



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

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
Ms J Avery	- Riverstone Law
Mr B Nicholson	- Chief Executive
Mrs K Tani	- Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing
Mr H Featonby	- Group Manager - Infrastructure
Mr P Wimsett	- Chief Advisor
Ms K Stevens	- Communications Engagement and Social Media Lead (via Teams)
Mr J Single	- Regulatory Services Manager
Mrs S Walshe	- Finance Manager
Ms A Charmley	- Planning Services Manager
Ms A Rule	- Policy and Planning Advisor
Mrs A Dunn	- Manager – Democracy Services

2. Council Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting with the Council Prayer.

3. Apologies

There were no apologies.

4. Public Forum

4.1 Tararua Aquatic Community Trust

Stephanie Duff and Tatum Kingon of the Tararua Aquatic Centre, Wai Splash, were in attendance and spoke about their request for funding. They sought funding of \$70,000 from the Council's Recreation Fund to go towards the planned Splash Pad for the Tararua Aquatic Centre, Wai Splash.

They highlighted the need for more fun activities for children at the pool.

They spoke about the fundraising undertaken to date, and have raised approximately \$20,000, applied through Eastern and Central Community Trust who had conditionally approved \$50,000 conditional on raising remaining funds. They would like to apply for lottery funding however would need to have raised one third of required funds prior to making application. They sought Council's funding assistance to help them reach the one third requirement of funding.

Questions of clarification were asked regarding the impact on the Beach and ability to hold birthday parties in that area, and any limitations on operational activities. They clarified how the beach area would fit within the proposed development and noted there would still be sufficient space for other activities.

A question was asked about additional operational costs that might come from operating the splash pad and in response it was noted that growth in patronage was expected to outweigh additional costs.

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 Gilmore – noted for clarification in regards to item 9.1 there was a letter of support from Tararua Reap of which he is a Board member, however he noted the letter was from an operational perspective and not from the Board.

7. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 March 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Crs Sutherland/Wallace

Carried

That the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 9 April 2025 (as

circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Crs Sutherland/Wallace

Carried

8. Community Boards and Community Committees Reports

8.1 Minutes - Explore Pahiatua Community Committee

That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Community Committee meeting held 02 April 2025 be received.

Crs Franklin/Gilmore

Carried

8.2 Minutes - Positively Woodville Community Committee

That the minutes of the Positively Woodville Community Committee meetings held 4 March 2025 and 1 April 2025 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Peeti-Webber

Carried

8.3 Minutes - Eketahuna Community Board

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held 14 April 2025 be received.

Crs Long/Gilmore

Carried

8.4 Minutes - Dannevirke Community Board

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held 22 April 2025 be received.

Crs Peeti-Webber/Johns

Carried

9. Reports

9.1 Request for funding by Tararua Aquatic Community Trust

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 28 March 2025 that presented a request for funding assistance received from Tararua Aquatic Community Trust towards the costs of constructing a Splash Pad at the Wai Splash Community Pool in Dannevirke.

It was noted that approving the full amount requested would leave only a small balance remaining, and it was asked whether approving a lower amount would enable the Trust to reach the required one-third of project funding to enable the Trust to apply for Lotteries funding.

It was noted that the Recreation Funding requirements included a requirement for applicants to have raised 50% of the funding required. However it was

clarified that there could be some flexibility and the funding commitment could be conditional upon other funding being raised.

It was noted that the northern part of the district did not have the same funding opportunities as the southern part of the district, where there were additional community funding agencies operating.

A suggestion was put forward of contributing \$39,000 from the Recreation fund as this would enable sufficient seed funding for the project, whilst leaving funding available for other projects expected to come forward.

It was noted that another organisation had previously indicated their intention to apply to the fund for up to \$50,000 once they had raised 50% of the cost of their project.

MOVED Councillor Johns and SECONDED Councillor Long

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 28 March 2025 concerning the Request for funding by Tararua Aquatic Community Trust be received.

That the Tararua District Council approves the request from Tararua Aquatic Community Trust for funding towards the costs associated with constructing a Splash Pad at the Wai Splash Community Pool in Dannevirke, and makes a contribution of \$39,440.55 from the Tararua District Community Recreation fund towards this project, subject to the remaining funding for the project being raised.

LOST

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 28 March 2025 concerning the Request for funding by Tararua Aquatic Community Trust be received.

That the Tararua District Council approves the request from Tararua Aquatic Community Trust for funding towards the costs associated with constructing a Splash Pad at the Wai Splash Community Pool in Dannevirke, and makes a contribution of \$44,720.00 from the Tararua District Community Recreation fund towards this project, subject to the remaining funding for the project being raised.

Crs Sutherland/Wards

Carried

Councillor N L Chase recorded her vote against the motion

9.2 **Proposed District Plan Review Update**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Planning Manager dated 16 April 2025 that provided an update on the proposed District Plan project team's response to two key pieces of government reform relating to Pillar 2 of the Going for Housing Growth Programme, in particular development levies, and Resource Management Act reform and replacement with National Environment Act and Planning Act.

Concern was expressed about the delay of two years until development levies could be implemented. An explanation of the impact of the proposed changes on Council's ability to take financial contributions was provided, and the reason for continuing development of the District Plan without including financial contributions in the meantime.

It was noted that work was underway to cost the required infrastructure investment to enable growth so that the Council would be prepared for when the legislative changes come into effect.

With regard to the Government's intention to make changes to enable targeted rates instead of financial contributions, it was asked that information be provided on what may be possible under the existing regime with targeted rates.

That the report from the Planning Manager dated 16 April 2025 concerning the Proposed District Plan Review Update be received.

Crs Wards/Chase

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 10:48am and resumed at 11:02am

9.3 **Proposed Dog Registration Fees for the 2025/2026 financial year.**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Regulatory Services Manager dated 26 March 2025 that sought approval and adoption of the proposed dog registration fees for the 2025-26 financial year.

In discussion it was asked how much variation compared to previous year's fees, and how the working dog fees compared to other Councils. It was noted that there was a slight increase in order to comply with the requirement of 80% funding from fees and charges, and 20% from rates. With regard to working dog costs, a comparison was undertaken in the previous year and this showed Tararua District Council's working dog fees were slightly lower than other Councils.

It was asked what ability for consultation or engagement with interested parties was undertaken, noting that other fees and charges would be included in the Annual Plan. In response it was noted that dog registration fees under the Dog Control Act were able to be set without consultation.

In response to questions, clarification was provided that the definition of a

working dog was specified in the Dog Control Act 1996. Clarification was also provided on requirement for certification of disability assist dogs.

That the report from the Regulatory Services Manager dated 26 March 2025 concerning the Proposed Dog Registration Fees for the 2025/2026 financial year. be received.

That pursuant to Section 37 of the Dog Control Act 1996, the following dog registration fees (including GST) for the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 be adopted:

Animal Control Advice

<i>Application and compliance advice</i>	<i>No charge</i>
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Dog Registration

Urban Domestic Dog

<i>Fee if paid on or before 1 August</i>	<i>\$160.00</i>
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<i>Late fee if paid after 1 August</i>	<i>\$</i>
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Urban Domestic Dog (Desexed)

<i>Fee if paid on or before 1 August</i>	<i>\$125.00</i>
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<i>Late fee if paid after 1 August</i>	<i>\$187.50</i>
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Preferred Owner Dog (Entire) Also includes current members of Dogs New Zealand (formerly NZ Kennel Club).

<i>Fee if paid on or before 1 August</i>	<i>\$85.00</i>
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<i>Late fee if paid after 1 August*</i>	<i>\$127.50</i>
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Preferred Owner Dog (Desexed) Also includes current members of Dogs New Zealand (formerly NZ Kennel Club).

<i>Fee if paid on or before 1 August</i>	<i>75.00</i>
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<i>Late fee if paid after 1 August*</i>	<i>\$112.50</i>
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**** Preferred owner status may be revoked if paid after 1 August. If revoked, the applicable dog registration fee will apply.***

Over 65's Canine Companion (available to Over 65's that do not qualify for Preferred Owner).

<i>Fee if paid on or before 1 August</i>	<i>\$93.50</i>
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<i>Late fee if paid after 1 August*</i>	<i>\$139.50</i>
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Rural Domestic Dog

<i>Fee if paid on or before 1 August</i>	<i>\$85.00</i>
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<i>Late fee if paid after 1 August</i>	<i>\$127.50</i>
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Dogs NZ Rural Domestic Dog, (Current members of Dogs New Zealand, (formerly NZ Kennel Club).

<i>Fee if paid on or before 1 August</i>	<i>\$60.00</i>
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<i>Late fee if paid after 1 August*</i>	<i>\$90.00</i>
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****may be revoked if paid after 1 August. If revoked, the applicable dog registration fee will apply.***

Working Dog*

(First 5 Dogs full fee then additional dogs are registered at tag fee only)

Fee if paid on or before 1 August ***\$65.00***

Late fee if paid after 1 August

****Providing a false statement when registering a dog is an offence subject to a \$3000 fine on conviction.***

Dangerous Dog - as classified under the Dog Control Act 1996

Fee if paid on or before 1 August ***Base fee plus 50%***

Late fee if paid after 1 August ***Additional 50% fee***

Disability assist dog with organisation certificate ***No charge***

Any new dog that is less than three months old after 1 August in any calendar year will be charged a pro rata of the dog registration for that year.

All other fees and charges relating to Animal Control will be presented later this year for adoption, included in the Tararua District Council Fees and Charges schedule.

Crs Johns/Sutherland

Carried

9.4

Adoption of Bylaws - Traffic and Road Use, Waste Minimisation and Management, and Trade Waste

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Policy and Planning Advisor dated 24 April 2025 that sought adoption of the Traffic and Road Use Bylaw, Waste Minimisation and Management Bylaw and Trade Waste Bylaw, noting a change to the effective date to 12 May 2025. It was noted that an additional resolution was required to remove clause 3A of Schedule 3 of the Public Places Bylaw.

That the report from the Policy and Planning Advisor dated 24 April 2025 concerning the Adoption of Bylaws - Traffic and Road Use, Waste Minimisation and Management, and Trade Waste be received.

That the Tararua District Council's Traffic and Road Use Bylaw, Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw and Trade Waste Bylaw be adopted, with an effective date of 12 May 2025.

That Clause 3A of Schedule 3 of the Public Places Bylaw be removed upon the coming into effect of the Traffic and Road Use Bylaw.

Crs Gilmore/Chase

Carried

9.5 **Draft Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 and Statement of Proposal for Consultation**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Policy and Planning Advisor dated 27 March 2025 that presented the draft Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 and Statement of Proposal for adoption for consultation with the community.

It was noted that funding was provided by Central Government for development of this bylaw. The driver behind this proposed bylaw was to manage the nuisance that we have been experiencing from some freedom campers, whilst still encouraging responsible freedom campers to the Tararua District.

That the report from the Policy and Planning Advisor dated 27 March 2025 concerning the Draft Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 and Statement of Proposal for Consultation be received.

That the Council determines, pursuant to s11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011, that a bylaw is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing perceived problems identified for freedom camping in Tararua district and is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

That the Council approves the Statement of Proposal and the draft Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 for public consultation in accordance with s83 and s86 of the Local Government Act 2002.

That the Council agrees that the Chief Executive be delegated the power to approve any minor amendments to the draft bylaw or statement of proposal that he considers appropriate, prior to consultation starting.

Crs Johns/Peeti-Webber

Carried

9.6 **Election 2025 - Order of Candidate Names on Voting Papers**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager - Democracy Services dated 31 March 2025 that sought a decision on the order in which the candidates' names would be shown on the voting documents to be used at the 11 October 2025 elections.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 31 March 2025 concerning the Election 2025 - Order of Candidate Names on Voting Papers be received.

That the Tararua District Council uses the random order of candidate names in the voting documents to be used at the 11 October 2025 elections.

Crs Johns/Long

Carried

9.7 **Local Government New Zealand Conference and Annual General Meeting 2025**

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Manager Democracy Services dated 15 April 2025 that sought discussion and decision on the attendance at the 2025 Local Government New Zealand Conference and appointment of the presiding delegate and alternate delegate or delegates 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 15 April 2025 concerning the Local Government New Zealand Conference and Annual General Meeting 2025 be received.

That Her Worship the Mayor – Mrs T H Collis, and Councillors Chase and Wallace be registered to attend the 2025 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 2025 Annual General Meeting of Local Government New Zealand.

That Councillor Chase and Councillor Wallace be appointed as the alternate delegates to vote on the Council's behalf in the absence of the presiding delegate.

Crs Sutherland/Peeti-Webber

Carried

9.8 **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 24 April 2025 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 24 April 2025 concerning the Requests for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 be received.

Crs Gilmore/Wallace

Carried

10. Correspondence

10.1 **Letter from Hon David Seymour Associate Minister of Education re School Attendance**

The Council noted the letter from the Minister that had been included in the agenda for information.

11. Portfolio Reports

- 11.1 Her Worship the Mayor advised that she would meet the new Head of Mission for Poland at Parliament tonight in preparation for flag day.
- 11.2 Councillor Wards spoke about the Rural Health Network meeting that Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor Franklin and herself attended recently. She spoke about the background of how the Associate Minister of Health had been requested by the Rural Health Network to do a road show, and the closest meeting held that our representatives could attend was in the Horowhenua. They attended as part of a contingent and listened to a robust presentation from the Minister, with a panel responding to diverse questions from the group. She noted the Mayor spoke about the requirement for health services in the Tararua District and that there was great value in having representation from local government attending that forum. Her Worship the Mayor added that it was important for the Minister to hear that while those were the plans the Government had, that this was the impact on the ground in the rural areas and stressed the importance of improving access to health care in rural areas. She noted that Councillor Wards would be attending the upcoming rural health alliance meeting in Wellington.

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:

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 information provided</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)(c)(i) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information or information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.

Crs Chase/Wallace

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded session at 11:33am and resumed open business session at 11:34am.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 11:34am.

Mayor