



Minutes of a meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 26 February 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 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 G Nock	- Strategy and District Development Manager
Mr R Earp	- Strategic Advisor
Mr M Dunn	- Three Waters Manager
Mr J Single	- Regulatory Services Manager
Mrs S Walshe	- Finance Manager
Ms A Charmley	- Planning Services Manager
Mrs J Neilson	- Solid Waste Manager
Mr A Desmond	- Network Manager
Mr S Dunn	- Risk and Assurance Advisor
Mrs A Dunn	- Manager – Democracy Services
Mrs S Anthony	- Democracy Support Officer

2. Council Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting with karakia.

3. Acknowledgement

Her Worship the Mayor acknowledged the sad passing of former Councillor and Deputy Mayor William (Bill) Keltie. She spoke about the loss to the Tararua community through the loss of Bill, a dedicated public servant, for over 15 years. She talked about how he played a key role in advancing projects, and worked tirelessly to enhance infrastructure, sustainable development and the betterment of the community. The Council observed a minute's silence to mark

his sad passing with respect.

4. Apologies

There were no apologies.

5. Public Forum

There were no requests for public forum.

6. Presentation of Petition

6.1 Presentation of Petition

Presentation of petition from Marie Power regarding petition received on January 2025, with 99 signatures. The statement of the petition was:

“We the residents of a residential zone and surrounding area petition the Tararua District Council to control the noise pollution from Industrial areas which are too close to residential zones.

A wood chipping business has started up in Millers Street which is far too close to residential zones with the noise it is projecting travelling a great distance and annoying a lot of residents living in residential zones, it is having a detrimental effect on a lot of elderly residents.

We demand that the District Plan is adhered to.”

In presenting the petition, Marie Power talked about the District Plan and its provisions relating to noise pollution. She talked about the impacts on residents in the residential zone from the constant noise from the wood chipping plant in the adjoining industrial zone.

Diane Clayton also spoke in support of the petition, expressing concerns about the adverse impacts the noise from the wood chipping plant. She spoke about her personal experience of how the noise from the plant impacted her health. She spoke about the decibel readings that she had undertaken and how at times these were up to 108 dB. As the Resource Management Act 1991 was supposed to protect people from unreasonable noise, while at the same time allowing for appropriate industrial activities to take place, but felt the wood chipping plant should have been located at another site where it would not have been so close to a residential area.

Upon the invitation of the Mayor, the Regulatory Services Manager spoke to this item. He thanked the presenters for sharing how the noise from the plant was affecting them. He spoke about the requirements for the Council to balance the

needs of the community along with the need to let business take place, in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991. He noted that the operator was permitted to establish the wood chipping plant in the industrial zone as long as the required noise limits as set in the District Plan could be met at the residential zone boundaries, and this had been demonstrated through testing. He noted the location of the industrial zone so close to the residential was unfortunate. He outlined the steps that the Council and the wood chipping plant owner had taken to measure the noise emissions from the plant, and the additional mitigation that the owner had agreed to reduce noise levels, through best practical options that had been agreed to. It was proposed that sound engineers take noise level readings at the boundaries of the affected properties during the hours of operation of the plant. Residents were encouraged to continue to report excessive noise to the Council, so this could be monitored to ensure consent conditions were being met.

That the petition be received.

Mayor Collis/Wallace

Carried

7. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

Nil

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

8.1 The following declarations of conflicts of interest were declared in relation to the applications received for Contestable Funding:

Les Chevaliers – Mayor Collis

NZ Remembrance Army – Mayor Collis, Cr Wallace

Te Tahua o Rangitane Limited – Cr Johns, Cr Gilmore

Dannevirke Host Lions – Cr Wards

Pahiatua Golf Club – Cr Johns, Cr Gilmore

Woodville Association Football Club – Cr Gilmore

Ngati Kahungunu ki Tamaki-nui-a-Rua – Cr Chase

Woodville Art and History Inc – Cr Johns

Ngati Kahungunu ki Tamaki-nui-a-Rua – Cr Chase

The Village Hall Society – Cr Johns

Kaitoki Marae – Cr Peeti-Webber, Cr Chase

Tararua REAP – Cr Gilmore

Dannevirke Sports Club – Cr Wards

9. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 29 January 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Crs Peeti-Webber/Sutherland *Carried*

10. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports

10.1 Minutes - Explore Pahiatua Community Committee

That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Community Committee meeting held 05 February 2025 be received.

Crs Chase/Franklin *Carried*

10.2 Minutes - Eketahuna Community Board

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held 10 February 2025 be received.

Crs Chase/Franklin *Carried*

10.3 Minutes - Dannevirke Community Board

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held 17 February 2025 be received.

Crs Chase/Franklin *Carried*

10.4 Minutes - Positively Woodville Community Committee

That the minutes of the Positively Woodville Community Committee meeting held 4 February 2025 be received.

Crs Chase/Franklin *Carried*

11. Reports

11.1 S17A Review - Waste Management Services

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Strategic Advisor dated 18 February 2025 that presented the findings of the Section 17A Service Delivery

Review that examined whether the current methods of delivering waste management services in Tararua are efficient, effective and suitable.

Dany Rassam, and Kel McBeath of Height, were in attendance via Teams and gave a presentation that explained the process they followed, their findings and recommendations. They highlighted the observations from their investigation, noting the significant improvement of Refuse Transfer Stations since the service had been brought in-house. The next steps and future considerations recommended were:

- Review recommendations with plan to adopt;
- Affordability and sustainability;
- Managing waste disposal costs;
- Circular economy adoption;
- Collaboration for innovation with neighbouring Councils;
- Pursuit of long-term partnerships.

Questions were asked regarding:

The benefits of purchasing a Side loader rather than hiring one;

Clarification of the savings from in-sourcing;

Clarification of what additional expenditure would be sought through the Annual Plan;

Development of a Business Case for refuse collection;

Concern regarding loss of incentives for recycling should refuse collection be funded through Rates, rather than being on a user pays basis.

That the report from the Strategic Advisor dated 18 February 2025 concerning the S17A Review - Waste Management Services be received.

Mayor Collis/Wards

Carried

11.2 **Hearing of Submissions - draft Traffic and Road Use Bylaw**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 13 February 2025 that presented a copy of all the submissions received in relation to the draft Traffic and Road Use Bylaw and a schedule of the submitters who wished to present their views to the committee in person.

Submission 20 – Thomas Read and Sally Dryland of Federated Farmers highlighted from their submission that having a risk management plan that identifies and

mitigates risks associated with moving stock along or across roads, that is prepared and held by the person in charge of the stock move would mitigate risks, and supported this plan being made available to Council officers in response to any concern about movement of animals across or along roadways. They noted that they would be happy to work with officers proactively, but concerned about more expenses being put upon farmers. They expressed concern for any requirement to seek a Traffic Management Plan from professionals. They see themselves as responsible people that can perform these tasks rather than seek out professionals to prepare a plan for them, noting that how they use the rural roads is important to them as people in the community and the animals they care for.

They encouraged Council to remove Schedule 3 3a in the Public Places Bylaw immediately.

Submission 019 – Sally Dryland presented the submission made on behalf of Ruawhata community members, and presented photos illustrating the entry to Ruawhata Road, noting the condition of the road with seal lifting and culverts collapsing, and noted that she believed any damage from stock crossings would be less. Her presentation included two further photos showing signage on the road and an example of cattle being driven down their road.

She proposed that a sign that said “beware of stock” that should be sufficient for awareness of traffic, similar to the use of “school bus route” warning signs, and felt that numerous signs by individual farmers may de-sensitise drivers to the hazards.

She provided an example of her and her husband taking cattle down their road, noting she had the paper work to undertake this movement, as this was required by one of her suppliers. She questioned whether she would need to re-submit this paperwork to the Council every time a change was made, e.g. change of staff driving her cattle.

In response to questions regarding the traffic management plan requirement, and a request for clarification that the Council would remove most of the traffic management plan requirements should this bylaw be passed, clarification was provided that officers had committed to working closely with farmers to develop the new Stock Control Bylaw. It was advised that in November last year the NZ Transport Agency removed the obligations for the traffic management plan to be created by professionally qualified people, so the risk had now been transferred to the local authority and the work places undertaking the activity. The road controlling authority needed to mitigate the risk for some crossings and areas where there was poor visibility or for moving stock in hours of darkness, by ensuring that there was a relevant and purpose built traffic management plan for such circumstances. It was also preferred that farmers had complied with all requirements so they could not be held liable for any traffic accidents involving their stock. When developing the Public Places Bylaw in 2024, the Council moved the requirements that had been set out in that bylaw to the schedule and

communicated that the schedule would be removed when the Traffic and Road Use Bylaw was adopted. The next step after that was when the purpose built Stock Control Bylaw, developed in conjunction with Federated Farmers, was adopted, the schedule in the Traffic and Road Use Bylaw would be removed at that time. There needed to be some controls provided for in the meantime however so that the Council had the power to act on complaints that it received regarding stock movements.

The meeting adjourned at 11:26am and reconvened at 11:45am.

With regard to direction for officers for matters to include in the deliberations report, it was asked that for the topic of Parking of Heavy Vehicles, that a clear articulation of what the problem is that is needed to be solved. Specifically, how many complaints received, the nature of those complaints, and whether they could be dealt with under any other mechanism. In addition, any other method that could be used to solve those issues, including anything used by other Councils.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 13 February 2025 concerning the Hearing of Submissions - draft Traffic and Road Use Bylaw be received.

Crs Gilmore/Wallace

Carried

11.3 **Contestable Fund Round 1**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Strategy and District Development Manager dated 19 February 2025 that presented on the assessment and funding recommendations for the contestable fund applications and outlined the evaluation process, including criteria used to assess applications and the collaborative scoring approach undertaken by key stakeholders.

The declarations of conflicts of interest declared with particular funding applications were noted under minute item 6.1.

A question was asked about moderation of the requests and whether there had been any moderation applied to ensure the proposed allocations were equitable across the district, and ensured sufficient contribution towards projects to ensure their success.

A question was asked what the process would be should a project not take place due to insufficient funding being raised towards that project. It was explained that if a project could not continue, each applicant must provide an accountability report and should the funds not be spent on that item, then those funds must come back to Council. When we partially funded an application, an item on their part of their project would be funded.

A question was asked about the appropriateness of funding projects related to river health, where it may be more appropriate for funding for that project to

come from Horizons Regional Council.

With regard to providing funding for a school, it was noted that the funding criteria excluded funding crown entities. It was noted that some of the activities undertaken by schools were not funded by central government, for example sporting facilities where schools rely on fundraising activities for these.

It was suggested that the funding criteria be reviewed prior to the next funding round.

The recommendations for funding were questioned, with a request to reconsider the amount of funding proposed for some of the applicants. These were Pahiatua Shears, Tararua Aquatic Community Trust, Pahiatua and District Museum Society, and a typographical error was noted in the recommended funding for Pukaha Mt Bruce.

The meeting adjourned at 12:33pm and reconvened at 1:01pm.

It was agreed that the decisions on the funding applications would each be taken separately, to enable those members that had declared conflicts of interest to be able to exclude themselves from decision making on those applications.

That the application for funding from Norsewood Pioneer Museum Incorporated Society for \$1,899.00 be declined.

Crs Sutherland/Long ***Carried***

That Les Chevaliers be granted \$2,500 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Gilmore/Long ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Ms Alaina Sims for \$46,850 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Gilmore ***Carried***

That the NZ Remembrance Army – Norsewood Boer War Community Restoration Project be granted \$3,000 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Franklin/Chase ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Puketoi to the Pacific Catchment Collective for \$12,500 be declined.

Crs Gilmore/Johns ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Puketoi to the Pacific Catchment Collective for \$10,150 be declined.

Crs Gilmore/Johns ***Carried***

That Pahiatua Shears be granted \$1,000 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Johns/Gilmore ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Te Tahua o Rangitane Limited for \$20,000 be declined.

Crs Wallace/Peeti-Webber ***Carried***

That the application for Te Tahua o Rangitane Limited, is proposed they re-apply for the next contestable fund application round, with a total of \$10,000 be provisionally allocated based on project approval.

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

Councillors Wards, Long and Chase recorded their votes against the motion

That Bush Multisport Trust be granted \$10,000 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Franklin/Peeti-Webber ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Mr Aidan Lyons for \$45,038.45 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Peeti-Webber ***Carried***

That Dannevirke Host Lions Club be granted \$336 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Wallace/Chase ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Pahiatua Golf Club for \$1,850 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Peeti-Webber ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Sport Manawatu – Sport Tararua for \$1,500 be declined.

Crs Long/Chase ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Ruahine Ramblerz for \$1,646 be declined.

Crs Johns/Sutherland

Carried

That the application for funding from Miss Susan Walsh for \$105,000 be declined.

Crs Sutherland/Long

Carried

That the application for funding from A L Clarke Shearing Ltd for \$35,990 be declined.

Crs Johns/Chase

Carried

That Woodville Association Football Club be granted \$2,500 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Chase/Johns

Carried

That the application for funding from Ruahine School for \$49,020 be declined.

Crs Long/Gilmore

Carried

That Ngati Kahungunu ki Tamaki-nui-a-Rua be granted \$2,500 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Peeti-Webber/Chase

Carried

That the application for funding from Ms Sandra Duncan for \$5,436 be declined.

Crs Long/Johns

Carried

That the application for funding from Woodville Art and History, Inc for \$5,000 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Long

Carried

That the application for funding from Miss Tina Robbie for \$100,000 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Gilmore

Carried

That the application for funding from Mrs Judith Thompson for \$1,000 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Franklin ***Carried***

That Ngati Kahungunu ki Tamaki-nui-a-Rua be granted \$1,500 towards Youth Basketball from the Contestable Fund.

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

That the application for funding from The Village Hall Society for \$6,475 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Wallace ***Carried***

That Pukaha National Wildlife Centre be granted \$12,000 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Gilmore/Collis ***Carried***

Councillors Wards, Long and Wallace recorded their votes against the motion.

That the application for funding from Mr Matt Prior for \$24,400 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Peeti-Webber ***Carried***

That Woodville Art & History, Inc be granted \$1,500 from the Contestable Fund.

Mayor Collis/Gilmore ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Woodville Writers Group for \$5,138 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Sutherland ***Carried***

That Friends of Pahiatua-Mangatainoka Cemetery be granted \$556.70 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Chase/Gilmore ***Carried***

That Blue Light Ventures Inc be granted \$906 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Franklin/Gilmore ***Carried***

Councillor Long recorded his vote against the motion.

That Kaitoki Marae be granted \$2,500 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Johns/Chase ***Carried***

That Tararua Aquatic Community Trust be granted \$1,500 from the Contestable Fund.

Mayor Collis/Wallace ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Weber School for \$8,217.60 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Long ***Carried***

That the House of Science Wairarapa Charitable Trust be granted \$1,500 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Chase/Franklin ***Carried***

Councillors Long and Wallace recorded their votes against the motion.

That the application for funding from Mrs Nicola Martin for \$825 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Gilmore ***Carried***

That Ti Tree Point Playgroup be granted \$2,500 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Wallace/Wards ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Helping Hand for \$35,000 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Johns ***Carried***

That Tararua REAP be granted \$2,000 towards Kapa Haka from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Chase/Franklin ***Carried***

That the application for funding from Mr Hayden Mischefski for \$5,000 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Johns

Carried

That the application for funding from Pahiatua Districts and Museum Society for \$1,200 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Peeti-Webber

Carried

That the application for funding from Mrs Holly Swansson for \$6,036 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Sutherland

Carried

That Dannevirke Sports Club Inc be granted \$1,700 from the Contestable Fund.

Crs Wallace/Long

Carried

That the application for funding from the Eketāhuna Golf Club for \$8,000 be declined.

Mayor Collis/Johns

Carried

That the report from the Strategy and District Development Manager dated 19 February 2025 concerning the Contestable Fund Round 1 be received.

Crs Franklin/Johns

Carried

11.4 **Regulatory Services Report 1 October 2024 to 31 January 2025**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Regulatory Services Manager dated 05 February 2025 that provided an update of the statistical information provided for Council information purposes only.

With regard to the need to extend the timeline for the District Plan Review into the following year, it was asked whether there was any way that could be mitigated to be able to meet the original timeline that had been proposed. The concern was expressed that a new Council that had not been part of this process might be required to make the final decision without having considered all of the background information.

It was advised that as the current elected members, the Council would be signing off the draft District Plan for consultation purposes in July. A schedule 1 Resource Management Act process would then take place. The decision making then sits outside of the elected council, as the hearings and deliberations would be undertaken by the expert panel. The final adoption would be undertaken by the

elected Council. The sequence of events that was required to be followed would not allow for hearings to be held in August / September, noting that the timelines were set through the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 and the advice of the Independent Chairperson.

That the report from the Regulatory Services Manager dated 05 February 2025 concerning the Regulatory Services Report 1 October 2024 to 31 January 2025 be received.

Crs Wallace/Long

Carried

11.5 **Infrastructure Climate Change and Emergency Management**

The Tararua District Council considered the report if the Group Manager-Infrastructure dated 13 February 2025 that presented the reports that would have been presented at the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee which was cancelled on 19 February 2025.

It was asked that the Comms plan for the Norsewood water and Dannevirke Impound Supply be looked at.

It was asked that a more detailed report be provided to future meetings on the new Pahiatua Pool.

Concern was expressed that information on the revocation of the former highway had not been provided. It was noted negotiations were underway with NZ Transport Agency.

Concern was expressed about the delay in approval for the town signage from NZ Transport Agency.

That the report from the Group Manager - Infrastructure dated 13 February 2025 concerning the Infrastructure Climate Change and Emergency Management be received.

Crs Sutherland/Long

Carried

11.6 **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 20 February 2025 that presented information on the requests received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 20 February 2025 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Chase

Carried

12. Portfolio Reports

Nil

13. Mayoral Matters

Her Worship the Mayor noted that she would be attending a visit on Thursday 27 February by Minister Patterson in Pahiatua.

14. Items not on the Agenda Accepted in Accordance with the Procedure Outlined as per Agenda Item 4

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 Minutes

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</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.

Mayor Collis/Gilmore

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded session at 2:05pm and resumed open session at 2:12pm.

16. Decisions Taken in Public Excluded Session Released in Open Session

16.1 Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service

Decision of Tararua District Council meeting held 29 January 2025:

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 19 December 2024 concerning the Civic Honour Nomination for Community Service be received.

That Charlotte (Charlie) Timu be awarded a Tararua District Civic Honour to acknowledge her service to the community.

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

Decision of Tararua District Council meeting held 25 September 2024:

That the Council without advertising the vacancy, appoints the incumbent Chief Executive for a second term of two years, on the expiry of the first term on 3 November 2025.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 2:13pm.

Mayor