

ORDER PAPER

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 19 December 2024

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Chair: HWTM Andy Watson

Deputy Chair: Cr Dave Wilson

Membership: Cr Brian Carter
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Paul Sharland

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Locations:	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape </td> </tr> </table>	<u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton	<u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls	<u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape	
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<u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape					
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Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council of the Rangitikei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton on Thursday, 19 December 2024 at 1.00pm.

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AGENDA

1 Welcome / Prayer

2 Apologies

3 Public Forum

No Public Forum

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, [enter item number](#) be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

1.1 The minutes from Ordinary Council Meeting held on 12 December 2024 are attached.

Attachments

1. Ordinary Council Meeting - 12 December 2024

Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 12 December 2024 [**as amended/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.

MINUTES



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 12 December 2024
Time: 1.00pm
Venue: Council Chamber
 Rangitikei District Council
 46 High Street
 Marton

Present

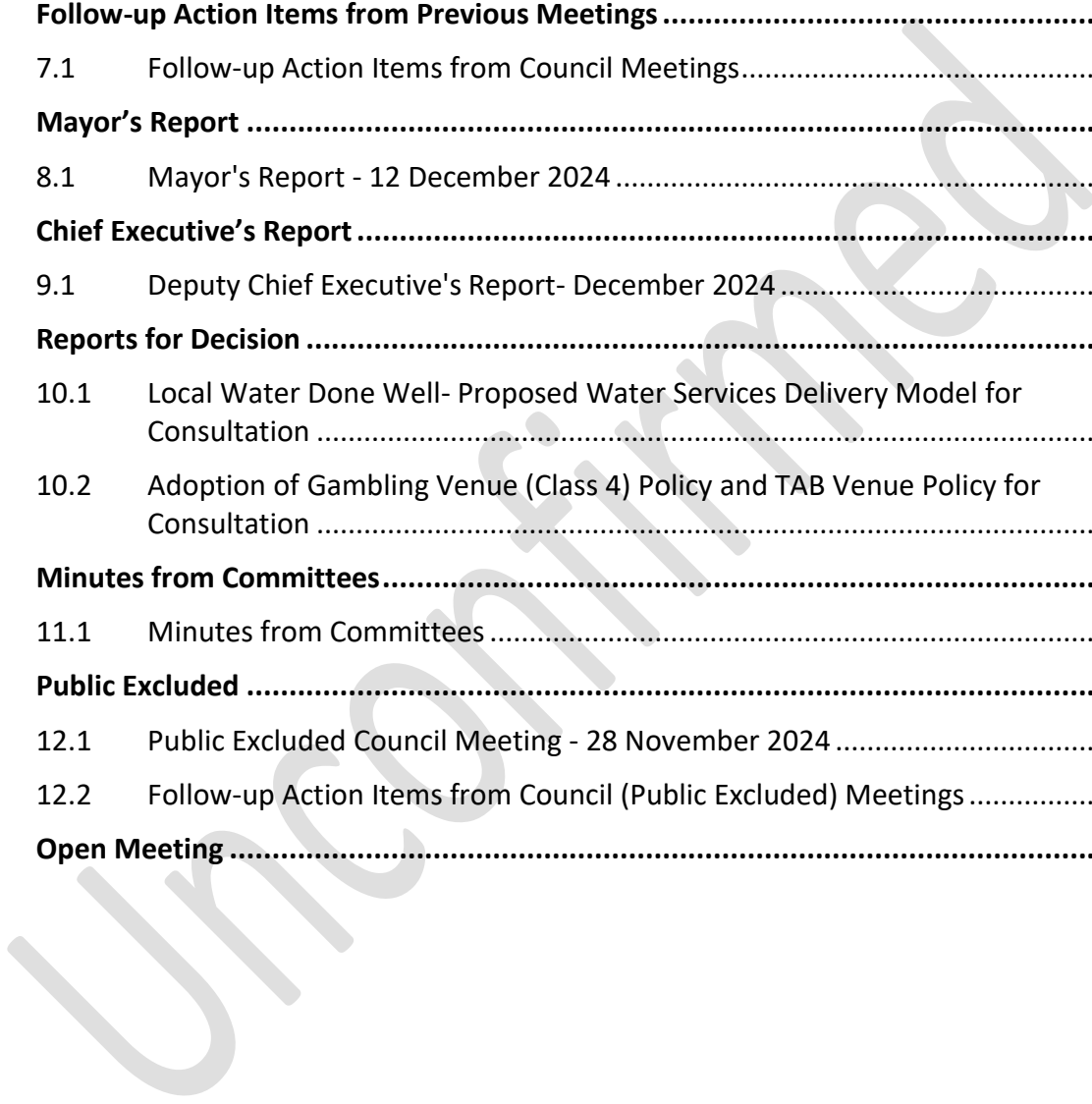
HWTM Andy Watson
 Cr Dave Wilson
 Cr Brian Carter
 Cr Richard Lambert (Zoom)
 Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
 Cr Coral Raukawa
 Cr Jeff Wong
 Cr Simon Loudon
 Cr Greg Maughan
 Cr Fi Dalgety
 Cr Paul Sharland

In attendance

Mr Kevin Ross, Chief Executive
 Mrs Carol Gordon, Deputy Chief Executive
 Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
 Ms Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager- Corporate Services
 Ms Sharon Bennett, Group Manager - People and Performance
 Ms Janna Harris, Corporate Planner
 Mr Michael Hodder, Advisor to the Chief Executive
 Mr Jarrod Calkin, Economic Advisor Wellbeing
 Ms Sophia Sykes, Communications Manager
 Mr Brent Manning, Local Water Done Well Contractor
 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 1.01pm.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/350

That the apologies be received from Cr Duncan.

Cr B Carter/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Loudon declared a conflict of interest in Item 7 - Follett Street, Marton Service Lane - Deputy Chief Executive's Report - December 2024.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

That staff include a statement referring to Kaimatawi road at Item 8 - Mayor's Report noting that His Worship the Mayor clarified that there was no previous reference to the road in the Mayor's reports as stated during the Assets/Infrastructure meeting.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/351

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 November 2024 **as amended** 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 B Carter. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Item 3 - Macron in Rangitikei

Mrs Gordon advised there had been objections to LINZ about adding the macron in "Rangitikei", during the submission phase, so now the Minister will decide on whether the macron will be added.

Two further items were raised by councillors:

- Noting that the Marton swim classes are not on the website; and
- that further information is needed on the website news item regarding the Hunterville residents increase of water consumption. Mrs Sykes undertook to follow up on the Hunterville water consumption request.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/352

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

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - 12 December 2024

The Mayor commented on the opening of the Springvale toilet, and thanked the Williams and Plymouth families who undertook putting in the long drop. The Mayor also highlighted that the new toilet is a brilliant facility and that 7000 people have already used it.

The Mayor commented on the opening of the first two bridges at Papakai Park which involved significant volunteer hours and fundraising. There are a further three bridges planned to be installed in 2025 that will complete this project.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/353

That the Mayor's Report – 12 December 2024 be accepted.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Deputy Chief Executive's Report- December 2024

Marae Development Fund

Officers responded to questions and confirmed that the recommendations to approve funding are required to be provided to Council for approval in accordance with the Marae Development Fund Policy.

Follett Street, Marton - Service Lane

Cr Loudon declared a conflict of interest with this item as a property owner, noting that he has no pecuniary interest associated with this item.

Regional Deals

The Mayor noted this is a late item as part of the Deputy Chief Executive's Report. The purpose of the resolution is to gain Council endorsement to submit interest for a regional deal. The reason the item is included in the Council meeting as a late item is because the deadline for submitting a proposal is before the next Council meeting.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/354

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

Cr P Hiroa/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/355

That in relation to Follett Street Marton - Service Lane, Council endorses the intended actions to grant easements and legalise the formed access as road (service lane).

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Maughan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/356

That Council agrees with the Recommendation from Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa and approves the allocation of \$15,000 funding to Opaea Marae from the Marae Development Fund.

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/357

That Council agrees with the Recommendation from Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa and approves the allocation of \$15,000 funding to Kauangaroa Marae from the Marae Development Fund.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/358

That Council registers its intention with the Department of Internal Affairs to submit a proposal for a Regional Deal by 28 February 2025, with the preferred partners being Horizons Regional Council and other all territorial authorities from the Horizons region, or a subgroup of those Councils.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr J Wong. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Local Water Done Well- Proposed Water Services Delivery Model for Consultation

Mr Manning and Mr Hodder were in attendance to provide guidance on the recommendations and answer questions.

Mr Manning provided an update, advising that since the report was prepared, Whanganui District Council has indicated its preferred option as partnering with Rangitikei and Ruapehu District Councils, while Tararua District Council has expressed a preference for partnering with councils in the Wairarapa region. He also noted that the third bill has been released and contains substantial

material. He noted the information in this legislation is not expected to impact the decisions being made at this meeting.

Mr Hodder explained that the legislation allows councils the discretion to include or exclude rural water schemes from the transition.

In response to questions, Mr Manning clarified that the Commerce Commission Levy and the Environmental Levy are both included in the legislation. He also confirmed that there are no legislative requirements regarding the size of the CCO, and this decision remains at Council's discretion. He noted that while an indicative figure of 200,000 connections has been suggested, this scale is larger than the entire Horizons region.

The Mayor noted that iwi representation within the CCO has not yet been considered and will be addressed later in the process.

Councillors highlighted that previous workshops have demonstrated that a stand-alone option is not viable given Council's size and agreed that Council is likely to benefit from any regional groupings.

Councillors noted that it was likely that Central Government would have some say on the final outcome and therefore this is an opportunity to highlight Council's preference.

Mr Manning noted that Council would need to go out for consultation with the preferred councils being named.

His Worship the Mayor advised that he would inform relevant Mayors of Council's decision.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/359

That Council receives the report 'Local Water Done Well - proposed water services delivery model for consultation.'

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/360

That Council notes the Government requires councils to –

- Identify a preferred water services delivery model and include that in the water services delivery plan,
- Demonstrate compliance with financial sustainability tests by 30 June 2028, and
- Ring-fence revenue for three waters so that is separate from other council activities from 30 June 2028.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/361

That Council confirms that it will not proceed with an in-house water service delivery model.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr C Raukawa. Carried Unanimous.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/362

That Council confirms that it will not proceed with further consideration of the consumer trust water services delivery models.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr G Maughan. Carried Unanimous.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/363

That Council confirms that it favours establishing a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) to deliver all three water services (drinking water, wastewater, stormwater), transferring the relevant assets to the CCO.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/364

That Council confirms that its second preference is to establish a joint water services Council Controlled Organisation with as many other councils as possible within the Manawatū-Whanganui region, subject to confirmation from those other councils.

AND

That Council confirms that its first preference is to establish a sub-regional water services Council Controlled Organisation with Whanganui and Ruapehu District Councils, subject to confirmation from those two councils.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/365

That Council confirms that its first preference is to establish a sub-regional water services Council Controlled Organisation with Whanganui and Ruapehu District Councils, subject to confirmation from those two councils.

AND

That Council confirms that its second preference is to establish a joint water services Council Controlled Organisation with as many other councils as possible within the Manawatū-Whanganui region, subject to confirmation from those other councils.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/366

That in addition to the prescribed consultation on Council's preferred water services delivery model ('the proposed model') and the prescribed identification of the advantages and disadvantages of the enhanced status quo (i.e. standalone business unit),

Council will not include information about any other options which it has considered.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Maughan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/367

That Council acknowledges the interest from iwi in the Council's delivery of three waters services and confirms it will involve iwi in progressing its preferred water services delivery model.

Cr D Wilson/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/368

That Council acknowledges the current uncertainty about the requirements for rural water supply schemes in the Local Water Done Well reform programme and confirms it will engage with scheme members following the introduction of the further Local Government Water Services Bill (expected

December 2024) so that their concerns are included in the Council's submission to Parliament on that Bill.

Cr G Maughan/HWTM Carried

10.2 Adoption of Gambling Venue (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venue Policy for Consultation

The Gambling Venue (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venue Policy were presented to Council for adoption for community consultation with the community. It was confirmed that the policy for consultation identified Council's preferred option as a cap.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/369

That the report 'Adoption of Gambling Venue (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venue Policy for Consultation' is received.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/370

That Council adopts the Gambling Venue (Class 4) Policy as amended for consultation.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/371

That Council adopts the TAB Venue Policy as amended for consultation.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

11 Minutes from Committees

11.1 Minutes from Committees

Councillors noted that the Bulls Community Committee minutes are recorded differently than other council committees.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/372

That the following minutes are received:

- Bulls Community Committee Meeting - 13 Nov 24
- Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting - 20 Nov 24

Cr P Hiroa/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

12 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session 2.27pm.

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number **24/RDC/373**

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

- 1 Public Excluded Council Meeting - 28 November 2024
2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings

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
12.1 - Public Excluded Council Meeting - 28 November 2024	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussions at the 28 November meeting.	S48(1)(a)
12.2 - 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)

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 F Dalgety/Cr B Carter. Carried

13 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 2.35pm.

ITEM 7.1
7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings**7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings****Author:** Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor**1. Reason for Report**

1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Council meetings. Items indicate who is responsible for each follow up, and a brief status comment.

2. Decision Making Process

2.1 Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision-making provisions do not apply.

Attachments:

1. **Follow-up Actions Register** [↓](#)

Recommendation

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

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	24-Apr-24	RDC please look at traffic calming options on Criterion St and Taumaihi St. from Bulls Community Committee	Arno	Higgins and the Roding team are considering potential solutions for Taumaihi Street, Bulls. A speed calming structure will include the pedestrian crossing adjacent to the school. This location receives a high number of State Highway bypass traffic. Unfortunately Criterion street is not currently being considered for any traffic calming interventions. This item was not included in the annual works program and budgets and will stay on the radar to see if there is any funding available at the end of the financial year.	In progress
2	24-May-23	Progress putting the macron above the second I in Rangitikei	Carol G	No further updates at this time. Still awaiting notification from the Minister.	In progress
3	26-May-22	As per resolution 22/RDC/165 : That due to safety concerns around vehicles other than buses using the Bulls Bus Lane, Council staff be asked to investigate possible options around discouragement and enforcement practices.	Arno	If there are further updates these will be provided at the meeting.	In progress

8 Chief Executive's Report

8.1 Chief Executive's Report - 19 December 2024

Author: Carol Gordon, Deputy Chief Executive

Authoriser: Kevin Ross, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 This report provides Elected Members with an update on key activities across the organisation.

2. Submissions

- 2.1 At the 28 November meeting, Council requested a submission be drafted on the Treaty Principles Bill. The Bill was considered at the 10 December 2024 Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa meeting, with the Komiti recommending the following:

That Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa recommends that Rangitikei District Council opposes the Treaty Principles Bill.

Ms M Raukawa / Mr T Curtis. Carried.

- 2.2 A draft submission has been prepared for Council consideration (Attachment 1). Refer to Recommendation 2.
- 2.3 Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa also request that Council endorse their own submission. That submission will be circulated to Elected Members prior to the meeting. Refer to Recommendation 3.
- 2.4 A number of consultations have been released since the last update:
 - Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Bill - [Resource Management \(Consenting and Other System Changes\) Amendment Bill 105-1 \(2024\), Government Bill Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)
Officers do not propose that Council submits on the Bill. The Bill is awaiting first reading and no timeframe for submissions has been released.
 - Local Government (Water Services) Bill – <https://bills.parliament.nz/v/6/fb7b9127-28f5-42b3-5e06-08dd18a12bfb>
Officers will draft a submission for Council feedback. The Bill is awaiting first reading and no timeframe for submissions has been released.
- 2.5 The Amendments to the Local Government Act 2002 (Back to Basics) have not yet been released.

3. Local Water Done Well

- 3.1 At the 12 December meeting, Council agreed on its preferred water services delivery model under the Government's Local Water Done Well initiative.
 - **First preference:** A multi council-controlled organisation (CCO) with Rangitikei District Council, Whanganui District Council and Ruapehu District Council.

- **Second Preference:** A multi council-controlled organisation (CCO) with as many councils in the Manawatū-Whanganui region as possible.

3.2 As legally required, Council will also consult on the '*Enhanced Status Quo*' option which is to maintain the current delivery model - in-house management, despite this option being unlikely to meet legislative requirements for financial sustainability.

3.3 Officers are now working to develop the Local Water Done Well Consultation Document inline with the above preferences. The draft consultation document is expected to come before Council for review in February 2025. At this February meeting, officers will also provide Councillors any additional nuance or consideration after analysing the Local Government (Water Services) Bill (the third tranche of Local Water Done Well legislation), which was introduced to Parliament last week.

4. Fees and Charges – updates to Te Matapihi booking fees

4.1 A new online booking system for the community to spaces at Te Matapihi is being implemented in early 2025. The booking system is expected to increase the number of bookings at Te Matapihi by making it easier to book and is able to be rolled out across all Council venues.

4.2 Council's current fee structure for booking rooms at Te Matapihi is complex and requires amendment to be compatible with the new booking system. Proposed amendments to the fees and charges will be tabled at the meeting.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There financial implications associated with the implementation of the booking system at Te Matapihi have been outlined in section 3 of this report.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

6.1 Legal and political environment requires excessive resources / changes to governmental legislation are transformational:

- Tracking external submissions ensures Council is aware of upcoming legislative changes which may require resources.

7. Strategic Alignment

7.1 A trusted partner with iwi is one of Council's community outcomes. Supporting Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa in submitting on the Treaty Principles Bill supports Council in achieving this community outcome.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

8.1 Members of the Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti receive the submission list and, if time allows, asked for input into specific draft submissions. Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa has provided Council with a recommendation regarding the Treaty Principles Bill as outlined in section 2 of this report.

9. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

9.1 There are no other climate change impacts associated with this report.

10. Statutory Implications

10.1 There are no statutory implications associated with the updates in this report.

11. Decision Making Process

11.1 There are no sections of this report that are considered to be a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

Attachments:

1. **Draft submission - Treaty Principles Bill** [↓](#)

Recommendation 1

That the Chief Executive's Report – 19 December 2024 be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council approves the submission on the Treaty Principles Bill [as amended/without amendment].

Recommendation 3

That Council endorse the submission on the Treaty Principles Bill being made by Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa.



XX December 2024

Committee Secretariat
Justice Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

By email: ju@parliament.govt.nz

Tēnā koutou

Submission from the Rangitikei District Council - Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill

Rangitikei District Council (the Council) welcomes the opportunity to provide this submission on the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill (the Bill).

Rangitikei District Council believes the current Bill undermines the nature of the accord reached by iwi, hapū and the Crown in 1840 and will undermine the work done over many years by the Waitangi Tribunal, the courts and the Crown to navigate a path between mana whenua and iwi.

On 19 December Rangitikei District Council voted and resolved:

“That Rangitikei District Council: [XXX]

Te Rōpū Ahi Kā will submit in parallel to this submission of Rangitikei District Council.

Our context

Rangitikei District is home to around 16,300 people. The proportion of people who are of Māori descent is 29%.

Te Rōpū Ahi Kā is a komiti of Council. The purpose of Te Rōpū Ahi Kā is to assist the Council to develop a partnership through engagement with Tangata Whenua. As well, it is to identify and advise on issues of concern to Tangata Whenua, the Rātana Community and Council, and facilitate resolution in the best interests of the residents, ratepayers, and Tangata Whenua of the Rangitikei District.

Membership of Te Rōpū Ahi Kā is defined by Tangata Whenua of Rangitikei and represent hapū, iwi, and marae within the Rangitikei District. Ngāti Parewahawaha, Ngā Wairiki - Ngāti Apa, Ngā Ariki, Ngāti Kauae/Tauira, Ngā Wairiki ki Uta Kauangaroa, Whangaehu, Ngāti Hauti, Ngāti Hinemanu/Ngāti Paki, Ngāti Tamakōpiri, Ngāti Whitikaupeka, Ngāi Te Ohuake, Ngāti Rangituhia, and the Rātana Community, as well as two elected members of the Rangitikei District Council.

In alignment with our partnership with Te Rōpū Ahi Kā, Rangitikei District Council provides this submission on the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill. We are committed to working collaboratively with iwi, hapū, and marae ensuring our actions and policies reflect our guiding values, which are built on the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. These values underpin our shared history and responsibilities, reinforcing our dedication to mutual respect and trust in our ongoing partnership with iwi, hapū and marae. As a trusted



partner, the Rangitikei District Council recognises the importance of engaging with iwi, hapū and marae in a meaningful way that reflects the intent of the Treaty principles.

This long-standing partnership between the Rangitikei District Council and Te Rōpū Ahi Kā is reflected in our values (ngā pou) – manaakitanga, rangatiratanga, whanaungatanga, kotahitanga, whakapono, and aroha. These values shape how we engage with iwi and our community, emphasising care, unity, and trust. The proposed Bill raises concerns about the potential impact on the foundations of this partnership, particularly regarding how Councils fulfill their obligations to iwi. The trust that has been built over time between the Rangitikei District Council and Te Rōpū Ahi Kā must be preserved and respected to ensure that our obligations under the Treaty are met in a way that reflects partnership, participation, and protection.

Our submission

Council does not consider that the approach taken to this Bill aligns with those values and is concerned that the absence of consultation with Māori during the development of the Bill, means that it is not Treaty compliant. We consider that defining Treaty principles without input from one of the Treaty partners undermines the partnership and obligations to act honourably and in good faith.

The Council considers that altering New Zealand’s constitutional arrangements requires meaningful dialogue, which can only be achieved through robust conversations with our Treaty partners, communities, and stakeholders. We believe the approach taken with this Bill has lacked the necessary care for such an important matter, contributing to the social division experienced this year.

Council is also concerned that the Bill's proposed principles conflict with Article 2 of Te Tiriti by limiting Māori rights to those agreed in Treaty settlements. The Bill also misinterprets Te Tiriti, relying on a flawed translation and retrospectively limits Māori rights.

Rangitikei District Council considers the principles as contained in the Bill are poorly drafted and are deficient because they:

- do not capture the essence of the accord between the two parties to Te Tiriti
- do not reflect the last 50 years of precede set by the courts, the Waitangi Tribunal and the Government
- impose a static, one-size-fits-all framework that disregards regional/local nuances
- will introduce legal uncertainty, requiring established case law to be revisited

Likely impact

Rangitikei District Council values an inclusive, diverse community. The current Bill has already divided communities. Council is concerned about the Bill will create uncertainty about the status of existing relationship mechanisms, pressure to reverse these and a chilling effect on progressing other ad stronger relationships with Māori in the Rangitikei district.

Relief sought

Rangitikei District Council is strongly opposed to this Bill progressing any further.

Naku noa

Mayor Andy Watson



9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Calico Line Pathway

Author: Darryn Black, Roothing Transport Manager

Authoriser: Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for Council to reconsider whether the construction of the footpath on Calico Line between Bredins Line and Nga Tawa Road should proceed.
- 1.1 This follows Central Government advice for councils to focus on core infrastructure projects and a request from Council to reconsider 2024/25 CAPEX projects.
- 1.2 Officers recommend the project be retained and pathway constructed in the 2024/25 financial year (Option 3).

2. Context

- 2.1 In June 2023 Council approved a budget of \$300,000 to construct a new footpath on the southern side of Calico Line between Bredins Line and Nga Tawa Road.
- 2.2 The project was consulted on as a Key Choice as part of the 2023/24 Annual Plan following a request from Nga Tawa School for the installation of a pathway. Nga Tawa School raised ongoing concerns about the safety of students who walk along the road to get to and from Marton.
- 2.3 This Key Choice received 118 responses, with 44% in favour of completing the path in the 2023/24 financial year, and 38% in support of delaying the decision to seek funding from Waka Kotahi (New Zealand Transport Agency). 17% of submitters requested something else.
- 2.4 Council decided to proceed with the project and approved funding for the 2023/24 financial year. \$31,525 was spent during 2023/24 on preliminary costs, the remaining budget of \$268,475 has been carried forward to the 2024/25 financial year pending a further Council decision.
- 2.5 The project was not included in NZTA funding applications and does not attract a subsidy at our Financial Assistance Rate.
- 2.6 The footpath forms part of the proposed Marton Town Loop Active Mobility Pathway as identified in the Community Spatial Plan.
- 2.7 Pedestrians and cyclists currently use the existing chipseal shoulder which varies in width from 300mm to 1.5m, the shoulder is delineated from the road carriageway by 1m wide painted road markings.
- 2.8 The speed limit of this section of road is 80kph. Although physical barriers are not included in the project scope, moving the footpath away from the carriageway reduces risk to pedestrians.

3. Construction Options

- 3.1 Initial construction plans for a 2.5m wide concrete path included the relocation of existing fences as these were found to be outside of the legal property boundaries. Discussions were held with landowners, which raised a number of concerns.
- 3.2 The estimate for construction for the initial design exceeded the allocated budget so a revised lower cost option was developed.
- 3.3 The revised plan for a 2.5m wide chipseal path utilises the road reserve between the existing fence lines and the road carriageway. Some fences will need to be replaced due to the placement of drainage channels but there is no need to move them back to the correct property boundary lines.
- 3.4 The final step before construction can start is to undertake a pre-construction safety audit of the plans. The safety audit will proceed dependent on the agreed recommendation. The estimated cost for the safety audit is \$5,000.
- 3.5 The revised construction estimate is \$260,000 (this includes a 10% contingency sum).
- 3.6 The cost to date for survey and design is \$31,525.
- 3.7 The total cost estimate is \$296,525 (includes construction estimate, costs to date and the safety audit).
- 3.8 See attached construction plans for both the initial and revised options.

4. Discussion and Options Considered

- 4.1 Option 1: Cancel the project.
 - 4.1.1 Benefit from costs incurred to date will not be realised.
 - 4.1.2 The safety improvements associated with this project will not be realised.
 - 4.1.3 Officers advise that if this is Council's preferred option, information should be provided as part of the 2025/26 Annual Plan consultation process. Consultation occurred prior to a decision to include budget, and therefore, the community should be informed that the project will be removed.
- 4.2 Option 2: Defer the project.
 - 4.2.1 The current government focus has shifted away from walking and cycling activities which have been heavily funded over the last two National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) cycles. Council could delay this project in anticipation of NZTA approving subsidised funds for these activities in the future and include the complete Marton Town Loop Active Mobility Pathway in the next NLTP funding application/s.
 - 4.2.2 Construction costs will increase, however, if approved the NZTA subsidy could offset this should Council be successful with its funding application.
 - 4.2.3 Costs to date will not be wasted as the construction plans can be used in the future.
 - 4.2.4 Officers advise that if this is Council's preferred option, information should be provided as part of the 2025/26 Annual Plan consultation process. Consultation occurred prior to a decision to include budget, and therefore, the community should be informed that the project will be delayed awaiting NZTA funding.

- 4.3 Option 3: Proceed with the project.
 - 4.3.1 The project can be completed this financial year within allocated budget.
 - 4.3.2 Safety improvements will be realised.
 - 4.3.3 Council is delivering on a previous annual plan decision.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The project was funded in the 2023/24 financial year, with a budget of \$300,000. Council resolved to carry-forward unspent funding to the 2024/25 financial year, pending further discussion and information.
- 5.2 Financial implications are not significant.
 - 5.2.1 Option 1 (cancel) will save the remaining budget of \$268,475 (Debt funding).
 - 5.2.2 Option 2 (delay) will defer the remaining budget of \$268,475 (Debt funding).
 - 5.2.3 Option 3 (proceed) spend the remaining budget.
- 5.3 Options 1 and 2 will reduce interest costs and depreciation for year 2 at approx. \$30k pa.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 6.1 Trust and confidence will be tarnished.
 - 6.1.1 Council will need to clearly communicate its decision and rationale for the decision.
- 6.2 Changes to governmental legislation are transformational.
 - 6.2.1 This project is being reassessed in the context of the Government’s Back to Basics announcement.

7. Strategic Alignment

- 7.1 This section of footpath is identified in Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond, Community Spatial Plan as part of the Marton Town Loop Active Mobility Pathway. This project would commence the development of part of this loop. The Community Spatial Plan also identifies priorities relating to the development of active mobility pathways.
- 7.2 The project contributes to social wellbeing from a safety perspective and environmental wellbeing by improving pedestrian connectivity within Marton.
- 7.3 The project was included in Council budgets following consultation as a Key Choice as part of the 2023/2024 Annual Plan.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

- 8.1 There were initial concerns raised by adjacent Māori landowners, however, the amended proposal will not require the movement of boundary fences.

9. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

- 9.1 The development of the Calico Line pathway could contribute to climate mitigation, as it provides improved active transport infrastructure.

ITEM 9.1

10. Statutory Implications

10.1 There are no statutory implications associated with this decision.

11. Decision Making Process

11.1 This decision is considered to have low-moderate significance. The impact is localised to the Marton community. The level of financial impact is low, and Council is able to deliver on the decision.

11.2 Council understands community views on the topic from the submissions that were received in 2023.

Attachments:

- 1. **Calico Line Footpath - Initial Plan** [↓](#)
- 2. **Calico Line Footpath - Revised Plans** [↓](#)

Recommendation 1

That the report ‘Calico Line Pathway’ be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council...

EITHER

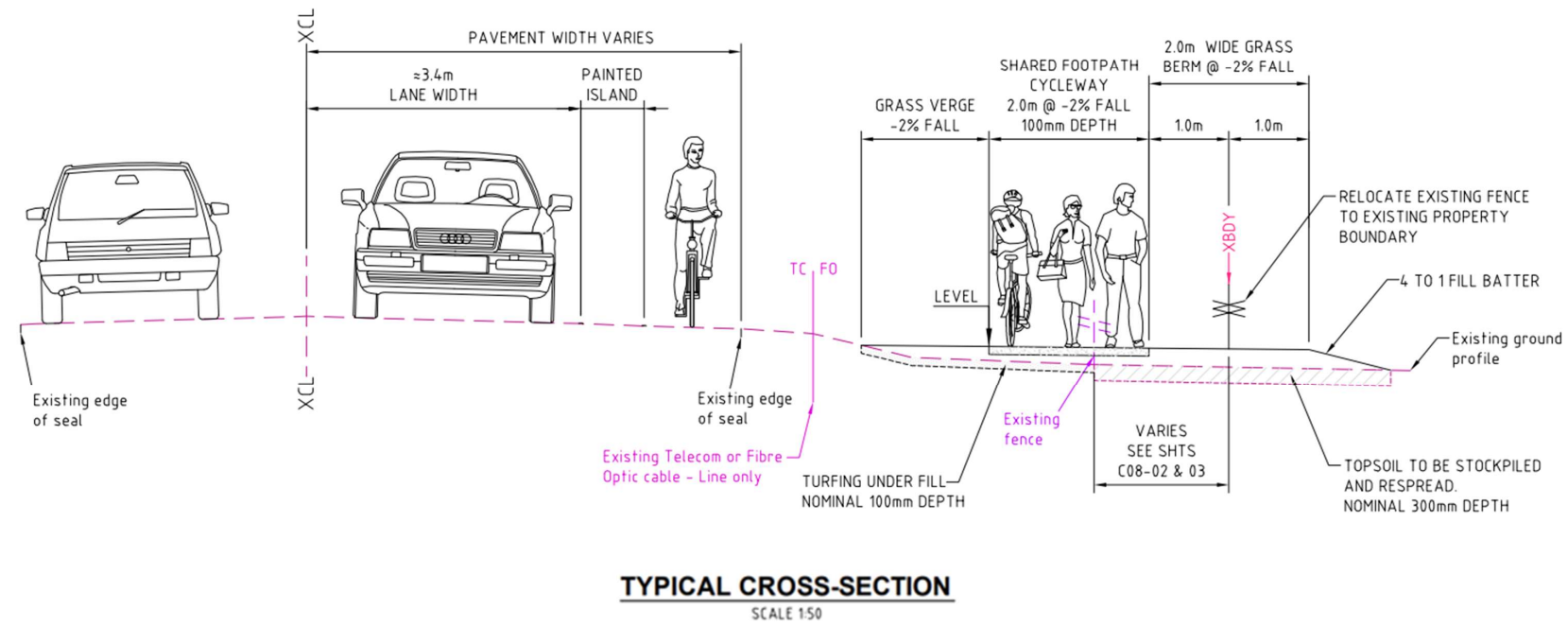
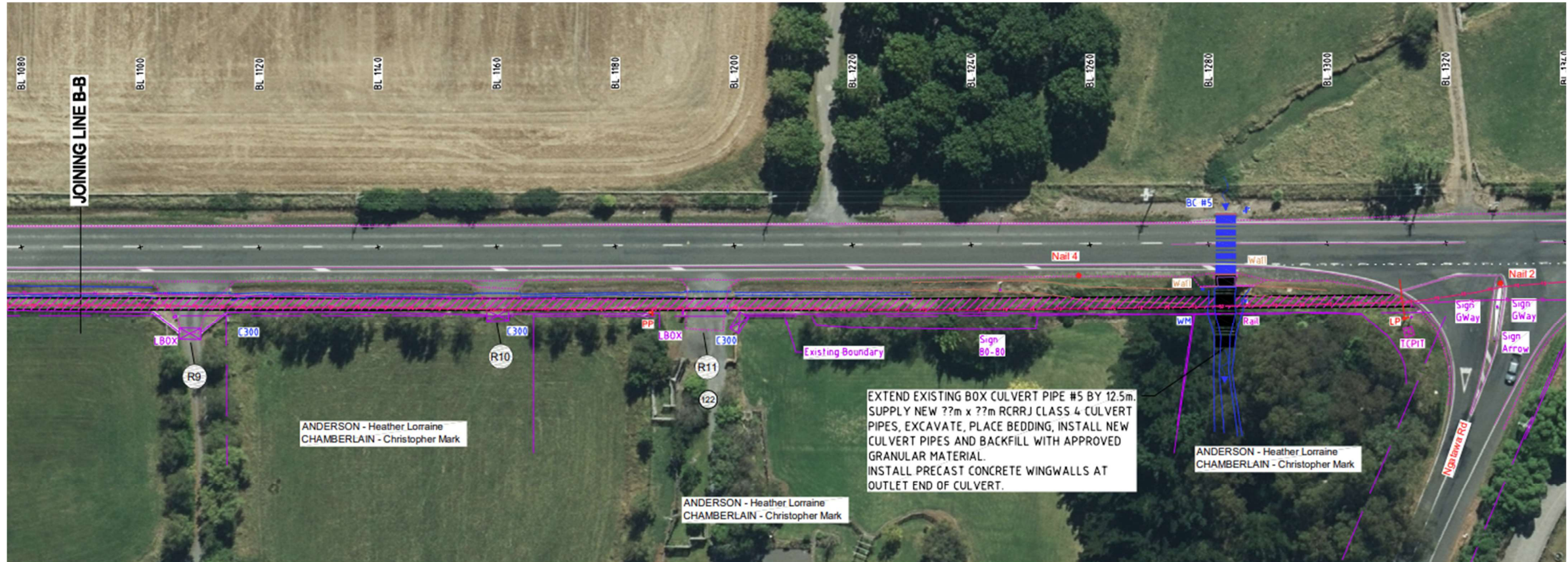
cancel the construction of the shared pathway along Calico Line from Nga Tawa Road to Bredins Line.

OR

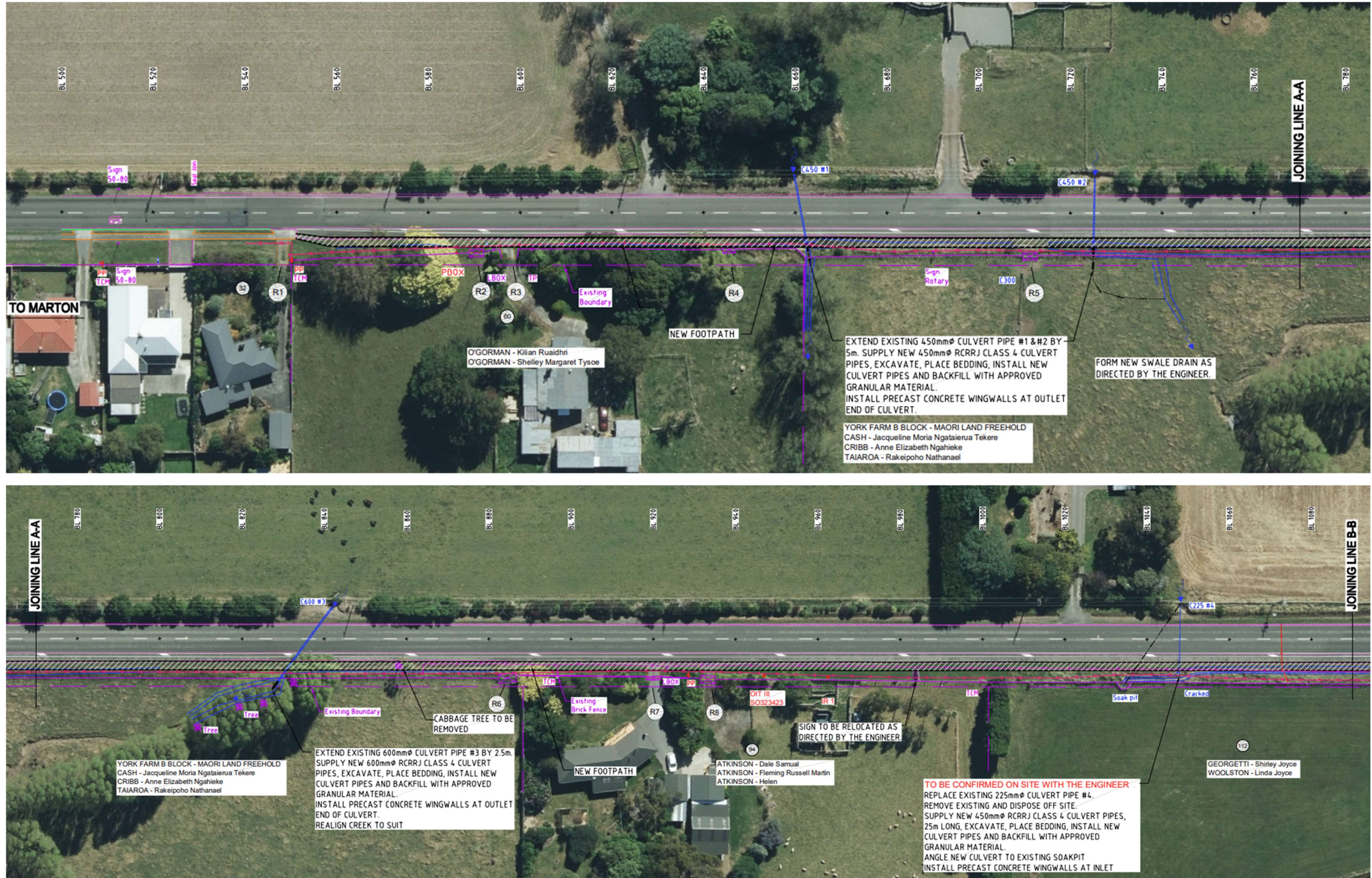
delays the construction of the shared pathway along Calico Line from Nga Tawa Road to Bredins Line and reconsiders whether to include the pathway, and/or the Marton Town Loop pathways as part of Councils next NLTP funding application.

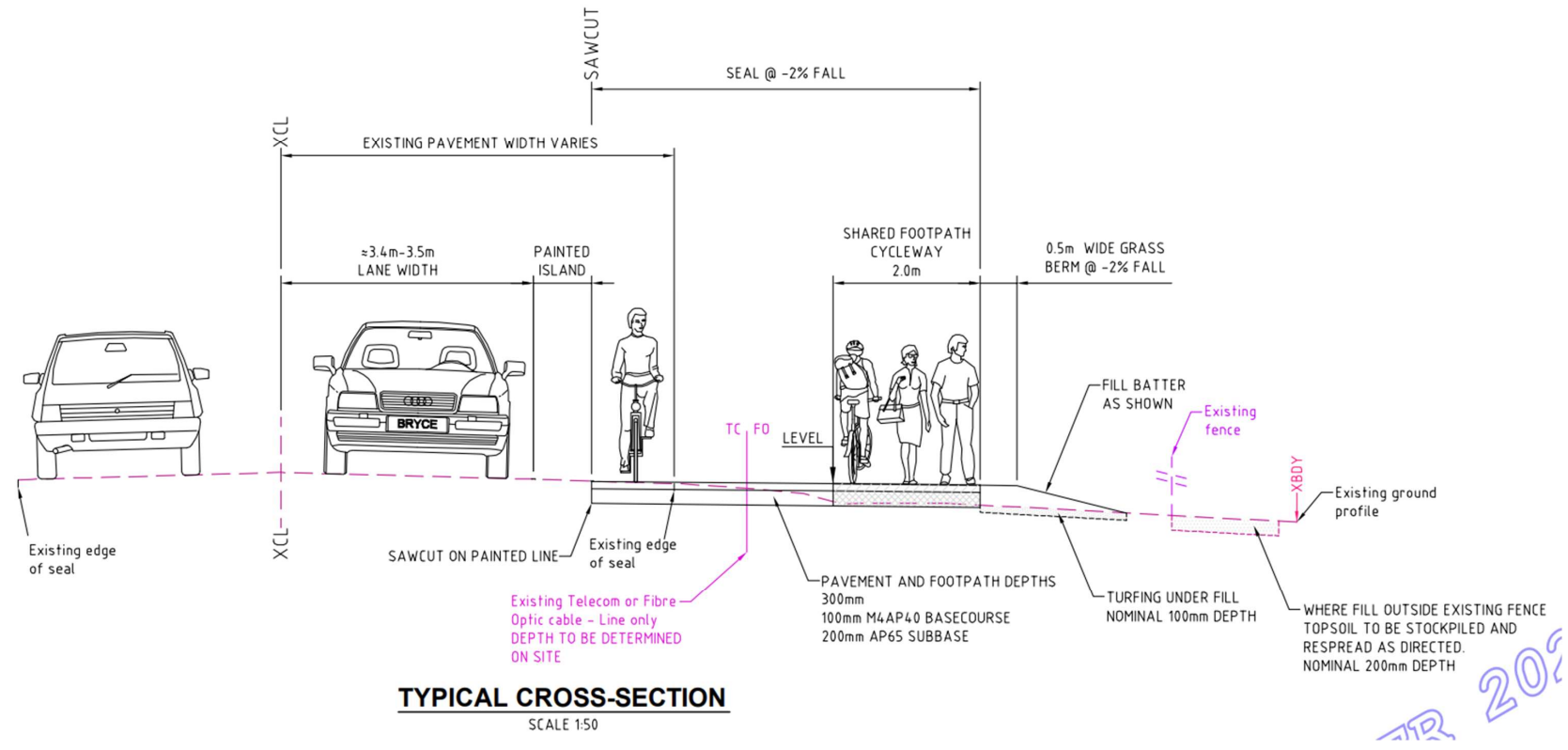
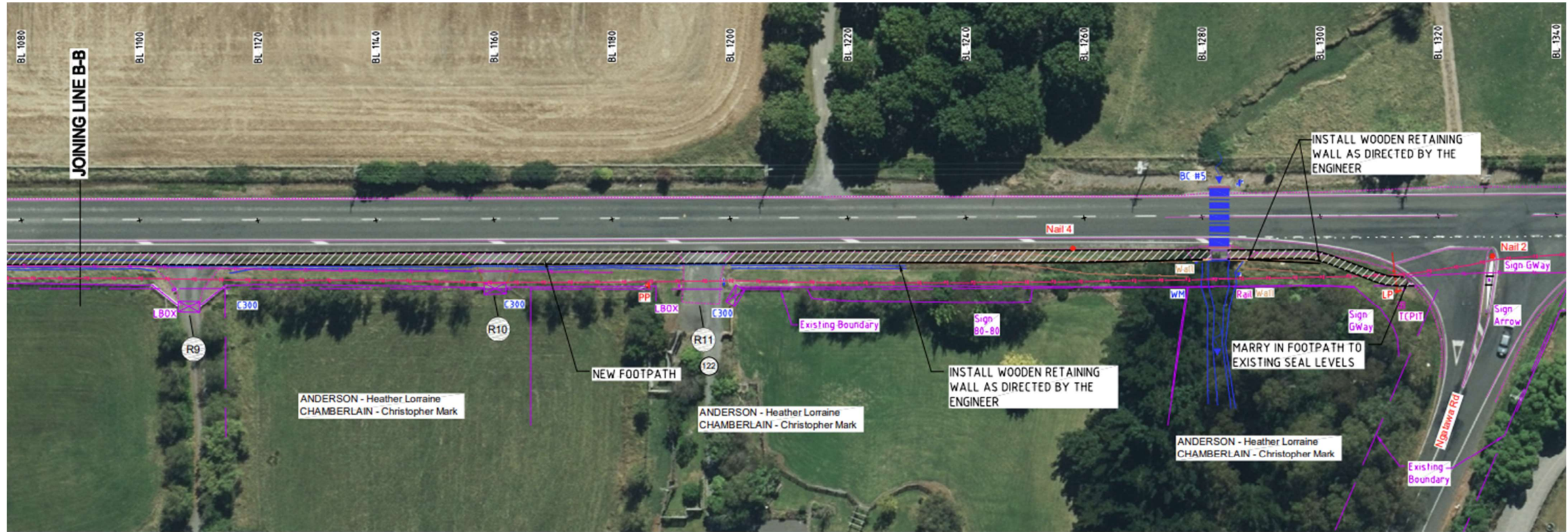
OR

proceeds with the construction of the shared pathway along Calico Line from Nga Tawa Road to Bredins Line in the 2024/25 financial year.



Calico Line Shared Pathway - Revised Construction Plans (October 2024)





Note: Position of existing fence line in relation to the footpath varies

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Project Updates Report - December 2024

Author: Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer

Authoriser: Kevin Ross, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 This is a monthly report on progress on significant projects (based on budget) currently being delivered by Council's Project Office.

2. Key Highlights from Current Projects

Wastewater Projects

2.1 Marton to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation (Project Manager – Steve Carne)

- 2.2 Investigative work on the 5 shortlisted options previously identified involving disposal scenarios related to land only (1 No.), land-river combination (3No.) and deep bore groundwater recharge options. (1No.) are now well underway with a programmed completion of these investigations in late February 2025.
- 2.3 The anticipated March 2025 publication of new Draft national Wastewater Discharge Standards by water industry quality regulator Taumata Arowai could have a significant impact on the project's direction and outcomes. It may be prudent that arising from this, progress on some project tasks be suspended until further details are known.
- 2.4 Current investigative works that have been prioritised by the Project Team include assessing suitability of the land purchased by RDC for land disposal of effluent, investigating the feasibility of retaining some treatment capability of the existing ponds at Marton and Bulls by way of their refurbishment and better understanding the feasibility of the groundwater discharge option.
- 2.5 Dialogue with ANZCO is ongoing to determine the feasibility and appropriateness of incorporating their discharge into the Bulls plant inlet. Iwi have indicated that a single discharge at this point would be viewed more favourably by them as part of the consenting process. The ANZCO plant is being operated well and is achieving good discharge standards. It is situated on RDC-owned land and is occupied by ANZCO on a long-term lease arrangement.
- 2.6 Value engineering inputs on the shortlisted options have considered demand management scenarios involving inflow/infiltration reduction and reduction of water consumption.
- 2.7 Identification of a preferred option is programmed for mid-2025.
- 2.8 A community awareness and engagement campaign is currently being formulated which will have preparatory information released in the 2025 calendar year but needs to be coordinated with other campaigns around Local Water Done Well reforms.

3. Rātana Wastewater Discharge to Land (Project Manager – Blair King)

- 3.1 WSP have completed updating the design drawings to use a smaller diameter wastewater transfer pipe between Ratana and the irrigation site. This is being passed to our pipe supplier to finalise our order and enable the specialist couplings to be built. Before these pipeline materials can be delivered to site, an earthworks contractor will have to be engaged to construct the access road and hard stand area. Preliminary work is underway on the large dam design.
- 3.2 One of the submitters to Councils publicly notified consent application has advised they strongly wish to see a wetland built and used at the irrigation site. However, this wetland is considered generally incompatible with the black-sand site and would require a costly process to recover the water after it has been through the wetland, noting the joint Ministry for Environment/Horizons/Council/ stakeholder agreement we would be irrigating the site to achieve the required environmental outcomes within the annual discharge volumes.

Water Projects**4. Marton Water Strategy (Project Manager – Steve Carne)**

- 4.1 The trial pilot plant has been in operation for about 5 months now and the initial test results have been positive in the proposed process' ability to reduce hardness and also iron and manganese that are evident in the source water.
- 4.2 On the basis of the trial plant's results, Contractor GFS have submitted to RDC an initial commercial offer inclusive of some items related to performance guarantees and warranties.
- 4.3 Queries and Clarifications submitted by Council officers and agents will provide further detail on GFS' offer and reduce RDC risk exposure due to insufficient detail around various items. Responses to these clarifications and queries are imminent.
- 4.4 A design consultancy for the revised inlet works is now being sought. This is inclusive of a pump for the new Reservoir Bore.
- 4.5 Details of the waste stream from the proposed plant are only now just apparent from the pilot testing process. Concept design, consenting and detailed design of the waste stream facilities is now underway.
- 4.6 The pilot plant has thus far been testing only water from the older Tutaenui bore. It will soon be swapped over to test the new reservoir Bore supply.
- 4.7 It is envisaged that the new source and treatment process train will not become operable until May-June 2025.
- 4.8 Consent application approval for the water take has been received in preliminary form.
- 4.9 Staff are working towards a communication strategy.

Community Facilities**5. Marton Offices and Library (Project Manager - Eswar Ganapathi)**

- 5.1 Staff have engaged a contractor for demolishing the house on Grey Street between 21st and 24th December 2024.

- 5.2 Staff are working to identify the EOC requirements and evaluating possibilities of building it earlier as a separate project to the Marton Offices and Community Hub build.
- 5.3 Staff have received submission from 8 Design and Build contractors for the EOI that closed on 28 November 2024. Staff shall now evaluate these submissions to shortlist 3 or 4 (depending on the quality of submissions) to be invited for a closed RFP process. Staff anticipate the shortlist notice to be sent out before 20 Dec 2024 with the RFP process scheduled for early January 2025.
- 5.4 Staff are also in the process of identifying investigation works such as soil contamination and geotechnical survey that can be completed before the tender closure in order to shave some time off the project schedule. This will also give greater clarity to the selected D&B Contractor so they can reduce their risk buffer.

6. Taihape Grandstand (Project Manager - Eswar Ganapathi)

- 6.1 Staff presented a report during November council meeting indicating the anticipated costs for all three concept seismic designs.
- 6.2 Council determined that the community will now have to identify their requirements for the lower floor including engaging required specialists to design these requirements and fundraising for any work that falls outside Councils remaining budget for the project.
- 6.3 Staff will now wait for these designs to come from the community before making any further progress.

7. Taihape Town Hall and Library Redevelopment (Project Manager - Eswar Ganapathi)

- 7.1 Initial seismic report, building fabric report, Fire and services reports have now been received. A meeting was scheduled with Maycroft on 11 December 2024 to go through these reports.
- 7.2 The initial seismic design and costs are expected by 16 Dec 2024. RDC engaged an independent quantity surveyor (QS) and a structural consultant to review the information in parallel. Maycroft have already started sharing information with these consultants.
- 7.3 The costs being prepared for the 19 December council meeting shall be purely for the seismic strengthening works. Depending on the strengthening costs, Council will consider the rest of the design scope.

8. Marton Swim Centre Structural Remediation

- 8.1 RDC engaged experts to complete a full asset condition assessment of the entire Marton pool facility.
- 8.2 This condition assessment includes all the buildings, the pool, the pool pipework and all associated filter and heating equipment. The engineers already completed a two-day site investigation that covered all the items mentioned above.
- 8.3 The structural engineers are well advanced on most of the technical reviews to be undertaken and drafts of most elements of reports are nearing completion. These will be complete in the next week with the exception of electrical investigations which awaits further inputs from site.

ITEM 10.1

- 8.4 The main report will be commenced this side of the Christmas break and completed in the new year from the 13th of January. RDC expects to receive the final overall draft for review before the end of January 2025.
- 8.5 A full day site visit of the Marton Pool facility and the Taihape Pool facility is planned for the end of January. The findings of the technical report will be discussed and finalised during this time.
- 8.6 A report containing all the information noted above will be presented to Council by the end of February 2025. Miscellaneous

9. Scotts Ferry

- 9.1 Council staff are working on finalising the MOU that will determine the activities, responsibilities and conditions when the Council owned tractor will be used in conjunction with the pump owned by a local farmer to reduce the risk of flooding at Scotts Ferry.

10. Taihape Hautapu Bridges (Project Manager – Pio Rowe)

- 10.1 Due to higher than anticipated costs, the budget has been affected and as a result, two out of three bridges will be built.
- 10.2 Bridges 2 & 4 are built and passed inspection.
- 10.3 Bridges 2 & 4 will open to the public 11th December 2024.

11. Financial Implications

- 11.1 This report does not identify and financial implications.

12. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 12.1 No impacts on strategic risks

13. Strategic Alignment

- 13.1 All projects are aligned with strategic goals.

14. Mana Whenua Implications

- 14.1 All Mana Whenua implications are managed by the individual projects.

15. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

- 15.1 There is no climate change impact.

16. Statutory Implications

- 16.1 No statutory implications.

Recommendation

That the report 'Project Updates Report - December 2024' be received.

11 Minutes from Committees

11.1 Minutes from Committees

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 Committee and Board minutes are attached for Council's receipt. These are under separate cover due to size.

Attachments

1. ERWS- 03 Dec 24 (under separate cover)

Recommendation

That the following minutes are received:

- Erewhon Rural Water Scheme Committee- 03 Dec 24

12 Recommendations from Committees

12.1 Recommendation from the Erewhon Rural Water Supply Management Committee

Author: Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer

Authoriser: Kevin Ross, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To consider the recommendation from the Erewhon Rural Water Supply Management Committee regarding the request for Council to approve the letter of engagement from AgFirst and that the \$50,000 grant referenced in resolution 22/RDC/348 be used to pay for the resource consenting process.
- 1.2 That the submission on Local Water Done Well from the Committee is received.

2. Officer Comment – Resource Consenting Process and \$50,000 Grant

- 2.1 The Erewhon Rural Water Scheme have engaged with AgFirst to complete work for their resource consenting process. This letter of engagement is included with this report, with some redactions due to commercial sensitivity.
- 2.2 The new recommendations reflect the direction of the Erewhon Rural Water Scheme committee and the Council.

Resolved minute number 24/ERWS/017

Erewhon Rural Water Scheme (ERWS) recommends that Council –

1. Approves and accepts the Letter of Engagement from the AgFirst organisation dated 28 November 2024 including the approval of the schedule of charges for the consent consultation.
2. In doing so ERWS acknowledges that the consent will be between Rangitikei District Council, owner of the ERWS, and Horizons Regional Council as the regulator.
3. ERWS requests that the grant assistance of up to \$50,000 for 50% of the costs associated with developing an Asset Replacement Programme for the scheme given to ERWS by Rangitikei District Council Ref 22/RDC/348, is able to be used by the Committee as assistance to fund the asset replacement programme which includes the resource consenting process.

Mr G Duncan/Mr B Mallalieu. Carried

- 2.3 The recommendation from the 29 September Council meeting is included below for Council's reference.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/348

That Council approve a grant of up to \$50,000 to the Erewhon Rural Water Scheme for 50% of the costs associated with developing an Asset Replacement Programme for the Scheme, noting this would be unbudgeted expenditure.

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

3. Officer Comment- Submission from the Erewhon Rural Water Scheme

- 3.1 The submission from the Erewhon Rural Water Scheme is attached for Council's consideration.
- 3.2 Council at the previous meeting held on the 12 December 24 acknowledged that there is uncertainty about the requirements for rural water supply schemes as part of the Local Water Done Well.

Attachments:

1. **Letter of Engagement AgFirst** [↓](#)
2. **Submission from the Erewhon Rural Water Scheme** [↓](#)

Recommendation 1

That the Recommendation from the Erewhon Rural Water Supply Management Committee be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council:

- 2.1. Approves and accepts the Letter of Engagement from the AgFirst organisation dated 28 November 2024 including the approval of the schedule of charges for the consent consultation.
- 2.2 In doing so ERWS acknowledges that the consent will be between Rangitikei District Council, owner of the ERWS, and Horizons Regional Council as the regulator.
- 2.3 ERWS requests that the grant assistance of up to \$50,000 for 50% of the costs associated with developing an Asset Replacement Programme for the scheme given to ERWS by Rangitikei District Council Ref 22/RDC/348, is able to be used by the Committee as assistance to fund the asset replacement programme which includes the resource consenting process.

Recommendation 3

That the submission from the Erewhon Rural Water Scheme on Local Water Done Well be received.



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Feilding 4740, New Zealand
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manawatu-whanganui@agfirst.co.nz | www.agfirst.co.nz

28 November 2024

Dear Simon and whom this may concern

Welcome to AgFirst Manawatu-Whanganui Ltd. AgFirst places a lot of value on maintaining a healthy relationship with our clients and taking a professional approach to agricultural consultancy.

Enclosed with this letter are our terms of engagement so that you are fully informed of our business relationship.

Please sign the attached copy, scan it and email it back to Juliet Chambers (juliet.chambers@agfirst.co.nz).

AgFirst provides more services than most people realise, and included in the agreement are a range of services and products we have to offer our clients. If you would like further information on these services please contact your consultant or the AgFirst office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erica van Reenen".

Erica van Reenen
Director



AGFIRST MANAWATU-WHANGANUI LTD
TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT

This letter is to set forth the terms and conditions of our proposed engagement and describes the services we will provide for you.

THE SCHEDULE

1. Work shall be carried out at the

2. An invoice will be sent upon completion of the assignment or at the end of each calendar month for services carried out by that date.

3. Payment is due on the 20th of the month after receipt of the invoice from the consultant.

4. If practicable we will give you an estimate. The estimate is based on the consultant’s assessment of the work likely to be required to carry out the assignment. This estimate is not a quotation and we will notify you if it is going to exceed this price.

5. Tasks agreed with the consultant:
 - (a) As per proposal dated prepared for the Erewhon Scheme Management Committee, dated October 2024

 - (b) Further work only by agreement with the Erewhon Scheme Management Committee

Consultant Initial JC	Client Initial
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1.0 AGFIRST SERVICES AND PRODUCTS

1.1 We can offer you one or more of the following services:

- Profitability and Forecasting
- Financial Management and Budgeting
- Risk Management Analysis
- Due Diligence Information Compilation
- Employee Recruitment, Performance Management
- Soil Analysis and Fertiliser Recommendation
- Succession Planning
- Sale and Purchase Advice
- Performance Bench Marking
- Conversion Advice Feasibility Studies
- Environment Management
 - Nitrogen Leaching Loss Rate (NLLR)
 - Due Diligence Assessments for Land Purchase
 - Dairy Effluent Pond Drop Test (PDT)
 - Dairy Effluent Warrant of Fitness (DEWoF)
 - Land Use Change Consents
 - Farm System Analysis
 - Farm Environment Plan
 - Greenhouse gas calculations
 - Long-term land use strategies
- Farmax
 - Farmax Dairy Systems Monitoring (DSM)
- Economic Research and Analysis
- Technology Transfer and Extension
- Land Use Change
- Subdivision Analysis
- Carbon Accounting

1.2 We will undertake the indicated and agreed services either as a particular task or as an ongoing service, depending on your requirements referred to in the Schedule.

2.0 CLIENT DATA

2.1 You agree to provide the consultant all relevant data and information necessary to undertake the services. The consultant shall not, without your prior consent, use or disclose information provided by you and shall ensure compliance with all the relevant New Zealand legislation, in particular the Privacy Act 1993.

3.0 FEES AND EXPENSES

- 3.1 You shall pay the consultant for the services the amount of fees and expenses as outlined in the attached schedule. Where the agreement has been entered into by an agent or a person acting on your behalf as an agent, the agent and client shall be jointly and severally liable for payment of all fees due to the consultant under the agreement.
- 3.2 All amounts payable by you shall be paid by the 20th of the month after receipt of an invoice from the consultant. Late payment shall constitute a default of this agreement and you shall pay default interest on overdue amounts from the

4.0 DUTY OF CARE

- 4.1 In providing services the consultant will exercise the care, diligence and skill reasonably expected of a Farm Management professional. The consultant shall at all times act in your best interests. The consultant shall only be liable to you in contract or tort for any direct loss or damage suffered by you as a result of a breach by the consultant or his or her obligations under this contract.

5.0 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- 5.1 The consultant shall retain copyright of any intellectual property prepared by the consultant. You will be entitled to use them or copy them only for the purposes for which they were intended. The ownership of data and the factual information collected by the consultant and paid for by you shall after payment, belong to you.

6.0 PLACE OF WORK

- 6.1 For the purposes of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, the consultant and you agree that the consultant will not be the person who controls the place of work in terms of the Act. The place of work is under your control.

7.0 TERM

- 7.1 This consultancy engagement is in effect an ongoing period of time unless terminated by one (1) months' notice to the other party in writing.

8.0 OTHER EXPERT ADVICE

- 8.1 The consultant will not provide legal advice or prepare legal documents in connection with any recommendations the consultant makes. Where appropriate, the consultant will assist you with finding and working with other professionals to carry out any recommendations. Implementing all the recommendations made by the consultant is entirely your responsibility and at your discretion.

9.0 DISPUTES

- 9.1 Any dispute between the parties shall be referred to a mediator nominated by both parties. Unresolved disputes shall be referred to arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Act 1996.

10.0 APPLICABLE LAW

10.1 This agreement is governed by the laws of New Zealand and the New Zealand Courts have jurisdiction in respect of this agreement.

11.0 CURRENCY

11.1 All fees and charges under this agreement are payable in New Zealand dollars.

12.0 INDEMNITY INSURANCE

12.1. The consultant will hold professional indemnity insurance that meets or exceeds the minimum standards specified by the New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management. (NZIPIM). The consultant will provide you with particulars of minimum standards upon request.

13.0 COMPLAINTS

13.1 Complaints about the service provided by the Consultant could be addressed to the Administration Officer, New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management. NZIPIM maintains procedures for handling and investigating complaints by clients, designed to ensure that the complaint is heard promptly and fairly.

14.0 WHOLE AGREEMENT

14.1 The consultant is engaged to provide services described above and the Consultant agrees to perform the services for the remuneration provide for in the attached schedule. Both parties will be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement which supersedes all other communications oral or written between the parties.

Signed for AgFirst Manawatu-Whanganui Ltd
(The Consultant)

Signed by the client

Signature

Name

Date

AgFirst offers emailed invoices and statements, and hope that you will support this service. Please tick below if you would like to receive your invoices and statements via email.

	YES	NO
I authorise AgFirst to email my invoices and statements to email address:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Submission from the Erewhon Rural Water Scheme, to the Rangitikei District Council

This submission was agreed at a special meeting of the ERWS on the 15/10/24, in response to the uncertainty of the Governments "Local Water done well" proposals.

The ERWS would be opposed to any transition away from the current management structure and functions.

Our proven model- which has a direct relationship with our council, functions well, and is not complicated.

Present efficiencies lie with the hands-on skills and knowledge, of the management committee, who have direct ownership of the land, pipes, and tanks upon which the scheme is based.

Members voluntarily joined the scheme at inception. The scheme is always at capacity and is closed to expansion.

It has been running for fifty years and is crucial to watering our livestock all year round, and is 100% gravity fed.

Members levy themselves and manage maintenance.

To change our present structure, something of benefit would have to be realized, over and above any added layers of bureaucracy, cost, and risk.

Jock Stratton
Chair, Erewhon Rural Water Scheme.

13 Public Excluded

Resolution to Exclude the Public

The meeting went into public excluded session [enter time](#)

Recommendation

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

1. Public Excluded Council Meeting - 12 December 2024
2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings
3. Options for Taihape Town Hall & Library Redevelopment
4. Expressions of Interest for Marton Office & Community Hub Project – Next Stage

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 - 12 December 2024	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 12 December 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 - Options for Taihape Town Hall & Library Redevelopment	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations. s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.4 - Expressions of Interest for Marton Office & Community Hub Project – Next Stage	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations. s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities	s48(1)(a)(i)

	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.

14 Open Meeting