



Dannevirke Community Board

Minutes of a meeting of the Dannevirke Community Board held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Monday 17 February 2025 commencing at 9:00am.

1. Present

Board Members: P F Walshe (Chairperson), T J Hynes (Deputy Chairperson), E J Christison, R T Wallace; and Cr E L Peeti-Webber

In Attendance

Mayor T H Collis

Mrs K Tani	–	Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing
Mr H Featonby	–	Group Manager – Operations
Mr D Erard	–	Tararua Alliance Manager
Mr J Single	–	Regulatory Manager
Mrs A Charmley	–	Planning Manager
Mrs A Dunn	–	Manager – Democracy Services
Mrs S Anthony	–	Democracy Support Officer

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Public Forum

3.1 Public Forum - Tracy Winther

Tracy Winther talked about two projects being undertaken in the community that she was involved in, being the Regent Community Cinema and the new Community Garden. With regard to the cinema, she noted that she had presented to be Board previously on the cinema and the work undertaken to get the cinema reopened, and thanked the Board for their previous support. She noted the cinema had been running now for three years, and recently had successfully raised funds to purchase a digital projection system so they could play new release movies. She noted that the projection system belongs to the incorporated society and remains the property of the community. The cinema

committee continue to plan for the future.

With regard to the community garden, the opportunity arose in 2024 to collaborate with the A&P showgrounds to establish a community garden. This project is also supported by Tararua REAP to create a learning space for the wider district. She spoke about her involvement with the community projects, and her training and qualifications in that area for weaving resources together with people for the benefit of the community. She spoke about the garden that has now been growing for three months, entirely from time and resources from the community. Volunteers and donations from the community and local businesses have helped the garden to thrive. Donations from the community have provided funds for equipment for the garden. She spoke about their intent to have a market stand at the garden for people to purchase produce from, and will also be providing the community food bank with produce. She spoke about their plans for the future, including working with schools, establishing orchards and extending the garden. She noted they have set up to be self-sufficient for water, so they were not reliant on town supply. They intend to establish as an incorporated society. In the meantime, Tararua REAP act as fund holders for their project.

3.2 **Public Forum - Dannevirke Host Lions**

Barbara Ferguson and Sue Buchanan, of Dannevirke Host Lions, spoke about their proposal regarding the formal garden area of the Dannevirke Upper Domain. Barbara Ferguson noted that they had recently refurbished the Lionesses Garden. The other gardens need some attention, so have formed a group known as Friends of the Domain. In September 2010 the Dannevirke Domain Management Plan documented plans for the gardens, and the need for a volunteer group to be formed to take on maintenance of the gardens. She spoke about beginning the restoration as soon as possible. She read from page 16 of the Management Plan, regarding the war memorial, fountain and gardens, the avenue of sequoia, and two significant trees at the Scout Park. The Management Plan noted there was no formal group associated with these gardens and would welcome a group to fundraise and undertake care of the gardens. She circulated photographs of the condition of the formal gardens. They sought approval of the Community Board and Council for their proposal to establish a Friends of the Domain group. If given permission, they would ask that use of spray ceases, that their work not be hindered by red tape, that they be allowed access to the Domain for bringing in tools, and that water be available. In the short term, would like to tidy the edges and paths prior to Anzac Day. Long term would like to see attractive signs advising people of the site. Sue Buchanan then spoke about specific plans they had, including tree pruning by an arborist. She noted that when the Phil Lamason memorial is established there would be international interest in the site. The Friends of the Domain group would be established under the umbrella of the Dannevirke Host Lions. They asked for Council and Board support and assistance with the project.

Board Member Hynes declared an interest as a member of Dannevirke Host Lions, and did not vote.

That the Dannevirke Community Board records its support for the establishment of the Friends of the Domain group, as a group established under Dannevirke Lions.

Christison/Wallace

Carried

The Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing advised that she would take the request to the Facilities Team for discussion and set up a meeting with the group.

4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

Condition of Dannevirke Subway

North and south entrance to town – overgrown vegetation

Dump station at New Street

Main High Street trees

Flagpole on town hall update

Tararua Health Group

5. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held on 16 December 2024 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Hynes/Wallace

Carried

6. Tararua District Council Report

6.1 Report from Tararua District Council

That the report from the Tararua District Council extraordinary meeting held 11 December 2024 be received.

Peeti-Webber/Wallace

Carried

That the report from the Tararua District Council meetings held 18 December 2024 be received.

Hynes/Walsh

Carried

That the report from the Tararua District Council 29 January 2025 be received.

7. Reports

7.1 Update - Repair Works and Maintenance on Top Grass, Laws, Umutaoroa and Tamaki Roads, Dannevirke

The Group Manager - Operations and the Tararua Alliance Manager provided an update on repair works and maintenance on Top Grass, Laws, Umutaoroa and Tamaki Roads, in Dannevirke, noting the questions that had arisen in the community. The repairs on Laws Road were those that were agreed with by the NZ Transport Agency, to rectify damage caused during the use of these roads as a temporary detour during the closure of state highway 2, and was funded by NZ Transport Agency in accordance with an agreed scope of works. It was advised that the work was still in progress, noting Laws Road was on a reseal programme. Remaining repairs would be done in preparation for the reseal work that was scheduled for the coming year.

It was agreed that the Board members be taken on a drive by the Tararua Alliance Manager to understand the works being undertaken.

7.2 Management Report

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 7 February 2025 that presented an update on key activities and items of interest as reported to the meeting of the Community Development and Wellbeing Committee held 5 February 2025, and prepared for the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee.

Questions were asked about what actions were being taken to improve the amount of recycling diverted from landfill, and reduce the amount of contaminated recycling. It was advised that ongoing public education was being undertaken, and noted a public education event advertised for April 2025, along with more work in schools to educate the public. Auditing had also been implemented to inspect the recycling bins prior to emptying into the truck.

Concerns were expressed about the level of fly tipping in the district. It was asked that people report any fly tipping they witness to the Council. It was asked that the costs of fly tipping and abandoned vehicles, and numbers of prosecutions be reported to the next meeting of the Board. It was also asked that more publicity be given to the penalties for fly tipping.

That the report from the Group Manager - Strategy and Community Wellbeing dated 07 February 2025 concerning the Management Report be received.

7.3 **Investigation into Errors with Direct Debit Processes**

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services that provided a copy of the Investigation Report into Errors with Direct Debit Processes. It was noted that the Audit and Risk Committee would receive an update report at its meeting on 18 February 2025, and would be monitoring progress on recommendations made.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 07 February 2025 concerning the Investigation into Errors with Direct Debit Processes be received.

Hynes/Wallace

Carried

8. Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities

8.1 **Chamber of Commerce** – it was advised that the Chamber was working on its programme of After Fives events for the year.

8.2 It was advised that a public meeting with MP for Wairarapa, Mike Butterick and MP Chris Penk, Minister for Building and Construction, Land Information, Small Business and Manufacturing and Veterans, was being held on Friday 21 February from 1:30pm to 3:00pm at the Hub, and all were welcome to attend.

8.3 **Dannevirke Community Vehicle Trust** – it was noted that the Trust had recently been successful in receiving grant funding.

8.4 **Lamason Trust** – an update was provided that the Trust were now in position of having some working drawings for the memorial at the Domain, and would be holding meetings to discuss that. Next steps were to get costings and then undertake fundraising.

8.5 **Information Centre** – an update was provided to the Board from the 11 November meeting of the Information Centre Committee. The update included visitor numbers to the centre, and that the Chamber of Commerce had requested the information centre to coordinate the entries to the Christmas parade. The Information Centre had questions about electricity use and wifi from the new Council Chambers that they would raise in the New Year. Their next meeting would be held on 24 February 2025 at 4:00pm.

8.6 **Dannevirke Brass Band** – it was noted that their next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 18 February. It was noted that a meeting was being held on Thursday with the Mayor, Board Member Wallace and the Brass Band Committee regarding the historical arrangement with the Council, plus the ten year plan for where the Brass Band stands with funding.

8.7 **A&P Show** – it was noted that it had been the best show held in recent years, with high attendance numbers.

8.8 **Dannevirke Multisport Complex Inc** – an update was provided with progress on the new skatepark. The design was currently being worked on. It was noted that Dannevirke had won a competition with Basketball New Zealand to have a hoop

and lines donated for a half court to be installed at the Domain. Fundraising was needed for the cost of the hardstand and then the half court could be installed. An update was provided about the fundraising walk held at the Skye Farm.

9. Correspondence

9.1 Correspondence

Car park hazard – it was noted that vehicles exiting the carpark at 20 Allardice Street could not see clearly to exit, due to the car parking spaces on Allardice Street being marked right up to the drive entranceway. A copy of the request would be sent to the Tararua Alliance Manager. It was noted that there were similar situations throughout the town, with parking too close to driveway entrances.

That the correspondence as listed be received:

Wackrow Memorial Youth Awards 2024

Car Park Road Hazard

Christison/Peeti-Webber

Carried

Councillor Peeti-Webber left the meeting at 10:45am.

10. Discussion Items

10.1 **Wackrow Memorial Youth Awards 2025:** it was asked that the Board get together to discuss timing and arrangements for undertaking a successful Wackrow Memorial Awards in 2025, and report back to the next meeting of the Board.

10.2 **Update on Progress with Metal Recycling Yard:** members expressed concern that progress had been slow in tidying the site. The Group Manager - Strategy and Community Wellbeing provided an update noting that deadlines were being discussed with the operator and these would be put in place.

10.3 **Concerns with Noise from Industrial Zone:** The Regulatory Manager and the Planning Manager were in attendance. The Planning Manager advised that the activity being undertaken was an industrial activity undertaken in the industrial management zone. A building consent process was assessed against the District Plan, and an acoustic engineer demonstrated that the activity would comply with the noise standards set out in the District Plan. The proximity of the residential area means that the noise can be no greater than 55db at the boundary. The testing has come back at 50 db. The operator has been issued a temporary consent while they work through options for the noise effects from the operation, using the best practicable option to mitigate the noise effects. The system should be in place by 21 February, and then further testing of the noise levels would be

undertaken. It was also noted that a new building was being built in front of the site which could potentially assist with mitigating some of the noise effects.

- 10.4 **Condition of Fencing on Railway Land – Corner Gordon Street and Hall Street:** it was noted that there had been complaints about the damaged fence on the railway land. It was asked whether the Council had any power to enforce repair. It was agreed that the Community Board would send a letter of concern to Kiwirail seeking repair of the fence.

That the Dannevirke Community Board send a letter to Kiwirail advising of the damage to the fence, and asking that the fence be repaired.

Wallace/Walshe

Carried

- 10.5 **Condition of carpark fencing corner of Ruahine Street and Otanga Street:** it was asked that this area be tidied up. One option proposed could be to remove the fencing so that ongoing maintenance would not be required. The Tararua Alliance Manager undertook to look into this.

- 10.6 **Update on request for installation of speed indicator on Smith Street:** it was noted that the request was put through and this was underway.

- 10.7 **Progress Update – Umutaoroa Domain:** an update was provided that the last communication had been with the Domain Board Chairperson in January 2025, to outline two options. These were that the Domain Board could either engage with a volunteer group to undertake works, or engage a contractor. It was advised that Council has put restricted access signs at the property, to address the safety risk. The Council did not plan to remove the hall.

- 10.8 **Update – Ngapaeruru Reserve:** it was advised that on 31 May 2023 the Council reallocated Better Off funding of \$500,000 towards upgrading of Council-owned reserves. However as a change in Government direction, the Council was required to redirect any unspent Better Off funding into Local Water Done Well Projects. A resolution was passed by the Tararua District Council on 27 March 2024 to this effect, redirecting the funds previously allocated towards upgrading Council reserves to support the transition to Local Water Done Well projects.

11. Chairperson’s Remarks

Nil

12. Items not on the Agenda

- 12.1 **Town Hall Flagpole** – progress was sought on installing a longer halyard to allow for flags to be flying over the town hall. Having this in time for Anzac Day 2025 was requested and it was asked that priority be given to this. The Group

Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing undertook to follow this up.

- 12.2 **Tararua Health Group** – the Board noted with concern a number of resignations lately and change of leadership. It was asked whether an update could be sought, and Mayor Tracey Collis undertook to seek an update from the Chief Executive of Tararua Health Group.
- 12.3 **Condition of Dannevirke Subway** – it was advised that the area needed cleaning and removal of weeds from the gutters, and it was noted that there was a lack of traction on the ramp from moss which was impacting on mobility scooter users. The Tararua Alliance Manager noted CRMs about the weeds had been received and he would follow up on the resolution of those.
- 12.4 **North and South entranceways to Dannevirke** – concern was raised that the grass along the railway lines and the vegetation by the bridge at the southern entrance to Dannevirke that had been sprayed looked untidy. At the northern end of town it was advised that there was only a small strip being mown and it looked untidy. The Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing undertook to look into this and report back.
- 12.5 **Dump station at New Street** – it was reported that a complaint had been received about the access for motorhomes to dump their waste due to the accessway being restricted by heavy vehicles parking there.
- 12.6 **Use of Council Chambers facility for livestreaming Board meetings** – the Dannevirke Community Board were encouraged to livestream their meetings. The Board agreed to livestream their meetings going forward.
- 12.7 **Trees in High Street** – it was suggested that consultation be undertaken with the community on whether to keep the trees in High Street, noting the cost of maintenance of those trees. It was noted that the shop owners would need to be approached as well as the community in general. It was suggested that this form part of the Annual Plan consultation.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 11:39am.

Chairperson