



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDER PAPER

MARTON COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 9 October 2024
Time: 6.00pm
Venue: 18 Humphrey Street
Marton

Chair: Ms Carolyn Bates
Deputy Chair: Mr David Christison
Membership: Ms Lyn Duncan
Mr Peter Farrell
Ms Jennifer Greener
Ms Belinda Harvey-Larsen
Ms Sally Moore
Mr John Whittaker
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Greg Maughan (Alternate)
HWTM Andy Watson

Purpose of the Committee

- To provide a local link and point of contact for Council liaison with the community.
- To provide for the exchange of information, communication, and to assist with the Council's consultative processes.
- To exercise delegated authority for the annual allocation of \$1.00 per rateable property for "defined small local works" in line with the guidelines provided¹.
- Particularly, to help ensure that any minor remedial or renewal works are brought to Council's attention through the Request for Service procedure, by promoting its use and advising community members on how to use it.
- To be the first point of contact (prior to Council) for community groups. Where this is not possible, the Committee will be informed of the approach by the community group to the Council.
- To engage with wider/small communities of the ward represented.

For any enquiries regarding this agenda, please contact:

Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor, 0800 422 522 (ext. 917), or via email

kezia.spence@rangitikei.govt.nz

¹ Appended to the Delegations Register

Notice is hereby given that a Marton Community Committee Meeting of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the 18 Humphrey Street, Marton on Wednesday, 9 October 2024 at 6.00pm.

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AGENDA

1 Welcome

2 Apologies

3 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 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 **Marton Community Committee Meeting held on 21 August 2024** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Marton Community Committee Meeting - 21 August 2024**

Recommendation

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

ITEM 6.1

ATTACHMENT 1



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

UNCONFIRMED 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

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1 Welcome

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number **24/MCC/023**

That the apology received from HWTM Watson and Mr Whittaker be accepted.

Mr Farrell did not attend the meeting.

Mrs L Duncan/Ms S Moore. Carried

3 Public Forum

3.1 Libby Rayner, Rangitikei Community Connector, Healthy Active Learning, Sport Whanganui joined the meeting at 6.24pm to speak in support of her application to the Small Projects Fund to provide equipment used for the Rangitikei School’s Basketball League held at Memorial Hall.

Mrs Rayner explained the first trial was a success, so they ran it again, now it’s being run a third time. The atmosphere is vibrant, and the league is reaching out to the whanau, family, and friends.

This was the original wish list and Mrs Rayner answered questions relating to what the funding would be used for, the numbers attending, the growth and how long it has been going for. She explained it was financially challenging for children and their families to be involved.

The committee noted there were some discrepancies in what was asked for and the quotes.

Regarding the First Aid Kits, Mrs Harvey-Larsen suggested the Red Cross may provide them for free.

Mrs Bates asked if the calculations provided were funded, would that be enough to carry on, Mrs Rayner said yes. Discussion by the committee about the funding would take place during the Small Projects Fund part of the meeting and Mrs Bates would be in touch.

3.2 Mark Pringle from Weekly Marton Men’s Circle joined the meeting at 6.27pm and spoke in support of his application from the Small Projects Fund to provide Facebook advertising promoting his weekly support meetings for men. Mr Pringle is a promoter and marketer by trade and felt this advertising would bring the 20–50-year-olds and they may bring their mates.

Mr Pringle had applied for funding for advertising as the group was at a stalemate, they had 8–12 men attend each week but he was hoping for more. He was also wanting to find someone to join that is competent and could continue with this as he would be leaving the area in some months.

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

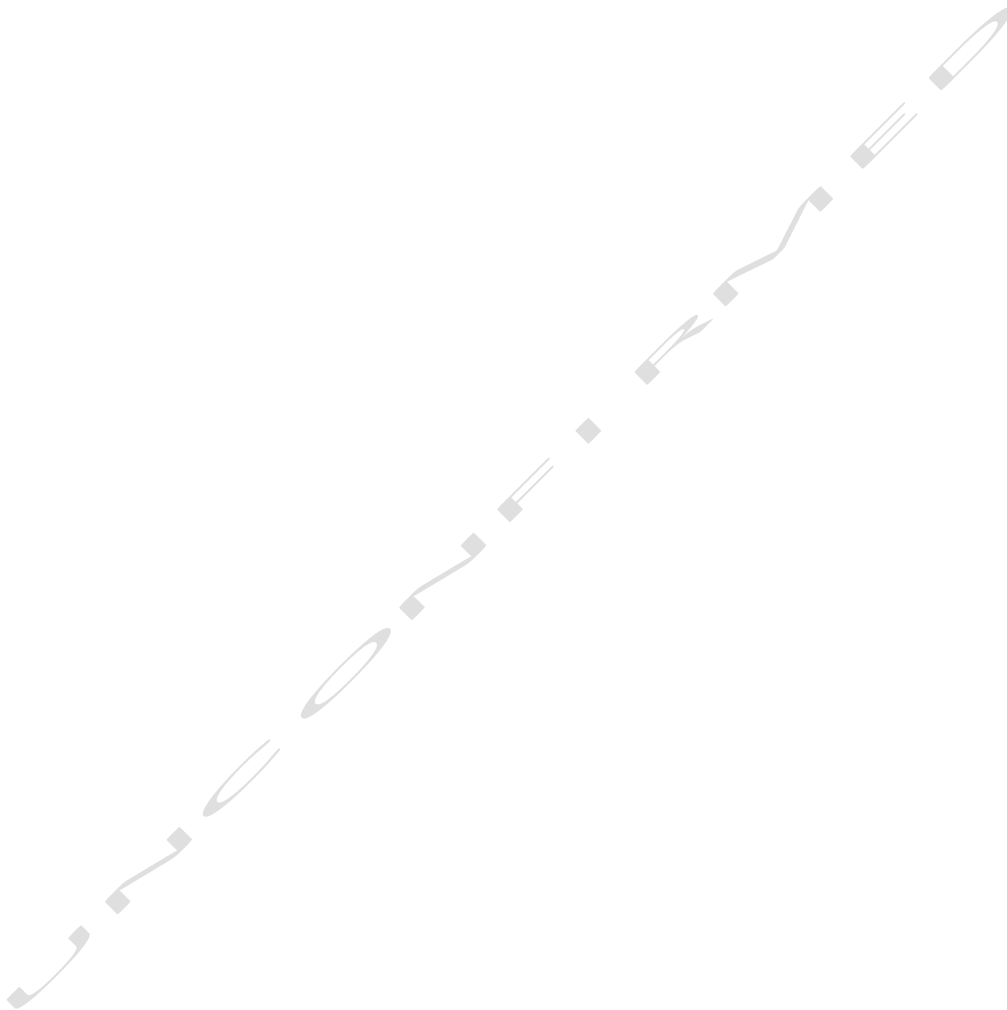
The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Marton Community Committee held on 9 October 2024.

ITEM 6.1

ATTACHMENT 1

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Chairperson



7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Marton Community Committee Meetings

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Marton Community Committee meetings. Items indicate who is responsible for 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 Marton Community Committee Meetings' be received.

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	21-Aug-24	The Marton Community committee endorses and supports the addition of water access on the deck of the Tutaenui Hall.	Sheryl S	This has been passed on to the property team.	In progress.
2	14-Feb-24	Update on Calico Line footpath installation	Arno	Staff are working through this process with landowners. Staff will continue to update this item for the committees information.	In progress

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - October 2024

Author: Carolyn Bates, Chair

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 A verbal report will be provided during the meeting.

Recommendation

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

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Mayor's Report - 29 August 2024

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

There are so many things to cover for this report it is difficult to know where to start. Perhaps the best place is a thank you to Kevin Ross, our Chief Executive, and staff - the workload especially around understanding Government's options regarding the Three Waters changes takes some understanding and resource. So:

1. Three Waters – the second tranche of legislation means that councils have to submit, within a year, a plan to Wellington for approval. This plan and timeframes can be summarised, in my opinion, by the following process –
 - i) Councils can opt to prepare their plan as a joint plan with other councils as a regional CCO.
 - ii) Councils can go it alone.
 - iii) Step i) is now through to November?? Councils analyse the group costs/financial impacts/risks around various options for Councillors to come up with a preferred option and alternatives.
 - iv) November on – community/iwi discussion around consultation of our preferred option.
 - v) December this year – Council will be faced with new regulations and charters.
 - vi) Council votes on a plan to go to Wellington potentially in June??
 - vii) Wellington decides whether to approve the plan or potentially add Councils to other groups if their plan doesn't meet requirements.

I have tried to simplify the explanation, but the devil is in the detail/costs/risks. The plan must allow for compliance, future growth and funding for the Three Waters (provision of wastewater, drinking water and stormwater). The tough part is understanding what, if any, advantages there could be in working with other councils from our neighbouring regions and understanding their costs now and in the future. My impression is that under the new rules given it may be difficult to go it alone but let's see where the next few months takes us. Remember also that finance is only part of the discussion. Staffing resources nationally and locally will be challenging. Government regulations and new standards for compliance will probably be announced in December along with price regulation. Councils currently do work together on many fronts and whatever decisions are taken need to be taken with the long term future in mind.

2. As a Council we have been thrown another curve ball with the failure of the laminated beams holding up the Marton Swimming Pool roof. Expert opinions are being sought at the time of writing this report, ten days ahead of the Council meeting. I am hopeful that at that meeting myself or staff will be able to provide updates that are needed for the community. Our pool is a fantastic resource and needs to be open as soon as is possible. It could well be partially

covered by insurance but I suspect it will come at a cost beyond the allocation in our LTP for pool maintenance. We will find a way of funding it as, in my view, it is a priority. We will use the Council comms process to advise both the community and affected staff as early as possible.

3. On 21-23 August Kevin and myself, along with Councillors Loudon, Hiroa and Dalgety will be attending the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) conference in Wellington. Most Councils belong to LGNZ and we use LGNZ as an organisation to take our arguments to Government and we submit remits and priorities that we want Government to address. If I am honest, our organisation nationally is not in great shape with both Auckland and Christchurch along with a couple of other smaller Councils having resigned their membership. This means that over half of New Zealand’s population is now not represented in Local Government. This is a tragedy as we need to be strong as a sector to hold the Government accountable. This may mean that the Wellington conference could be quite challenging. I will provide an update to this report summarising the LGNZ conference speakers and remits at the 29 August Council meeting.
4. Recently the Winstone Pulp Mill at Tangiwai has taken the step to cease operations indefinitely. This decision impacts directly on 230 jobs and probably at least another 100 jobs indirectly. While the mill is located within the Ruapehu District many of these workers will be from the Rangitikei. The prices received for pulp and timber are currently soft on the international market and the cost of electrical power on the spot market has risen to nearly \$500 per MWh. These energy prices are extreme and make the mill unsustainable. I am not sure what solutions are possible but I will engage with both the mill and the Government further.
5. Recently Marton in particular has been at the front of national news over the history of events at Lake Alice Psychiatric Hospital many years ago. The Government has acknowledged that Lake Alice “patients” and wards of the state were subjected, in many cases, to what has been rightfully termed as torture. This abuse under care happened at many other locations in New Zealand and compensation offered by the Government can never recompense the harm that was done.
6. On 12-14 August Palmerston North hosted the Trade Waste and Industrial Waters Forum. I was a guest speaker and in talking to many trade waste professional contractors and staff you realise how disruptive the lack of knowledge in the Three Waters space is for these people. Quite literally they do not know whether to accept job offers that are being made to them and how secure their existing contracts of employment are.
7. Our Chief Executive Kevin accepted the role as CE in our district on a short term basis. Council has made the decision to appoint in Public Excluded today a recruitment agency to assist us with a new appointment. These processes take time and it may mean that a new CE won’t take up the role until early next year. Coming up to speed for the new CE will be challenging with two new capital builds in Taihape and Marton, Three Waters implications and new roading contracts.
8. On 16 July I attended a lunch with the Youth Council hosted by Mayor Tory Whanau of Wellington. This lunch served as the opener for the 2024 Festival for the Future and it gave me the opportunity to spend the best part of the day with our Youth Councillors including an evening meal. The Youth Council and youth voice in our district is incredibly important and we

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have membership from both ends of the district and across all of our secondary schools. I have attached a couple of pictures from the day.

9. There are a couple of congratulations that are appropriate –
 - a) On 29 August the Rangitikei Rivers Catchment Collective are holding their AGM at Rangatira Golf Club at 4.30pm. Their commitment and success is widely recognised across New Zealand and they deserve acknowledgement. Driven by people such as Roger Dalrymple and others, they have set up river monitoring and improvement/retirement schemes.
 - b) On 18 August I attended a district farewell for George and Diana Turney at Mangaweka Asparagus Farm, an industry that they founded. The turnout was huge, they are a “larger than life” couple. George and Diana were community drivers in employment, rotary and Local Government with George serving two terms as a Councillor. They took enormous personal/financial risks setting up in business and the community turned up en masse to farewell and give respects to them.
 - c) Simon Nitschke a local Marton farmer was recently voted the Arable Farmer of the Year and Maize Grower of the Year at an industry awards night. Congratulations Simon.

Mayors Engagement

August 2024

1	Attended Regional Infrastructure Fund Discussion with MBIE Attended Workshop on Marton Offices and Library Project
2	Attended function at Government House for survivors of Abuse in Care
5	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended Mayor’s Taskforce for Jobs Governance Group Online Meeting Attended Hunterville Rural Water Scheme Meeting Attended Hunterville Community Committee Meeting
6	Attended Rangitikei River Scheme Meeting at Horizons Attended online Mayor’s/CE’s forum on Three Waters Attended Porewa Stream Scheme Meeting at Horizons Attended Whangaehu-Mangawhero Scheme Liaison Committee Meeting at Horizons Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
7	Attended monthly meeting for Q&A with Executive Leadership Team Attended Taihape Network Meeting Attended Economic Wellbeing Strategy discussion with Beca
8	Attended Marton Offices and Library Project Governance Group Meeting Attended Council Workshop Attended LGNZ Roundtable Zoom – Physical Security & Safety

	Attended Turakina Community Committee Meeting
9	Attended Fortnightly Economic Development Meeting with staff Attended Workshop on Marton Offices and Library Project
10	Attended Marton Fire Brigade Honours Night
12	Attended Mayor’s Taskforce for Jobs Core Group Online Social Investment Workshop Attended Local Water Done Well – virtual information session Attended Mayoral Forum Attended NZ Trade & Industrial Waters Forum President’s Dinner
13	Attended NZ Trade & Industrial Waters Forum 2024 as Keynote Speaker Attended NZ Trade & Industrial Waters Forum Conference Dinner
14	Attended online meeting with Mayor Kirsten Wise Attended Taihape Community Board meeting
15	Attended Assets & Infrastructure Workshop Attended Accessing Central NZ Governance Group Meeting
16	Attended meeting with Manawaroa Ltd in Tauranga
17	Attended Taihape Netball Closing Day Prizegiving
18	Attended farewell lunch function for George & Diana Turney
19	Attended breakfast meeting with Mayor Helen Worboys Attended Meet & Greet with Higgins Attended Meeting with Mayor Andrew Tripe Attended Council agenda meeting with staff
20	Attended Mayor’s Breakfast meeting with Mayors Helen Worboys & Grant Smith Attended Regional Relationship Catchup with NZTA Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
21	Attended LGNZ SuperLocal 2024 Conference Opening & Welcome Reception
22	Attended Mayor’s Taskforce for Jobs AGM Attended LGNZ SuperLocal 2024 Conference
23	Attended LGNZ SuperLocal 2024 Conference & Awards Dinner
26	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended meeting with ratepayers in Hunterville
27	Attended Regional Transport Matters Regional Chiefs Matters Fortnightly Zoom Attended NZTHA Local Planning Zoom Attended DairyNZ Rural Professional Meeting Manawatu Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
28	Attended Mayor’s Taskforce for Jobs New Plymouth Visit Attended Marton Offices and Library Project Workshop

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	Attended Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/Whanganui AGM
29	To attend Finance & Performance Committee Meeting To attend Council Meeting To attend Rangitikei Rivers Catchment Collective AGM To attend MDG AGM
30	To attend meeting with Chief Executive To attend meeting with GM Department of Corrections Taranaki/Whanganui/Manawatu To attend Zone 3 Chairs Zoom Meeting To attend Whangaehu School Assembly To attend Local Waters Done Well – Models for the Future Zoom with Veolia

Attachments:

1. **Youth Council Photo - Wellington July** [↓](#)
2. **Youth Council Wellington** [↓](#)
3. **Elected Member Attendance** [↓](#)

Recommendation

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



ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 2



	A	B	C	D	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
2	Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Carter	Dalgety	Duncan	Hiroa	Lambert	Loudon	Maughan	Sharland	Raukawa	Wong
174	29-May-24	Creative NZ Committee	PR				PR							
175	30-May-24	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	AP	PR				PR	PR	AP		PR
176	30-May-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
177	6-Jun-24	Turakina CC	PR		AP							AT		
178	10-Jun-24	HRWS	PR			PR			PR					
179	10-Jun-24	Hunterville CC	CB			PR			PR					
180	11-Jun-24	TRAK Meeting	PR				PR	PR					PR	
181	11-Jun-24	ERWS	PR											PR
182	11-Jun-24	Ratana CB	PR					PR						
183	12-Jun-24	Marton CC	CB	PR										
184	12-Jun-24	Taihape CB	PR				PR							PR
185	13-Jun-24	PPL Meeting	PR	PR			PR	PR	PR		AP			PR
186	19-Jun-24	Santoft DMC	PR		PR							AT		
187	20-Jun-24	RA Meeting	PR	PR		PR		PR		PR				
188	27-Jun-24	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	AT			PR	PR	PR		PR
189	27-Jun-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
190	11-Jul-24	AIN Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR		PR	PR	PR	PR		PR
191	25-Jul-24	Council Workshop												
192	25-Jul-24	PPL Hearings	PR	PR			PR	PR	PR	AT	PR	AT	AT	PR
193	25-Jul-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
194	5-Aug-24	HRWS	PR			PR			PR					
195	5-Aug-24	Hunterville CC	PR			PR			PR					
196	8-Aug-24	Council Workshop												
197	8-Aug-24	Turakina CC	PR		PR									
198	12-Aug-24	Youth Council	PR				PR							PR
199	13-Aug-24	TRAK	CB					PR					PR	
200	14-Aug-24	Taihape CB	PR				PR							PR

9.2 Mayor's Report - 26 September 2024

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

I apologise for this report being late and therefore not included automatically in the Council agenda as circulated initially. Beth and I took a holiday and a breather for the first time in years to look around the South Island, returning just as this report was due. While I understand there will be no interest in our trip, there are a couple of reflections on the trip that have a relevance to our Council business.

- 1.1 Roothing - many of the South Island Council authorities have huge land areas but they have, from a roading perspective, significant advantages. Most of their roads are state highways with minimal roads to be locally funded and those that are locally funded are formed on a very solid and stable rock base. Metal is available everywhere, so cartage is low cost enabling very effective construction and reseal programmes. I envy them – our roads are often formed on soils that are poor, are subject to flooding, earth movement on slip zones and are built, in a lot of cases, a significant distance from metal sources. I guess these are the reasons and arguments for our enhanced FAR rates (financial assistance rates from Government).
- 1.2 The West Coast was predictably incredibly wet and challenging and that is one of the beauties of the coast. However, once you hit Bluff and start travelling north, particularly inland through places like the McKenzie District and Basin, it is a dust bowl. Because of the closure of the two mills at Tangiwai, I was interested in the power generation of New Zealand and so made a point of visiting most of the hydro schemes in the South Island. These hydro lakes, especially at Tekapo, are incredibly low hence the price of power in New Zealand. The Alps have significant snow to melt to feed these reservoirs which is great but there will be no immediate relief for those trying to farm within these catchments.
- 1.3 The South Island is swamped with tourists and Queenstown in particular is facing significant congestion and housing accommodation pressure for their workforce. Yes, tourists do spend money and support the local economy, but if travelling via camper vans contribute little (no rates) to supplying the services needed. This supports the arguments for visitor taxes.
- 1.4 For the rest of my report, I start by honouring and recognising our new Māori Queen and an acknowledgement to the service and passing of the Māori King.

It was with sadness that Rangitīkei District Council acknowledged the passing of Kiingi Tūheitia, the Māori King on 30 August. May his legacy continue to inspire and guide us towards a united future. In respect and honour of Kiingi Tūheitia’s life, flags across the Rangitīkei were flown at half mast.

I would like to acknowledge and extend our respect to Kuini Nga-wai-hono-i-te-pō, the new Māori Queen. She succeeds her father, Kiingi Tūheitia, to become the eighth Māori Monarch (and only the second Queen).

- 1.5 I referred earlier to roading and there are a couple of updates –
 - i) The Government signalled that the build of our new major roads would be partially funded by way of a toll system. For us in our region this will mean tolls on the Te Ahu a Turanga linking Ashhurst to Tararua district and O2NL (the Otaki to North of Levin state highway). Submissions to these two separate tolls are due by 30 September and hopefully after a meeting with my fellow regional mayors, I may have a suggested response for this

meeting as I suspect that we need to support Palmerston North City Council, Tararua District Council and Horowhenua District Council as well as our own position.

- ii) On 30 September NZTA (New Zealand Transport Agency) confirmed our roading budgets. As indicated in our Long Term Plan, our maintenance budgets were reduced by \$5m over the three year term. Since then we have had a further reduction in what is called Low-Cost Low-Risk work that is used to improve local roads often as part of resilience work. We had requested \$12.8m and have received only \$300,000. From a short-term view this means that we have some budget available from what is a rated position of our share to reallocate. From a longer-term district view this reduction is challenging. There is also a potential trap here for authorities. Government, in making these cuts through NZTA, have also signalled that it will review some of our other resilience projects separately later so our spend could rise and that there is a further \$100m fund for resilience that can be applied for. So, if we reallocate funding now we could be in a difficult position later.

1.6 Our Capital Works Programme – at the LGNZ Conference I reported on earlier, both the Prime Minister and Minister Simeon Brown (Minister Local Government and Infrastructure) were very direct in referencing the removal of the four well-beings and the need to focus purely on essential work. They have since re-enforced this thinking by saying that if you apply for the Regional Infrastructure Funds (similar to Minister Jones’ previous funds) your budgets will be scrutinised. Council has been prudent, but we will also be facing some additional costs and uncertainty over programmed costs. These may include –

- a) Unforeseen costs for the Marton Pool which could be significant as indicated in this Council agenda;
- b) Uncertainty over budgets for two major builds in both Marton and Taihape.

Council should, in my opinion, be proactive here and as such I am making two recommendations as part of my report –

- a. Council reviews our Capex budget (capital spend) in this year’s Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan as soon as is possible.
- b. That staff provide direction/costings for this review based on best estimates available now and that staff also provide a report on the process required for an amendment to next year’s Annual Plan and this year’s Long Term Plan.

Amendments to Long Term Plans do come at a cost and I recognise that this also means a challenge to staff capacity and the need to consult. Regardless of the work that I am signalling, Council will face an amendment to the LTP already because of the Three Waters position with the likelihood of some sort of regional Three Waters CCO (Council Controlled Organisation) as required by Government.

1.7 On a positive note, I would like to welcome Linda and Den, the new owners of Fresh Choice to Marton and the Rangitikei. Fresh Choice, as I understand it, is a franchise owned subsidiary of the Woolworths New Zealand Group. The reshape of the store looks great and I would like to thank Deputy Mayor Dave for filling in for me at the official opening.

1.8 As part of the planning for the strengthening and refit of the Taihape Town Hall, Maycroft our preferred contractor, is digging a series of holes outside the building to check on the foundations that are there. Once that is done, they will be in a position to provide a contract price for the build work.

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- 1.9 On Friday 27 September Rangitikei will host a Regional Growth Summit at Te Matapihi. This will be attended by the Regional Mayors/Chief Executives and some of the Councillors along with many of the region's principal industries. The event will be jointly hosted by ourselves, Department of Internal Affairs and Accelerate 35 the regional economic development group which are funded through Horizons. Several key Ministers will be there including Minister Jones. I will report back on this event later, but the format is really a given. Government has a fund that has been well publicised with the focus on creating economic growth for New Zealand that is unable to be used for a variety of things including three waters related projects. Minister Jones will want to emphasize the rules, the opportunity and stress that the assistance by and large will be on providing loan facilities. Any work that is assisted by Government will need to be consent ready etc. What will be of real interest will be the Q&A session from industries which may well include a question for example on electricity supply and cost.
- 1.10 In a similar vein, on Friday I sat in on a webinar on regional funding options called Reginal Deals which is separate to the above. The key messages are –
- i. They are regional in nature focussed on economic development.
 - ii. They are long term with a 30 year vision and negotiate 10-year plans.
 - iii. They will be linked to Council Long Term Plans.
 - iv. They should include community input and may include private/public partnerships.
 - v. Central and Local Government will establish an oversight body with an independent Chair.
 - vi. They can be used for resilience of infrastructure and housing.
 - vii. The selection of the first 5 regions should be known and signed up by the end of next year.
 - viii. The Regions are not necessarily the same as Regional Council regions. There could be various groupings.
 - ix. Regional deals in the future will need to be aligned to Local Government election cycles.

The message is also clear that for at least the first few deals Government does not have cash to support the regional deals, so assistance will be by the way of -

- a. Providing regulatory assistance/relief.
 - b. Unlocking funding tools which may be a reference to LGFA funding (The Local Government Funding Agency).
- 1.11 Three Waters or Local Water Done Well - for some time, the regional Chief Executives have been working with staff to understand the costs each Council will face to provide for drinking water and wastewater provisions over the next 30 years while focussing on the first ten years. This work has been exhaustive and has been hampered by continual changes of Government direction. Lately the regional Mayors have been part of those discussions and the first official briefings for Councillors were last week. Government has conceded that for regional CCO's there has to be consultation and at least a limited amendment to LTP's. These changes represent the most significant change to Local Government since 1989 and in my opinion must

be consulted on. To meet the Local Government Act requirements, Councils will need to show a preferred Council position and the other option or options that could be considered. To understand the options Council will need to engage with other Councils as we are and to also engage with industry and Iwi. Councils will also need to determine how they intend to deal with stormwater.

Time is the difficulty - Government has legislated that Council have under a year to have a Council approved plan submitted to Internal affairs in Wellington. To meet this timeframe each Council in a possible regional CCO mix would need to have a preferred option before the end of this year. That would allow for a consultation as part of an Annual Plan prepared in April and May.

While all of the regional Councils are working together, some Councils are looking at options beyond the regional boundaries as well which is wise and while unlikely in my opinion a Council could look to go it alone and form a CCO alone. All this means is that the landscape could well change late this year.

The Councils are not yet able to share the financial modelling which still continues to change but what is becoming apparent is that financially it may make little difference over time as to which Councils are in or out.

- 1.12 Marton Op Shop – At the recent AGM I was asked about whether Council would contribute to the cost of disposing of items that are not able to be sold and have to be taken to the Waste Transfer Station. I will expand more on this at the meeting.

Mayor’s Engagements

September 2024

2	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended meeting with GM Department of Corrections Attended Climate Action Joint Committee Attended Mayoral Forum
3	Attended Emergency Management Standing Committee Meeting Attended Regional Transport Committee Meeting Attended Council Webinar – Water Services Delivery Plans
4	Attended monthly meeting for Q&A with Executive Leadership Team Attended walk-through Taihape Town Hall Building with Elected Members Attended meeting with BECA
5	Attended Meet & Greet with new owners of Fresh Choice Marton, Linda and Den Attended BA5 Meeting at Honest Wolf Hunterville
6	Attended Accelerate25 Meeting
10	Attended Council Webinar – Water Services Delivery Models & Financing Options Attended Weekly Meeting with Deputy Mayor
18	Attended meeting with Chief Executive

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	<p>Attended Risk & Assurance Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Local Water Done Well – Sub Regional Briefing Meeting</p>
19	<p>Attended LGNZ Transport Forum Meeting Wellington</p>
20	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Fortnightly Economic Development Meeting with Staff</p> <p>Attended Regional Deals Strategic Framework online session</p> <p>Attended meeting with Jackson Stone Recruitment Agency</p>
23	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Governance Group Online Meeting</p> <p>Attended Manawatu-Whanganui Disaster Relief Fund Trust Online Meeting</p> <p>Attended Marton Christian Welfare Council AGM</p>
24	<p>Attended NZTA Regional Relationship Online Meeting</p> <p>Attended Citizenship Ceremony</p> <p>Attended Powerco “Achieving a Balanced Energy Transition” Event</p>
25	<p>Attended Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Workshop</p> <p>Attended Youth Council Meeting</p>
26	<p>To attend Whanganui Community Foundation AGM</p> <p>To attend Finance/Performance Committee Meeting</p> <p>To attend Council Meeting</p>
27	<p>To attend meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>To attend Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Growth Summit with Minister Jones</p>
30	<p>To attend meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>To attend LGNZ Focus Group Online Meeting</p>

Recommendation 1

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

9.3 Funding Schemes Update - October 2024

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Overview

- 1.1 Council currently administers four funding schemes for the Rangitikei District, these are:
 - a. Community Initiatives Fund
 - b. Events Sponsorship Scheme
 - c. Creative Communities Scheme
 - d. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

2. Community Initiatives Fund

- 2.1 This is a Council fund intended to support community-based projects in the Rangitikei District that develop community cohesion and community resilience.
- 2.2 Council allocated \$30,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 2.3 Round one for 2024/25 opened 01 July 24 and closed 31 August 24. Decisions were made at the September Finance and Performance meeting with funds totalling \$12,337.
- 2.4 Successful applicants were:
 - 2.4.1 Bulls and Community Development Trust
 - 2.4.2 Marton and Districts Budget Service
 - 2.4.3 Parkinson's NZ
 - 2.4.4 House of Science NZ Charitable Trust
 - 2.4.5 Te Kai Whaka Ora- Marton Youth Trust
 - 2.4.6 Forest and Bird Society- Rangitikei Branch
 - 2.4.7 Marton and Surrounds ICT Hub Charitable Trust
 - 2.4.8 Marton and District Historical Society
- 2.5 Round two for 2024/25 will open on the 01 February 25 and closes 31 March 25. Decisions will be made at the following Finance/Performance meeting.

3. Events Support Scheme

- 3.1 This is a Council fund intended to support events in the district that help to develop community cohesion and reinforce economic growth.
- 3.2 Council has allocated \$25,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 3.3 Round one for 2024/25 opened 01 July 24 and closed 31 August 24. Decisions were made at the September Finance and Performance meeting totalling \$15,460.
- 3.4 Successful applicants were:
 - 3.4.1 Turakina Caledonian Society

3.4.2 Hunterville Huntaway festival

3.4.3 BCDT, Christmas Parade

3.4.4 Manawatu Wanganui Golf Ass Inc

3.4.5 Taihape Area Dressage Group

3.4.6 3 Stand 8-Hour Strong Wool Shearing Record Attempt- Hunterville

3.4.7 Marton Country Music Festival

3.4.8 BCDT, Bulls 147th Annual Rose Show and Fest a Bull

3.4.9 St Joseph's School PTA

3.5 Round two for 2024/25 will open on the 01 February 25 and closes 31 March 25. Decisions will be made at the following Finance/Performance meeting.

4. Creative Communities Scheme

4.1 This fund is supplied by Creative NZ and administered by Council. Applications are encouraged from community groups and individuals whose projects:

- Demonstrate growth over time
- Develop and support local artistic communities
- Encourage a transfer of artistic skills
- Support diversity and inclusion
- Projects with a youth focus are also encouraged

4.2 Creative NZ typically allocates \$24,090 (+ GST) to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis, and this is distributed across two separate funding rounds.

4.3 Round one for 2024/25 opened 21 June 24 and closes 09 October 24.

5. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

5.1 This fund is supplied by Sport NZ and administered by Council. The fund is targeted at young people aged between 5 and 19 years and is open to rural sport club teams and rural school club teams with eligible members who require subsidies to assist with transport expenses to local sporting competitions.

5.2 Sport NZ allocated \$9,500 (+ GST) to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis. There is one funding round per year.

5.3 Applications are now open for this fund and close 31 March 25. The decision will be made in April.

6. Further Information

6.1 More details about these funding opportunities can be found on the Council website (link below) and this is also where applications can be submitted:

<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/community/grants-funding>

Recommendation

That the Funding Schemes Update –October 2024 be received.

9.4 Small Projects Fund Update - October 2024

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Allocation

1.1 The yearly allocation of the 2024/25 Small Projects Fund for the Marton Community Committee is \$4,167.19, this includes the carry-forward of \$667.19.

2. Breakdown of Allocation

2.1 The Chair advised staff that the Men’s Group no longer requires funds.

2.2 Sport Whanganui has been earmarked \$850 and staff are awaiting confirmation of purchases before proceeding with payment.

2.3 The remaining funds available to the committee are **\$3,317.19**.

3. Requests

3.1 Marton Community Garden

3.1.1 The Chair noted that there have been several instances of plants / produce being taken from the Marton Community Garden.

3.1.2 Using the Small Projects Fund to support purchasing a security system.

Recommendation

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

9.5 Marton Water Strategy Update

Author: Sophia Sykes, Communications Manager

1. Reason for Report

1.1 This is included for the committee’s information and has been taken directly from the media update.

2. Report

It’s been a while since we’ve updated you on what’s happening with the Marton Water Strategy, but that doesn’t mean that the work has stopped.

In fact, up at the Marton Water Treatment Plant we have a trial treatment plant that has been running for twelve weeks, which is being monitored for operating efficiencies and treatment capabilities. The next step will be to move it to Tutaenui Reservoir where the new bore has been drilled, so you may notice some mahi going on over the next few weeks in preparation for the move.

We’ll be gathering data and test results from the bores to ensure we have confidence around the trial plant’s effectiveness in treating the new water supply.

“Why can’t you just treat the water the same way that it’s treated now?”

Water from a bore is very different to the water that comes from rivers, lakes and reservoirs. It has a different mixture of minerals and suspended material than you would find in surface water which means the treatment used also needs to be different.

We have approximately eight to twelve weeks of testing of the trial plant at the reservoir to do, and once we’ve completed this and analysed the results, we’ll be able to move forward with the upgrading works of the full-scale treatment plant.

This does mean that there will be a delay in the completion date of the project. Construction of the new treatment system will begin before the end of this year with a goal of completing it by mid-2025. The delay will not cost ratepayers extra, as the overall budget for the project is not impacted.

The trial plant is an extra process that we’ve decided to take to ensure that the treatment system has been fully tested for operating efficiencies, drinking water quality, discharge water quantity and quality, including gathering a good understanding around operating costs. Once the project is complete, Marton residents will be able to enjoy a much better water supply for years to come.

Recommendation

That the Marton Water Strategy Update be received

9.6 Marton Pool Update

Author: Sophia Sykes, Communications Manager

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To update the Marton Community Committee on the Marton Pool.

[Media release – 27th September 2024](#)

Key messages

- At the Council meeting held Thursday 26 September 2024, Rangitikei District Council discussed recommendations regarding the reopening of Marton Swim Centre.
- After significant debate, council voted to close the Marton Swim Centre over the 2024/25 summer season. The vote was passed 6 votes to 5 votes.
- Council have instructed staff to conduct further investigation of the Marton Swim Centre to determine a more holistic understanding of the repairs required to future-proof the facility.
- Council staff have already been working with the swim centre operators to establish alternatives so the community will still have some access to swimming facilities this summer.
- Investigating how the Learn to Swim programme can still go ahead in some capacity is a particular priority for Marton Swim Centre operators and council staff.
- We will keep residents informed through our usual communications channels of the options that will be available to them, and when they will be happening.

Recommendation

That the Marton Pool update be received.

10 Discussion Items

10.1 Dumping of Rubbish

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The Chair requested information on dumping of rubbish in the Rangitikei district.
 - 1.1.1 Reports of fly tipping on the roadside are picked up by Higgins – but if it involves the Rangitikei River, then Council contract someone to pick this up and charge 50% to Horizons as agreed in the MoU with them.
- 1.2 Council do not go looking for dumped rubbish, this needs to be reported via RFS.
- 1.3 Raj Khadka, Solid Waste Officer can answer questions relating to this topic if committee members send through questions to raj.khadka@rangitikei.govt.nz
- 1.4 Staff can also take questions at the meeting and have answers sent out to the committee after the meeting.

Recommendation

If needed:

11 Meeting Closed.