



## **Dannevirke Community Board**

Minutes of a meeting of the Dannevirke Community Board held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Tuesday 24 February 2026 commencing at 9:00am.

### **1. Present**

Board Members: N M Phillips (Chairperson), T J Hynes (Deputy Chairperson), E J Christison, R T Wallace and Cr A J Amboy

#### **In Attendance**

Mr M Alexander – Chief Executive  
Mrs A Dunn – Manager – Democracy Services  
Mrs S Anthony – Democracy Support Officer

### **2. Apologies**

*An apology for absence from Mayor Scott Gilmore was noted.*

### **3. Public Forum**

Nil

### **4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda**

Flood prevention

Town Creek

Levels of service we can expect - parks and reserves

Unfinished Flood Damage from 3 years ago

Potholes on metal and sealed roads

Overhanging and dangerous trees in the district

Roadside vegetation

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

Nil

**6. Confirmation of Minutes**

*That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held on 16 February 2026 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

*Hynes/Amboy*

*Carried*

**7. Tararua District Council Report**

**7.1 Report from Tararua District Council**

A query was raised regarding the Reserves valuation and when the information will become public. It was noted that this has not yet been determined, however the matter is scheduled to go before Council in the near future.

A further question was asked about whether the number of abandoned vehicles reported includes those located on Easton Street and New Street, which have been present for an extended period. It was advised that identifying this level of detail would require highly granular reporting, and it was questioned whether this would be an appropriate use of officers' time.

*That the report from the Tararua District Council meeting held 17 December 2025 be received.*

*Christison/Wallace*

*Carried*

**8. Reports**

**8.1 Appointments and Allocation of Portfolios**

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Manager - Democracy Services dated 22 January 2026 that enabled discussion by the Board of allocation of responsibilities or portfolios and to make any appointments agreed to by the Board.

The Chair proposed adding two additional portfolios: one for the Dannevirke Community Vehicle Trust, originally established by the Dannevirke Community Board, and another to establish an Iwi Liaison representative. It was agreed that Deputy Chair Terry Hynes would be appointed to both portfolios.

***That the report from the Manager Democracy Services dated 22 January 2026 concerning the Appointments and Allocation of Portfolios be received.***

***That the Dannevirke Community Board makes appointments of Board representatives as follows:***

***That Chairperson Nicola Phillips be appointed as the Dannevirke Community Board's representative on the Road Safety Group.***

***That Chairperson Nicola Phillips be appointed as the Dannevirke Community Board's representative on the Emergency Management Committee (Welfare Response).***

***That Chairperson Nicola Phillips be appointed as the Dannevirke Community Board's representative on the Civic Honours selection panel***

***That the Dannevirke Community Board makes the following appointments of liaison representatives to community organisations:***

<b><i>Organisation:</i></b>	<b><i>Liaison Representative:</i></b>
<b><i>Dannevirke Brass Band</i></b>	<b><i>Ron Wallace</i></b>
<b><i>Dannevirke Pipe Band</i></b>	<b><i>Ron Wallace</i></b>
<b><i>Dannevirke Chamber of Commerce</i></b>	<b><i>Cr Alison Amboy</i></b>
<b><i>Tararua Community Youth Service</i></b>	<b><i>Cr Alison Amboy / Terry Hynes</i></b>
<b><i>Dannevirke and District A and P Association</i></b>	<b><i>Ernie Christison</i></b>
<b><i>Dannevirke Returned Services Association</i></b>	<b><i>Ron Wallace</i></b>
<b><i>Dannevirke Host Lions</i></b>	<b><i>Terry Hynes</i></b>
<b><i>Dannevirke Multisport Complex</i></b>	<b><i>Nicola Phillips</i></b>
<b><i>Tararua REAP</i></b>	<b><i>Terry Hynes</i></b>
<b><i>Friends of the Dannevirke Domain</i></b>	<b><i>Ron Wallace</i></b>
<b><i>Iwi Liaison</i></b>	<b><i>Terry Hynes</i></b>
<b><i>Dannevirke Community Vehicle Trust</i></b>	<b><i>Terry Hynes</i></b>
<b><i>Amboy/Hynes</i></b>	<b><i>Carried</i></b>

## **8.2 Dannevirke Community Board Budget Update**

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Manager - Democracy Services dated 09 February 2026 that provided an update of the status of the Board's discretionary budget.

A correction was noted under item 4.3, as the same date had been recorded for both the opening and closing of the funding round. The funding round will open on 2 March 2026 and close on 2 April 2026.

***That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 09 February 2026 concerning the Dannevirke Community Board Budget Update be received.***

***That the Dannevirke Community Board notes the budget availability to hold a second grants round prior to 30 June 2026.***

***That the Dannevirke Community Board advertises the availability of the General Assistance Grants scheme for 2026 and invites applications for funding.***

***That the closing date for applications be 2 April 2026.***

***Hynes/Christison***

***Carried***

### 8.3 **Wackrow Memorial Youth Award 2026**

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 22 January 2026 that sought discussion and agreement on the timeframe and arrangements for the annual Wackrow Memorial Youth Award for 2026.

A question was raised about how the Board could better engage with rangatahi and encourage their participation in leadership opportunities beyond the Wackrow Youth Award. It was noted that this topic will be included for discussion at the next informal Board meeting. It was recommended that the 2025 timeframes be followed again, as they worked very well.

***That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 22 January 2026 concerning the Wackrow Memorial Youth Award 2026 be received.***

***That the Dannevirke Community Board call for nominations for the Wackrow Memorial Youth Award for 2025 with nominations opening 30 March 2026 and closing 29 May 2026.***

***That the Dannevirke Community Board consider the membership of the Judging Panel and a Guest Speaker for the Awards ceremony for decision at the next meeting of the Board.***

***That the Wackrow Memorial Youth Award ceremony be held in August or early September 2026, with the date and venue to be determined by the Dannevirke Community Board.***

***Wallace/Amboy***

***Carried***

#### 8.4 **Management Report**

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 09 February 2026 that provided an update on key activities and items of interest over the period 5 September 2025 to 28 January 2026 as reported at the Infrastructure & Projects Committee meeting held 11 February 2026.

***That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 09 February 2026 concerning the Management Report be received.***

***Phillips/Amboy***

***Carried***

#### 8.5 **Portfolio Programme Project Report**

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 04 February 2026 that provided an update on the key portfolios, programmes and project statuses reported at the Infrastructure & Projects Committee meeting held on 11 February 2026.

A request was made for an update on legislative developments that may affect the Carnegie Building and other heritage buildings in the CBD, noting strong public interest in this issue. It was advised that this work is still underway at the Central Government level, and some impact is anticipated. The Chief Executive will continue to monitor progress and report back to the Board once the legislation is finalised and the requirements are clear.

An update was provided on the 3 Waters transition, including the establishment of the CCO and progress on appointing its Board of Directors, with appointments well underway. As a shareholder, Tararua District Council will be required to provide an accurate asset list, ensure the transfer of debt, and manage staffing matters to meet good employer obligations throughout the transition—this includes formally identifying roles that are fully or partially focused on waters services.

***That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 04 February 2026 concerning the Portfolio Programme Project Report be received.***

***Wallace/Hynes***

***Carried***

#### 8.6 **Decision Action Items for Dannevirke Community Board**

It was noted that the workmanship and repairs to the town signs on Stanley Street may currently be undertaken by volunteers rather than Council staff.

Members also observed that some actions were not reflected in the management report or portfolio updates, and that the recent Community Connections

Committee meeting did not address some outstanding matters. Board members asked what realistic timeframes could be expected for progress. It was advised that while this is a reasonable question, any responses must be considered within approved budgets, and some Board requests may not align with current funding priorities. The NZTA funding round is about to commence, but funding levels are not expected to increase.

The action list remains an effective tool to ensure the Board's concerns are tracked, and it was agreed that more detailed updates and progress notes should be provided. The Chief Executive will take this feedback back to the team.

It was advised that the Easton Fountain project at the Upper Domain is now underway, with members exploring options to refurbish the fountain. Visible progress is expected over the coming months.

A request was made for an update on the mowing schedule. It was explained that mowing is managed within existing contracts, and confidentiality considerations apply. Providing the full schedule would also require a level of detail that is considered too granular. The Board was encouraged instead to focus on contract levels of service—identifying where these are not being met and what remediation actions are in place.

***That the report providing an update on decision action items be noted.***

***Hynes/Wallace***

***Carried***

## 8.7 **Submission on Simplifying Local Government proposal**

It was noted that, due to the change in the Dannevirke Community Board meeting date, the Board's submission was lodged on 19 February to ensure it was received before the closing deadline.

In addition to this, and in line with recent Government changes, an update on rates capping was requested. It was advised that the Government has confirmed this policy will proceed, including establishing the methodology for setting the cap, and that 3 Waters capital investment will be excluded from the calculation.

***That the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 9 February 2026 be received.***

***That the Dannevirke Community Board submission on the Simplifying Local Government proposal that was lodged with the Department of Internal Affairs on 19 February 2026 be noted.***

***Wallace/Christison***

***Carried***

## 9. Correspondence

### 9.1 Friends of the Domain

It was reported that an informal meeting had been held with the Friends of the Domain, who expressed a positive response to the proposed skatepark. It was also noted that the Memory Garden will be replaced, and the group will engage with the Lamason Trust and Dannevirke Multisport Complex to work together.

*That the correspondence as listed be received.*

☐ *Friends of the Domain Report – August 2025*

☐ *Friends of the Domain Report – January 2026*

*Christison/Wallace*

*Carried*

## 10. Chairperson's Remarks

On behalf of the Dannevirke Community Board and the wider community, sincere thanks were expressed for the way recent weather events were managed. While we were fortunate not to experience the full severity of the forecasted conditions, the timely decision-making and availability of daylight hours enabled residents to prepare appropriately. Well done to everyone involved in keeping the Tararua community safe.

## 11. Items not on the Agenda

It was noted that Board member Christison sought further information on :

- Flood prevention
- Town Creek
- Levels of service we can expect - parks and reserves
- Unfinished Flood Damage from 3 years ago
- Potholes on metal and sealed roads
- Overhanging and dangerous trees in the district
- Roadside vegetation

It was noted that several matters had been addressed in the decision and action items report for this meeting. A Board member reiterated his primary concern regarding future red-alert weather events, specifically the risks posed by roadside trees on rural roads. He emphasised the seriousness of the issue, noting instances where stock trucks have been forced to cross into the opposite lane to avoid overhanging branches. CRMs have been submitted. He also undertook a drive-around with iwi health representatives and assisted crews, including the Tararua Alliance, with clearing tree debris.

Clarification was sought on the arborist engaged for tree-related work, and it was confirmed that this engagement applies only to parks and reserves.

Board members were reminded that funding is limited and staff must prioritise work accordingly. There are not large teams available to respond to the continuous stream of tasks, and CRMs remain the best mechanism for logging concerns. Staff are doing the best they can with the resources available.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 10:03am.