



Rangitikei District Council

Telephone: 06 327-0099

Facsimile: 06 327-6970

Rangitikei
UNSPOILT...

Council Meeting Order Paper

Thursday 14 May 2015, 9.30 am

**Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street, Marton**

Website: www.rangitikei.govt.nz

Email: info@rangitikei.govt.nz

Chair

His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

Deputy Chair

Cr Dean McManaway

Membership

Councillors Cath Ash, Richard Aslett, Nigel Belsham, Angus Gordon, Tim Harris,
Mike Jones, Rebecca McNeil, Soraya Peke-Mason,
Ruth Rainey, Lynne Sheridan

Please Note: Items in this agenda may be subject to amendments or withdrawal at the meeting. It is recommended therefore that items not be reported upon until after adoption by the Council. Reporters who do not attend the meeting are requested to seek confirmation of the agenda material or proceedings of the meeting from the Chief Executive prior to any media reports being filed.



Rangitikei District Council

Council Meeting

Order Paper – Thursday 14 May 2015 – 9:30 a.m.

Contents

1	Welcome	2	
2	Council prayer	2	
3	Public Forum	2	
4	Apologies/Leave of absence	2	
5	Members' conflict of interest	2	
6	Confirmation of order of business	2	
7	Confirmation of minutes	2	Attachment 1, pages 10-56
8	Project Central Wind: application from Meridian Energy Limited to extend the lapse date for five years (i.e. until 24 May 2020)	2	Attachment 2, pages 57-64
9	Deliberations on Submissions to "What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	3	Attachment 3, pages 65-97
10	Analysis of submissions on the proposed revenue and financing policy	6	Attachment 4, pages 98-101
11	Deliberation on Submissions to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16	66	Attachment 5, pages 102-104
12	Proposed Duck Sculpture for Frae Ona Park	7	Attachment 6, pages 105-117
13	Late items	7	
14	Future items for the agenda	7	
15	Public Excluded	7	
16	Next meeting	8	
17	Meeting closed	8	

*Note: The separate item is the appendices to the report on Item 7, and are distributed to Elected Members, media, Council Libraries and Information Centres, and are available electronically from Council's website.

1 Welcome

2 Council prayer

3 Public Forum

4 Apologies/Leave of absence

5 Members' conflict of interest

Members are 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

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

7 Confirmation of minutes

Recommendation

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

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

A report is attached. The appendices to accompany this report are a separate item.

File ref: 2-LP-5-RMO8 (80065)

Recommendations

- 1 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.
- 2 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 EITHER approved OR declined. Deliberations on Submissions to "What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"

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

A report is attached.

File ref: 1-LTP15-7

Recommendations

- 1 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.
- 2 That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2012-22 draft Long Term Plan, Council:

Community Leadership

- 2.1 Liaise with Horizons Regional Council over its view on addressing issues relating to genetic modification

Roading

- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 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.
- 2.4 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).
- 2.5 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.

Water Supply, Sewerage and the treatment and disposal of sewage and Stormwater Drainage

- 2.6 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.

- 2.7 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
- 2.8 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.

Community and Leisure Assets

- 2.9 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.
- 2.10 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).

Or

Agrees to extend the season at Marton from six months to ten months for a trial period of 2 years from 1 August 2015 and make provision for an additional \$60,000 per annum for the trial period.

And

- 2.11 Agrees to waive the swim school entry fee as an ongoing contribution to the Swim-4-All programme.

Or

Agrees to waive all entry fees to school students in the District, in effect a "free pass" scheme to be administered by participating schools.

And

Agree to waive all entry fees for one adult accompanying a pre-school child.

- 2.12 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.
- 2.13 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.

- 2.14 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.
- 2.15 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

Rubbish and recycling

- 2.16 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

Community Well-being

- 2.17 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.
- 2.18 Increase the provision for Rangitikei Environment Group for programmes to address Old Man's Beard infestation, from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per annum.
- 2.19 Contact Sport New Zealand to recommend a review of the allocation criteria for the Rural Travel Fund to include scarcity and distance from facilities.
- 3 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 Council's auditors the following day.

10 Analysis of submissions on the proposed revenue and financing policy

A report is attached.

File ref: 1-LTP15-3

Recommendations

- 1 That the report 'Analysis of submissions on the proposed revenue and financing policy' be received.
- 2 That the funding mechanism for the Community Boards be a targeted Community Services rate set as a fixed charge per rating unit for the..... Community Board and/or a targeted Community Services Rate based on capital value for the Community Board.
- 3 That [except for the change to the funding mechanism for the.....Community Board(s)] the proposed revenue and financing policy not be amended as a result of considering submissions.
- 4 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.

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

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 1-AP-2-1

Recommendations

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

EITHER

Provides no discount on dog registration fees to members of the New Zealand Kennel Club.

OR

Provides a discount of ...% to members of the New Zealand Kennel Club.

12 Proposed Duck Sculpture for Frae Ona Park

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 3-PY-1-11

Recommendation

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

13 Late items

14 Future items for the agenda

15 Public Excluded

Recommendation

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.

16 Next meeting

Thursday 28 May 2015, 1.00 pm

17 Meeting closed

Attachment 1

Rangitikei District Council

Council Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 7 May 2015 – 9:33 a.m.

Contents

1	Welcome	2
2	Council prayer	2
3	Apologies/Leave of absence	2
4	Confirmation of order of business	2
5	Members' conflict of interest	2
6	Minutes: Council meeting 30 April 2015	2
7	Oral submissions on "What's the Plan Rangitikei...?" the consultation document to Rangitikei District Council's 2015-2025 Long Term Plan	2
8	Late items	4
9	Future items for the agenda	4
10	Date of the next meeting	4
11	Meeting closed 3.50 am	4

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 Ross McNeil, Chief Executive
 Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager
 Ms Denise Servante, Senior Policy Analyst
 Ms Samantha Whitcombe, Governance Administrator

1 Welcome

His Worship the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Council prayer

His Worship the Mayor read the Council Prayer.

3 Apologies/Leave of absence

That the apology for absence from Cr Aslett be received.

Cr Jones / Cr Belsham. Carried

4 Confirmation of order of business

His Worship the Mayor informed Council that the Whanganui District Health Board and Trevor Nicholls would no longer be speaking to their submissions, and that Peter Lissington would now be speaking at 3.40 pm

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 Minutes: Council meeting 30 April 2015

Resolved minute number	15/RDC/115	File Ref
------------------------	------------	----------

That the Minutes and Public Excluded Minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 April 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Harris / Cr Belsham. Carried

7 Oral submissions on "What's the Plan Rangitikei..." the consultation document to Rangitikei District Council's 2015-2025 Long Term Plan

The submissions were compiled as a separate document, divided into three volumes. Page references below are to those documents. The detailed record of submitters' statements and questions from Elected Members is provided as an appendix.

Apologies were received from the Whanganui District Health Board and Trevor Nicholls.

Barry Williams was thanked by His Worship the Mayor for his contribution to the recent WW1 Centenary commemorations.

Name and Organisation	Page Reference	Time
Richard Redmayne	V1 pp. 3-5	9.39 am
Keith Scott	V1 pp. 6-7	9.50 am
Bruce Gordon	V2 pp. 3-3	10.00 am
Horizons Regional Council – Nic Peet & Bruce Gordon	V2 pp. 4-6	10.10 am
Jo Rangooni	V2 pp. 136-141	10.20 am
Bulls and District Community Trust	V2 pp. 136-141	10.30 am
Meeting Adjourned - 10.37 am / 11.04 am		
Robert Snijders	V2 pp. 130-131	11.05 am
Brya Dixon	V2 pp. 132-132	11.15 am
Greg Carlyon – Tutaenui Stream Restoration Society	V2 pp. 133-134	11.25 am
Greg Carlyon – Rangitikei College	V2 pp. 135-135	11.35 am
Lunch Break - 11.56 am / 1.02 pm		
Maree Brannigan & Mangaweka Town Meeting & Friends opposed to option 1 (Skype)	V2 pp. 142-152/ pp. 153-159	1.05 pm
Marton Community Committee	V2 pp. 160-162	1.15 pm
Carolyn Bates	V2 pp. 163-166	1.25 pm
Jim Howard	V2 pp. 167-168	1.35 pm
Rangitikei Environment Group	V2 pp. 169-170	1.45 pm
Chris Shenton – Treasured Natural Environment Group	V2 pp. 171-172	1.55 pm
Barry Williams	V1 pp. 8-8	2.20 pm
Kathleen Reardon	V2 pp. 173-176	2.30 pm
Afternoon Tea - 2.45 pm / 3.17 pm		
Drew Ferry	V2 pp. 200-206	3.30 pm
Peter Lissington	V2 pp. 126-127	3.40 pm
Whanganui District Health Board	V2 pp. 7-109	
Trevor Nicholls	V2 pp. 128-129	

Cr McNeil left the meeting 10.20 am / 10.22 am
 Cr Ash left the meeting 2.01 pm / 2.08 pm
 Cr Rainey left the meeting 2.16 pm / 2.19 pm
 Cr McNeil left the meeting 2.32 pm / 3.15 pm
 Cr Peke-Mason left the meeting 2.45 pm

8 Late items

Nil

9 Future items for the agenda

The purchase of a vehicle for the Mayor's use.

10 Date of the next meeting

Friday 8 May 2015, 9.30 am (Taihape)

11 Meeting closed 3.50 am

Confirmed/Chair: _____

Date: _____

Appendix 1

Hearings Thursday 7 May 2015

Rangitikei District Council

Submission Hearing on:

“What’s the Plan Rangitikei...” the consultation document to Rangitikei District Council’s 2015-25 Long Term Plan.

Thursday, 7 May 2015, Marton

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
MARTON			
Richard Redmayne		“What’s the Plan Rangitikei...”	<p>Resident in Turakina; lives down beach road. Presented his submission to the hearing of the Midwest Disposals Ltd, Bonny Glen Landfill, resource consent and was told it would be more appropriate to submit it to Council’s Long Term Plan. The views expressed in the submission mirrors the views of many ratepayers. We as ratepayers are subsidising a commercial entity in terms of repairing roading. The submission compared the number of heavy traffic movements of a 200 head dairy farm with the number of heavy traffic movements by vehicles accessing the Bonny Glen Landfill; the dairy farmer is paying \$65 per movement within the roading rate, compared with \$0.48 per movement for Midwest Disposals Ltd. The solution to this inequality is a differential roading rate for these businesses that do the most damage to our roads.</p> <p>Cr Harris: Thank you for your submission. What if Midwest Disposals Ltd took us to court, because from their point of view, they feel they are paying their fair share in Road User Charges? The income received from Road User Charges is mainly used on State Highway’s; only a portion of Rangitikei District Council’s roading network is paid for by the New Zealand Transport Agency (which collects the income from Road User Charges).</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Are you asking for a differential roading rate based on the number of vehicle movements where a business exceeds a specified limit? What we need is some kind of mechanism to capture</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>some more of the revenue.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: What would you suggest we say when Midwest Disposals Ltd ask about quarrying and forestry? If there is a business making money at the expense of ratepayers (by causing damage to some of our infrastructure), they should be paying their fair share.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: In your submission you have outlined your rates and Midwest Disposals Ltd, is that the entire rates spend? It is only a roading component.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Thank you for your submission. Can you please confirm that what you are seeking is to see some fairness between businesses that contribute to the number of heavy vehicle movements in the District and the rest of the District? I would like to see some mechanism that captures the extreme industries in our District; any business with an excessive numbers of heavy vehicle movements.</p>
Keith Scott		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My submission is on the affordability of the Long Term Plan. Our population is declining; this is evident from Statistics New Zealand. How many people in these statistics are ratepayers? The numbers of elderly in our District are increasing, with the majority of these on fixed-incomes who can't afford to pay rate increase after rate increase. I agree with attracting immigrants to our District, but we need jobs to attract these people and affordable housing. I see the good intent behind establishing good relationships with groups outside of our District. There is a real trend with rural depopulation; Taihape and beyond Mangaweka (beyond commuting distance). I have heard from some real estate agents that rates are a main reason behind housing sales falling through. In the current version of the Long Term Plan, there is too much money being spent on projects for a small District. Can these projects be funded by a declining, aging population? No. It is all well and good to borrow for mandatory projects, but the ratepayer cops it in</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>the end. Thank goodness for the limit on debt. But the signalled debt levels are too high. Economic Development is a great idea; it is essential for this District. We need to expand the economic base to attract new residents. Central Government has to invest in the regional as well, instead of withdrawing and leaving it to Local Government to implement their standards. Why aren't other small Districts building up a roading reserve? Because they can't afford it. We are looking at building ours up too high too fast; I would be happier with spreading it out over a longer period. The increase over the next 10 years is too high. There is already too much money in overdue rates, and this will only increase. Only displaying the average increases for the year is unfair on those ratepayers that have higher increases. There is a need to implement a unitary authority over the District.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: In your submission you are questioning the affordability, yet you are happy with the spend of \$1.6M on a new community facility in Bulls, but not anywhere else in the District? What I mean is that the spend on new facilities in the three towns needs to be spread out over a longer period of time to limit the number and amount of rates increases.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Are you aware of the new FAR rates for emergency works for the Rangitikei District? Yes.</p>
Bruce Gordon	Dudding Lake Trust	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to speak to my submission. Slideshow of pictures of the lake on screen. Thank you to Rangitikei District Council for supporting the trust. The Trust's sole purpose is to maintain and improve the experience of those using the lake, and this would not be possible without support from Rangitikei District Council. Today, we are not seeking any financial support for the Trust. The driveway into the lake is in a bad state; small remedial work has been done on the driveway on an ad-hoc basis. The Trust needs help to repair the driveway. The Trust would</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>like to know if Council would put in the amount they receive from the New Zealand Transport Agency for its FAR rate (63%) towards the cost of repairing the driveway. The Trust will look for the rest of the funding in kind. The Trust asks people to charge at cost so they are not out of pocket. Mr Gordon then listed all of the recent upgrades that have been made to the area.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Do you have any ideas of the costs of repairing/upgrading the driveway? At this stage the Trust does not have any idea of the total costs to repair the driveway. Would Rangitikei District Council receive our portion back based on the invoices we provide to the New Zealand Transport Agency? Yes. Would it make it hard for Council to make a claim to the New Zealand Transport Agency if some of the work is 'in-kind'? Potentially.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: What are the average numbers of people using the lake and facilities? The lake and facilities are used mostly by locals; but over the summer period large numbers from the Wellington region use the lake and facilities; but we don't have any concrete numbers.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: So ultimately what you are wanting is for the driveway to be sealed? Not necessarily, just bring it up to standard.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Who owns the road? The lake is a reserve, so is administered by Council.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Is it a private road? The driveway forms part of the reserve which is administered by Council; the access to the lake is part of the Reserve.</p>
Nic Peet & Bruce Gordon	Horizons Regional Council	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to speak to our submission. Horizons Regional Council is not seeking any specific funding in this Long Term Plan. We would like to acknowledge that there is a very good relationship between Horizons Regional Council and Rangitikei District Council, which is key for the District. We would firstly like to speak about Wastewater;</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Horizons Regional Council recognises the challenges seen by communities; standards have increased over the years and we would like to continue conversations with the Rangitikei communities and Rangitikei District Council. We are supportive of the proposed upgrades to treatment plants in the Rangitikei District. We would like to work with Rangitikei District Council on economic growth, especially in those areas that have a regional impact. We would also like to commend Rangitikei District Council for their commitment to the Enviroschools programme.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: In your team what capacity do you have to work with Rangitikei District Council and the community on the issue of the wastewater treatment plant in Mangaweka? There are areas where we can provide support (e.g. providing basic science). We are very open to any collaborative opportunities and we will be upfront if there was ever a conflict of interest. Who makes the first move? Both parties need to talk to each other more often.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: How many schools are there in the Rangitikei participating in the Enviroschools programme? There is one official Enviroschool (South Makirikiri), two friends of Enviroschools that are keen to become official Enviroschools and there are three other schools in the 'waiting room'.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: You have identified a willingness to work with the Mangaweka community regarding the future of their wastewater treatment plant, would you also be happy to be part of conversations with the communities of Koitiata and Ratana on their wastewater treatment plant issues? Yes very, Council to Council discussions would be most appropriate as a first step heading out to the Community. We are happy to provide Horizons Regional Council staff for any public meetings.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Regarding the Mangaweka wastewater treatment plant, does technology expire so quickly or is it legislation? I am unsure of technology at the current plant. It ultimately depends on water quality and what the</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>community can afford. We can't give you a concrete answer right now.</p> <p>Cr Harris: We have been told that the Rangitikei River is one of the cleaner rivers in the Country, would you agree? The Rangitikei River is broken up into three sections; the lower section is not the best partially due to the various discharges into that portion of the river (Bulls Wastewater Treatment Plant and Riverlands etc.), but there is good recreational use at this end of the river. Horizons Regional Council is not prepared to let it get any worse. The upper sections of the Rangitikei River are very pristine and we wouldn't want to see that change.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: You have seen that much of our spend in the proposed Long Term Plan is on capital upgrades of infrastructure, do you support our proposed prioritisation? Yes.</p> <p>Horizons Regional Council would like to thank staff for this relationship.</p>
	Whanganui District Health Board	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<i>Withdrawn</i>
Jo Rangooni		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>My submission focuses on rates affordability in the District. Do larger properties and industries pay their fair share of rates in the District? We have a lot of residents on fixed-incomes that can't afford steep rates increases. The issue of acceptance of leachate from the Bonny Glen landfill appears to have been inherited from previous Councils, but it is an issue that does need to be dealt with. There are a lot of residents in Bulls that are keen volunteers when it comes to community issues, we could look at using them to help with the issue of leachate from the Bonny Glen Landfill.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: How could volunteers help with the leachate issue at the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant? Someone else suggested it to me, but I don't have any specific ideas on what could be done; we need the right people and the right person leading any project. Do you see it more as Community Group input? Unsure, but the community is powerful.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Cr Peke-Mason: The Bonny Glen Landfill is turning into a regional 'dump' and should not just be the responsibility of the Rangitikei District Council; should we be looking outside the Rangitikei for help with a solution to the issue? Council should advocate for collective wisdom, with the right people; we need all stakeholders on board as well.</p> <p>Cr Harris: With regard to your question "do large land owners pay their fair share", I would have thought that large land owners would pay more than their fair share of rates? I am only talking from my perspective, it might not be accurate.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Thank you for your submission. We are proposing pretty low rate increases (depending on what we do), are you happy with what Council are proposing for Bulls over the next 10 years? I haven't done much research into the rates increases or what is proposed for Bulls in the Long Term Plan, but I think Council does the best it can.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: With regards to the Rates Rebate scheme, is there more work Council could do to promote the scheme? The most important thing is relationships; people need someone to talk to in private about their entitlement. The Trust might consider helping in this area.</p> <p>Cr Ash: Do you think the rebates are enough of an incentive? I haven't done any research into it.</p>
Jo Rangooni/ Jayme Anderson	Bulls and District Community Trust	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>The Trust would like to acknowledge the great relationship between the Rangitikei District Council and Horizons Regional Council, from their perspective. Our submission focuses on the support given by skilled volunteers. These days, volunteers need a high level of skill to carry out some of the work they do. Some people are quick to criticise but are unaware of the skills of those people involved with the Trust; we have now taken over all of the Bulls & District Enterprise assets; we have a strong working relationship with the Bulls Community Committee and we would like to thank Rangitikei District Council for their support; things only</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>work because of the great relationship the Trust has with Council.</p> <p>Our submission on the youth projects in Bulls focuses on the need to have youth projects in Bulls due to the rural isolation; there is no high schools in Bulls so all of our students travel out of town for Schooling. We need to give them a reason to come back and stay in the town and this requires continued Council support.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: What are the numbers of youth participating in these projects and what is the geographical spread? The youth involved in the projects are residents of the Bulls Ward that need a reason to come back into town, with up to 30 youth involved in the project.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: Are you taking in any Central Government funding? This was the first project that the Trust has taken on.</p> <p>Cr Harris: I would like to commend the Trust and Jayme for their work in the town; it hasn't been easy.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Are you dealing with mostly urban kids? Yes. How are they isolated? Having to travel out of town for Schooling and being able to see the opportunities that are afforded to those students in larger centres that aren't available in the Rangitikei District.</p>
Trevor & Karen Nicholls	Nicholls Swim Academy	"What's the Plan Rangitikei....?"	<i>Withdrawn</i>
Robert & Ruth Snijders		"What's the Plan Rangitikei....?"	<p>We are both new residents to the District and we are taking an active interest in what happens in the District. We went to the both the Long Term Plan and the Marton Town Centre Plan presentations in 2014. There are some very loaded questions on the submission form, with not all options presented. The options that are presented in the submission form are very narrow; I struggled to find supporting documentation (to support the options preferred by Council). Option 1 & 2 are very similar and can be lumped together; businesses in the District are unhappy with Council's approach to local business, and its lack of approachability; won't approach</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>their local Councillors. Should we be knocking on the owners' doors and finding out what support they need? Council needs to review what it is proposing to do in the area of town centre rejuvenation. There needs to be a policy shift in terms of the standard of potable water; are consultants just providing a compliant option or should they be finding more robust options? The District's swimming pools need to be reassessed in terms of their business plans; large amounts of money lost each month and only open part of the year – they should be open year round (during the summer months the majority of people are using beaches and rivers over pools). We believe that social housing could be expanded in Marton and that options for making this activity more viable should be investigated. We support Council bringing parks & town maintenance back in-house. The Emergency Roothing Fund should be expanded to encompass emergency works in more of Council's activities.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Thank you for your submission. Are you aware of the current state of our community housing? Yes, but still believe it is a valuable asset (debt free).</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Are you aware that Council does not make a profit on community housing, but runs at a net loss and this is common practice around the country? Yes, and let's break the mould.</p> <p>Cr Ash: Are you referring to the Project Marton work plan or the Marton Town Centre Plan? The Marton Town Centre Plan; all the groups involved in the community should be working together.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: In most of your written submission you don't support Council's preferred options, but your oral submission was more positive; was it more that there weren't enough options? Yes, I thought the best way was to say 'I don't support Council's decision' and then put my ideas forward in the comments.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Welcome to Marton.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
Brya Dixon	Southern Rangitikei School's Principals Cluster Inc.	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>I am the Principal of Marton School and I am here on behalf of the Southern Rangitikei School's Principals Cluster Inc. All of the Schools in the Cluster Group have prioritised swimming within our curriculum due to our geographical location. Historically, school teachers have taken the swimming lessons, but they are not as competent as qualified instructors. We can only have 8-10 lessons per year, as that is all the funding that can be sought. In the past not all year levels have been funded each year, so schools have had to prioritise certain years or cover large bills. Some Schools have their own pools and would like to see instructors visit their pools, especially for younger students. Marton Schools would definitely make more use of the pool if it were more affordable. Any funding needs to be confirmed much earlier in the year. There has been some suggestion that when the Marton Pool was built, and Marton School decommissioned their pool, there was an understanding that Marton School would have free access to the Marton Pool.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Is it always on a lesson basis? Not necessarily, we could hire lanes and pay an entry fee. Only 10 swims a year? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Is there any documentation on the rumoured understanding that Marton School would have free access to the pool? No, the hearsay is that any documentation was destroyed the fire.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Is our asset underutilised due to the cost? The cost is part of the barrier, but there have also been issues with the management of the pool. Is that the management now or historically? There is a better relationship now, but there are still some issues. Why would some Schools keep the costs of maintaining their own pool? These Schools are further away from the pools and this presents another challenge for schools.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Have you engaged with Council staff? Yes, a meeting was had in April 2015 with Samantha Whitcombe on the programme and funding assistance.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
Greg Carlyon	Tutaenui Stream Restoration Society	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to speak to my submission. I will take the submission as read (but provide short summary) and answer questions. The Tutaenui Stream is spring fed and, for a portion of the year, has no flow. It has some wastewater discharge into it and over-flow from the new bore, then travels through a large amount of unfenced farmland, and then flows into town where it is 'ignored'. The stream is also subject to discharge from Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant; this is at times non-compliant. I acknowledge that Council is working towards making the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant compliant. There is a lot of opportunity for recreational activities along the stream (mountain biking, walking etc.), we should be taking better care of this stream and installing better community pride in the stream and surrounding area. The Society will be engaging directly with landowners near the stream to bring them on board, developing a management plan (in consultation with Rangitikei District Council) and co-ordinating an annual stream clean up with the Cluster Schools (Horizons Regional Council also does some clean-up work each year), among other things. The funding sought from Council (\$10k per year) is to be used for on the ground work, and would be released subject to an agreement with Council. An annual report would be produced each year for Council, and we would welcome a Council rep on the Society.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Do you consider that too much recreation could add to the pollution? There is more potential for contamination from other sources other than responsible human beings; public access would need to be monitored.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Thank you for your submissions. How many other groups/individuals are involved in the project involved? There are six-seven landowners involved at this stage; four have been brought onto the Society. Are you seeking funding from Horizons Regional Council? No, but we have had conversations with staff. Horizons Regional Council see the</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>value of the stream as a flood protection asset rather than a recreational asset.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Have you approached some of the Community outcome groups (Enjoying Life in the Rangitikei and Treasured Natural Environment Group)? I am the Chair of one of Council's community groups and a member of another, so they will be kept in the loop.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: I would have thought it would be prudent to make a submission to Horizons Regional Council as well. Rangitikei District Council needs to be careful with our rates spend, could the spend on the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant be seen as Council's contribution? Horizons Regional Council doesn't believe that the stream is a worthy asset. Any funds allocated to the project by Council would be seen as being for the community from the community. I have heard that spending \$2M on the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant isn't going to be enough and it is a much bigger issue.</p> <p>Cr Harris: Fencing the stream through farmland should be compulsory; can we do anything? Horizons Regional Council has a fund for the fencing of waterways.</p> <p>Cr Ash: Have you considered organisations that give away plantings? We have been making enquiries, and may have found an avenue to supply plantings on a yearly basis.</p>
Greg Carlyon	Rangitikei College	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>This submission is the thank Council for its on-going support of Rangitikei College and acknowledge the strong support the School receives from Council. The School roll is decreasing because of the declining population in Marton; however the School is tapping into a higher portion of the available pool. We have seen a noticeable increase in our students success in NCEA; a goal that was set by the School. Truancy levels have decreased, as well as the number of stand-downs.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Could Councillors be given a tour of the School?</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Certainly, we will be organise something with the Principal.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: Is there anything else Council can do to help the School continue with positive progress? Not really; we always get the support needed when we ask for it. More of the same really.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Is the School interacting with the business community? Yes, the current Principal has a strong network of connections within the District.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Have you thought of any mechanisms for capturing those students that do leave the District? The School is looking at ideas. We don't market the School as such, we let it speak for itself. Are there transport options to bring students from outside the District here for Schooling? We don't believe that students should be sitting on a bus for hours a day to get to their schooling, we would rather focus on securing those students already in town.</p>
Maree Brannigan (via Skype)		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>I feel that there has been a lack of research into option 1 and there is little information available as to where Council's preference for this option has come from. I am concerned about what it will do to the community (in terms of the property market; property value, and how it will effect immigration into the town). Does Horizons Regional Council have any concerns about the workability of option 1? I know the value of 10-year planning and understand the need for it, but I feel that any project in this plan should have in-depth research behind it.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Would the community welcome engagement by Council with them to look into all options rather than signalling a preference to an option? Yes. I am concerned with what signalling a preference in the Long Term Plan will do to the 'pull' of the town.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Do you feel we have phrased this option incorrectly? Yes, there is some criticism of the way the option is phrased as being Council's preference.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Cr Peke-Mason: Thank you for your submission. Would a focus group be appropriate for finding the best possible option over the next ten years, and would there be a number of people in the community that would be willing to engage? Yes, the community would be very forward focused in creating a dialogue with Council.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Do you agree that Council should keep a budgetary amount in the Long Term Plan for this issue? No, it gives the indication that this option has already been worked through and plans created, that a budget would arise from. I do not agree that there should be a budget line without clarity of what it constitutes. If we added wording that was explicit that this money was for investigation work only? Yes I would be happy with a budgetary line if it was worded as if it was a contingency plan rather than a planned project. Anything could happen in the next 10 years.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: How many of the properties in Mangaweka are connected to the service and how has it changed in the past few years? I don't have those figures; I would assume Council would have those figures.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: We need the Community on board when we go into battle with Central Government, as the lack of funding is the biggest challenge to Council. Yes, I would be behind you in lobbying Central Government.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: I would like to express my thanks to you and Community.</p>
Maree Brannigan	Mangaweka Town Meeting & Friends opposed to option 1	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	The submission letter came about after the town meeting in Mangaweka; the group is not supportive of option 1 for the Mangaweka Wastewater Treatment Plant, so are, by default, supportive of option 2 (given that there are no other options). There is great concern within the community on the feasibility and do-ability of option 1, and wonder where the preference for option 1 came from.
Anne George &	Marton Community	"What's the Plan	Our submission, for the most part, follows the issues outlined in the

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
Nathan Kane	Committee	Rangitikei...?"	<p>consultation document. Issue one; we support option three due to the figure of \$105K for local initiatives. Council should use this money to employ a marketer for the District, to be a liaison between new business and the Council. They would use local events as the forum for interacting with potential business owners. The job description would encompass the following: encourage event organisers to bring their events to the District (attendees of these events spend money in town), then initiate a conversation with these people about opening a business in town. Council could consider offering some kind of 'Welcome' gift for new business owners (e.g. paint), not necessarily a rates rebate. It would also be this person's job to travel the country and market the District.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Council used to have an Economic Development Officer? Yes. Was there a measureable increase in business in the District? No, but this job would be different from that of the old Economic Development Officer.</p> <p>Nathan Kane from the Marton Youth Club (Hype Academy) addressed Council on the second part of the submission. The Marton Youth Club was established 2012 with the idea of establishing a 'safe' place for youth to spend their time. We offer organised events to encourage confidence and give the youth something to do in town. The older kids that used the Youth Club prior to High School are now bringing their siblings along. There is a significant number of youth using the Marton Youth Club and Taihape Youth Hutt. The events are designed to involve the families as well. Looking towards the future we would like to turn the Youth Club into a 'One-Stop-Shop' for social services (e.g. suicide prevention, drug/alcohol addiction etc.). But we need funding to keep it going until it is well established as a 'One-Stop-Shop' and could be self-sustainable.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Have you been to the service clubs for funding? Not for funding, but we do have a relationship with Project Marton for events.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: Thank you for the work you do. Are you able to explore</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>the funding offered by Central Government? This is an area we need to be proactive in; it is an area we want to work in.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Historically this activity has been supported by the Ministry for Social Development/the Ministry for Youth Development, but now you are seeking \$36K from Council? Yes. Aer you still seeking funding from the Ministry for Social Development/the Ministry for Youth Development? Yes. If Council didn't provide the \$36K, would the Marton Youth Club close? Yes.</p>
Carolyn Bates		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Could the funds tagged within the Economic Development be assessed against the Town Centre Plan's? The aim of this position should be to encourage the establishment of new businesses in the District.</p> <p>I have some concerns about the colour pallets being used in the Marton Town Centre Plan; Marton is a heritage town and we shouldn't be using 'children's playground colours' to spruce the town up. I feel that Project Marton are very focused within Marton and wonder what is being marketed within the rest of the country. I have concerns regarding the level of consultation with the Mangaweka community on their wastewater treatment plant, and I have an issue with the thought that it will fail by 2024. I wonder whether the Marton pool is being marketed appropriately. I am hopefully that we will eventually achieve a 'break-even' point with our community housing. I wonder if a community group raised an amount of money to be put towards an upgrade of a Council-owned park, would Council contribute a similar amount. I support keeping the Library, ICT Hub and Youth Club open. I support increasing Council's Roding Reserve and wonder whether an idea of rating trucks regardless of what they are carrying to increase the reserve could work. I support continuing the Town Centre Plan support role within Council. The District needs to be marketed at a wider regional level. Could an upgrade to the public toilets in Marton be a community project? I also had an idea</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>around discount cards for local residents.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Some of your ideas have come across the table before, are you aware of this? No, but they can always be brought up again.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: You mentioned potential discount cards for residents, can you elaborate? In Porirua if you are a resident you get a card that allows you free access to the local dump. If you choose to use that dump but live outside of Porirua you are charged. There is potential for a similar type of system in the Rangitikei.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: You don't like the idea of debt, but you support several capital projects; are you suggesting that these should then be funded in one year? No, I think we should be saving for these projects instead of going into debt.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: In this District, storm events have a large impact on our roading networks. We need the reserve to rectify these damages, how do you propose we fund these repairs? I would like Council to investigate the costs of insurance cover. Council has done a lot of research into insurance cover for its infrastructure and premiums are huge (as is evident from Christchurch), would you be ok with rating to cover these premiums then? Yes, as long as the increase wasn't too steep.</p>
Jim Howard		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>My submission focuses on the unfairness of the split between urban and rural rates. The figures I have provided in my submission give a pretty detailed picture. There is an unfair loading on rural ratepayers, particularly in the Southern half of the District. I would like to see average rates increases expressed over a longer period of time rather than just one year. This illustrates a fuller picture of rates increases.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Are you aware of the changes that have been made to Council's Uniform Annual General Charge (less on capital value of a property)? A small amount, but not in great detail.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: The figures detailed in your submission, is it one property</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>in each area? Yes. Wouldn't that show a skewed view of rates increases? Yes, but it is too much work for one person to do to investigate any further.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Should we do a historical trend? Yes, we should show the last 10 or so years. This would give a better idea of the changes to rates historically (specifically between rural and urban rates).</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Would you like to see a zero contribution from rural ratepayers on urban water and wastewater supplies? Potentially, but that wouldn't be sustainable.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Do you want the 'dotted lines' between Wards and between urban and rural zones, brought back? Potentially, but it would be difficult to say confidently until we see the historical numbers.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: A large portion of rates goes into roading, and a large portion of roading is in the rural zone, would it be fair to say that urban ratepayers are subsidising rural roads? Urban roads are more expensive to maintain than rural roads.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: The rural sector have some ability to offset the cost of rates against their business, urban wouldn't? Fair comment.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Rural ratepayers use urban facilities, so should they not contribute? Yes, but they currently pay too much.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Do you think rural ratepayers benefit from urban centres? Yes.</p>
Jim Howard & Hew Stewart	Rangitikei Environment Group	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Firstly, we would like to provide a brief overview of who REG are and some of the work that has been undertaken in the past year. REG is made up of key stakeholders within the District. We meet in Taihape and our work programme is carried out through the summer months (no wages are paid in winter months). The Rangitikei District Council contractor was asked to spray all of the Old-Man's Beard within 10m of the road reserve, but we were disappointed with the job the contractor did (there was a</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>lack of knowledge of what plants were to be sprayed). During the past year we have undertaken a large amount of track maintenance in the Taihape Reserves; work teams have made remarkable progress in several areas. We need the funding from Rangitikei District Council to make the track safe for the work team to bring in a truck to complete the work. Work has been done with Taihape Area School, but there has been no consistency in the seedlings being grown. In our submission we have outlined four areas of funding, totalling of \$40k per year.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: In previous discussion with Rangitikei District Council staff and Neil Mickleson (Horizons Regional Council), it was concluded that \$10k per year would be sufficient, with support from Council's contractor. Your position seems to have changed? The figure we received from Neil Mickleson is \$30k; we are not sure where the \$10k came from. If the contractor did a sufficient job there would be less support needed.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Was the \$10k grant from Council last year new funding? Yes. I haven't seen anywhere that Council's contractor would support REG? It was agreed last year. Would you not have seen it would fail from the outset? There was potential. Does Horizons Regional Council provide any funding to REG? They are the main funder; this funding covers wages, running of vehicles and purchase of spray.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Council should be taking \$10k out of the contractor costs and giving it to REG? Yes, effectively.</p>
Chris Shenton	Treasured Natural Environment Group	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>I would like to start my submission by acknowledging and thanking Council for its support. The main aim of this project is to attract people to the river instead of driving by. We see Council playing a facilitative role to enable groups to access resources and funding. We as a group are supportive of Council's existing initiatives and proposed future initiatives. The group notes the value of the Wastewater Treatment Plants and Water</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Treatment Plant's, and supports the idea of land-based treatment of wastewater as opposed to discharge into waterways. We believe that Council should be investigation land-based treatment at least in summer months.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Do you have a plan for the proposed access points? There is no formal plan in place at this stage; the information needed to develop a plan is easily accessible and a plan would be relatively easily assembled. Is the main aim at recreation? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Do you have a map of the access points? Not really; a lot of these are within Horizons Regional Council's floodplains. Is pulling together local groups to formalise something part of the groups long term view? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: Are you working with the Tutaenui Restoration Society? To date we have not had a lot of interaction with the group, but Greg Carlyon has attended several Treasured Natural Environment meetings. Would you be comfortable working with this group in the future? Yes.</p>
Barry Williams		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Marton is a declining population and services are reduced; but I firmly believe that people will come to Marton if we give them a reason to. It could be through public art. Currently there is very little public art in Marton and historically there has been a lack of Council support for public artwork. We could use the WW1 centenary as a theme; put up a new panel on Memorial Hall every XX years. As was identified in the Marton Town Centre Plan, we need to create 'linger nodes'. Possible ideas: "Marton: Town of Art"; Christmas lights/light competition.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Have you thought about joining Project Marton? I am looking at joining more community groups now that I am retired.</p> <p>Cr Jones: There is a lot of negativity and resistance to change in Marton, how do we get around this? We need to adopt a "Run them down" attitude.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Cr Gordon: Who should get involved with Council to attract people? Art people and the art community.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: How do we attract motorcyclists? Market Marton to motorcycle clubs. Make a motorcycle orientated competition.</p> <p>Cr McNeil: Are you aware of the Creative Communities grant and the fact that we struggle to get applicants? I am aware, didn't know there was a struggle to find applicants.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Are you requesting that we commission a sculpture? Yes. And a suggestion would be another panel at Memorial Hall? Yes.</p>
Kathleen Reardon		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>I am concerned with the acceptance of leachate from the Bonny Glen Landfill, and thought it should have been included in the options for public consideration. Council needs to better communicate the issues at the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant and the acceptance of leachate from the Bonny Glen Landfill with the community. The dumping point for effluent in Marton not always ideal from the point of view of contractors.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Are you aware of Council's proposed upgrades to the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant to better deal with the acceptance of leachate from Bonny Glen? Yes, and I am pleased that something is being done.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Council is concerned with this issue as well; we are addressing the issues outlined in your submission? I think the biggest issue is that Council needs to take advice from the right people.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: The Bonny Glen Landfill has a regional aspect to it, do you think we should be pushing for the leachate to be dealt with outside of our District? I don't see that we can push it out now. I would be happier if it was better treated by Mid-West Disposals Ltd before entering the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Do you feel that we have the right people around the table to</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>make these decisions on your behalf? I think it lies more in the staff/engineers that provide Council with information.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: We are looking at setting up a focus group for the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade project, do you see a role for that? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Could you suggest anyone for this focus group? Yes, but they should put their own hands up.</p>
Drew Ferry		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>I feel that the preferred option for issue 3 gives an indication that the community had been consulted on and were in favour of this option. The community has not seen any research or investigation into whether or not on-site waste disposal will work in the Town; the main soil type in Mangaweka is clay, which does not promote drainage. Would Horizons Regional Council even grant consent for the placement of on-site waste disposal?</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: If we didn't get the wording right, what would have been the right wording? At this stage we have put the 'cart before the horse'. What was put to the community was that Central Government required Rangitikei District Council to put a preferred option to any of the issues identified in the consultation document. The community feels that all of the investigation work is being done now, after a preference has been signalled. The plant is currently compliant (many of the other plants in the District aren't), so why change it. The community are adamant that on-site treatment will not be feasible in the Town.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Should we signal an amount of money, as a contingency, to allow for various options/investigation? Yes, it is what we need to do.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Do you believe there should have been some public discussion prior to Council signalling something in a plan? Yes, it would have mitigated the angst felt in the community.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Cr McManaway: Something had to be flagged in the Long Term Plan as it was to happen in the next 10 years; do you think we just got the wording very wrong? Yes. The reasoning behind the lack of consultation is that there is more than one opportunity to review the plan before the consent is due to expire? I can see the need to put something in the plan, but I still think that consultation should have come first.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Should Council's first point of call be to initiate discussions with the community on the wastewater issue in Mangaweka? Yes, it should definitely be the first point of call.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: How could Council better communicate with ratepayers and how can we make it easier for ratepayers to communicate with us? For me, my local Councillors would be first point of call and then the Mayor. I would not consider the Taihape Community Board as I feel it is a bit removed from Mangaweka.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Could we not say that the controversial nature of the consultation document shows democracy in action? Yes you could say that, but I still feel that consultation should have come first.</p>
Peter Lissington		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>My submission focuses on Bonny Glen Leachate. The Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant is not compliant and this is an expensive future cost to the Rangitikei District Council. When Council owned the Bonny Glen Landfill there was only a small amount of rubbish being dumped, now there is a significant amount of waste being dumped from outside the District. Which in turn has created a substantial increase to the amount of leachate being treated at the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant now compared to when Council owned the Landfill. We should be able to calculate the amount of leachate that can be attributed to the waste from outside the District and we should be shipping this leachate back to the origins of this waste.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Are you aware that Council is working to rectify the compliance</p>

Hearings Thursday 7 May 2015

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			issues at Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Midwest Disposals Ltd are contributing financially to the plant? I am aware of it, but I question whether it is enough. Cr McManaway: Does the community see the information that comes across Council's table? I am not aware of all of it and don't spend a lot of time on Council's website; but now that I know it's there I will check it out.

Hearings Closed – 3.50 pm

Rangitikei District Council

Council Meeting

Minutes – Friday 8 May 2015 – 9:40 a.m.

Contents

1	Welcome.....	2
2	Council prayer.....	2
3	Apologies/Leave of absence	2
4	Confirmation of order of business.....	2
5	Members' conflict of interest	2
6	Oral submissions on "What's the Plan Rangitikei...?" the consultation document to Rangitikei District Council's 2015-2025 Long Term Plan	2
7	Late items	3
8	Future items for the agenda	3
9	Date of the next meeting.....	3
10	Meeting closed – 11.59 am.....	3

Present:

His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson
 Cr Dean McManaway
 Cr Cath Ash
 Cr Richard Aslett (via Skype)*
 Cr Nigel Belsham
 Cr Angus Gordon
 Cr Tim Harris
 Cr Mike Jones
 Cr Soraya Peke-Mason
 Cr Ruth Rainey
 Cr Lynne Sheridan

In attendance:

Mr Ross McNeil, Chief Executive
 Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager
 Ms Denise Servante, Senior Policy Analyst
 Ms Samantha Whitcombe, Governance Administrator

*The connection was lost at 10.00 am and not restored.

1 Welcome

His Worship the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting

2 Council prayer

His Worship the Mayor read the Council prayer.

3 Apologies/Leave of absence

Resolved minute number **15/RDC/116** **File Ref**

That the apology for absence from Cr McNeil and the apology for lateness from Cr Peke-Mason be received.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Sheridan. Carried

4 Confirmation of order of business

His Worship the Mayor informed Council that Gail Larson would no longer be speaking to her submission.

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.

Cr Peke-Mason arrive 9.51 am

6 Oral submissions on “What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?” the consultation document to Rangitikei District Council’s 2015-2025 Long Term Plan

The submissions were compiled as a separate document, divided into three volumes. Page references below are to those documents. The detailed record of submitters’ statements and questions from Elected Members is provide as an appendix.

Apologies were received from the Gail Larson.

Name and Organisation	Page Reference	Time
Barry Thomas	V1 pp. 15-20	9.54 am
Geoff Mallalieu	V1 pp. 21-26	10.06 am
Richard McMillan – Taihape Area School & Taihape Cricket	V1 pp. 27-32/105-110	10.21 am
Federated Farmers	V2 pp. 117-199	10.37 am

John Eames	V2 pp. 207-210	11.04 am
Taihape Community Board	V2 pp. 211-214	11.14 am
Gary Johnson	V2 pp. 215-216	11.29 am
Irene Loder	V2 pp. 217-218	11.36 am
Taihape Kindergarten	V2 pp. 110-125	11.46 am

Cr Aslett left the meeting 10.00 am (Skype connection lost)

Cr Gordon left the meeting 10.00 am / 10.03 am

Cr Peke-Mason left the meeting 11.12 am / 11.15 am

Cr McManaway left the meeting 11.15 am

7 Late items

Nil

8 Future items for the agenda

Nil

9 Date of the next meeting

Thursday 14 May 2015, 9.30 am – This will include deliberations on submissions

10 Meeting closed – 11.59 am

Confirmed/Chair: _____

Date: _____

Appendix 1

Hearings Friday 8 May 2015

Rangitikei District Council

Submission Hearing on:

“What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?” the consultation document to Rangitikei District Council’s 2015-25 Long Term Plan.

Friday, 8 May 2015, Taihape

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
TAIHAPE			
Gail Larsen	Taihape A&P Association	“What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?”	<i>Withdrawn</i>
Barry Thomas	Utiku Old Boys Rugby Club	“What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?”	<p>Sean Kelly and Jo Kelly were also present in support. I am also speaking on behalf of Taihape Squash, Taihape Netball, Taihape Rugby and Sports Club, Northern Wanganui Rugby Sub Union, Taihape Saturday Morning Rugby and the A&P Association; all of these submissions contained the same letter of support for the installation of an in-ground irrigation system for Memorial Park, Taihape. Due to the dry summers we have had recently, the ground is extremely hard at the start of the rugby season. The lack of irrigation also makes it harder to repair the damage created by equestrian events held on the grounds. The Community as a whole would benefit from the installation of the irrigation system. The local rugby clubs have spent a significant amount of money on the facilities at the Park (mostly for the benefit of rugby). It would be good to get the Park as valued by Council as it is by the users.</p> <p>Cr Harris: What is the current state of the turf? At the moment it is not too bad, but it is earlier in the year that it was worse. Is there enough grass at the moment? It could be better but at the moment it is not too bad.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Would there be an issue with horse sports being held on the</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>grounds with the system being buried? No. Are you requesting an upgrade of the current facilities or new facilities? The current buildings is really old building and with new building codes, it would possibly be cheaper to build a new building.</p> <p>Cr Ash: Have you looked into other funding options? Yes for future projects.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Where will the water come from? Not sure; it could be an issue to get it from the river.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Is the \$70k a quote or rough estimate? It is a pretty good estimate, based on a Wellington company; further detail would need to be worked through before a detailed and accurate quote could be obtained.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: How much of the \$70k are you expecting from Council? As much as possible; we do not have a definite figure in mind.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: what are the current numbers playing rugby in Taihape? There used to be four clubs but now there are only two clubs, with 2 teams each. This year the premier teams are doing better and better which is attracting more people. We also have 100+ kids playing rugby this season. What is the catchment area; does it go through to Waiouru? Sometimes, we have four players from Waiouru this season.</p> <p>Cr Harris: Do the grounds currently receive any water? Yes, but the current system is not adequate.</p>
Geoff Mallalieu	Taihape Showjumping	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Thank you to Council for the improvement in the relationship over the past few years; it has been easier to get some irrigation on the Park in the past few years. Our oral submission is in support of Taihape Dressage and the A&P Association as well. Our written submission is the same as</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Barry's. [i.e. Barry Thomas]</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Is there a competing relationship between equestrian sports and the other sporting codes that use the Park, and how is this managed? All parties that use the Park agree that it is a necessary upgrade for the Park. The hardness of the ground causes injury to horses and does more damage to the ground. Would it make it easier to repair the grounds for other sporting codes? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: What is the state of the shower block currently used by the equestrian sports? It is not too bad at this stage.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: If Council gave you to ok to install the system, could the groups find the funding themselves? Yes. Combining as a Park users group would give us the 'grunt' needed to apply for funding. A significant amount of money is spent by the groups currently on the maintenance of the Park.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: How many irrigated grounds do you use and what difference does it make? A well irrigated ground provides a better base for jumping and less injury to the horse. The Park has a very 'springy' ground but not really enough of a grass base.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: What would the on-going maintenance costs for the system be? We do not have the on-going maintenance costs for the system yet. All of the groups are realistic in the thinking that some of the maintenance costs could be borne by the groups. The watering of the ground needs to be started relatively early in the season before the ground dries out too much.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Is the ground fertilised and is it sufficient? I am unsure. Improbably is needed as well as watering of the ground.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Cr Harris: Should we be getting more turf in before putting in this system? Possibly.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: Are there other Council's that allow equestrian events on grounds that are used for other sporting codes? Horowhenua District Council.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: I think further discussion will need to be held with Peter Shore on any possible split in the funding of this project, prior to deliberations on submissions on 14 May 2015.</p>
Richard McMillan	Taihape Area School & Taihape Cricket	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Taihape Area School uses the Park more than anyone else really; we would like this to be a similar model to one used in Levin. The School doesn't go door knocking at local businesses due to the harsh economic climate. Cricket gets very few home games, and some have had to be cancelled due to the state of the ground. Taihape Area School has two rugby teams this year, first time in years.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Is there any funding through Ministry of Education for this project? No, but funding has been granted through Pub Charity to upgrade the pitch. Taihape Area School has 10 sports teams that compete in the weekends and all but 3 travel. Travel costs are the biggest challenge to the School participating; current subscription costs in Palmerston North and Wanganui are around \$100; travel costs for the School are in the vicinity of \$20k; funding is sought from wherever possible. I am unsure whether ratepayer funding can be used to 'bump-up' the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund. I feel that it is unfair for rural students to be penalised due to their rural isolation.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Do you have a sum in mind? No specific amount requested.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Cr Peke-Mason: Are you aware of the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund? Yes and we do apply, but it is a very small pot.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Have you asked the bus companies for assistance? We have for some events, but we have our own buses and they are cheaper for us to run.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Why won't other teams travel to Taihape? Some sporting codes do, but there is no hockey turf in Taihape and netball is exclusively in Palmerton North.</p> <p>Cr Ash: Have you approached the service stations for the fund they administer? We look into any funding avenues we can.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Are you also asking Council to be advocating for a larger slice of the pie for Rangitikei? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Would you be supportive of a \$1 for \$1 match of ratepayers funding on what is allocated to Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund? Yes.</p>
	Federated Farmers	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Fraser Gordon, Tim Matthews, Kristy McGregor. The base of our submission is a return to a 'user-pays' basis. We would like to commend Council for the reduction in rates for the rural ratepayer and the removal of Water, Wastewater and Stormwater from the General Rate. We would like to see Introduction of a differential rate for rural properties to align property values more closely with the use of services. We would like to see Council increase the use of the Uniform Annual General Charge which will reduce the reliance on the property value general rate. We encourage Council to play a facilitative role when it comes to resource management and regulatory issues. We believe that Economic Development should be rated using a combination of the Uniform Annual General Charge and a targeted rate from those properties that receive a direct benefit from this</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>service.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Was Council's investment in the Strategic Water Assessment a good idea? Yes. And you see no issue with urban ratepayers subsidising rural business? If it is supported by other funding, no.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Should Council only be in the facilitative role and not the funding role? The Rangitikei is heavily reliant on the agricultural industry, and an increase in this industry vs. an increase in tourism is not equal. In early consultation the rural community identified roading as a priority, but your submission downplays this? Wanganui District Council is experiencing a decreasing FAR rate and losing a large lump sum from their funding, the situation is different for Rangitikei.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: A large number of Council's halls are in the rural zone and these communities requested that Council continue to own and maintain these halls, so should they not be paying for them? We are suggesting that rating for these in the Uniform Annual General Charge is more equitable.</p> <p>Cr Ash: Less than 10% of Rangitikei's roading is urban, so suggesting the rest is rural? Your submission requests that street lighting and berm mowing are mostly borne by rural rate payers but a large amount of berm mowing is within the rural zone so would that not seem fair? Would not an increase in the UAGC impact most on those who can least afford to pay? Not Council's job to know what people's income is or to redistribute wealth. Rates rebate scheme is available through central government. Activities that are not subsidised by NZTA should be removed from the roading rate, to make it a lot more transparent.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: Is farming a commercial activity? Yes. So, are you asking</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Council to give the farming community special treatment over the rest of the commercial industry? The current system is unfair towards the rural zone.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Have you done a breakdown of the on-going maintenance costs per property? No, don't see the need to (what is more expensive to maintain, sealed or unsealed).</p> <p>Cr Harris: Do you have any examples of history of differential rates? A number of Council's use a differential. It is quite uncommon for a Council not to have any differential rates.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: What about rural businesses that have a tourism component? Those businesses that display a brochure in an i-Site would see a benefit.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: How do you know that the number used for a differential is right? Comes back to the Revenue and Financing Policy and should be based on benefit.</p> <p>*We would like to see a page in future consultation documents that allows ratepayers to more easily define what their rates will be for future years.</p>
John Eames		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>My submission focuses on the Wastewater system in Mangaweka. I believe that the suggested population decline in the District is assumed and that Council should be planning to maintain the current asset; it is a well-performing asset at the moment. I think Council needs to recognise the effects signalling this kind of position in the Long Term Plan will have on property values in the town. There is potential in Mangaweka but this proposal by Council will have an effect on potential businesses and residents moving to the area. I would like to see this statement removed from the Long Term Plan as Council's preferred option for this issue.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>Cr Ash: What do you want to see going forward for the plant? I would like to see a maintenance plan that keeps the current system compliant, with some potential improvements to the plant.</p> <p>Cr McManaway: Would you be happier if it was worded more towards investigation and being open to various options that would keep the plant compliant? Yes, I am open to looking at all of the options available.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Would you like to see Council ensure that the community is fully involved in all future discussion on this plant? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Is Mangaweka growing, declining or remaining the same? I would say that at this stage it is remaining the same, but there is potential for growth. Although it is difficult to find a rental property in the town.</p>
Michele Fannin	Taihape Community Board	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>I am currently employed by the Taihape Community Development Trust and I sit as the Chair of the local Community Organisation Grant's Scheme committee. I have had several issues with the Long Term Plan process this year. I have had trouble getting hard copies of the entire Long Term Plan document for all Board members; I think that Councillors should be taking more notes during oral hearings; I couldn't find a full copy of all of the submissions anywhere prior to today's meeting.</p> <p>We are disappointed that the heating and filtration systems in the Taihape pool, which was prioritised at the end of 2014, has not yet progressed that and the carpark upgrade at the Taihape Pool has been deferred until the completion of the Taihape Town Centre Plan process. The users of the Taihape skate park have outgrown what is currently there and are frustrated at the length of the process that has been undertaken to get any upgrades to this park. The Board feels that the irrigation of Memorial Park in Taihape is an urgent requirement. I would like to bring to Council's</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>attention that we are in a 'dead-zone' in terms of external funding; there are very few funders that we can apply to. And I would like to clarify that the service stations fund will not fund travel. The footpaths in Taihape are extremely slippery and dangerous, in both wet and dry conditions. I have the name of someone who can help sort out the issue of the slippery footpaths in town: Angus McMillan. I don't think it is up to Council staff to tell those who make a complaint about the slipperiness of the footpaths that they aren't wearing appropriate footwear. The performance of the Mangaweka Wastewater Treatment Plant is excellent and we are confused by the inclusion of this option in the Long Term Plan.</p> <p>We believe that any changes to the Uniform Annual General Charge and the Roding Rate effects, low-middle income and fixed-income residents the most. This makes it hard for these residents to afford their rates along with everything else they need to. We believe that the Sport NZ Rural Travel fund is insufficient and Council should be advocating for a bigger slice of the pie.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: In regards to the Taihape Pool, what is your role within the Trust? I am employed by the Trust and I know that they want to move forward with their ideas for improving the facilities at the Pool, and that they have the funds to do this.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Can you please elaborate on the footpath issues in Taihape? The footpaths in Taihape are very slippery and I have heard of several instances where people have slipped. It is hard to get people who do slip to lodge a complaint with Council.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Is the Board in support of this submission [noting that the oral submission canvassed more issues than in the written</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>submission]? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Ash: How would a heavier Uniform Annual General Charge affect local residents? There is no clear understanding at this stage. I believe that it mostly effects the low-middle income earners and I would like to see some examples.</p>
Gary Johnson		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>The Taihape Swimming Pool is extremely under-utilised and not very user friendly (in terms of opening times). There are also issues with capacity during the school holidays. We need to make the pool into a family experience for the whole day.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Are you aware of the cost of keeping to pool open year round? No, but it needs to be made more attractive and I'm sure that money is being lost on the pool. Would you be happy with a \$65 increase to the UAGC to keep them open year round? No, but the pool does need to be made more family friendly and this would bring in more revenue.</p> <p>Your submission is to keep the pool open and increase the charge? Yes and bring in other facilities (gym etc).</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: What are the Christmas hours? Pre-school holidays, the pool opens at 6.30am, but during the school holidays the pool does not open until lunchtime.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Have you brought up any of these issues/ideas with the managers? Yes, but the feeling is that putting in a gym would create competition with the gyms that are currently operating in town.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Have you done any survey work about whether or not adding in these additional facilities would attract people? I have done some among friends and family, and the general feeling is that they would, but nothing with the wider community.</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
Irene Loder		"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>My submission focuses on the town of Mangaweka. I would like to see any further discussion on the Mangaweka Wastewater Treatment Plant to involve the community; I know that something needs to be put into the plan. I wonder if the plant is failing or having any compliance issues. I would like to bring to Council's attention that there are developments in the town. I feel that Mangaweka needs a town plan. I think that the Town Plan should encompass the following: public toilets; a bus shelter; we need to utilise the old Broadway (this area contains the best vestige of an early 1920s New Zealand village). It could be used as a tourist attraction; there is a large amount of tourism potential within the village and Council needs to better promote the village.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: Are you asking Council to facilitate a Town Centre Plan in Mangaweka? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Is it Council's job to install a bus shelter? Unsure – His Worship the Mayor: it would need to be funded and maintained by Council.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: How 'big' do you want the Town Centre Plan to be? I want it to be 'effective'. I think we should change the name from 'Mangaweka' to 'Mangaweka Village', we need decent signage and to promote Mangaweka as a historic village (remnants of a historic village).</p> <p>I also think Council should investigate Ministry of Health funding for the Taihape Pool, as there is a health aspect to keeping the pool open for longer.</p>
Clemency Boyce	Taihape Kindergarten	"What's the Plan Rangitikei...?"	<p>Clemency Boyce (Wanganui Playcentre), Lisa (Head Teacher at Taihape Kindergarten). Up until two-three years ago the road was maintained by Council; someone made Council aware that the 'road' was a private driveway and we could not find any paperwork to confirm the ownership</p>

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			<p>and responsibility for the road. The driveway is also an access way to the Mt Stewart walk from the driveway. What we are asking for is that Council undertakes the maintenance of the driveway on an on-going basis. The kindergarten can contribute \$20k towards the cost of the initial work. We have a quote obtained two years ago for \$58k. There are a significant number of vehicle movements along the driveway every day, and more so when a school holiday programme is run.</p> <p>His Worship the Mayor: So you are asking Council to take over the maintenance of the road under the roading programme and you can contributing \$20k? Yes.</p> <p>Cr Sheridan: Is there any signage that indicates the car parking is for the kindergarten? No, this is why it appears to be public.</p> <p>Cr Jones: Was the \$20k raised for this purpose specifically? The money was earmarked from the income of the kindergarten for this project.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Does the quote include correcting the drainage? Yes, and this would stop the current damage from reoccurring.</p> <p>Cr Peke-Mason: Do you own or lease the building/land? The property is leased from the Department of Conservation.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Is there no private land adjacent to the site that could be used for a driveway? No.</p> <p>Cr Harris: Is there a quick fix? No, the drainage issues would not make a quick fix adequate.</p> <p>Cr Rainey: Does the Association upkeep any other driveways? No. There is no road maintenance undertaken by the Association at any of its other kindergarten sites; there is some car parking maintenance undertaken, if the car park is purely for the use of the kindergarten.</p>

Hearings Friday 8 May 2015

Submitter's name	Submitter's organisation / affiliation (if any)	Topic	Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses.
			Cr Peke-Mason: What is the current role for the kindergarten? 65. *Any information held by Council on this issue to be distributed to Councillors.

Hearings Closed – 11.59 am

Attachment 2

REPORT

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

TO: Council

FROM: Michael Hodder, Community Services Group Manager

DATE: 10 May 2015

FILE: 2-LP-5-RMO8 (80065)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 On 9 January 2015, Council received an application from Meridian Energy Limited to extend the lapse date for the consent for Project Central Wind for five years. The current consent lapses on 24 May 2015. Meridian's application is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.2 Prior to that, Meridian had informal discussion with staff at the three councils which had issued consents in 2010 – i.e. Ruapehu District Council and Horizons Regional Council as well as Rangitikei District Council. The outcome of that was a commitment to engage a planner to report jointly to all three councils, rather than have each council engage its own planner. Grant Eccles was engaged for this purpose and his report was received on 17 February 2015 and is attached as Appendix 2.¹
- 1.3 Council also engaged its own legal advice, Martin Williams, to provide assurance that the concerns from those who had opposed the initial granting of the consent (particularly the Rangitikei Guardians) were demonstrably addressed. That legal advice was received on 16 February 2015 and is attached as Appendix 3.
- 1.4 Following receipt of that legal advice, consideration of the report from the joint council planner, and a phone conversation with Meridian representatives, a written request for further information was sent to Meridian on 13 March 2015 (Appendix 4); Meridian's response was received on 14 April 2015 and is attached as Appendix 5. As a result of this, Council staff contacted owners of properties where consents were processed for new or relocated buildings within 25 km of the wind farm site. The location of these properties and tabulation of comments are attached as Appendix 6.
- 1.5 Three representatives of Rangitikei Guardian met with the Chief Executive and the Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager on 20 April 2015. Questions

¹ The report as attached is slightly changed from that initially received, reflecting comment from Horizons.

arising from that meeting were referred to the Council's legal adviser for comment, and these responses are included at the relevant points in this report.

- 1.6 Meridian and the Rangitikei Guardians have both indicated an intention to be present at Council's meeting on 14 May 2015 and speak at Public Forum.

2 Relevant considerations

- 2.1 Section 125(1A) of the Resource Management Act allows the Council (as the consent authority) to extend the period for a consent to lapse after taking into account three matters:

- i. whether substantial progress or effort has been, and continues to be, made towards giving effect to the consent; and
- ii. whether the applicant has obtained approval from persons who may be adversely affected by the granting of an extension; and
- iii. the effect of the extension on the policies and objectives of any plan or proposed plan.

Section 3, 4 and 5 below consider these three matters.

- 2.2 This statutory prescription means that Council's decision-making must clearly address these three matters. It is not necessary for the Council to address other matters in reaching its decision, as the section sets out all the Council should consider, being the three matters referred to. For example, the legal advice received is that any potential altered configuration of the wind farm resulting from the 'opting out' in February 2013 of one of the six site owners is not a relevant consideration. Property access is an issue for Meridian, and an alternative configuration to enable the wind farm to be established without access to this one site would not necessarily require a variation to the conditions of the consent
- 2.3 A second potential issue is the Commissioners' decision to impose a five-year lapse period. This has to be considered in the context of the prescribed matters 'to be taken into account'. Again, the legal advice received is that the Commissioners' initial decision does not constrain the Council's discretion at this point, and the three tests in section 125 of the Act should instead be applied in the current circumstances. This is reflected in the decision by the three councils to agree last year to a one year extension to the lapse period.

3 Substantial progress or effort has been and continues to be made towards giving effect to the consent

- 3.1 In its application, Meridian details the various work it has undertaken since the granting of the consent under five categories – economic and practical realities, electricity generation potential, land access agreements, detailed wind farm design, financial analysis of the wind farm, and consent management and compliance. Meridian also states the costs it has incurred.

3.2 Although most of the effort (and expenditure) was incurred in the first year or soon after granting the consent, the joint council planner and Council's own legal adviser are both satisfied that this information meets the "substantial" test, in that the progress or effort it describes is aimed at making the wind farm "development and investment ready"² This is important, not only for deciding the present application, but also for setting the baseline should there be a further application to extend the lapse date in five years' time (see further discussion below on this point). Neither has expressed any reservation about the accuracy of the information provided, nor advised that the Council needs to independently check or seek to have Meridian verify this information. For example, the actual cost of these works is less relevant than the activities themselves, and so Council has not looked for any audited statement of these figures.

3.3 Case law has established that there does not have to be actual physical works for this test to succeed.³ There are two aspects which Council needs to bear in mind:

Whether, in the economic conditions since the granting of the consent, the lack of physical works on the site means the test for substantial progress or effort fails

3.4 In its application, Meridian notes the flattening demand for electricity but expressed its view that it expects the demand for electricity will increase in response to New Zealand's increasing GDP, as set out in a scenario developed by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment in 2013. This has led Meridian to review its resource consent options and withdraw from some, leaving three options. Of these, Project Central Wind is "the most advanced in terms of development and therefore the option that is closest to being able to be constructed at this point of time". In imposing the five-year lapse date, the Commissioners had regard for the statement by Meridian about the national benefits of the proposal (which they considered would mean early giving effect to the consent). What has since changed is the national energy demand, something which Meridian cannot control, rather than these benefits themselves, as would remain if and when demand increases.

3.5 The case law confirms that it is not necessary to require physical works as a demonstration of 'substantial progress or effort' since the consent was granted in 2010. However, the position would be different if a further application was made in five years' time because of the High Court's observation that the Act "does not allow a consent to be neglected, put in the bank, as it were, to be used at some future time".⁴ Furthermore, against the baseline of progress and effort to date in undertaking initial steps such as preparation of management plans, geotechnical investigations, detailed design and the like, physical progress would very likely need to be shown for a future application as this preparatory phase of work is now (presumably) complete, and so could not be relied on again to support such an application.

² Eccles, sections 4.4 and 4.12 (Appendix 2)

³ Meridian's application, p. (Appendix1); Williams, p.5 (Appendix 3)

⁴ Williams, p.6 (Appendix 3)

To what extent has there been progress as distinct from simply 'treading water' (i.e. effort).

- 3.6 Strictly speaking, the negotiations to confirm or renew right-of-way access with property owners might not be considered 'progress' where they were needed because the physical works have not proceeded as quickly as envisaged (i.e. these negotiations are a consequence of delay, rather than progress to implementing the consent). However, the refined turbine costs undertaken in February 2014 is additional to the ongoing monitoring of the site⁵ so may be properly construed as 'progress'. It also relates to the Commissioners' reasoning in imposing the initial five-year lapse period that there may be changes in technology which would impact on renewable electricity generation. Beyond this, detailed design studies, preparation of management plans, additional monitoring (e.g. pre-construction falcon and bat studies), geotechnical investigations and the like comprise both legitimate progress and effort that would have had to take place before physical works could begin in any event.
- 3.7 The statutory prescription is "progress or effort", so Council does not need to be satisfied that both tests are met (i.e. there can be some relevant effort without associated progress, which still counts nevertheless). Where both tests are met, as is the case at this time, there is a stronger case for Council to consider that this statutory prescription has been complied with.

4 Approval from persons who may be adversely affect by the granting of an extension

- 4.1 This statutory test requires the Council to be adequately informed over the extent to which people who may be adversely affected by granting the extension have been identified, and given their approval. Case law makes it clear that it is not an opportunity for Council to consider again the adverse effects on neighbours and other persons of the activity for which it granted the resource consent.⁶ So approaching those who opposed the original consent application does not correctly address the prescribed test. But where there have been changes to the physical environment since a consent was first granted, people may have become affected in a different way or to a greater extent than had been considered previously.
- 4.2 To assess this issue, Meridian reviewed the building and resource consent activity within 25 km of the wind farm site contained in the Council's records and found that the levels remains much the same. On that basis, Meridian considered that this "demonstrates that the community is continuing to develop and spend money by undertaking building works and improvements to residential buildings, commercial premises, and to farms i.e. out-buildings, despite the potential for a wind farm development in the Rangitikei"⁷. Meridian interpreted this as meaning there were no

⁵ Appendix 1: Meridian's application, p.11 (Appendix 1)

⁶ Meridian, p.20 (Appendix 1); Williams, p.7 (Appendix 3).

⁷ Meridian, p.26 (Appendix 1)

major changes to the physical environment⁸ and no observable uncertainty effects.⁹ By implication, there are no identified people from whom approval needed to be sought.

- 4.3 Council's legal adviser considered that this was not the correct test: it was conceivable that the lack of physical steps towards implementation had encouraged a greater level of activity than otherwise would have occurred¹⁰. It is noted that wind farm proposals in other parts of the country have languished. Further, the extent of other consented activity reported by Meridian might actually demonstrate a changed physical environment, with new dwellings or relocated dwellings meaning people are affected more significantly (or in a different way) than previously assessed. In response to this advice and with this in mind it was therefore considered important to canvass the views of those who had undertaken this building/subdivision work.
- 4.4 This issue was put to Meridian. Although not accepting the Council's reasoning,¹¹ Meridian arranged for a detailed scrutiny and report of all the 35 resource and 251 building consents processed since January 2010 within 25 km of the wind farm area, and provided a written response on 14 April 2015. All resource consents were granted on a non-notified basis, meaning that the effects on the environment would be minor and that nobody, including Meridian would be affected. The great majority of building works were alterations or additions to existing facilities which would not have been influenced by the wind farm development.
- 4.5 This detailed analysis enabled Council to narrow the contact with potentially affected people to the 18 owners of properties where a building consent had been issued for an activity that might be sensitive to a wind farm such as a new house, and those consents which entailed demolition of an existing dwelling and its replacement with a new or relocated dwelling.¹² Of the 11 owners who were successfully contacted, six were unaware of the Project Central Wind consent. However, none of these would have changed their consenting plans if they had known. There is no reason to suppose the result would be materially affected if contact had been successfully made with the other seven, given their location.
- 4.6 Overall, and on the basis of this additional information, it is considered that a reasonable decision could be reached that there would be no adversely affected persons from granting the extension, and arising from changes to the physical environment since May 2010 when the consents for the wind farm were granted by the Environment Court.

⁸ Meridian, p.28 (Appendix 1)

⁹ Meridian, p.29 (Appendix 1)

¹⁰ Williams, p.7

¹¹ Letter from Bell Gully included in Meridian's reply dated 14 April 2015 (Appendix 5)

¹² Maraë building work at Moawhango was also consented during this time.

5 Effect of the extension on the policies and objectives of the any plan or proposed plan

- 5.1 Since the consent was initially granted, the District Plan has been reviewed and a new operative District Plan is now fully in effect. One of the major considerations during that review was identifying areas with Outstanding Landscapes and Natural Features. The site consented for Project Central Wind was deliberately excluded from such identification.
- 5.2 The operative District Plan contains a new objective and policies which promote renewable electricity generation. There is a greater emphasis on reverse sensitivity¹³ but given the assessment above on affected persons, reverse sensitivity effects do not seem likely to arise. A similar view applies to the specific policy intent to encourage renewable electricity generation at a domestic scale¹⁴.
- 5.3 Granting the application from Meridian will not undermine the integrity and intent of the operative and proposed District Plans. The topics considered so far in considering what changes might be proposed to the operative District Plan do not touch on Outstanding Landscapes and Natural Features or renewable electricity generation.

6 Extending the time period for consideration

- 6.1 Section 37 of the Resource Management Act allows Council (as a “consenting authority”) to extend the time period specified in that Act or regulations, whether or not the time period has expired. However, Council’s legal adviser’s view is that it is uncertain whether this may be applied in this case because of the wording in section 125 is “lapses on the date specified”, and does not set a specific time period as such (e.g. in working days, and unlike other sections of the Act that impose specific time periods or limits) . Meridian shares that view.
- 6.2 Council needs to avoid a challenge that it has allowed the consent to lapse, even if that were not the intention by making a decision under section 37 to extend the lapse date (say, for two more months) instead of deciding the matter now. In any case, in terms of giving consideration to the matters which section 125 requires Council to take into account, a conservative and careful approach has been taken, generating considerable additional information which has been obtained over the past few months, and it is doubtful what further relevant details could be usefully added to that. A reasonable decision could be reached that the section 125 tests for the requested extension are satisfied on the basis of the information to hand.
- 6.3 Accordingly, no recommendation is provided for Council to extend the time period to make its decision beyond the lapse date.

¹³ Operative District Plan, Objective 21, Policies A5-1.7 and A.5-1.9

¹⁴ Operative District Plan, Objective 22B and Policy A5.2-2

7 Options

- 7.1 The only options available to Council are to approve the application or decline it. There is no opportunity to amend existing conditions of the consent or add new ones. If Council declines the application, Meridian has a right of objection (to the Council), meaning Council would need to further consider the matter. If Council declined the matter on that occasion, Meridian could appeal the decision to the Environment Court.
- 7.2 No rights of objection or appeal are available to anyone else.

8 Recommendations

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 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 EITHER approved OR declined.

Michael Hodder
Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager/Acting Chief Executive

Attachment 3



Rangitikei
UNUSPILT...

REPORT

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

TO: Council

FROM: Denise Servante, Strategy and Community Planning Manager

DATE: 6 May 2015

FILE: 1-LTP15-7

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an analysis of the written and oral submissions received by Council to its 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan having followed the due process of the special consultative procedure outlined in the Local Government Act 2002.
- 1.2 The seven key issues identified in the consultation document, What’s the Plan, Rangitikei?, and any other issues are raised by submitters are discussed in sections relating to Council’s relevant group of activities.
- 1.3 No other matters of significance were raised as part of the submissions process. However, there are several specific proposals which have been costed in this report to enable Council to make a decision about including them or otherwise in the final 2015-25 Long Term Plan
- 1.4 Some officer comment has been provided following the analysis of submissions in each area of key choice. The areas identified by officers for likely focus of debate by Councillors are:
 - the approach to be taken regarding the likely future of the District’s wastewater services,
 - the length of the swimming season at each pool and the level of fees to be charged to children,
 - the response to the request for irrigation to be installed at Taihape Memorial Park,
 - the most appropriate way to secure increased funding for travel for rural schools and sporting groups for sporting activities
- 1.5 Submissions raising issues relating to the revenue and financing policy are considered in a separate report.

2 Overall summary of submissions

2.1 Number, origin and location of submissions

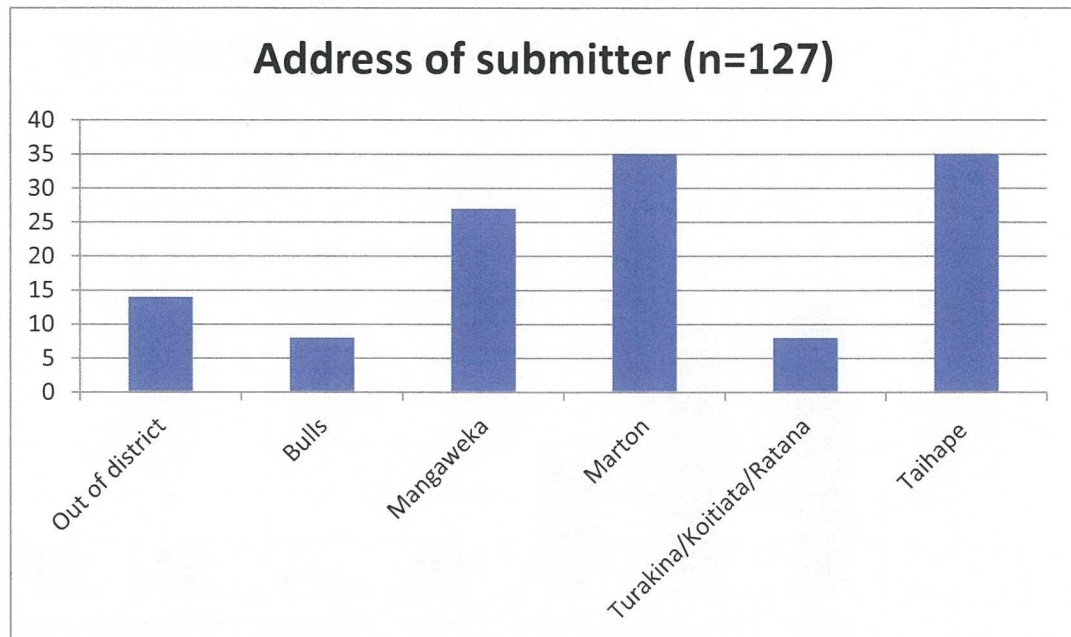
2.1.1 127 written submissions were received by the closing deadline of 4 May 2015. This compares with 182 and 423 received respectively for the 2012 and 2009 Plans. A further two were received as late submissions – these are not included in this analysis but are recorded in the Council files. The characteristics of submissions are detailed below, including a comparison with the submissions analysed for the 2012 LTP and the 2009 LTCCP.

	2015		2012		2009	
Anonymous	1	1%	7	4%	116	27%
Organisations	44	35%	39	21%	39	9%
Individuals	83	65%	136	75%	268	63%

2.1.2 The following organisations submitted:

Assembly of God Churches, Mangaweka	NZ Forest Managers Ltd	Taihape Cricket
Bulls and District Community Trust	Physicians and Scientists for Global Responsibility	Taihape Dressage
Bulls Community Committee	Rangitikei College	Taihape Gym Sports
City of Stonnington	Rangitikei Environment Group	Taihape Kindergarten
Clubs Taihape Incorporated	Ratana Communal Board of Trustees	Taihape Netball
Dudding Lake Management Trust	Ratana Community Board	Taihape Rugby and Sports Club
Federated Farmers	Southern Rangitikei Schools' Principals Cluster	Taihape Saturday Morning Rugby
Horizons Regional Council	Street Meet'n'Greet Group	Taihape Show Jumping
Huntermville Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee	Taihape A&P Association	Taihape Squash Club
Mangaweka residents	Taihape Area School	Treasured Natural Environment Theme Group
Marton Community Committee	Taihape Area School	Turakina Village Footpath Upgrade
Marton Youth	Taihape Bowling Club	Tutaenui Stream Restoration Society
Matua Flats	Taihape Community Board	Utiku Old Boys Rugby Club
McGuinness Institute	Taihape Community Development Trust	Whanganui District Health Board
Northern Wanganui Rugby Sub Union		

2.1.3 A breakdown by address of submitter is given below:



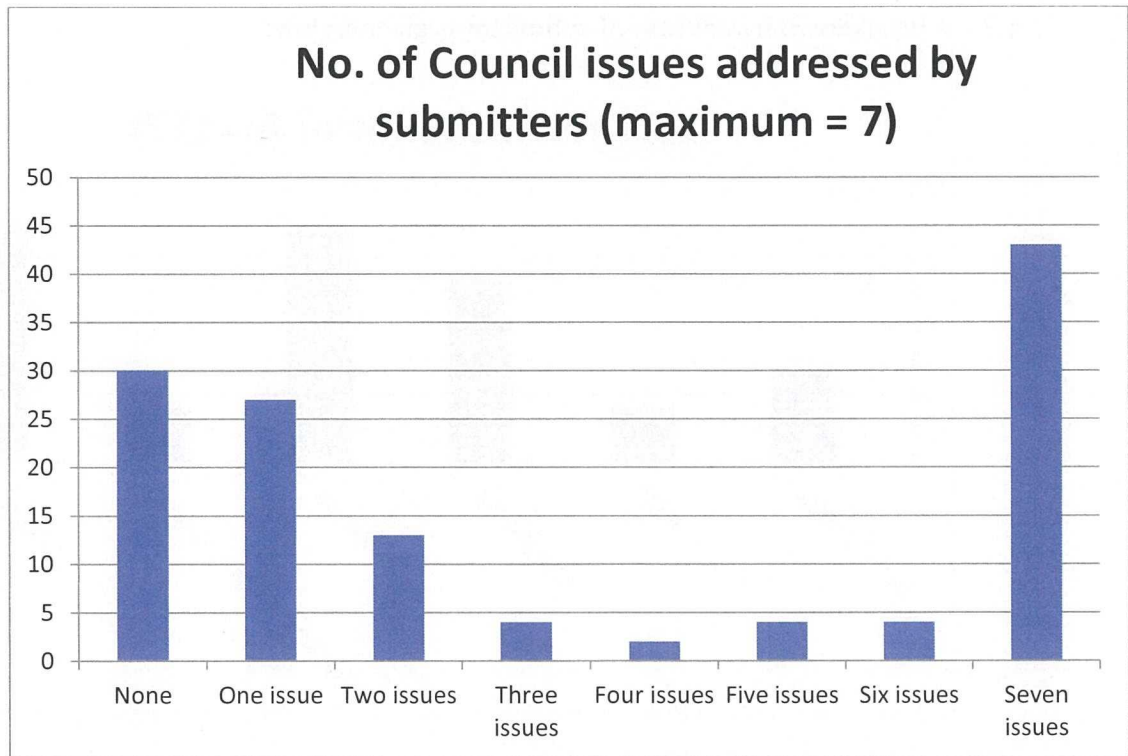
2.2 Issue addressed by submissions

2.2.1 The submission form in the consultation document provided opportunity to specifically submit on seven key issues identified by Council. These were:

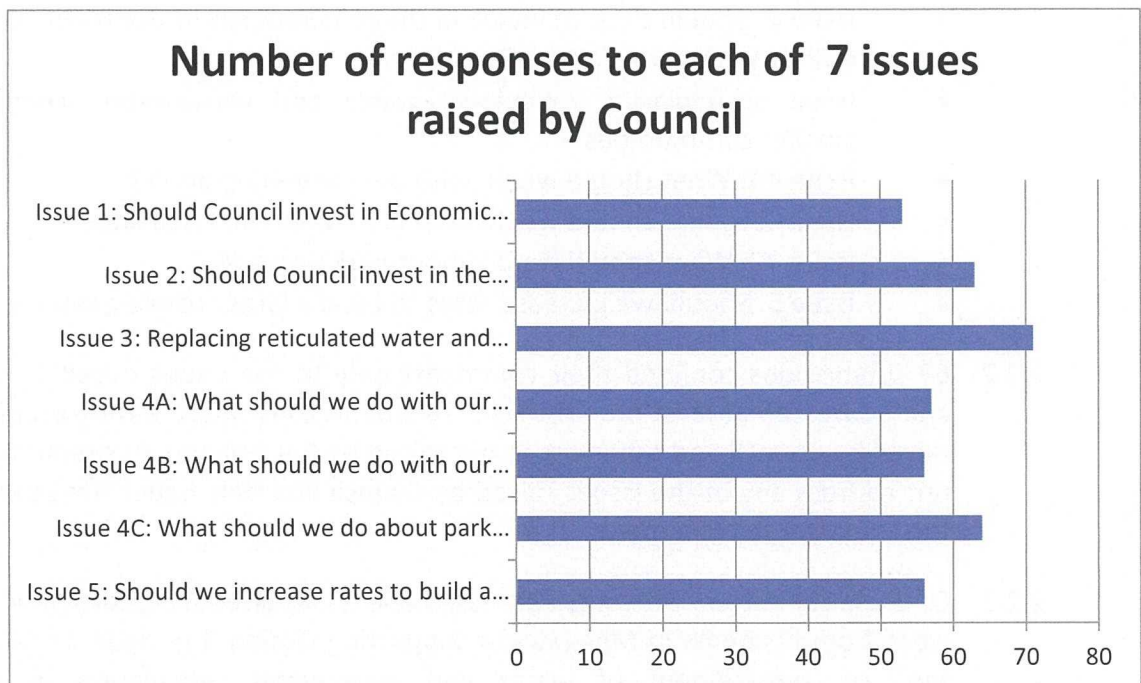
- Issue 1: Should Council invest in Economic Development?
- Issue 2: Should Council invest in the rejuvenation of the town centres in Bulls, Marton and Taihape?
- Issue 3: Replacing reticulated water and wastewater schemes for smaller communities
- Issue 4A: What should we do with our swimming pools?
- Issue 4B: What should we do with our community housing?
- Issue 4C: What should we do about park upgrades?
- Issue 5: Should we increase rates to build a larger roading reserve fund?

2.2.2 69 submissions confined their comments only to the issues raised by Council and addressed at least one of these. 28 submissions raised a mixture of issues raised by Council and other issues not raised by Council and 30 submissions did not address any of the issues raised by Council and only issues not covered by the consultation document.

2.2.3 Of those submitters who only addressed one issue raised by Council (n = 27), 13 were from residents in Mangaweka supporting Option 2 in issue 3 (“Wait and see” re. replacement of water and wastewater reticulation in smaller communities).



2.2.4 Of those submitters who only addressed two issues raised by Council (n = 13), 11 were from user groups of Memorial Park, Taihape, in response to issue 2 (investment in town centre facilities) and issue 4C (should Council invest in park upgrades?).



2.2.5 The number of responses received to each issue raised by Council was reasonably evenly spread. The issue that received most responses was around replacement of reticulated water services in smaller communities (issue 3), followed by investment in town centres (issue 2) and park upgrades (issue 4c).

This is likely to be as a result of the focus from residents from Mangaweka and Memorial Park user groups as described above.

- 2.2.6 At oral submissions, 29 submitters spoke to their written submissions. Of these, 15 were individual submissions and 14 were submissions from organisations.
- 2.2.7 58 submissions raised one or more issues not included as a key issue in the consultation document but addressing issues specifically within one or other of Council's groups of activities.

2.3 Structure of this report

- 2.3.1 This analysis, with officer comment, is presented by group of activities. The particular responses to each of the seven key issues are analysed quantitatively and qualitatively below within the relevant group of activities¹, as follows:

- Section 3: Community leadership
- Section 4: Roading, including Issue 5: Should we increase rates to build a larger roading reserve fund?
- Section 5: Water supply
- Section 6: Sewerage and the treatment and disposal of sewage, including Issue 3: Replacing reticulated water and wastewater schemes for smaller communities
- Section 7: Community and Leisure Assets, including Issue 2: Should Council invest in the rejuvenation of the town centres in Bulls, Marton and Taihape?, Issue 4A: What should we do with our swimming pools?, Issue 4B: What should we do with our community housing? and Issue 4C: What should we do about park upgrades?
- Section 8: Rubbish and Recycling
- Section 9: Environmental and regulatory services
- Section 10: Community Well-being, including Issue 1: Should Council invest in Economic Development?

3 Community Leadership

3.1 General submissions relating to community leadership

- 3.1.1 Six submissions raised issues in the Community leadership Group of Activities. Mainly these focussed on the affordability of rates and good promotion of the rate rebate scheme to alleviate this. Several submitters raised the question of debt: either for or against (limited) debt to meet capital requirements.
- 3.1.2 One submission requested that Council take a precautionary approach to the possible release of genetically modified organisms into the environment, including in foodstuffs sold in eating establishments.

¹ No submissions were received relating to the Stormwater drainage Group of Activities

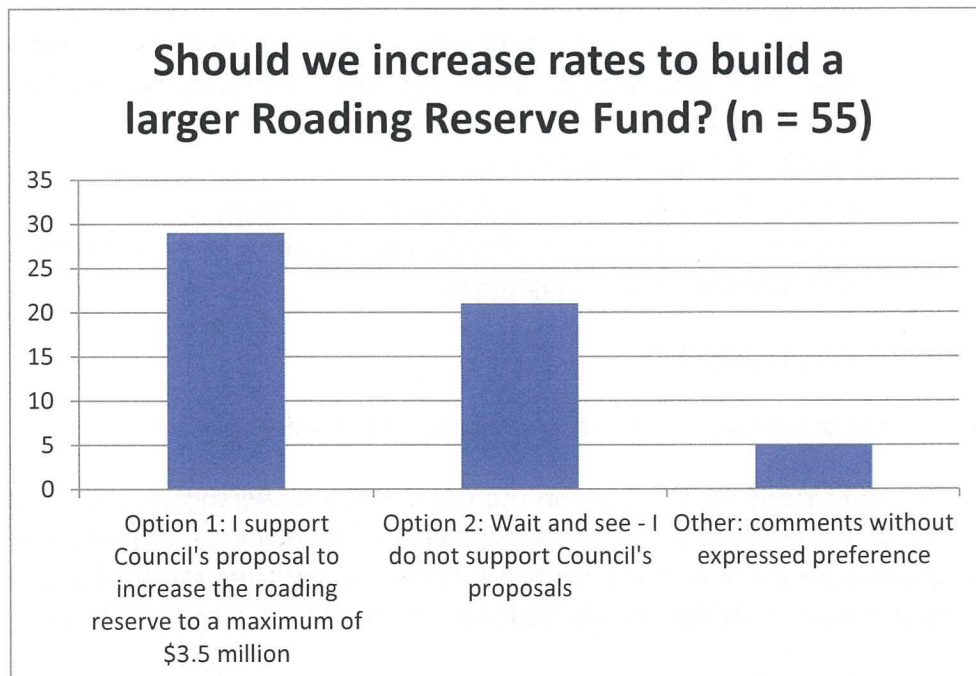
3.2 Officer comment

- 3.2.1 Council is aware of issues of affordability of rates and has set limits to its spending in its financial strategy to address this issue. Council has also outlined in the financial strategy the prudent limits of its debt and debt management which take account of the liabilities that will accrue to future generations.
- 3.2.2 Council could take a lead role in addressing issues associated with genetic modification and the release of genetically modified organisms into the environment. However, this is not an issue that has been raised locally and it is suggested that Council initially discuss this with Horizons with a view to seeing whether there is interest regionally in looking for sector advocacy and guidance from Local Government New Zealand.

4 Roding

4.1 Issue 5: Should we increase rates to build a larger roading reserve fund?

- 4.1.1 The consultation document identified uncertainties over the future level of central government subsidy for roading emergency works as a key issue for the District due to the increasing incidence of storm and other weather events. It identified two options; the first (Council's preferred option) was to increase investment in a roading reserve to a maximum of \$3.5 million. The second option was to "wait and see" if the uncertainties resolved themselves.



- 4.1.2 Submitters in favour of Option 1 cited the essential nature of the roading infrastructure to the District and the need to make provision for emergency works. Several sought assurance that the funds would be used for the purpose prescribed.

4.1.3 Submitters in favour of Option 2 or “other” options added commentary around the need for central government to fund rural roading infrastructure, increasing a “user pays” element (heavy vehicle users or speeding fines) and building the reserve fund at a slower pace to reduce the burden in the early years.

4.2 Officer comment

4.2.1 There was a marginal majority support for Council’s preferred option to build up the roading reserve through transferring, on average, \$360,000 per year over the next five years to the reserve.

4.2.2 An alternative which had some measure of support was to build the fund up more slowly over the ten years of the Plan. This potentially can free up some ratepayer funds to support other initiatives that Council may wish to support as part of its deliberations.

4.3 General Submissions relating to roading

4.3.1 Four submitters requested Council support to reseal access roads on Council owned or administered reserve land: firstly at Dudding Lake (one submission) and secondly, at Taihape Kindergarten off Toroa Road (three submissions including a petition). Both submissions were brought to oral hearings. The Trust charged with management of Dudding Lake requested Council support to its FAR level (i.e. 62% of costs in 2015/16) and the Kindergarten offered to contribute \$20,000 from its own funds towards the renewal.

4.3.2 Five submitters requested specific actions in the roading activity. Four submissions wanted footpaths built;

- 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)
- Turakina: general upgrade of footpaths in Turakina
- Taihape: walkway along State Highway 1 from Dixon Way

4.3.3 In addition, both the Ratana Communal Board of Trustees and the Ratana Community Board queried progress with the two speed humps programmed for 2014/15.

4.3.4 One submitter requested pedestrian crossings outside (or close) to all schools, kindergartens, childcare centres, parks and playgrounds.

4.4 Officer comment

- 4.4.1 This LTP sees the separation of roading on parks and reserves from roading in general. A provision has been included in the Community and Leisure Assets budgets to renew roads on parks and reserves and cemeteries for the future. However, the renewal of these two particular roads may be seen as a historic issue and it is suggested the Roding Activity funds the reseal of both the access road to Dudding Lake and the access road off Toroa Road to Taihape Kindergarten/Mount Stewart Reserve, seeking contributions as outlined from the Dudding Lake Management Trust and Whanganui Kindergarten Association. The estimated cost of this is \$6,200 for Dudding Lake (re-metalling, applying the cost-sharing formula suggested during oral hearings) and \$50,000 for Taihape Kindergarten (resealing), taking into account the contribution offered by the Kindergarten Association. It is suggested that this is deducted from the contribution to the roading reserve fund in 2015/16. Thence, ongoing maintenance for these two roading assets will be included in the Parks and Open Spaces activity management plan (in consultation with the two relevant organisations).
- 4.4.2 The roadway from Toroa Street to the kindergarten lay outside the area originally leased (by the Taihape Domain Board) in 1961. Once constructed, there is evidence on Council files that normal maintenance of the roadway, by way of patching and sealing, was carried out by Council as part of the normal roadwork as on the street system. The current lease was drawn up the Department of Conservation in 1995. It contains a provision that the lessee will maintain the roadway marked on the plan (still largely outside the area actually leased) to Council standards. This provided the Department with assurance; the files contain no comment from either the kindergarten or the Council, since their practice met that Departmental requirement. However, a literal reading of the lease without knowing the context could lead to a different conclusion, and resulted in the Council's roading contractor being instructed to cease work in 2012. The previous practice recognised that the roadway serves a wider group than the community, and it is reasonable to resume that.
- 4.4.3 The agreement Council has with Dudding Lake Limited specifies that the Manager shall keep the roadway in repair but the Manager shall not be obliged to repair any seal that might be applied by the Council. Council last funded upgrade works to the access road during 2009/10. Given the increasing patronage secured by Dudding Lake Management, it is reasonable for Council to contribute to the suggested work on the roadway. It is not proposed to seal it at this time.

- 4.4.4 With respect to the submissions on new footpaths, none of the specific areas is currently identified in the programme. It is suggested that they are costed and reviewed at the Assets/Infrastructure Committee no later than September 2015 for potential inclusion in the 2016/17 Annual Plan.
- 4.4.5 The general upkeep of the footpaths in Turakina has been included in the 2015/16 programme, including the laying of chip seal. Progress will be reported to the Assets/infrastructure Committee. The two traffic calmers in Ratana will be installed by 30 June 2015.

5 Water Supply

5.1 General Submissions relating to water supply

- 5.1.1 One submitter (Whanganui District Health Board) requested that the Council fluoridates its potable water supply.

5.2 Officer Comment

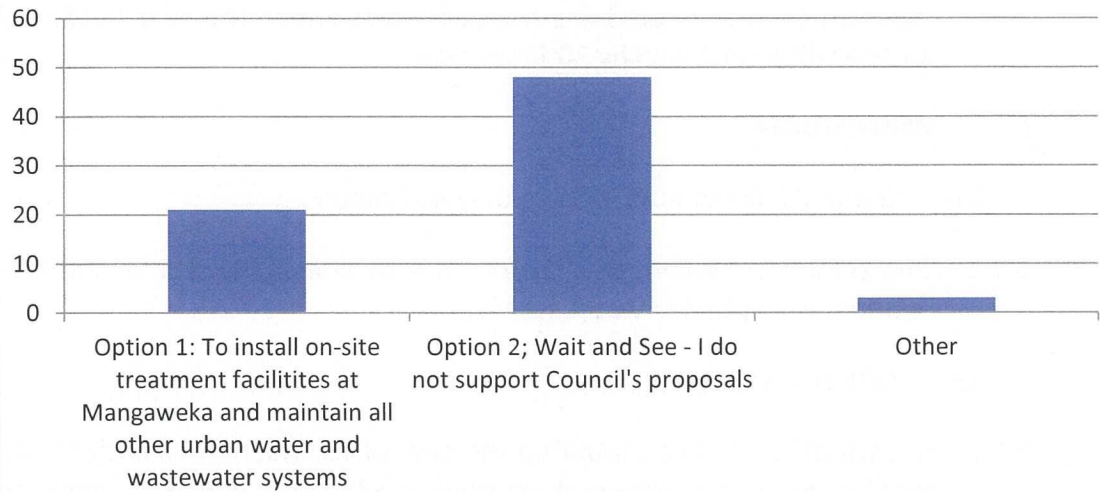
- 5.2.1 Council officers have estimated the cost of fluoridation at each treated water supply. The total capital cost estimate is \$450,000, plus an ongoing additional operating cost of \$50,000/year.
- 5.2.2 The evidence for fluoridation of potable water to reduce tooth decay is compelling. However, this is a national, public health issue and should be addressed (and funded) by central government to provide the benefits equitably across New Zealand. It is suggested that the Council should not implement fluoridation of potable water schemes pending such a directive. However, it is appropriate for Council to suggest to the Whanganui District Health Board that this is a national public health issue and should be managed as such.

6 Sewerage and the treatment and disposal of sewage

6.1 Issue 3: Replacing reticulated water and wastewater schemes for smaller communities

- 6.1.1 The consultation document outlined two options for replacing reticulated water and wastewater schemes for smaller communities. The consultation document had focussed on the decision needed before 2022/23 about whether or not to replace/upgrade the wastewater system in Mangaweka to meet more stringent conditions when the consent is due for renewal. The first option (Council's preferred option) proposed the alternative of reverting to on-site treatment facilities whereas Option 2 adopted a "wait and see" approach.

Issue 3: Replacing reticulated water and wastewater schemes for smaller communities (n=71)



6.1.2 As indicated above, this question elicited a specific response from Mangaweka residents and ratepayers. A breakdown of responses by location of submitter is given below:

	Option 1	Option 2	Other
Bulls	4	1	
Mangaweka		25	
Marton	11	7	1
Turakina/Koitiata/Ratana		2	1
Taihape	4	11	
Out of District	2	2	1
	21	48	3

6.1.3 Submitters in favour of Option 1 comment on the need to engage in discussions with the affected communities, advocate with central government to subsidise small communities, to be proactive to get good value and look at new, environmentally-friendly options.

- 6.1.4 Submitters in favour of Option 2 focussed on the specifics of the Mangaweka situation. Submitters commented that even a debate about replacing the reticulated system with on-site wastewater disposal would immediately reduce property values in Mangaweka and accelerate population decline. They also questioned whether on-site disposal was a practical option (given local soil type and condition) that would be cost-effective in the longer-term, and whether the consent conditions would really require that the current, relatively new system would need a major upgrade.
- 6.1.5 One submitter in favour of the “wait and see” option suggested a statement such as “Ongoing consultation with the community to decide the future of our Waste Water Treatment Plant” – this was echoed by other submitters particularly at oral hearings.
- 6.1.6 Horizons Regional Council signalled its intention to continue working with the Council and local communities to find effective and affordable solutions.

6.2 Officer Comment

- 6.2.1 The conversations held during oral submissions on this issue indicate that the community understands and recognises the difficulty of planning for replacing systems which may be too large and complex for the community in the future. The community is also aware that Council has to make some budgetary provision for the replacing or upgrading of existing systems where consents fall due for renewal within the ten years covered by this Plan.
- 6.2.2 A further consideration arises from the implications of District-wide rating for reticulated utilities. Council acknowledges that it is simply not affordable for small schemes to be fully charged back to the community that is served and that there has to be an element of subsidy from the bigger schemes to the smaller schemes.² The District-wide targeted rate achieves this. However, it also means that there is an additional obligation upon Council to ensure that its solutions for smaller communities are also acceptable to contributors from the other schemes.
- 6.2.3 The Mangaweka wastewater treatment plant consent is due for renewal in 2024. The worst case scenario is that the plant is not able to meet new requirements and must be replaced. Taking this scenario, Council costed the most expensive option (upgrade and renew the existing plant) and the least expensive option (replace with on-site disposal systems) and indicated that its preferred option was the least expensive.

² Since the move to District-wide rates, the cost of individual schemes is not separated from the total activity costs. However, in 2011/12 the budgeted costs of the Mangaweka wastewater scheme, if funded solely by those properties connected to it would have been \$1,570 per connected property compared to with the current rating requirement of \$511.

6.2.4 However, there are many uncertainties, such as the level of central government support, whether new consenting requirements will make the current infrastructure obsolete and whether the population projections play out as projected. Although these uncertainties, and the need to consult with affected communities, were detailed in the text of the consultation document, the bald statement in the submission form was unfortunate.

6.2.5 It is suggested 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.

6.3 General Submissions relating to wastewater treatment

6.3.1 Six submitters requested that Council take action to ensure that leachate from Bonny Glen was not accepted by Council into the District wastewater treatment plants and treated at the ratepayer's expense.

6.4 Officer Comment

6.4.1 The disposal of waste is a modern problem that is unlikely to go away in the near future. As a result, landfills are a fact of modern day living. Whilst Council is not obliged to accept trade waste from any particular producer, such as Mid-West Disposals Ltd, the operators of Bonny Glen landfill, the disposal of trade wastes from businesses in the District is a legitimate activity of Council. Council has the ability to charge the real costs of this service to the producers of trade waste through Trade Waste agreements established in the Water Services Bylaw 2013. The management of the trade waste stream from Bonny Glen landfill, to ensure that the true costs of the service are born by the users of the service and not ratepayers, is properly dealt with through the normal business of Council's Assets/Infrastructure Committee.

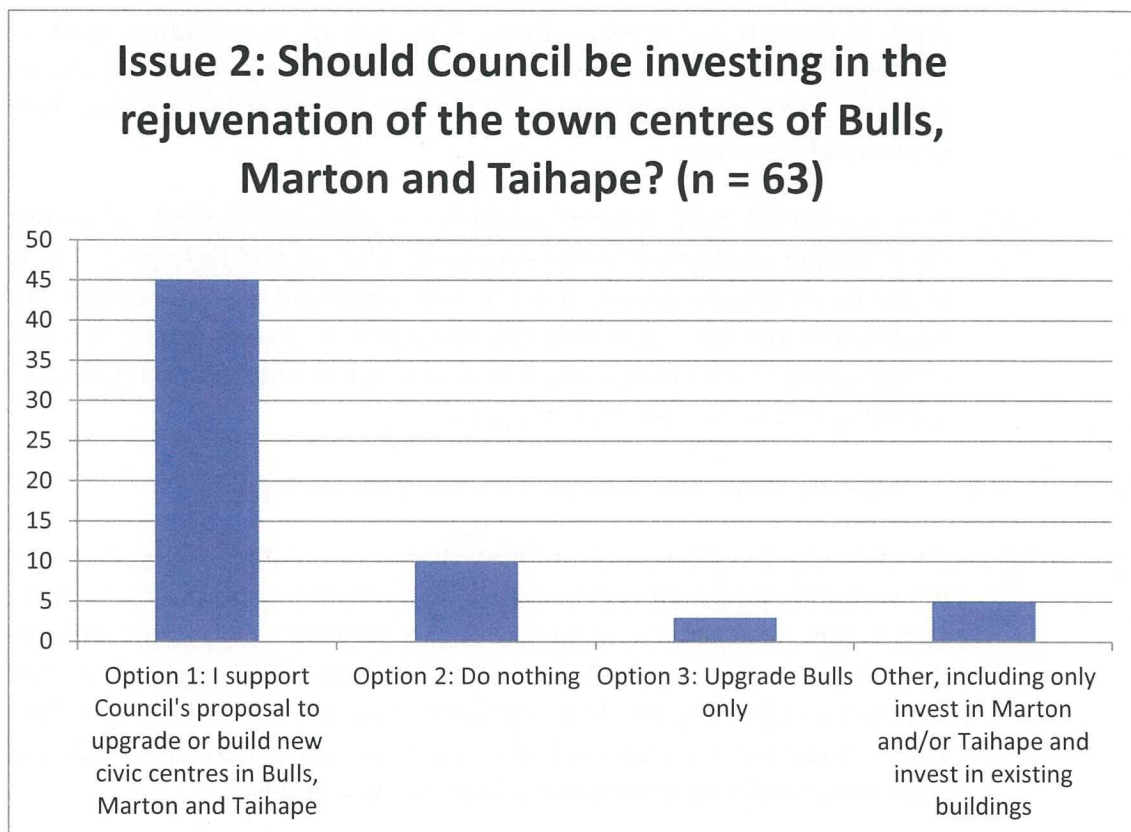
6.4.2 Irrespective of how Council deals with the leachate from Bonny Glen, there are still compliance issues with the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant which need to be addressed. These are unrelated to the acceptance or otherwise of trade waste from Bonny Glen.

7 Community and Leisure Assets

7.1 Issue 2: Should Council invest in the rejuvenation of the town centres in Bulls, Marton and Taihape?

7.1.1 The consultation document outlined three options for investment in the town centres of Bulls, Marton and Taihape. The first option (Council's preferred option) proposed to upgrade or build new civic /community centres in Bulls,

Marton and Taihape with Council's capital contribution of \$1.6 million for Bulls, \$1.64 million for Marton and \$1.78 million for Taihape. Option 2 was a "do nothing" option and Option 3 was a compromise position, investing in Bulls but not in Marton or Taihape.



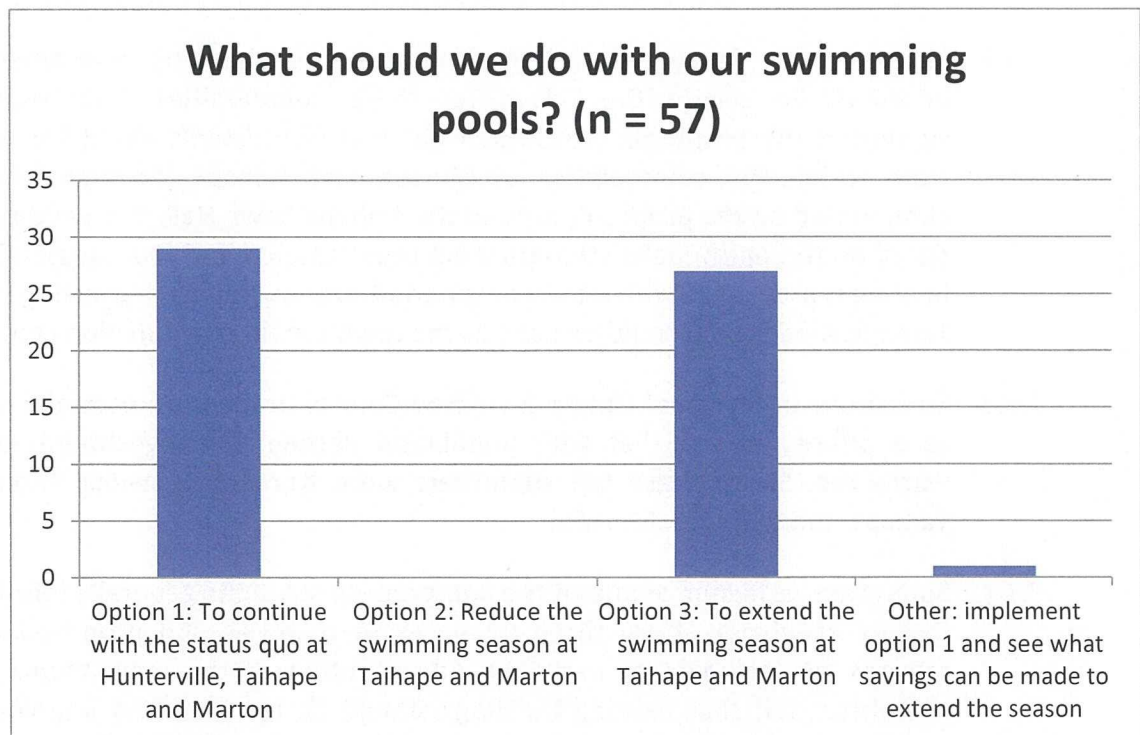
- 7.1.2 Submitters in favour of Option 1 commented that the investment was necessary to secure the future for these communities. Two submitters supported the proposals in principle but had reservations about the support from within the communities of Marton and Taihape. Several submitters commented on the proposals around the Taihape Town Hall, two wanting more detail on the earthquake strengthening requirements and four suggesting that heating is provided in the intervening period. One submitter suggesting that the Taihape Area School could be used as the town's main civic function centre.
- 7.1.3 Submitters in favour of Option 2 wanted Council to focus on essential services as a priority or felt that with population decline, the investment was not warranted. Six of these ten submitters were from Mangaweka, three from Taihape and one from Marton.
- 7.1.4 Submitters in favour of one of the compromise solutions generally felt that the District could not afford three town centre renewals and proposed various reasons for including or excluding one or other of the main towns. Other submitters felt that existing buildings should be retained and improved and concerns were expressed about the possibility of existing buildings that are vacated being run down and abandoned.

7.2 Officer comment

- 7.2.1 There appears to be overwhelming support for Council's preferred option. Generally submitters concurred with Council's view that there was not yet enough clarity over the preferred options in Marton and Taihape and that more time is needed to develop these solutions in consultation with the local communities. Submitters also shared Council's concerns about the re-use of existing buildings to maximise their heritage contribution but not at the expense of function.
- 7.2.2 It is suggested that 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. It is not recommended that investment is made in heating the Taihape Town Hall; this issue was discussed as part of the adoption of the Town Centre Plan and no new compelling information was provided by submitters to reconsider this decision.

7.3 Issue 4A: What should we do with our swimming pools?

- 7.3.1 The consultation document outlined three options for the future management of swimming pools. Option 1 (Council's preferred option) was to maintain the status quo at Taihape, Hunterville and Marton pools. This includes some upgrades to heating and insulation to reduce energy costs and basic maintenance to keep the pools open for their current summer seasons. Option 2 was to support a reduction in the season length at Marton and Taihape pools and Option 3 was to extend the season at these pools.



7.3.2 Submitters were evenly divided between maintaining the status quo and extending the season at Marton and Taihape. Given that the issue is more pertinent for residents in Marton and Taihape, an analysis of the location of submitters is given below:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Other
Bulls	3			
Mangaweka	6		5	
Marton	7		12	
Turakina/Koitiata/Ratana	4			
Taihape	7		9	1
Out of District	2		1	
	29	0	27	1

7.3.3 Submitters in favour of Option 1 most often commented on the need for these facilities to teach children to swim and requested that they remain open for the scheduled school Easter break. The pools were also seen as essential facilities for recreation and well-being, including for families and older people. One submitter at oral hearings also noted the inconvenient opening time of Taihape Swim Centre during school holidays.

7.3.4 One submission from the Southern Rangitikei Principals Cluster Group emphasised the importance of the Swim-4-All programme whilst recognising the affordability of the programme without the fundraising support provided through Council. The submission requested that Council waive its entrance fees for school students undertaking swimming lessons at Council-owned Pools. The submitter suggested that when the Marton Pool was first built, there was an agreement for schools to enjoy free use of the pool. However, no paperwork to support this assertion was available³.

7.3.5 Submitters in favour of Option 3 felt that closing over the winter limited the potential of the facilities to maximise income. There were several submitters who suggested that more active marketing of the facilities could increase demand for an extended season. Where a preference was expressed it was for all-year round opening hours.

³ In fact, a search of Council archives reveals correspondence from 1971-1975 between the Wanganui Board of Education and the Town Clerk for Marton Borough Council reaching various agreements about the level of subsidy from the Department of Education to the Borough Council for primary schools to use the Pool.

- 7.3.6 The current operators of both pools submitted on this issue. The Taihape Community Development Trust supported Option 1, that the current season remains as at present. Nicholls Swim Academy requested that Council at least consider carefully the case for extending the season at Marton Pool.
- 7.3.7 Trevor Nicholls of Nicholls Swim Academy was unable to attend oral submissions on 7/8 May but has since met with Council staff to provide more detail about extending the season at Marton Pool.
- 7.3.8 An “other” option suggested by one submitter (and echoed by two others who preferred Option 3) was to implement cost saving measures such as solar panels and insulated roofing, as planned, and look to use any savings to gradually extend the season.
- 7.3.9 One submitter suggested that the Marton Pool should be open during this winter whilst Makino Pool in Feilding is closed for refurbishment.

7.4 Officer comment

- 7.4.1 There was no clear “winner” from the submissions process on this issue!
- 7.4.2 If Council decides to confirm its preferred option, to stay with the status quo, then there is good reason to consider contractual arrangements with the operators to ensure that the pools in Taihape and Marton are open from the end of term 3 to the beginning of term 2, including school holidays, and with opening hours which enable customers to enjoy a regular programme to swim (for example, before work each weekday).
- 7.4.3 Council could also consider waiving the entry fee for participants in school swim lessons as an ongoing contribution to the Swim-4-All programme in line with the suggestion from the Southern Rangitikei Principals Cluster.
- 7.4.4 The operator at the Marton Pool is strongly in favour of pricing mechanisms which encourage children to swim. He would support free entry for school students attending as part of a school swimming programme and free entry for adults accompanying pre-school children. No discussion has yet taken place with the Taihape Pool operator who in the past retained all income from entry fees. However, the contract with Taihape Community Development Trust is currently being renegotiated, modelled on the contract that operates at Marton Pool so it will be possible to incorporate such a scheme in the new contract.
- 7.4.5 If Council is minded to waive entry fees for school students during school swim lessons, then consideration could be given to waiving all entry fees to school students in the District, in effect a “free pass”.

- 7.4.6 The income to the Council from pool entry fees in Marton is \$4,000 - \$9,000 per month. Swim school entry fees are reasonably static at between \$700- \$900 per month whereas child entry fees income varies from \$900 - \$3,000 per month. Therefore the cost of waiving the swim school entry would be approximately \$5,400 over six months⁴. The cost of waiving child entry fees would be in the order of an additional \$10,000. It may be less if it encourages more fee-paying friends and relatives to accompany these children on more frequent visits to the pool.
- 7.4.7 Such a gesture would send a strong message to the community about Council's intention to create a family-friendly District and provide a safe environment for children and young people. These messages are echoed strongly in submissions. In addition, it would be one way of increasing use of the pools. It could be on an opt-in basis with participating schools responsible for administering a photocard identity scheme. It would apply to Taihape as well as Marton (and be reflected in the new contract).
- 7.4.8 If Council is minded to increase or extend opening times, then there are a number of options. Firstly, Council could extend for any period up to all-year opening and secondly, it could extend in one pool and not the other.
- 7.4.9 The consultation document specified the impact on rates if pool seasons were extended for the full year. Council did not favour this option precisely because of the impact on rates, particularly lower value properties, because pools are funded through the UAGC. The projected increased operating cost of \$410,437 means that the mean increase in rates would be 3.8%. This assumed that costs for both pools, currently open for six and four months, were doubled and trebled respectively to give indicative costs for 12 months.
- 7.4.10 Mr Nicholls has communicated his view that the maximum season for Marton Pool would be ten months – requiring two months for maintenance work. His suggestion is that should be taken in June/July when even seasoned swimmers are prepared to take a break⁵. His suggestion is to open the 50 metre pool for 10 months from 1 August with reduced opening hours (closing at 6.00 pm rather than 8.00pm) and to leave the season as it currently is for the learner pool. With savings from the existing planned capital expenditure (closure of the dive well), and the introduction of the bulkhead to allow more programmed activities in 2 x 25 metre pools, he believes that the additional cost to ratepayers would be \$60,000 per annum.

⁴ This aligns well with the figures for the Swim-4-All programme of \$12 per student and up to 450 students each year. Participation rates could go down as well as up!

⁵ Many submitters believe that the perceived benefits of an extended season will accrue only through all-year round opening and that simply extending the season at each end may not accrue the same benefits. Mr Nicholls' experience suggests that 10 months would be enough to accrue the benefits.

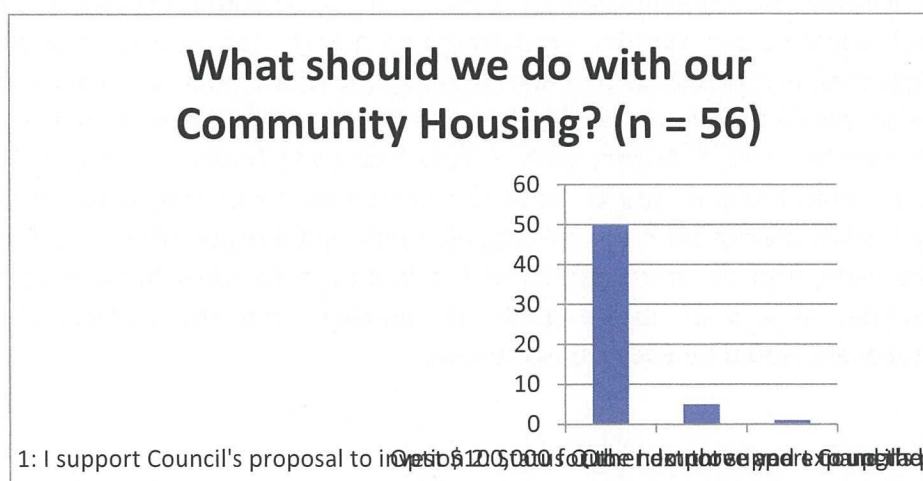
7.4.11 Extending hours in one pool and not the other would raise the question of whether the UAGC was the appropriate funding mechanism for that additional service. This could be addressed by having a targeted rate which (for example) excluded ratepayers in the Taihape Ward if an extended season was confined to the Marton Pool. Such a differential would impact most on lower value properties.

7.4.12 Creating a differential rate would add significantly to the Council overheads for administering the swimming pools activity. However, it is suggested that this is not warranted since an additional cost of \$60,000 per annum on the UAGC is not a material consideration, either in terms of the impact on the UAGC for individual ratepayers (\$10 per rateable property⁶) or in terms of the impact on a District-wide rate for this activity. This is particularly the case if Council provides some form of additional subsidy for school-aged children (for example waiving entry fees for school swim programmes) that is available both at Marton and Taihape Pools.

7.4.13 Finally, extending the season at Marton Pool during 2015/16 would enable the Pool to take advantage of the closure of the Makino Pool in Feilding for the winter season. Mr Nicholls is confident that some of this additional clientele would be retained even when Makino Pool is reopened in 2016/17. He recommends a trial period of two years.

7.5 Issue 4B: What should we do with our community housing?

7.5.1 The consultation document outlined two options for the future management of community housing. Option 1 (Council's preferred option) was to invest \$100,000 annually for three years to upgrade the stock of community housing. Option 2 was to maintain the status quo (basic maintenance with no upgrades).



⁶ Council may consider that such an increase is unacceptable, particularly given the small number of submitters

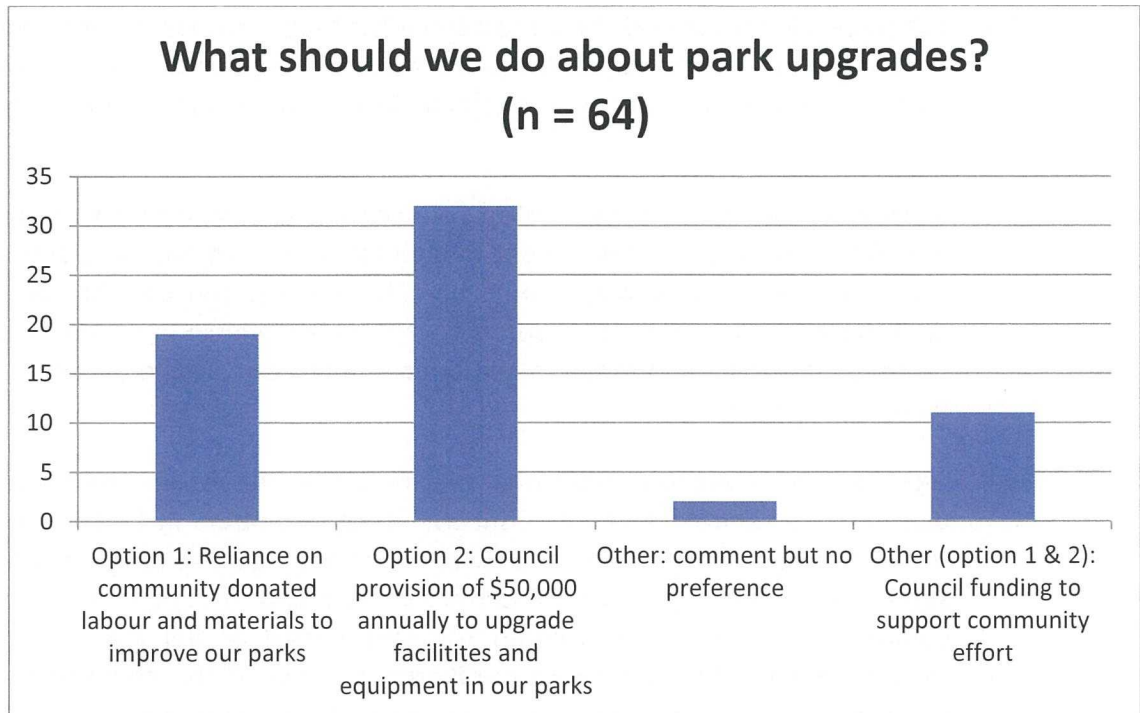
- 7.5.2 Submitters in favour of Option 1 generally felt that these assets were needed in the community as an affordable option for older people and that currently they were not maintained to an acceptable level. Submitters wanted this to be rectified.
- 7.5.3 Several submitters however wanted Council to take a more pragmatic approach – whilst supporting the investment to maintain the asset, they also felt that the community housing activity should be self-financing and possibly even a net contributor to Council funds. Submitters commented both that rents needed to be kept affordable and that the additional investment should be offset against increased rentals.
- 7.5.4 Age Concern Wanganui submitted specifically on this issue. Their submission outlined the services that Age Concern Wanganui offers in Marton, including the welfare service to Council tenants in community housing. In addition, the submission was supportive of Council's proposals to upgrade its stock of community housing and stressed the importance of full consultation with tenants. Finally the submission outlined the value of the community that is created by the housing and its contribution to their well-being.
- 7.5.5 A submission from the Eco Design Advisor Network requests that Council makes budgetary provision for an Eco Design Advisor to be available for free or low cost in-home consultations with homeowners, free phone advice on new home or renovation plans, or on upgrading existing homes, and increasing the understanding of sustainable building in the local Council area.
- 7.5.6 Two submissions commented that the housing stock should be managed by a social landlord or specialist trust.

7.6 Officer comment

- 7.6.1 There appears to be overwhelming support for Council's preferred option, to invest in refurbishing the existing housing stock and to investigate partnerships with other agencies with a track record in managing social housing.
- 7.6.2 It is suggested that Council confirms this option for community housing in its final 2015-25 LTP.

7.7 Issue 4C: What should we do about park upgrades?

- 7.7.1 The consultation document outlined two options for the future management of community housing. Option 1 (Council's preferred option) was to rely on community donated labour and materials for improving our parks. Option 2 was to make an annual provision of \$50,000 to upgrade facilities and equipment at our parks.



7.7.2 Several submitters in favour of Option 1 qualified their support with comments that Council should partner with community groups in some way or other. Similarly several submitters in favour of Option 2, qualified their opposition to Council's preferred option by stating that community groups already contribute significantly and that financial support is needed from Council to maintain facilities and play equipment to a minimum standard. A substantial minority of submitters (11) specifically suggested that a combination of both community and Council support was needed.

7.7.3 Fourteen submitters requested that Council irrigate the Taihape Memorial Park playing fields. These submissions were elaborated on further at oral hearings. The user groups of Memorial Park are united in their request for this improvement, costed at \$70,000 and indicated that they would be prepared to contribute funds from their sporting codes to match Council funding.

7.7.4 Three submitters from Taihape raised a number of other specific projects for park upgrades;

- A dog park in Robin Street, Taihape (one submission).
- Better drainage system for Taihape Gumboot Throwing Lane and the addition of a community playground in the Outback with the offer of community input to enhance the park (three submissions)
- Campground close to the Taihape CBD (one submission)
- Skatepark upgrade (one submission)
- Mountain Bike Trail/Fitness Challenge in Memorial Park (one submission)

Officer comment

- 7.7.5 There is a strong majority in favour of Council contributing funding to park renewals and upgrades and also a majority recognition of the value of community input.
- 7.7.6 In Council's past consideration of, for example, upgrades to skateparks, it has suggested that a contribution from Council needs to be matched by community fundraising (including the donation of materials and labour in kind).
- 7.7.7 It is suggested that Council allocate up to \$50,000 per year in a fund for park and reserve upgrades. The funding could be allocated to projects which contribute at least \$2 (in cash or in kind) for each ratepayer \$ so bringing in a total added value of up to \$100,000 each year.
- 7.7.8 All of the proposals for upgrades to parks presented by submitters, as well as the proposals already received to upgrade play equipment at Wilson Park and skateparks at Bulls Domain and Centennial Park, Marton could benefit from such a scheme. It is suggested that the Assets/Infrastructure Committee consider how such a scheme could operate in practice and that submitters be advised of the opportunity to progress their projects in due course.
- 7.7.9 The unity presented at oral hearings in Taihape from the Memorial Park user groups indicates that irrigation of the playing surfaces would greatly enhance the amenity value of the Park. Those present suggested that the groups themselves would be willing to contribute to establishing such a system. The group confirmed that their estimate of \$70,000 assumed a water supply was readily available. This is not the case. Council staff are currently assessing the most likely source of water and the rough order of costs to make it available for use in an irrigation scheme at the Park. This cost is unlikely to be available for Council's meeting 14 May but could be available for the meeting on 28 May. It is suggested that Council consider a notional contribution of \$50,000 to be confirmed once more robust costs are available. Any larger sum is more likely to be a matter for consideration in the 2016/17 Annual Plan.

7.8 General Submissions relating to community and leisure assets

- 7.8.1 Four submissions requested that the public toilets on High Street, Marton be painted inside and that public toilets are made available at or near to Centennial Park, Marton.
- 7.8.2 Three submissions requested that the fence that runs through Ratana Urupa be renewed and that the shed on the Urupa site be demolished.
- 7.8.3 Two submissions supported the development of a new multi-purpose recreational facility on the site of the proposed leisure hub at Taihape, Memorial Park

7.8.4 One submission congratulated Council on the standard of upkeep at Taihape cemetery.

7.8.5 One submission supported the continued provision of libraries.

7.8.6 One submission requested that rural halls are managed in-house and that asset management plans are developed for each.

7.9 Officer Comment

7.9.1 Council staff are currently investigating options for repainting the interior of the High Street public toilets in Marton within existing budgets.

7.9.2 There is no provision for new public toilets at Centennial Park, Marton. It is intended that the refurbishment of the Shelton Pavilion will result in more groups using the facility. Its toilets will therefore be more accessible to the formalised sports groups which use the Park. However, this does not provide for the casual user, such as those using the skatepark. There are toilets in the Pavilion on Marton Park but these are locked unless in use during a rugby match or event at the Park. It is suggested that the availability of public toilets in Marton is addressed through the town centre plan process, for example, creating a map of public toilets and their availability, or reaching an agreement with a local service station similar to the agreement reached with Mobil in Turakina.

7.9.3 As part of its review of the Parks and Towns Maintenance Contract, Council decided to bring some functions of the contract back in house and to maintain a separate contract for Ratana. It also agreed to review the current contract with the Ratana Communal Board and maintenance and upkeep of the Urupa can be incorporated in this review.

7.9.4 The development of recreational facilities at Memorial Park is currently being consulted upon in Taihape through the Community Board and it is recommended that Council allow this process to run its course. It is expected that recommendations will be forthcoming from within the next few weeks.

7.9.5 It is not recommended that Council bring the management of rural halls in-house. The Dudding Trust has indicated that it is prepared to continue supporting rural halls if it can deal directly with the relevant local management committee. Council recognises that this supports its intention to rationalise its assets based on those assets that are most valued by the community. Undertaking to maintain a raft of rural halls irrespective of this local input will not facilitate the "fewer but better" approach to community and leisure assets.

8 Rubbish and recycling

General Submissions relating to rubbish and recycling

- 8.1.1 Two submitters requested that recycling bins are provided outside of the fencing at Ratana Waste Transfer Station to provide recycling bins outside closing hours.
- 8.1.2 These submitters also requested that the opening hours of Ratana Waste Transfer Station be extended. At present the WTS opens on Wednesday 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm and Saturday 9 am to 12 pm. The proposed opening hours are winter Tuesday 9.30 am to 11.30 am, Thursday 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm, Saturday 12pm to 3pm and summer Tuesday 9.30 am to 11.30 am Thursday 4 pm to 6 pm and Saturday 12 pm to 3 pm.
- 8.1.3 One submitter requested that Council apply premium disposal charge to Bonny Glen landfill operators for acceptance of waste from outside the District.
- 8.1.4 One submitter requested that Council establish a recycling bin up the Kawhatau Valley.

Officer Comment

- 8.1.5 One of the issues with recycling centres that are not within a managed environment (such as those proposed outside the fence of the waste transfer station at Ratana or a bin in the Kawhatau Valley) is the possibility of litter, dumping of non-recyclable material and vermin. It is therefore not suggested that these additional recycling facilities are provided.
- 8.1.6 However, in the case of Ratana it may be possible to consider the management of a recycling site outside of the existing provision at the Waste Transfer Station as part of the review of the Maintenance Contract with the Ratana Communal Board (see section 7.9.3 above).
- 8.1.7 The extension of opening hours at Ratana Waste Transfer Station from 5 to 7 hours per week is likely to cost an additional \$3-4,000 per annum. Both the extension of hours and the change in days and opening times will be subject to negotiation of an acceptable contract variation with the current contractor. Council staff will investigate this option further and report to the Assets/Infrastructure Committee.
- 8.1.8 Finally, Mid-West Disposal Ltd set the charges for receipt of waste at Bonny Glen. Council has negotiated a rate for waste received from its Waste Transfer Stations but has no authority to influence the charges otherwise.

9 Environmental and regulatory services

9.1 General Submissions relating to environmental and regulatory services

- 9.1.1 One submission was received relating to flood control and drainage, tree protection and the centralisation of compliance activities. The contention was the lack of appropriate regulatory control and oversight of activities in these areas and the need for better coordination with Horizons Regional Council.

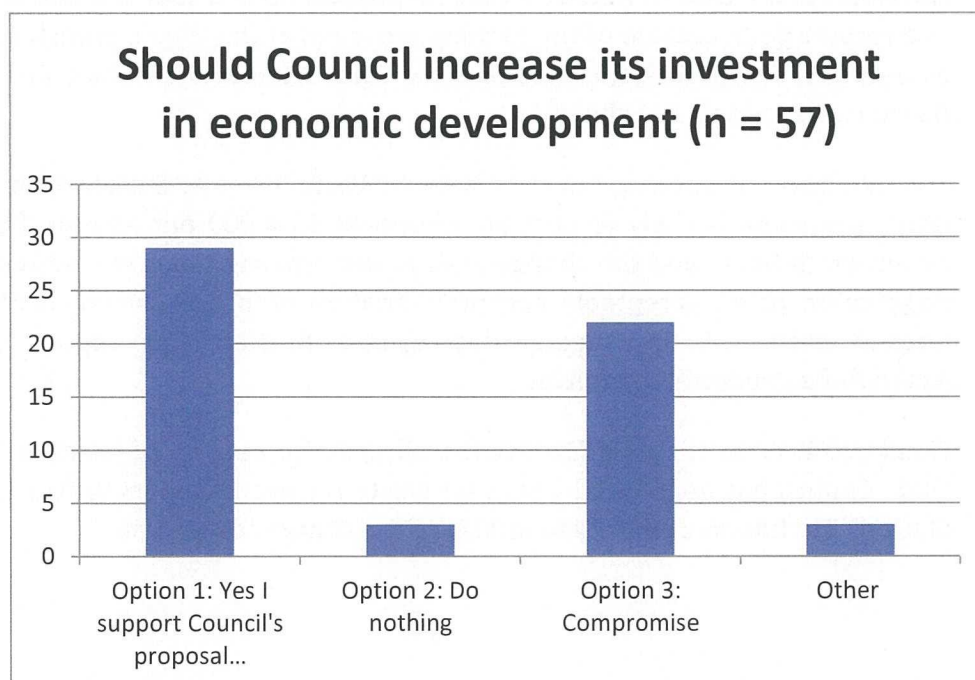
9.2 Officer Comment

- 9.2.1 Council has minor responsibilities in the area of flood control and is undertaking its statutory duty with respect to drainage. Tree protection is not an issue for the Long Term plan and more properly dealt with through the District Plan review. Council has considered its regulatory and compliance activities and aims to achieve a balance between an overly intrusive level of oversight and diligent exercise of its duty of care in its regulatory functions. It is suggested that generally, Council achieves the correct balance.

10 Community Well-being

10.1 Issue 1: Should Council invest in Economic Development?

- 10.1.1 The consultation document outlined three options for investment in economic development. The first option (Council's preferred option) proposed to invest an additional \$205,000 per year - funded 50% from the general rate and 50% from the UAGC in a number of new economic development initiatives. Option 2 maintained the status quo and Option 3 was a compromise position, investing either \$100,000 in strategic research or \$105,000 for local initiatives.



10.1.2 Submitters in favour of Option 1 tended to comment that the Council should have a role, and even a lead role in economic development whereas those in favour of Option 2 tended to think that economic development was outside of Council's role. Submitters who favoured Option 3 clearly felt that there was a role for Council but were divided about whether that should focus on strategic research or local initiatives.

10.1.3 Specific comments were made in the following areas:

- Two submitters who favoured Option 3 also suggested that Council should create a dedicated economic development role. The economic development role was seen as a District-wide promotional/coordinating role to bring in high profile events rather than to organise them.
- Two submitters felt that investment in broadband infrastructure should be a priority.
- Four submitters commented specifically on the events element of the Council's economic development activity. Two submitters requested a banner in Taihape across Hautapu Street to publicise events, one submitter requested that the Council include the 100 Anniversary celebrations at Ratana (2018) in its "iconic" events and one suggested that Council supported events should focus on those events which attract suppliers (e.g. market days) with discounted rates for local suppliers

10.1.4 The submission from Federated Farmers (Option 1 but with preference for 50% UAGC and 50% targeted rate NOT general rate) provided the most detailed feedback on the Council's proposed economic development strategy and feedback on the draft Rangitikei Growth Strategy (currently being developed through the Buoyant Economy Theme Group).

10.2 Officer Comment

10.2.1 There was overwhelming support from submitters for increased investment by Council in economic development and majority support for Council's preferred option. Those who wanted either investment in strategic projects or investment in local projects were divided.

10.2.2 Submitters generally supported Council's facilitative and advocacy role as being a key element. Submitters also generally felt that it was important for Council to actively promote the District.

10.2.3 It is suggested that 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.

10.3 General Submissions relating to community well-being

10.3.1 The Chief Executive of the McGuiness Institute provided detail and reports of recent work with young people to issues and actions to engage this group. Specifically the reports were Local NZ workshop, Project Strategy NZ, Project One Ocean, Project Talent NZ and Project Pandemic Management.

10.3.2 Other requests within this group of activities were:

- Two submissions requested support from Council funding to assist with travel for rural schools and sporting groups for sporting activities (to link in with the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund). Both submission were from Taihape.
- One submission requested \$10,000 support for the Tutaenui Restoration Society. The society would take responsibility for managing the landscape in and around the Tutaenui Dams. The financial contribution would complement the contribution of the community.
- One submission (from Rangitikei Environment Group) requested \$40,000 per annum towards the eradication of Old Man's Beard
- One submission requested that Council undertake the eradication of Field Horsetail from Fern Flats Road, indicating that the pest species had been introduced by Council's contractors during the last upgrade of the road.
- Two submissions requested that Council provide support (\$36,000 per annum) to Marton Youth Club
- Two submissions wanted the ICT Hub to be retained.
- One submission recommended the creation of a dedicated Community Projects Officer to coordinate community projects across the District
- One submitter requested continued support for the Youth Action Plan (funded via Ministry of Youth Development).
- Three submitters thanked Council for its support (Rangitikei College Board of Trustees, Treasured Natural Environment Theme Group, Taihape Community Development Trust).
- The Treasured Natural Environment Theme Group requested \$5,000 per annum to implement its programme of small projects.
- Taihape Community Development Trust and Clubs Taihape Inc. valued the role of the Town Coordinators and TCDT requested increased support for the MOU agencies. TCDT included its proposed work programme in its submission⁷.

⁷ The MOU agencies had been asked to submit their proposed work programmes through the LTP submission process. Project Marton also submitted its proposed work programme – however, it was received as a late submission.

10.4 Officer Comment

- 10.4.1 Some of the issues raised by submitters will be dealt with by Council through reports from Council staff already in process, for example, consideration of funding for the Youth Club/Youth Action Plan and consideration of the proposed work programmes from the MOU agencies.
- 10.4.2 It is considered premature to look at creating a new staff position to coordinate projects District-wide but such a position may warrant consideration in due course. Currently, much of the coordination of community projects is facilitated by existing Council staff, the MOU partners or agencies involved through the Path to Well-being initiative.
- 10.4.3 The information provided through the McGuiness Institute provides excellent background material for both the Youth Action Plan and the Rangitikei Growth Strategy.
- 10.4.4 The work programme put forward by the Treasured Natural Environment Theme Group can be accommodated within the budget already established for the Path to Well-being Theme Groups, but this is not likely to be able to extend to an additional \$10,000 towards expenses in the restoration of the Tutaenui Stream. It is suggested that Council staff liaise between the Tutaenui Stream Restoration Society and the Treasured Natural Environment Theme Group to agree the extent of work that can be accommodated within existing budgets and, if necessary, make a recommendation for additional funding through the 2016/17 Annual Plan process.
- 10.4.5 The draft budget also includes an amount of \$10,000 per annum to support the work of REG. This figure was suggested to Council in early conversations with REG. The REG meeting in April 2015 notes that work on the tracks (costed by one contractor at \$21,000) should be prioritised and Council staff were alerted to this as a potential submission. However, \$40,000 per annum is a significantly higher sum than had previously been put forward. It is suggested that the Council's provision be increased to \$20,000, to assist with the track clearing and also to allow for the REG team to undertake the roadside spraying which has proved more difficult than anticipated for the Council's roading contractor to do with the necessary accuracy.
- 10.4.6 Council has previously received briefings and information on the spread of Field Horsetail in the District. The issue is more widespread than the Fern Flats Road and the connection with the use of roading metal from the Rangitikei River is now acknowledged and better managed. The issue of removing this pest species from areas where it has invaded is not one which the Council can tackle in isolation. It is suggested that the best process is for Council to continue monitoring advances in the management of this species via Horizons.

- 10.4.7 It is not recommended that Council consider making further provision for 'topping up' the Rural Travel Fund. There are various groups in the District that are disadvantaged by distance from relevant facilities and services and Council would not be able to address all inequalities caused by this. It is more properly left to central government to develop schemes that address scarcity and rurality on a national basis.
- 10.4.8 A brief survey of the current recipients of the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund indicates that scarcity and distance from facilities is not factored into the allocation of this limited resource. It is allocated on a per capita basis. It is therefore recommended that Council contact Sport New Zealand to suggest a fairer allocation of the Rural Travel Fund that includes a scarcity and distance factor.

11 Next Steps

- 11.1 The impact on rates of the additional expenditure recommended in this report will be assessed and tabled to Council's meeting on 14 May.
- 11.2 Council's decisions will be incorporated into a revised draft of the Long term Plan, both in terms of the financial projections and replacing the 'Key choices' section of that document with a new section 'Council's decisions on submissions to "What's the Plan Rangitikei..?"'. In addition, the commentaries on the groups of activities will be amended to reflect Council's decisions.
- 11.3 This revised draft of the Long Term Plan will be on Council's agenda for its meeting on 28 May 2015. That meeting is not envisaged as an opportunity to reconsider submissions: the purpose is for Council to be satisfied that the revised draft does reflect Council's deliberations on submissions. If there are matters which Council considers require further investigation these will need to be flagged to the Council's auditors. They have asked for the revised draft to be provided to them on 29 May 2015: they begin their on-site work on 2 June 2015.
- 11.4 In preparing the revised draft, the statement of service performance will be amended so that targets are provided for all measures, even though these will be provisional for those measures where data is not yet available. Sections noted to be added (such as the Governance structure and the Variation between the Long Term Plan and its assessment of water and sanitary services and waste management plans will be completed.
- 11.5 A draft response to submitters will be prepared for consideration at Council's meeting on 28 May 2015. It will be confirmed at the meeting when Council adopts the final Plan, with audit opinion. This is scheduled for 25 June 2015.

12 Recommendations

12.1 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.

12.2 That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2012-22 draft Long Term Plan, Council:

Community Leadership

12.2.1 Liaise with Horizons Regional Council over its view on addressing issues relating to genetic modification

Roading

12.2.2 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.

12.2.3 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.

12.2.4 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).

12.2.5 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.

Water Supply, Sewerage and the treatment and disposal of sewage and Stormwater Drainage

12.2.6 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.

12.2.7 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

12.2.8 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.

Community and Leisure Assets

12.2.9 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.

12.2.10 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).

Or

Agrees to extend the season at Marton from six months to ten months for a trial period of 2 years from 1 August 2015 and make provision for an additional \$60,000 per annum for the trial period.

And

12.2.11 Agrees to waive the swim school entry fee as an ongoing contribution to the Swim-4-All programme.

Or

Agrees to waive all entry fees to school students in the District, in effect a "free pass" scheme to be administered by participating schools.

And

Agree to waive all entry fees for one adult accompanying a pre-school child.

12.2.12 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.

12.2.13 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.

12.2.14 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.

12.2.15 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

Rubbish and recycling

12.2.16 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

Community Well-being

12.2.17 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.

12.2.18 Increase the provision for Rangitikei Environment Group for programmes to address Old Man's Beard infestation, from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per annum.

12.2.19 Contact Sport New Zealand to recommend a review of the allocation criteria for the Rural Travel Fund to include scarcity and distance from facilities.

12.3 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.

Denise Servante
Strategy and Community Planning Manager

Attachment 4

REPORT

SUBJECT: **Analysis of submissions on the proposed revenue and financing policy**

TO: Council

FROM: Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

DATE: 12 May 2015

FILE: 1-LTP15-3

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Four submissions were received on the proposed revenue and financing policy. Three had specific concerns – funding for community boards, the district-wide contribution to urban water, wastewater and stormwater, and targeting higher volume users of local roads. The fourth submission was a more wide-ranging view of the revenue and financing policy.
- 1.2 These are considered in the sections below.

2 Amending the funding mechanism for Community Boards

- 2.1 The Ratana Communal Board of Trustees asked that the Ratana Community Board be funded on a capital value basis.
- 2.2 The current draft of the revenue and financing policy funds both community boards through a targeted community services rate based on a uniform charge. Previously this rate had been based on capital value. The rationale for change is that the benefit is shared among all residents within each Board area (but not more widely through the District). This is the exception to the district-wide approach underpinning the policy.
- 2.3 Under a fixed charge per property, Taihape ratepayers will pay \$21.13 per property in 2015/16; under a capital value basis charge, they would pay \$4.80 per \$100,000 of capital value so large rural properties would contribute significantly to the funding of the Taihape Community Board.¹
- 2.4 Under a fixed charge per property, Ratana ratepayers will pay \$174.15 per property in 2015/16; under a capital value basis charge, they would pay \$224.20 per \$100,000 of capital value. However, the average value of properties in Ratana is \$77,660 –

¹ The sample property at Erewhon valued at \$9.5 million would pay \$456.00

such a property would pay \$174.11. This higher cost (compared with Taihape) is the result of a much smaller rating base.

- 2.5 While the overall rationale for the funding mechanism applies to both community boards, the wider spread of property values in Taihape compared with Ratana could be justification for a uniform charge basis in Taihape and a capital value basis in Ratana.

3 Abandoning the District-wide rates contribution to urban water, wastewater and stormwater scheme

- 3.1 Jim Howard opposed the continued district-wide contribution to urban water, wastewater and stormwater, considering it unfair that rural ratepayers are supporting a service they cannot use (as well as paying for their own).
- 3.2 District-wide funding for the three waters has been in place for a considerable time, initially prompted by a recognition that smaller schemes would be unaffordable without a contribution from other ratepayers. This was formalised in the 2012/22 Long Term Plan, initially on a uniform charge basis and styled 'public good'. Subsequently, to even out the range of rate increases, Council amended this rate to include an element of capital value based funding. That element has been eliminated in the proposed revenue and finding policy, and the percentage contribution has been lowered.

4 Implementing a funding mechanism to reflect use of (and potential damage to) roads

- 4.1 The submission from Richard Redmayne is that MidWest Disposal is not paying a fair share of the costs of maintaining local roads. He calculated that a large dairy farm would be paying \$56.07 per heavy vehicle movement servicing the property compared with the \$0.48 paid by MidWest for each heavy vehicle servicing the Bonny Glen landfill.
- 4.2 Council could set a differential which meant MidWest paid more. However, the basis for doing this would need to be substantiated. Providing a report to the Assets/Infrastructure Committee about the impact of various classes of vehicles on the costs of maintaining District's roads would be a useful first step. This report could exclude logging trucks, since they are the focus of a national working party.

5 Implementing a higher UAGC and utilising differentials differential

- 5.1 The submission from Federated Farmers, while acknowledging a reduction in rates for many rural properties in 2015/16, considered that the revenue and financing policy was flawed, through inadequate identification of benefit (and applying funding mechanisms to reflect that).
- 5.2 Federated Farmers believes that Council should apply the highest rate allowable for the Uniform Annual General Charge. However, this preference overlooks that use of this mechanism is intended to relate to clear benefit attaching to an individual (such as, for example, Council's own decision-making and elections). Most Council services

and facilities have a mixed benefit – i.e. to individuals, to particular groups, to particular locations. The funding mechanisms in the revenue and financing policy need to (and do) reflect that.

- 5.3 One of the instances cited by Federated Farmers is urban footpaths and street-lighting. In workshop, Council rejected that such amenities should be funded solely by urban ratepayers: the rationale is that there is some benefit to rural ratepayers too – but more importantly, there is a significant contribution from urban ratepayers to the maintenance of rural roads. This reflects Council's strong preference for a district-wide approach to funding and a simple rates structure. Differentials do introduce complexity to the rating structure and assume greater accuracy about the assessment of comparative benefit than is usually verifiable.
- 5.4 Amending the revenue and financing policy to reflect the views of Federated Farmers would mean a significant change in Council's approach, particularly towards district-wide funding and considerations of affordability. It's not proposed to do this.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That the report 'Analysis of submissions on the proposed revenue and financing policy' be received.
- 6.2 That the funding mechanism for the Community Boards be a targeted Community Services rate set as a fixed charge per rating unit for the..... Community Board and/or a targeted Community Services Rate based on capital value for the Community Board.
- 6.3 That [except for the change to the funding mechanism for the.....Community Board(s)] the proposed revenue and financing policy not be amended as a result of considering submissions.
- 6.4 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.

Michael Hodder
Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

Attachment 5

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

FROM: Samantha Whitcombe

DATE: 12 May 2015

SUBJECT: **Deliberation on Submissions to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16**

FILE: 1-AP-2-1

1 Summary

- 1.1 The draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16 was put out for public consultation during the period 1 April 2015 to 4 May 2015, in simultaneous consultation to "What's the Plan Rangitikei...?" During this period one submission was received to the draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16.
- 1.2 The submission can be found on page 98 of volume three of the 2015-25 LTP Submissions.

2 Submissions

- 2.1 This submitter requested that Council provide a discount on dog registration fees to members of the New Zealand Kennel Club. She suggested that a 50% would be ideal but would be happy with anything. This submitter noted the HDC provided a large discount for NZKC members, that discount represents the same rate as for working dogs and is slightly actually higher than the 'selected owner' status (i.e. good dog owner status).
- 2.2 The submitter suggests that both the New Zealand Kennel Club and Council share a common goal in promoting responsible dog ownership, a by providing a discount to New Zealand Kennel Club members Council would be enhancing this goal.

3 Discussion

- 3.1 Council's proposed Revenue and Financing Policy indicates a significant ratepayer contribution to the Animal Control activity (at least 45%). A decrease in the projected revenue for the Animal Control activity, arising from a discount given to New Zealand Kennel Club members, could have an impact on the ratepayer contribution. It could also lead to other dog groups seeking a similar discount.

3.2 The draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16 proposes a significant discount to dog owners with 'Good Dog Owner' status. Through this avenue, members of the New Zealand Kennel Club could see a discount of \$103 off the cost of registering their dogs. This could see their fees come down to \$67 from \$170.

3.3 The fee for working dogs proposed for 2015/16 in the Rangitikei \$38.

4 Recommendations

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

4.2 That Council

EITHER

Provides no discount on dog registration fees to members of the New Zealand Kennel Club.

OR

Provides a discount of ...% to members of the New Zealand Kennel Club.

Samantha Whitcombe
Governance Administrator

Attachment 6



MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

FROM: Samantha Whitcombe

DATE: 12 May 2015

SUBJECT: **Proposed Duck Sculpture for Frae Ona Park**

FILE: 3-PY-1-11

1 Summary

- 1.1 At the end of April 2015 Council received a proposal from Marton resident Ms Rona Rippon, on the installation of a duck sculpture in Frae Ona Park. The proposal was initially entered as a submission to Council's 2015-2025 Long Term Plan, but as Ms Rippon is keen to see the project completed sooner rather than later, it is now being considered against Council's Policy for the Procurement and Management of Public Artwork. Ms Rippon is prepared to fund the whole project.
- 1.2 A copy of the proposal is attached as Appendix 1.

2 Policy on the Procurement and Management of Public Artwork

- 2.1 Council's Policy on the Procurement and Management of Public Artwork has three principles: communication, choice and consultation.
- 2.2 As part of the consultation on this proposal, the proposal has been referred to the Marton Community Committee and local Iwi (Ngati Apa). The wider community will have the opportunity to comment on the proposal as presented in the next issue of the Bulletin in the local newspapers.
- 2.3 Any feedback received on the proposal will be conveyed to Council at its meeting on 28 May 2015, prior to deciding whether this project should proceed.
- 2.4 A copy of Council's Policy on the Procurement and Management of Public Artwork is attached as Appendix 2.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That the memorandum 'Proposed Duck Sculpture in Frae Ona Park' be received.

Samantha Whitcombe
Governance Administrator

Appendix 1

RECEIVED

28 APR 2015

Frae ona park Duck sculpture proposal

Duck sculpture for Frae Ona Park

Rona Rippon

To: SW
File: 1-LTPIS-7-1
Doc: 15 0260

Application for the installation of a Duck Sculpture for Frae Ona Park

I Rona Violet Phoebe Rippon donor of Frae Ona Park with my late husband Frank Smith wish to submit this proposed plan for the donation of Wrought Iron sculpture in the form of a stylised duck as lasting legacy of my personal interest in Frae Ona Park.

The structure is designed to be indestructible and designed for a fenced position near the water where plant life is suitable (photos, and drawings are attached). The design would also incorporate a series of wrought iron reeds structures that would act as an additional barrier to prevent persons viewing the sculpture from falling into the pond. I believe that the sculpture of the duck would fit well with the theme of the park and its nick name the "Duck pond".

As this proposal would be for the benefit of the greater community I would like to know if there are any funding opportunities that may contribute to the cost. If not then I am quite happy to meet the financial cost myself.

This proposal has been discussed with Gaylene Prince from Council, who suggested that I make this submission, in order to tick off the necessary health and safety requirements and regulations.

I would dearly like to see this project progress quickly as I am advancing in years and have ongoing health problems. It would give me great joy to see the sculpture installed in the place by my 90 birthday 10 August 2015.

The drawings submitted Options A and B give an indication of what the duck may look like, its size, 1.5 metres in length and a height of 800mm to 1 metre, with a wing span of approximately 1 metre.

I would like to have one more drawing produced which would reflect a middle ground between options A and B, however I am reluctant to go back to the designer with the uncertainty of the proposals acceptance.

Yours in hasty anticipation

Rona Rippon.

Frae ona park Duck sculpture proposal

Duck sculpture for Frae Ona Park

Rona Rippon

Sculpture Details

The duck sculpture (refer attached drawings) is to be constructed from either 12mm steel plate or 12mm steel bar or a combination of both, the sculpture will be set into a concrete base with a selection of differing sized reeds extending out around the Duck, this will give the impression of the duck flying out of the lake. The reeds are also designed to discourage people/ children from attempting to climb onto the sculpture.

The reeds will be constructed from 16mm steel rod and capped with 25-40mm steel pipe all surfaces will be squared off, so will have no sharp edges and or points that could cause harm. All steel used in the sculpture will be galvanised and the sculpture will be powder coated white.

The sculpture will sit inside the existing fenced area of the pond which will provide a further deterrent to people attempting to climb on the sculpture (see images below).

I would like to have a further artist's impression of the sculpture drawn up; which is a balance between the more ornate duck and the second duck in the drawings provided. The artist is happy to supply this work, however it would be preferred that a decision on the suitability and health and safety aspects of its inclusion in a public place, have been meet.

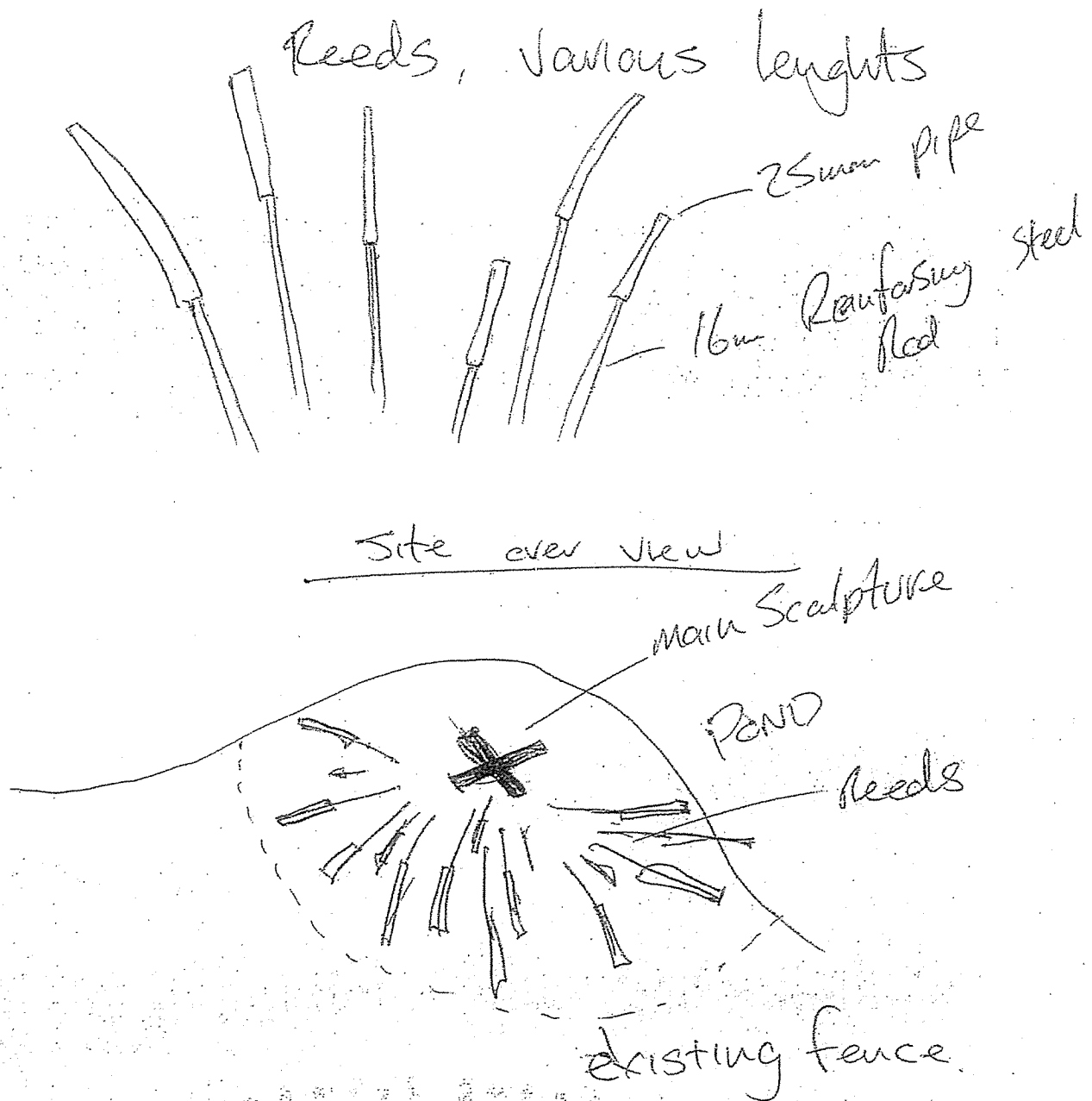


Figure 1, 2 & 3: Photographs of the area for proposed duck sculpture present fencing arrangements.

SIMPLY WROUGHT IRON LTD

DESIGNERS, MANUFACTURERS & SUPPLIERS
OF

Quality Wrought Iron Products | Gates (automation options) Fences | Pool Security | Balustrades & Light Engineering



Phone Graeme 09 344 1460 | Mob 021 065 7868
Graeme@simplywroughtiron.co.nz
358 Heads Road, Wanganui 4501

IMAGINATION IS THE ONLY LIMITATION.

MEETOR-PRINT

SIMPLY WROUGHT IRON LTD

DESIGNERS, MANUFACTURERS & SUPPLIERS
OF

Quality Wrought Iron Products | Gates (automation options) Fences | Pool Security | Balustrades & Light Engineering



option B

NOT TO
SCALE

Shapes cut from
12mm plate

Solid
plate

Phone Graeme 06 344 1460 | Mob 021 065 7868

Graeme@simplywroughtiron.co.nz

358 Heads Road, Wanganui 4501

IMAGINATION IS THE ONLY LIMITATION.

METEOR PRINT

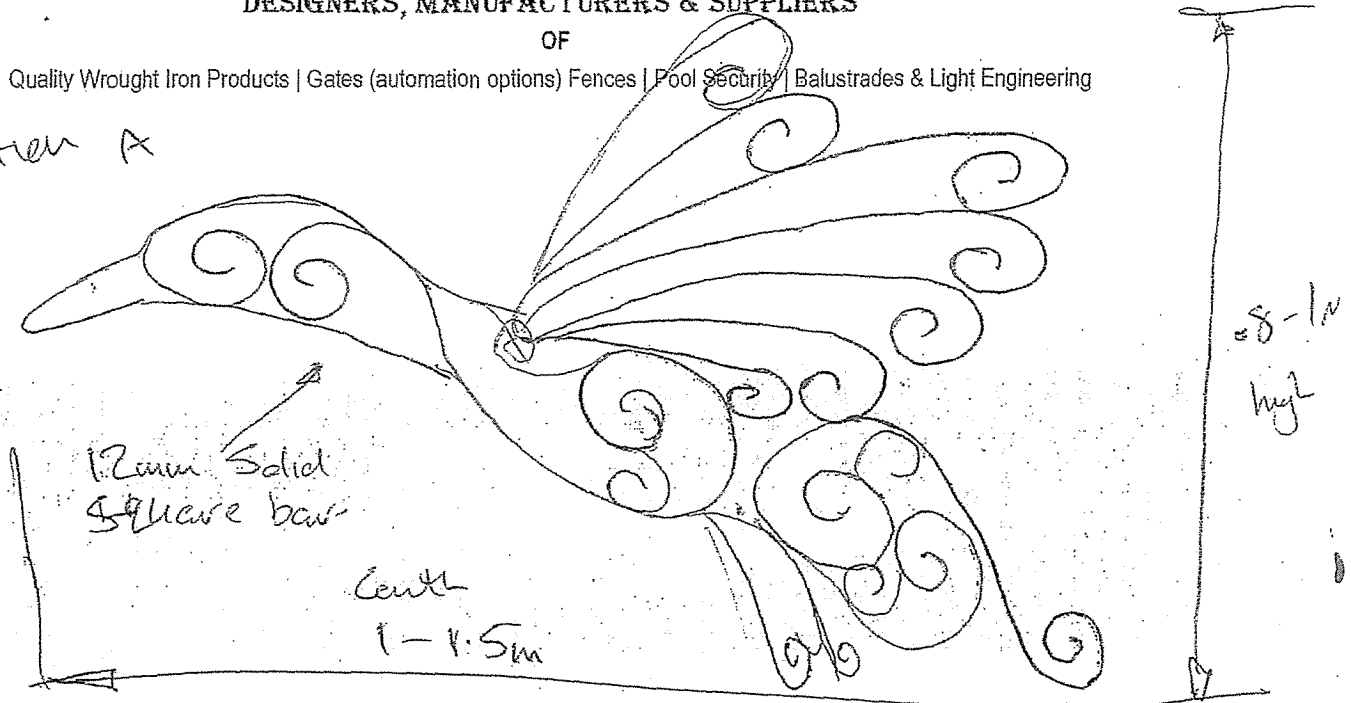
SIMPLY WROUGHT IRON LTD

DESIGNERS, MANUFACTURERS & SUPPLIERS

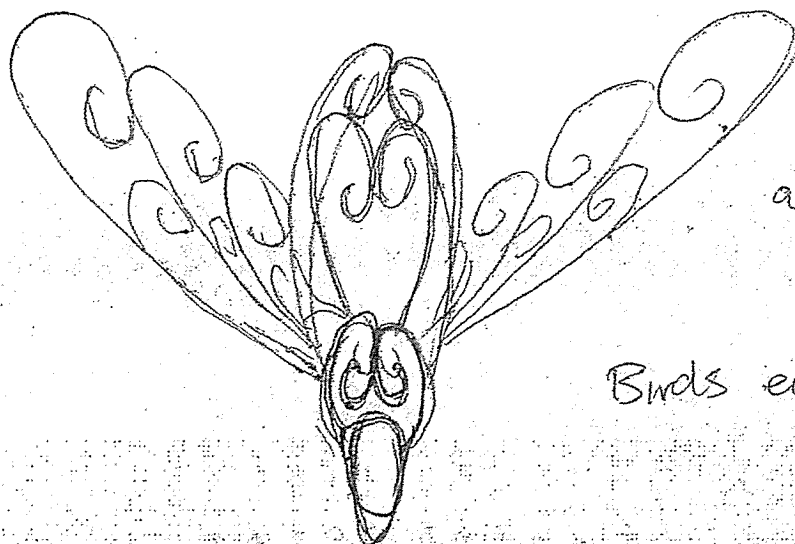
OF

Quality Wrought Iron Products | Gates (automation options) Fences | Pool Security | Balustrades & Light Engineering

option A



A Duck Figure made up of a Series of Scrolls.



Wing span around 1m wide

Birds eye view

NOT TO SCALE

Phone Graeme 06 344 1460 | Mob 021 065 7868

Graeme@simplywroughtiron.co.nz

358 Heads Road, Wanganui 4501

IMAGINATION IS THE ONLY LIMITATION.

METEOR PRINT

SIMPLY WROUGHT IRON LTD

DESIGNERS, MANUFACTURERS & SUPPLIERS OF

Quality Wrought Iron Products | Gates (automation options) | Fences | Pool Security | Balustrades & Light Engineering

DATE 18/03/2015 QUOTE No. Q1262

QUOTATION

TO Rona Rippon
7a Totara st
Marton
063278140

FROM

Phone Graeme 06 344 1460 | Mob 021 065 7868
Graeme@simplywroughtiron.co.nz
358 Heads Road, Wanganui 4501

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNITS	PRICE
<p>Hi Rona, As discussed in our previous meeting, the below prices are a best estimate only & are based on the sketches supplied. As you requested the sculpture to be vandal proof, my best idea for that is to surround the main piece with steel reeds to form a barrier & for these to be rusted then clear coated for protection. This would make the duck sculpture being white stand out more & the sculpture itself would be unreachable so cant be tagged/vandalized etc.</p> <p>I have spoken to a company who are possibly interested in providing help with regards to the instillation & supplying of concrete. Simply wrought iron are also prepared to donate 10% of the final cost towards helping with this project & welcomes any other parties who are willing to help with donations of materials etc. If you have any questions regarding any of the above please feel free to contact me.</p>			
To manufacture a duck sculpture similar to the sketches supplied			\$600-800
To have the above duck sculpture hot dip galvanized			\$100-200
To have the above sculpture powder coated (white)			\$300-400
To manufacture & seal coat various size reeds.			\$500-700
Instillation of all of the above & to fill the rest of the said area with Cement.			\$500-600
Please note all of the above prices are GST exclusive.			SUBTOTAL \$2000-\$2700
Regards Graeme Kiff			G.S.T.
			TOTAL

50% Deposit payable on acceptance of quote. Direct Credit or via Cash/Cheque to Bank Account No: 02 0792 0082795 000
- balance due 7 days from date of invoice unless prior arrangements are made.
This quote is valid for 30 days from date issued. Please reply by email to confirm acceptance of this quote.

IMAGINATION IS THE ONLY LIMITATION.

METEOR DESIGN

Appendix 2

CD 11 - Policy for the Procurement and Management of Public Artwork.

Objective

To encourage the creation, placement and preservation of works of public art which develop and enhance the Rangitikei District's sense of community and distinctive identity.

Definition of public artwork

For the purpose of this policy, public artwork is defined broadly to include all art forms located on land that the Council owns. It also includes the signage or plaque that accompanies the art piece and any associated landscaping of the site.

Principles

Communication - The community (and particularly the artistic community) will be fully informed about the policy and the underpinning processes.

Choice - The community and the Council will normally be given several options when public artwork is being proposed

Consultation – Before Council gives a commitment to any public artwork proposal, there will be consultation with relevant stakeholders – in particular local residents and businesses, local Iwi and the artistic community.

Criteria for selecting artwork

Council has no preference for the source of public artwork, and the following list is indicative only:

- donations from artists, art societies and enthusiasts,
- open submission
- competitions
- invited tenders

Council has no preference for the form of public artwork – possibilities include sculpture, painting, murals, photography and tapestry.

Public artwork will be selected having regard for:

- aesthetic elements
- physical robustness and practicality
- creativity
- relevance to the Rangitikei District's culture, history and environment
- diversity of the proposed artwork relative to existing artwork.

The Council will assess the proposed artwork against these criteria before deciding whether to accept the proposed artwork.

Integrating artwork into towns

Council will attempt to integrate artwork as a functional part of each town centre. Such artwork might include decorative benches, lighting or other recognisable features of a town.

Ownership of the artwork

Once the public artwork is installed on Council land it becomes Council's property.

Duration of time the public artwork will remain

The life span of an artwork varies depending on the following factors:

- condition of artwork (public safety issues),
- cost of maintenance
- location - appropriateness,
- intended lifespan of work.
- artistic relevance
- community acceptance

When an artwork reaches the end of its useful life the Council will remove the piece and dispose of it as it sees fit. In the case of a sculpture, the Council will consider returning the artwork to the artist.

Location

The location of any proposed artwork will form part of the proposal considered by the Council and discussed with stakeholders. The choice of location will have regard for the extent to which the artwork will enhance civic, cultural or recreational areas, will be accessible, and will be safe. Should a project include artwork to be located on private land it is recognised that this is not in accordance with this policy. Special arrangements must be negotiated on a case-by-case basis and approved by the full Council.

Funding and in-kind support

The Council may facilitate sponsorship and private funding for art in public places, may provide administrative support to organisations for consultation, and may contribute through a one off grant.

Consultation and collaboration

Where Council intends to accept donated public artwork, the Chief Executive will arrange consultation with stakeholders – who may include, businesses, professionals from the creative industries, local Iwi and people living and working within the vicinity of the proposed public artwork. The final decision will be made in consultation with full Council.

Where Council proposes to commission an artwork, in addition to the consultation above, a working group of art professionals will be convened to discuss the proposed artwork and make recommendations to Council. This may include artists, planners, architects, and engineers who develop a public art project.

Loan

That movable public art owned by the Council may be moved at the discretion of the Chief Executive and His Worship the Mayor.

Maintenance

The Council will be responsible for the insurance and general maintenance of all public artwork. When murals are accepted on Council property, Council will reserve the right to repaint the property as it sees fit, this includes when substantial damage occurs making it impractical to repair the artwork.

Where a public artwork is attached to or painted on a private building, then an agreement will be established between the property owner and Council.