



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 29 May 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, S M Gilmore, P A Johns, M F Long, K A Sutherland, S A Wallace and S M Wards

In Attendance

- Mr D Batley - Evergreen Consulting Ltd
- Mr S Bray - Wayfinder Planning and Strategy Ltd

- Mr B Nicholson - Chief Executive
- Mr R Suppiah - Group Manager – Corporate and Regulatory
- Mrs K Tani - Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing
- Mr P Wimsett - 3-Waters Transition Manager
- Mr K van der Oord - Communications Team Manager
- Mrs S Walshe - Finance Manager
- Mrs B Fowler - Senior Financial Accountant (via Teams)
- Ms J Smith - Legal Counsel and Procurement Manager
- Mr D Cameron - Recovery Manager
- Mr M Guile - Recovery Project Coordinator
- Ms T Hales - External Communications and Intelligence Lead
- Ms J Tylee - Rural Support Trust
- Ms S Fountaine - Local Recovery Community Hub Coordinator
- Mrs M Yule - Project Accountant
- Mr A Desmond - Capital Projects Manager
- Mr R Cannon - Engineering Services Manager
- Mrs A Dunn - Manager – Democracy Services

2. Council Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting with the Council Prayer.

3. Apologies

3.1 There were no apologies.

4. Public Forum

4.1 Public Forum - Leonie Belmont

Leonie Belmont expressed concern about the proposal to fluoridate the Dannevirke Water Supply. She spoke about her background as a retired midwife and nurse, and outlined concerns for pregnant women and unborn children. She spoke about research that showed a 4% drop in IQ in preschool aged children who drank fluoridated water, and the additional risk to bottlefed babies from being fed formula made with fluoridated water. She spoke about fluoride affecting the absorption of magnesium into the body, and therefore absorption of calcium, and research that showed children in fluoridated areas were more likely to suffer fractures. She noted that fluoride was absorbed from the outside of teeth, not via the bloodstream. In closing she said that although there was a directive from the Government for fluoridating the water supply she believed the Council had a moral responsibility to supply residents with safe drinking water.

4.2 Public Forum - Linda Manning

Linda Manning thanked elected members that attended the public meeting on fluoride held on 23 April 2024, and apologised for the behaviour of one of the people attending that meeting towards one of the elected members, noting that person was not a member of Fluoride Free Tararua, and the person had also apologised to the member concerned via letter.

She spoke about her view that the Council was being bullied by central Government, and likened it to tyranny rather than democracy.

She asked that the Council consider sitting down with Fluoride Free Tararua to discuss the matter properly and listen to their concerns. She posed the following questions to the Council:

Question one: Are you willing to have a two way discussion with them about fluoridation.

Question two: Why did you initially decide not to consult with the community on this matter.

Question three: how would it feel in future years to be the Council that would be responsible for causing actual harm to the people of Dannevirke and the local environment.

Question four: are you willing to open up a proper discussion with the community about all the aspects of water fluoridation including all the risks and allow this community to make the decision about whether to fluoridate the water supply.

5. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

Nil

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

Councillor S A Wallace – item 9.6 Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery

7. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 24 April 2024 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Crs Wallace/Chase

Carried

8. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports

8.1 Minutes Dannevirke Community Board

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meetings held 15 April 2024 and 20 May 2024 be received.

Crs Wards/Sutherland

Carried

8.2 Minutes - Eketahuna Community Board

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held 13 May 2024 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Johns

Carried

1083 Minutes - Explore Pahiatua Community Committee

That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Community Committee meeting held 1 May 2024 be received.

Crs Franklin/Peeti-Webber

Carried

8.4 Minutes - Positively Woodville Community Committee

That the minutes of the Positively Woodville Community Committee meeting

held 7 May 2024 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Johns

Carried

9. Reports

9.1 Tararua District Council - Urban Growth Strategy 2024 - 2054

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Team Leader Planning Services dated 20 May 2024 that presented the reviewed Tararua District Council – Urban Growth Strategy 2024-2054 for adoption.

Dan Batley and Shannon Bray were in attendance, to answer questions.

In response to a question, Mr Bray spoke about the meetings held with Iwi partners and the outcome from the meetings.

A correction was noted for page 102 of the strategy, regarding the legend. Minor wording changes had also been noted.

That the report from the Team Leader Planning Services dated 20 May 2024 concerning the Tararua District Council - Urban Growth Strategy 2024 - 2054 be received.

That Council adopt the Tararua District Council – Urban Growth Strategy 2024 – 2054.

That if Council determines any changes to the strategy are required, the Chief Executive be delegated the power to make such amendments.

Crs Wards/Johns

Carried

9.2 Three Waters Reform Update

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Three Waters Transition Manager that provided an update on the Three Waters reform.

With regard to the regional Council-Controlled Organisation (CCO) option contained in the report, a summary of benefits for establishing a CCO were outlined as follows:

- Retain ownership and strategic control;
- Enable access to approved funding tools;
- Need to have a shared voice as a region to influence central government in policy setting;
- Improve capacity to manage change.

That the report from the Three Waters Transition Manager dated 22 May 2024 concerning the Three Waters Reform Update be received.

Crs Wallace/Sutherland

Carried

9.3 Local Government New Zealand Conference and Annual General Meeting 2024

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 14 May 2024 that sought appointment of the presiding and alternate delegated authorised to vote on behalf of the Tararua District Council at the Annual General Meeting of Local Government New Zealand.

That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 14 May 2024 concerning the Local Government New Zealand Conference and Annual General Meeting 2024 be received.

That Her Worship the Mayor – Mrs T H Collis, and Councillors Franklin, Wards, Sutherland, Peeti-Webber and Wallace be registered to attend the 2024 Local Government New Zealand Conference.

That the Council, being a member of Local Government New Zealand, appoint Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis as the presiding delegate to vote on its behalf at the 2024 Annual General Meeting of Local Government New Zealand.

That Councillor Peeti-Webber and Councillor Wards be appointed as the alternate delegates to vote on the Council's behalf in the absence of the presiding delegate.

Crs Peeti-Webber/Franklin

Carried

9.4 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 14 May 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 14 May 2024 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.

Crs Wallace/Johns

Carried

9.5 Mayoral Relief Fund Final Report

The Tararua District Council considered the report of Her Worship the Mayor dated 23 May 2024 that provided information on the funding provided through

the Mayoral Relief Fund.

Councillor S M Gilmore left the meeting at 2:43pm and returned at 2:45pm.

That the report from the Mayor dated 23 May 2024 concerning the Mayoral Relief Fund Final Report be received.

Crs Chase/Long

Carried

9.6 **Cyclone Gabrielle - Recovery**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Team that reported on key achievements of the Cyclone Gabrielle recovery journey. The Recovery Manager, along with the Recovery Project Coordinator, the External Communications and Intelligence Lead, the Local Recovery Community Hub Coordinator, and Jane Tylee from the Rural Support Trust, were in attendance and gave a presentation highlighting key information related to the recovery. Their presentation covered:

- The external funding provided for the Tararua Recovery Team;
- The initial 2023 structure for the team;
- The key achievements of the recovery programme;
- A map showing the impacted areas from Cyclone Gabrielle and relationship to applicants to the Tararua On Track fund;
- The outcomes for community wellbeing from the events held;
- The eight community hubs set up to enabled communities to be self sufficient for a few days in future weather events;
- The 2024 structure for the team;
- The focus for the next six months for the social, economic, rural, built and natural recovery teams.

In summary, they noted the Cyclone Recovery Team were focusing on supporting the built and rural leads while ensuring they were up to date with lingering social and economic impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle.

They highlighted the opportunity they have to continue working with the affected areas and other agencies to not only continue recovery actions, but to also build resilience for future events.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35pm and resumed at 3:44pm.

That the Tararua District Council receives the report on the Cyclone Gabrielle

recovery journey.

Mayor Collis/Cr Wards

Carried

10. Correspondence

10.1 Letter from LGNZ Mayors and Chairs on Maori Wards

A copy of the letter sent from Local Government New Zealand membership Mayors and Chairpersons to the Prime Minister Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, Hon Simeon Brown, Minister for Local Government, Hon Tama Potaka, Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti, Rt Hon Winston Peters, Leader, New Zealand First, and Hon David Seymour, Leader ACT was provided for information.

That the Tararua District Council note the letter sent to the Prime Minister, Ministers, and party leaders from the LGNZ Mayors and Chairs on Māori Wards dated 22 May 2024.

Crs Sutherland/Chase

Carried

Councillor S A Wallace recorded his vote against the motion.

11. Portfolio Reports

11.1 Anzac Day: attendance at district Anzac Day commemorations was noted, and thanks recorded for officers for their assistance with coordination and provision of wreaths.

11.2 LTP Engagement event at Pongaroa: it was noted that the engagement event was well attended. It was noted that the Pongaroa Way To Go committee would be holding their Annual General Meeting in June, and would be considering ceasing to be an incorporated society and looking at different ways to support their community.

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:

Sale of Birch North Forest

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>Sale of Birch North Forest</i>	<i>To protect commercial and industrial negotiations</i>	<i><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)(i) The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

Crs Johns/Gilmore

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded session at 3:51pm and resumed open meeting at 4:22pm.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 4:22pm.

Mayor