



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDER PAPER

RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 11 June 2024

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Ture Tangata Office
Ihipera-Koria Street
Rātana Pa

Chair: Mr Charlie Mete

Deputy Chair: Mr Jamie Nepia

Membership: Ms Grace Taiaroa
Ms Whetu Hamahona
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
HWTM Andy Watson

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Notice is hereby given that a Rātana Community Board Meeting of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the Ture Tangata Office, Ihipera-Koria Street, Rātana Pa on Tuesday, 11 June 2024 at 6.30pm.

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AGENDA

1 Whakamoemiti

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 **Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 9 April 2024** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Rātana Community Board Meeting - 9 April 2024**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 9 April 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: RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 9 April 2024

Time: 6.30pm

**Venue: Ture Tangata Office
Ihipera-Koria Street
Rātana Pa**

Present Mr Charlie Mete
Ms Grace Taiaroa
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa

In attendance Mrs Melanie Bovey, Manager- Heritage and Culture
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

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**ITEM 6.1
ATTACHMENT 1**

Unconfirmed

1 Whakamoemiti

Ms Taiaroa opened the meeting opened at 6.33pm with karakia

2 Apologies

Apologies received from HWTM, Lequan Meihana and Jaime Nepia.

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

A member of community has asked about the crash barrier by the waste station. An RFS has been put in but there has been no follow up at this stage. Noting this was caused by a police chase.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/012

That the minutes of Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 13 February 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.

Ms G Taiaroa/Cr Hiroa. Carried

7 Follow-up Actions

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings

Item 5

Mrs Bovey advised that an email has been sent to listserv about this problem but the issue is that it needs to be made clear that this is not drinking water.

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/013

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings' be received.

Mr C Mete/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - April 2024

The installation of the speed bump has had positive feedback from the community. It was requested that reflectors be added to the speed bump so that it can be easily seen in the dark.

The Long Term-Plan engagement with the community with council staff at the park was good. Mr Mete commended Ms Taiaroa on her leadership role with the community to encourage those to put in a submission.

There are two big events in the community coming up, the Kura Centennial and the Rugby Club Centennial. Mr Mete thanked those in the community for supporting these events.

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/014

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

Mr C Mete/Cr Hiroa. Carried

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Road Property Numbering – Update

Ms Taiaroa and Mr Mete have completed the survey of the residents directly affected living along Ratana Road. It was recommended that the rural section, which has only four properties should change. Majority of those surveyed did not mind and it was easier to impact only the four properties than everyone else.

These properties do fall outside of the boards boundary and it was advised that there be consideration from the church. Mr Mete will speak to the church about the board's recommendation.

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/015

That the report 'Road Property Numbering - Update' be received.

Ms G Taiaroa/Mr C Mete. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/016

Option 2a – rural section renaming

That the Rātana Community Board consider the most appropriate solution to the duplicate numbering issue along Rātana Road is to change the road name for the **rural section** of Rātana Road (north of Kiatere Street) and seek to undertake consultation with the Church Committee on the matter and in the development of an appropriate name for consideration at the June 2024 Rātana Community Board meeting.

Ms G Taiaroa/Mr C Mete. Carried

9.2 Mayor's Report - March 2024

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/017

That the Mayor's Report – 28 March 2024 be received

Ms G Taiaroa/Cr Hiroa. Carried

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Update on Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti

Cr Hiroa updated the Board on the meeting earlier in the day. The key items were the acceptance of the Terms of Reference, there was previously a workshop on this item for members to provide feedback.

The Māori Wards was an item of discussion but further information is needed before the report comes to Council.

The Komiti is looking at a workshop for the MOU and Marae Development Policy.

Cr Hiroa spoke of the Nga Marae O Rangitikei Report which was funding received from the Better Off from the Three Waters to upgrade the marae water, there are four marae that have not been completed at this stage.

Cr Hiroa thanked Mrs Foley for her work with the Komiti as she is leaving Council to move back to Germany.

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/018

That the report 'Update on Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti' be received.

Mr C Mete/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

10.2 Cemetery Update - April 2024

Mr Mete updated the Board that he takes an unofficial register, this is due to whanau not completing the paperwork with council before the burial.

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/019

That the report 'Cemetery Update – April 2024' be received.

Mr C Mete/Cr Hiroa. Carried

10.3 Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project - Update

Mr Mete acknowledged all the work Mrs Foley has completed with the community such as the playground and the wastewater upgrade. The Board is concerned with her leaving and noted that she has been important for the communication across this project.

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/020

That the report 'Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project – Update' be received.

Mr C Mete/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/021

That a full report on Lake Waipu in person, with staff and the community board urgently needs to take place.

Mr C Mete/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

10.4 General Business

Ms Taiaroa spoke about community engagement that doesn't rely on social media and the need for engagement in different ways, especially for the Long-Term Plan consultation.

Ms Taiaroa spoke of the issues relating to rate increases and being appropriately informed such as the rate rises calculator not working and the need for information on rate rebates.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ratana Community Board held on 11 June 2024.

.....
Chairperson

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Ratana Community Board 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 Ratana Community Board Meetings' be received.

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	9-Apr-24	One flyer is to go to the shops when consultation meetings are set.	Kezia	This has been noted- community board meetings will be dropped off with order paper.	Complete
2	9-Apr-24	That all information from Council for consultation is posted in the mail to the Ratana community and that staff report this discussion back to the comms team.	Rhonda/Ben	This has been noted by the comms team.	Complete.
3	9-Apr-24	Consultation hui about why rates are increasing.	Kezia/Andy	This hui will be held after the Long Term-Plan so that the rates increase can be shown.	In progress
4	9-Apr-24	Hui on rates rebates with the community.	Mel Bovey	This has been organised for the 10 June.	Complete
5	9-Apr-24	That a full report on Lake Waipu in person, with staff and the community board urgently needs to take place.	PMO Team	An email has been sent from Adina to board members	In progress
6	9-Apr-24	Crash barrier by the waste station- what is happening with this?	Roading	RFS has been sent through to the roading team.	In progress
7	13-Feb-24	Request speed limit signage both entrances of the road outside the school.	Rebuen P	Requested that traffic counters be placed on Ratana Road and Kiatere Street, so I am able to obtain information on traffic flows and off course numbers and types of vehicles. Obtaining this information is important as it puts us in a better space regards the justification for certain signage	In progress
8	12-Dec-23	Speed bump on the road coming into Ratana has not been replaced- what has happened?	Roading team	It was requested at the following meeting that the reflectors be added to speed bump. This has been passed on to the roading team.	In progress
9	12-Dec-23	That the board receives the report from Thrive on council assets when completed	Arno B	This report has not been completed yet.	In progress
10	11-Apr-23	Kym Skerman was invited to a future Community Board meeting to discuss grants.	Kezia Spence	Mrs Skerman will attend the June meeting.	In progress
11	5-Oct-21	With regards to the Ratana Cemetery Extension: Staff to consider providing better facilities for volunteers who dig new plots. Update 08 Feb 22: The Board clarified that the request was for water access, for both contractors and visitors. The Board advised that they would like a water source that is aesthetically pleasing (i.e., not just a tap in a post). Update 09 Aug 22: The Board asked that this be reconsidered, as the owner of the adjacent farm has given verbal approval for the existing water line on his property to be used (the water does not need to be drinkable). Ms Bovey undertook to follow-up on this request.	Mel Bovey / Arno Benadie	This request is being investigated by the Parks Team who will look at potential options in conjunction with a similar request from Taihape residents for their cemetery. This is being done across the District as part of the Long Term Plan.	In progress

ITEM 8.1

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - June 2024

Author: Charlie Mete, Chair

1. Reason for Report

1.1 A verbal report will be provided during the meeting.

Recommendation

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

8.2 Rātana Road Property Numbering Update - June 2024**Author: Charlie Mete, Chair****1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 At the 9 April 2024 the Rātana Community Board resolved a preference for moving forward with the road naming/numbering issues along Rātana Road (see resolution below).
- 1.2 A verbal update on discussions with the Church Committee will be provided by the Chair.

Resolved minute number 24/RCB/001***Option 2a – rural section renaming***

*That the Rātana Community Board consider the most appropriate solution to the duplicate numbering issue along Rātana Road is to change the road name for the **rural section** of Rātana Road (north of Kiatere Street) and seek to undertake consultation with the Church Committee on the matter and in the development of an appropriate name for consideration at the June 2024 Rātana Community Board meeting.*

Recommendation

That the 'Rātana Road Property Numbering Update - June 2024' be received.

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Declaration by New Ratana Community Board member

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

1. Declaration

Te whakapuakanga mā ngā mema o ngā poari hapori

Ko ahau, ko _____, e oati ana ka whai ahau i te pono me te tōkeke, i runga hoki i te mutunga kē mai nei o āku pūkenga, o āku whakatauhoki kia whakatutuki, kia mahi anō hoki i te mana whakahaere, te mana whakatauhoki me ngā momo mahi kua ūhia ki runga i ahau kia whiwhi painga mō te takiwā o Rangitikei hei mema o te Poari Hapori o Rātana Pā, e ai hoki ki te Ture Kāwanatanga-ā-Taiao 2002, ki te Ture Kāwanatanga-ā-Taiao Whakapae me te Hui 1987, me ētahi Ture anō rānei.

Board Member Declaration

I, _____, declare that I will faithfully and impartially, and according to the best of my skill and judgement, execute and perform, in the best interests of the Rangitikei District, the powers, authorities, and duties vested or imposed upon me as a Member of the Rātana Community Board by virtue of the Local Government Act 2002, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, or any other Act.

9.2 Ratana Community's Representative for Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa is Council's standing Iwi advisory committee. Nominations will be sought from the meeting.

Recommendation

That.....be nominated as the Ratana community's representative on Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa for the remainder of the 2022-25 triennium.

9.3 Mayor's Report - 30 May 2024**Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor****1. Reason for Report**

On 8 May local volunteers from Forest & Bird together with the National Office opened a new access bridge at Mangahoe, Sutherlands Bush Reserve. The bridge was financed and constructed by Forest & Bird nationally but a huge number of hours have been spent by volunteers rebuilding the tracks. I have walked the reserve and it certainly is a special place.

Our district is well known for its events and the Cowper's Suzuki Extreme 4x4 challenge held last month in Turakina was exceptional – it was a stunning day that drew huge crowds of thousands and is filmed for TV which highlights our district nationally - what could be better.

Winter netball has kicked off and on 5 May I went north for the Open Day at Taihape and the first use of the Nga Awa building. Teams from Hunterville, Taihape and Ohakune areas meant the place was packed. My congratulations to the organisation committees that run these days.

Speaking of sport, on the weekend I attended the "Women in Sport Aotearoa" fundraising function in Palmerston North hosted by John and Angela Turkington. Around 400 people attended to listen to panels of high profile people talking about things such as encouragement to women to be involved in sport and coaching. A highlight for me was to listen to a Q&A session with Barbara Kendall our Olympic icon of New Zealand and IOC board member. I believe, with the auction, the night raised in excess of \$60,000 for women in sport. Angela and John support so much in our district and deserve our congratulations.

Roading

On 23 April I attended a Road Controlling Authority meeting in Wellington. This gave an indication of the new Government's thinking around roading. The meeting was significant so I am reporting on it with my thoughts.

The meeting started with a panel discussion including Nick Leggett (CE of Infrastructure New Zealand), David Gordon (Chief Planning Officer Assets KiwiRail and Liam Hodgetts (Chief Infrastructural Moderator Wellington Council). The standout points were –

1. David Gordon

- Under the new GPS (Government's Policy Statement) rail will not be subsidised by the Government.
- He noted that rail throughout the world is generally subsidised by Governments.
- There is no profitability in rail lines north of Napier or the West Coast of the South Island.
- Rail has been told by Government to reduce its costs.
- He made comment that rail has not gone deliberately with Tier 1 contractors to maintain the rail network. (Note: Tier 1 contractors are companies like Fletchers, Downers, Higgins), but rail use local contractors to help drive down costs and increase competition. The point is that roading authorities/NZTA should do the same.

2. All the panel agreed that the standard of New Zealand infrastructure, especially roading was deteriorating.
3. All agreed that the Government is looking to long term planning, i.e. beyond three year terms of Government, which is a massive step forward.
4. **Minister Simeon Brown** – Minister of Energy, Transport, Infrastructure & Local Government
 - Under this Government the GPS roading/transport is of the highest priority.
 - Spending of the Government will be focussed on economic growth.
 - Safety – we will look for value for money. The focus here is on reducing the safety costs/traffic management in roading.
 - Transport is an economic enabler which also facilitates housing.
 - Maintenance of roads increases the safety of roads.
 - Road User Charges will increase based on the size of the vehicle and distance travelled including cars and EV vehicles.
 - The Minister made the point that “over the last few years there have been huge increases in the spend of cycling but the percentage of people cycling has not changed” and he questioned if this is value for money. He noted that “75% of New Zealanders get into a vehicle to go to work and only 2% get on a bike to do that and funding should reflect that percentage”.
 - The Minister reflected that as a country we dream up 67 ways (note, there are 67 Councils in New Zealand) of doing things. There is a need to standardise within reason, drainage, bridge building and roading solutions.
5. **Nicole Rosie** – Chief Executive of NZTA
 - The Government has very clearly laid out their expectations (noting that this is a welcoming position and hasn’t always been the case).
 - Nicole points out the need for consistency of governance within NZTA. In four years she and the organisation have had multiple ministers and chairs.
 - The increase on focus of maintenance of roads is welcome but notes that we do not have the capacity in New Zealand to carry out work for a dramatically increased spend. The work programmes needed will need to be ramped up over time.
 - We also have variable performance from personnel/contractors in New Zealand. Ideally the roading issue on SH25A should be replicated in New Zealand (this is where a new bridge was designed and built in record time to enable the road to be reopened).
 - We, NZTA, believe in private/public partnerships.
 - NZTA, like all Government Departments, have to reduce costs by 7.5%. Nicole also accepted that there were, and still are, inefficiencies in public service.
 - We, as an agency, are becoming more efficient, call waiting times on phones has moved from an average of 20 minutes to 2 minutes.
 - Closing some roads to do maintenance work would reduce traffic management costs (Nicole is aware that traffic management adds in the order of 35% to roading costs).
 - Agrees that Tier 2/3 contractor use should increase and that NZTA needs to increase the capability of Councils to use their 2/3 contractors.

- Road User Charges (RUCs) based on distance travelled will be an issue of equity. What she is saying here is that wealthy people tend to live closer to work/cities and therefore will pay less.
6. **Minister Shane Jones** (via Zoom) – Minister for Oceans & Fisheries, Regional Development, Resources and Associate Minister of Finance and Energy
- “NZ First is here to make things happen and do it quicker”.
 - We are hindered as a country by ecologies – “one frog can add \$6m to the cost of infrastructure”. I think this is a reference directly to roadworks on Mt Messenger and the need for fast-track legislation.
 - Wildlife Acts will be replaced by business cases, i.e. cost benefit analysis.
 - “We, NZ First, campaign on statutory reforms and this is reflected in the fast-track legislation now in the Select Committee”.
7. **Andrew Clark** – National Manager of Maintenance Operations NZTA
- Cost increases on delivering road resurfacing have increased by 21% since 2021.
 - All other costs associated with roading are increasing as well.
 - Traffic management thoughts –
 - 20% of traffic management costs are not needed;
 - 69.8 of sites have traffic management in place while work is not proceeding.
 - Our roading network continues, and will continue, to decline in standard.
 - The need to move to rollout a new risk based approach to traffic management.
 - We need to consider –
 - Closing roads and using detours;
 - Dealing with multiple roading issues at the same time (e.g. mowing/maintenance/rubbish/Powerco issues etc).
 - There needs to be a shift in thinking to a ‘whole of life’. Building stronger in the first instance = a longer service life and therefore less maintenance.

On 2 May I received from NZTA the Government’s position on funding of emergency roading works. Emergency work is done where our roading networks are hit with climatic events such as cyclones resulting in unprogrammed repairs beyond maintenance. These events have become more common as everyone is aware. NZTA proposed changes include –

1. Changing the qualifying trigger for emergency event funding from a 1 in 10 year event to a 1 in 20 year event.
2. A reduction in the FAR assistance above our existing FAR (Financial Assistance Rate) from +20% to a +10%.
3. Restricting further bespoke assistance rates where a much larger assistance could be given.

These changes would, if adopted, take place in July 2025.

We must submit to this consultation process!

The history of events in our district would indicate that this would probably add millions of dollars of costs to our ratepayers over a period of the LTP and/or result in roads either not being serviced or poorly maintained. Attached is the Memorandum from Nicole Rosie, CE of NZTA.

Council deliberated last week on our Long Term Plan. We firstly acknowledge a record number of submitters and thank people for their interest in Local Government and their concerns around rating positions and affordability which was reflected often in the submissions. I and Council would also like to acknowledge the huge amount of work that was done by staff in preparing an amazing document of submissions and the suggestions made in responses to submitters. Certainly one of the drivers of Council during the day was to reduce the rate burden. We are still yet to calculate the final rates position however the indications are that rates may come down slightly on the forecast within the consultation document. In part, this has been achieved because of the lack of need to depreciate fund some of our earthquake prone Council buildings. This decision makes commonsense. Probably one of the most contentious decisions was the decision not to open the swimming pool in Marton over the winter months. To open the pool over those months would have come at considerable expense and Council has also been informed by staff that considerable money may have to be spent on the maintenance of the pool and building. The decision process is not yet complete, Councillors asked for more information on a few issues, including the ability to change the UAGC (Uniform Annual General Charge). These issues will go back to Council at their meeting at the end of May. To test who is still reading this lengthy report, there is a chocolatey prize for the first Elected Member/Staff Member who sees this.

Accelerate25 is the regional body promoting economic growth within the Horizons area that was set up several years ago as a regional voice for Government. This body consists of some of the regional Mayors and has external independent membership representing iwi and industry. Accelerate25 resulted in our region being given Government assistance through the PGF (Provincial Growth Fund) Government funding initiative, administered largely by Minister Shane Jones. Recently Accelerate25 and the Mayors met in Wellington followed by a Meet & Greet with Minister Jones. Minister Jones took that opportunity to pledge to come to our district to talk about our industrial initiatives and also have a discussion around Ratana. We were the only Council highlighted in this way, so I look forward to that discussion. He has promised to bring other Government people that he considers relevant and that may include Minister Bishop who sits alongside him on funding decisions.

The delivery of three waters services and roading contracts is performed by a shared service provided by Manawatu District Council in a relationship that has existed for many years. There has been a decision made by both councils to bring that relationship to an end. As of 1 July, Rangitīkei will be responsible for three waters and roading and the operators of our wastewater and water plants will transfer to being our staff. We absolutely welcome them as part of our team and their wonderful service will continue. Rangitīkei will inevitably need some assistance at senior levels or by way of outside assistance to transition this process. We believe that we need to be responsible for our own destiny and efficiencies which may come at a cost neutral or cost saving.

The three waters discussion with Government is still complex. New Zealand authorities will retain ownership of our water assets but are being encouraged and possibly legislated by Government to form regional groupings. These groupings will probably be in the form of CCOs (Council Controlled Organisations) at a regional level. The Government has also said that no council will be left alone and may well legislate to make sure that each Council has “a home”.

ITEM 9.3

These discussions are slow in our region but are progressing. Chief Executives and staff are analysing the costs for compliance and growth that each council will face now and in the future. These discussions will include Iwi and all Mayors as it progresses. It should be noted that we still waiting on Government's position especially in regard to price setting or standardisation. Inevitably the discussions will come down to which councils will work together. At present we are taking an Horizons regional approach but there will be consideration by councils to look at splits within the Horizons region or to look outside our boundaries.

I know that three waters has become an everlasting story but work is progressing and we need to discuss our decisions with our community as they develop so where I have said that we will be responsible for our own destiny in the stopping of shared services, this may well be an intermediate step to the final direction the Government is pointing us in.

Last weekend was the Rangitīkei Heritage Weekend for all the museums in our district. I am a volunteer at Marton so Saturday and Sunday mornings I, like many other Marton volunteers, were needed. However in the afternoons I visited all but one of the museums in our district. My apologies to Mangaweka – I intended to be there but ran out of time with all the travelling. I will try and remedy that in the future. All of our museums are different - Marton focusses on the cottage, stables and prison jail that we have and the archival section being incredibly strong, Bulls is the museum that is open more than any other museum in our district, always available during the day for the travelling public, and has continued to grow. They now effectively have 3 sites – the main museum, the stables behind it and are working in conjunction with the old Bulls Library. Taihape is a real favourite of mine, partly because so many of the old vehicles, tractors and implements parked out the back of the museum I seem to have personally used at some stage or another in my life. Do pop in and have a look at some stage, it's fascinating. For those who are not aware the Hunterville Museum quietly sits in beside and behind the café and I spent some time talking on the Sunday before they closed with a couple of volunteers there. I guess the key message is these are the real gems of our district and I thank the museums for being open and the number of people who went out of their way to see more than one museum over the weekend.

The Coalition Government, led in this case by ACT, have questioned the process around the appointment of Maori Wards within local authorities. As a sector, LGNZ have real concerns about the referendum process that we are going to be forced into undertaking. As such, it believes the Government's decision to remove decision-making from councils by mandating that polls be run on Maori wards and constituencies is an overreach on local decision-making when current legislation already requires councils to seek community views. LGNZ's position is that Maori wards should be treated like all other wards and that decisions should be made at the council level, and urges Government to reconsider its position and let local councils made decisions about appropriate representation arrangements in partnership with iwi and their communities. After circulation and discussion with Elected Members, we have signed the letter in support of LGNZ's position and refer to the attached document.

My congratulations to Paul Sharland being appointed to Council. As part of that process Paul has asked if he can be on the Assets/Infrastructure and Finance Committees so I am directly appointing him to those committees.

Rural & Provincial

On 11 April the Rural & Provincial Councils met in Wellington. Normally I would see that as a priority engagement but this time it clashed with our own important Assets & Infrastructure and Policy & Planning Meetings. I compromised by travelling down late and missing some of the first day's sessions. My thanks to Mayor Helen Worboys for providing some of her notes to assist my explanations. These notes are as follows –

1. There was discussion around the increasing levels of aggression by people on social media and in person against staff and councillors. This is concerning and we need to support each other.
2. It is noted that the average New Zealand household pays \$2,900 in rates and \$37,000 in tax. Internationally this is an unusual balance. Councils are being asked to provide more and more services without increased budgets highlighting the need for financial funding reform. These reforms could include a return of GST on rates and a portion of the GST on district generated GDP. Other measures could include congestion funding and accommodation levies etc.
3. Councils collectively at the meeting were asked to rate their concerns and the help that they would need from Local Government. That rate is as follows for the first 3 areas –
 - a) To look at funding levels and financial sustainability
 - b) The need for a 4 year term for Councils and Government
 - c) City and regional deals as a way for engaging with Government
4. There was a discussion regarding Akona, the training arm of LGNZ, which was a chargeable function back to each Council that used it. It is now "free" to all members but the costs of LGNZ membership have been increased by 15% to cover it. At present there are several Councils who are now not members of LGNZ which is concerning.
5. There was a presentation by Matt Doocoy, Minister of Tourism, who highlighted –
 - a) We need to prioritise the tourism spend and cut our cloth to match the available funds.
 - b) Tourism is our No.2 ranked export earner.
 - c) We need to look at how Government can support Councils to grow/promote tourism. New Zealand is 0.03% of global tourism.

Fast Track Consenting Bill – What it Means

- i) The driver for this is that large projects take too long to consent/permit. There are multiple avenues for litigation and duplication between regulatory authorities.
- ii) The Bill will –
 - a) Be a free-standing statute that does not rely on other Acts;
 - b) Have its own over-riding purpose (which seems to be economic gain);

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- c) Be a single process to obtain multiple environmental approvals, permissions, permits.
- d) Does not over-ride the Building Act.
- iii) Lists of projects will be in the Bill.
- iv) Limited rights of objection through appeal.
- v) Local Government will get opportunities to comment on the Bill.
- vi) Next steps for the Bill –
 - a) Has passed first reading 7 March
 - b) Submissions have now closed
 - c) Advisory panels to be appointed in the future and applications for Schedule 2A completed
 - d) Advisory panels will finalise the list of projects.

Concerns re the Bill –

1. Timeframes are tight.
2. Role of Council is threatened?
3. Environment takes a back seat?
4. The role of Iwi?
5. Timing and links to regional district plans will be challenging.
6. Who sits on the panel?

Drivers of increased costs for Local Govt and therefore rate increases - presented by Economist Brad Olsen

- Average Local Government rate increase last year were 9% reflected by significant increases in civil construction, the transport sector and especially bridge construction where rates had risen by 30%.
- A huge amount of spending in the sector is needed, the planned Local Government capital expenditure 2021-2031 is \$77.42b.
- Councils faced with higher interest rates and labour costs for authorities and wages has gone up 13% in the last three years.

Mayors Engagement

May 2024

1	<p>Attended monthly ELT meeting for Governor's Q&A</p> <p>Attended Radio Interview re solar farms</p> <p>Attended Horizons Regional Council Oral Submission to Long Term Plan</p>
2	<p>Attended Manawatu-Rangitikei Federated Farmers 2024 AGM</p>
3	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended fortnightly Economic Development meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended Zoom Call with MSD</p>
5	<p>Attended Taihape Netball Opening Day</p> <p>Attended Jets v Saints game in Palmerston North courtesy of Mayor Grant Smith</p>
6	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Zoom meeting Mayoral Taskforce for Jobs/MSD</p> <p>Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended meeting with LGNZ President Sam Broughton & CE Susan Freeman-Greene</p>
7	<p>Attended Accelerate25 Meeting in Wellington including meeting with Minister Jones</p>
8	<p>Attended Opening of Mangahoe Reserve Bridge Opening</p> <p>Attended Bulls Community Committee Meeting</p>
9	<p>Attended Assets & Infrastructure Meeting</p>
10	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended meeting with Minister Andrew Hoggard</p> <p>Attended annual interview meeting with Audit NZ</p> <p>Attended TUIA Wananga Powhiri with Nyssa Nepe at Rotorua</p>
11	<p>Attended working bee at Marton Museum</p> <p>Attended Turkington Women in Sport Aotearoa</p>
13	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff</p>
14	<p>Attended Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Workshop</p> <p>Attended meetings with ratepayers in Taihape</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
15	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended meeting with RDC and TIGL and Staff</p>
16	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended meeting with Councillor Sharland</p> <p>Attended Council Meeting – LTP Deliberations</p>
17	<p>Attended relationship meeting with DIA</p>

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	<p>Attended Fortnightly Economic Development Meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended monthly RDC/Police catchup meeting</p> <p>Attended meeting with CE and Bryan Rendle re Otara Bridge</p> <p>Attended meeting with ratepayer in Hunterville</p>
19	Attended Museum Open Day in Marton, Bulls, Hunterville and Taihape
20	<p>Attended breakfast meeting with Mayor Helen Worboys</p> <p>Attended online MTFJ Governance Group meeting</p> <p>Attended Regional Relationship Meeting with NZTA</p> <p>Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended Council Agenda meeting with staff</p>
21	<p>Attended NZ Tiny House Association online meeting</p> <p>Attended SLUI Advisory Group Meeting</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
22	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended onsite meeting at Putorino Landfill with staff and Horizons</p>
23	<p>Attended Council Workshop</p> <p>Attended LGNZ Transport Forum online meeting</p> <p>Attended BA5 – SAJE Web Marton</p>
24	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Western Architecture Awards (Nga Awa Nomination) at Massey University</p>
26	Attended Pink Ribbon High Tea Fundraiser in Marton
27	<p>Attended catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff</p>
28	<p>Attended meeting with Taihape ratepayers</p> <p>Attended Taihape Playground Group Meeting</p>
29	<p>Attended Creative Communities Meeting</p> <p>Attended Hunterville Community Meeting to discuss Civil Defence Community Response Plan</p>
30	<p>Attended Finance/Performance Meeting</p> <p>Attended Council Meeting</p>
31	<p>To attend catchup with Chief Executive</p> <p>To attend fortnightly economic development meeting with staff</p> <p>Attend Talking Table at Taihape</p>

Attachments:

1. **NZTA Letter re consultation on Emergency Works FAR** [↓](#)
2. **Letter from LGNZ Mayors and Chairs on Maori wards and constituencies - May 2024** [↓](#)

3. Elected Member Attendance [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the Mayor’s Report – 30 May 2024 be received

www.nzta.govt.nz

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Wellington 6141
New Zealand
T 64 4 894 5400
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2 May 2024

Kia ora,

Emergency works investment policies consultation – seeking organisational feedback by 19 June 2024

One of the key challenges for NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) and approved organisations (AOs) in managing New Zealand's land transport network is the impact of sudden events that damage transport infrastructure and require emergency works response and recovery activities.

NZTA needs to manage the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF) so that it can sustainably fund these emergency works in 2024-27.

In recent years, more frequent and intense weather-related events have put pressure on available funding for emergency works response and recovery.

Substantial Crown funding has been required for severe nationally significant weather events, such as Cyclone Gabrielle in the upper North Island in February 2023.

We've carried out a review of NZTA's emergency works investment policies and funding assistance rates (FARs) with a goal of reducing the financial burden on the NLTF and providing greater funding certainty for AOs.

Proposed changes to emergency works investment policies, including work category 141 and the uneconomic transport infrastructure policy, are set out in our consultation document for Emergency works policies - review and consultation feedback from the sector. This can be read in full at: www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/emergency-works-policies-review-and-consultation.

Key proposed changes to FARs and associated thresholds, include:

- changing the qualifying trigger for an emergency event attracting an enhanced FAR to a minimum frequency 1 in 20-year event, from the current 1 in 10-year event.
- reducing the enhanced FAR from normal FAR +20% to normal FAR +10%.
- restricting provision of a bespoke FAR (i.e., greater than an enhanced FAR) to only those extreme events for which Crown funding is made available.

The proposed FAR changes would take effect on 1 July 2025 to allow AOs time to adapt to these changes.

Other changes to make the policies clearer and easier to interpret, and better aligned with legislative requirements are proposed to take effect on 1 July 2024.

Your organisation's feedback is sought on the proposed changes. This feedback will help us finalise proposals for NZTA Board and managerial endorsement.

Please send feedback to EmergencyWorksReview@NZTA.govt.nz by **19 June 2024**.

If you have any questions, please contact your NZTA Investment Advisor or Director of Regional Relationships or email EmergencyWorksReview@NZTA.govt.nz

Ngā mihi



Nicole Rosie
Chief Executive - NZTA



20 May 2024

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon

Hon Simeon Brown

Hon Tama Potaka, Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti

Rt Hon Winston Peters, Leader, New Zealand First

Hon David Seymour, Leader, ACT

Kia ora Prime Minister, Ministers, and party leaders

Changes to Māori ward and constituency poll provisions

Local Government New Zealand and the Mayors and Chairs that have signed this letter are opposed to the changes the Coalition Government is proposing to Māori ward and constituency poll provisions.

The Government's decision to remove decision-making from councils by mandating that polls be run on Māori wards and constituencies is an overreach on local decision-making when current legislation already requires councils to seek community views. We are disappointed this is in contrast with the commitments the Government made during the election campaign to empower local government to make decisions about its own communities.

Our position – a position that has been held by Local Government New Zealand since 2018 – is that Māori wards and constituencies should be treated like all other wards and that decisions should be made at the council level. Polls aren't required on any other wards or constituencies, and requiring them will add increased costs to councils.

We are concerned that the Government's decision is a distraction from the hard work that councils are doing to deliver infrastructure and keep costs down for their communities. It also undermines the important contributions that Māori are making to local government.

We urge the Government to reconsider its position and leave it to local councils to make decisions about appropriate representation arrangements in partnership with iwi and their communities.

Ngā mihi nui

Local Government New Zealand
Level 3, 3 Eva Street Te Aro Wellington
6011 // PO Box 1214 Wellington 6140 //
Aotearoa New Zealand // lgnz.co.nz



Mayor Sam Broughton
President
Local Government New Zealand

Mayor xx
xx Council

Chair xx
xx Council

Local Government New Zealand
Level 3, 3 Eva Street Te Aro Wellington
6011 // PO Box 1214 Wellington 6140 //
Aotearoa New Zealand // lgnz.co.nz

ITEM 9.3 ATTACHMENT 3

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
	Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Calkin	Carter	Dalgety	Duncan	Hiroa	Lambert	Loudon	Maughan	Sharland	Raukawa	Wong	Notes
156	28-Mar-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR		PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP		PR	PR	
157	4-Apr-24	Turakina CC	PR			PR										
158	8-Apr-24	HRWS	PR				PR			PR		AT				
159	9-Apr-24	TRAK Meeting	PR					AP								
160	9-Apr-24	Ratana CB	CB						PR							
161	10-Apr-24	Taihape CB	PR					AP							PR	
162	10-Apr-24	Marton CC	CB	PR									PR			
163	11-Apr-24	PPL Meeting	CB	PR			AT	PR	PR	PR			PR		AT	
164	15-Apr-24	Hunterville CC	CB				PR			AP						
165	18-Apr-24	LTP Hearings	PR	PR		AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR			PR	PR	
166	24-Apr-24	Sport NZ RTF	PR	PR										PR		
167	24-Apr-24	Finance/Performance	PR	PR		AP	PR	AT			PR	PR			PR	
168	24-Apr-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR		AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
169	8-May-24	Bulls CC	PR			AP								PR		
170	9-May-24	AIN Meeting	PR	AP		AP	PR	PR		PR	PR	PR			PR	
171	14-May-24	TRAK Workshop	PR						PR					PR		
172	16-May-24	Council Meeting	PR	PR		AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
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Present (and is a member of the committee)	PR
Apology	AP
Absent - no apology received	AB
Not a member of the committee	
Not a member of the committee (but still attended)	AT
Not present as on Council business	CB
Attended via Zoom [this indicator is no longer used]	ZM

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Cemetery Update - June 2024

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

1.1 This is a standing report that will update the Board on new burials within the Rātana Cemetery.

2. Reserved plots

2.1 Joy Hika- Plot 317

2.2 Kataraina Hika- Plot 318

2.3 Bronwyn Te Wekepiri- Plot 319

2.4 Danielle Hika- Plot 320

Recommendation

That the report 'Cemetery Update – June 2024' be received.

10.2 Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project - Update**Author:** Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning**Authoriser:** Kevin Ross, Chief Executive**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 This update has been extracted from the Project Management Office report that was provided to Council.
- 1.2 It is provided here for the Board's information.

Attachments:

1. **Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the report 'Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project – Update' be received.

Project Name	Project Summary	Project Lead	Est Start Date	Est Finish Date	Health/ Safety	Programme	Cost	Quality	Top 5 Risks	Project Budget	Actual Spend to date	Iwi Consultation	Key Tasks Completed	Next Steps (May Update)
Wastewater														
Rātana Wastewater discharge to land	This project is a collaborative effort involving local iwi, RDC, HRC and the community of Ratana, and is partly funded (13.4%) by Ministry for the Environment (MfE). The project is to remove treated effluent from Lake Waipu and to dispose of it to land. The project started on 1 July 2018 with an agreement with the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) and has an estimated duration of 5 years. Construction will need to be completed by December 2024. The scope of this project includes purchase of land for disposing of treated wastewater (instead of discharge to Lake Waipu), the installation of irrigation equipment and an upgrade of the existing Rātana Pā wastewater treatment plant.	Blair King	Jul-18	Dec-24	No concerns to date	Construction will need to be completed by December 2024 which is not likely to be achievable since the consent is now awaiting Horizon's assessment.	The budget has been increased in September 2023. However the longer the consent approval takes the more likely are cost increases due to inflation.	No concerns to date.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tight timeframe to complete project by December 2024. 2. Unknow if consent will be public or limited notification. 3. Unforeseen requirements/ consent conditions for RDC. 4. The approved budgets might not be sufficient to cover the full cost. 5. Funding by MfE is linked to milestones, if the project is delayed there is a chance of funding loss. 	\$6,532,000.00	\$1,232,971.21	Regular meetings and updates via email / through hui. Iwi is on board with the project and its approach and supports the irrigation to land option.	Land has been found and purchased (an extra 4ha is in the process of being purchased). Resource consent has been lodged.	Horizons Regional Council are still processing the amended application that reflects our Section 92 response to their expert questions. Whilst no formal decision on notification has occurred, indications are although significant consultation has occurred between stakeholders on this wastewater to land project, Horizons are likely to publicly notify this application. Staff met with representatives of the Ministry for Environment earlier in May on the co-funding and land covenants as part of the three way agreement between MfE, Horizons, and Council. MfE have confirmed the residual funds will be paid from MfE to Council this financial year based on two milestones under a new agreement to be signed, covering -Contribution towards the confirmed purchase of the land required and covenants on using this land in accordance with the Resource Consents granted -Contribution towards to the consenting costs for the discharge, design of the transfer pipeline, land survey, easements, and transfer pipeline components

11 Meeting Closed.