



Dannevirke Community Board

Minutes of a meeting of the Dannevirke Community Board held in the Council Chamber, 156 High Street, Dannevirke on Monday 20 April 2026 commencing at 9:00 am.

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

Mayor S Gilmore

Mr C Haines	–	Chief Executive
Mrs F Chase	–	Facilities Manager
Mrs A Dunn	–	Manager – Democracy Services
Mrs S Anthony	–	Democracy Support Officer

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Public Forum

Nil

4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

4.1 Use of QR codes at local cemeteries.

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

Chairperson Nicola Phillips - Dannevirke Bowling Club, Dannevirke CACTUS (Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit & Support)

Board member Ron Wallace - Dannevirke Bowling Club, Dannevirke Returned & Services Association, Friends of the Dannevirke Domain

Board member Terry Hynes - Dannevirke Community Vehicle Trust, Friends of Dannevirke Domain

Board member Ernie Christison - Dannevirke and Districts A& P Association, Friends of Dannevirke Domain

Councillor Alison Amboy - Dannevirke Regent Cinema

6. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Dannevirke Community Board meeting held on 24 February 2026 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Hynes/Wallace

Carried

7. Tararua District Council Report

7.1 Report from Tararua District Council

That the report from the Tararua District Council meetings held 25 February 2026 and 25 March 2025 be received.

Christison/Wallace

Carried

8. Reports

8.1 Discretionary Grant Fund Applications 2026

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 09 March 2026 that presented applications for funding from the General Assistance Grants Scheme for consideration and decision.

It was noted that 15 applications were received for Round 2 of the General Assistance Grants Scheme and the total amount applied for exceeded the funds available for this round.

The following declarations of interest were made, with Board members not participating in the debate or decision-making on applications where they had a

conflict of interest:

Chairperson Nicola Phillips - Dannevirke Bowling Club, Dannevirke CACTUS
(Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit & Support)

Board member Ron Wallace - Dannevirke Bowling Club, Dannevirke Returned &
Services Association, Friends of the Dannevirke Domain

Board member Terry Hynes - Dannevirke Community Vehicle Trust, Friends of
Dannevirke Domain

Board member Ernie Christison - Dannevirke and Districts A& P Association,
Friends of Dannevirke Domain

Councillor Alison Amboy - Dannevirke Regent Cinema

It was noted that Dannevirke Returned and Services Association had received
funding from the Contestable Funds for the costs of ANZAC Dawn Parade
breakfast for veterans' members and guests.

The board agreed that the application from Dannevirke Regent Cinema be
declined with the recommendation that a quote be sought from a local signwriter
and that an application be submitted to the next funding round.

The Board has a balance of \$3583.00 remaining for this funding round, The total
of funding allocated is \$3844.66 exceeding the available funds for the round
Board member Christison agreed to donate the shortfall of remaining funds of
\$261.66 to Dannevirke CACTUS.

Recommendation

***That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 09 March 2026
concerning the Discretionary Grant Fund Applications 2026 be received.***

Hynes/Amboy

Carried

***That the Dannevirke Community Board makes the following grants from its
General Assistance Grants Fund:***

***Dannevirke Bowling Club, \$200.00 towards the costs of replanting weather
suitable ground cover on both bowling greens.***

Hynes/Amboy

Carried

Dannevirke Community Vehicle Trust, \$325.00 towards the operational costs.

Phillips/Wallace

Carried

***Menzshed Dannevirke, \$200.00 towards the costs of equipment for projects
provided for the community.***

Phillips/Christison *Carried*

Tararua Aquatic Community Trust, \$300.00 towards the costs of pool rules signs and community foam bodyboard mats.

Hynes/Christison *Carried*

Te Marae o Kaitoki, \$250.00 towards the purchase of signage and tablecloths.

Christison/Hynes *Carried*

Dannevirke and Districts A&P Association - Beef Section, \$117.66 towards reimbursement for the purchase of replacement hoses.

Phillips/Hynes *Carried*

Friends of Dannevirke Domain, \$200.00 towards costs of signwriting for signs used while volunteers are working in the Domain garden.

Phillips/Amboy *Carried*

Dannevirke JAB Rugby, \$500.00 towards upgrading sporting equipment.

Wallace/Phillips *Carried*

Dannevirke Combined Indoor Bowling Clubs, \$102.00 towards cost of hiring of the Sports Centre for the Bowls Tournament IHC Fundraiser.

Wallace/Phillips *Carried*

Dannevirke Highland Pipe Band, \$300.00 towards the purchase of uniforms.

Christison/Phillips *Carried*

Herbertville Hall and Community Incorporated, \$300.00 towards the costs of replacing kitchen ovens and installing rangehoods.

Wallace/Hynes *Carried*

Dannevirke CACTUS (Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit & Support), \$750.00 towards purchase of uniforms for 30 CACTUS students.

Christison/Amboy *Carried*

Tararua REAP, \$300.00 towards rangitahi-led community mural with professional tutor - consultation, design and implementation.

Hynes/Amboy *Carried*

And

That the Dannevirke Community Board declines the following grants from its General Assistance Grants Fund:

Dannevirke Returned and Services Association towards the costs of ANZAC Dawn Parade breakfast for veterans' members and guests.

Dannevirke Regent Cinema towards costs of vinyl designs for pillars and logo above the door at the cinema.

Christison/Hynes

Carried

8.2 **Management Report**

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 03 March 2026 that provided an update on key activities and items of interest as reported to the Community Connection Committee meeting held 18 February 2026 and the Infrastructure and Projects Committee meeting held 15 April 2026.

A concern was raised about raw water storage options, with costs estimated to exceed \$50 million. It was noted that this is being closely monitored. The establishment of the water entity (Council Controlled Organisation - CCO) will introduce greater expertise, oversight, and efficiency, with safe drinking water and affordability being key priorities for the CCO Board. Council will continue to manage this in the interim, with the expectation that the new entity will take a strong interest in the project. Alternatives being explored include enhanced treatment for higher turbidity, and treated water storage for resilience. The new entity may identify further options through its broader experience and expertise.

Vehicle crossings remain an ongoing issue, with concerns raised about the high cost of maintenance for property owners. A suggestion was made to consider subsidising a service to assist ratepayers, noting the continued expense and the hazard posed to elderly mobility scooter users. It was advised that Council is actively considering this matter through workshops, with options being sought. The issue forms part of the Long Term Plan (LTP), and any significant decisions may require public consultation. Board members were reminded of their opportunity to contribute to LTP development through community submissions.

While footpaths continue to rate low in community satisfaction, it was noted that Council is not responsible for all factors contributing to this dissatisfaction.

Concerns were raised about whether all CRMs receive a response. It was advised that Council has KPIs for response times and a process in place, and people are encouraged to follow up if no response is received. This is an operational matter, and the Chief Executive has advised that he needs to be informed where delivery is not meeting expectations so improvements can be made. It was noted that

Antenno responses differ from other CRM channels, and work is underway to address this. It was agreed that all CRMs should receive at least an acknowledgement. Resourcing and technical challenges have caused delays, but these are being worked through. Examples of inconsistent outcomes were noted, including a complaint CRM with no response after one month, and differing response times to walkway issues. This inconsistency contributes to public frustration and perceptions that the CRM system is unreliable.

Concerns were raised about recycling contamination, as contaminated loads are being sent to landfill, and the removal of recycling bins—specifically whether households have the opportunity to have bins reinstated. It was advised that the Solid Waste team have a strict process in place due to the high cost incurred if a full bin sent to Auckland Depot is rejected. Repeated household contamination results in bin removal, however, it is unclear whether bins are returned after removal. An action was agreed for the next meeting to clarify whether household recycling bins can be reinstated following confiscation due to repeated contamination.

It was noted that the final stage of emergency recovery works at Riverdale Road is yet to be completed. Clarification was sought regarding the anticipated timeframe for completion, noting that Council is currently awaiting design outputs from an external consultant. An action was requested for further detail on this to be included in the next Management Report.

A concern regarding Top Grass Road was raised as this continues to present issues following Cyclone Gabrielle, with outstanding repair works still required. It was requested that the remaining repair works on Top Grass Road be included in the Management Report. It was advised that emergency works are being progressed in coordination with NZTA, with detailed timelines in place.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 03 March 2026 concerning the Management Report be received.

Christison/Hynes

Carried

8.3 **Dannevirke Deer Park**

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Facilities Manager dated 19 March 2026 that informed and sought endorsement to decommission the Dannevirke Deer Park.

A question was raised about the plans for the deer park if decommissioned and it was advised that there is currently no long-term plan for the former deer park area at the Lower Domain beyond essential tidy-up works. The site is a valued green space, but there is a significant amount of tree and general maintenance work required. Future use of the area will be guided by community input. All options for a replacement deer park manager were investigated however have

been unsuccessful. The level of ongoing maintenance required was identified as a key challenge. The Lower Domain remains an important asset for both the community and visitors, and ensuring it is maintained to a safe standard is a priority. Council is also exploring alternative ways to support maintenance, including partnerships and volunteer involvement, noting successful models such as the aviary being maintained by the local bird club.

Community pre-engagement has commenced to understand priorities and identify where Council may consider additional investment. With budgets constrained and rates capping applied, any increased funding would require corresponding reductions elsewhere. Community feedback will be essential in guiding these decisions, and difficult trade-offs are anticipated.

Clean-up works will be staged over time to manage affordability, with focus applied to certain areas at a time. The Board wished to formally thank the previous manager for his significant contribution and hard work.

Decisions regarding the future of the deer will require Council approval and will be considered at their next meeting. In the interim, an unsafe platform at the Lower Domain has been identified, and it was suggested that the gates be closed to mitigate risk.

That the report from the Facilities Manager dated 19 March 2026 concerning the Dannevirke Deer Park be received.

Amboy/Christison

Carried

That the Dannevirke Community Board endorse the proposal to decommission the Dannevirke Deer Park

Christison/Wallace

Carried

Mayor Scott Gilmore and Chief Executive Corin Haines left the meeting at 9:46am.

8.4 Dannevirke Community Board Flags for Flagtrax System

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer that outlined the proposed next steps for purchasing a set of flags for the Flagtrax system installed on street poles along High Street Dannevirke.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 24 March 2026 concerning the Dannevirke Community Board Flags for Flagtrax System be received.

Wallace/Christison

That the Dannevirke Community Board proceed with purchasing a set of flags for the Flagtrax System on High Street Dannevirke.

Hynes/Amboy

Carried

8.5 Annual Plan 2026-28 and Early Engagement on Long Term Plan

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Manager - Democracy Services dated 08 April 2026 that informed the Board that the Council resolved not to consult on the 2026-27 Annual Plan and encourages the community to provide feedback in the upcoming early engagement for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

It was advised that the early engagement starts today and the Communications Team will be issuing resources to support Board members with the public engagement after today's meeting.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 08 April 2026 concerning the Annual Plan 2026-28 and Early Engagement on Long Term Plan be received.

That the Dannevirke Community Board notes that the Tararua District Council resolved not to consult on the 2026-27 Annual Plan and encourages the community to provide feedback in the upcoming early engagement for the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

Amboy/Hynes

Carried

8.6 Portfolio Programme Project Report

The Dannevirke Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 13 April 2026 that provided an update on the key portfolios, programmes and project statuses reported at the Infrastructure and Projects Committee meeting held 15 April 2026.

A question was raised regarding the location of the proposed additional reservoir for the Dannevirke Impound Supply – Treated Reservoir. It was requested that further information be provided at the next meeting, and, if possible, that a presentation also be included.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 13 April 2026 concerning the Portfolio Programme Project Report be received.

Wallace/Amboy

Carried

8.7 Decision Action Items for Dannevirke Community Board

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

9. **Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities**

Road Safety Committee Meeting - the committee discussed stock crossings, 6 yearly bridge inspections which are underway, NZTA and the Police provided updates, the Chair advised she had raised the concern regarding the unused bus stop which has been raised previously by the Board and it was advised that Tararua Alliance will investigate this further.

Emergency Management Committee - The Committee meeting was held following a recent weather event. Discussion focused on how the response was managed, what worked well, and opportunities for improvement. Members provided an overview of activities and experiences across the district.

Dannevirke Multisport Complex - No meeting was held during the previous month; however, a meeting is scheduled to take place this week. It was advised that results from liquefaction testing of the basketball court are still awaited, and work is ongoing to finalise covenants for the skate park.

Dannevirke Chamber of Commerce - Two successful "After 5" events were recently held, with the first hosted by St Vincent de Paul and the second at Activate Gym. Both events were informative. The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow evening at the Dannevirke Regent Cinema.

The Chamber has also launched a new Service Spotlight campaign to showcase and promote Dannevirke businesses. This month's featured business is Dannevirke Dart Panel and Paint. In addition, the latest monthly newsletter has been distributed, providing updates to the community on local businesses and Chamber activities.

Dannevirke and Districts A&P Association - next meeting tomorrow night, no meeting last month, annual show went well, new caretaker doing great - its looking great and more utilised, a lot of interest from other outside groups to utilise the space.

Dannevirke Brass Band - The Band is fully prepared and ready to support upcoming ANZAC Day services across the district.

Dannevirke Pipe Band - The Pipe Band has confirmed all preparations are complete and they are ready to participate in ANZAC Day commemorations.

Friends of Dannevirke Domain - The rose garden at the Dannevirke Domain is in excellent condition and ANZAC Day ready. The Friends of the Dannevirke Domain continue to do a fantastic job maintaining the garden, which is looking great and well cared for.

Dannevirke Community Vehicle Trust - service continues to get great support from community. Over last financial year ending in march it has seen an increase in excess of 200 trips for the year, in fuel crisis the Trust is appreciative of 2 fleet

vehicles - 1 hybrid and fully EV vehicle (on loan from Scan power)for this service,

Tararua REAP - It was advised that their AGM coming up.

Tararua Community Youth Services - The service continues to operate effectively and remains the only dedicated youth development provider for young people aged 15 and over in the Tararua District. A notable recent highlight was the presentation of a social impact report, which demonstrated the significant value of investment in youth services. As an organisation heavily reliant on external funding, the report highlighted that for every dollar invested in our youth, approximately \$11.65 of value is generated for the youth community.

Dannevirke Christmas in the Park - A meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday 5.00 pm at Merrylees Tavern, with expressions of interest sought for a Board member to support the event.

Dannevirke RSA - The Dannevirke RSA reported a successful Poppy Day appeal held on Friday and expressed appreciation for Council's support. All preparations are in place, and the RSA is ready for ANZAC Day commemorations.

10. Correspondence

10.1 Correspondence

That the correspondence as listed be received:

Email from Mayor Scott Gilmore in response to outstanding actions for the Dannevirke Community Board.

Amboy/Christison

Carried

11. Discussion Items

Liaison Representative - Tararua Aquatic Community Trust - The Board was approached to nominate a liaison representative for the Tararua Aquatic Community Trust. Board member Ron Wallace has expressed his willingness to take on this role.

That the Dannevirke Community Board appoints Board Member Ron Wallace as a liaison representative for Tararua Aquatic Community Trust.

Hynes/Christison

Carried

Earthquake Prone Buildings - it was noted that a full report was attached to the agenda regarding this item. Numerous members of the public and business owners have a keen interest in the proposed changes. The associated action should remain open for continued monitoring.

Market Day - Following discussions with Tracey Friend from the Dannevirke Chamber of Commerce, it was agreed to align a Market Day with the Christmas

Parade. This proposal has the support of the Board, as well as Hamish from Dannevirke Pharmacy, who has confirmed sponsorship of the Christmas Parade for the next three years.

The Chamber of Commerce is supportive of the initiative, and the regular Dannevirke Market Day group has also been consulted and is keen to participate. The Chair will prepare a promotional poster and commence marketing.

An action was identified to investigate the process for hosting the market along High Street and Ward Street, including the requirements and costs associated with road closures and traffic management, which were noted as a potential constraint.

The option of linking the Market Day with Christmas in the Park was also discussed. The Chair will attend the next Christmas in the Park meeting to explore this further and gather additional information.

Easton Fountain Project – The project is still underway, with water usage remaining a key concern. A 100 mm pipe was previously installed, which generated significant pressure but resulted in excessive water consumption. Options for recycling water have been explored; however, substantial water loss occurs during adverse weather conditions, particularly in strong winds. As an alternative, a waterless fountain is also being considered, using lighting effects instead, which would be especially effective at night.

Dannevirke Promotions and Development – it was noted that it is an issue for Community Boards to raise external fundraising. At the informal meeting, it was discussed that Dannevirke Promotions should be retained; however, it is now too late to reinstate it as an incorporated society. Consideration is being given to establishing a new incorporated society to act as an umbrella organisation for other groups, supporting coordinated fundraising efforts. This will be explored further with the Chair, a new incorporated society could also assist in addressing the Board's funding shortfall. Having the appropriate structure in place is essential to effectively access funding opportunities.

Dannevirke Community Board Facebook Page – The Facebook page is now live, with its first post published on Friday, and is managed by the Chair. The page is intended solely as an information channel to keep the community informed about events and activities in Dannevirke. Commenting on posts is disabled.

Redfern Street Old Clubrooms – A Board member was approached by a ratepayer who noted that, following the removal of surrounding trees, the clubrooms are now more visible and appear to be in a very derelict condition. Questions were raised about Council's position and whether any action can be taken. It was advised that the site is privately owned, and responsibility rests with the property owner. Council has limited ability to intervene unless there are breaches of the District Plan, and it has no jurisdiction to enter the property. Any concerns must therefore be directed to the private owners.

Footpaths – Anderson Street / Waterloo Street – Two CRM’s were submitted regarding the corners of Anderson and Waterloo Streets near the sports centre. There are no kerb ramps at this intersection, and reports have been received of elderly pedestrians tripping and falling. The area is also inaccessible for mobility scooters, despite ramps being installed at other nearby corners. There has been no response to CRM’s to date, which is disappointing given the safety hazard. An action was requested seeking a response from Council.

Rates Direct Debit Error – It was advised that regular reports are provided to Council’s Risk and Assurance Committee. Information from these meetings, including livestream recordings, is available on the Council’s website. Board members are encouraged to follow these meetings to stay informed and up to date.

Tamaki River Road (Dangerously Smooth Seal) – A CRM was lodged regarding the condition of Tamaki River Road; however, no response or action has been received. For the past 12 months, the road surface has been excessively smooth, creating hazardous driving conditions. Sections along Top Grass Road are also reported to be dangerously smooth. A request was made for this matter to be added as an action item to obtain a formal response from Council.

Riverdale Road damage - this topic was covered in item 8.2 - Management Report.

Top Grass Road dropout - this topic was covered in item 8.2 - Management Report. The dropout is located near Umataoroa Domain.

Town Hall Viking Sign – A CRM has been received recommending the removal of the Viking sign. Since the Town Hall has been repainted and now presents very well, it was suggested that the Viking sign be removed or relocated. It was advised that the digital sign is planned to be taken down; however, the electrician is currently unwell and unable to carry out the work, so this will need to be rescheduled. All Board members support the removal of the Viking sign from the Town Hall.

12. Chairperson’s Remarks

Nil

13. Items not on the Agenda

Use of QR Codes at Local Cemeteries – It was advised that the QR codes link to an online survey, enabling the collection of live survey feedback. While it was noted that the Facilities Manager would respond to this query directly, it was recommended that submitting a query CRM would be the most appropriate way

to formally seek further information.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 10.24am.