

MINUTES

MARTON COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 9 October 2024

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: 18 Humphrey Street
Marton

Present

Mrs Carolyn Bates
Mr David Christison
Mrs Lyn Duncan
Mrs Belinda Harvey-Larsen
Ms Sally Moore
Mr John Whittaker
HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Greg Maughan

In attendance

Mrs Melanie Bovey, Manager – Heritage and Culture
Mrs Deb Haworth, Minute Taker
Mr Greg Smith, Chairman, Bulls Community Committee
Mr David Yates, Bulls Community Committee

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1 Welcome

2 Apologies

Apologies received from Cr Dave Wilson, Mrs Jennifer Greener and Mr Peter Farrell.

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/032

That the minutes of Marton Community Committee Meeting held on 21 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.

Mrs C Bates/Mr D Christison. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Marton Community Committee Meetings

Tutaenui Water Access

Mrs Bates has spoken to Chloe who runs the Tutaenui Play Group and the last she heard was the plumbers were going out to scope the options and she had been asked by Ms Srhoj the location of a tap if they had any preference. She responded that as long as there was access to water outside, that is good.

Calico Line Footpath installation

Mrs Bates hasn't heard anymore since Cr Wilson said they were marking the boundaries, any update on that?

HWTM Watson had no real update on it except to say the more they started to mark out the boundaries, the more expensive it looks and the more intrusive it is on people's property rights.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/033

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

Ms S Moore/Mrs C Bates. Carried

Cr Maughan, Mr Smith and Mr Yates arrived at 6.10pm

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - October 2024

Mrs Bates went to the Regional Economic Growth Summit in Bulls and was there just after 11am, it had started at 10.00 am.

HWTM Watson noted that Minister Jones talked about what could be applied for under that fund. We can't do water related things, and tourism is out, it's very specific, you can go to websites from Government providers. In question time, he asked the Minister, one of the biggest expenses is that council provide services for a very small community called Ratana and that the Minister's successive Governments have promised to assist. He gave an undertaking that the Minister of Māori Affairs would help fund Ratana. What that means is yet to be clarified.

Mrs Bates said the bits she heard, it seemed they were sharing information but they were in the wrong location because they kept talking about Whanganui and Palmerston North and it felt like, you realise you are in the Rangitikei.

HWTM Watson said this was a regional discussion with the Horizons region and Accelerate 25. We provided the venue. There were people invited from Accelerate 25 to present and he was disappointed they weren't given a real opportunity.

Mrs Bates was asked about putting a banner out the Village Green for promoting organisations or events and she directed them to talk to the Council, was that the right thing to do?

HWTM Watson said that is right.

There was general discussion about other places to promote events including the Library foyer, New World and Fresh Choice.

Mrs Bates shared that for the aim of communicating, if you want an entry in the printed white pages with a mobile phone number, you can do that for a cost and include just the street name. For an entry in the online white pages, you must have your full address.

Mrs Bates spoke to Toaiva Launano-Tunai, who works for the Runanga and is based two days at Stewart Street Surgery and two days at Bulls Medical Centre. She is looking at running some healthy living courses including walking, cookery demonstrations type of thing.

Mrs Bates talked a while ago about potentially doing a session on scamming, that is likely to happen February next year.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/034

That the Chair's Report – October 2024 be received.

Mrs C Bates/Mrs B Harvey-Larsen. Carried

Mr Whittaker arrived at 6.35pm

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Mayor's Report - 29 August 2024

HWTM Watson said Council made the decision that we would close the pool this season, it was a close vote with a number of concerns around whether we could do it safely and whether the operators wanted to operate it. We will focus on a long term permanent solution as quickly as we can, that may speed things up, concentrating on the end game rather than two things at once. He understands the disappointment especially around Learn to Swim classes so they are working hard to find alternatives for the schools.

HWTM Mayor said the Chief Executive role, we are going out publicly asking for expressions of interest in that position. Kevin Ross was always an interim solution and didn't want it to be a long term permanent position. We have appointed a recruitment agency hoping to appoint someone by the end of this year, which would mean the position might not be taken up until February/ March 2025 presuming they are employed and have to give notice.

HWTM Watson had explained to the community his disappointment that \$5 million has been taken from the roading budget and now another \$12 million has been taken. He is really concerned that the roads will continue to deteriorate quickly. The road budgets are set by NZTA because they are the biggest funder. We have put money into our budgets for our share of that \$12 million and we could say we could put that money in but that would mean we are funding without subsidy. It's a really tricky position and a huge number of his enquiries are trying to sort out the roading issues.

HWTM spoke about the Cooks Wall and said Council are wanting to resolve this. Essentially it is a common wall between Cooks and what used to be the White Hart Hotel. The Hotel was under the Church and started to demolish it but not using the correct process. It wasn't built on the correct boundary. Council of the day probably approved a building consent then you get the situation of where is the responsibility of Council doing it. There will be commercial discussions between Council and the owners but they really want to solve it because it's an eyesore and it is getting more expensive. He said it leaks badly, water ends up in Cooks, it's not weather tight, it's not structurally sound, hence the bracing on the outside. The Chief Executive is working hard to achieve an acceptable resolution.

Cr Maughan said there may be an opportunity if the wall is ever rebuilt to put something on it if you want to make it look nice. The Community Committee could get involved in what is done with the Wall, when and if it is reconstructed.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/035

That the Mayor's Report - 29 August 2024 be received.

Mrs C Bates/Mr D Christison. Carried

9.2 Mayor's Report - 26 September 2024

HWTM Mayor asked if there were any questions

Mr Smith noted in the Mayor's engagements in the Report, there was nothing between September 10 and 18. He asked where the Mayor was between those two dates.

HWTM Watson said for the first time in four years he took a holiday and went to the South Island, but he did do some Council work. He looked at the hydro storage plan for the South Island and visited each one. Because we have businesses closing, we have lost 100 people and the argument was there was insufficient power and he wanted to have a look. He also went to Tiwai Point, the aluminium smelter, but it was a holiday. He needed a break.

HWTM Mayor said for our District we have three significant wind farms being fast tracked, we have already approved three solar farms, with another two potentially and we are talking about some of the biggest solar farms in NZ. We will have an area, if it all goes ahead, from between Pukepapa Road, down Whales Line and another area down Wellington Road, hundreds of hectares.

Mrs Bates noted in HWTM Watson's reports, he reports who attends what meetings. Mrs Bates said she appreciates over the triennium any Councillor will have other commitments and a whole range of different things but from her point of view Cr Raukawa has responsibility for Marton. A while ago Cr Raukawa approached Mrs Bates about coming to a meeting and she said you are more than welcome. At the Bulls Community Committee meeting last month she raised with Cr Raukawa, asking when she will be going to turn up to a Marton meeting. Cr Raukawa said she would be here tonight. Another instance of some people not turning up when they say they are.

HWTM Watson said he will pass Mrs Bates comment on.

HWTM Watson said the Committee knows all about the 3 Waters Labour version. He would have to say the National version is very similar. There are some funding differences but essentially what the Council is required to do, within the year and it's already ticking, is provide a plan on two fronts. The first is how are we going to deal with wastewater and drinking water over the long term up until the time where we are encouraged to form regional CCOs (Council Controlled Organisation which is a technical term for a separate body to Council). There are a number of options, Council could form its own CCO or it could join with other Councils into a regional CCO. If we submit a plan and Government doesn't like it then they can tell us which body we would be joined with. The chances of doing it alone are virtually nil. The Horizons Councils are Horowhenua, Tararua, Manawatu, Whanganui, Ruapehu and ourselves, that's the Horizons region. There has been discussion at Mayoral and Chief Executive level trying to analyse the costs that each Council faces. It's a question of who would you want to get into bed with. We are doing the assessment of all Councils in the Horizons region forming a regional entity to deliver Local Water Done Well. Trying to understand the costs everybody faces and the honesty of the cost estimates is tricky. The initial figures say there is very little difference to who is in or out. The plan is that by December to have made our Council

preferred option which is a Council decision, that would then in the beginning of next year go out for consultation as our preferred solution and what other options could possibly be looked at. Each Council is deciding that independently at the same time. The problems are, there is another tranche of legislation heading our way in December at the time we are making this decision, so we won't have that knowledge. That is the economic regulation side of it and the new standards of water. Say we are sitting at the Council table and Horowhenua says our preference is to go with Wellington which is quite possible. They will be having their own independent discussion with Wellington as well as the discussion within the Horizons region. Tararua potentially is in the same sort of position. It's hard to estimate everybody's real costs because they are taken out of the Long Term Plan. We have worked on the basis that we will be providing those services in the Long Term Plan so we have been quite honest with our potential costs. If you take a city like Palmerston North, their waste water solution could be incredibly expensive and originally it was given a figure not much shy of \$1 billion. Council decided they wouldn't put that figure in the LTP and there is honesty about that because they now believe they can still discharge to the river instead of having to find a land based solution. So we are not sure of those standards, yet to be set by Government. What is very clear is we will be required to join up with some other Council entities to form a CCO. It is not a decision but where it's heading. If Councils decided the governance arm of the new entity would be each Council getting one seat at the table, and that governance arm then appoints the water entity so the operation for the water entity would be based 100% on expertise. It is independent of the Council even though the Council will have a shareholding in it, that's why it's called a CCO. CCO's are reasonably common, Palmerston North will have several already, we used to have one that delivered roading in the northern part of the district that has been disbanded.

Mrs Bates said she heard there was talk of one being set up for the Rail hub.

HWTM Watson said the Rail hub is a potential, it could be formed if it goes ahead under either a CCO or an SVP (Special Purpose Vehicle) which is a type of CCO. They are certainly not rare but essentially the CCO won't take effect until 2027/2028 so Council is still responsible for providing those three water services until 2027/2028. They were provided by the shared service from Manawatu and we have disbanded that shared service and those staff have transferred to Rangitikei which made sense. There are so many permutations and things which it affects. Stormwater is a very big thing because we are not sure where that fits or the rural water schemes fit but they will probably transfer to the new entity then have the right to be able to opt out in some shape or form. Remember that stormwater in particular is closely associated with roading so it's very hard to separate each individual function out. It will be poorly understood by communities. HWTM Watson had said to staff he wants public meetings in Taihape and Marton to explain the time frames we have to make decisions by and also as public meetings and a drop in opportunities for that day so people can come along and ask questions.

Mr Christison asked "How far away as in the time frames for the meetings?"

HWTM Watson said he has asked staff to look at diaries as to when they can be set up, but he is hoping they can be set up

Mrs Bates asked "As in this year?"

HWTM Watson said it won't be about whether Council opts in or who, it will be outlining in the first instance the process we are faced with. Then when Council makes the decision about the preferred option, then we go out through consultation as a formal process to say this is what we want to do

and if there are any other viable options, or does somebody else have an option we haven't thought of.

Mr Whittaker asked "The Government wants this done by?"

HWTM Watson said the time frames are horrible. Government wants to see action within its electoral time frame and Ministry officials and Councils, not just 3 Waters, it's the RMA processes and all sorts of things. People say why haven't we been told about it by Councils, but we have only been told about it last week. We only started briefing our Councillors 10 days ago. One of the things HWM Watson has argued for a couple of years under Labour and National, it is unlikely the economic regulation will be standardisation of prices. So the entity that is formed could potentially say it's really tricky providing these services in Taihape so Taihape can pay more or Rangitikei people pay more for the service than Palmerston North. None of that is set in stone. With standards, the Government could say no waste water should go into waterways.

Mr Christison asked "If it was true human water would be going onto land?"

HWTM Watson said the preferred solution across the country is where you can, to dispose to land. There are some companies that limit what that pasture can be used for, for instance Fonterra have a stance they don't want to take milk from a farm that has human waste put on it and that may be the way it goes. But equally you can plant trees and harvest the trees, do all sorts of things. Manawatu discharges most of the time to land and they grow baleage and sell it off. What you want is a plant that takes up waste water and it will have gone through treatment.

HWTM Watson attended a dinner meeting in Wellington, the Prime Minister was very aggressive about how all Councils should be amalgamated into huge mega councils, you should not be doing anything at all with the four wellbeings which are being repelled by Government. Should we be involved in economic development, have libraries, swimming pools, those sorts of social functions are wellbeings. Wellbeings have never been clearly defined. For instance just about every Community would say libraries do cost Councils money but are a core function of Council. The four wellbeings, do they include provisional sports fields to play sports on or cemeteries? So ahead of time, he will be asking for public meetings and part of that will be a drop in facility during the day.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/036

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

Mrs C Bates/Mrs L Duncan. Carried

9.3 Funding Schemes Update - October 2024

Mrs Bates noted in the Community Initiatives Fund, there is still \$17,500 to be allocated in the second round. It's good so many organisations are getting support.

Cr Maughan said "The original applications we got for the first Round of funding before the Councillors did their deliberations was something like \$48,000." Councillors do their deliberations to say yay or nay how much money to give, then that is moderated so there are some funds left for the second Round.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/037

That the Funding Schemes Update –October 2024 be received.

Mr J Whittaker/Mrs L Duncan. Carried

Mr Smith noted there is an error on page 36 Item 343 BCDT, it is supposed to be the Bulls & District Community Trust. And 348 as well.

Mrs Bates said it makes sense when you see what the Topics are.

9.4 Small Projects Fund Update - October 2024

Mrs Bates said there is \$3,317.19 in the fund. She has had a conversation with Toaiva Launano-Tunai about her Ladies Church Group, she asked if it would be appropriate to put in an application to the Small Projects Fund for them to run some weaving sessions and Mrs Bates got the impression it was continuing the weaving and giving an opportunity for the Samoan children to improve their Samoan language. Mrs Bates personal view was it wasn't something the Community Committee should be funding but wanted to bring it up for input.

Mr Christison said it's important that people have come to New Zealand to help our economy and they also keep their culture and language. Mr Christison has no issue with this.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen said children are taken back to their country to learn their culture but not all of them can so to have that in our community would be ideal, no different to someone wanting to learn Māori or Japanese to go into the work force. There is a four generation family where Samoan is used all the time, there are some families where that doesn't happen. It's important, they are in our community and we can help them.

Mrs Bates wondered whether she was missing the point, should we be supporting a Samoan group to learn a non-New Zealand language but it hadn't occurred to her they were here to help our economy, they are here to help us in one way, we can help them in a different way.

HWTM Watson said regardless of all that, can they apply, absolutely. If you get a group of people wanting to join together for whatever function, the Rose Society to be a communal voice in some way, they can apply.

Mr Whittaker asked how relevant this was to this small Community Committee.

Mr Christison said we have money which is hard to get rid of so if someone comes up with a reasonable community idea, every part of the community is important.

Mr Yates said is the way going forward to get them to put an application in, if they are eligible.

Mr Smith said it sounds a wonderful idea but was singly focussed on a particular community that asked for it. Bearing in mind there were other communities around that also contribute significantly, Fijian being another one, he wondered if it might be fairer on the overall community to create a fund and open applications from all communities who want to improve their cultural language.

Mr Yates asked if this is more of an educational issue within the community rather than a Council issue.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen said what they are wanting to do is children who live here that do not speak Samoan, they want to teach them. There are several tribes with their own tongue.

Mr Christison feels whatever we can do that is positive for the community is positive for the community as a whole. And they are a positive part of our community.

Mrs Bates talked about the Men's Group. She caught up with Mark Pringle who advised they won't be using the Small Projects Fund money as he is going back to Australia. If anyone hears of that group trying to make it happen again, please approach the Committee as the \$200 was not claimed by him. At the time she talked to Mr Pringle, he hadn't found anybody willing to take responsibility for making the sessions happen. That may have changed, but that was at the time she talked to him.

Mrs Bates spoke to Fiona regarding the thefts at the Marton Community Garden and asked if we could help at all. They are going to improve security because it's not going to be the way it was. Someone in the team had investigated and are waiting for quotes. They will get back to Mrs Bates by Sunday with more information, if she didn't, they had managed to solve the problem with other funding. The Community Garden does amazing things to help feed and educate so many people in the town.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/038

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

Mrs L Duncan/Ms S Moore. Carried

9.5 Marton Water Strategy Update

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/039

That the Marton Water Strategy Update be received

Mr J Whittaker/Mr D Christison. Carried

9.6 Marton Pool Update

Mrs Bates said when she read through this she noted down how and why did the issue with the roof not get picked up before it became a problem, in a normal building check. Has that been identified yet?

HWTM Watson said it had been identified but the issue was the staff didn't think it had a degree of urgency. It had been identified some time ago. There are beams with very small cracks and we are yet to receive what will be the answer but he anticipates the roof needs to come off, all the beams replaced and extra strengthening. If that happens, inevitably talking in the millions.

Mrs Bates thought with normal building warrants of fitness and the checking goes on, should there be some responsibility with whoever has done that, say for example I reported on this last time and nothing has happened.

HWTM Watson said there were things that were programmed to happen but they didn't expect the failure that happened. It's not ideal and there are all sorts of questions being asked around understanding the strength of the building and how it complies with structural standards. What is pleasing is there are some members of the community asking how they can help. He would like to see them do some serious fund raising so it doesn't necessarily come out of ratepayer pockets. There are conversations happening.

Cr Maughan said there is some discussion at Council that if they are going to spend a couple of million dollars on the pool, why don't they look at spending more and improving it so it can be open all year round and some other things.

HWTM Watson said so it is fit for purpose for the next 50 years.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen asked that with the flooding, earthquakes and trucks, would that have had an effect on it?

HWTM Watson said he has asked questions around a range of issues and we will come back and have an answer as to whether there is an underlying issue with ground movement. He noted it was not a new building, it about 30 years old. The pool is older than that. There are also questions being looked at as to how well it was complying with plans at the time put into the mix to understand what the solution will be.

Cr Maughan said where they are at is the Council decided it be shut for the year at least.

HWTM Watson said the people talking to him say it should be fit for purpose for the next 50 years.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/040

That the Marton Pool update be received.

Mrs C Bates/Mrs B Harvey-Larsen. Carried

Mrs Harvey-Larsen left at 7.50pm

10 Discussion Items

10.1 Dumping of Rubbish

Mrs Harvey-Larsen said the New World in Christchurch collects soft plastic so is in the process of getting a response back from them to see where they send it to.

Ms Bovey noted Countdown and Pak n Save do it in Whanganui.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen asked why that can't be done here.

Ms Moore said in the Recycle Centre in Marton, there is a Plastics bin. Soft plastics can go into that and it is taken to Feilding to be sorted.

Ms Moore confirmed Raj Khadka, Solid Waste Officer, is the person to talk to at Council. A lot of people are under the misconception in Marton that everything going into the bins is just lifted up and goes to the landfill. It is not the case, she has seen it herself. Soft plastics are usually recycled separately, they don't have that facility in Marton but it does get sorted in Feilding. It is easier to take them to Feilding to be sorted.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen asked where soft plastics are being put at the moment.

Ms Moore said it goes in with all the other plastics and it gets sorted in Feilding.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen asked why, as a committee, do we approach the local paper and see if they would put something in there, publicise it. If you are already doing it, why change something that is already happening. And get the schools on board, perhaps we put something up for the schools.

Mr Smith spoke with Raj Khadka today and there is a meeting later this week regarding tyres. He has been trying to find a registered tyre drop off point in the Rangitikei, that is old tyres you might find on the side of the road, and there are not a lot. It has been discussed that the Marton Landfill might register to become a registered drop off point. As a registered drop off point under the law, members of the public can drop off 5 free tyres per day. They get shredded and used for fence posts.

Ms Moore said they don't take tyres at Marton for free.

Mr Smith said they won't be free at the Transfer Stations because there is a cost, only at the tip.

HWTM Watson said you will effectively pay for recycling in the future, Cr Dave Wilson is the best person to give advice around that.

Mrs Duncan wanted to discuss the dumping of rubbish under the Bulls Bridge. No can tell her who paid for the two truckloads of rubbish picked up and taken to the Transfer Station. They had addresses which have been given to the Council and she has been told it wasn't done by Council but Horizons, she is not sure about that.

Cr Maughan said they have had discussions about this at Council regularly, Cr Carter brings it up.

HWTM Watson is not sure if this is the latest cleanup but he spent a whole day down there with his Ute and trailer and filled them with disgusting rubbish. That was paid for, not by the ratepayer or Horizons, there was a national week where there was a special deal.

Mr Smith did some of it, he took a Ute load away, the bags were paid for but since then Cr Sharland has taken a couple of Ute loads, Mr Smith has taken a three of Ute loads away from the area, it's just constant. It's easily a Ute and trailer load every month.

Mrs Duncan said this was a house lot of rubbish and two trucks were hired from Andrew Morris' outfit to take it away, it was dumped at the Transfer Station, addresses were found and passed on to Council and she also found them and passed them on to the Council. Council say we as ratepayers never paid for any of that. This was just household rubbish. The house had been owned, sold and there were two different names to that address.

HWTM Watson said if they can trace who deposited it with enough proof, they take them to court as it is a Police matter and we should be doing that. He said the reality is we take people to court for things and it costs more money than is imposed in fines.

Mrs Bates asked if there are any security cameras that monitor under the Bulls Bridge.

HWTM said no there aren't.

Mr Smith said this has turned into a discussions of remedies but a question for the Mayor, would Council be amenable to a community response as to proposals on how to mitigate that? There could be a number of measures, one might be closing it off at night, but he understands people do camp there. There is the issue of putting some sort of security, cameras, trail cams as a short term measure. And to discourage this fly tipping, do we have open collections from the Council where you put your old mattresses or whatever out on the street. The first thing they do is the second hand merchants go through and take out what they can sell and the rest of it is to offset the costs of running it.

HWTM Watson said he has taken this to Council once before, he is aware and looked at the south Auckland one. You also get people who will save up all their rubbish, they won't take it to the Transfer Station, they will just dump it. You are right people do take to the streets and take some things that can be of use, but it is also a nightmare.

Mr Harvey-Larsen said Palmerton North and Christchurch designate a park one either side of town, Lions do one side and Rotary do another and people are allowed to take their unwanted items they can't get rid of through the dump. They pay a gold coin and Rotary sell them for a gold coin or more, what is left over Council donates to an Op Shop or dumps it. It has to be usable and not rubbish, they can say it's not sellable.

HWTM Watson said the Marton Op Shop is the base for that, this year it has given \$260,000 back to the community. They have come to Council saying there is a whole lot of stuff they get in they don't like, so would Council pay the dump fees. This is also a cost to them doing business, they could be better in trying to recycle it. It could be good gear but they are not accepting it because it doesn't fit with what they are trying to sell.

Mrs Bates said its often dumped at the door when they are not open, which people shouldn't leave there because it's not reusable quality.

MWTH Mayor said there are also sorts of services, there are trucks that go up and down NZ taking clothing and they take the buttons and zips out and shred the clothing, and it has an insulation use. He will have a discussion before it goes further, in terms of Council's decisions, about how well they recycle not just saying we haven't got storage, they will say they haven't got storage.

Mrs Bates commented even though they are a lot bigger than they were, they still have storage.

Mrs Duncan noted she was at Fresh Choice today when the truck was emptying the bins. There was some absolutely filthy rubbish in there. The rubbish coming into Marton on Wellington Road and Wings Line in the gutters, it's shocking. People are chucking it out their windows. She asked what happened to the Higgins guys who use to go out.

HWTM Watson said Council paid for that service, it is very expensive, so every so often it is done. Now Traffic Management process is crippling. Under the Bulls Bridge, there is also a demarcation, is it our land or is it Horizons' responsibility, it's probably Horizons technically. We suffer though.

Mrs Duncan said she isn't sure about Bulls and their Community Patrol, but they do go down there from time to time. Would it be worth Council talking to their Chairperson and put that on their agenda that they should go down to the River. They do go down once a month in Bulls but they can do it more often if its requested.

Mrs Bates asked shouldn't that be the responsibility of Bulls Community Patrol?

Mrs Harvey-Larsen said they don't have a big enough one and they use their private cars where we have a car.

Mr Smith noted they are on the track of getting another member and he has a Ute that gets down their quite happily so it's a question of time, however Bulls hasn't done a lot of patrolling in the last few months due to loss of staff. They are trying to get more members.

Mrs Duncan said they do go down there.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen said if Bronwyn gets a formal letter from somebody, it can be put on their budget to go down there. If the Bulls people are happy with that.

HWTM Watson noted he was nervous around the security of the people going down there.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen said they can let the Police know when they are going down and when they are out of there, they will be nearby won't they, knowing it's a hostile?

Mrs Bates asked if it was worth taking the opportunity to raise this with relevant staff to say this has been discussed, is there something that can be done to improve things and staff can could get in touch with Bronwyn if necessary,

Mrs Bovey said HWTM Watson is right, it is a risk to people and they certainly wouldn't be condoning that.

HWTM Watson said to first talk to the Police as to whether they are comfortable.

Mrs Harvey-Larsen said Bronwyn would probably do that.

ACTION: Mr Whittaker moved that something goes to Council.

Mrs Bovey said it might be something around publicity around dumping of rubbish and the cost and just raising awareness to people so if they see someone driving down there with a Ute full and coming back without one, please ring us. Rather than sending someone down there in the middle of the night. Mrs Bovey will talk to the Team to see what ideas they can come up that doesn't involve sending someone down there.

10.2 Bulls Community Committee Meeting and Town maps

Mrs Bates said she attended the Bulls Committee meeting last month and Jarod Calkin talked about town maps. Council had received funding that they are using to produce Maps. She has asked Jarod

to send a soft copy. This year Council are looking at producing maps for Bulls, Taihape and Marton are on the list for next year. Whether that translates into getting a new Map on Fresh Choice might be something that works in.

Mrs Duncan asked if the map on the front of the Supermarket will be funded by Community Committee like last time.

Mrs Bates said it potentially could. She talked to Lucretia at Marton print and it was in terms of the map being done when Peter York put it together, what are the options. She said Marton Print wouldn't be doing anything like that, they are closing.

HWTM said before they assume, make sure they talk to Linda at Fresh Choice as the new owner.

Mrs Bates said that is way down the track. After talking to Lucretia, she went to H&A Print with the information from Lucretia based on what had happened before, she got a price for that. Then Jarrod talked about these maps. She thinks just put it on hold until next year and they will have more information whether Jarrod can tap into some funding or the Committee pay for a new map.

Mrs Bovey said Council are holding a public drop in session on 17 October, details yet to be sent out, around the Marton Streetscape and the vision. The map might be part of that.

Mrs Bates said the current map is missing some new streets and areas, along with a mistake when it was originally done. So if it was going to be redone, they would capture that.

Mr Christon asked would it be an idea to upgrade the map with a QR code and have a digital map on the phone which could be part of it.

Mr Smith did have a conversation with Jarrod and raised that with him. It was unofficial at the time, but it's unlikely the new wayfaring signs would be placed outside the Fresh Choice site. The sign is probably there to stay and probably worthwhile investing in it, even putting a sticker on it showing the new areas rather than doing the whole sign in the short term.

Mrs Bovey said the drop in session will be at the Village Green if it's a nice day or at the Library if it's wet, no details but that is the planned date for the town revitalisation session. No time yet, that is being finalised. So if you have any ideas about the signs or clarifying about the map. This is about visions people want for the town.

10.3 Marton Civil Defence Plan

Mrs Bates and Mr Whittaker had a discussion about the Civil Defence Plan and she said to him the last one she had was 2021. When she looked on the Council website she came across a 2024 version. And when she went into Council to get the key for tonight, there were 4 copies of the Marton Civil Defence Plan.

Mr Whittaker said things are happening but can we let the public know? 2024 is just about finished now. It is a good effort.

HWTM said it won't be refreshed every year either. He raised this issue at another Community Committee meeting where Paul Chaffe was at it. What we are seeing in NZ is there will be far more high intensity Civil Defence issues, last year was flooding. There were a number of occasions where initial thoughts had indicated what could be cataclysmic event but staff have looked at it and

thought it doesn't look to be true, he would wait and see. What he is saying to staff is he would much rather he declared and bring teams of people together then stand them down. With Cyclone Gabrielle, we measured the flood waters routinely at a number of places on the Rangitikei so they know 8 or 9 hours ahead of time, what is coming our way. In 2004, which is regarded as the 200 year type flood, it hit 8.5 metres at Mangaweka. The initial information for Cyclone Gabrielle was to say it could hit 10.5 metres. This would have taken most of the bridges in the Rangitikei, flooded substantial parts of Bulls, Scotts Ferry, stop banks could not cope with a 10.5 event. It didn't look as though it was plausible so he was told late at night that was the early figure so he said they will review at 6am first light and declare if didn't play out that way. Cyclone Gabrielle for other districts had similar sorts of things and they didn't take action early enough. He would far rather they declare and get people together and get into the mindset then say sorry its changed you can go home. There were a whole heaps of issues.

Mr Whittaker said this is something to think about and this has got the ball rolling.

HWTM Watson said from his point of view, say it had passed over the top and come around, there would have been lives lost and communities destroyed so he takes the view, staff please tell him earlier enough the worst case scenario and we will take action accordingly. Removing people out of Scotts Ferry, Koitiata, Turakina Beach is problematic.

Mr Christison asked shouldn't our communities in flood zones and problem areas already know that and there must be an electronic way to communicate to say we have looked at these weather patterns and it's not looking good, I really wouldn't be there for the next few days.

HWTM Watson said the way that is done electronically now is you can go and be listed as a person of interest free of charge through Horizons. They are the ones that say here is the actual rain fall and here are the predicted river heights and anyone can say at such and such a level, say the Mangaweka Bridge is 6 metres is going to be an issue for you, and if its projected it's going to hit 6 metres, you will get an automatic call and it will tell you this is the prediction and you have asked to be called.

Mr Smith said it is on their website. It doesn't work for the Tutaenui but there is a method of monitor the levels of rainfall and the stream. He asked HWTM Watson regarding, when he says declaring, does he mean getting the people together and not declaring a state of emergency, or you can't do that without declaring a state of emergency?

HWTM Watson said if you have an event, the process is staff go to him and say they are concerned, then he can ask questions, but it is his decision to declare. The Mayor is who declares. Once he declares, it then passes to the area Controllers and other people who have their responsibilities. Short of him declaring, there is also a process where they can start to warn people, this is what we are monitoring and this is what we are seeing and not requiring a formal declaration. A declaration is done when he thinks they haven't got processes in place therefore people or property are at risk. Often you can say, staff are comfortable you can handle this without outside assistance, sometimes they will say we have it all in hand and here is what we are doing, we have warned these people, we don't think you need to declare. HWTM Watson can override that, he can say no I don't like your explanation and I am declaring.

Mr Smith said there is also the intermediate area where they are concerned, they know there will be some level of flooding but people like himself are effected by that are not warned by any system. He is basically on his own, as well as his neighbours. Referring in particular to the May 2023 flood

that went through Bulls. They were effected, he had contact with the Council in the morning that the road was flooding he had no further communication and made the singular decision to evacuate, then the Fire Brigade turned up. It didn't work, so they need an intermediate system where it's not a full declaration but where people are at risk and Council knows it's going to be flooding like 2 hours further down the Tutaenui, are warned.

HWTM Watson said that routinely happens, there have been a number of occasions where they have been told there are going to be very high river levels or that an event is playing out. The reason for declaring is it gives the staff powers to do all sorts of things.

Ms Moore left at 8.05pm

10.4 Sale of the Marton building

Mr Whittaker asked if there had been any updates on the sale of the building in town.

HWTM Watson said there have been three or four expressions of interest with them. They are public excluded because they are talking financial figures. So yes, there is interest and Council will engage with the parties and try to understand and answer their questions.

10.5 Main Street upgrade

Mr Whittaker asked what about the \$200,000 proposal for the main street.

HWTM Watson said that was part of the Long Term Plan consideration.

Mrs Bovey confirmed this was what the drop in session on 17 October was about.

10.5 Capital Expense Review

HTWM Watson has also asked for a review of capital expense because there are a number of unexpected costs, potentially the Marton Pool, roading etc. Also because the Prime Minister and Government have come out very strongly and said they will scrutinise the budgets and if we are doing work they deem not to be needed or under the four wellbeings, they may say they are going to restrict the budgets. Everything we do also get scrutinised in terms of how Government are positioning themselves.

10.6 Significance and Engagement Policy

Mrs Bates said the Significance and Engagement Policy talks in terms of things being categorised as low, medium and high. What warrants those decisions to put something low versus high.

HWTM Watson said there is a type of matrix where you tick boxes as to significance. If it is of low intensity and effects a limited number of people it would tend to be of low significance. If it is very highly significant the effect on people is extremely high even though there is a small number of people, it may well say it is very significant.

Mrs Bates asked if that matrix is something she can have a look to better understand how the process works?

HTWM Watson said there are matrix risks that were public documents under Order to Risk.

Mrs Bates asked if she searched on the Council website, what is she looking for. She asked if someone could email her the link to the right document.

ACTION: Mrs Bovey will email this information to Mrs Bates.

Mrs Bates said this topic could potentially be on the next Order Paper.

10.7 Local Water Done Well

HWTM Watson said with Local Water Done Well, if any individual group or person, if he can timetable it, he is more than happy to spend time answering questions. The reality is people are not going to understand this.

10.8 Shop Local Rangitikei Campaign

Mrs Bovey presented the poster to preview this campaign to the Committee on behalf of Jarod Calkin. Spend \$20 at any store in the Rangitikei and go into the draw starting 20 October. This can be promoted from now and any receipt from a local business in the Rangitikei can be submitted. Click on the QR code for the terms and conditions.

Resolved minute number 24/MCC/041

Mrs B Harvey-Larsen/Mr J Whittaker. Carried

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Marton Community Committee held on 11 December 2024.

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Chairperson