



Rangitikei District Council

Council Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 14 May 2015 – 9:34 a.m.

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Present: His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson
Cr Dean McManaway
Cr Cath Ash
Cr Nigel Belsham
Cr Angus Gordon
Cr Tim Harris
Cr Mike Jones
Cr Rebecca McNeil
Cr Soraya Peke-Mason
Cr Ruth Rainey
Cr Lynne Sheridan

In attendance: Mr Michael Hodder, Acting Chief Executive
Mr George McIrvine, Finance & Business Support Group Manager
Mr Hamish Waugh, General Manager – Infrastructure
Mr Wayne Keightley, Asset Manager - Roading
Mr Carl Kelly, Finance Advisor
Ms Carol Downs, Executive Officer
Ms Denise Servante, Strategy and Community Planning Manager
Ms Katrina Gray, Policy/Planner
Ms Samantha Whitcombe, Governance Administrator

Tabled documents: **Item 3** List of Marton businesses represented in the Council Chamber to express concern about the future road maintenance contract
Meridian Energy – Project Central Wind -
Rangitikei Guardians – Project Central Wind
Madalene Frost – Project Central Wind

1 Welcome

His Worship the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Council prayer

His Worship the Mayor read the Council prayer.

3 Public Forum

Andrew Morriss – The award of Roding Contract C980.

Mr Morriss spoke to Council, on behalf of a number of local businesses, on the potential job losses within the local area if the Roding Contract C980 was not awarded to the current contractor. Dave Wilson, McVerry Crawford Motors, also spoke to Council about the impact on the local economy and pointed out to Council that this was in direct conflict with Council's position on Economic Development, as expressed in "What's the Plan Rangitikei...?" Garry Edwards, Rangitikei Aggregates, commented on the sound state of the roading network, the envy of many other districts, which was due to the relationship with Downer.

The potential loss of business if Downer ceased operating by those business owners present at the meeting was expressed as being between 5%-60%.

A list of businesses represented in the Chamber was tabled.

4 Apologies/Leave of absence

That the apology for absence from Cr Aslett be received¹.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Sheridan. Carried

5 Members' conflict of interest

Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

6 Confirmation of order of business

His Worship the Mayor informed Council that representatives from Meridian Energy Ltd had been delayed by flooding on SH1 near Wellington, hence Public Forum would be considered adjourned after the presentation from Andrew Morriss and other Marton-based businesses until approximately 11am.²

¹ A Skype connection with Cr Aslett was attempted but unsuccessful.

² The Rangitikei Guardians elected to take their Public Forum spot after Meridian Energy Ltd at 11am.

7 Confirmation of minutes

Cr Peke-Mason noted that (at the hearing on 7 May 2015) she had asked Bruce Gordon (speaking for the Dudding Lake Trust) that they collect number of users in the future.

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/117** **File Ref**

That the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 7 May 2015 and 8 May 2015 (as amended) be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Belsham. Carried

The Council thanked Ms Whitcombe for the detailed record of the two days of hearings.

9 Analysis of submissions to the Consultation Document, “What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?” with respect to the draft 2015-25 LTP

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/118** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That the report ‘Analysis of submissions to the Consultation Document, “What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?” with respect to the draft 2015-25 LTP’ be received.

Cr McManaway / Cr Aslett. Carried

Motion

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council liaise with Horizons Regional Council over its view on addressing issues relating to genetic modification.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr McManaway.

Amendment

Add...’and other relevant organisations...’

Cr Harris / Cr Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/119** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council liaise with Horizons Regional Council and other relevant organisations over its view on addressing issues relating to genetic modification.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr McManaway. Carried

Motion

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its intention to build up the roading reserve to \$3.5 million through increased rates contributions over the life of the 2015-25 Long Term Plan but focussed in years 1-5.

Cr Gordon / Cr Belsham

Amendment

Remove "...but focussed in years 1-5."

Cr Ash / Cr Peke-Mason. Lost

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/120** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its intention to build up the roading reserve to \$3.5 million through increased rates contributions over the life of the 2015-25 Long Term Plan but focussed in years 1-5.

Cr Gordon / Cr Belsham. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/121** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm that cost-estimates will be provided to the September 2015 meeting of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee with respect to the requests for new footpaths at Bulls (from units 1-6, 136 High Street – 160 High Street), Ratana (from the corners of Te Taitokerau and Seamer Streets along Rangatahi and a streetlamp on Rangatahi) and Taihape (walkway along State Highway 1 from Dixon Way).

Cr Rainey / Cr Jones. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/122** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council request the Assets/Infrastructure Committee to monitor the general upkeep and upgrade of the footpaths in Turakina through the normal business of the activity and the committee.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/123** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm that the Chief Executive convey to the Whanganui District Health Board the Council's view that fluoridation of potable water supplies is a matter for national policy setting and funding.

Cr McManaway / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/124** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its intention to investigate all options for the replacement, where absolutely necessary, of reticulated water and wastewater schemes for smaller communities:

- in close consultation with affected communities, and
- bearing in mind affordability of the schemes District-wide, and
- advocating for and maximising the additional central government funding that can be leveraged to support small rural communities, and
- using the best available technology to develop appropriate solutions.

Cr Gordon / Cr Jones. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/125** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council request the Assets/Infrastructure Committee to review the management of the trade waste stream from Bonny Glen landfill, to ensure that the full costs of the service are born by Mid-West Disposals Ltd and not ratepayers.

Cr McManaway / Cr Gordon. Carried

3 Public Forum

Continued...

Andrew Beatson (Bell Gully) and Neal Barclay (Meridian Energy Ltd) – application for extension of the resource consent for Project Central Wind.
(Tabled document)

Mr Beatson spoke to Council first, reinforcing the information provided to Council within the report on Item 8 and highlighting the progress that has been completed on the project to date. Mr Barclay then spoke to Council on the commitment by Meridian Energy Ltd to this

project, the significant financial contribution made to date towards the project and what Meridian plans to do over the next five years if the consent is extended.

Geoff & Gill Duncan and Rita Batley - application for extension of the resource consent for Project Central Wind.

(Tabled document)

Mr and Mrs Duncan and Ms Batley represent the Rangitikei Guardians, a group opposed to Meridian Energy's application for extension of the resource consent for Project Central Wind. The Guardians do not agree that substantial progress has been made on the project so far, and that several of the tests done on the application are not substantiated. They are also unhappy with the amount of uncertainty within the community around whether or not this project will actually progress, noting a substantial drop in consenting activity since the consents had been granted compared with the five years before.

Madalene Frost - application for extension of the resource consent for Project Central Wind.

(Tabled document)

Ms Frost spoke to her tabled document expressing her concern with the project and the lack of physical work to date, and highlighting the uncertainty within the community.

8 Project Central Wind: application from Meridian Energy Limited to extend the lapse date for five years (i.e. until 24 May 2020)

His Worship the Mayor reminded Council that this was not an opportunity to review the merits of wind farms in general (or at the Project Central Wind site) or to change the conditions of the consents.

Varying views were expressed in discussion, in particular whether the decision could be delayed.

Mr Hodder clarified that if Council wanted to defer a decision, it would need to reconvene before 24 May 2015 (when the consent lapsed). If the application was declined, Meridian had a right of objection, which (if exercised) would mean the consent would not lapse on 24 May 2015.

Resolved minute number

15/RDC/126

File Ref

**2-LP-5-RMO8
(80065)**

That the report 'Project Central Wind: application from Meridian Energy Limited to extend the lapse date for five years (i.e. until 24 May 2020)' be received.

Cr Ash / Cr McManaway. Carried

Cr Peke-Mason voted against.

Motion

That Council defers a decision on the application by Meridian Energy Ltd to extend the lapse date for the consents granted by Rangitikei District Council for Project Central Wind until Thursday 21 May 2015, to allow Councillors time to read through the supplied documentation, to allow Council to make an informed decision.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Gordon. Lost

Motion

That the application from Meridian Energy Ltd to extend the lapse date for the consents granted by Rangitikei District Council for Project Central Wind for five years (i.e. to 24 May 2020) be approved.

Cr Rainey / Cr Sheridan. Lost

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Resolved minute number | 15/RDC/127 | File Ref | 2-LP-5-RMO8 (80065) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|

That the application from Meridian Energy Ltd to extend the lapse date for the consents granted by Rangitikei District Council for Project Central Wind for five years (i.e. to 24 May 2020) be declined.

Cr McNeil / Cr Ash. Carried

The meeting was adjourned for lunch 11.58am / reconvened 12.50 pm

9 Analysis of submissions to the Consultation Document, “What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?” with respect to the draft 2015-25 LTP

Continued...

Motion

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm that in year 1 (2015/16), the contribution to the roading reserve will be \$550,000 (\$100,000 from the increased FAR rate and the balance from rates) and that up to \$60,000 of this will be provided to make good both the access road to Dudding Lake and the access road off Toroa Road to Taihape Kindergarten/Mount Stewart Reserve, seeking contributions from the Dudding Lake Management Trust of 38% of costs and Whanganui Kindergarten Association of \$20,000 as a one-off contribution.

Cr McManaway / Cr Jones. Withdrawn

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/128** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirms that in year one (2015/16) of the long term plan, the contribution to the roading reserve will be \$550,000, and that the total contribution over the first five years be \$1,800,000 (an average of \$360,000 per annum) and then reduce to \$100,000 per annum for the second five years to reach a maximum of \$3,500,000 by year 10; and that this contribution may be adjusted in intervening years if large withdrawals are required from the fund.

Cr Rainey / Cr Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/129** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council agree to making good the access road to Dudding Lake, the net cost after a contribution from the Dudding Lake Management Trust to be funded from the roading reserve up to a maximum of \$6,200.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Jones. Carried

Cr Peke-Mason voted against

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/130** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council agree to making good the access road to Taihape Kindergarten/Mount Stewart Reserve, the net cost after a contribution from the Whanganui Kindergarten Association to be funded from the roading reserve up to a maximum of \$53,800.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/131** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council review its policy of interest on reserves and the allocation of such interest and request staff to submit a report to the Finance/Performance Committee no later than its November 2015 meeting.

Cr McManaway / Cr Rainey. Carried

Motion

That Council confirm the budget figure for its preferred option in replacing reticulated water and wastewater schemes for smaller communities in the adopted LTP but amends the text to make it clear that this provision covers the most likely options that either the existing system can be renewed to extend its life for the next consenting period, or that new technologies will enable alternative, affordable solutions to be implemented, or that additional central government funding can be leveraged to support small rural communities.

Cr Rainey / Cr Peke-Mason. Withdrawn

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/132** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its preferred option to invest in the rejuvenation of the town centres in Bulls, Marton and Taihape at the level and in the timeframe proposed in the consultation document.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Belsham. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/133** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its intention to maintain the current level of service at the District's swimming pools, ensuring that contractual arrangements with the operators permit swimming in the pool in Marton from the end of term 3 to the beginning of term 2, including school holidays, and in Taihape, that pool opening hours enable customers to enjoy a regular programme to swim (for example, before work each weekday).

Cr McManaway / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/134** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council agrees to waive all entry fees to Schools in the District.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Belsham. Carried

Motion

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council agree to waive all entry fees for one adult accompanying a pre-school child.

Cr Rainey / Cr Sheridan. Lost

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/135** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council agree to waive all entry fees for a pre-school child and an accompanying provided they are attending a swim school lesson.

Cr McManaway / Cr Gordon. Carried

Cr Ash voted against.

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/136** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirms its intention to invest \$100,000 per year for three years to refurbish the existing community housing stock and to continue to investigate partnerships with other agencies with a track record in managing social housing.

Cr Jones / Cr McManaway. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/137** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirms its intention to invest \$50,000 per annum to fund park and reserve upgrades that are supported by the community and bring added value of at least \$100,000 (in cash or in kind) per annum.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/138** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirms up to an additional \$50,000 in 2015/16 to work with the Taihape Memorial Park users group to make a water source available for irrigating the playing surfaces of the Park.

Cr Gordon / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Cr Ash 1.32 pm / 1.34 pm

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/139** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council requests that the Assets/infrastructure Committee:

- Consider a scheme to allocate the fund created for Council-owned parks and reserves upgrades which will be matched (in cash and in kind) by the community, and communicate with submitters regarding their particular projects.
- Includes a review of the maintenance and management of the Urupa in the review of the Ratana Maintenance Contract with the Ratana Communal Board.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/140** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council requests that the Assets/infrastructure Committee:

- Includes a review of the potential to provide a managed recycling facility outside of the Ratana Waste Transfer Station in the review of the Ratana Maintenance Contract with the Ratana Communal Board.
- Negotiates with the contractor at the Ratana Waste Transfer Station for an acceptable contract variation to provide an extended service on varying days of the week, up to a maximum value of \$7,000.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/141** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its preferred option for increasing investment in economic development by \$205,000 in 2015/16 and continue to develop the detail of the Rangitikei Growth Strategy, including the District Promotion Strategy and the Events Strategy, in consultation and collaboration with key stakeholders through the Regional Growth Strategy, the Buoyant District Economy Theme Group, the Lifelong Education Theme Group and the Enjoying Life in the Rangitikei Theme Group.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr McManaway. Carried

Amendment

...from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per annum.

Cr McManaway / Cr Rainey. Lost

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/142** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council increase the provision for Rangitikei Environment Group for programmes to address Old Man's Beard infestation, from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per annum.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/143** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council contact Sport New Zealand to recommend a review of the allocation criteria for the Rural Travel Fund to include scarcity and distance from facilities.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Belsham. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/144** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-7

That Council notes officers will now prepare the revised draft Long Term Plan 2015/25 for consideration at the Council meeting on 28 May 2015 and delivery to the Councils auditors the following day.

Cr Jones / Cr Sheridan. Carried

10 Analysis of submissions on the proposed revenue and financing policy

Mr Hodder spoke briefly to the report.

The funding mechanism to apply to community boards was discussed. There were divided views: some thought the mechanism should be the same for both boards, other favoured looking at the make-up of properties relating to each board.

The divergent view of Federated Farmers was also discussed.

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/145** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-3

That the report 'Analysis of submissions on the proposed revenue and financing policy' be received.

Cr Belsham / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

Motion

That the funding mechanism for the Community Boards be a targeted Community Services rate set as a fixed charge per rating unit for the Taihape Community Board and a targeted Community Services Rate based on capital value for the Ratana Community Board.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Rainey. Lost

Motion

That the funding mechanism for the Community Boards be a targeted Community Services rate based on capital value for the Taihape Community Board and for the Ratana Community Board.

Cr Ash / Cr Peke-Mason. Lost

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/146** **File Ref** 1-LTP15-3

That the funding mechanism for the Community Boards be a targeted Community Services rate set as a fixed charge per rating unit for the Taihape Community Board and for the Ratana Community Board.

Cr McManaway / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Cr Ash voted against.

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/147** **File Ref**

That the proposed revenue and financing policy not be amended as a result of considering submissions.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Gordon. Carried

Cr Harris and Cr Ash voted against

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/148** **File Ref**

That a report be prepared for the August 2015 meeting of Assets/Infrastructure Committee on the impact of various classes of vehicles on the costs of maintaining local roads.

Cr Jones / Cr Sheridan. Carried

11 Deliberation on Submissions to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16

Council felt that providing a discount to New Zealand Kennel Club members would produce an unfairness among dog owners, as not everyone can become a member of the New Zealand Kennel Club.

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/149** **File Ref** 1-AP-2-1

That the memorandum 'Deliberation on Submissions to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16' be received.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/150** **File Ref** 1-AP-2-1

That Council provides no discount on dog registration fees to members of the New Zealand Kennel Club.

Cr Rainey / Cr McManaway. Carried

12 Proposed Duck Sculpture for Frae Ona Park

Cr Belsham provided a brief update from the Marton Community Committee on the proposed duck sculpture for Frae Ona Park, stating that the Committee felt that a decision on which design would be used for the sculpture had not yet been made.

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/151** **File Ref** 3-PY-1-11

That the memorandum 'Proposed Duck Sculpture for Frae Ona Park' be received.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Belsham. Carried

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/152** **File Ref**

That Council endorses the proposed installation of the duck sculpture in Frae Ona Park, Marton.

Cr Belsham / Cr McManaway. Carried

Cr Peke-Mason left Chambers 2.14 pm / 2.24 pm

13 Late items

Nil

14 Future items for the agenda

Nil

15 Public Excluded

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/153** **File Ref**

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Item 1: Outcome of tender for the District-wide Roding Contract

The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to this 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 are as follows:

| General subject of the matter to be considered | Reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter | Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing of this resolution |
|---|---|---|
| Item 1 Outcome of tender for the District-wide Roding Contract | Briefing contains information which if released would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it or who is the subject of the information and to enable the local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) | Section 48(1)(a)(i) |

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding or the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

Cr Gordon / Cr Sheridan. Carried

16 Next meeting

Thursday 21 May 2015, 9.30 am³

17 Meeting closed – 3.27 pm

Confirmed/Chair: _____

Date: _____

³ Subsequently cancelled. Next meeting Thursday 28 May 2015.