



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 28 February 2024 commencing at 1:00pm.

## **1. Present**

Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis, Crs E L Peeti-Webber (Deputy Mayor), N L Chase, A K Franklin (via Teams), S M Gilmore, P A Johns, M F Long, K A Sutherland, S A Wallace and S M Wards

### **In Attendance**

Mr B Nicholson	- Chief Executive
Mr R Suppiah	- Group Manager – Corporate and Regulatory
Mrs A Small	- Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing
Mr H Featonby	- Group Manager – Infrastructure
Mr P Wimsett	- 3-Waters Transition Manager
Mrs S Walshe	- Finance Manager
Mrs B Fowler	- Senior Financial Accountant
Mrs A Dunn	- Manager – Democracy Services

## **2. Council Prayer**

The Mayor opened the meeting with the Council Prayer.

## **3. Apologies**

*That the apology for lateness from Cr A K Franklin be approved.*

*Mayor Collis/Gilmore*

*Carried*

## **4. Public Forum**

There were no requests for public forum.

## **5. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda**

Nil

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

Nil

**7. Confirmation of Minutes**

*That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 31 January 2024 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

*Crs Chase/Wards*

*Carried*

**8. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports**

**8.1 Eketahuna Community Board minutes**

*That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held 12 February 2024 be received.*

*Crs Gilmore/Johns*

*Carried*

**8.2 Explore Pahiatua Community Committee minutes**

*That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Community Committee meeting held 7 February 2024 be received.*

*Crs Johns/Gilmore*

*Carried*

**8.3 Dannevirke Community Board minutes**

*That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held 19 February 2024 be received.*

*Crs Wards/Peeti-Webber*

*Carried*

**8.4 Positively Woodville Community Committee minutes**

*That the minutes of the Positively Woodville Community Committee meeting held 13 February 2024 be received.*

*Crs Gilmore/Johns*

*Carried*

**9. Reports**

**9.1 Recommendation from Audit and Risk Committee re Adoption of Annual Report 2022-23**

The Tararua District Council considered the recommendation from the Audit and Risk Committee's extraordinary meeting held 22 November 2023 seeking

adoption of the draft Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2023.

The Finance Manager advised that approval from Audit New Zealand had been received this morning to adopt the Annual Report for 2022-23. She tabled a copy of the letter of representation from Audit New Zealand and advised that a copy of this as well as the Audit opinion would be circulated to elected members.

***That the Mayor and Chief Executive be delegated the authority to make any minor changes requested by Audit New Zealand and to sign the Statement of Compliance and Responsibility that is contained within the Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2023; and***

***That the 2022/23 Annual Report be adopted in accordance with Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002.***

***Mayor Collis/Wards***

***Carried***

## **9.2 Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 26 January 2024 that provided information on the requests for information received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 over the preceding two months.

The Manager – Democracy Services highlighted the actions planned towards proactive release and publishing of Local Government Official Information, which would include publishing via Council's website the requests for information received, and the responses provided to those requests. It was noted that any personally identifying information would be redacted from requests and responses in compliance with the requirements of the Privacy Act 2020.

***That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 26 January 2024 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.***

***That the Council note the steps being taken towards proactive release and publishing of official information related to requests under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.***

***Mayor Collis/Gilmore***

***Carried***

## **10. Correspondence**

Nil

## 11. Portfolio Reports

- 11.1 **Akitio / Pongaroa** – Cr S M Wards spoke about the delivery of equipment to the one of the community hubs that had been established. She advised that she had travelled with members of the Civil Defence and Recovery teams, and spoke about the positive response received from the community, on the actions that took place following Cyclone Gabrielle. She noted that the community hub had been left well equipped to cope with any future events, and noted a generator would be provided in the future.
- 11.2 **Norsewood** – Cr S A Wallace reported on the community meeting held at Norsewood to discuss water supply concerns, noting that the meeting was very informative with good communications. He expressed the feeling that the people that wanted value from that meeting received that, and thanked the team that was in attendance. A commitment to hold a follow up meeting in three months' time was noted by Her Worship the Mayor.
- 11.3 **Cyclone Recovery Stakeholder Group** – Cr K A Sutherland advised that he attended the Cyclone Roding Recovery Stakeholder Group meeting, noting there was a full team present including a representative from Waka Kotahi. He noted that discussions were positive around funding for cyclone recovery, and for the National Land Transport Programme ahead. He advised that he felt that it was good to have Governance representation at the meeting. He noted that the Queen Street Dannevirke intersection had re-opened ahead of schedule, acknowledged the great work that the Tararua Alliance team were achieving.
- 11.4 **Ngāti Kahungunu Kapa Haka Regionals** – Cr E L Peeti-Webber congratulated Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua for the outstanding event, noting it was a huge event that brought many people to the area. She said that it was great to see some of Council's staff on stage as well. She commented that it was a great family event that included activities for children, and was very well organised.
- 11.5 **Woodville Horticultural Show** – Cr S M Gilmore congratulated the Woodville Horticultural and Industrial Society for their very well organised event, noting that it was their 140<sup>th</sup>, and advised that the event was very well supported.
- 11.6 **New Zealand Fire Service** – Cr E L Peeti-Webber spoke about the awards ceremony held to recognise the service of the community's volunteer members of the fire brigade, and her privilege to represent Her Worship the Mayor at the 60<sup>th</sup> year commemorations of Neville Jacobsen's service. She spoke about the trophy that had been created using floor boards from the old Dannevirke Fire Station. Following the ceremony there were other awards for service presented, and noted the many years of service by members of the volunteer fire brigade.
- 11.7 **Ngāti Kahungunu Kapa Haka Regionals** – Cr N L Chase congratulated Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua for putting on the event. She noted that 13 teams had competed, which allowed four teams to go through to Te Matatini. She said it was good to see how busy the town was, and spoke about the honour

of having Paramount Chief Pa Ariki from Rarotonga attend the event. She then noted that 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Te Kōhanga Reo o Taniwaka 40<sup>th</sup> was today.

- 11.8 **Fuel Your Stoke event** – Cr S M Wards spoke about the Fuel Your Stoke event held in Pongaroa, a mutual event between the Rural Support Trust and the Council that was organised through Cyclone recovery funding. She advised the event was held in the Domain at Pongaroa and was very well attended. She thanked everyone involved in organising the event.

*Councillor A K Franklin joined the meeting at 1:40pm.*

- 11.9 **Meeting with Minister for Rural Communities** – Her Worship the Mayor provided an update on her meeting with Hon Mark Patterson, Minister for Rural Communities. She advised that they discussed the challenges being felt in rural communities, including regulations regarding Earthquake Prone Buildings, impacts of Forestry, limitations of connectivity, as well as the additional costs of traffic management for small towns located on State Highways. She advised that she had signalled to the Reserve Bank that the Tararua District would like its towns to be included in the cash trial. She formally acknowledged the workload upon Councillors, from so many meetings with large agendas of business to get through, and thanked everyone for the time committed to their role.

## 12. **Mayoral Matters**

Nil

## 13. **Items not on the Agenda**

Nil

## 14. **Public Excluded Items of Business**

*That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

### *Confirmation of Minutes of Public Excluded Session*

*The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.*

<i>General subject matter to be considered</i>	<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<i>Confirmation of Minutes of Public Excluded Session</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</i>	<i>&lt;Section (1)(a)(i)</i>

***This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48 (1) (a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:***

***s7(2)(a) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.***

***Mayor Collis/Johns***

***Carried***

*The meeting went into public excluded session at 1:44pm, and resumed open session at 1:45pm.*

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 1:45pm.

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Mayor