



Minutes of a meeting of the Community Development and Wellbeing Committee held in the Council Chamber, 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 6 March 2024 commencing at 1:00pm.

## 1. Present

Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis, 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 A Small	- Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing
Ms S Lowe	- Group Manager – People, Capability and Customer Experience
Mr H Featonby	- Group Manager - Infrastructure
Ms G Nock	- Strategy and Corporate Planning Manager
Mrs S Te Huki	- Cultural Competency Lead
Ms F Chase	- Facilities Manager
Ms H Wilson-Munday	- Tararua Community Connector – Sport Tararua
Mr K van der Oord	- Communications Team Manager
Mr N Shaw	- Facilities Assets Supervisor
Mr M Dunn	- Manager – Programmes and Projects
Mrs S Walshe	- Finance Manager
Mrs V Christison	- IT Projects
Mrs A Dunn	- Manager – Democracy Services
Ms S Ellis	- Democracy Support Officer

## 2. Welcome and Meeting Opening

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

## 3. Apologies

***That the apology from Councillor E L Peeti-Webber, and the apology for the early departure of Councillor K A Sutherland, be accepted and leave of absence granted for the meeting.***

## **4. Public Forum**

### **4.1 Wind Farm Proposal for Makomako – Pahiatua region**

Sarah Gibbs was in attendance and gave a presentation regarding renewable resources and their use, namely in reference to a proposed wind farm placement affecting her and her community. In her presentation, she spoke about the impact the proposed site had on the wellbeing of both herself as well as her community, citing concerns including noise, placement, and turbine size, and spoke about the division and controversy between community opinions surrounding the proposal - noting an approximate 80% against it - and sustainability effects in regards to the resilience and longevity of the wider Pahiatua community.

She emphasised concerns surrounding the actions of offshore companies in utilising renewable resources without respect to communities, and sought cooperation between the Council, iwi, and ratepayers to lobby for changes to central government legislation regarding how renewable resources are developed by private offshore companies on local land.

## **5. Presentations**

### **5.1 Presentation - Te Whatu Ora**

Sally Darragh and Nichola Flemming of Te Whatu Ora were in attendance to provide a presentation on the benefits of fluoridation, and to call attention to existing strategies for improving oral health within the district. They presented a short video discussing the comparative level of tooth decay with and without fluoridation, with tooth decay 40% less likely in areas with fluoridated water, and emphasised research in regards to its safety. They gave an overview of current ongoing strategies to reduce childhood tooth decay, including the Oral Health Promotion Initiative, which involved the distribution of dental products to families in need, the dispatch of mobile dental units, and emphasised outreach to Kohanga reo/Pasifika early childhood centres in promoting oral health.

They outlined statistics for nationwide oral hygiene regarding the proportion of adults and children who brushed their teeth twice daily, and underlined that financially deprived neighbourhoods were less likely to brush twice per day. They noted that age groups 25-44 were more likely to have unmet dental needs due to high dental costs as opposed to older age groups. They outlined the number of children per week referred for tooth extraction, and the number of children nationwide that had undergone appointments involving decayed, missing, or filled teeth.

They discussed improvements to current systems, including the identification of adolescents who have not had a dentist appointment, and improved crosstalk

between regions in regards to dental health records post the dissolution of District Health Boards.

## 5.2 **Presentation - Polish Children's Camp 80 Reunion**

Gilda McKnight, Chairperson of the Chair of the Reunion Committee, could not be in attendance so a brief summary was given by the Chairperson in regards to the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion. She spoke of the legacy of the Polish children's camp members and their descendants, and their continued relationship with Pahiatua, as well as her satisfaction with how their stories are included in the curriculum of St Anthony's school and Pahiatua primary school. She spoke about how the Pahiatua Museum and Polish community in Pahiatua was working closely with the Polish ambassador and the Wellington Polish Association to plan a two day reunion event. She provided the proposed details of the event, wherein the reunion goers would stay at Masters Hall, across from the Marae, where the first day of the event would take place. The programme's first day would involve a movie, school choir, a journey by railcar from Palmerston North to Pahiatua to be greeted by the military upon arrival, and the second day would focus on the centre gardens with the 1<sup>st</sup> battalion present, and Polish dancers will be arriving. She stated that the event is planned for November, and that a fundraising plan would be put in place.

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

Nil

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

Nil

## 8. **Confirmation of Minutes**

***That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 5 December 2023 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.***

***Wallace/Johns***

***Carried***

## 9. **Reports**

### 9.1 **Health Locality Progress**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee were provided with a report from the Group Manager - Strategy & Community Wellbeing providing an update on progress made regarding localities, including the establishment of the

Tararua Takiwā Alliance. However, as a result of the recent dissolution of the Māori Health Authority, and work on localities by Health NZ being paused pending legislation, the report was not able to be considered by the committee.

## 9.2 **Sport Tararua Quarterly Report - October to December 2023**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee considered the report of the Tararua Community Connector, that presented the quarterly report from Sport Tararua for the period ending December 2023.

***That the quarterly report from Sport Tararua for the period October to December 2023 be received.***

***Chase/Johns***

***Carried***

## 9.3 **Management Report**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee considered the report of the Group Manager - Strategy & Community Wellbeing dated 15 January 2024 that provided an update on key activities and items of interest over the period November 2023 to February 2024, or since the last provided report. It was noted that officers were working on providing data in a format that would allow better provision for reporting, and allow for synergy across the Council data which would then enable Council to track trends across all data. It was also noted that work was underway in the Customer Request Management system to prevent multiple reports of the same issue being reported separately, which was skewing the data provided.

It was asked for an update to be provided on support provided by Council in the economic development space, especially in response to economic hardships being experienced by businesses in the community.

***That the report from the Group Manager - Strategy & Community Wellbeing dated 15 January 2024 concerning the Management Report be received.***

***Gilmore/Long***

***Carried***

## 9.4 **Council Long Standing and Annual Community Support Grants Analysis**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee considered the report of the Team Leader Economic & Community Development dated 09 February 2024, that raised awareness of the long standing and annual programme of community support grants in place, noted inconsistencies in processes, and requested refreshed guidance in regards to future support. In discussion, it was asked that information be provided on the total amounts provided to each group

contractually per annum, including information on any contractual obligations for the longstanding grants.

*Councillor K A Sutherland left the meeting at 2:42pm.*

***That the report from the Team Leader Economic & Community Development dated 09 February 2024 concerning the Council long standing and annual community support grants analysis be received.***

***Gilmore/Wallace***

***Carried***

***That a report be provided on the long-standing and annual programme of community support grants presently in place, inconsistencies of processes and offer guidance around future commitments.***

***Gilmore/Chase***

***Carried***

## 9.5 **Community Funding Database - Product Review**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee considered the report of the Economic and Community Development Advisor dated 15 February 2024, which highlighted the increased fundraising needs of both the council and the community, and considered alternative software options. Four were assessed – Grant Guru, Strategic Grants, Funding HQ, and the previously used Generosity NZ – based on product capabilities, cost, and user feedback. Grant Guru was presented as the preferred choice to move forward with.

***That the report from the Economic and Community Development Advisor dated 15 February 2024 concerning the Community Funding Database - Product Review be received.***

***That the Community Development and Wellbeing Committee note the decision to discontinue Council's current subscription to Generosity NZ (pending any exit notice period) and purchase an annual subscription of Grant Guru.***

***Johns/Long***

***Carried***

## 9.6 **DigitalSpaces Trailer - update report**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee considered the report of the Economic & Community Development Advisor dated 07 February 2024, which provided an update on the DigitalSpaces trailer build progress, as well as background on the services it would provide. It was recommended to consider

the long term issues and costs to Council (>2 years) surrounding the trailer's operation, regardless of whether funding is external.

***That the report from the Economic & Community Development Advisor dated 07 February 2024 concerning the DigitalSpaces Trailer - update report be received.***

***Wallace/Gilmore***

***Carried***

## 9.7 **Communications Survey**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee considered the report of the Communications Team Manager dated 21 February 2024, which provided an update on the results of the recent Communications survey.

*Councillor S M Gilmore left the meeting at 3:36pm.*

*Councillor S M Gilmore returned to the meeting at 3:38pm.*

*Councillor S M Wards left the meeting at 3:41pm.*

*Councillor S M Wards returned to the meeting at 3:42pm.*

*Her Worship the Mayor left the meeting at 3:44pm.*

Comments were given on the sample size and confidence intervals being statistically insignificant, but indicative of communication issues between council and community, and that outreach issues with further surveys could be resolved through diversification of communication channels.

***That the report from the Communications Team Manager dated 21 February 2024 concerning the Communications Survey be received.***

***Wallace/Gilmore***

***Carried***

*Councillor S A Wallace left the meeting at 3:56pm.*

## 9.8 **Capital Programme Report**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee considered the report of the Manager - Programmes & Projects dated 26 February 2024, which provided an update on the capital programme and key project statuses. It was asked to include an update on the next agenda in regards to the installation of district town signage.

***That the report from the Manager - Programmes & Projects dated 26 February 2024 concerning the Capital Programme Report be received.***

***Wards/Long***

***Carried***

9.9 **National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 - Horizons Mapping Decision**

The Community Development and Wellbeing Committee considered the report of the Team Leader Planning Services dated 28 February 2024, which requested approval on the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council's NPS-HPL mapping recommendation.

***That the report from the Team Leader Planning Services dated 28 February 2024 concerning the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 - Horizons Mapping Decision be received.***

***That Council approves mapping Option 3(a) for NPS HPL as recommended by Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council and does not require additional Land Use Class (LUC) mapping to be carried out for our District.***

***Gilmore/Johns***

***Carried***

10. **Items not on the Agenda**

Nil

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 4:14pm.

---

Chairperson