

MINUTES

MARTON COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 21 August 2024

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: 18 Humphrey Street
Marton

Present	Mrs Carolyn Bates Mr David Christison Mrs Lyn Duncan Mrs Jennifer Greener Mrs Belinda Harvey-Larsen Ms Sally Moore Cr Dave Wilson Cr Greg Maughan
In attendance	Mel Bovey, Manager, Heritage & Culture Deb Haworth, Minute Taker

Order of Business

1	Welcome	3
2	Apologies	3
3	Public Forum	3
4	Conflict of Interest Declarations	4
5	Confirmation of Order of Business	4
6	Confirmation of Minutes	4
	7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Marton Community Committee Meetings	4
7	Chair’s Report	5
	8.1 Chair's Report - August 2024.....	5
8	Reports for Decision	6
	9.1 Mayor's Report - 27 June 2024	6
	9.2 Mayor's Report.....	7
9	Reports for Information	8
	10.1 Small Projects Fund Update - June 2024.....	8
	10.2 Welcome to the Rangitikei Billboards	10
	10.3 Funding Schemes Update - August 2024	11

Mr Pringle answered questions relating to what the meetings do and who they support, the main struggle being relationships, conflict when triggered, resolution, dealing with emotions and anger in a healthy way, isolation, loneliness, not happy and suicidal tendencies.

Mr Christison explained he has friends who had attended the group and found it excellent, it was worth going to as men don't chat much, and this was good.

Mr Pringle said he felt Facebook would be a good way to promote the group as he had done this with his business in Australia and it had been successful and Facebook advertising could be directed to who he was trying to reach. Mr Pringle explained for \$200 he could place ads for 4-6 weeks spreading them a little bit each day. He could get stats and reach data.

Mr Christison said it was great what Mr Pringle was doing, suicide rates are high in men, and this is awesome.

Mrs Duncan suggested he could also advertise at the health centre.

The committee would discuss this funding application in the small projects fund part of the meeting and Mrs Bates would be in touch.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/024

That the minutes of Marton Community Committee Meeting held on 12 June 2024 **without amendment** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Ms S Moore/Mrs J Greener. Carried

7 Follow-up Actions

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Marton Community Committee Meetings

Cr Wilson provided an update for the Calico Line footpath. There are markers down as per the documents and some owner's boundaries are different which is not uncommon in the district and across NZ. Darryn Black is the new Roding Transport Manager at RDC and comes from MDC shared services roading team and Whanganui District Council and is very experienced. There is a proposal coming to Council they hope will enable the footpath to be done in such a way it doesn't impede boundaries already in situ even though it must be recognised that those boundaries are in the

incorrect place. Council is looking to progress that further. There was a suggestion the road was going to be made wider and people will be losing their fences, that is not happening.

Cr Wilson also spoke to the Nga Tawa Road footpath. The original action taken by Council was to put a footpath along Nga Tawa Road, the overall vision being those two points would come together and create a walk and cycle path around the town. There are difficulties because it is the NZTA heavy traffic bypass. Council is actively trying to get that recognised in the NZTA workplan which would entail NZTA funding in roading to kick in which means 64% funding by NZTA which is quite remote, funding is being reduced quite significantly and how it is funded after that is the next stage.

Cr Wilson noted both these pathways are very much on the Council radar, there are just some degrees of complexity in it. There is unsubsidised roading works, which is 100% funded by ratepayers. Whilst we have portions of money sitting in our budgets, particularly with the Calico Line, which is funded at \$300,000 in the LTP, Council is looking to at least initiate that stage of the project without impeding on the historic boundaries.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/025

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Marton Community Committee Meetings' be received.

Mrs C Bates/Cr D Wilson. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - August 2024

Mrs Bates provided a verbal report and has been speaking to businesses who are finding it hard to sell. The taxi service is closing but Mrs Bates noted the taxi service hadn't totally finished, they are still doing limited activities, but not a pick up the phone for a ride.

Cr Maughan commented after speaking to the owner, it was due to abuse by patrons, so they have pulled the pin. You can still contact them for a ride, but they won't be taking patrons from the pub.

Grey Power have asked Mrs Bates if there is a handyman around the town as they had been approached by Aged Concern. Mr Christison said he could help if someone needed someone, he could provide various services and is happy to have his name passed on.

Mrs Bates had also spoken to someone about travel approvals. When Mrs Bates was at Whanganui Hospital, she obtained a brochure from the Whanganui Hospital outlining the travel costs assistance available. Mrs Bates outlined some of the reimbursements criteria where you can apply, the brochure lists the criteria. It is very specific and there are Community Services Card options.

Mrs Bates mentioned the state of the signage at Shelton Pavilion and asked if this was Council or Cricket Club responsibility, Ms Bovey confirmed it is from Ms Srhoj who deals with property.

Cr Wilson and Ms Bovey confirmed to the committee this was a Council asset and Council would address any issues.

Mrs Duncan asked if this was why the sign had been removed from Centennial Park. Ms Bovey said the one in the garden is being redone and one of the Sports Club is looking at redoing some signage up there as well.

Tutaenui Playgroup spoke to Mrs Bates about the potential benefit of having a water point (hose) outside on the decking as this would be useful for cleaning. Currently, they are carrying buckets of water from the kitchen which goes through the Hall and with lino on the floor it could create a slipping hazard.

Mrs Bates acknowledged that Tutaenui Hall is technically in the Hunterville area, but many people from Marton use it. It has been passed through to Council and Sheryl was going to get somebody to see how feasible it was.

Cr Wilson said it was the old ward structure but that has been replaced when Council went to a central ward structure, so the Hunterville Ward no longer exists. It is now in the central Ward.

Mrs Bates asked a while ago what area is covered with the different Community Committees and Boards but that was well over a year.

Cr Wilson was not able to answer that.

Cr Wilson asked if Mrs Bates wanted to signal in the minutes if the matter had been brought to her attention.

Ms Bovey said it was already in play because she had already heard and could get some clarity around the boundaries.

Cr Wilson suggested perhaps the action from the committee be as follows:

ACTION: The Marton Community committee endorses and supports the addition of water access on the deck of the Tutaenui Hall.

Resolved minute number **24/MCC/026**

That the Chair's verbal Report – August 2024 be received.

Mrs C Bates/Cr D Wilson. Carried

8 Reports for Decision

9.1 Mayor's Report - 27 June 2024

The report was taken as read.

Mrs Bates noted on page 34 the topic about localism, it says Council is planning to release the findings.

Cr Wilson said localism is not a new concept, it was part of the Local Government conference last year, nothing more to report than that.

Mrs Bates talked to page 35 and the topic of Freedom Camping; she was aware Whanganui Council are closing their freedom camping area due to behaviours.

Cr Wilson noted HWTM Watson is currently attending the LGNZ Conference where he will be meeting with Ministers and other Council representatives and there are no comments further to that.

Cr Wilson confirmed all the remits are being put to the LGNZ to take further to local Government have been moved and approved except for the entrenchment of the Māori Wards which was a close loss in favour. With Local Government conferences, Councils submit different remits that they would take LGNZ to promote and all remits in the document were passed except the one to entrench Māori Wards within the constitution. There are 64 different Councils, and their members present, and those members have approved this which signals LGNZ to take those matters to central Government.

Mrs Bates asked what does the result that it has been lost mean?

Cr Wilson said it doesn't mean anything at all, just that there were several other remits in there to be approved by the Councils. Cr Wilson gave some examples of some remits.

Mrs Bates noted Rangitikei had two Māori Wards currently, does Cr Wilson see there will be two in the future?

Cr Wilson said this will depend on what the Government does and if it goes to referendum at the next election in 2025 which it is likely to, it will remain to be seen.

Mrs Bates had received correspondence from someone outside the Marton area voicing their opinion about wards, and to her, if they don't live in this area, is that something the committee wanted to listen to. Those at the meeting indicated if the input was from someone in the Marton Ward, that would be more relevant.

Cr Wilson asked what relevance it has for this meeting.

Cr Wilson commented everyone is going to get their chance to voice their opinions on an individual basis and, whatever the outcome of that, is the outcome. There is a rigorous process much of what was done when the ward structure was changed, and this has to be done through the Electoral Commission.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/027

That the Mayor's Report – 27 June 2024 be accepted.

Cr D Wilson/Ms S Moore. Carried

9.2 Mayor's Report

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/028

That the Mayor's Report – 25 July 2024 be accepted.

Cr D Wilson/Ms S Moore. Carried

9 Reports for Information

10.1 Small Projects Fund Update - June 2024

Mrs Bates calculated the Small Project Fund and this year \$3,500 was received and it was the carry over amount that took it over \$4,000.

Sports Whanganui application by Libby Rayner:

Ms Moore noted there was some confusion in the quotes.

Mrs Bates also noted her application caused some confusion.

Mrs Bates said what she sent through was a wish list then Mrs Bates sent Mrs Rayner the form and the form that came back caused Mrs Bates more concern, so Mrs Bates hasn't worried the committee with the form with more information than the wish list. When they talked, what Mrs Rayner heard was Mrs Bates saying the committee gets money but not a vast amount. Mrs Bates acknowledged the committee doesn't get a lot of money when compared to Lotteries and Duddings for example. So, Mrs Rayner had thought the wish list was too much, but Mrs Bates doesn't see that it is for money the committee has available to them at the moment, which is over \$4,000.

Cr Maughan said the application is a lot if you add in an electronic scoreboard. It was clarified that manual; not electronic scoreboards were being asked for.

Mrs Duncan noted when Mrs Rayner's request is read, its multiple venues requiring multiple resources and they are needing more scoreboards. When it was written she was trying to obtain more venues, but now she has two more venues.

Mrs Bates noted the report was sent back in July. It shows she has done the work to expand it.

Cr Wilson suggested that the committee rather than focusing on the price's points, it should be considering a number.

Cr Maughan suggested \$850 was a good number and he asked Mrs Rayner if that was enough. Mrs Rayner confirmed that would be appreciated.

Cr Wilson said it seems to him the application fits the ethos of what this committee is about when it comes to the money to go back into youth, funded locally and as broadly within the community as we can.

Mrs Bates said she went to Memorial Hall for a completely different reason and was amazed at how enthusiastic everyone was and thought we need this cloned.

Cr Wilson noted there were two fishhooks, the wording should make sure we approve Sport Whanganui up to \$850.00 and list what it is for. We want to make sure it is to promote the Rangitikei Basketball league to ensure it is going there rather than the general fund.

The second thing, part of the terms and conditions, which need to be looked at for some clarity from Council, it says additional payments for goods and services subject to a contract between Council and Sports Whanganui. This committee would need to confirm this funding wasn't breaching that contract. He hoped this wouldn't be a hindrance to this process.

Mr Christison asked if the contract was for a, b c and d, but this was for e, could it be approved?

There was general discussion and Cr Wilson said the recommendation should include 'subject to clarification on the application meeting the requirements' due to Mrs Rayner working for Sport Whanganui and them having a contract with Council.

Cr Wilson noted that while everyone agreed to fund this application, the committee needed to ensure there was not an issue with the existing contract.

Mrs Bates asked if anyone had an issue with approving funding up to \$850 if we can tick all the boxes. If we can't tick all the boxes, we will come back to it at the next meeting to figure out a way to assist them. All were in agreement with the plan to check the contract and if all is well to support the application, if there are any issues this would be carried over to the next meeting.

ACTION: Mel Bovey agreed to check the existing contract between Sports Whanganui and Council and will report back to the committee.

Weekly Marton Men's Circle application by Mark Pringle:

Cr Wilson noted it was a worthwhile and cheap money.

Mrs Bates likes the intentions and had spoken to a member of the Circle. Mr Pringle is aware it can't be paid into a personal bank account.

Cr Wilson said it could be paid on a receipt and if Mr Pringle was willing to put in the effort, it could implode but it could grow, so is worth trying.

Mrs Bates would like to give them \$200 so they can achieve the advertising. Any future payments could be applied for by whoever takes over if it is successful.

Cr Wilson said we are looking at the one application now, then any new applications in the future.

Mrs Bates suggested \$200, as Mr Pringle is leaving and it might have a limited life, then if someone takes it on, they can put in a new application.

Mr Christison said on a side note, as Mr Pringle may or may not have the funds to pay up front, if he is granted this money, he would be happy to front up with the \$200 on Mr Pringle's behalf, so he doesn't have to take it out of his own pocket, then once he has the receipt, Mr Christison could reclaim it.

Cr Wilson said although this had great intention, it could get murky and could cause problems. He thinks the action that comes from the committee should be relayed back and if that causes a problem, then it will require further discussion.

Mrs Bates has been speaking to the Marton Archery Club and they are looking to put an application in. A question for Ms Bovey, they talked about funding for a Kevlar Curtain, because they are using Rangitikei College field, but are going to be using the Scout Hall. The Kevlar Curtain would be to protect the wall and the building,

Ms Bovey confirmed the Scout Hall is not a Council Hall.

Mrs Bates noted a while ago the Scout Hall asked for funding but couldn't get it because it was to do with building maintenance.

Cr Wilson noted the Kevlar Curtain would be sports equipment meaning there are constraints about who they can apply to for funding and suggested it would not be eligible for funding.

Mrs Bates wanted to ask so she could let them know.

Ms Bovey asked what the cost of it would be, Mrs Bates said it would be just over \$1,000 and they also need bows for the little ones to play.

Cr Wilson noted with Mrs Bates was active in the community, it's always important, and he is sure Mrs Bates does, to note in her discussions that the committee only has limited funds. Mrs Bates agreed.

Ms Bovey asked would they put it up in the Hall and leave it there. Mr Christison thought it would be put away each time.

Mrs Moore suggested they come and talk to the committee if they require funding.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/029

That the report 'Small Projects Fund Update – August 2024' be received.

That the Marton Community Committee approve up to \$850 to Sports Whanganui to source the appropriate sports equipment for the Rangitikei School's Basketball League, subject to clarification on the application meeting the requirements that this funding doesn't breach any existing agreements between Council and Sports Whanganui.

That the Marton Community Committee approve up to \$200 to the Weekly Marton Men's Circle for Facebook advertising to attract new members, upon receipt to Council as it can't be funded through a personal account. If he requires more, he needs to make a further application to the Committee.

Mrs L Duncan/Ms S Moore. Carried

Cr Maughan left the meeting at 7.17pm.

10.2 Welcome to the Rangitikei Billboards

Ms Bovey presented the Welcome to the Rangitikei Billboards Report, as Kym Skerman could not attend the meeting, these are district signs, not for towns, and are being updated with local pictorial images.

When they were done in 2010, they cost \$15,000, they can now be done cheaper using in house staff for installation so the cost will be less than last time, approximately \$10,200 for 8 boards, printing front and back. The reverse will potentially have a different image.

Mr Christison noted it was excellent, a great idea, you can be driving through towns and not know what's what, and the images were beautiful.

Cr Wilson said it was a great initiative and be progressive and be bold, it is exactly what we should be doing as a community.

Ms Bovey said they are trying to promote the Rangitikei brand and image.

The committee agreed they liked the concept and images.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/030

That the 'Welcome to the Rangitikei Billboards' report be received.

That the new 'Welcome to The Rangitikei' billboards be accepted as a positive step and inclusion to the Destination Management Plan with the intention of showcasing our natural assets and activities from around the district.

Mr D Christison/Ms S Moore. Carried

10.3 Funding Schemes Update - August 2024

Cr Wilson noted this report is an update as the new Rounds for 2024 2025 have opened as we have moved into a new financial year. He said some of the committee may know some people and organisations that might want to apply for it and to encourage those applications. It's a pity there isn't more money.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/031

That the Funding Schemes Update – August 2024 be received.

Mrs C Bates/Mrs J Greener. Carried

11 Discussion Items

11.1 Flooding

Following the discussion regarding the Calico pathway, Mrs Bates asked about flooding on the bypass.

Cr Wilson noted there had been significant work completed.

Cr Maughan noted there was no flooding at the railway bridge.

Mrs Duncan noted there was no flooding, and the contractors have been cleaning the gutters as there is rain due. It seems the work had been done properly.

Mrs Bates asked about under the railway bridge by the fire brigade cleaning and it was noted there were no issues.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen said they don't clean in front of the Police station. Mrs Bates asked if Mrs Harvey-Larsen had put in a request for service, Mrs Harvey-Larsen said yes but is still waiting. Mrs Bates suggested raising another RFS.

11.2 Solar Farm

Mrs Duncan asked what was happening with the solar farm.

Mr Christison said he didn't know.

Mrs Bates said that whichever one was delayed, she thought both had delays, the delay process had run its course and was back onto whatever they are supposed to be doing.

Cr Wilson noted the consent application had been approved.

Mrs Duncan said one was on hold.

Cr Wilson noted there were two separate applications.

Mrs Bates understood at least one was delayed and the process had run its course.

11.3 Marton Railway Land- Marton Rail Hub

Mrs Duncan asked what was happening with the Marton Rail Hub and land.

Cr Wilson noted the land use has been changed and the Environment Court had approved this, and it has been enacted through Council. It is now subject to the Environmental Court ruling so if they do this, they must do that, planting trees and whatever was in the ruling. It is very much at its second stage. What happens in that space is now in the hands of the owners of the land, interested parties in building the rail siding and other parties that might be interested in setting up businesses there. It is a significant amount of money to do the infrastructure build and will be significant for the town.

11.4 Railway Station on Station Road

Mrs Duncan asked what was happening with the KiwiRail property as it has been vandalised and was looking disgusting, the boards are being ripped off where the windows use to be, and the insides had been smashed up.

Mr Christison heard a rumour it was to be demolished.

Mrs Greener thought it would end up a platform only, like Taihape, and 10 years or so ago, and when she discussed leasing it for the Christmas Grotto, the indication then was KiwiRail don't need the building and the sooner it goes the better.

Cr Wilson noted it was a KiwiRail asset and they are not interested.

The meeting closed at 7.41pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Marton Community Committee held on 9 October 2024.

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Chairperson