dalgety/Cr G Duncan. Carried

10.3 Roothing Funding and Contract Updates

Deputy Mayor, Cr Wilson noted that this item had been discussed in depth at the last Assets/Infrastructure workshop.

Mr Black noted that this report is in reference to notification of reduced funding from NZTA.

Council discussed the roading network highlighting the changes within the district that are having large impacts. This includes an increase of logging trucks in Moawhango and the possibility of two wind farms in the district which will require significant roading input.

Mr Black and Mr Benadie advised that in relation to the recommendation about the extension of the contract term, this was no longer required after feedback from NZTA.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/278

That the report 'Roading Funding and Contract Updates' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/279

That Council request staff to prioritise all work planned for the Low-Cost Low Risk activities and to present to Council what work are proposed to be completed with the local share funding still available in the current LTP budget.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

11 Reports for Information

11.1 Project Updates Report - September 2024

Marton to Bulls Wastewater

Staff have been working through a long list of options and will now begin looking at the suitability of the land.

Ratana Wastewater Discharge

Staff are organising a meeting to update the interest group and to keep them informed of progress.

Marton Water Strategy

The new membranes are working well alongside the new bore. Staff are currently exploring discharge options to farms nearby or the possibility to put the water back into the system.

Taihape Wastewater

A new consent is being applied for which will follow a similar process to the Marton to Bulls Centralisation. At this stage there have been two workshops with iwi.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/280

That the 'Project Updates Report – September 2024' be received.

Cr G Duncan/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

12 Minutes from Committees

12.1 Minutes from Committees

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/281

That the following minutes are received:

- Assets and Infrastructure- 11 July 24
- Marton Community Committee- 21 August 24
- Finance and Performance Committee- 29 August 24

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

13 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session 4.10pm

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number **24/RDC/282**

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

- 1 Public Excluded Council Meeting - 29 August 2024
2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings
3. Cooks Wall-options
4. Corner of High Street and Broadway, Marton Buildings - Assessment of Expressions of Interest

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 - 29 August 2024	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 29 August 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 - Cooks Wall-options	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations. s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.4 - Corner of High Street and Broadway, Marton Buildings - Assessment of Expressions of Interest	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations.	s48(1)(a)(i)

	s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) – Negotiations	
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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 F Dalgety. Carried

14 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 5.20pm.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/283

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

24/RDC/283 – 24/RDC/289

Cr B Carter/Cr J Wong. Carried

The meeting closed at 5.20pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 31 October 2024.

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Chairperson