



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 25 September 2024 commencing at 9:00am.

## 1. Present

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

### In Attendance

Ms R Bell	- RFB Consulting
Ms J Avery	- Riverstone Law
Mr D Pettigrew	- Xyst Ltd
Mr B Nicholson	- Chief Executive
Mr R Suppiah	- Group Manager – Corporate and Regulatory
Mrs K Tani	- Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing
Mr H Featonby	- Group Manager - Infrastructure
Ms J Smith	- Legal Counsel and Procurement Manager
Ms G Nock	- Strategy and Corporate Planning Manager
Mr D Watson	- Manager – Special Projects
Mr R Earp	- 3-Waters Manager
Mr K van der Oord	- Communications Team Manager
Mr J Single	- Regulatory Services Manager
Mrs S Walshe	- Finance Manager
Mrs B Fowler	- Senior Financial Accountant
Ms K Stevens	- Economic and Community Development Advisor
Ms F Chase	- Facilities Manager
Mr S Dunn	- Risk & Assurance Advisor
Ms G Rainey	- Contract Specialist
Mrs A Dunn	- Manager – Democracy Services

## 2. Council Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting with Karakia.

### **3. Acknowledgements**

3.1 The Mayor acknowledged the Māori Queen, Te Arikinui Kuīni Ngā Wai Hono i te Pō, who was raised to the throne on 5 September 2024, being elected to succeed her father Kīngi Tūheitia.

3.2 The Mayor acknowledged the recent passing of Glennis McDonald, and spoke about her long standing commitment to the community through her volunteer involvement in community organisations. As an example of her service to the community, she highlighted the number of hours Glennis had recorded for volunteer contributions, including 4,500 hours for Dannevirke Radio, 7,800 hours for the Dannevirke Health Shuttle, and her long standing commitment to St John Cadets in Dannevirke.

### **4. Apologies**

Her Worship the Mayor offered her heartfelt and sincerest apologies for the hurt, distress, hardship, trust and confidence that had been broken in our direct debit error. She advised that Council would be working with the community to find pathways forward to ease the financial burden this had caused, and would also make public any recommendations from the investigation that would be undertaken to ensure transparency, necessary improvements in systems, and earn back the community's confidence and trust.

### **5. Public Forum**

There were no requests for public forum.

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

Nil

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

Nil

### **8. Confirmation of Minutes**

***That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 28 August 2024 (as circulated) be confirmed as true and accurate record of the meetings.***

***Crs Wallace/Johns***

***Carried***

*That the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 4 September 2024 (as circulated) be confirmed as true and accurate record of the meetings.*

*Crs Peeti-Webber/Chase*

*Carried*

## **9. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports**

### **9.1 Minutes - Positively Woodville Community Committee**

*That the minutes of the Positively Woodville Community Committee meeting held 3 September 2024 be received.*

*Crs Sutherland/Gilmore*

*Carried*

### **9.2 Minutes - Explore Pahiatua Community Committee**

*That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Community Committee meeting held 4 September 2024 be received.*

*Crs Sutherland/Gilmore*

*Carried*

### **9.3 Minutes - Eketahuna Community Board**

*That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held 9 September 2024 be received.*

*Crs Sutherland/Gilmore*

*Carried*

### **9.4 Minutes - Dannevirke Community Board**

*That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held 16 September 2024 be received.*

*Crs Sutherland/Gilmore*

*Carried*

## **10. Reports**

### **10.1 Request for funding from Positively Woodville Community Committee**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 3 September 2024 that presented a request from Positively Woodville Community Committee for funding towards construction of a new skate park in Woodville.

Cr Johns declared an interest, took no part in the discussion and did not vote.

With regard to the Tararua General Purposes Woodville Gifted Land CT HB P2/147 special reserve fund, the Council noted the history of the fund. The fund was generated from the sale of a 21.9 hectare block of farmland, west of Woodville.

The land had been gifted to the then Woodville Borough Council, for the purpose of benefitting the town of Woodville. The proceeds from the sale of the land was set aside in the special reserve fund, with interest that accrued being added to the fund. The original proceeds from the sale of the land was \$260,286.00 and interest proceeds received as at 30 June 2024 were \$277,763.79. The closing balance of the reserve fund as at 30 June 2024 was \$482,481.79. Making a grant of \$150,000 from this reserve fund would leave a balance of \$332,481.79. With regard to the Tararua District Community Recreation Fund, the amount of funding sought was in line with similar amounts contributed to other community recreation facilities in the district.

***That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 03 September 2024 concerning the Request for funding from Positively Woodville Community Committee be received.***

***That the Tararua District Council approves the request from Positively Woodville Inc for funding of \$150,000 from the Tararua General Purposes Woodville Gifted Land CT HB P2/147 special fund reserve fund, and \$50,000 from the Tararua District Community Recreation fund towards the costs associated with constructing a skatepark in Woodville.***

***Crs Gilmore/Franklin***

***Carried***

## 10.2 **Submission on Tolling for Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway proposal**

The Tararua District Council considered the report from the Group Manager – Infrastructure dated 20 September 2024 that presented the draft submission on Tolling for Te Ahu a Turanga Manawatū Tararua Highway for feedback from the Mayor and Councillors.

The Council discussed the draft submission, and suggestions for amendments were made. These included:

- Remove current opening wording, and replace with “we are opposed to the proposal to toll the replacement road in any form at all.”
- Add references to Land Transport Act 2003, section 48(1) that lists a number of areas that NZTA must be satisfied with;
- Note the inadequate consultation, due to the refusal to provide the tolling assessment at the start of the consultation;
- Note the multiple breaches of the NZTA tolling policy;
- Note the replacement road would be a slower journey at 12 minutes, and involve steep gradients, whereas the Manawatū Gorge had been a 7 minute journey and was flat;

- Include information on the impacts on young people in the district, and their connection to Palmerston North for sport, driving lessons re gaining experience with traffic lights, university and polytechnic;
- Outline the increased cost of maintenance of the Saddle Road and Pahiatua Track from additional traffic diverting from Te Ahu a Turanga, which was unaffordable for Tararua District ratepayers. The maintenance cost would exceed the amount received in tolls;
- Include concerns about traffic being diverted to use unsafe alternative routes, increasing the danger to motorists who cannot afford to use the safer, tolled route, putting them at greater risk of being involved in an accident;
- Note the fragility of the proposed alternative routes, with both alternatives regularly closed due to impacts of weather events, and by accidents from an unsafe level of traffic using these routes;
- Include information about how the toll would impose a barrier for retaining health professionals and access to health services.

The Council noted with concern that although a copy of the tolling assessment undertaken by NZTA had been requested on 3 September, it had not yet been provided.

***That Council endorse the submission on Tolling for Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua highway.***

***That the delegation to incorporate amendments and additions of the draft submission as discussed in this Council meeting is assigned to the Mayor and Chief Executive to have final sign off prior to submission.***

***Crs Gilmore/Wards***

***Carried***

### 10.3 **Draft Rates Postponement Policy - Adoption for Consultation**

The Tararua District Council considered the report from the contractor dated 16 September 2024 that presented a draft Rates Postponement Policy for adoption for public consultation. In considering options for responding to impacts on people from the direct debit calculation error, it was noted that Council was concerned to minimise the impact on impacted households of this error as much as possible; to ensure equity and fairness to all ratepayers; to act with integrity and transparency; and remain within the legal framework. A suggestion was made to amend the wording of the phrase “talking to each other” in the statement of proposal.

***That the report from the Contractor dated 16 September 2024 concerning the Draft Rates Postponement Policy - Adoption for Consultation be received.***

***That Council adopts the draft Rates Postponement Policy and Statement of Proposal for public consultation.***

***That the Chief Executive be authorised to make any minor amendments required prior to consultation.***

***Crs Johns/Peeti-Webber***

***Carried***

*The meeting adjourned at 9:56am and resumed at 10:15am*

#### **10.4 Dannevirke Impounded Supply Options Assessment**

The Tararua District Council considered the report from the 3 Waters Manager dated 19 September 2024 that sought endorsement from Council to realign the Impounded Supply work programme in the Long Term Plan 2024-34, to prioritise implementing the resilience measures previously approved by Council in October 2023 prior to making a substantive decision on the future of the Impounded Supply. The 3 Waters Manager outlined the actions taken since the decision in October 2023, and the analysis of the final geotechnical investigation report from Tonkin and Taylor, the review of the Dannevirke water supply system and options analysis from Rationale, and the report from New Plymouth Underwater following their recent inspection.

He advised that a demand management and conservation plan will be provided for Council consideration at the next meeting of the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee.

It was noted that the new legislation regarding dams was now in force, which makes the landowner co-responsible for the impounded supply.

The previous decision of the Council to commence pretreatment and storage was noted, however this work was delayed until information related to the status of the impound supply was finalised. The reports had verified the decision made by Council, with the only change to include permanent additional pre-treatment.

***That the report from the 3-Waters Manager dated 19 September 2024 concerning the Dannevirke Impounded Supply Options Assessment be received.***

***That Council endorses the proposed approach, including implementing its October 2023 decision to install pre-treatment and additional treated water storage facilities.***

***Crs Peeti-Webber/Johns***

***Carried***

***Cr M F Long recorded his vote against the second resolution.***

10.5

**Adoption of Bylaws - Keeping of Animals Bylaw, Alcohol Bylaw, Cemeteries Bylaw and Public Places Bylaw**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 10 September 2024 that sought adoption of the Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2024, Alcohol Bylaw 2024, Cemeteries Bylaw 2024 and Public Places Bylaw 2024.

The Council noted the changes that had been made as a result of feedback received during consultation. It was asked that the adoption of each bylaw be taken separately.

***That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 10 September 2024 concerning the Adoption of Bylaws - Keeping of Animals Bylaw, Alcohol Bylaw, Cemeteries Bylaw and Public Places Bylaw be received.***

***Crs Wallace/Johns***

***Carried***

***That the Tararua District Council's Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2024 be adopted, with an effective date of 30 September 2024.***

***Crs Wallace/Johns***

***Carried***

***Councillors M F Long and S M Gilmore recorded their votes against the motion.***

***That the Tararua District Council's Alcohol Bylaw 2024, be adopted, with an effective date of 30 September 2024.***

***Crs Chase/Peeti-Webber***

***Carried***

***That the Tararua District Council's Cemeteries Bylaw 2024 be adopted, with an effective date of 30 September 2024.***

***Crs Peeti-Webber/Sutherland***

***Carried***

***That the Tararua District Council's Public Places Bylaw 2024 be adopted, with an effective date of 30 September 2024.***

***Crs Gilmore/Long***

***Carried***

10.7 **Draft Bylaws Review and Consultation - Trade Waste Bylaw 2024, Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2024 and Traffic and Road Use Bylaw 2024**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Policy and Planning Advisor dated 12 September 2024 that sought approval to public notify the draft Trade Wastes Bylaw, Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw, and Traffic and Road Use Bylaw. These bylaws were proposed to replace the Trade Waste Bylaw 2018, Traffic and Road Use Bylaw 2018 and Solid Waste Bylaw 2018 that expired in late 2023.

***That the report from the Policy and Planning Advisor dated 12 September 2024 concerning the Draft Bylaws Review and Consultation - Trade Waste Bylaw 2024, Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2024 and Traffic and Road Use Bylaw 2024 be received.***

***That the Tararua District Council determines, pursuant to s155(1) of the Local Government Act 2002, that a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing perceived problems identified for the regulation of trade wastes and tanker discharges, the collection, storage, management and disposal of waste (including recyclable material), and road use.***

***That the Tararua District Council approves the combined Statement of Proposal and the Tararua District Council's draft Trade Waste Bylaw 2024, for public consultation in accordance with s83, s86 and 148 of the Local Government Act 2002.***

***That the Tararua District Council approves the combined Statement of Proposal and the Tararua District Council's draft Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2024, for public consultation in accordance with s83 and s86 of the Local Government Act 2002.***

***That the Tararua District Council approves the combined Statement of Proposal and the Tararua District Council's draft Traffic and Road Use Bylaw 2024, for public consultation in accordance with s83 and s86 of the Local Government Act 2002.***

***That the Tararua District Council agrees that the Chief Executive be delegated the power to approve any minor amendments to the draft bylaws or statements of proposal that he considers appropriate, prior to consultation starting.***

***Crs Johns/Long***

***Carried***

10.6 **Deliberations - Waste Management and Minimisation Plan consultation**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager Democracy Services dated 4 September 2024 that presented the results of the public consultation on the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and sought

decisions from Council on each of the matters raised through the consultation.

***That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 04 September 2024 concerning the Deliberations - Waste Management and Minimisation Plan consultation be received.***

***That the following responses to matters raised through submissions be made:***

***Issue One: That the Council notes the proposal for a solution recycle glass and concrete locally, and thanks the submitter for demonstrating a potential local solution which is consistent with the goals, objectives and proposed methods highlighted in the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.***

***Issue Two: That the Council thanks the submitter for their suggestion to introduce a system for collecting bottle lids, glass jar lids, milk caps and tin can lids to divert these from the landfill, and notes that a trial has been proposed for capturing some clean bottle lids for alternative use, however currently there was no alternative solution available for dealing with such waste other than disposal to landfill.***

***Issue Three: That the Council thanks the submitter for their suggestion to facilitate introduction of soft plastic recycling with a local supermarket, noting that officers were investigating options for soft plastic recycling.***

***Issue Four: That the Council thanks the submitter for their suggestion to facilitate introduction of alternative drop off points for used batteries, such as the Council office and libraries, and advises that officers were investigating options for this service.***

***Issue Five: That the Council thanks the submitter for their suggestion to introduce collection of E-waste such as computers and televisions, noting that an amnesty day for such collection was being planned.***

***Issue Six: That the Council thanks the submitter for their suggestion to return to providing a Council service for kerbside rubbish collection, noting that the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan details the objective for investigation options for introducing a Council-run or contracted household kerbside collection service, that budget provision has been included in the Long Term Plan 2024-34 from year four of that plan, and that the next Long Term Plan, 2027-37 will include consulting on options for this with the community.***

***Issue Seven: That the Council thanks the submitter for their suggestion to invest more in education to empower people with knowledge to recover their own resources.***

***Issue Eight: That the Council thanks the submitter for their suggestion to identify rural vs urban impacts on Council waste services, and identify amounts of waste produced by each rating group e.g. urban, rural and introduce a targeted rate.***

***Issue Nine: That the Council thanks the submitter for their suggestion to encourage the community to collect food scraps for feeding to pigs and poultry, but notes the risks associated with this and the need to comply with legal requirements for feeding of pigs.***

***Issue Ten: That the Council thanks the submitter for their note about investing more time in consultation to provide opportunities for people to have options explained to them.***

***That the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan be made the final version of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and be submitted to Council for adoption on 30 October 2024.***

***Crs Wallace/Johns***

***Carried***

#### 10.8 **Rationalisation of Land and Buildings Project**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 13 September 2024 that communicated the scope, approach and deliverables of the land and buildings rationalisation project. Dafydd Pettigrew, of Xyst Ltd, attended via Teams and provided an overview of the project. He outlined the next steps of the process, which would be to develop a list of potential land and buildings that could be considered, prepare a report on rationalisation for discussion with Council and bringing to a future meeting for decision. He noted the statutory requirement for community consultation on sale of any community land. An undertaking was made for regular reporting on milestones of this project, and it was asked that this project be shared with the community boards and community committees.

***That the report from the Group Manager - Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 13 September 2024 concerning the Rationalisation of Land and Buildings Project be received.***

***That Council is satisfied with the proposed approach, scope, and deliverables of the rationalisation project.***

***Crs Gilmore/Wards***

***Carried***

#### 10.9 **Capital Expenditure Budget Carryforwards 2023/24**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Programmes and Projects dated 19 September 2024 that sought approval for carry forwards of unspent budgets to the 2024-25 financial year. It was noted that the proposed carry forwards were all projects that were currently underway, or had a contract for delivery.

***That the report from the Manager - Programmes & Projects dated 19 September 2024 concerning the Capital Expenditure Budget Carryforwards 2023/24 be***

*received.*

***That the Council approves the carry forwards as outlined in section 4.1 of the report of the Manager – Programmes & Projects dated 19 September 2024 for addition into the 2024-25 year’s capital budget.***

***Crs Sutherland/Franklin***

***Carried***

*The meeting adjourned at 11:57am and resumed at 1:00pm*

**10.10 12 Month Performance Report - Period Ending 30 June 2024**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Senior Financial Accountant dated 11 September 2024 that presented the performance report for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. In response to a question asked about the variance noted for accrual of staff leave, it was noted that a note would be included for consideration by Council when it considers adoption of its draft Annual Report.

*Cr S M Wards left the meeting at 1:45pm and returned at 1:47pm.*

***That the report from the Senior Financial Accountant dated 11 September 2024 concerning the 12 Month Performance Report - Period Ending 30 June 2024 be received.***

***Crs Wallace/Chase***

***Carried***

**10.11 2023/2024 Annual Report of the Tararua District Licensing Committee**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Regulatory Services Manager dated 19 July 2024 that presented the annual report on the administration of alcohol licensing for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 to Council for information.

***That the report from the Regulatory Services Manager dated 19 July 2024 concerning the 2023/2024 Annual Report of the Tararua District Licensing Committee be received and noted.***

***Crs Long/Johns***

***Carried***

**10.12 Road Closure Requested Under the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Alliance Administrator dated 5 September 2024 that presented an application from Eketāhuna Our Town Inc for road closures on Saturday 30 November 2024.

***That the report from the Alliance Manager dated 05 September 2024 concerning a road closures application under the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government***

*Act 1974 (as circulated) be received, and*

*That pursuant to Section 342 (1)(b) and the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974, the Council resolves to close the following roads for the purpose of allowing the Eketahuna Our Town Inc to hold the Eketahuna Christmas Parade event:*

*Road name: Haswell Street, Herbert Street, and Bengston Street*

*Date of closure: Saturday 30 November 2024*

*Conditions Applied to the Granting of these Road Closures*

*That the Tararua Alliance in conjunction with the organiser will assess shortly prior to this event the condition of the roads involved to determine their suitability for this purpose.*

*That if the Tararua Alliance identifies any road or roads as being in an unsuitable condition arising from this assessment, then they have the discretion to request the organiser to withdraw such road from the route of this event.*

*That shortly after the event has been held, the Tararua Alliance shall carry out a drive over of the roads that were closed for this event to assess their condition.*

*Advisory Note*

*That should the Council incur any additional maintenance costs as a consequence of the event, then those expenses shall be recovered from the event organiser.*

*Crs Gilmore/Sutherland*

*Carried*

10.13 **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 10 September 2024 that provided information on requests for information received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

*That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 10 September 2024 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.*

*Crs Wallace/Sutherland*

*Carried*

**11. Correspondence**

11.1 **Letters to Ministers re Proposed Tolling for Te Ahu a Turanga Manawatu Tararua Highway**

*That the Council notes the correspondence sent to the Ministers regarding the*

***Proposed Tolling for Te Ahu a Turanga Manawatu Tararua Highway.***

***Crs Gilmore/Johns***

***Carried***

**12. Portfolio Reports**

**Public meeting in Woodville** – Cr Gilmore spoke about the public meeting arranged by Positively Woodville, to unite against the proposed tolling of Te Ahu a Turanga. He recorded his thanks to Positively Woodville for their efforts in arranging that meeting, and to everyone involved in the organisation and running of the meeting. He also thanked the people of Woodville, and people from across the district and beyond for their support.

**Civic Honour presentation to Heather Monk** – Cr Wards acknowledged the organisation of the event, and spoke about its success. She thanked everyone involved on behalf of the Pongaroa community.

**Rural Support Trust** - Cr Wards spoke about the rural support trust planning event that she recently attended. She noted the changes in the governance structure of that organisation, with three of the four trustees standing down including herself. She advised the new Chairperson would be Lisa Simms, who comes from Eketāhuna.

**Polish Reunion** – Cr Franklin provided an update on the work being undertaken in preparation for the upcoming Polish Reunion. She invited any councillors that were available to help with the event to let her know and their help would be appreciated.

**Connect Tararua** – Cr Franklin reported that there had not been much progress with the Norsewood tower, investigations into delay were underway.

**Refurbishment of Remembrance Plaque of the Boer War** – Cr Wallace reported on his attendance at an event in Norsewood to celebrate the refurbishment of the remembrance plaque.

**13. Mayoral Matters**

Nil

**14. Items not on the Agenda**

Nil

## 15. Public Excluded Items of Business

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

*Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes*

*Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service*

*Chief Executive 2023-24 Annual Performance Review and End of First Term Review*

*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>Chief Executive 2023-24 Annual Performance Review and End of First Term Review</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</i>	<i>&lt;Section (1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</i>	<i>&lt;Section (1)(a)(i)</i>
<i>Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes</i>	<i>To protect legal privilege</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)(g) The withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.*

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

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

*Crs Johns/Sutherland*

*Carried*

The meeting went into public excluded session at 2:21pm and resumed open session at 3:23pm.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 3:24pm.

---

Mayor