



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 29 January 2025 commencing at 9:30am.

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 Pettigrew	- Xyst Limited
Ms J Wright	- Xyst Limited
Mr B Rope	- Smartz
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
Mr P Wimsett	- Chief Advisor
Mrs V Christison	- IT Projects
Mrs A Dunn	- Manager – Democracy Services

2. Council Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting with the Council Prayer.

3. Acknowledgement

The meeting observed a minutes silence in respect of the passing of David Kirk, a respected member of the community who served many years as a police officer in Pongaroa.

4. Apologies

There were no apologies.

5. Public Forum

There were no requests for public forum.

6. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

The need to consider an urgent late item of business regarding the appointment of representatives to the Local Waters Done Well – Wairarapa Tararua – Advisory Oversight Group was advised. An explanation was provided that the item had not been included on the agenda for this meeting as the request came as a result of a meeting held on 28 January 2025 regarding Local Water Done Well, after the agenda for this meeting had been published. The reason the item could not wait until a future or extraordinary meeting is due to the rapid pace that the meetings to progress Local Water Done Well would be held.

That the Tararua District Council accept as a matter of late business the item seeking appointment of representatives to the Local Waters Done Well – Wairarapa Tararua – Advisory Oversight Group and related delegation of authority.

Crs Peeti-Webber/Wallace

Carried

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 18 December 2024 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Crs Franklin/Sutherland

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 December 2024 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Johns

Carried

9.2 Minutes - Dannevirke Community Board

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held 16

December 2024 be received.

Crs Peeti-Webber/Collis

Carried

10. Reports

10.1 S17A Review of Camping Grounds

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 13 January 2025 that presented the findings of the Section 17A Service Delivery Review that examined whether the current methods of providing camping grounds services were effective, effective and suitable.

Mr Dafydd Pettigrew and Ms Jane Wright, of Xyst Limited, joined the meeting via Teams to answer questions in relation to the report.

It was noted that the campground operations were all manage under different models across four sites. The review identified that there were a number of improvements needed in data collection, compliance and digital infrastructure. Undertaking improvements in this area would enable better collection of data that could be used to fully evaluate costs, asset condition and occupancy trends, and therefore enable informed decision-making for efficient and effective future service delivery.

During questions, concern was raised that the detailed Section17A Service Delivery Review reports had been provided separately to members, rather than being included in the agenda. It was asked that these reports be made publicly available, with any commercially sensitive information redacted.

Discussion was had on the risk Council was exposed to through not meeting Camping Ground Regulations for its camping grounds. It was asked that the Chief Executive arrange for a risk assessment to be undertaken, and the outcome of this be reported back to Council.

It was noted that a better system of reporting would be introduced, and progress on the programme of operational improvements would be reported through the Community Development and Wellbeing Committee.

That the report from the Group Manager - Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 13 January 2025 concerning the S17A Review of Camping Grounds be received.

That Council remains status quo, and undertakes operational efficiencies for the next 12 months as recommended in the report of the Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 13 January 2025 (Table 2), before changing the service model for campground services.

Crs Johns/Wallace

Carried

10.2 **S17A Review of Swimming Pools**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 13 January 2025 that presented the findings of the Section 17A Service Delivery Review that examined whether the current methods of providing swimming pool services were efficient, effective and suitable.

It was noted that the swimming pool facilities across the Tararua District were managed under two different models across four sites, and that the Pahiatua pool facility was to be replaced in the future with an indoor / all year-round facility with the related service delivery model being a consideration of the review.

The Section 17A Service Delivery Review identified that more work was required for Council to be prepared for any change in service model. The review recommendations included a range of improvement actions to be taken over the next twelve months.

During discussion it was noted that better monitoring of service provision was needed, with concerns expressed about the lack of monitoring and auditing. It was asked that a risk assessment be undertaken and reported back to Council.

It was noted that succession planning was needed, as although there were good operators running the sites currently, a plan was needed of what a future model could look like to manage risk.

That the report from the Group Manager - Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 13 January 2025 concerning the S17A Review of Swimming Pools be received.

That Council remains status quo, and undertakes operational efficiencies for the next 12 months as recommended in the report of the Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 13 January 2025 (Table 2), before changing the service model for swimming pool services.

Crs Sutherland/Peeti-Webber

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 10:35am and resumed at 10:47am.

10.3 **Adoption of Schedule of Meetings for 2025**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 13 January 2025 that presented the schedule of meetings for the 2025 calendar year for adoption. It was noted that for any briefing sessions or extraordinary meetings that needed to be called, these would be scheduled for the same day as other meetings as much as possible. It was noted that additional meetings would be required to progress the Local Water Done Well consultation

and decision-making.

1.1 *That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 13 January 2025 concerning the Adoption of Schedule of Meetings for 2025 be received.*

1.4 *That the Council adopt the schedule of meetings for 2025 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report “Adoption of Schedule of Meetings for 2025.”*

Crs Wallace/Wards

Carried

10.4 **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 22 January 2025 that provided an update on the requests for information received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 22 January 2025 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Johns

Carried

11. Portfolio Reports

11.1 Akitio Ratepayers meeting – Councillor Wards reported on the recent meeting held 2 January 2025, noting the main topic was the water supply. She noted she spoke about how the number of connections worked with the water treatment plant, the impact on storage from the population in summer, and the need for enforcement of the bylaw.

11.2 Dedication of Original Gates – Councillor Peeti-Webber spoke about the attendance at the dedication of the restored gates at the former site of St Martins Church in Makotuku by herself and Councillor Wallace. She spoke about the restoration of the gates and the installation of information boards displaying information about the Church that had been gifted and moved to the Linton Army Camp.

11.3 New Ambulance Station in Pahiatua – Councillor Franklin spoke about the event held in Pahiatua on 25 January to turn the first sod on the site of the new Ambulance Station for the town. She noted that the Operations Manager for St Johns would be attending the February meeting of the Community Development and Wellbeing Committee to speak about the new station during public forum time.

11.4 Collapse of Beech tree in Pahiatua Town Centre – Councillor Franklin spoke about the collapse of an historic Beech tree in the town centre over the past

weekend, due to a weather event. It was noted that the tree was being made safe, and that it had found to be rotten in its centre. It's estimated age was about 120 years. It was noted that a report on the condition of trees in the centre of Pahiatua township would be useful.

- 11.5 **Local Water Done Well** – Councillor Sutherland spoke about the first meeting of Local Water Done Well, attended by himself, Her Worship the Mayor, the Chief Executive and the Chief Advisor. There would be a number of meetings held over the coming weeks in order to be ready for public consultation. It was noted that Her Worship the Mayor had been voted to Chair the Local Water Done Well – Wairarapa Tararua Advisory Oversight Group.

12. **Mayoral Matters**

Nil

13. **Items not on the Agenda**

- 13.1 **Appointment of Representatives to the Local Waters Done Well – Wairarapa Tararua Advisory Oversight Group (AOG)**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Chief Advisor dated 29 January 2025 that sought agreement on matters to further the development of the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery option for consultation with the community in March / April 2025.

The Chief Advisor circulated his report. The meeting adjourned to allow elected members time to read the report.

The meeting adjourned at 11:09am and reconvened at 11:25am.

The report set out how Council was collaborating with the Councils of the Wairarapa to develop a consultation document, and confirmation was now sought as to who the Tararua representatives would be on the Advisory Oversight Group. It was noted that each member Council would appoint two members from their Council, and that a representative of each iwi had also been appointed.

The report noted that Council was also legislatively required to consult on the inclusion or exclusion of stormwater from transfer to a Water Council Controlled Organisation. It was noted that this was a matter included in the reports dated 12 December 2024, for which public views would be sought.

The Wairarapa Tararua Advisory Group would develop a consultation document for the Wairarapa plus Tararua option for Local Water Done Well, to be consulted alongside each Council's enhanced status quo option. It was noted that the group were intending to develop the draft consultation document in time for

consideration at the Council meeting on 26 February 2025.

Her Worship the Mayor read out the recommendations contained within the paper, as the information had not yet been published to Council's website.

- 1.1 That the report from the Chief Advisor dated 29 January 2025 concerning the Appointment of representatives to the Local Waters Done Well - Wairarapa Tararua - Advisory Oversight Group (AOG) be received.**
- 1.2 That Council receives the report.**
- 1.3 Notes that Council is making use of the alternative decision-making and consultation arrangements provided in the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024.**
- 1.4 Notes that the Local Government (Water Services) Bill which will establish the enduring settings for the new water system including the economic and regulatory oversight functions has been introduced into Parliament.**
- 1.5 Notes that the three Wairarapa district councils of Masterton, Carterton and South Wairarapa, and Tararua District Council have agreed to consult their communities on the Wairarapa + Tararua "Wai + T" water services delivery option alongside their enhanced status quo options.**
- 1.6 Confirm that Tararua District Council membership of the Advisory Oversight Group to be the Mayor and the Chair of the Infrastructure and Climate Change, Emergency Committee; and**
- 1.7 To delegate to the Tararua members of the Advisory Oversight Group to develop a draft consultation document for the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery option for later adoption by Council; and**
- 1.8 Agrees that the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery model will be a Water Services Council Controlled Organisation; and**
- 1.9 Agrees to progress the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery option to include stormwater.**

Crs Wallace/Johns

Carried

14. Public Excluded Items of Business

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

Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service

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>Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service</i>	<i>To protect the privacy of natural persons</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)(a) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.

Crs Chase/Peeti-Webber

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded session at 11:41am and resumed open session at 11:51am.

15. Release of Public Excluded Resolutions in Open Business

15.1 Civic Honour Nomination – Barbara Ferguson

The following decision made in public excluded session of the Tararua District Council held 25 September 2024 has been released for publication in open session.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 03 September 2024 concerning the Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service be received.

That Barbara Ferguson be awarded a Tararua District Civic Honour to acknowledge her service to the community.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 11:52am.

Mayor