



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 27 January 2021 commencing at 1.00pm.

1. Present

Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis, Crs E L Peeti-Webber (Deputy Mayor), A K Franklin, S A Hull, C J Isaacson, P A Johns, K A Sutherland, R A Treder and S M Wards.

In Attendance

Mr B Nicholson - Chief Executive
Mr R Suppiah - Chief Financial Officer
Mr R Taylor - Governance Manager
Mr C Chapman - Infrastructure Strategy Manager
Mr C McKay - Finance Manager
Ms T Love - Senior Projects Manager
Mr D Geary - Alliance Director
Ms V Tomlinson - Woodville Districts' Vision Chairperson

2. Council Prayer

2.1 The Mayor opened the meeting with a Karakia/Council Prayer.

3. Apologies

3.1 Nil

4. Public Forum

4.1 Nil

5. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

5.1 Nil

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business

6.1 Nil

7. Personal Matters

- 7.1 Cr Franklin thanked Council for its condolences she received on the passing of her brother, and to Cr Hull for attending the funeral.

8. Confirmation of Minutes

- 8.1 *That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 9 December 2020 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

Crs Johns/Sutherland

Carried

9. Any Matters Arising from the Minutes not otherwise dealt with in the Agenda

9.1 New Zealand Rural Games (Item 4.2)

- 9.1.1 Funding of \$5,000 is included in the economic development budget as this Council's financial contribution requested to support the New Zealand Rural Games held at Palmerston North from 12 to 14 March 2021 in the Square.

9.2 Sale of Former Infracon Depot in Woodville (Item 10.5.2)

- 9.2.1 An update is requested from the Manager Strategy and District Development regarding the sale of the former Infracon depot in Woodville to Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tamaki nui-a-Rua.

10. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports

10.1 Dannevirke Community Board

- 10.1.1 *That the report of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held on 7 December 2020 (as circulated) be received.*

Crs Hull/Treder

Carried

10.2 Eketāhuna Community Board

- 10.2.1 *That the report of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 14 December 2020 (as circulated) be received.*

Crs Hull/Treder

Carried

10.2.2 Saddle Road

- 10.2.2.1 Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency have programmed maintenance work on the Saddle Road, and this is also required on the Pahiatua Track.

10.3 Pahiatua On Track

- 10.3.1 *That the report of the Pahiatua On Track meeting held on 2 December 2020 (as circulated) be received.*

Crs Hull/Treder

Carried

10.4 **Woodville Districts' Vision**

10.4.1 *That the report of the Woodville Districts' Vision meeting held on 1 December 2020 (as circulated) be received.*

Crs Hull/Treder

Carried

11. Reports

11.1 **Staff Report**

11.1.1 **Roading and Emergency Works**

11.1.1.1 With the fallout from Covid-19 and major capital projects cost over runs it has been signalled the National Land Transport Fund is over-subscribed, and as such there will be pressure to reduce local authorities funding.

11.1.1.2 The impacts of this are being followed up to understand what any changes might be for the Council's funding, and when known the outcome will be discussed with the Works Liaison Committee.

11.1.1.3 During December a funding application was made to Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency for the weather event that occurred during November causing about \$4.4 million worth of damage to the district's roading network.

11.1.1.4 This event highlighted the current financial pressure New Zealand Transport Agency is experiencing from a level of service point of view. As an example for a section of road that dropped away funding can only be applied for where it is a safety issue for the public, and other associated work is expected to be put on hold until it becomes worse.

11.1.1.5 In an example given regarding storm damage to a bank this does not currently create a safety related issue to the public.

11.1.1.6 While it puts the roading network at heightened risk of failure it does not breach the Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency level of service that funding can be applied for.

11.1.1.7 Instead the damage is made visible to the public with signage, cones and netting, and is closely monitored regularly for any further deterioration and other defects that may occur in similar situations.

11.1.2 **Pahiatua Town Centre Upgrade**

11.1.2.1 Great progress continues to be made on the Pahiatua town centre upgrade, but it is disappointing to note the stripping and theft of wiring that has occurred in relation to this project.

11.1.3 **Water Supplies**

11.1.3.1 Thanks are conveyed to the Group Manager Plant and Property for keeping the Mayor and Councillors updated on the status of the district's water supplies over the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

11.1.3.2 The water supplies are in a better position than at the same time last year, but this may change as the summer and hot weather continues.

11.1.4 **The Future Without Cheques**

11.1.4.1 Rural Mayors are concerned about the future without cheques, and the impact this will have on the community particularly the elderly.

11.1.4.2 It is intended they will advocate on this issue with banks and central government to request options are available to be able to deal with this situation.

11.1.4.3 The Mayor will work with Councillors in terms of discussion on this matter to determine Council's approach to pursue regarding the direction and outcome sought for this district.

11.1.5 **Sport New Zealand Tararua Rural Travel Fund**

11.1.5.1 This fund (of \$9,500) is open to rural sport clubs and schools with young people between the ages of five and nineteen who require subsidies to assist with transport expenses to local sporting competitions.

11.1.5.2 The fund will be promoted in the Bush Telegraph and on social media in February 2021, being two months prior to the funds end of April closure to receive applications.

11.1.5.3 ***That the report from the Chief Executive dated 20 January 2021 concerning an update on key projects and items of interest to the Council (as circulated) be received.***

Crs Wards/Peeti-Webber

Carried

12. **2021/2031 Long Term Plan**

12.1 ***That the following timeline, key dates and meetings schedule be confirmed by Council for the purpose of undertaking and completing the 2021/2031 Long Term Plan process.***

- ***10 February at 1.00pm Council workshop***
- ***17 February at 1.00pm Council workshop***
- ***24 February at 9.00am Council workshop***
- ***30 March at 1.00pm Audit and Risk Committee meeting***
- ***7 April at 1.00pm extraordinary Council meeting to adopt draft Long Term Plan for consultation***
- ***12 April notify draft Long Term Plan and commence consultation for making submissions***
- ***12 May closing date for consultation to receive submissions***
- ***18 May extraordinary Council meeting to hear submissions***
- ***19 May reserve day to hear submissions if required***
- ***26 May at 1.00pm Council meeting to determine submissions***

- **22 June at 1.00pm Audit and Risk Committee meeting**
- **30 June at 1.00pm Council meeting to adopt Long Term Plan and set rates**

Crs Johns/Wards

Carried

13. Portfolio Reports

13.1 Harvard Park Slide

13.1.1 Cr Franklin reported a local solution has been determined by Trevor Jackson to rectify the issues with the Pahiatua Harvard Park slide.

13.2 Dannevirke Recreation and Play Committee

13.2.1 Deputy Mayor Cr Peeti-Webber reported Dannevirke Recreation and Play Committee is working in conjunction with Dannevirke Multisport Hub Committee regarding investigating the feasibility and need for the wheel park project as part of planning to develop a new recreation and play area at the Upper Domain.

13.3 Akitio Beach Community and Ratepayers Association

13.3.1 Cr Wards reported the Akitio Beach Community and Ratepayers Association Annual General Meeting was held on 2 January 2021.

13.4 Mayor and Councillors Report

13.4.1 A copy of the Mayor and Councillors December and January report is tabled, and the information set out in that document is circulated for reference as an attachment to the agenda relating to these minutes.

13.4.2 Matters included in the Mayor and Councillors report are as follows:

- Merry Christmas and festive community events held in the district
- 1st Battalion charter parade held in Dannevirke
- Ruahine Ramblerz marching team participation in Dannevirke Christmas parade
- Young elected members conference
- Te Ahu a Turanga Manawatu Tararua Highway site visit, sod turning and tree planting event
- Huarahi Tūhono Weber to Wimbledon sod turning event
- Covid-19 testing stations in the district
- Digital Hub opening
- Manukura farewell memorial at Pukaha Mount Bruce National Wildlife Centre
- Events attended by the Mayor
- Councillors portfolio reports

14. Mayoral Matters

14.1 Mayor's Comments

14.1.1 Mayor Collis spoke on 2020 about the lessons learnt regarding resilience and having wonderfully connected communities, and 2021 being the district's time to shine with a number of exciting developments and projects under way or planned.

14.1.2 This will be paramount as the towns grow, and as a strong and vibrant district it welcomes a new wave of conservation tourism, walking and cycling opportunities.

14.1.3 It is Council's role to maximise these opportunities for the district to fulfil the vision of vibrant, connected and flourishing communities.

14.1.4 The Mayor acknowledged the district is in good heart and positive, and all in this together (he waka eke noa) working towards improving our place. Thanks are conveyed for the efforts in 2020, with 2021 holding much promise for the Land of Ranges and its communities.

15. Items Not on the Agenda

15.1 Nil

16. Public Excluded Item of Business

16.1 The public excluded item of business included on the agenda is not required and accordingly is withdrawn.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 1.57pm.

Mayor