



Rangitikei District Council

Telephone: 06 327-0099

Facsimile: 06 327-6970

**Rangitikei**  
UNspoilt...

# Council Meeting Order Paper

**Thursday 28 May 2015, 1.00 pm**

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

**Website:** [www.rangitikei.govt.nz](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz)

**Email:** [info@rangitikei.govt.nz](mailto:info@rangitikei.govt.nz)

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**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

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**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 28 May 2015 – 1:00 p.m.

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\*Note: The draft final 2015-25 Long Term Plan is circulated to Elected Members only, and is available electronically from Council's website.

**1 Welcome**

**2 Public Forum**

**3 Apologies/Leave of absence**

**4 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.

**5 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.

**6 Confirmation of minutes**

**Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 May 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

**7 Mayors report**

A report will be tabled at the meeting.

File ref: 3-EP-3-5

**Recommendation**

That the Mayor's report to Council's meeting on 28 May 2015 be received.

**8 Administrative matters – May 2015**

A report is attached.

File ref: 5-EX-4

**Recommendations**

- 1 That the report 'Administrative matters – May 2015' be received.

- 2 That Council grants a certificate of exemption under clause 14(3) of the Camping-Ground Regulations 1985 to the current operator of the Mangaweka Camping Ground (being a remote camping ground) for the requirements of the Schedule to those regulations for a period of five years from 1 July 2015 subject to the Community & Leisure Assets Services Team Leader being satisfied that the camping ground provides a safe and hygienic environment.
- 3 That Council invites representatives of Powerco Limited to meet with Elected Members and key staff EITHER during a meeting of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee OR .....
- 4 That Council records its preference that the Mayor of the Rangitikei District is allocated a vehicle for private use, while acknowledging that this is a decision for the Mayor to make.
- 5 That the Chief Executive (i) requests the New Zealand Transport Agency to improve safety at the intersection of State Highway 3 and Williamsons Line, by installing a refuge right-turning lane and (ii) writes to Vern McDonald thanking him for his concern and informing him of Council's action.
- 6 That Council affirms its commitment to supporting a collaborative approach to securing improved facilities on Taihape Memorial Park, acknowledges the work done by Clubs Taihape to promote such a concept, and allows to lapse the commitment for a provisional lease to Clubs Taihape for part of Taihape Memorial Park until the current facilitation processes are complete and have identified a preferred option.
- 7 That Council applies the savings in the award of the new roading maintenance contract by

EITHER

- a. reducing the rates requirement for 2015/16.

OR

- b. increasing the roading programme (with a report being provided to the 9 July 2015 meeting of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee as to the specifics of that additional work).

OR

- c. applying the savings to other initiatives (to be determined by the Policy/Planning Committee at its meeting on 15 June 2015 following consideration of a report setting out potential options).

- 8 That with respect to the annual domain fee of \$303 charged to the Hunterville Rugby Club, Council EITHER waives ....% of the fee on an ongoing basis OR declines the request for waiver.



## **9 Rules Reduction Taskforce – Submission**

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 3-OR-3-5

### **Recommendations**

- 1 That the memorandum 'Rules Reduction Taskforce – Submission' be received.
- 2 That Council authorises the Mayor to sign the proposed submission to the Rules Reduction Taskforce.

## **10 Adoption of draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16**

At its meeting on 14 May 2015, Council considered submissions to the draft Schedule of fees and charges 2015/16. No amendments to the Schedule were made as a result of deliberations. A response will be sent to the one submitter on the proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16.

The final draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16 for adoption is attached.

### **Recommendation**

That Council adopts the final draft Schedule of fees and Charges 2015/16 [as amended/without amendment] to come into force on 1 July 2015.

## **11 Adoption of draft Policy on Development Contributions**

Council's draft Policy on Development Contributions was put out for public consultation during the period 1 April 2015 to 4 May 2015, simultaneous to "What's the Plan Rangitikei...?" During this period no submissions were received on the draft Policy.

The draft Policy on Development Contributions is attached.

### **Recommendation**

That Council adopts the final draft Policy on Development Contributions [as amended/without amendment] to come into force on 1 July 2015.

## **12 Project Central Wind: Consideration of objection from Meridian Energy to Council's decision to decline the application to extend the lapse date**

A report is attached.

File ref: 2-LP-5-RM08 (80065)

### **Recommendations**

- 1 That the report 'Project Central Wind: Consideration of objection from Meridian Energy to Council's decision to decline the application to extend the lapse date' be received.

- 2 That in considering the application from Meridian Energy to extend the lapse date for the consents granted by the Council for Project Central Wind (and the objection to Council's previous decision to decline it) Council notes (and agrees) that:
  - a. regard is required to be had to the three matters to be taken into account specified by section 125(1A) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and
  - b. the wider policy context for the project would be of potential relevance, including the practical and economic realities of constructing and completing a major development but not the company's financial position.
- 3 That Council notes (and agrees) that
  - a. the three matters to be taken into account specified by section 125(1A) of the Resource Management Act 1991 are evaluative, unprioritised, and inter-related, and that
  - b. they do not comprise 'bottom lines' which must all be met conclusively, but instead they are a reasonable conclusion on each test must be reached, and an overall decision then made.
- 4 That Council notes (and agrees) that
  - a. the quantum of effort and progress which has been (and continues to be) made towards giving effect to the Council's consents for Project Central Wind is substantial in terms of what can be done before physical construction begins, and that
  - b. further delay with the physical construction will make an overall assessment of 'substantial progress or effort' increasingly uncertain and unlikely.
- 5 That Council notes (and agrees) that consideration may be needed to the alternative of solar collectors at the Project Central Wind site should the present application be approved and there is a further application to extend the lapse date made in five years' time.
- 6 That Council notes (and agrees) that the evidence from reviewing consenting activity before and after the consents for Project Central Wind is that there is a very small number only of persons who may be potentially adversely affected from granting the extension to lapse the Council's consents.
- 7 That Council notes (and agrees) that the operative District Plan is not undermined by granting the application to lapse the Council's consents for Project Central Wind.

EITHER

- 8 That Council, having considered the Notice of Objection dated 14 May 2015 from Meridian Energy Ltd,
  - a. in terms of Standing Order 3.9.18, revokes resolution 15/RDC/127. and

- b. approves 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 28 May 2020), thus resolving the objection.

OR

- 9 That Council, having considered the Notice of Objection dated 14 May 2015 from Meridian Energy Ltd,
  - a. confirms its decision in resolution 15/RDC/127 to decline 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; and
  - b. authorises the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, to appoint an independent commissioner to conduct a hearing of the Notice of Objection under section 357C(3)(b) of the Resource Management Act and give Meridian at least five working days' notice of the date, time and place for this hearing.

### **13 Draft final 2015-25 Long Term Plan following Deliberations**

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 1-LTP15-5-1

#### **Recommendations**

- 1 That the memorandum "Draft Final 2015-25 Long Term Plan following deliberations: be received
- 2 That the draft final 2015-25 Long Term Plan [as amended] be submitted to Audit New Zealand for scrutiny (and amendment as needed) prior to issue of its opinion and the adoption of the Plan by Council on 25 June 2015.

### **14 Draft response to submitters to "What's the Plan Rangitikei..." and associated documents**

A response to submitters has been drafted and is included as Article 8 Response to Submitters in the Draft final 2015-25 Long Term Plan following Deliberations. Following adoption of the audited Plan on 25 June 2015, this Article with any amendments made during the audit process, will be sent to all submitters and posted on Council's website.

A separate response will be sent to the one submitter on the proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2015/16.

## **15 Receipt of committee minutes and resolutions to be confirmed**

### **Recommendation**

1 That the minutes of the following meetings be received:

- Turakina Community Committee, 2 April 2015
- Turakina Reserve Management Committee, 2 April 2015
- Omatane Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee, 15 April 2015
- Hunterville Community Committee, 20 April 2015
- Finance/Performance Committee, 30 April 2015
- Bulls Community Committee, 12 May 2015
- Erewhon Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee, 13 May 2015
- Marton Community Committee, 13 May 2015
- Assets/Infrastructure Committee, 14 May 2015

2 That the following recommendations from Hunterville Community Committee dated 30 April 2015 be confirmed:

#### **15/HCC/003**

That the Hunterville Community Committee recommends that Council provide a replacement picnic table and appropriate seating for Centennial Hall, Hunterville.

3 That the following recommendations from Finance/Performance Committee dated 30 April 2015 be confirmed:

#### **15/FPE/014**

That the Finance/Performance Committee recommends to Council that it proceed with further action pursuant to the Local Government Rating Act 2002, including the sale of the properties owned by the six ratepayers identified in the report who have been through the all the prescribed steps, to recover the overdue unpaid rates on these properties.

## **16 Public Excluded**

### **Recommendation**

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

Item 1: Council Property

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:

<b>General subject of the matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing of this resolution</b>
Item 1 Council Property	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.

## **17 Late items**

## **18 Future items for the agenda**

## **19 Next meeting**

Thursday 25 June 2015, 1.00 pm

## **20 Meeting closed**

# Attachment 1



# Rangitikei District Council

## Council Meeting

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

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

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

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

## **1 Welcome**

His Worship the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Council prayer**

His Worship the Mayor read the Council prayer.

## **3 Public Forum**

Andrew Morriss – The award of Roothing Contract C980.

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

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

A list of businesses represented in the Chamber was tabled.

## **4 Apologies/Leave of absence**

That the apology for absence from Cr Aslett be received<sup>1</sup>.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Sheridan. Carried

## **5 Members' conflict of interest**

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

## **6 Confirmation of order of business**

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

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<sup>1</sup> A Skype connection with Cr Aslett was attempted but unsuccessful.

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

## 7 Confirmation of minutes

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

Resolved minute number	15/RDC/117	File Ref
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That the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 7 May 2015 and 8 May 2015 (as amended) be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Belsham. Carried

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

## 9 Analysis of submissions to the Consultation Document, "What's the Plan Rangitikei..." with respect to the draft 2015-25 LTP

Resolved minute number	15/RDC/118	File Ref	1-LTP15-7
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That the report 'Analysis of submissions to the Consultation Document, "What's the Plan Rangitikei..." with respect to the draft 2015-25 LTP' be received.

Cr McManaway / Cr Aslett. Carried

### Motion

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

His Worship the Mayor / Cr McManaway.

### Amendment

Add... 'and other relevant organisations...'

Cr Harris / Cr Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number	15/RDC/119	File Ref	1-LTP15-7
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council liaise with Horizons Regional Council and other relevant organisations over its view on addressing issues relating to genetic modification.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr McManaway. Carried

### **Motion**

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

Cr Gordon / Cr Belsham

### **Amendment**

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

Cr Ash / Cr Peke-Mason. Lost

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/120</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its intention to build up the roading reserve to \$3.5 million through increased rates contributions over the life of the 2015-25 Long Term Plan but focussed in years 1-5.

Cr Gordon / Cr Belsham. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/121</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm that cost-estimates will be provided to the September 2015 meeting of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee with respect to the requests for new footpaths at Bulls (from units 1-6, 136 High Street – 160 High Street), Ratana (from the corners of Te Taitokerau and Seamer Streets along Rangatahi and a streetlamp on Rangatahi) and Taihape (walkway along State Highway 1 from Dixon Way).

Cr Rainey / Cr Jones. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/122</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council request the Assets/Infrastructure Committee to monitor the general upkeep and upgrade of the footpaths in Turakina through the normal business of the activity and the committee.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Sheridan. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/123</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm that the Chief Executive convey to the Whanganui District Health Board the Council's view that fluoridation of potable water supplies is a matter for national policy setting and funding.

Cr McManaway / Cr Sheridan. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/124</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its intention to investigate all options for the replacement, where absolutely necessary, of reticulated water and wastewater schemes for smaller communities:

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

Cr Gordon / Cr Jones. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/125</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council request the Assets/Infrastructure Committee to review the management of the trade waste stream from Bonny Glen landfill, to ensure that the full costs of the service are born by Mid-West Disposals Ltd and not ratepayers.

Cr McManaway / Cr Gordon. Carried

### **3 Public Forum**

Continued...

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

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



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

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

(Tabled document)

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

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

(Tabled document)

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

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

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

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

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

**Resolved minute number**

**15/RDC/126**

**File Ref**

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

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

Cr Ash / Cr McManaway. Carried

Cr Peke-Mason voted against.

### **Motion**

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

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Gordon. Lost

### **Motion**

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

Cr Rainey / Cr Sheridan. Lost

**Resolved minute number**

**15/RDC/127**

**File Ref**

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

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

Cr McNeil / Cr Ash. Carried

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

## **9 Analysis of submissions to the Consultation Document, "What's the Plan Rangitikei...?" with respect to the draft 2015-25 LTP**

Continued...

### **Motion**

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

Cr McManaway / Cr Jones. Withdrawn

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

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

Cr Rainey / Cr Gordon. Carried

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

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

Cr Sheridan / Cr Jones. Carried

Cr Peke-Mason voted against

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

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

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Gordon. Carried

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

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

Cr McManaway / Cr Rainey. Carried

## **Motion**

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

Cr Rainey / Cr Peke-Mason. Withdrawn

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/132</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its preferred option to invest in the rejuvenation of the town centres in Bulls, Marton and Taihape at the level and in the timeframe proposed in the consultation document.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Belsham. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/133</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirm its intention to maintain the current level of service at the District's swimming pools, ensuring that contractual arrangements with the operators permit swimming in the pool in Marton from the end of term 3 to the beginning of term 2, including school holidays, and in Taihape, that pool opening hours enable customers to enjoy a regular programme to swim (for example, before work each weekday).

Cr McManaway / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/134</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council agrees to waive all entry fees to Schools in the District.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Belsham. Carried

## **Motion**

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

Cr Rainey / Cr Sheridan. Lost

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/135</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council agree to waive all entry fees for a pre-school child and an accompanying provided they are attending a swim school lesson.

Cr McManaway / Cr Gordon. Carried

Cr Ash voted against.

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/136</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirms its intention to invest \$100,000 per year for three years to refurbish the existing community housing stock and to continue to investigate partnerships with other agencies with a track record in managing social housing.

Cr Jones / Cr McManaway. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/137</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirms its intention to invest \$50,000 per annum to fund park and reserve upgrades that are supported by the community and bring added value of at least \$100,000 (in cash or in kind) per annum.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Sheridan. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/RDC/138</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>1-LTP15-7</b>
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That, following consideration of written and oral submissions to the 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan, Council confirms up to an additional \$50,000 in 2015/16 to work with the Taihape Memorial Park users group to make a water source available for irrigating the playing surfaces of the Park.

Cr Gordon / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Cr Ash 1.32 pm / 1.34 pm

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

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

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

Cr Sheridan / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

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

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

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

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

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

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

His Worship the Mayor / Cr McManaway. Carried

#### **Amendment**

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

Cr McManaway / Cr Rainey. Lost



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

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

Cr Sheridan / Cr Gordon. Carried

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

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

Cr Sheridan / Cr Belsham. Carried

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

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

Cr Jones / Cr Sheridan. Carried

## **10 Analysis of submissions on the proposed revenue and financing policy**

Mr Hodder spoke briefly to the report.

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

The divergent view of Federated Farmers was also discussed.

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

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

Cr Belsham / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

**Motion**

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

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Rainey. Lost

**Motion**

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

Cr Ash / Cr Peke-Mason. Lost

**Resolved minute number**

**15/RDC/146**

**File Ref**

**1-LTP15-3**

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

Cr McManaway / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Cr Ash voted against.

**Resolved minute number**

**15/RDC/147**

**File Ref**

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

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Gordon. Carried

Cr Harris and Cr Ash voted against

**Resolved minute number**

**15/RDC/148**

**File Ref**

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

Cr Jones / Cr Sheridan. Carried

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

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

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

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

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Sheridan. Carried

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

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

Cr Rainey / Cr McManaway. Carried

## **12 Proposed Duck Sculpture for Frae Ona Park**

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

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

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

Cr Sheridan / Cr Belsham. Carried

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

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

Cr Belsham / Cr McManaway. Carried

Cr Peke-Mason left Chambers 2.14 pm / 2.24 pm

## **13 Late items**

Nil

## 14 Future items for the agenda

Nil

## 15 Public Excluded

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

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

Item 1: Outcome of tender for the District-wide Roading 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 Roading Contract	Briefing contains information which if released would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it or who is the subject of the information and to enable the local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	Section 48(1)(a)(i)

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

Cr Gordon / Cr Sheridan. Carried

**16 Next meeting**

Thursday 21 May 2015, 9.30 am<sup>3</sup>

**17 Meeting closed – 3.27 pm**

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

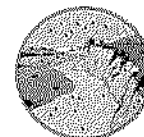
Unconfirmed

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<sup>3</sup> Subsequently cancelled. Next meeting Thursday 28 May 2015.

# Attachment 2





**Rangitikei**  
Unusually...

# REPORT

SUBJECT: **Administrative matters - May 2015**

TO: Council

FROM: Ross McNeil, Chief Executive

DATE: 21 May 2015

FILE: 5-EX-4

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## 1 Mangaweka campground

- 1.1 At its meeting on 12 March 2015 the Assets/Infrastructure Committee resolved to support redirecting the unspent \$95,000 allocated to upgrade the Mangaweka Camping Ground on-site sewage disposal system towards an ablution block upgrade at the camping ground.<sup>1</sup> The camping ground typically has no more than 20 people staying per night, with approximately 100 people up to 10 nights per year. Occasionally there are up to 300 people and for these large events portaloos are also made available.
- 1.2 The present ablution block houses three toilet pans and it is planned to increase this number by two. The Schedule to the Camping-Grounds Regulations 1985 prescribes requirements on buildings, water supply, ablution and sanitary fixtures, refuse disposal, cooking places, laundry facilities and drainage. As an example, Part 3 prescribes ablution and sanitary fixtures and stipulates the number of pans required for 300 people (maximum number to be served) would be 13. However, clause 14(3) of these regulations allows for a local authority to grant a certificate of exemption to an operator of a 'remote campsite' (which the Mangaweka Camping Ground is designated as) to be exempt from any of the requirements of the regulations.
- 1.3 A recommendation is included to grant a certificate of exemption for five years to the current operator of the Mangaweka Camping Ground for the requirements in this Schedule, subject to the Community & Leisure Assets Services Team Leader being satisfied that the camping ground provides a safe and hygienic environment. Such certificates are not transferable.

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<sup>1</sup> 13/RDC/016

## **2 Powerco engagement with the Council**

- 2.1 Powerco has recently approached both the Mayor and the Chief Executive to have an opportunity to talk with Elected Members and key staff. This is a welcome opportunity and direction is requested whether this discussion is best held within the agenda of a meeting of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee or on some other occasion.
- 2.2 The letter from Powerco is attached as Appendix 1. A copy of the Stakeholder Report referred to in that letter has been placed in the Committee Room.

## **3 Frae Ona Park**

- 3.1 At its meeting of 14 May 2015, Council endorsed the proposed installation of the duck sculpture in Frae Ona Park, Marton.<sup>2</sup>
- 3.2 In accordance with Council's Policy for the procurement and management of public artwork, information about the proposal was provide to the Marton Community Committee and Ngati Apa, and publicised in the Rangitikei Bulletin. The Marton Community Committee passed a resolution in support. As no other feedback has been received, Council staff will continue to liaise with Mrs Rippon over finalising the design and installation over the sculpture.

## **4 Provision of Mayoral vehicle**

- 4.1 At its meeting on 7 May 2015, it was agreed<sup>3</sup> that the question of providing a vehicle for the Mayor would be considered at this meeting. Up until now, the Mayor has not been provided with a vehicle and has claimed mileage used in his own vehicle. Mileage payments are set by the Remuneration Authority and may not exceed 37c per km after 5,000 km in any year.
- 4.2 Council's Policy on Elected Members' allowances and recovery of expenses allows for a vehicle to be provided that is also available for the Mayor's private use. The Authority normally assesses full private use of such a vehicle as 20% and has a formula to deduct the value of the vehicle provided from the Mayor's salary. When a vehicle is allocated for Mayoral use only there is no impact on the Mayor's salary; the same applies when the Mayor uses a pool vehicle for a specific Council purpose.
- 4.3 There is no consistency among councils similar in size to Rangitikei over provision of a vehicle for the Mayor: Hastings, Opotiki, Tararua, South Waikato and Wanganui provide a vehicle with full private use; Manawatu, Ruapehu and

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<sup>2</sup> 15/RDC/152.

<sup>3</sup> (as a future item)

South Wairarapa provide a vehicle for Mayoral use only; Central Hawkes Bay and Horowhenua do not allocate such a vehicle.

- 4.4 The lower mileage rate payable after 5,000 km may act as a constraint to the Mayor from building and maintaining relationships with communities and individuals throughout the District. Allocating a vehicle with full private use would normally remove that constraint. However, family and business relationships may mean that having a Mayoral vehicle assigned with full private use creates complications for the Mayor. Making a vehicle available for Mayoral use only or providing a pool vehicle on specific occasions may be useful compromises.
- 4.5 Ultimately, it is for the Mayor to decide whether to have a vehicle allocated to him, on what basis and (if for full private use) what that vehicle is. However, Council may wish to reinforce the provision in the Policy on Elected Members' allowances and recovery of expenses by resolving that this is its preference.

## **5 Heritage New Zealand – review of incomplete registrations**

- 5.1 Heritage New Zealand has recently advised it has completed its assessment of deficient registrations. These assessments were over properties which, some time ago, had been identified as having potential heritage interest warranting classification but where the work had not been completed to substantiate that. The summary report is attached as Appendix 2.
- 5.2 Such properties are not included in the list of Schedule C3 Historic Heritage of the operative District Plan. Heritage New Zealand has asked Council to include the 16 places given "proposal" status in Schedule C3 in a future plan change. The sole Council-owned place in this category is the War Memorial in Bulls.

## **6 Provisional lease to Clubs Taihape**

- 6.1 Council has received a letter from Clubs Taihape about the two year approval of a draft lease for the Hub project. A copy is attached as Appendix 3.
- 6.2 At its meeting of 26 November 2013, Council resolved:

That the Council commit to a draft deed of lease for the site proposed by Clubs Taihape provided that the proposed development is fully funded, and an independently reviewed financial business plan is provided, with a building commencement date within two years at minimal expense to the ratepayer.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> 13/RDC/316.

6.3 This timeline will not be achieved. It has been delayed because of the process undertaken for the Taihape Town Centre Plan and the current work with user groups of Taihape Memorial Park (including Clubs Taihape). The latter project is bringing a much stronger collaborative approach to considering the nature of facilities on the Park. To simply extend the commitment for (say) two months is undesirable for two reasons – first, it carries a presumption that this is Council’s preferred solution, and second there is no certainty on the timeline to complete the project as envisaged in 2013. So it is recommended that Council not extend the commitment.

6.4 However, it is important for Council to acknowledge the principle behind the Hub project, i.e. there is proven scope for sporting and recreational organisations to gain better facilities through a “sportsville” concept, and also acknowledge that Clubs Taihape has been a driving force to promote this.

## **7 Rectifying hazardous intersection: SH 3 – Williamsons Line**

7.1 Following the tragic accident at the intersection of State Highway 3 with Williamsons Line on 9 May 2015, Vern McDonald (a resident of Williamsons Line) has written to the Mayor asking that the Council advocate to the New Zealand Transport Agency to install a refuge right turning lane. A copy of that letter is attached as Appendix 4.

7.2 A recommendation for this action is included

## **8 Future management of parks and town maintenance**

8.1 Interviews for the Parks & Reserves Team Leader position are being held on 22 May 2015. Vacancies for the other staff positions have been advertised.

8.2 Alternatives for housing staff and equipment have been examined. The preferred solution is to erect a shed on Council’s vacant section on the corner of Grey and High Streets (as a storage area and workshop) and house staff in the recently cleared room at the western end of the Assets building. This means no disruption to other facilities on the site, no external leases, and ensuring the new team is not isolated from the rest of the Marton-based staff.

8.3 Contract specifications are being finalised for the specialised work – i.e. tree-felling, turf management and sexton duties – and the provision of horticultural supplies and advice.

8.4 Council has made explicit its preference to see the current arrangements for parks and town maintenance work at Ratana continue, through for a review to be undertaken. Peter Shore has recently visited Ratana for that purpose

## **9 Improving broadband connectivity and mobile coverage in the Rangitikei**

- 9.1 Wanganui District Council is coordinating a response across Horizons region to identify local priorities for Ultra-fast Broadband, the Rural Broadband Initiative and the Mobile Black Spots Fund.
- 9.2 Although the process established by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) is competitive, the local government sector is taking a collaborative approach. The local coordination is in line with the national approach, typified by the Rural Connectivity Symposium to be held in Wellington on 28 May 2015.

## **10 Town centre plan update**

### Taihape

- 10.1 A draft Memorandum of Understanding has been prepared and circulated to all user groups for Taihape Memorial Park, including the Taihape Area School, Clubs Taihape, Taihape Community Development Trust and Sport Whanganui Regional Sports Trust. The broad outcomes include (but are not limited to):
- optimised use of indoor and outdoor facilities at Memorial Park and Taihape Area School for competition games, training and development;
  - use of Memorial Park and Taihape Area School for larger scale events;
  - closer links between Council, clubs and the School; and
  - better use of sports facilities within Memorial Park and the wider precinct (including the School).
- 10.2 The Taihape Town Centre Steering Group has folded back in to the Taihape Community Board. As in Bulls, local youth are working on a mural and public art project, linked to the Town Centre Plans place making initiatives. These are expected to be completed by the end of June.

### Hunternville

- 10.3 The Hunternville Town Centre Plan Steering Group is due to begin the second phase of their work in Queens Park, although timing is weather dependent; this will involve repairing the fence surrounding the park and will include repairs to the wooden bridge leading into the playground area. Work on the bridge will only begin once Council engineers have assessed and advised on the bridge's structural integrity.

## Marton

- 10.4 The Marton TCP Steering Group has been working with the Anglican Church Committee to provide a safe pathway through the existing tree line connecting the Church's grounds with Broadway and Marton Park. Once details have been finalised with the Anglican Church committee, the project is expected to get underway during the first weekend in June. The existing track through the tree line will be transformed into a shell rock and concrete pathway that is safer, more pedestrian friendly and provides better access to Broadway Street, Centennial Park and the local shops.
- 10.5 The Steering Group will approach Rotary, Lions and the Jaycees to see if they are interested in working collaboratively with the Steering Group on this project and future place-making initiatives in the town.

## Bulls

- 10.6 The Bulls Town Centre Steering Group has folded back in to the Bulls Community Committee. As in Taihape, local youth are working on a mural and public art project, linked to the Town Centre Plans place making initiatives. These are expected to be completed by the end of June.
- 10.7 The highlight from the month is, of course, the announcement that Council's joint venture partners have purchased the Criterion Hotel. This means that the preferred site for the proposed new Bulls Community Centre is now secure.

## **11 Application of savings from new road maintenance contract**

- 11.1 The outcome of the joint tender approach to road maintenance contracts in Horowhenua, Manawatu and Rangitikei Districts has been announced, with Higgins being awarded the contract for all three districts, effective from 1 July 2015.
- 11.2 The rates requirement for roading maintenance is determined by the three-year approval from the New Zealand Transport Agency for a specified programme. This is done on *projected* costs of the roading maintenance contract. However, the new contract enables that work to be done at a saving of \$450,000; the net gain to the ratepayer is the local share not needed –i.e. \$171,000 in 2015/16. This presents some options:
- a. the agreed work is undertaken: the roading rate is reduced by the amount saved (about 0.7%);
  - b. the roading maintenance programme is extended to spend the full New Zealand Transport Agency approved expenditure (i.e. ensuring the maximum subsidised amount is obtained): the roading rate is unchanged;

- c. the savings (\$171,000) are applied to other initiatives/programmes: the roading rate is reduced by the amount saved but there is a commensurate increase in the general rate and/or uniform charges.

11.3 This is a Council decision. If Council decided on (a) or (c), it obviously affects the financial statements in the Long Term Plan, but that would be flagged with the Council's auditors and, once amended statements are prepared, they would be reviewed during the audit (due to start on 2 June 2015). That timeline could be met by providing a specific delegated authority to the Policy/Planning Committee to consider and determine what the most effective initiatives/programmes should be supported by this funding.

## **12 Local Government Survey**

12.1 On 20 May 2015 Local Government New Zealand released the results of a comprehensive survey of New Zealanders' perception of local government. This is for the sector as a whole, thus differing from individual council surveys which are limited to views about particular councils.

12.2 One result of this survey is the development (by LGNZ) of a programme of work to focus on improving performance across priority areas. Councils will determine for themselves how they wish to engage with this initiative. The summary Q and A's released by LGNZ is attached as [Appendix 5](#).

## **13 Proposed road closures**

13.1 There have been no applications for road closures since the last meeting

## **14 Fee discounts and waivers to non-profit community organisations**

14.1 The Hunterville Rugby Club has written requesting a waiver of the invoiced cost of using the Hunterville Domain, \$303. A copy is attached as [Appendix 6](#).

14.2 This invoice was a result of reviewing the administrative arrangements over Council's parks. It became apparent that Hunterville, Marton and Bulls rugby has not been charged for park use for rugby for a number of years (whereas this had been consistently done at Taihape). An initial email was sent to all three clubs advising of this, and the intention to charge, with an invitation to contact Council if they knew of a reason why no charge had been made.

14.3 Bulls and Marton were invoiced \$531 (as in the Schedule of Fees and Charges). However, Hunterville has not paid and considers that the fee should be waived, citing maintenance, mowing and marking of the grounds.

14.4 Council does provide some services: the Hunterville Domain is included in the current mowing contract with Fulton Hogan. The irrigation system is owned by the Club but Council has absorbed the costs of supplying the water (\$1,826.30

in the past twelve months). Marking is carried out throughout by the District by the sports teams concerned.

- 14.5 Notwithstanding the provision of these services, Council may consider that a waiver of all or part of the annual invoiced fee is reasonable given the way the Hunterville Rugby Club is involved with and cares for the ground.

## **15 Staffing**

- 15.1 Priscilla Jeffrey will start on 2 June 2015 as Administrator, covering the maternity leave soon to be taken by Samantha Whitcombe
- 15.2 Agnès Ginestet has accepted employment for a further twelve months as Environmental Health Officer
- 15.3 Richard Illston, Utilities Reticulation Serviceperson, finished on 22 May 2015. As noted previously, Andrew Burberry has been appointed to this role.

## **16 Recommendations**

- 16.1 That the report 'Administrative matters – May 2015' be received.
- 16.2 That Council grants a certificate of exemption under clause 14(3) of the Camping-Ground Regulations 1985 to the current operator of the Mangaweka Camping Ground (being a remote camping ground) for the requirements of the Schedule to those regulations for a period of five years from 1 July 2015 subject to the Community & Leisure Assets Services Team Leader being satisfied that the camping ground provides a safe and hygienic environment.
- 16.3 That Council invites representatives of Powerco Limited to meet with Elected Members and key staff EITHER during a meeting of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee OR .....
- 16.4 That Council records its preference that the Mayor of the Rangitikei District is allocated a vehicle for private use, while acknowledging that this is a decision for the Mayor to make.
- 16.5 That the Chief Executive (i) requests the New Zealand Transport Agency to improve safety at the intersection of State Highway 3 and Williamsons Line, by installing a refuge right-turning lane and (ii) writes to Vern McDonald thanking him for his concern and informing him of Council's action.
- 16.6 That Council affirms its commitment to supporting a collaborative approach to securing improved facilities on Taihape Memorial Park, acknowledges the work done by Clubs Taihape to promote such a concept, and allows to lapse the commitment for a provisional lease to Clubs Taihape for part of Taihape Memorial Park until the current facilitation processes are complete and have identified a preferred option.



16.7 That Council applies the savings in the award of the new roading maintenance contract by

EITHER

- a. reducing the rates requirement for 2015/16.

OR

- b. increasing the roading programme (with a report being provided to the 9 July 2015 meeting of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee as to the specifics of that additional work).

OR

- c. applying the savings to other initiatives (to be determined by the Policy/Planning Committee at its meeting on 15 June 2015 following consideration of a report setting out potential options).

16.8 That with respect to the annual domain fee of \$303 charged to the Hunterville Rugby Club, Council EITHER waives ....% of the fee on an ongoing basis OR declines the request for waiver.

Ross McNeil  
Chief Executive

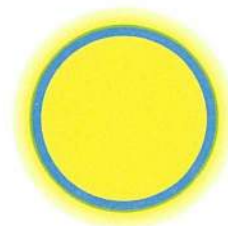
# *Appendix 1*

11 May 2015

His Worship Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei  
C/- Rangitikei District Council  
Private Bag 1102  
Marton 4741

**CORPORATE OFFICE**  
84 Liardet Street  
Private Bag 2061  
New Plymouth  
T 0800 769 372  
F +64 6 758 6818  
[www.powerco.co.nz](http://www.powerco.co.nz)

**POWERCO**



Dear Mr Watson,

**Powerco engagement with Rangitikei District Council (RDC)**

RDC is one of Powerco's key stakeholders. We value your feedback on any aspect of our electricity networks and services – either as a representative of the people in your district or as a large electricity customer in your own right.

Powerco would appreciate the opportunity to address RDC's key officers and elected representatives. We would like to talk to you so we can better understand how we can work together to achieve great outcomes for our organisations and mutual customers.

The electricity industry is poised for significant change. Consumers can now readily access large amounts of information from a range of industries. This is transforming their expectations of how they engage with electricity service providers. New technologies, changing consumer patterns and regulatory regimes all add to the need for Powerco to look at how we engage with our stakeholders and customers. As their needs and expectations evolve, so must we. This can only be achieved through meaningful engagement and dialogue.

We will follow up with your officers in the coming weeks to check your availability for a meeting and to arrange a suitable date. Enclosed is Powerco's Stakeholder Report, which we have sent to RDC's elected representatives and key officers to provide relevant background information. It provides an overview of Powerco's role in the electricity industry, network quality, regulation and pricing and expenditure forecasts.

We look forward to working with you to ensure our networks and services meet the expectations and aspirations of your district.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Richard Fletcher  
GM Regulation and Government Relations  
Powerco Ltd.

# *Appendix 2*

## Heritage New Zealand

### Rangitikei deficient registration project summary

May 2015

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The following prioritisations have been decided based on the information contained in the preliminary Summary Reports for 19 deficient registrations in the Rangitikei District.

This includes one property owned by Rangitikei District Council which is denoted in bold type.

#### Places entered on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero ('the List')

These places were prioritised and are now entered on the New Zealand Heritage List.

Name	List no.	Category
Birch Homestead, 838 Taihape-Napier Road, Moawhango	2736	Category 1 historic place
Whitikaupeka Church, 24 Wherewhere Road, Moawhango	948	Category 2 historic place

#### Places given Proposal status

These 16 places are considered good candidates for entry on the List based on aspects such as historical, social and architectural values. At this stage we are unable to specify in which year's work programme we will be able to complete a full heritage assessment for each of these places and progress them for entry onto the List.

Name	List no.
Erewhon, 1604 Napier-Taihape Road, Taihape	949
Lock-up (Former), 51 Wherewhere Road, Moawhango	950
Bank of New Zealand (Former), 1 Kawakawa Street and Broadway, Mangaweka	945
Beccles, 19 High Street (SH 1), Bulls	1202
Church of St John the Baptist, 39 Bruce Street, Hunterville	1203
Church of the Sacred Heart, Rangatira Road, Hunterville	1217
Crofton Store and Post Office (Former), 299 Makirikiri Road, Crofton, Rangitikei	1252
Heaton Park Homestead, 1169A State Highway 3 Marton	1205
House (Connelly Cottage), 43 High Street Bulls	1207
Hunterville Courthouse (Former), 12 Milne Street, Hunterville	1204
Meldrum's Legal Chambers (Former), 12 Bruce Street, Hunterville	1209
Pembroke Vale Homestead, 723 Waimutu Rd Turakina	2844

Puketutu Homestead, 1808B State Highway 1, RD 1, Marton 4787	2843
St Patrick's Church, Mangawharariki Road and Raumaewa Road, Mangaweka	946
Taihape Courthouse, 4 Tui Street, Taihape	965
War Memorial, 1 Daniell and High Streets, Bulls	1183

Research into these places was discontinued

The preliminary assessment for this place suggested it was unlikely to reach the threshold for entry on the New Zealand Heritage List.

Name	List no.
St Andrew's Church (Presbyterian) (Former), 6358 Mangawharariki Road, Mangaweka	2737

# *Appendix 3*

Clubs Taihape Incorporated

C/- PO Box 25, Taihape  
06 388 1307 [elizabeth@taihape.co.nz](mailto:elizabeth@taihape.co.nz)

RECEIVED

30 APR 2015

To: R.M.  
File: 6-RF-1-12  
Doc: 15.0282

29 April 2015

Ross McNeil  
CEO  
Rangitikei District Council  
High Street  
Marton

Dear Ross,

**RE: Lease of part Memorial Park for the Hub project**

At the Board meeting of Clubs Taihape last night it was decided to write to Council asking for clarification of the two year approval of the draft lease of part of Memorial Park for the Hub project – "That the Council commit to a draft deed of lease for the site proposed by Clubs Taihape provided that the proposed development is fully funded, and an independently reviewed financial business plan is provided, with a building commencement date within two years at minimal expense to the ratepayer – 13/RDC/316."

At the request of Council the Hub project was put on hold pending the outcome of the Creative Communities community consultation. Nine months has passed with little being done because the Hub project was put on hold.

Now there is the facilitated process with Peter Shore.

In the meantime Squash has withdrawn from the project, but Peter Shore has indicated that he would like to see that position reversed.


The LTP will not be adopted until June 2015.

The project has stalled pending Council deliberations and the community consultation processes.

The Clubs Taihape Board would like Council to take the above issues into consideration in addressing its above resolution and clarify the position For Clubs Taihape in the current climate.

I look forward to hearing from you and thank Council for its support of this project.

Regards,



Elizabeth Mortland  
Secretary



# *Appendix 4*

The Mayor  
Mr A Watson  
Rangitikei District Council  
Private Bag 1102  
MARTON 4741

12<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Dear Andy

I am writing this letter to express my concerns following the tragic accident on the corner of State Highway 3 and Williamsons Line on Saturday PM the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

I live on Williamsons Line and also have a farm on Lake Alice Road necessitating travel through this Intersection multiple times most days.

This piece of road is reasonably unique in that 2 side roads join Highway 3 approximately 100 metres apart. A large proportion of the traffic that exits Williamsons Line enters Santoft Road and vice versa. Because oncoming traffic is travelling at 100kph both ways this presents a challenge.

I have witnessed many small accidents and "near misses" over the years. The current road rule allows a vehicle turning right across the traffic to either pull to the left side of the road and wait for traffic to clear or to stop on the left side of the centre line.

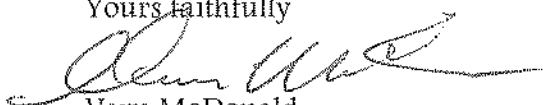
What I see on a regular basis is that a vehicle will pull to the left and a following vehicle will stop alongside, both waiting to turn right. This effectively blocks the lane and with traffic going both ways at 100kph makes for an extremely dangerous situation or an accident waiting to happen.

I feel that a refuge lane in the centre of the road as at "Pukepapa" and "Fordell" would dramatically increase the safety of turning traffic and give through traffic a more defined path to travel.

Being a State Highway I recognize that it is not the local councils derestriction, but my family and neighbours have expressed concerns to various authorities over the years and although it has been recognised something needs to be done, nothing has.

Hopefully the tragic accident will be the catalyst for change to make this a safer piece of road.

Yours faithfully



Vern McDonald  
190 Williamsons Line  
MARTON

# *Appendix 5*

## **Q and A's – The New Zealand Local Government Survey**

### **Q. What will councils be doing to lift their performance?**

A. LGNZ is developing a programme of work that will focus on improving performance across six priority areas:

1. governance, leadership and strategy;
2. financial decision-making and transparency;
3. asset management and infrastructure;
4. engaging with business;
5. communicating and engaging with public; and
6. building a stronger relationship with central government.

Each of these areas will include a series of tangible actions to lift performance and will include metrics and benchmarks that enable councils to demonstrate and deliver high performance to their communities. LGNZ anticipate that this will be a significant long-term three to five year programme.

### **Q. How will you persuade people that council services are value for money?**

A. Local government needs to demonstrate value to the communities it serves. This involves both doing things better and better engagement with the public and businesses. LGNZ is working with councils on a comprehensive performance programme that includes better engagement.

### **Q. Are all councils across New Zealand involved?**

A. LGNZ has briefed all 78 councils on the proposed programme of action and the findings of the inaugural New Zealand Local Government Survey. While the programme is voluntary, we have had a strong expression of interest from a number of councils.

### **Q. What is the New Zealand Local Government Survey?**

A. The New Zealand Local Government Survey was established by LGNZ in 2014 as one gauge for measuring the ongoing health and performance of the local government sector.

The Survey contains several important measures of awareness of local government and its services, satisfaction with services, performance of local government and areas where local business and public think local government performance can improve.

The sum total of all these performance areas culminates in a Reputation Index that will be tracked on an annual basis, and the information it gathers will help to guide the collective actions of LGNZ and councils to focus on efforts to lift the sector's reputation.

### **Q. What are the key findings from the Survey?**

A. The Survey found that while the majority of those surveyed consider local government to be important to New Zealand, the sector is perceived as less important in peoples' daily lives.

Most people are aware of the public-facing services that councils provide (ie solid waste, water), but there is mixed awareness of the other roles that local government fulfil (ie roading, environmental management, economic development and attracting major events).

Public and businesses want local government to focus on improvements in:

- demonstrating value for rate dollars spent;
- demonstrating efficiency and effectiveness;
- making good spending decisions;
- managing finances well; and
- the role of elected members to lead strategies to drive prosperity and well-being in their communities.

There are also particular drivers that are unique to businesses:

- effective partnerships with business, including opportunities to influence the local economic development strategy;
- improvements to the building and resource consent processes;
- adopting a flexible, common sense approach to implementing regulation; and
- marketing local investment opportunities.

In addition to these findings, Colmar Brunton developed an overall Reputation Index that summarises how the local government sector rates across the three main drivers of reputation – performance, local leadership and communication and interaction. The local government sector currently scores on average 29 out of 100, incorporating the views of both the public and business community.

**Q. What similar work has been done in the past?**

- A. In 2006, LGNZ commissioned Colmar Brunton to carry out a nationwide telephone survey of 1000 randomly-selected ratepayers. The aim of this research was to understand public perceptions of rates and the value delivered by local government. This fed into a platform for communications about the 2007 local government elections, with the development of a local government brand that was used on all material discussing the generic role of local government. This brand was used jointly by LGNZ and the Department of Internal Affairs to increase awareness of, and participation in, local government. This research was not subsequently repeated.

**Q. How does the LGNZ Survey differ from individual council satisfaction surveys?**

- A. Firstly, the key difference is that the New Zealand Local Government Survey is a measure for the local government sector as a whole, whereas council surveys are limited to views about individual councils.

Secondly, council surveys are predominantly focused on satisfaction with individual councils' delivery of the services and facilities they are responsible for, whereas the New Zealand Local Government Survey provides a more holistic view of perceptions of local government and encompasses more than just satisfaction with services and facilities.

'Satisfaction' by itself is largely based on the level of interaction respondents have had with certain services. Measuring a range of measures leading to 'reputation' encompasses not only service provision (under which 'satisfaction' is a sub-category), but also communication and engagement, and leadership.

Thirdly, the New Zealand Local Government Survey is representative of New Zealand's population and conducted with a cross-section of different stakeholders; the general public, businesses, council staff and elected members. Council surveys on the other hand are targeted towards residents, though this term varies across councils with 'customers,' 'community,' 'residents' and 'ratepayers' also used.

These key points of difference between individual council satisfaction surveys (council surveys) and the New Zealand Local Government Survey are summarised in the table below:

	<b>Council satisfaction surveys (generalised)</b>	<b>New Zealand Local Government Survey</b>
<b>Objective</b>	To measure satisfaction with the services and activities that the council is responsible for, and compare these with previous years results	To measure the ongoing health and performance of the local government sector, and to help guide the collective actions for LGNZ and councils to lift the sector's reputation
<b>Typical question form</b>	"How satisfied are you with...?"	"How much do you agree/disagree with these statements?"  "How much of a lead should local government take on...?"
<b>Sample size</b>	200 - 800	2,400 public; 594 businesses
<b>Frequency</b>	Biennial, annual, ad hoc	Annual

**Q. Is a similar survey methodology used in other sectors?**

- A. Reputation is measured across a number of industries in New Zealand including airlines, telecommunications, power, food and insurance. However, this is the first time reputation of the local government sector as a whole has been measured in New Zealand.

Most overseas local government surveys, such as the United Kingdom and Australia, measure customer and ratepayer "satisfaction" with council services. Our methodology goes further than "satisfaction" to understand what people and business think and feel about local government generally, not just the services we offer. This comprehensive approach will greatly assist councils and LGNZ to understand where local government is doing well and where it needs to improve.

# *Appendix 6*



RECEIVED

28 APR 2015

22 April 2015

Gaylene Prince  
Rangitikei District council  
Private Bag 1102  
Marton

To: CP  
File: 6-04-1-9  
Doc: 15 0258

RE: Park and Reserves Fee

Dear Gaylene,

The Hunterville Rugby Football Club received a letter from the council on the 15/4/2015 (tax invoice 51-668-596) for an annual domain charge of \$303. As a club we have never previously been charged this fee for the domain use and we are unsure as to why we have received this invoice. We would like you to consider a waiver of the fee based on the below facts.

The Hunterville Rugby Football Club is a non-profit organisation that takes extreme pride of the grounds and how they are presented when we are hosting other teams, some from outside of our district. We as a committee carry out maintenance, mowing, and marking of the grounds and also own the irrigation under the ground which allows everyone in our community to enjoy the domain over the summer period.

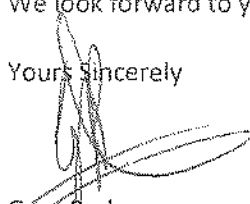
The Clubs only actual use of the domain is by our one rugby team that use the domain for between 3-8 hours a week for 6 months of the year from March until August.

Whilst we feel as a committee that this is a joint venture with the council, we have actually never asked for any assistance from you. We are currently looking for funding to put in a new lighting system and would be very open to discuss whether this projects funding could be assisted from the council.

We would like you to consider the wavier.

We look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely

  
Greg Parkes  
Committee Member



# Attachment 3



# MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

FROM: Katrina Gray

DATE: 22 May 2015

SUBJECT: **Rules Reduction Taskforce - Submission**

FILE: 3-OR-3-5

---

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Rules Reduction Taskforce has been formed to advise the Minister of Local Government and other Ministers of opportunities to remove "loopy property rules and regulations that are stopping people from getting on with the job". This initiative is a reflection of the Government's view that there is a great deal of frustration from people looking to build, redevelop or make home improvements, who are being held back by confusing, costly rules which have long since lost their relevance.
- 1.2 Council staff identified a number of potential issues which were discussed at the Policy/Planning Committee's meetings held in March and April 2015. The draft submission was written in accordance with the outcome of these discussions. The proposed submission is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.3 Local Government New Zealand is also putting in a submission. Their draft submission is attached as Appendix 2. Council's submission supports the Local Government New Zealand submission.

## 2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the memorandum 'Rules Reduction Taskforce – Submission' be received.
- 2.2 That Council authorises the Mayor to sign the proposed submission to the Rules Reduction Taskforce.

Katrina Gray  
Policy Analyst

# *Appendix 1*



21 May 2015

File No: 3-OR-3-5

Rules Reduction  
The Department of Internal Affairs  
PO Box 805  
Wellington 6011

*by email to: [rulesreduction@dia.govt.nz](mailto:rulesreduction@dia.govt.nz)*

## **Submission - Rules Reduction Taskforce**

Rangitikei District Council would like to thank the Rules Reduction Taskforce for the opportunity to contribute to the discussion on unnecessary rules and regulations. Council would like to support the submission made by Local Government New Zealand. The Local Government New Zealand submission is a thorough and accurate portrayal of many of the issues local government faces. This submission will address five key topics:

- Building
- Animal Control
- Bylaws
- Alcohol
- Planning

### **Building**

There are a large number of inspections undertaken by Council's Building Control Officers to ensure the Building Code is complied with. There can be up to 10 inspections for a new dwelling. These inspections significantly increase the cost of the building consent. Council suggests that the building legislation is amended to streamline the inspection process for 'low risk' buildings. In addition, a higher proportion of risk and accountability should be placed on builders and the industry to protect the consumer and reduce Council liability.

### **Animal Control**

Under the current legislation, theoretically, there should be no dogs left which are classified as 'menacing' if they belong to the breed type described under schedule 4 of the Dog Control Act 1996, they need to be neutered. However, this is not the case. Council recommends that the dogs listed in schedule 4 should be illegal to own.

A more robust system needs to be implemented to address the suitability of a person who owns a dog and mandatory training and screening (such as given in other legislation such as the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act, Firearms Act and Road Transport Act).

### **Bylaws**

Many of the bylaws, plans and policies Council is empowered to create, can only be enforced by other agencies. This Council considers that local authorities need to be empowered to issue infringement fees for all legislative functions they undertake, in particular, bylaws. Currently, the only option under the Local Government Act 2002 is to prosecute. Prosecution is very costly and is not always the best tool to solve the problem, but in many cases Council's only option to address non-compliance.

### **Alcohol**

The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 has impractical requirements where liquor shops are not permitted to be on the same site as a petrol station, however, may be okay if they are located on an adjacent site. Council suggests that alcohol shops should be able to establish near petrol stations, however, petrol stations themselves should not be able to sell alcohol.

The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 appears to have inherited parts of the Sale of Liquor Act 1989 and requires clarification and/or review with regard to premises where an off licence can be issued. Currently no off-licence should be issued for petrol stations, certain garages, dairies, convenience stores, conveyances, shops within shops if the public can reach them directly from a shop, or directly from premises where the principal business carried on the site is the sale of automotive fuel.

The legislation restricts the commercial freedom for certain businesses on the same premises or adjacent to each other. It may be workable for larger cities, however in smaller communities this restriction limits commercial growth options.

### **Planning**

The recent amendments under Schedule 4 of the Resource Management Act 1991 with regard to information to be provided for resource consent applications requires more information to be included in applications. Rangitikei District Council processes a large number of simple resource consents, often lodged by the property owner. The new Schedule 4 requirements make it much harder for the general public to do so. What was promoted as something which would 'simplify' and 'streamline' the Resource Management Act 1991, has in fact increased the burden for the general property owner attempting to gain a simple consent.

Council requests that when the government is considering further changes to the Resource Management Act, they consider the small scale, simple consent applications submitted by the general public. Council also requests that government considers the time required for local government to implement the required legislative requirements and requests that sufficient guidance material is provided to ensure consistent implementation across all local authorities.

## **Conclusion**

In summary, Rangitikei District Council would like to see the following actions/amendments:

### Building

- Streamline the inspection process for 'low risk' buildings.
- Increase the accountability and liability for builders.

### Animal Control

- Dogs listed in schedule 4 should be illegal to own.
- Implement a more robust system to address the suitability of a person to own a dog.

### Bylaws

- Empower local authorities to be able to issue infringement fees for all legislative functions they undertake.

### Alcohol

- Enable alcohol shops to establish near petrol stations (while ensuring petrol stations themselves are not able to sell alcohol).

### Planning

- Consider simple consent applications (where it is the property owner who is likely to put in the application) when making further changes to the Resource Management Act.
- Provide timely and user-friendly guidance documents when implementing legislative changes.

Yours sincerely

Andy Watson  
Mayor of the Rangitikei District

## *Appendix 2*



< We  
need sound  
legislation &  
regulation for  
efficient  
delivery of  
services. >

## **Rules Reduction Taskforce: submission**

Local Government New Zealand's submission to the Rules Reduction Taskforce

4 May 2015



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## We are. LGNZ.

LGNZ is the national organisation of local authorities in New Zealand and all 78 councils are members. We represent the national interests of councils and lead best practice in the local government sector. LGNZ provides advocacy and policy services, business support, advice and training to our members to assist them to build successful communities throughout New Zealand. Our purpose is to deliver our sector's Vision: "Local democracy powering community and national success."

## Introduction

Local Government New Zealand thanks the Rules Reduction Taskforce for this opportunity to contribute to its investigation into unnecessary rules and regulations. Like the Government LGNZ is similarly committed to developing a regulatory system that is as efficient, customer-focused and effective as possible however many of the constraints on efficient delivery of services lie with the legislative and regulatory rules that govern the way in which councils operate.

The Task Force has requested information on specific rules and regulations that impact directly on properties and business. We have included a number of examples of such rules and regulations within our submission. However, of equal concern is the indirect cost of rules and regulations. In particular the cost to citizens and businesses of the extensive framework of rules and regulations that govern decision-making in local authorities. The immense scale and impact of this regulatory framework, which has shown almost exponential growth over recent years, has created a complex decision-making environment that has had dramatic effects on the cost of local government and its culture, especially in the way staff and elected members approach risk. The problems with the legislative framework include:

- Over prescription that results in reducing the flexibility of councils to design processes to reflect the diversity and uniqueness of their communities
- Failure to consider risk when designing accountability processes so that a small council like Kaikoura District must provide the same level of information and meet the same accountability requirements as a large council like Auckland
- Failure to provide certainty with frequent changes over the last 20 years creating ongoing costs for councils as they change processes, redeploy staff etc.

Ultimately central government fails to consider the costs and benefits of its reforms on communities. Councils need greater certainty about the nature of the decision-making and accountability frameworks and they need a framework that is flexible, acknowledges risk and scale and recognises that councillors and mayors are elected on behalf of communities to exercise governance and stewardship and are accountable to those electors.

Ultimately the legislative and regulatory framework has a profound effect on a local authority's culture. A well acknowledged example is the impact of "joint and several liability", which we discuss below. The behaviour of councils and their officials in relation to the implementation of the Building Act is heavily affected by the potential risk of regulatory failure. More general lessons can be drawn from this.

LGNZ believes that there is too much reliance on prescription and control in the local government environment. We have identified many regulatory processes that are unnecessarily complex and that ultimately sheet costs home directly to property owners or indirectly to property owners as the general ratepayers. Streamlining some of these processes will make a significant difference.

We believe better outcomes will be achieved through the use of incentives, provision of information and investment in training and up-skilling, of both governing bodies and officials.

A key finding of the Productivity Commission's 2012 enquiry into local government regulation<sup>1</sup> was there is too much siloed thinking at central government level.

Amongst the Productivity Commission's recommendations for improving regulation are the following:

- a tool for helping to decide what regulations, and which parts of implementing regulation, are best performed by Government or councils;
- use of standardised formats and increased transparency to better demonstrate how key council regulatory decisions have been made;
- more focus by government departments, when preparing new regulation intended to be implemented by councils, on the costs and benefits of the proposed regulation, where those costs and benefits will fall, whether or not councils have the capability and capacity required to effectively implement the new regulation, and the likely costs of building that capability and capacity where it does not exist;
- the development of a 'Partners in Regulation' protocol to better guide Government/council engagement;
- the development of new or enhanced joint Government/council forums for overseeing improvements; and
- greater use of risk-based approaches to monitoring and enforcement of regulation by councils, together with enabling greater use of infringement notices to support regulations in place of more costly formal prosecutions.

This submission focuses on the two significant pieces of legislation for local government: the Building Regulations and the Resource Management Act, and then some commentary on the other pieces of legislation that also create challenges or inefficiency in their implementation.

## **Building regulations and resource management/ planning**

### **Building Regulations**

In 2009 Government agreed to review of the Building Act to "reduce costs, but not the quality of the building control system". Extensive stakeholder and public engagement has resulted in several areas of reform including amendments to the Act to improve consumer protection and the licensed building practitioner scheme. LGNZ and local authorities are working closely with MBIE as this work progresses and we stress the importance of maintaining the momentum of this reform. A number of areas of reform are still to be actioned including regulations for risk based consenting and changes to the liability regime.

Local authorities strongly support the intent of the reforms to rebalance and more appropriately allocate responsibility and accountability between consumers (homeowners), building consent authorities and building professionals.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.productivity.govt.nz/inquiry-content/1510?stage=4>



## Joint and Several Liability review

Since 2003, local authorities have advocated for a change from joint and several to proportionate liability. Both the LGNZ submission to the Building Bill (2003) and the Building Act review (2010) and more recently to the Law Commission's review support change. The submission to the Building Act review also suggested a Government backed surety or backstop for warranties.

Local authorities are not unsympathetic to the argument that plaintiffs are unable to fully recover costs when those responsible cannot be found. We cannot however see the logic of the wider community, the ratepayers, having to pay compensation as currently exists under joint and several liability. Communities are, in effect, subsidising poor building practices.

Local authorities providing building inspection services are subject to a strict regime of accreditation to ensure appropriate systems are in place to deliver building services. This has not proven to make any substantive difference to the apportionment of costs when subject to litigation.

## Building Act Schedule 1 Exemptions

Schedule 1 to the Building Act already exempts a range of building works from consent and was amended in November 2013 to include further exemptions.

Local authorities can also exempt other works where it is satisfied that the work will comply with the Building Code or if the completed work does not comply with the building code it is unlikely to endanger people or any building, whether on the same land or property.

The following activities could be also exempted under Schedule 1.

- Detached outbuildings, currently outside the scope of Schedule 1(3) exemptions, such as stand alone garages of proprietary design (Versatile, Skyline etc).
- Carports, currently outside the scope of Schedule 1(18), with a floor area of less than 40m<sup>2</sup> and open on at least two sides;
- Residential stair lifts;
- Non-habitable building work on rural zoned land greater than 1 hectare;
- Single span stock bridges not exceeding 10m in length - currently outside the scope of Schedule 1(24);
- Public playground equipment compliant with NZS 5828;
- Installation of solar water installation compliant with AS/NZS 2712;
- Conservatories of proprietary design which are external to the thermal envelope of the house.

### Solutions:

1. LGNZ supports a change from joint and several liability to proportionate liability
2. Review the activities that are exempted under Schedule 1 to the Building Act

## Resource management/planning

The following discussion focuses on the resource management framework. New Zealand needs a resource management system that is agile, reduces churn, cost and time. We appreciate that a RM Amendment Bill is likely to be forthcoming and the matters identified below have been identified by the local government sector as the priorities with regard to plan making; resource consenting and compliance and enforcement within the current resource management framework.

### Plan making

The ability to provide certainty in plans more quickly is essential for business, for communities and for all stakeholders. The process should take months, not the years it currently does. In the case of the Resource Management Act plans can take from three to seven years and sometimes longer to be approved. Plans may become operative in part, pending appeals to the Environment Court (and beyond). Local Government Act processes on the other hand can deliver long term plans, annual plans and bylaws covering a wide range of local authority regulatory and service delivery functions in a matter of months.

Plans are irrelevant if they are not timely. Our planning processes can't keep up with the reality of changes in the environment in which they are being placed. If we can't get plans and plan changes through the system to meet a faster changing world then these plan making processes themselves become counterproductive and part of the problem, producing adverse outcomes. Plan agility (or the lack of it) is a very serious problem and needs to be fixed. We suggest the process needs to be brought within the timeframes of almost every other decision-making process of central and local government.

We consider that removing the Environment Court from the plan-making process is the most important change needed. The opportunity for judicial review that the local authority went beyond its legal powers when making a decision, arguably provides adequate safeguards for the public.

#### Solutions:

1. Remove the ability to appeal RMA plan and policy decisions to the Environment Court; appeals only allowed on points of law.
2. Remove the further submissions process from RMA plan and policy development requirements.
3. Enable changes to plans through a fast-track process if new versions of standards/models are introduced.

### National direction

The Minister has signalled an increased focus on providing greater national direction to local authorities. A Plan Template is an important part of this central direction. We are interested in the scope of the Plan Template and are keen to explore this. Transitional arrangements (timing and process to give effect to the template) will be critical.

The forward agenda for forthcoming National Policy Statements and National Environmental Standards should be set **with** local government. Setting the schedule for these as a partnership between central and local government will achieve the greatest results. This will ensure the instruments are workable and meet the priorities for local government.

#### Solutions:

1. Local government should help set the priorities for national direction: National Policy Statements, National Environmental Standards and the scope of any Plan Template.
2. The arrangements for the transition to a Plan Template should minimise the need for local authorities to initiate changes to their plans (minimising cost and uncertainty).



## Private plan changes

Private plan changes can be a useful mechanism for enabling the private sector to respond to development opportunities; however they can clog up the planning system and put councils into a reactive position, rather than a proactive one. We support councils having the ability to reject private plan changes in specific circumstances.

This would contribute to a reduction of: costs to all parties associated with plan-making; delays and uncertainties of outcome; complexity of administration at the consenting stage. Re-litigation of issues that have recently been through a plan-making process would be avoided and councils can be more proactive in plan-making, as their resources are not diverted to plan changes on topics that have recently been through a plan-making process. Councils would be able to focus on taking full plan reviews through the plan-making process without having to divert resources onto private plan changes to operative plans.

### Solutions:

Provide local authorities with the ability to reject requests for a private plan change where:

- the topic or land subject to the plan change has been through the Schedule 1 process of the RMA within the past five years; and
- a full plan review through the Schedule 1 process is being undertaken.

## Combined plans for unitary authorities

For some time unitary authorities have sought that the requirement to have a Regional Policy Statement (RPS) is redundant for unitary authorities. Because the territory of a unitary authority covers a single district, the over-arching RPS is not necessary. As the RMA stands, for unitary authorities, unnecessary duplication of regional policy statement provisions and district provisions is required. It is necessary to have a mechanism to identify within the combined plan, those provisions that have the status of a RPS provision, however, as these are “protected” against requests for private plan changes. This status is necessary as it enables a council to manage its urban growth.

### Solution:

Remove the requirement for unitary authorities to have a separate Regional Policy Statement.

## Legal effect of rules sections 86A-86G RMA

Sections 86A-86G determine when rules have legal effect. It is unduly complex and difficult for councils to administer. In addition, there is little point in having a new policy with no effective rules, e.g hazard policies. Where rules deregulate, these rules prevent them having weight from notification.

The drafting of these rules means that time and money is spent interpreting the section and there is a high risk of interpreting the section wrongly. It is illogical to treat rules and policies differently – they are drafted as a package and should be treated as such.

### Solution:

Both rules and policies should have legal effect at notification or at council decision-making. A return to the pre 2009 amendment (where all policies and rules had legal effect at notification) is the referable alternative.

## Resource consenting

### Notification determinations

Notification decisions require too much focus under the RMA. From the perspective of both applicants and interested parties, much turns on the decision (e.g. costs, timeframes, certainty and control of outcome, rights of input). Through applications for judicial review, notification decisions are a source of litigation. Although the actual number of applications for judicial review is very small, the potential threat of litigation can drive complex, repetitive and (relative to the actual effects of many proposals) often excessive reporting for all applications at the s95 stage. Notification determinations require officers to undertake effects assessments at the s95 stage that overlap with the substantive assessment. The issue is therefore, not the decisions themselves, but the time, effort and cost of making notification decisions and how this might be simplified. Consideration needs to be given to achieving greater certainty about when an application should be notified (or not), providing greater certainty for applicants and reducing the time spent on deciding on notification on a case by case basis, and documenting that decision.

#### Solutions:

1. Remove discretion relating to notification from consent authorities by specifying who notice would be served on.
2. RMA require plans to state whether an activity is to be notified, limited notified or non-notified.
3. Amend the RMA to enable plans to state that an activity can be limited notified.
4. Specify activities for which no consent is required.

### Substantive decisions

Currently, Part 2 of the RMA is considered at both the plan making and consent stages. Arguably this is duplicative, and making decisions on resource consents subject to Part 2 in s104 may be seen to weaken the focus on plans. Primary emphasis should be given to the preparation of clear, directive policy, taking into account Part 2, as part of the plan process.

Plans should continue to be prepared subject to Part 2. However, considerations at the s104 consenting stage (for controlled, limited discretionary and also potentially discretionary activities) could be limited to those plans, and any relevant NPSs and NESs. This change would reduce duplication of effort at plan-making and resource consent stages, saving time, effort and money.

#### Solution:

Remove the requirement to consider Part 2 matters at the consenting stage.

### Fast track consents

Consent authorities have 20 working days to process non-notified applications for resource consent. There is no statutory encouragement to process those straightforward applications that can be processed more quickly. Identifying suitable activities that generate *minor* effects cannot easily be prescribed in law given the need to take into account risk and the specifics of an application and the receiving environment. The discretion to identify which applications should be subject to a fast-track process should rest with a council.



#### Solutions:

1. Require consent authorities to develop and publish policies and procedures for fast tracking minor consents (with a target of 10 working days).
2. Make clear in law that these applications are processed without recourse to notification.
3. Develop tools to support implementation of fast track processes e.g exempting applicants from full Assessments of Environmental Effects and exempting consent authorities from the need to provide an assessment of the proposal against the objectives and policies of the plan.

## Compliance and enforcement under the RMA

There is a network of compliance and enforcement officers across the regional and unitary councils who meet regularly to discuss common issues and best practice. There are legislative matters concerning compliance and enforcement that have long caused difficulties for those charged with exercising their functions under the RMA; inevitably where there is a difficulty or complexity there are unnecessary costs for parties involved. They include:

- provide for cost recovery for monitoring activities that do not require consent;
- allow the Environment Court to issue an enforcement order to change or cancel a resource consent as a result of ongoing or repeated non-compliance;
- remove the need for a police officer to be present to execute a search warrant;
- remove the need for exhibits to be retained in the custody of a police officer;
- make it unlawful to provide insurance against RMA fines, in a similar manner to Health and Safety legislation;
- increase infringement fees, and introduce higher infringement fees for corporate offenders;
- amend the provisions regarding the duty to give information;
- enable local authorities to remove unauthorised structures where ownership is unable to be determined;
- increase the penalties for someone who commits an offence under section 338(3) – the current maximum is too low to be an effective deterrent or for Councils to incur an expense in prosecuting; and
- reduce the maximum penalty of imprisonment for an individual to 12 months but increase the maximum financial penalty for an individual to \$600,000.

These recommendations are very detailed and are included as Appendix A.

## Other matters

### Health and Safety

#### Volunteers

Councils are major users of volunteers, whether to clean up regional parks, coastlines or to assist run a local festival. Regulations that create obstacles to the use of volunteers will increase costs and potentially diminish services.



The Health and Safety Reform Bill treats all volunteers as workers like any other under the Reform Bill. Volunteers will be owed duties as "workers", and local authorities may be liable for any failure to comply with these duties. This is a fundamental change from the current position under the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE Act). This proposed change under the Reform Bill will have a significant impact on local authorities' operations, as local authorities engage vast numbers of volunteers for various volunteer work. This ranges from school groups who undertake streamside planting, and other people who set trap lines, count birds and carry out ecological assessments. Often, the work carried out by volunteers takes place in semi-remote locations (for regional councils in particular), and particular concerns also arise due to the aging of many volunteer groups. Other councils use volunteer effort to help with event management.

Such a change will create perverse outcomes as local authorities will have to reconsider their use of volunteers. Due to the nature of the work that many of these volunteers do, environmental projects in particular will not be capable of being as well resourced as they are at present. This is especially relevant in relation to irregular events that local authorities organise (which include stream or beach clean-ups and tree planting, among others), where the need to treat volunteers as workers is likely to have a negative effect on the programmes themselves, as well as on the subsequent benefits that these programmes provide to local communities.

LGNZ wholly supports the need to owe all volunteers a duty of care, but it considers that the correct balance between the imposition of a duty and the potential to incur liability had been achieved by the HSE Act, and that there is no reason to deviate from the current arrangement. Maintaining this balance would require removing the potential for liability in relation to volunteers who do not carry out particular kinds of regular, on-going work that is essential to the business of the person(s) engaging them.

The other matter re volunteers is that all volunteers, and contractors and subcontractors (and their employees), are currently treated by the Reform Bill as workers who need to be consulted like any other. The nature of engagement required should be amended to account for the differing types of relationships that PCBUs will have with certain volunteers, contractors and subcontractors (and their employees) so as to avoid imposing liability where there is no managerial or operational control, and to reduce unproductive duplication of duties among PCBUs.

**Solution:**

Apply the framework for volunteers under the HSE legislation to the Health and Safety Reform Bill.

## **Roading and footpaths**

### **Road Stopping - Local Government Act 1974**

The legislative process under Section 342 and Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1974 which provides for the stopping of roads and allows for the transfer to adjoin land is unduly cumbersome and overly bureaucratic. The process should be streamlined to make it more efficient.

**Solution:**

Amend the process under Schedule 10 to streamline the process and give the local authority greater flexibility to stop roads provided the right of public access is not unreasonably constrained.

## **Reserves Act 1977**

### **Revoking reserve status – section 24**

The process for revoking reserve status over land no longer required for reserve purposes is cumbersome and overly bureaucratic. The process should be streamlined to make it more efficient.

**Solution:**

Amend the process to give greater flexibility to the local authority to decide how much reserve land is needed and avoid having assets that are in the wrong place or no longer providing value for money. The local authority should also be able to make the decision without having to consult the Director General of Conservation or require the agreement of the Minister of Conservation.

## Public health, food and alcohol

### Liquor licensing

#### Obtaining licenses under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act

Members have raised concerns about the cost of a temporary liquor licensing fees. The amount of \$750 is too high for many people and for small events. There are also concerns about the cost of licenses for a retailer with multiple properties on a street.

A further matter raised is that at present, costs are incurred because there is no ability to delegate decision-making to staff. All licenses are granted through the District Licensing Committee, even uncontested applications.

**Solution:**

Allow for delegation of decision-making powers to staff of the local authority.

#### Section 221

Applications for a Manager's Certificate have to be decided by the Licensing Committee, either a chair or a three person Committee. This adds an extra step in the process which takes longer and costs more (having to pay for the costs of the Chair of the DLC). This also applies to renewals of certificates.

**Solution:**

Allow delegated powers to the Secretary of the Licensing Committee to decide applications that are not opposed by the Inspector or Police. Alternatively, allow Renewal Applications of Manager's Certificates that are unopposed to be decided by the Secretary.

#### Section 191

Applications for a Temporary Authority have to be dealt with by the full three person District Licensing Committee. They cannot be decided by the chair alone like some other unopposed applications can. Having to convene a three person DLC at short notice when a business changes hands results in time pressure and additional costs for the three members' time. Delegating to staff or allowing the Chair to decide alone as a quorum of one would be more efficient and cheaper.

**Solution:**

Amend section 191(3) to include applications for a Temporary Authority.

### Fluoridation

Under existing law the decision on whether or not to fluoridate drinking water lies with territorial authorities. Implementation is proving costly as council decisions are increasingly under challenge from interest groups. South Taranaki District Councils, for example, has recently successfully defended a judicial review that sought to overturn its decision to continue with fluoridation. The cost to the council and local citizens was substantial.

**Solution:**

Local authorities, through the LGNZ annual general meeting in 2014 voted to ask the Government to shift the decision for fluoridating water to the Director General of the Ministry of Health.



## Health (Hairdressers) Regulations

The need to have to register hairdressers for public health reasons is no longer necessary. The products used and practices employed do not pose a health risk proportionate with the need to regulate (unlike other unregulated services such as tattoo artists, sunbed operators)

### **Solution:**

The Health (Hairdressers) Regulations 1980 should be repealed to reduce costs to applicant's and regulators.

## Derelict Properties

Councils are regularly faced with the issue of derelict buildings with requests for action coming from many sources, including neighbours and health officials. Buildings in serious disrepair not only cause neighbours distress they can be a risk to health and a potential fire hazard, not to mention a site for criminal behaviour. They are a cost to communities and councils. Yet councils' powers to demolish derelict properties are quite constrained.

Rotorua District Council, for example, has brought a case to our attention where a particular derelict property has caused the councils to incur costs in excess of \$60,000 on consultants' reports and legal advice over a period of 5 years as the councils lacks the ability to simply require its demolition.

### **Solution:**

Strengthen councils' powers to deal with derelict properties to reduce administrative costs and improve community safety.

## Animal control

The 1996 Dog Control Act – seeking input

Many councils have expressed frustration at the difficulty of implementing dog control bylaws and the ability of owners to avoid prosecution through the extensive appeal rights that exist.

## Local Government Act

### The Pre-election report (LGA2002)

The pre-election report was introduced in 2010 to provide voters with summarised financial information to inform their voting decisions. It became mandatory for all councils prior to the 2013 elections. The LGA amendment 2012 required that councils prepare and publish prudent financial benchmarks annually. The information provided by the benchmarks is more accessible and meaningful than the information provided by the pre-election reports. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the pre-election reports had little to no impact on the 2013 elections and were also used by some councils as promotional documents.

### **Solution:**

Remove the requirement for a Pre-election report.

### Long Term Plan Audits (LGA2002)

The audit of draft and final long term plans was introduced in 2002. It was justified on the basis of providing citizens with confidence that the assumptions on which councils made their long term planning and financial forecasts, such as population changes and asset condition, were robust. The audit had an immediate and long lasting impact on the quality of councils' long term planning.

The same rationale does not apply to completed annual and Long Term Plans. Once audited draft plans have been subject to the consultation process the final content is matter purely for the governing body. The audit view is simply redundant and an unnecessary expense and draws auditors into a territory which is beyond their scope as auditors.

**Solution:**

Remove the requirement for an audit of final long term plans.

### Infringements (LGA2002)

Bylaws made under the LGA 2002 are designed to protect the public from nuisance; protect, promote and maintain public health and safety; and minimise the potential for offensive behaviour in public places. The LGA 2002 also allows for regulations to be made prescribing breaches of bylaws that are infringements under the Act, the level of infringement fees (under \$1000) and infringement notices.

However since 2002 when the Act was passed no regulations have been made, due to an issue with the drafting of S. 259. Where breaches of bylaws fail to provide for a council to issue an infringement the council can only pursue the matter to the District Court. If the bylaw breached is one that only allows for the matter to be taken to court it is often not proceeded with for the following reasons:

- The cost (to council and ratepayers) to proceed to court;
- The minor nature of the breach is outweighed by the formal court approach; and
- The potential for negative publicity for a council seeking a District Court prosecution for bylaw breaches that are nuisance.

**Solution:**

Amend section 259 to correct the original drafting error and enable regulations to be made so infringements can be issued to enforce bylaws.

### Rating resolutions (LGA (Rating) 2002)

The enactment of a rating resolution, under the Rating Act, is the procedure through which local authorities set their rates. A rating resolution must be set "in accordance with" a council's Funding Impact Statement and if there are discrepancies a council may have to reset its rates or seek validating legislation from parliament. In the last year there have been three validating bills. Preparing a Funding Impact Statement and a Rates Resolution both of which contain the same information (except for dates on which rates must be paid) is simply a duplication of resources and creates opportunities for error that are simply unnecessary.

**Solution:**

Remove the requirement to prepare a Funding Impact Statement or remove the requirement to adopt a rating resolution.

### Mandatory Rating Exemptions (LGA (Rating) 2002)

A particular set of regulations that result in property owners paying more in property rates than they otherwise would are found in Schedule 1 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. These regulations specify categories of properties which are defined as non rateable. By far the largest group of non rateable properties, such as schools, hospitals and the conservation estate belong to the Crown.

There may be a rationale why certain types of properties should be exempt from local property taxes; unfortunately the majority of properties in Schedule 1 are not easily justified. Internationally, and in New Zealand's case until the mid 1980s, local authorities responsible for areas that include large tracts of conservation land is held receive payments in lieu of rates – reflecting the difficulty of valuing conservation land.

**Solution:**

Enable local authorities to rate property which is currently exempt.



## Predetermination (LAMIA 1968)

In a successful democracy candidates stand, and are either elected or not, on the basis of a platform explaining the policy and a programme changes they intend to make if successful. Unfortunately many candidates find, once elected, that they cannot take part in decision-making processes to implement the policies that they stood for because they are regarded as predetermined.

This has an erosive effect on local democracy and discourages talented people from standing but most of all it is expensive for councils as legal advice is frequently commissioned to clarify the law and often situations end up in a code of conduct hearing. Hearings are not only costly they are a major distraction and can undermine confidence in local democracy.

The problem stems from the Local Authority Members Interests Act 1968, which is extremely out of date and fails to provide effective guidance on the issue of non-financial conflicts of interest.

### **Solution:**

Review with urgency the Local Authorities Members' Interest Act.

## Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987

### Fencing of spa pools

The Act requires that spa pools are required to be fenced, even when they have a lockable lid. Councils are able to grant exemptions but this is unfair and costly to the property owner.

### **Solution:**

Amend the Act to exempt spa pools with a lockable lid from the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987; this amendment has been discussed since 2006 and again in 2013 and has still not been implemented.

## Amusement Device Regulations 1978

### Clause 11

The need for a local authority permit is superfluous and the fee recovery of \$10 for the first device and \$2 thereafter does not cover the time involved, therefore the general rate subsidises the process. The regulations duplicate regulation by other public agencies.

### **Solution:**

Place greater responsibility on the service and general inspection by Worksafe NZ.

# Attachment 4



**Rangitikei**  
UNSPOILT...

# **Rangitikei District Council**

## **Schedule of Fees and Charges**

1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

*All fees expressed on a GST inclusive basis (15%)*

Final Draft for Adoption



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## Explanatory note

The fees and charges set by the Council follow from the revenue and financing policy (part of the 2015/25 Long Term Plan). This policy expresses Council's view about how various services are to be funded, particularly the balance between the share to be funded by ratepayers (because there is advantage to everyone in having the service available and used) and the share to be funded by those making use of it (because the benefit from the service is primarily, or wholly, enjoyed by such people). In determining this balance, Council has regard for thinking in other councils, especially our neighbours.

The Schedule show the current fees alongside those proposed for 2015/16. All fees in 2015/16 have been raised by 3.0%, the inflation factor used in setting Council's budgets for 2015/16. This inflation factor is different from cost-of-living adjustments, because there are significant elements in Council's expenditure whose costs have risen more sharply – particularly materials to support maintenance of roads and infrastructure.

The actual fees from applying this factor have been rounded to the nearest dollar except for solid waste fees which are rounded to the nearest 10c.

The exceptions are:

- fees prescribed by regulation;
- fees applying for connections to reticulated urban water, wastewater and stormwater services; and
- fees applying to green waste recycling.

The last two set of changes are to reflect the actual costs for the service.

Two new fees are included, in building control, following consideration by Council on making a clear distinction between certificates of acceptance for unconsented work done under urgency and for work not done under urgency. Fees are also included for providing a Project Information Memorandum (PIM).

It is proposed to remit the cost of one tanker load of water from Councils' bulk supplies per year to those properties not connected to any of Council's reticulated water supplies. However, the cost of cartage will be at the property owner's cost.

Fees and charges for parks relate to exclusive use only. They have been set to encourage regular use by local sports clubs and organisations, and other non-profit community users.

Fees and charges for halls have been set to recover energy costs for winter hireage with a differential for hirers to be paid between May and October each year. Non-profit community groups receive substantial discounts for hireage.

Adjustment to rents in Council's community housing must be made in accordance with the requirements of section 24 of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986. Typically this means that a change to rents for existing tenants will not occur for two months after Council adopts the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the coming year.

Several Council-owned or administered facilities are managed by other organisations, which set their own fees (typically in consultation with the Council):

Marton Swim Centre	Nicholls Swim Academy
Taihape Swim Centre	Taihape Community Development Trust
Huntermville Town Hall	Huntermville Sports and Recreation Trust
Turakina Domain	Turakina Reserve Management Committee
Koitiata Hall	Koitiata Residents Association

Final Draft for Adoption



## Cemetery Charges

Charges for the cemeteries under the administrative control of the Rangitikei District Council at Bulls, Mt View, Taihape, Mangaweka, and Turakina:

Plot	2014/15	2015/16
Adult – over 12 years	\$771.00	\$794.00
Child – up to and including 12 years of age	\$309.00	\$309.00
Ashes – all sections	\$180.00	\$180.00
Memorial Wall Plaque – Mt View	\$98.00	\$98.00
Rose Berm – Mt View	\$98.00	\$98.00
<b>Interment Fees</b>		
Wall Niche – Bulls	\$180.00	\$180.00
Adult – over 12 years	\$771.00	\$794.00
Child – up to and including 12 years of age	\$319.00	\$329.00
Stillborn	\$197.00	\$203.00
Ashes	\$202.00	\$208.00
Ashes – placed by family	\$37.00	\$38.00
Extra depth – extra charge	\$154.00	\$159.00
Weekends and Public Holidays Sexton fees – extra charge	\$452.00	\$466.00
Extra charge for all out of District interments- does not apply to ashes, stillborn, or child interments	\$760.00	\$783.00
Disinterment/re-interment charges	\$760.00	\$783.00
Disinterment of ashes	\$186.00	\$192.00
Monumental permit - fee will be waived if an image of the headstone is supplied	\$30.00	\$30.00
RSA Burials at Marton and Taihape - Interment Fees only apply		

## Ratana Cemetery Separate Charges

For all interments arranged and carried out by the Ratana Community. The cemetery is managed by the Ratana Communal Board of Trustees and details of plot maintenance and interment charges are available from the Board. This includes limits to the number of plots that can be reserved at any one time and possible additional charges to out-of-District residents for plot maintenance and interment.

	2014/15	2015/16
Adult – over 12 years	\$276.00	\$276.00
Child – up to and including 12 years of age	\$138.00	\$138.00
Ash plot	\$138.00	\$138.00
Plot reinstatement/maintenance		\$200.00

## Parks and Reserves

Fees below are for exclusive use of Council-owned parks. Anyone may use Council-owned parks for leisure and recreational activities. Where exclusive use is required, the schedule of fees and charges applies and reflects the wear and tear on the grounds of various activities.

*Turakina Domain* is managed by the Turakina Reserve Management Committee. For bookings, please contact Laurel Mauchline Campbell on 06 327 8279.

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Memorial Park – Taihape.</b>		
<b>Annual users per annum*</b>		
No 1 Field	\$888.00	\$915.00
No 2 and 3 Fields (each)	\$712.00	\$733.00
Taihape Area School – for a maximum of 5 days exclusive use of all three fields (with the exception of any equestrian event)	\$1,614.00	\$1,662.00
Casual one-off exclusive users per use (1 day)		
No 1, 2 and 3 Fields (each)	\$181.00	\$186.00
<b>Hunterville Domain</b>		
Annual users per annum*	\$303.00	\$312.00
Casual one-off exclusive users per use (1 day)	\$181.00	\$186.00
<b>Bulls Domain and Marton Park, Centennial Park and Wilson Park</b>		
Annual Users per annum (per ground)*	\$531.00	\$547.00
Casual one-off exclusive users per use (1 day) (per ground)	\$181.00	\$186.00
<b>All Parks</b>		
Special Event Users (per day) to include circus, equestrian events, festivals and tournaments	\$638.00	\$657.00
<b>Refundable deposit against damage</b>	\$585.00	\$603.00
<b>Refundable key deposit</b>	\$50	\$50.00
<b>Weighting of deposit/fees specified below at all parks</b>		
Horse trials/events	200% of deposit	200% of deposit
Other animals outside defined enclosures	200% of deposit	200% of deposit
Rugby (including league), soccer	100% of fee	100% of fee
Hockey, cricket, softball, horse trials/events, other animals outside of enclosures	50% of fee	50% of fee
Athletics, marching other contact sports	25% of fee	25% of fee
Non-contact sport, non-profit recreational users	10% of fee	10% of fee

### Notes

\* Annual User charges give sole use of a ground to a sporting code for Saturday and practice night. Actual electricity use to be charged to clubs by measured and metered arrangement



## Hall Charges

The charges outlined below relate to hiring the whole facility or dedicated meeting rooms. The full fee is payable by any commercial hirer, and a substantial discount applied for non-profit community users.

	2014/15	2015/16
Refundable deposit against damage to be charged to all users	\$239.00	\$246.00
<b>Bulls Town Hall and Mangaweka Town Hall</b>		
Half day/evening (up to five hours)	\$133.00	\$137.00
Full day (5-24 hours)	\$266.00	\$274.00
<b>Taihape Town Hall and Marton Memorial Hall</b>		
Half day/evening (up to five hours)	\$255.00	\$263.00
Full day (5-24 hours)	\$510.00	\$525.00
<b>Projector and Screen (Bulls &amp; Taihape Meeting Rooms only)</b>		
Projector - half day	\$15.00	\$15.00
Projector - full day	\$27.00	\$28.00
Screen	\$5.00	\$5.00
<b>Furniture</b> is not to be removed from any of Council owned buildings, except for <b>trestle table hire</b> – by arrangement	\$15 per trestle table	\$15 per trestle table
<b>Cancellation Fee for all Halls</b>		
Payable if cancelled later than 14 days prior to booked event	Full fee	Full fee
<b>Key deposit for all Halls</b>		
Refundable when key returned	\$50.00	\$50.00
<b>Commercial kitchen - Marton Memorial Hall*</b>	\$15 per half day	\$15 per half day
<b>Weighting of fees specified below at all Halls</b>		
Local, non-profit community organisation (use of Main Hall May – October)	Half of full fee	Half of full fee
Local, non-profit community organisation (use of 1 room, except Main Hall: May – October)	One quarter of full fee	One quarter of full fee
Local, non-profit community organisation (November - April)	One tenth of full fee	One tenth of full fee

\* Local residents preparing food for sale within the district, on a casual basis, up to ten times a year. More frequent usage would be at the daily charge for the hall hireage.

Fees for using the Hunterville Town Hall are set by the Hunterville Sport and Recreation Trust which has a lease agreement with Council to operate the Hall. Contact Barry Lampp on 06 322 8662 or 06 322 8009 for all bookings.

## Library Charges

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>All borrowing</b> , for first three weeks (DVD/CDs one week)	Free	Free
Borrowing limit (per borrower)	20 items	20 items
DVDs limit (per borrower)	5 items	5 items
<b>Renewals</b>		
For second and third week periods	No charge	No charge
Overdue charge (per day)	No charge	No charge
Borrowing may be suspended if any item is overdue for more than three weeks		
<b>Reserves</b>	\$1.00	\$1.00
<b>Interloans</b> (interloan libraries)	\$6.00	\$6.00
<b>Replacement cards</b>	\$1.00	\$1.00
<b>Internet</b>		
Use of Computers - first 30 minutes	Free	Free
Each 15 minutes	\$1.00	\$1.00
<b>Photocopying and printing (per page)</b>		
A4	\$0.20	\$0.20
A3	\$1.00	\$1.00
A4 colour	\$4.00	\$4.00
A3 colour	\$7.00	\$7.00
<b>Fax: New Zealand</b>		
First page	\$2.00	\$2.00
Following pages (per page)	\$1.00	\$1.00
<b>Fax: International</b>		
First page	\$4.00	\$4.00
Following pages (per page)	\$1.00	\$1.00
<b>Fax: Receiving (per page)</b>	\$1.00	\$1.00
<b>Out of District Membership</b>	No charge	No charge



## Building Consent Fees

Set by Council in accordance with Section 219 of the Building Act 2004 and Section 150 of the Local Government Act 2002.

		2014/15	2015/16
<b>Work Type : Exempt Building Work (Note 1)</b>			
The Building Act allows some building work to be exempt as of right (specified in Part 1 of Schedule 1), and no consent is needed for that.		No charge (unless application for exemption made so project documented in Council's records)	
The Act also allows discretion to Council to exempt other building work using its discretion (specified in Clause 2 of Part 1 in Schedule 1). A formal application is required for this. Details of Schedule 1 are provided on the following pages.		\$134.00	\$138.00
<b>Work Type: Fixed Building Consent Fee (Note 2)</b>			
<b>Domestic/Residential Small Projects</b>			
Install freestanding fire		\$280.00	\$288.00
Install inbuilt fire		\$388.00	\$400.00
If installation includes a wet back	In addition	\$56.00	\$58.00
Residential demolition		\$388.00	\$400.00
Garage, carport, pergola, garden shed, un-plumbed sleep out		\$668.00	\$688.00
Temporary/freestanding signs		\$444.00	\$457.00
Conservatory placed on existing deck		\$645.00	\$664.00
Grease trap installation		\$366.00	\$377.00
Remove an interior wall		\$388.00	\$400.00
Install external window/door		\$388.00	\$400.00
Install storm water drain		\$366.00	\$377.00
Install WC/shower		\$366.00	\$377.00
Install hot water cylinder		\$188.00	\$194.00
Install on-site effluent disposal system and field		\$430.00	\$443.00
Marquee (greater than 100 sq m erected for longer than one month)		\$200.00	\$200.00
Property Information Memorandum – if requested prior to lodging a Building Consent Application	See also note 5	N/A	\$100.00



		2014/15	2015/16
<b>Work Type: Variable Building Consent Fee (Note 3)</b>			
<b>Larger Domestic/Residential Projects</b>			
Swimming pools and fencing	Deposit required (note 3)	\$444.00	\$457.00
New dwellings and alterations/additions	Deposit required (note 3)	\$888.00	\$915.00
Code of Compliance bond (potentially refundable)		\$558.00	\$575.00
Kerb and footpath bond (potentially refundable)		\$670.00	\$690.00
<b>Agricultural/Rural Buildings</b>			
Pole sheds less than 100m <sup>2</sup> and no higher than 3.6m average		\$670.00	\$690.00
Pole sheds over 100m <sup>2</sup> or higher than 3.6m average.	Deposit required (note 3)	\$670.00	\$690.00
Wool sheds, dairy sheds, silos, intensive agriculture	Deposit required (note 3)	\$670.00	\$690.00
<b>Commercial, Government, Educational Building Work</b>			
Project value: \$0.00 to \$10,000.00	Deposit required (note 3)	\$558.00	\$575.00
Project value: \$10,001.00 to \$100,000.00	Deposit required (note 3)	\$1,105.00	\$1,138.00
Project value: \$100,000.00 to \$250,000.00	Deposit required (note 3)	\$2,217.00	\$2,284.00
Code of Compliance bond (potentially refundable)		10% of Consent Fee	10% of Consent Fee
Kerb and footpath bond (potentially refundable)		\$2,764.00	\$2,847.00

		2014/15	2015/16
<b>Other Fees</b>			
Compliance Schedule (new)		\$117.00	\$121.00
Compliance Schedule (alteration)		\$69.00	\$71.00
Building Warrant of Fitness (renewal)		\$77.00	\$77.00
Inspections (BWOFF, swimming pool, building consent, general compliance)		\$183.00	\$188.00
Certificate for Acceptance for unconsented work done under urgency (Sec 42 and 96(1)(b) of the Building Act 2004)		\$282.00	\$290.00
Certificate of Acceptance for unconsented work not done under urgency (Sec 96(1)(a) if the Building Act 2004)	+ Staff time	\$564.00	\$581.00
Certificate of Public Use	+ Staff time	\$111.00	\$114.00
Extension to consent timeframes (maximum 12 months)		\$106.00	\$109.00
Application for amendment	+ Staff time	\$111.00	\$114.00
Consent endorsements (Sec.37, 75 certificates etc.)		\$282.00	\$290.00
Independently Qualified Person – registration		\$334.00	\$344.00
Independently Qualified Person – renewal		\$83.00	\$85.00
LIM Report – residential (within 10 working days) <sup>4</sup>		As per LGOIMA (page 28)	As per LGOIMA (pg 28)
LIM Report – commercial (within 10 working days) <sup>4</sup>		As per LGOIMA (page 28)	As per LGOIMA (page 30)
Urgent LIM surcharge (within 2 working days) <sup>4</sup>		As per LGOIMA (page 28)	As per LGOIMA (page 30)
Property file access (other than by property owner or owner's authorised agent)		\$15.00	\$15.00
Kerb and footpath bond (potentially refundable) for relocating a house off or onto a property		\$670.00	\$690.00

		2014/15	2015/16
<b>Building Control staff time (per hour or part thereof)</b>			
Consents Administrator		\$99.00	\$102.00
Building Officer		\$186.00	\$192.00
Manager		\$213.00	\$219.00
BRANZ and DBH Levies on projects over \$20,000	per \$1,000	\$3.01	\$3.01

Notes:

- 1 The Building Act 2004, Schedule 1, allows for some works to be undertaken without a Building Consent. Each application will be considered on a case-by-case basis. See Council's website for details of how to apply.
- 2 Fixed fee consents will be charged at stated rate.
- 3 Variable fee consents will be calculated based on actual and reasonable costs. In the event of fees being inadequate to cover Council's costs, for example where additional inspections are required or where specialist technical or professional consultation is required, additional charges may be made to recover actual and reasonable costs.
- 4 LIM charges reflect the actual costs incurred in providing the LIM rather than a flat fee. This will ensure a fairer user-pays pricing approach.
- 5 Where a Property Information Memorandum is requested after a Building Consent has been lodged, there is no charge.



# Schedule 1

## Building work for which building consent not required

### Part 1

#### Exempted building work

#### General

#### 1 General repair, maintenance, and replacement

- (1) The repair and maintenance of any component or assembly incorporated in or associated with a building, provided that comparable materials are used.
- (2) Replacement of any component or assembly incorporated in or associated with a building, provided that—
  - (a) a comparable component or assembly is used; and
  - (b) the replacement is in the same position.
- (3) However, subclauses (1) and (2) do not include the following building work:
  - (a) complete or substantial replacement of a specified system; or
  - (b) complete or substantial replacement of any component or assembly contributing to the building's structural behaviour or fire-safety properties; or
  - (c) repair or replacement (other than maintenance) of any component or assembly that has failed to satisfy the provisions of the building code for durability, for example, through a failure to comply with the external moisture requirements of the building code; or
  - (d) sanitary plumbing or drainlaying under the [Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006](#).

#### 2 Territorial and regional authority discretionary exemptions

Any building work in respect of which the territorial authority or regional authority considers that a building consent is not necessary for the purposes of this Act because the authority considers that—

- (a) the completed building work is likely to comply with the building code; or
- (b) if the completed building work does not comply with the building code, it is unlikely to endanger people or any building, whether on the same land or on other property.

#### 3 Single-storey detached buildings not exceeding 10 square metres in floor area

- (1) Building work in connection with any detached building that—
  - (a) is not more than one storey (being a floor level of up to one metre above the supporting ground and a height of up to 3.5 metres above the floor level); and
  - (b) does not exceed 10 square metres in floor area; and
  - (c) does not contain sanitary facilities or facilities for the storage of potable water; and
  - (d) does not include sleeping accommodation, unless the building is used in connection with a dwelling and does not contain any cooking facilities.
- (2) However, subclause (1) does not include building work in connection with a building that is closer than the measure of its own height to any residential building or to any legal boundary.

#### 4 Unoccupied detached buildings

- (1) Building work in connection with any detached building that—
  - (a) houses fixed plant or machinery and under normal circumstances is entered only on intermittent occasions for the routine inspection and maintenance of that plant or machinery; or

- (b) is a building, or is in a vicinity, that people cannot enter or do not normally enter; or
- (c) is used only by people engaged in building work—
  - (i) in relation to another building; and
  - (ii) for which a building consent is required.
- (2) However, subclause (1) does not include building work in connection with a building that is closer than the measure of its own height to any residential building or to any legal boundary.
- 5 Tents, marquees, and similar lightweight structures**  
 Building work in connection with any tent or marquee, or any similar lightweight structure (for example, a stall, booth, or compartment used at fairs, exhibitions, or markets) that—
  - (a) does not exceed 100 square metres in floor area; and
  - (b) is to be, or has been, used for a period of not more than 1 month.
- 6 Pergolas**  
 Building work in connection with a pergola.
- 7 Repair or replacement of outbuilding**  
 The repair or replacement of all or part of an outbuilding if—
  - (a) the repair or replacement is made within the same footprint area that the outbuilding or the original outbuilding (as the case may be) occupied; and
  - (b) in the case of any replacement, the replacement is made with a comparable outbuilding or part of an outbuilding; and
  - (c) the outbuilding is a detached building that is not more than 1 storey; and
  - (d) the outbuilding is not intended to be open to, or used by, members of the public.

### Existing buildings: additions and alterations

- 8 Windows and exterior doorways in existing dwellings and outbuildings**  
 Building work in connection with a window (including a roof window) or an exterior doorway in an existing dwelling that is not more than 2 storeys or in an existing outbuilding that is not more than 2 storeys, except,—
  - (a) in the case of replacement, if the window or doorway being replaced has failed to satisfy the provisions of the building code for durability, for example, through a failure to comply with the external moisture requirements of the building code; or
  - (b) if the building work modifies or affects any specified system.
- 9 Alteration to existing entrance or internal doorway to facilitate access for persons with disabilities**  
 Building work in connection with an existing entrance or internal doorway of a detached or semi-detached dwelling to improve access for persons with disabilities.
- 10 Interior alterations to existing non-residential building**  
 Building work in connection with the interior of any existing non-residential building (for example, a shop, office, library, factory, warehouse, church, or school) if the building work—
  - (a) does not modify or affect the primary structure of the building; and
  - (b) does not modify or affect any specified system; and
  - (c) does not relate to a wall that is—
    - (i) a fire separation wall (also known as a firewall); or
    - (ii) made of units of material (such as brick, burnt clay, concrete, or stone) laid to a bond in and joined together with mortar; and
  - (d) does not include sanitary plumbing or drainlaying under the [Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006](#).



**11 Internal walls and doorways in existing building**

Building work in connection with an internal wall (including an internal doorway) in any existing building unless the wall is—

- (a) load-bearing; or
- (b) a bracing element; or
- (c) a fire separation wall (also known as a firewall); or
- (d) part of a specified system; or
- (e) made of units of material (such as brick, burnt clay, concrete, or stone) laid to a bond in and joined together with mortar.

**12 Internal linings and finishes in existing dwelling**

Building work in connection with any internal linings or finishes of any wall, ceiling, or floor of an existing dwelling.

**13 Thermal insulation**

Building work in connection with the installation of thermal insulation in an existing building other than in—

- (a) an external wall of the building; or
- (b) an internal wall of the building that is a fire separation wall (also known as a firewall).

**14 Penetrations**

- (1) Building work in connection with the making of a penetration not exceeding 300 millimetres in diameter to enable the passage of pipes, cables, ducts, wires, hoses, and the like through any existing dwelling or outbuilding and any associated building work, such as weatherproofing, fireproofing, or sealing, provided that—

- (a) in the case of a dwelling, the dwelling is detached or in a building that is not more than 3 storeys; and
- (b) in the case of an outbuilding, the outbuilding is detached and is not more than 3 storeys.

- (2) In the case of an existing building to which subclause (1) does not apply, building work in connection with the making of a penetration not exceeding 300 millimetres in diameter to enable the passage of pipes, cables, ducts, wires, hoses, and the like through the building and any associated building work, such as weatherproofing, fireproofing, or sealing, provided that the penetration—

- (a) does not modify or affect the primary structure of the building; and
- (b) does not modify or affect any specified system.

**15 Closing in existing veranda or patio**

Building work in connection with the closing in of an existing veranda, patio, or the like so as to provide an enclosed porch, conservatory, or the like with a floor area not exceeding 5 square metres.

**16 Awnings**

Building work in connection with an awning that—

- (a) is on or attached to an existing building; and
- (b) is on the ground or first-storey level of the building; and
- (c) does not exceed 20 square metres in size; and
- (d) does not overhang any area accessible by the public, including private areas with limited public access, for example, restaurants and bars.

**17 Porches and verandas**

Building work in connection with a porch or a veranda that—

- (a) is on or attached to an existing building; and
- (b) is on the ground or first-storey level of the building; and

- (c) does not exceed 20 square metres in floor area; and
- (d) does not overhang any area accessible by the public, including private areas with limited public access, for example, restaurants and bars.

**18 Carports**

Building work in connection with a carport that—

- (a) is on or attached to an existing building; and
- (b) is on the ground level of the building; and
- (c) does not exceed 20 square metres in floor area.

**19 Shade sails**

Building work in connection with a shade sail made of fabric or other similar lightweight material, and associated structural support, that—

- (a) does not exceed 50 square metres in size; and
- (b) is no closer than 1 metre to any legal boundary; and
- (c) is on the ground level, or, if on a building, on the ground or first-storey level of the building.

**Other structures**

**20 Retaining walls**

Building work in connection with a retaining wall that—

- (a) retains not more than 1.5 metres depth of ground; and
- (b) does not support any surcharge or any load additional to the load of that ground (for example, the load of vehicles).

**21 Fences and hoardings**

- (1) Building work in connection with a fence or hoarding in each case not exceeding 2.5 metres in height above the supporting ground.
- (2) Subclause (1) does not include a fence as defined in [section 2](#) of the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987.

**22 Dams (excluding large dams)**

Building work in connection with a dam that is not a large dam.

**23 Tanks and pools (excluding swimming pools)**

Building work in connection with a tank or pool and any structure in support of the tank or pool (except a swimming pool as defined in [section 2](#) of the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987), including any tank or pool that is part of any other building for which a building consent is required, that—

- (a) does not exceed 500 litres capacity and is supported not more than 4 metres above the supporting ground; or
- (b) does not exceed 1 000 litres capacity and is supported not more than 3 metres above the supporting ground; or
- (c) does not exceed 2 000 litres capacity and is supported not more than 2 metres above the supporting ground; or
- (d) does not exceed 4 000 litres capacity and is supported not more than 1 metre above the supporting ground; or
- (e) does not exceed 8 000 litres capacity and is supported not more than 0.5 metres above the supporting ground; or
- (f) does not exceed 16 000 litres capacity and is supported not more than 0.25 metres above the supporting ground; or
- (g) does not exceed 35 000 litres capacity and is supported directly by ground.



- 24 Decks, platforms, bridges, boardwalks, etc**  
Building work in connection with a deck, platform, bridge, boardwalk, or the like from which it is not possible to fall more than 1.5 metres even if it collapses.
- 25 Signs**  
Building work in connection with a sign (whether free-standing or attached to a structure) and any structural support of the sign if—  
(a) no face of the sign exceeds 6 square metres in surface area; and  
(b) the top of the sign does not exceed 3 metres in height above the supporting ground level.
- 26 Height-restriction gantries**  
Building work in connection with a height-restriction gantry.
- 27 Temporary storage stacks**  
Building work in connection with a temporary storage stack of goods or materials.
- 28 Private household playground equipment**  
Building work in connection with playground equipment if—  
(a) the equipment is for use by a single private household; and  
(b) no part of the equipment exceeds 3 metres in height above the supporting ground level.

#### Network utility operators or other similar organisations

- 29 Certain structures owned or controlled by network utility operators or other similar organisations**  
Building work in connection with a motorway sign, stopbank, culvert for carrying water under or in association with a road, or other similar structure that is—  
(a) a simple structure; and  
(b) owned or controlled by a network utility operator or other similar organisation.

#### Demolition

- 30 Demolition of detached building**  
The complete demolition of a building that is detached and is not more than 3 storeys.
- 31 Removal of building element**  
The removal of a building element from a building that is not more than 3 storeys, provided that the removal does not affect—  
(a) the primary structure of the building; or  
(b) any specified system; or  
(c) any fire separation.



## Fees Applying to Specific Licences

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Amusement Device Permit</b> (prescribed by the Amusement Devices Regulations 1978)		
<b>One device at one site:</b>		
First seven days	\$10.00	\$10.00
Second and subsequent seven day period	\$1.00 per week	\$1.00 per week
<b>Additional device at one site:</b>		
First seven days	\$2.00	\$2.00
Second and subsequent seven day period	\$1.00 per week	\$1.00 per week
<b>Licensed Premises Fees</b> – set by Council in accordance with the Health (Registration of Premises) Regulations 1966 and Section 150 of the Local Government Act 2002		
Your attention is drawn to the <b>33% prompt renewal discount</b> available on transactions completed within 10 working days of invoice		
Food Premises – restaurants, bakeries (Where food is prepared)	\$650.00	\$670.00
Food Premises – dairies, petrol stations etc (Where pre-packaged food is reheated etc)	\$507.00	\$522.00
Food Premises – ancillary premises, coffee carts, etc	\$367.00	\$378.00
Hairdressers	\$367.00	\$378.00
Food Control Plan application processing	\$109.00	\$112.00
Verification visit for Food Control Plan (Audit) - first hour	\$189.00	\$195.00
Verification visit for Food Control Plan (Audit) - subsequent hours	\$66.00	\$68.00
Funeral Director	\$367.00	\$378.00
Amusement Gallery	\$367.00	\$378.00
Camping Ground	\$367.00	\$378.00
Mobile Shop selling or supplying food	\$367.00	\$378.00
Offensive Trade*	\$367.00	\$378.00
<b>Prompt Renewal Discount (within 10 working days)</b>	33%	<b>33%</b>
Any inspections or advisory visits requested by licence holders or other persons (per hour)	\$183.00	\$183.00

\* Means any trade, business, manufacture, or undertaking, as specified in Schedule 3 of the Health Act 1956 including blood or offal treating; bone boiling or crushing; collection and storage of used bottles for sale; dag crushing; fellmongering; fishing cleaning; fishing curing; flax pulping; flock manufacturing, or teasing of textile materials for any purpose; tanning; gut scraping and treating; nightsoil collection and disposal; refuse collection and disposal; septic tank desludging and disposal of sludge; slaughtering of animals for any purpose other than human consumption; storage, drying, or preserving of bones, hides, hoofs, or skins; tallow melting; wood pulping; and wool scouring.

## Liquor Licensing Fees

Prescribed by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013

	2015/16 (no change from 2014/15)	Transferred to ARLA
<b>Applications for new licences</b>		
Cost/risk rating*		
Very low (0-2)	\$368.00	\$17.25
Low (3-5)	\$609.50	\$34.50
Medium (6-15)	\$816.50	\$51.75
High (16-25)	\$1,023.50	\$86.25
Very high (26 and over)	\$1,207.50	\$172.50
<b>Annual licence fees</b>		
Cost/risk rating*		
Very low	\$161.00	\$17.25
Low	\$391.00	\$34.50
Medium	\$632.50	\$51.75
High	\$1,035.00	\$86.25
Very high	\$1,437.50	\$172.50
<i>*The cost/risk ratings are those specified in clause 5 of the Regulations</i>		
<b>Other application fees</b>		
Manager's Certificate	\$316.50	\$28.75
Temporary Authority	\$296.70	N/A
Temporary Licence	\$296.70	N/A
	\$517.50	Paid directly to ARLA
Extract of Register	\$57.50	\$57.50 (if extract from ARLA register)
<b>Special Licences</b>		
Class 1: 1 large event, more than 3 medium events, more than 12 small events	575.00	
Class 2: 3-12 small events; 1-3 medium events	207.00	
Class 3: 1 or 2 small events	63.25	

Clause 9 of the Regulations provides the following definitions:

Large event = more than 400 people

Medium event = 100 to 400 people

Small event = fewer than 100 people



## Resource Management Act Administrative Charges

Set in accordance with section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991

		2014/15	2015/16
Resource Consent applications – notified (land use and subdivision)	Deposit required (note 1)	\$1,754.00	\$1,810.00
Resource Consent applications – limited notification (land use and subdivision)	Deposit required (note 1)	\$824.00	\$850.00
Resource Consent applications – non-notified (land use and subdivision)	Deposit required (note 1)	\$436.00	\$450.00
RMA certification (e.g. s223, s224 etc) Charged at \$100.00 + staff time	Deposit required (note 1)	\$213.00	\$220.00
Requests for Plan Changes	Deposit required (note 1)	\$5,475.00	\$5,640.00
Application for alteration to designation – notified	Deposit required (note 1)	\$1,751.00	\$1,805.00
Application for alteration to designation – non-notified	Deposit required (note 1)	\$438.00	\$450.00
Cancellation/change of consent conditions	Deposit required (note 1)	\$271.00	\$280.00
Resource consent extension (s125)	Deposit required (note 1)		\$280.00
Right of Way application (s348 LGA)	Deposit required (note 1)		\$280.00
Outline plans for designations	Deposit required (note 1)	\$300.00	\$310.00
Waiver for requirement for Outline Plan	Deposit required (note 1)		\$220.00
Hard copy of District Plan (available free on RDC website)		\$216.00	\$220.00
RMA hearing deposit	Deposit required (note 1)	\$2,126.00	\$2,190.00

Charges for Council Staff (per hour or part thereof)		2014/15	2015/16
Administration/Committee Administration Staff		\$100.00	\$105.00
Planning Officer/Consents Planner		\$144.00	\$150.00
Senior/Consultant Planner		\$183.00	\$190.00
Technical and professional staff from all other Council units		\$183.00	\$190.00
Manager		\$211.00	\$220.00
Commissioner		At cost + disbursements	At cost + disbursements
All advertising, consultant and solicitor fees associated with all work types including processing of a consent or certificate (including specialist technical or legal advice) and new Notice of Requirements, designation alterations, removal of designations and District Plan changes		At cost + disbursements	At cost + disbursements

Notes:

- 1 Council will recover its reasonable costs and a deposit is required which will be off set against the final invoice. However, Council cannot guarantee the final invoice amount that will be due to recover its reasonable costs.
- 2 Cost and time of travel by staff is included in the fees. Additional fees will be charged to cover other actual and reasonable costs incurred at the applicable staff charge-out rate together with the costs associated with employing the services of professional consultants where necessary.

Note: The chargeout rate for staff undergoing training who handle a consent application will be at the rate applicable to that staff member not whoever is providing the supervision.

Any difference will be payable/refundable once a decision has been made on the application as per the relevant section of the Resource Management Act 1991. Actual and reasonable costs associated with any resource consent hearing will be recovered from the applicant.

- 3 Other charges for Certificates, monitoring of Resource Consents, processing various applications, providing information in respect of Plans and Consents and the supply of information to be charged at the applicable staff charge-out rate.
- 4 Interim invoices for the processing of Resource Consents may be generated when costs exceed the deposit paid.



## Dog Registration Fees

Set by Council in accordance with Section 37 and 68 of the Dog Control Act 1996. The Act makes provision to fix reduced fees for dogs under a specified age (not exceeding 12 months). However, Council has not made provision for reduced fees for young dogs/pups.

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Registration fees</b>		
Working dogs	\$57.00	\$59.00
Working dogs (after prompt payment discount of 33%)	\$37.00	\$38.00
Non working dogs	\$255.00	\$263.00
Non working dogs de-sexed	\$234.00	\$241.00
Non working dogs (after prompt payment discount of 33%)	\$170.00	\$175.00
Non working dogs, de-sexed (after prompt payment discount of 33%)	\$156.00	\$161.00
"Approved Good Owner" classification application fee (note 1)	\$24.00	\$25.00
"Approved Good Owner" discount for non-working dogs	\$103.00	\$106.00
After "approved good owner" discount for non-working dogs	\$67.00	\$69.00
After "approved good owner" discount for non-working dogs, de-sexed	\$53.00	\$55.00
<b>Dangerous Dogs</b>		
Section 32(1)(e) of the Dog Control Act, Effect of classification as dangerous dog states "...must, in respect of every registration year commencing after the date of receipt of the notice of classification, be liable for dog control fees for that dog at 150% of the level that would apply if the dog were not classified as a dangerous dog".		
<b>Impounding Charges</b>		
Impounding first offence	\$186.00	\$192.00
Impounding second offence (within 12 months of first offence)	\$186.00	\$192.00
Impounding third offence (within 12 months of second offence)	\$239.00	\$246.00
Maintenance fee per day/per dog	\$12.00	\$12.00
Destruction fee – per dog	\$32.00	\$33.00
<b>Other fees</b>		
Replacement tags	No charge	No charge
Dog collar	\$13.00	\$13.00
Micro-chipping and registration onto National Dog Database	\$42.00	\$43.00

### Note 1:

The Dog Control Act 1996 does not allow Council to levy separate fees for application and monitoring in respect of Approved Good Owner Classification but does allow Council to set fees having regard to the relative cost of registration and monitoring. Therefore, these fees have been incorporated into the fees applicable to Approved Good Owner Classifications.

## Stock Impounding

Set by Council in accordance with sections 14, 15 and 33(3) of the Impounding Act 1955

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Poundage Fees</b>		
<b>No of sheep (per animal)</b>		
1 to 5	\$13.00	\$13.00
6 to 10	\$19.00	\$20.00
11 to 15	\$31.00	\$32.00
Over 15	\$37.00	\$38.00
<b>No of Other Animals (per animal)</b>		
1 to 5	\$31.00	\$32.00
6 to 10	\$42.00	\$43.00
11 to 15	\$56.00	\$58.00
Over 15	\$67.00	\$69.00
These charges are to be doubled for impound of stock of any owner that are impounded more than once in a 12 month period		

## Sustenance Charges

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>No of Animals (per animal, per day)</b>		
1 to 5	\$4.00	\$4.00
6 to 10	\$6.00	\$6.00
11 to 15	\$8.00	\$8.00
Over 15	\$13.00	\$13.00
* or actual expenses, whichever is the higher		

Trespass charges, where applicable, are prescribed by clause 7 of the Impounding Regulations 1981.

## Driving Charges

	2014/15	2015/16
Float Hire/Transport	At cost	At cost
Callout	Fee will be based on recovery of actual and reasonable costs incurred associated with the callout – minimum charge of \$157.00	Fee will be based on recovery of actual and reasonable costs incurred associated with the callout – minimum charge of \$162.00



## Storage of Hazardous Substances

Set by Council in accordance with section 23 of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 and section 150 of the Local Government Act 2002

	2014/15	2015/16
Charge out rate for carrying out any of the enforcement functions required by section 97 (h) of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 (per hour)	\$188.00	\$188.00

## Noise Control

	2014/15	2015/16
Charge to property owner for every call out attended by Council's noise control contractors where in the view of the officer a noise reduction instruction was warranted	\$70.00	\$70.00
Charge to complainant for unsubstantiated complaint where the complainant has lodged three previous unsubstantiated complaints within the preceding 12 months	\$70.00	\$70.00

## Miscellaneous Permits/Authorities/Fees

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Certificates under the Overseas Investment Act</b>		
Set in accordance with Section 150 of the Local Government Act 2002	\$125.00	\$129.00
<b>Return of Property Seized Pursuant to Section 328 of the Resource Management Act 1991</b>		
Set in accordance with Section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991 and Section 150 of the Local Government Act 2002	\$182.00	\$187.00
<b>Gambling Venue Consent – Application Fee</b>		
Set in accordance with Section 150 of the Local Government Act 2002	\$182.00	\$187.00
<b>Costs associated with removal of dumped rubbish</b>		
Set in accordance with Section 150 of the Local Government Act 2002		Actual cost + staff time

## Water Charges – Urban Areas

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Extra Ordinary Consumers (Water by Meter)</b> Refer also to Rates Notice		
<b>Connection Fees</b>		
<i>Ordinary supply – 20mm diameter – domestic only, per single dwelling unit to property boundary, maximum overall length 5m, unmetered, manifold.</i>	\$1,466	\$1,200.00
Connection will be installed by the Rangitikei District Council. Installation will occur after payment in full is received by the Council.	Plus proportionate share of UAC due for balance of year	Plus proportionate share of targeted rate for water (connected) due for balance of year
<i>Extra Ordinary supply – all other connections to property boundary</i>	Quote	Quote
Connections shall be installed by the Rangitikei District Council. An installation quotation will be provided to the applicant and installation will occur after payment in full is received by Council.	Plus proportionate share of UAC due for balance of year	Plus proportionate share of targeted rate for water (connected) due for balance of year
<b>Disconnection Fees (including restrictors)</b>		
<i>All types of supply - Per disconnection</i>	\$128.00	\$250.00
Includes all work to disconnect service. Work shall be undertaken by Rangitikei District Council.		
Where applicable, a final meter reading shall be taken and the applicant will be responsible for payment of water consumed to the date of disconnection.		
<b>Reconnection Fees (including restrictors)</b>		
Per reconnection	\$722.00	Quote based on investigation
<b>Bulk Water Sales</b>		
Marton – located in King Street	\$3.10 per m <sup>3</sup> plus \$5.90 per load	\$3.10 per m <sup>3</sup> plus \$5.90 per load
Taihape – located behind Town Hall		
Bulls – (to be installed)		
One free tanker load per year for each unconnected property in the District (freight not covered).		
Access is via PIN for pre-approved contractors		



## Rural Water Schemes

Rural Water Schemes	2014/15	2015/16
Refer also to Rates Notice		

Rural Water Schemes are managed entirely by Committees established by the users of each scheme. The fees and charges are set by the relevant Committee based upon the cost of running the schemes shared equitably by the users of that scheme.

### Huntermville Rural Water Scheme

10% penalty will be incurred on late payment. Reconnection fee of \$500.00.

## Stormwater Charges – Urban Areas

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Connection Fees</b>		
<i>100mm diameter – Domestic consumers only, per single dwelling unit to property boundary, total length up to 10m, galvanised kerb outlet.</i>	\$404.00	\$550.00
Connections shall be installed by the Rangitikei District Council. Installation will occur after payment in full is received by Council.	plus proportionate share of the UAC due for the balance of the year	plus proportionate share of the targeted rate for stormwater (urban) due for the balance of the year
<i>All other connections to property boundary</i>	Quote	Quote
Connections shall be installed by the Rangitikei District Council. An installation quotation will be provided to the applicant and installation will occur after payment in full is received by Council.	plus proportionate share of the UAC due for the balance of the year	plus proportionate share of the targeted rate for stormwater (urban) due for the balance of the year
<b>Disconnection Fees</b>		
Per disconnection, capped at boundary	\$121.00	Quote based on investigation
<b>Reconnection Fees</b>		
Per reconnection		Quote based on investigation

## Wastewater Charges

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Connection and Reconnection Fees</b>		
<i>All connections and reconnections</i>	\$3,465.00	Quote based on investigation
Connections shall be installed by the Rangitikei District Council. A quote will be provided based on investigation. Installation will occur after payment in full is received by Council. Cost is highly dependent on depth of connection, length of later and mains diameter.	plus proportionate share of UAC due for balance of year	plus proportionate share of targeted wastewater (connected) rate due for balance of year
<i>All other connections to property boundary</i>	Quote	Quote
Connections shall be installed by the Rangitikei District Council. An installation quotation will be provided to the applicant and installation will occur after payment in full is received by Council.	plus proportionate share of UAC due for balance of year	plus proportionate share of targeted wastewater (connected) rate due for balance of year
<b>Disconnection Fees</b>		
Per disconnection	\$170.00	\$250.00
<b>Septage Discharge Fee</b>		
Per cubic metre	\$15.00	\$20.00/m3



## Solid Waste

	2014/15	2014/15	205/16	2015/16
	Charges (Marton)		Charges (Marton)	
Waste Transfer Station Accepted Refuse	Refuse	Green Waste	Refuse	Green Waste
Rubbish bag	\$2.30	\$1.10	\$2.40	\$1.20
Wheelie bin	\$10.80	\$5.40	\$11.00	\$6.00
Car boot	\$15.30	\$7.90	\$15.80	\$8.70
Van/station-wagon	\$25.30	\$12.60	\$26.00	\$13.80
Trucks		\$56.80/tonne		\$62.50/tonne
<b>Trailers</b>				
Small trailer (deck)	All subject to standard weighbridge charge: \$116.00/tonne Minimum trailer charge less than 100 kg: \$20.00, 100-200 kg: \$35.00	\$15.50	All subject to standard weighbridge charge: \$122.00/tonne Minimum trailer charge less than 100 kg: \$12.00	\$17.00
Medium (deck up to 2.4 m long)		\$19.60		\$21.50
Large (deck up to 3.0 m long)		\$28.90		\$31.80
Overloads (loads greater than 1.5 m in height)		Plus \$6.00 on above		Plus \$6.00 on above
Oversize (deck over 3.0 m long)		\$56.80		\$62.50
Overloads (loads greater than 1.5 m in height)		Plus \$19.00 on above		Plus \$21.00 on above

	2014/15	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16
	Charges (Taihape, Bulls, Ratana, Hunterville)		Charges (Taihape, Bulls, Ratana, Hunterville)	
Waste Transfer Station Accepted Refuse	Refuse	Green Waste	Refuse	Green Waste Bulls
Rubbish bag	\$2.30	not available	\$2.40	\$1.20
Wheelie bin	\$10.80		\$11.00	\$6.00
Car boot	\$15.30		\$15.80	\$8.70
Van/station-wagon	\$25.30		\$26.00	\$13.80
Trucks	Large trucks (3 tonne plus) are required to use the weighbridge at Marton. Smaller trucks determined as per Refuse or Green Waste trailer charges		Large trucks (3 tonne plus) are required to use the weighbridge at Marton. Smaller trucks determined as per Refuse or Green Waste trailer charges	
Trailers				
Small trailer (deck)	\$32.00	not available	\$33.00	\$17.00
Medium (deck up to 2.4 m long)	\$40.20	not available	\$41.00	\$21.50
Large (deck up to 3.0 m long)	\$59.50		\$61.00	\$31.80
Overloads (loads greater than 1.5 m in height)	Plus \$12.00 on above		Plus \$12.00 on above	Plus \$6.00 on above
Oversize (deck over 3.0 m long)	\$116.60		\$120.00	\$62.50
Overloads (loads greater than 1.5 m in height)	Plus \$38.00 on above		Plus \$38.00 on above	Plus \$21.00 on above
			2014/15	2015/16
Recycling			no charge for recycling	no charge for recycling
Glass				
Metal				
Paper/cardboard				
Plastic bottles (grade 1, 2 and 4)				
Can (tin and aluminium)				
Oil and hazardous waste (20 ltr or 20 kg max)				
Fluorescent tubes				
Eco bulbs				
Agrichemical containers - triple rinsed				



<b>Special rates for toxic/non-permitted items</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
TVs	\$20.60	\$23.00
Monitors	\$13.40	\$15.00
E-waste desktop/VCRs	\$5.20	\$5.50
Refrigeration requiring degassing	\$16.20	\$16.70
PCBs	\$66.00/kg	\$66.00/kg
Used vehicle oil - over 20 litres	\$0.30/litre	\$0.30/litre
Paint - 4 litre pail	\$1.00	\$2.00
Paint - 10 litres and over	\$2.60	\$4.50
Tyres - car	\$7.70	\$7.80
Tyres - 4x4	\$8.30	\$8.40
Tyres - light truck less than 50 kg	\$12.90	\$13.00
Tyres - long-haul vehicle	\$15.50	\$15.50
Tyres - tractor	\$87.70	\$90.00
Gas bottles	\$5.20	\$5.20

## Roading

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Road Opening Application Fee</b>		
Excavations in road, footpath, berm or road reserve – including Network Utility Operators and trenchless technology	\$245.00	\$252.00
Licence fee	\$122.00	\$126.00
<b>Road Encroachments Survey and Documentation</b>	Actual cost	Actual cost
<b>Kerb Opening/Vehicle Crossing Inspection Fee</b> (private works)	\$245.00	\$252.00
<b>Stock Underpass Street Opening Inspection Fee</b>	\$245.00	\$252.00
All work in road to be done by Council-approved contractor		

## Miscellaneous Charges

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Council publications, (draft Annual Plan, Annual Plan, Annual Report, Long Term Plan (including Consultation Document), Activity Management Plans)</b>		
To District residents and ratepayers	Free	Free
To non ratepayers and non-residents (reproduction costs)	Actual cost	Actual cost
<b>Customer Services</b>		
<i>Photocopying charges</i>		
Black and white A4	\$0.20	\$0.20
Black and white A3	\$0.50	\$0.50
Black and white A2	\$3.00	\$3.00
Black and white A1	\$4.00	\$4.00
Colour A4	\$4.00	\$4.00
Colour A3	\$7.00	\$7.00
Electronic GIS copies	No charge	No charge
<b>District Electoral Roll</b>		
Full District listing	\$79.00	\$81.00
Full Ward Listing (each)	\$40.00	\$41.00
<b>Rural Numbers</b>		
Application and placement of rural numbers	No charge	No charge
Replacement rural number plates	\$24.00	\$25.00
<b>Valuation Rolls/Rating Information Database</b>		
One booklet for the whole District	\$247.00	\$254.00
Electronic version	\$128.00	\$132.00
<b>Rural Fire</b>		
Burn-off supervision by the Rural Fire Officer – per hour	\$89.00	\$92.00



## Community Housing

Rental rates apply to superannuitant tenants only. Council reserves the right to charge non-superannuitants a market rent for the housing units. Adjustment to rents in Council's community housing must be made in accordance with the requirements of section 24 of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986. Typically this means that a change to rents for existing tenants will not occur for two months after Council adopts the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the coming year. Council has included a provision for a small contract with Age Concern Wanganui and Older & Bolder, Taihape to support elderly residents to remain independent in their housing.

	2014/15	2015/16
Single	\$93.00	\$96.00
Double	\$152.00	\$157.00

## Requests for Official Information

Official information requests are able to be made to the Council by any person, in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Council reserves the right to charge for this information as follows:

	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Official Information Request</b>		
Staff time – first hour	Free	Free
Staff time – each subsequent half hour (after the first hour)	\$38.50	\$40.00
Photocopying – first 20 pages	Free	Free
Photocopying – each subsequent page (after the first 20 pages)	Current charges apply	Current charges apply
Other actual and reasonable costs	At cost	At cost

(These charges are drawn from guidelines issued by the Ministry of Justice on Official Information Act requests.)

A deposit may be required where the estimated cost of the request exceeds \$76.00.

Charges may be modified or waived at the Council's discretion.

# Attachment 5

## **Policy on development contributions**

### **Introduction**

Section 102(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 requires the Council to adopt a policy on development contributions or financial contributions. Section 106(6) of that Act requires such a policy to be reviewed at least every three years using a consultation process that gives effect to the requirements of section 82.

### **Policy**

Council's policy is to not require development contributions.

### *Explanatory comment*

This policy reflects (i) the small extent of development occurring in the District and (ii) the view that such a policy might give the District a comparative advantage in attracting developers. Council's current network infrastructure is unlikely to need expansion to cope with additional demands as a result of subdivision or expanded commercial or industrial enterprises

This policy was first adopted in 2004.

# Attachment 6

## REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Project Central Wind: Consideration of objection from Meridian Energy to Council's decision to decline the application to extend the lapse date

**TO:** Council

**FROM:** Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

**DATE:** 22 May 2015

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

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Part A (sections 1-5) provides an introduction, sets out the statutory requirements, comments on the Notice of Objection from Meridian and summarises the documents tabled during Public Forum at Council's meeting on 14 May 2015.

Part B (sections 6-8) reviews the three matters which Council is required to take into account in considering the application and objection, including the analysis in the report provided to Council's meeting on 14 May 2015 and extending that to address issues raised at that meeting.

Part C (sections 9-10) contains a conclusion and recommendations.

Appendices 1- 5 were attached to the previous report and remain available on the website

### **PART A**

#### **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.<sup>1</sup> The current consent lapses on 24 May 2015.
- 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

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix 1



council engage its own planner. Grant Eccles was engaged for this purpose and his report was received on 17 February 2015.<sup>2</sup>

- 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.<sup>3</sup>
- 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<sup>4</sup>; Meridian's response was received on 14 April 2015<sup>5</sup>. To gain further insight, Council staff contacted owners of properties where consents were processed for new or relocated buildings within 25 km of the wind farm site.<sup>6</sup>
- 1.5 At its meeting on 14 May 2015, Council declined the application from Meridian Energy Ltd to extend the lapsing date for the consents granted by the Council for Project Central Wind. Later that day, Meridian (through its legal advisers, Bell Gully) emailed a Notice of Objection (attached as Appendix A to this report). This asked for Council's early consideration of the objection.
- 1.6 Meridian's consent does not lapse while the objection/appeal process is in progress.
- 1.7 Documents tabled/circulated during the Public Forum presentations by Meridian, Rangitikei Guardians and Madalene Frost are attached as Appendix B.
- 1.8 Relevant sections of the report provided to Council's meeting on 14 May 2015 have been included in this report. The references to Appendices 1- 5 remain correct. However, as noted in section 7.6, the work reflected in Appendix 6 has been revised and expanded and is attached as Appendix D.

## **2 Statutory requirements**

- 2.1 While the Notice of Objection requested a hearing, the first step<sup>7</sup> prescribed by section 357C(3)(a) is for Council to consider the objection within 20 working days. Other than prescribing the time period, it is open to Council how it does that consideration. The Mayor agreed that it was appropriate to invite Meridian to provide a deputation/presentation to Council, which would allow extended time for Elected Members to seek clarification.

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<sup>2</sup> Appendix 2. The report as attached is slightly changed from that initially received, reflecting comment from Horizons.

<sup>3</sup> Appendix 3.

<sup>4</sup> Appendix 4.

<sup>5</sup> Appendix 5.

<sup>6</sup> Appendix 6 to the earlier report included the location of these properties and a tabulation of comments.

<sup>7</sup> Section 357C(3)(a)

- 2.2 If Council does not resolve the objection (i.e. grant the application), it must arrange a hearing, and give Meridian at least five days' written notice of the date, time and place for a hearing of the objection.<sup>8</sup> It is preferable that an independent commissioner be engaged to conduct such a hearing. This would give Council the strongest assurance that the decision was both robust and perceived as independent, bearing in mind that if the Council's decision to decline is upheld, Meridian would likely make an appeal to the Environment Court.
- 2.3 In reaching a decision on the objection, Council must have regard for the same three matters (prescribed in section 125(1A)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991) as it did when forming a view over the merits of the application:
- 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.
- 2.4 Sections 6, 7 and 8 consider these matters, drawing from the earlier report to Council as appropriate.
- 2.5 Standing Orders 3.9.18 provides that Council may, on the recommendation contained in a report by the chief executive, revoke or alter all or part of resolutions passed at meetings. This report is provided partly to meet that requirement, should Council consider there is a sufficiently strong case to revoke the decision taken on 14 May 2015.

### **3 Meridian's reasons for the Notice of objection**

- 3.1 The first reason given is that the three statutory tests under section 125(1A)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991 have been met, as outlined in Meridian's application (and subsequent legal submissions and further information) and confirmed independently by planning advice to the Council (Grant Eccles), legal advice to the Council (Martin Williams) and the summary report provided to Council.
- 3.2 The application from Meridian and the report from Grant Eccles unambiguously recommended approval. However, the advice from Martin Williams suggested that Council needed further information before being satisfied whether people adversely affected by the granting of the extension had been adequately identified. He also noted (in relative terms) a declining effort in giving effect to the consents over the period of five years since the Environment Court decision in May 2010, but

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<sup>8</sup> Section 357C(3)(b)

considered a decision that substantial progress continued to be made was nevertheless reasonably open. The officer report to Council, which outlined the additional work done to respond to the advice from Martin Williams, considered each of the three tests had been met, but left it to Council to determine whether to approve or decline the application.

- 3.3 The second reason given is that the decision on 14 May 2015 was made on the basis that it would extend the time available for Council to consider the application rather than being a substantive determination to decline the application on the merits.
- 3.4 One option available for Council on 14 May 2015 was to defer a decision and hold an additional meeting on 21 May 2015 (before the lapse date). A motion to do that was lost. Taking the decision to decline the application provided certainty for Meridian in terms of being able to utilise the objection process and thus safeguard the consents beyond the lapse date as well as providing an opportunity for Council to consider the further information on the matter, including in response to issues raised during the Public Forum.
- 3.5 Meridian has provided additional information for Council to consider as part of the objection. This is attached as Appendix C. This expands on the benefits of the project, and provides clarification on the economic viability of Project central Wind and the expenditure made to date. It also sets out Meridian's perspective on how it has made, and is continuing to make, substantial progress of effort in giving effect to the Council's consents. Further, it reviews the evidence regarding whether there are any affected parties to the consent lapsing extension and confirms Meridian's view that there is no 'unreasonable uncertainty'.

#### **4 Issues raised by Rangitikei Guardians**

- 4.1 Geoff Duncan, Gill Duncan and Rita Batley presented the perspectives of the Guardians, emphasising two key sets of questions about the application.
- 4.2 The first set of questions focussed on the lack of physical works on the site, the reasonableness of the claim of 'substantial progress or effort' and the reasons given by the Commissioners in setting a five year lapse period.
- 4.3 These issues form part of the consideration in section 6. However, there is one aspect which needs particular attention here: while it lies outside the three matters to be taken into account, it will be of increasing significance as time goes by. In opting to limit the initial terms of the consent to five years rather than the ten years sought by Meridian, the Commissioners commented:

In 10 years' time the technology of renewable generation, from wind and other sources, may well have changed to the extent that the relative merits of this proposal (particularly against other forms of generation and opportunities for renewable energy) ought to be reconsidered if this wind farm has not been built.

- 4.4 Council has not asked Meridian for its view on this, nor has it undertaken research itself, other than noting that there are varying views on the cost-effectiveness of solar collectors compared with wind farms. In any case, a comparison would need to

be context specific, and issues of alternatives need to be treated with caution under the Resource Management Act, with any evaluation being centred on the merits of the proposal to hand.

- 4.5 However, such a consideration could be appropriate if the lapse date is extended, if the wind farm is not built by 2020, and if a further extension of the lapse period is applied for. Certainly, if the consents had not actually been given effect to by that stage, the reasons why establishment of the wind farm had not commenced (or indeed completed) would be squarely in focus, against the 'baseline' of activity completed and relied on for the current application. This point was noted at paragraph 3.5 of the report provided to Council's meeting on 14 May 2015.
- 4.6 The second set of questions focussed on the adequacy of the analysis of building and resource consents within 25 km of the Project Central Wind site; the Guardians spoke of finding a consistently higher number of these consents during the five years before the grant of the Project Central Wind consents compared with the number issued annually since that time.
- 4.7 This is further considered in section 7.

## **5 Issues raised by Madalene Frost**

- 5.1 Madalene Frost made a personal submission, using the three 'Ps' – principle, precedent and price to shape her presentation. She suggested that Council give closer consideration to three issues.
- 5.2 The first issue was the potential impact of the built wind farm on tourism. This was specifically considered by the Commissioners who concluded that the very small scale of tourism in the area was significantly out-balanced by the benefits of harnessing energy at the site.<sup>9</sup> While sealing of the Taihape-Napier Road has increased tourism in the area, taking this factor as a broader policy consideration comes too close to reconsidering the initial consents and the Commissioners' reasoning in granting it.
- 5.3 The second issue was the reduced demand for electricity (and the inaccuracy of Meridian's forecasting). This issue is part of the broader consideration in section 6. Furthermore (with reference to advice from Council's legal adviser), Council concurs with Meridian's statement (Appendix C, page 2) that issues of economic viability, and in particular as to whether to invest in the wind farm in light of demand for electricity, are for the 'boardroom' and are not directly relevant under the Resource Management Act.
- 5.4 The third issue was the unacceptable uncertainty, related to potential drops in property values. This was also addressed by the Commissioners.<sup>10</sup> However, this commentary implied that Council's analysis of consents, by focusing on owners of

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<sup>9</sup> Report and decisions of the Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council, the Rangitikei District Council and the Ruapehu District Council, through their Commissioners, 11 February 2009, 11.30

<sup>10</sup> Report and decisions.....2009, 11.45-11.47

properties where new or relocated dwellings had been consented, had been insufficient and that some deeper analysis to encompass those who had undertaken major repairs should be done. This is addressed in section 7.

## **PART B**

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

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 Although most of the effort (and expenditure) was incurred in the first two years 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”<sup>11</sup>. This is important, not only for deciding the present application, but also for setting the baseline should the present application to lapse be granted and there be a further application to extend the lapse date in five years’ time (as touched on above). The issue of whether substantial progress continues to be made (or there has been a break in that effort sufficient to warrant declining the application) is addressed further below. 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.
- 6.3 However, at Council’s meeting on 14 May 2015, the question was posed on how was ‘substantial’ to be assessed. Meridian’s application notes that when the project proceeds, there will be between \$72 and \$90 million in local economy expenditure. In its supplementary briefing (Appendix C) Meridian clarifies that \$4.6 million has been spent so far in giving effect to the consents. To consider such expenditure ‘substantial’ in terms of the total the cost of the project might be questionable, but the test does not require such a comparison to be made, nor that it necessarily be assessed in dollar terms.
- 6.4 Progress or effort may be substantial, even though the most significant cost component is yet to be incurred, i.e. actual project construction. Otherwise, the test could not be met in any case where construction had not commenced, but where construction would form the dominant part of overall project cost; this would be inconsistent with the case law discussed in the legal advice referred to below. In

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<sup>11</sup> Eccles, sections 4.4 and 4.12 (Appendix 2)



absolute terms, the sum is not insubstantial in any event, with \$4.6 million being in the same order as that incurred in the Cyprus coal mine case addressed below (*Biodiversity Defence Society v Solid Energy Limited*, i.e. \$7.2million).

- 6.5 However, given the attention given to this question at Council's meeting on 14 May 2015, specific legal advice has been sought on this matter, including whether there is any precedent for a finding that "substantial" progress or effort had been made in this type of situation, and where construction has not commenced. This is narrated below:
- a. The Courts have confirmed that every case is different and needs to be approached in its specific circumstances. They have commented that the section 125(1A) tests are such that reasonable people could reach different conclusions – there is no bright line test.
  - b. Within that there is direct precedent for a finding of substantial progress or effect even where no physical progress (in the form of construction) had been made. This is the Body Corporate decision referred to in the Meridian application and in Mr Williams' legal opinion. In that case the Court of Appeal specifically approved consideration of fluctuating market demand (as here) and the need to raise finance as examples of the practical and economic realities inherent in completing a major project.
  - c. The Meridian application (sections 3.1 and 3.2) sets out the complex range of interacting factors influencing a decision to invest in electricity generation, and the process of demand analysis along with other factors which have resulted in this project being the most advanced and 'development ready' of any of the consented options for Meridian. The commercial realities surrounding that issue alone are not dissimilar in kind to those at stake in Body Corporate, where the lapsing extension decision was upheld, but if anything are more complex and significant. What has changed since the initial granting of the consents is the national energy demand, something which Meridian cannot control but has responded to.<sup>12</sup>
  - d. Beyond that Meridian has demonstrably undertaken a substantial amount of preliminary work that would need to have been carried out anyway before an investment decision including detailed design, geotechnical investigations, baseline monitoring, preparation and approval of management plans. As the High Court stated in *Biodiversity Defence Society v Solid Energy Limited* (also referenced in Mr Williams' opinion), for a complex project there is always a significant lead in time, and these types of activities 'count' by way of 'effort' as much as commencement of the consented activity itself, for lapsing assessment purposes.

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<sup>12</sup> In addition, Meridian has, in its supplementary information (Appendix C) confirmed the financial viability of the wind farm. Factors within the control of an applicant would normally be ignored in taking a broader view, e.g. if Meridian had suggested a deterioration of the financial circumstances of the company as a reason for delay in giving effect to the consents.

- e. This is certainly not a case of Meridian “putting the consent in the bank” and neglecting it (as it were) so that it could be used for a future time, which is not permissible. In fact, it could be said that for certain regional permits, substantial progress has been made (or even that they have been given effect to) where such consents are focused on the preconstruction phase, and require preparation and approval of management plans and the like. Again, in *Biodiversity Defence Society v Solid Energy Limited* the High Court found it was appropriate to consider actions across the consents on an integrated basis (and as a ‘suite’ of consents) in deciding whether the test of substantial progress was met.
- f. As with that decision, a wider view can be taken of the issue, and with the Court stating that for a project of significant scale (the Cyprus coal mine in that case) a good deal of sophisticated planning work has to be undertaken, including development of management plans, consideration of regulatory and commercial factors, and integration of the projects with other economic activity, which can all be taken into account in deciding whether the tests are met.
- g. While there may have been a relative decrease in the level of such activity in (say) the past two years as opposed to the first two years from the Environment Court decision, effort does continue, and there has not been a break in activity of the kind or extent that would be fatal to the application. This is again evidenced by the range of activity and effort across the full five year period referred to in Meridian’s application. The latest information from meridian (Appendix C) reinforces this point.

6.6 This additional legal advice emphasises the need to take a wider view. It confirms the view in the earlier report that a reasonable decision can be made that the test of substantial progress or effort is passed in this case.

## **7 Approval from persons who may be adversely affected by the granting of an extension**

- 7.1 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.<sup>13</sup> 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.
- 7.2 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

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<sup>13</sup> Meridian, p.20 (Appendix 1); Williams, p.7 (Appendix 3).

"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"<sup>14</sup>. Meridian interpreted this as meaning there was no major changes to the physical environment<sup>15</sup> nor observable uncertainty effects.<sup>16</sup> By implication, there are no identified people from whom approval needed to be sought.

- 7.3 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 occurred.<sup>17</sup> 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.
- 7.4 This issue was put to Meridian. Although not accepting the Council's reasoning,<sup>18</sup> 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 be unlikely to have been influenced by the wind farm development.
- 7.5 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.<sup>19</sup> Of the 11 owners who were successfully contacted, six owners 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.
- 7.6 However, during presentations at Public Forum on 14 May 2015, the adequacy of this approach was questioned. To address that concern, this analysis was extended to include building consents which had a value of \$50,000 or more. This identified a further 11 property owners, eight of whom were able to be contacted. As with the

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<sup>14</sup> Meridian, p.26 (Appendix 1)

<sup>15</sup> Meridian, p.28 (Appendix 1)

<sup>16</sup> Meridian, p.29 (Appendix 1)

<sup>17</sup> Williams, p.7

<sup>18</sup> Letter from Bell Gully included in Meridian's reply dated 14 April 2015 (Appendix 5)

<sup>19</sup> Maraë building work at Moawhango was also consented during this time.

earlier analysis, half were aware of the wind farm and half were not (or unsure). Responses from three owners reflected uncertainty about Meridian's intentions for the wind farm. The revised analysis is attached as Appendix D.<sup>20</sup>

- 7.7 At the April 2015 meeting of Te Roopu Ahi Kaa (the Council's standing Iwi Advisory Committee), it became evident that local Iwi, Ngati Whitikaupeka and Ngati Tamakopiri, had not been informed of progress with the wind farm, and a meeting was requested with the Council's Chief Executive. This meeting was held on 22 May 2015, providing an opportunity for Council set out the process it was following. Meridian has a Memorandum of Understanding with each of these Iwi and also with Ngati Rangi, all being acknowledged as tangata whenua in the area.
- 7.8 The additional analysis has demonstrated that there is a small number of people potentially adversely affected from granting the extension. The possibility that there were a number of other people who delayed building work because of uncertainty is implicit in the analysis undertaken by Rangitikei Guardians: they found that the level of consenting activity in the area was markedly higher in the five years before the Project Central Wind consents were granted than since. However, this trend is true for the Rangitikei District as a whole: in the five years 2004/05 to 2008/09, the mean annual number of building consents issues was 488; in the five years 2009/10-2013/14 it was 320. That substantially qualifies the possibility that there is a large number of people potentially affected. The decline in numbers of consents was not confined to the area near the wind farm site, and will have been influenced by broader factors such as the economic climate. In addition, this information is in contrast to that supplied by Meridian, which states that the highest level of resource consent activity was in the three years after consents were confirmed by the Environment Court,<sup>21</sup> so the position is not beyond challenge.
- 7.9 To some extent, that there are people potentially affected by granting the extension is a result of insufficient communication from Meridian about its plans and activities. The high proportion of people interviewed who were unaware of the wind farm when applying to the Council for building consent is surprising. The Community Liaison Group required by the Environment Court<sup>22</sup> could have been an easy mechanism to achieve a higher profile for the project, but Meridian is not obliged to convene this until three months after construction works begin.
- 7.10 Council's further research means that it cannot be stated with absolute certainty that Meridian has obtained approval from persons who may be adversely affected by granting the extension. The wording for this particular matter is "persons" but not "all persons", but also "may be" and not necessarily "are" affected by the extension. This implies an expectation that the consideration will ultimately be general rather than specific – i.e. a few exceptions would not automatically mean that the matter has not been sufficiently addressed. As Mr Williams, opinion also points out, the Act

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<sup>20</sup> This replaces Appendix 6 to the earlier report.

<sup>21</sup> Meridian's application, p.22 – Appendix 1.

<sup>22</sup> Clauses 52-54 in the conditions prescribed by the Environment Court for Ruapehu and Rangitikei District Council consents

was amended such that a Council no longer needs to “be satisfied” that all affected parties have given approval, but simply take this into account. It is no longer, as such, a bottom line requirement. While Meridian’s application was considered incomplete, combining it with the information since received from Meridian<sup>23</sup> and Council’s further inquiries provide reasonable evidence that the test is substantially met.

## **8 Effect of the extension on the policies and objectives of the operative plan or proposed plan**

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 The operative District Plan contains a new objective and policies which promote renewable electricity generation. There is a greater emphasis on reverse sensitivity<sup>24</sup> but given the assessment above on affected persons, reverse sensitivity effects do not seem likely to arise.<sup>25</sup> A similar view applies to the specific policy intent to encourage renewable electricity generation at a domestic scale<sup>26</sup>.
- 8.3 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.

## **PART C**

## **9 Conclusion**

- 9.1 One concern shared by Meridian and those opposed to Council granting an extension is that the potential costs to Council (and thus ratepayers) of responding to an appeal by Meridian to the Environment Court might become the overriding consideration. Such a consequence places emphasis on rigorous testing of the strength of the evidence and argument provided in this report and by Meridian in its presentation to the meeting.
- 9.2 In considering the objection, Council must bear in mind the three prescribed matters to be taken into account. All three require an evaluative approach: there is no prescribed methodology, there is no priority stated or implied, and they need to be

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<sup>23</sup> Appendix 5 (as presented to the 14 May 2015 meeting).

<sup>24</sup> Operative District Plan, Objective 21, Policies A5-1.7 and A.5-1.9

<sup>25</sup> The wind farm, once constructed, will have little (if any) impact on present activities conducted in the neighbouring area. And any new permitted activity in the neighbouring area will be unlikely to impact on the operation of the wind farm.

<sup>26</sup> Operative District Plan, Objective 22B and Policy A5.2-2



considered as a whole. Ultimately a decision must be made applying those matters, involving an exercise of judgement and degree.

- 9.3 As noted in the earlier report to Council, it is not necessary for Council to address other matters in reaching a decision. If Council considers this particular application is a close call, it is relevant to note that, in other cases with this characteristic, a broader view has proved helpful in deciding the matter. Typically that has involved having regard for circumstances beyond the control of the applicant (such as the downturn in demand for electricity) as distinct from circumstances peculiar to the applicant (such as the company's financial position).
- 9.4 Any further delay in committing to physical construction will eventually make it difficult to assess that Meridian has made 'substantial progress or effort' in giving effect to the Council's consents. However, given the actual work done, including work towards regional permits, and having regard for the unforeseen drop in electricity demand (and the potential for that to reverse) since the initial grant of the consents, it would be unreasonable to conclude *at this time* that progress or effort has not been substantial.
- 9.5 Council undertook additional work in response to concerns expressed at the Public Forum on 14 May 2015 that the analysis of consents before and after the granting of consent was insufficient to state there were no adversely affected persons. That additional work revealed a few instances where property owners consider they would have made a different decision had they known the consent was still 'live'. That means that Meridian has not obtained approval from *all* persons who may be adversely affected by the granting of an extension. But this deficiency should be considered against the renewal of land access agreements and the fact that most people interviewed by Council who were considered potentially adversely affected confirmed in fact they were not.
- 9.6 There is no impact from granting the extension on the integrity on the operative District Plan or any current proposals to amend it.
- 9.7 Whatever Council's decision over Meridian's objection is, it is important to step through and record the key considerations which lead to that decision. Such a record this will be a useful reference point (baseline) for future decisions on any subsequent applications or appeals from Meridian regarding an extension of the lapse date.

## **10 Recommendations**

- 10.1 That the report 'Project Central Wind: Consideration of objection from Meridian Energy to Council's decision to decline the application to extend the lapse date' be received.
- 10.2 That in considering the application from Meridian Energy to extend the lapse date for the consents granted by the Council for Project Central Wind (and the objection to Council's previous decision to decline it) Council notes (and agrees) that:
- a. regard is required to be had to the three matters to be taken into account specified by section 125(1A) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and

- b. the wider policy context for the project would be of potential relevance, including the practical and economic realities of constructing and completing a major development but not the company's financial position.

10.3 That Council notes (and agrees) that

- a. the three matters to be taken into account specified by section 125(1A) of the Resource Management Act 1991 are evaluative, unprioritised, and inter-related, and that
- b. they do not comprise 'bottom lines' which must all be met conclusively, but instead they are a reasonable conclusion on each test must be reached, and an overall decision then made.

10.4 That Council notes (and agrees) that

- a. the quantum of effort and progress which has been (and continues to be) made towards giving effect to the Council's consents for Project Central Wind is substantial in terms of what can be done before physical construction begins, and that
- b. further delay with the physical construction will make an overall assessment of 'substantial progress or effort' increasingly uncertain and unlikely.

10.5 That Council notes (and agrees) that consideration may be needed to the alternative of solar collectors at the Project Central Wind site should the present application be approved and there is a further application to extend the lapse date made in five years' time.

10.6 That Council notes (and agrees) that the evidence from reviewing consenting activity before and after the consents for Project Central Wind is that there is a very small number only of persons who may be potentially adversely affected from granting the extension to lapse the Council's consents.

10.7 That Council notes (and agrees) that the operative District Plan is not undermined by granting the application to lapse the Council's consents for Project Central Wind.

EITHER

10.8 That Council, having considered the Notice of Objection dated 14 May 2015 from Meridian Energy Ltd,

- a. in terms of Standing Order 3.9.18, revokes resolution 15/RDC/127. and
- b. approves 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 28 May 2020), thus resolving the objection.

OR

- 10.9 That Council, having considered the Notice of Objection dated 14 May 2015 from Meridian Energy Ltd,
- a. confirms its decision in resolution 15/RDC/127 to decline 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; and
  - b. authorises the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, to appoint an independent commissioner to conduct a hearing of the Notice of Objection under section 357C(3)(b) of the Resource Management Act and give Meridian at least five working days' notice of the date, time and place for this hearing.

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

# *Appendix A*

## **BEFORE THE RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Under sections 125(1A)(b) and 357A(1)(a)(ii) of the Resource Management Act 1991

In the matter of

**Application by Meridian Energy to extend the lapse date for  
Project Central Wind under section 125(1A)(b) of the RMA**

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**Notice of Objection on behalf of Meridian Energy Limited  
under section 357A(1)(a)(ii) of the RMA**

**14 May 2015**

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### **BELL GULLY**

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS  
AJLBEATSON/ NJ GARVAN  
AUCKLAND LEVEL 22, VERO CENTRE, 48 SHORTLAND STREET  
PO BOX 4199, AUCKLAND 1140, DX CP20509, NEW ZEALAND  
TEL 64 9 916 8800 FAX 64 9 916 8801



1. We act for Meridian Energy Limited (**Meridian**).
2. The Rangitikei District Council (the **Council**) made the decision to decline to grant the extension of the lapse date for Project Central Wind (RM 080065) on Thursday 14 May 2015 (the **decision**).
3. Meridian objects to the Council's decision under section 357A(1)(a)(ii) of the RMA.
4. The reasons for the objection are as follows:
  - (a) The statutory tests under section 125(1A)(b) of the RMA are met, as outlined in the application and further information provided by Meridian including legal submissions and further information provided at the hearing, and as independently confirmed by:
    - (i) The Council Officer's Report by Michael Hodder dated 10 May 2015;
    - (ii) Planning advice from Grant Eccles to the Council;
    - (iii) Legal advice from Martin Williams to the Council.
  - (b) The decision was made on the basis that it would extend the time available for the Council to consider the application, rather than being a substantive determination to decline the application on the merits.
5. Meridian requests a hearing and decision on this matter as soon as possible.



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AJL Beatson/ N J Garvan  
Counsel for Meridian Energy Limited  
14 May 2015

# *Appendix B*

## **BEFORE THE RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Under the Resource Management Act 1991

In the matter of

**Application for extension to lapse period – Project Central  
Wind Resource Consent RM 080065**

and

**Meridian Energy Limited**

Applicant

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**Legal Submissions on behalf of Meridian Energy Limited**

**14 May 2015**

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**BELL GULLY**

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS

AJLBEATSON

AUCKLAND LEVEL 22, VERO CENTRE, 48 SHORTLAND STREET

PO BOX 4199, AUCKLAND 1140, DX CP26509, NEW ZEALAND

TEL 64 9 916 8800 FAX 64 9 916 8801

**May it please the Council:**

**Introduction**

1. Land use consent RM 080065 (the **consent**) for Project Central Wind was granted by Rangitikei Council Commissioners. Subsequent appeals to the Environment Court were dismissed and a decision issued on conditions dated 24 May 2010. The final conditions were sealed by the Court on 14 June 2010.
2. Meridian's application seeks an extension to the consent lapsing period until 24 May 2020. The consent, if not extended, will lapse on 24 May 2015.
3. Meridian wishes the Council to make its decision promptly, and as far before 24 May 2015 as possible. Meridian, at best, considers there is considerable legal uncertainty about the application of section 37 RMA in this circumstance.

**Legal Test**

4. Section 125(1A)(b) of the RMA allows the Council to extend the period after which a consent lapses after taking into account a number of requirements. These requirements, and associated case law, are set out in Appendix One. The key requirements are discussed below.

*Substantial Progress or Effort*

5. Meridian has made, and continues to make, substantial effort and substantial progress towards constructing Project Central Wind, giving effect to the consents it holds. A summary of the substantial progress or effort Meridian has made is detailed in part 3 of Meridian's section 125 application.
6. The Council's advisors and Meridian agree this statutory consideration is met.

*Approval from persons who may be adversely affected by the granting of an extension*

7. The Council is not entitled to take into account the effects of Project Central Wind. Rather, the legal obligation is to consider whether parties which may be affected by the extension have provided their written approval.
8. The Council's legal advice correctly identifies that Rangitikei Guardians' is not an affected party under the law.
9. Both Council advisors and Meridian agree that there has been no material change to the environment relevant to Meridian's application. This is an indicator that there is no change in affected parties.
10. Neither the Council advisors nor Meridian identified any evidence of 'unacceptable uncertainty' being caused by Project Central Wind consents. Typically, such uncertainty would be evidenced by 'planning blight', where people move out of the neighbourhood in anticipation of the implementation of the resource consent.
11. This analysis aligns with the findings of the Council in the February 2014 decision on Meridian's earlier s.125 application:<sup>1</sup>

"Although those persons' views are not known, the wind farm application process was subject to a degree of opposition such that it is reasonably likely those persons would not approve of an extension of any term. On the other hand, there is no obvious change in effects, the environment or policy that could provide a different basis for opposition than those that gave rise to the consent."
12. Mr Hodder reports that Council officers have 'tested' this further, and confirms that a reasonable conclusion is that there are no adversely affected persons.
13. The Council's advisors and Meridian agree this statutory consideration is met.

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<sup>1</sup> At [4.9].



### *Policies and Objectives of the Rangitikei District Plan*

14. The policies and objectives considered at the time of the original application for the consent have now been superseded by the new Rangitikei District Plan made operative on 3 October 2013.
15. Both Mr Hodder and Meridian agree that the grant of Meridian's application will not adversely affected the achievement of the objectives and policies of the new Operative Plan. Further, Meridian is of the view that new objectives and policies usefully give further direction that renewable generation is to be given some priority and any reverse sensitivity effect on renewable generation appropriately managed.
16. The Council's advisors and Meridian agree this statutory consideration is met.

### **Conclusion**

17. Meridian is seeking to retain the ability to construct Project Central Wind. Meridian has prioritised Project Central Wind within its generation options portfolio and is actively working to ensure that it is a development that ready for construction as soon as it makes economic sense to do so.
18. The importance of this project to Meridian cannot be overstated. Meridian will typically make a public statement if does not intend to proceed with a resource consent that it has been granted. For example, in January 2013 Meridian publicly announced its decision to put its consented North Bank Tunnel hydro power project on hold indefinitely. In contrast, Meridian is actively working to ensure that Project Central Wind is development ready as part of a prioritised development portfolio.
19. We note that an extended lapse period (i.e. beyond the standard 5 year period applicable to run of the mill consents) for a major project such as this is not unusual. As an example for the Hurunui wind farm project, as a result of the global financial crisis and fall off in demand growth, Meridian Energy sought a 10 year lapse period and despite opposition was granted this relief given the scale and cost of the project.

20. We note and support Mr Hodder's findings, and note the Officer's recognition that Project Central Wind is a significant project. For Meridian this project is a very important part of its generation portfolio. Meridian has and will continue to put all effort into this application and strongly encourages the Council to promptly make its decision.



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AJL Beatson  
Counsel for Meridian Energy Limited

14 May 2015

## APPENDIX ONE

### Legal Test

1. Section 125(1A)(b) of the RMA allows the Council to extend the period after which a consent lapses after taking into account:
  - (a) whether substantial progress or effort has been, and continues to be, made towards giving effect to the consent; and
  - (b) whether the applicant has obtained approval from persons who may be adversely affected by the granting of an extension; and
  - (c) the effect of the extension on the policies and objectives of any plan or proposed plan.

### Substantial Progress or Effort

2. The courts have examined the concepts of substantial progress or effort, and found that these are two distinct considerations. The Environment Court in *Goldfinch v Auckland City Council* allowed a consent extension where, although little or no work has been carried out on the site, the consent holder has been doing its best to get the work underway without success.<sup>2</sup> The Court of Appeal has also held that “[a] lack of substantial ‘progress’ is also no longer of the same significance now that substantial ‘effort’ can be enough, provided it is directed to the end of giving effect to the consent”.<sup>3</sup>
3. Further, a consent authority is entitled to take into account the practical and economic realities of constructing and completing a major development, including fluctuations in market demand and the need to

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<sup>2</sup> *Goldfinch v Auckland City Council* [1997] NZRMA 117 (HC).

<sup>3</sup> *Body Corporate 970101 v Auckland City Council* (2000) 6 ELRNZ 303 at [70].

raise finance.<sup>4</sup> The preparation of plans and the marketing of the project can be progress or effort giving effect to the consent.<sup>5</sup>

### **Affected Persons**

4. Case law has determined that there are a number of effects that Council can take into account when considering affected persons:<sup>6</sup>
  - (a) where there have been changes to the physical environment or to activities in the vicinity since the grant of the original consent which may justify a consent authority concluding that the grant of the extension would adversely affect other persons;
  - (b) creation of unacceptable uncertainty; and
  - (c) the effects taking place at a later time than originally envisaged.
5. The Court of Appeal has held that an extension application is not an opportunity for the Council to consider again the adverse effects on neighbours and other persons of the activity for which it granted the resource consent. In relation to such persons it is confined to the adverse effects of the extension of the period for implementation of the consent.<sup>7</sup>
6. In relation to parties who have undertaken building and resource consent activity in the neighbouring area since the wind farm consent was granted, we note that the wind-farm already formed part of the existing environment when these activities were assessed.

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<sup>4</sup> *Body Corporate 970101 v Auckland City Council* (2000) 6 ELRNZ 303 at [69] and [70].

<sup>5</sup> *Body Corporate 97010 v Auckland City Council* (2000) 6 ELRNZ 183 (HC).

<sup>6</sup> See *Body Corporate 97010 v Auckland City Council* (2000) 6 ELRNZ 183 (HC); *Body Corporate 97010 v Auckland City Council* [2002] 3 NZLR 513 CA, both decisions being made under the provision preceding section 125(1A)(b)(ii) which was section 125(1)(b)(ii)).

<sup>7</sup> *Body Corporate 97010 v Auckland City Council* [2002] 3 NZLR 513 CA at [74].

## **BEFORE THE RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Under the Resource Management Act 1991

In the matter of

**Application for extension to lapse period – Project Central  
Wind Resource Consent RM 080065**

and

**Meridian Energy Limited**

Applicant

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**Supporting Statement of Neal Barclay for Meridian Energy  
Limited**

**14 May 2015**

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**BELL GULLY**

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS  
A.J. BEATSON/ N.J. GARVAN  
AUCKLAND LEVEL 22, VERO CENTRE, 48 SHORTLAND STREET  
PO BOX 4199, AUCKLAND 1140, DX CP20509, NEW ZEALAND  
TEL 64 9 916 8800 FAX 64 9 916 8801



**May it please the Committee:**

**Introduction**

1. My name is Neal Barclay and I am the General Manager of Markets and Production for Meridian Energy Limited (**Meridian**). I am the General Manager responsible for Meridian's Renewable Options portfolio.

**Meridian as a Renewable Generation Developer**

2. Meridian is proud of its track record of developing, owning and operating renewable generation projects both in New Zealand and Australia. These include five wind farms in New Zealand, being Te Uku (Raglan), Te Apiti (Manawatu), Mill Creek (Wellington), West Wind (Wellington) and White Hill (Southland) and two wind farms in Australia, Mt Mercer in Victoria and Mt Millar in South Australia.
3. Currently, the economic realities prevent Meridian from constructing new renewable generation projects, including Project Central Wind. However, Meridian anticipates, and is already seeing electricity demand growth. It is of the view that its generation projects will be needed and as such is making progress and putting considerable effort into ensuring these are, and remain, ready for construction.

**Meridian's effort and progress to building Central Wind**

4. Project Central Wind is one of Meridian's small number of generation priorities. Since the time the consent was granted, and in response to changing market conditions, Meridian has rationalised its portfolio of generation options. Only the very best projects of high commercial value such as Central Wind, remain. These consented projects are in an advanced state of readiness, so that they can proceed as soon as economic conditions make it a sensible decision to build.
5. To achieve this advanced state of readiness for Central Wind, Meridian has made significant effort and progress towards the Project being 'investment and build' ready. In totality, Meridian has spent in the order of \$4.6 million since obtaining the consents in January 2010, of which half has been incurred on detailed design. There continues to be

expenditure on wind monitoring, environmental monitoring and ongoing payment obligations to maintain property access. Meridian continues to actively work on this project including assessment of electricity generation potential and wind turbine suitability as innovations in design become commercially available.

### **Conclusion**

6. Meridian remains committed to Central Wind Project. It has, and continues, to progress this Project so that it is investment ready.



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Neal Barclay  
General Manager of Markets and Production  
Meridian Energy Limited

14 May 2015

Rangitikei Guardians

Project Central Wind

Submission to Rangitikei District Council in response to Meridian Energy Limited's

Application for extension to lapse period to May 2020

14<sup>th</sup> May 2015

The Rangitikei Guardians (RG) respectfully request that the Rangitikei District Council (RDC) decline any further extension to the resource consent held by Meridian Energy Limited (MEL) for Project Central Wind.

An extension to the lapse period sought is inappropriate, and should not be granted, taking into account the consideration of section 125(1A) (b) (i), (ii) and (iii) of the RMA.

The RGs will be adversely affected by the granting of a further extension.

#### **Background:**

The original Consent was granted for 5 years. Meridian had requested 10 years.

From the Hearing Decision, p. 43 :

"12.10 As to the lapsing period under s.125, the Commissioners conclude that the five year standard is appropriate here.

a) First, it is too long a period of uncertainty for the community.

b) Second, if the national benefits of the proposal are indeed as MEL and the Crown assert then there is no reason for a long delay in implementing the consent.

c) Third, in 10 years time the technology of renewable generation, from wind and other sources, may have changed to the extent that the relative merits of this proposal (particularly against other forms of generation and opportunities for renewable energy) ought to be reconsidered if this wind farm is not built.

d) Fourth, there is a remedy under section 127 of the Act for the Consent Holder to apply for an extension of the consent period should that become necessary, **though the first three points will remain relevant** (emphasis added).

12.11 Accordingly, the Commissioners have resolved to limit the lapse period to the standard five years, (Hearing Decision, 12.10, p.43)."

The Environment Court upheld this decision.

#### **Discussion:**

Project Central Wind has clearly not been built in the last 5yrs.

On-site and physically, PCW has not even begun in the last 12month extended consent period.

A further 5 year extension indicates that there is no immediate intention to proceed.

PCW was promoted as a 52 turbine, multi-million dollar project.

To suggest that "...substantial progress or effort has been, and continues to be, made.." is nonsense.

Many of the expenses quoted by MEL were the completion of initial work. Much of the recent expenses are a consequence of delay. All expenses so far represent only a small fraction of the total project cost.

On the contrary one land owner has 'opted out' of the project, (8 turbines reduces by 15% the number of proposed wind towers.), thereby degrading the original proposal that Meridian stated would be unviable if there were any less than 52 turbines. It is commonly understood that bridges have been built and then taken out again resulting in the Community reasoning, with the continuing negative electricity demand, that PCW will not be built.

To add weight to the lack of substantial progress it is noted that if a further 5 years is granted then many of the assumptions underlying the original application will be up to 13 years old.

Clearly MEL wish to "land-bank" Project Central Wind. In their document MEL twice state that they have not committed to the construction of PCW, (Meridian, 3.1 & 3.7, p.19).

It is MEL's opinion and view only that wind energy is financially viable when there is increasing evidence that wind farms are an expensive and unreliable option especially compared to Geothermal and Solar options.

RDC councillors should realise that to grant this extension allows this large industrial project to be an "option". The implications of an option are that changing perceptions or classifications of such things as landscapes cannot be effected in our own district.

"the effect of the extension on the policies and objectives of any plan or proposed plan" ..... is an anomaly for the RDC given that due to this consent being current any "plan" has to accommodate this activity.

The longer the consent period, the longer the uncertainty around implementing current classifications and current thinking – should they be different.

Dispute figures in Tables – Rita.

#### **Unacceptable uncertainty.**

MEL's unimplemented consent has undue influence on the RGs.

We repudiate MEL's interpretation, (4.4, p.28.) and summary (4.5, p.28).

RDC has not notified persons seeking consents and MEL has no observable presence in the area, therefore with the overwhelming local opinion that there will be no wind farm now, through the complete lack of physical progress, the RGs see that the community is unaware of the potential for a wind farm.

MEL's reference to "planning blight", (Meridian, 4.4, p.28), cannot be used as a bench mark in a farming context where leaving one's dwelling is to abandon one's business.

Geoff Duncan, Chairperson Rangitikei Guardians.

Your Worship, councillors, good morning. I'm Madalene Frost. I stand in support of the 85% of North Rangitikei submitters to the original consent application, who oppose PCW.

There are three issues you need to consider – involving Precedent, Principle and Price.

If a precedent is set within the district, by allowing this application, MEL only have to show some nebulous level of “progress” each five years, to be able to roll this consent over interminably. And if they do ever get round to actually building the project, do you really want Rangitikei looking like the Manawatu landscape around Palmerston North? This would impact on our fledgling tourism industry, one of our only real assets, as is happening eg in Scotland. Tourism in Rangitikei was incidentally written off by Meridian during the Environment Court Appeal, as too minor to be worth taking into account? Are these the sort of demanding cash rich bedfellows you really want to have to deal with if you are trying to encourage people – either new businesses or tourists - into the district? People who, due to their ability to litigate you into the ground if they want to, will rob Rangitikei of our current point of difference from other areas already littered by industrial wind farms?

#### Principle

On their original application MEL stated that the demand for power would increase by 2% annually into the foreseeable future. On the strength of that, both the consent hearing and the subsequent Environment Court appeal used that ‘fact’ as a basis for deeming the building of PCW was “in the national interest”. However within two years demand had in fact peaked, and MEL’s current submission states in a table under 3.1, figures which show far from increasing, there is a current decline in demand for power. Is their ability to forecast really so bad they didn’t know that was coming?

Further regarding the principle of honesty: I had resisted spending any money on renovations to my home or land until it was known whether PCW would go ahead or not. Then in early 2012 Claire Shaw from MEL speaking in the Central District Times, stated that it would be **either** Mill Creek **or** PCW that would go ahead. At the end of 2012 Mill Creek was started. Assuming that MEL was an ethical organization, I trusted Claire Shaw’s unequivocal statement to mean that it was now safe to start doing a bit of a do up, and some urgent repairs on my old place. The uncertainty was over! But with this application, the uncertainty is now worse than originally, because I’m wondering if I would be able to recoup the money I have now spent, if, despite Ms Shaw’s assertion, construction commences on PCW, and I need to sell up before the attributes that make my remote location special have been lost, and its resale value drops. Once again the uncertainty is in my face every time I look out towards the plateaus.

Sadly such mendacity, such a lack of principle, has become the hallmark of my experience with MEL.

The initial hearing decision states on P43:

12.10 “MEL sought 10 years but the commissioners regard this as unacceptable



- a) First it is too long a period of uncertainty for the **community**". The 'community' was not defined as being limited to Moawhango; and certainly was not defined as just the people who might apply for building consents to do works on their properties. But a sample of five consent applications has become the proof for a test of uncertainty for a whole community? Where in the world would any reputable scientific or social scientific study accept a baseline study involving only five cases to claim proof of any test?
- b) "Second, if the national benefits of the proposal are indeed as MEL, and Crown assert then there is no reason for a long delay in implementing the consent." I simply don't believe that MEL's forecasting of future power generation needs was so flawed that they didn't know electricity demand was peaking, so there wasn't in fact any national interest in building this massive industrial complex. They just want to be the first cab off the rank here ... SOMETIME in the future.

Price: If RDC aren't prepared to spend around \$100,000 to defend against these mendacious practices by MEL, as did "a small bunch of shepherds and farmers" at the Environment Court, I can only assume the decision is already made, and you are going to allow yourselves to be bullied by MEL. That would be a sad day for democracy. I guess you have heard the news this week that MEL are pressuring councils all around Aotearoa to have their rates reduced?. So, if you think you know now what the rates take from MEL will be, think again!

Thank you.

# *Appendix C*



20 May 2015

Michael Hodder  
Community and Regulatory Services Group Manager  
Rangitikei District Council  
46 High Street  
Marton 4741

Dear Michael

**Re Meridian Energy Ltd - Application for Lapsing extension application under section 125(1A)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991 - Project Central Wind**

Please find enclosed a response to a number of matters raised at the Council meeting on Thursday 14 May 2015 regarding Meridian's Project Central Wind section 125 application. This information summarised material Meridian has previously provided or is in response to questions and assertions may at the Council meeting on 14 May. It is consistent with material already provided.

**About the Project**

Meridian's Project Central Wind is a 120 to 130 MW (approximate maximum) renewable electricity generation project, consisting of up to 52 turbines, producing approximately 400 GWh of electricity per year, enough to power approximately 50,000 average homes.

*What are the Project Benefits?*

The many significant local benefits of Project Central Wind include:

- The local economy expenditure during construction is estimated to be between \$72-\$90 million in wages, transportation, site servicing and supplies.
- During construction (which is likely over 2 years) the construction staff count is likely to peak at approximately 160 staff with an average salary of \$60,000 each. Meridian's experience is that 85% of these jobs will be sourced locally, which equates to approximately \$19.2 million in wages over two years – a high proportion of which will also be spent locally.
- The benefits to the local economy will continue following construction, with the site managed by up to seven locally based staff with an average salary of \$80,000 totalling \$560,000 per annum. Again, it is expected that the majority of this sum will be spent locally.
- A Community Liaison Group is to be established should the wind farm be constructed. During the construction period Meridian is to contribute \$150,000 towards community well being and enhancement and the Community Liaison Group shall determine how and when the fund is to be spent. Following construction of other New Zealand generation projects Meridian has established a Community Fund that provides funding over 3 year periods to be spent on community led initiatives and projects within the generation area. Should a similar Community Fund be established once Central Wind is operational it is expected that based on the already established Community Funds, the fund would be in the order of \$35,000 per annum.

Meridian Energy Limited

104 Moorhouse Avenue  
PO Box 2146  
Christchurch 8011  
New Zealand

Phone +64-3 357 9748  
Mobile 021 754 189  
chris.thomson@meridianenergy.co.nz

- Royalty payments will be made to the landowners as per the land owner agreements, contributing to the local economy.
- Once constructed, Meridian will pay rates to the Councils on the Project land based on the Councils rating methodology and formula. This is not an insignificant amount per annum.

The national benefits of Project Central Wind include generating approximately \$30 million of electricity (at wholesale rates) from renewable resources also supporting and contributing to New Zealand's economy and assisting in meeting New Zealand's carbon emission obligations - in the order of avoiding 55,200 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year.

In Meridian's view there are good reasons for this Project to continue and it is not against the interest of Rangitikei as portrayed on 14 May 2015.

#### ***Is Project Central Wind Economically Viable?***

At the Council meeting on 15 May 2015 the Rangitikei Guardians queried the economic viability of the project if not all 52 turbines can be constructed. This is not a relevant legal consideration under the Resource Management Act 1991. It is not for Rangitikei District Council, as consent authority, to second guess a decision that must be made within Meridian's 'boardroom'.

Notwithstanding this, Meridian notes that the current status with land access agreements is that 44 of the 52 turbines can be accessed and recent work undertaken during 2014 has secured long term extensions to these agreements (to beyond 2020). While access to the land associated with the other (8) turbines is not currently secured, we will continue to keep these turbines as an option, should the landowners wish to be involved in the project in the future. However, even if the smaller wind farm is the only option at the time of construction, our analysis confirms that the Project remains viable. In fact, with the increase in individual turbine output as a result of turbine development, the overall wind farm output from 44 turbines could exceed that previously considered for the full wind farm (52 turbines).

#### ***What is Meridian's expenditure on Project Central Wind to date?***

At the Council meeting on 15 May 2015, the Rangitikei Guardians queried the reported amount of expenditure on the Project since the Environment Court decision in 2010. They also queried the figure quoted in Grant Eccles Report.

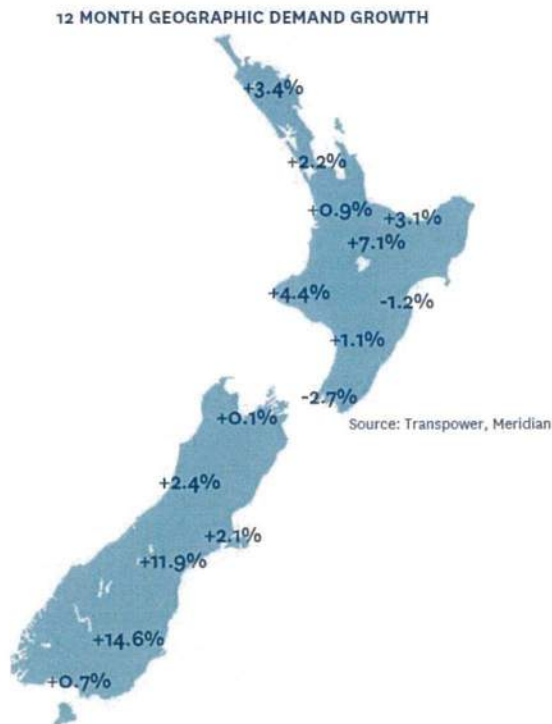
To clarify, Meridian confirms that the reported total figure of \$4.6M in the Application (page 20) is correct. The difference between this figure and the individual figures noted in the s125 application are due to payments to landowners since January 2010 (which were not reported individually due to their confidentiality as noted in the application) and a number of additional (and generally minor) project related tasks, which were not reported individually.

#### ***Has Meridian made, and is it continuing to make, substantial progress or effort?***

Both Council's advisors accept that Meridian has made substantial progress or effort, and that it continues to make substantial effort, in implementing the consents it holds for Project Central Wind.

Mr Eccles, Council's independent planning advisor, finds that *In my view all the above activities cumulatively constitute substantial progress or effort being made towards giving effect to the consent* (Mr Eccles advice to Mr Hodder dated 17 February 2015, para 4.18). Further, Mr Williams, Council's legal advisor, finds: *A reasonable conclusion can be reached that substantial effort has been (and continues to be) made towards giving effect to the consent, albeit to a lesser intensity over (say) the 2013/2014 than prior to that* (Mr Williams advice to Mr Hodder dated 16 February 2016, pg.6).

The reality is New Zealand has experienced a period of flat electricity demand since Meridian scoped and consented Project Central Wind, largely coinciding with the Global Financial Crisis. Meridian's most recent analysis confirms that electricity demand is starting to increase. In the last 12 month period there has been a New Zealand wide 2.1% increase in electricity demand much of which was a result of increased demand in provincial New Zealand. Predictions are for electricity demand to grow over the longer term in line with GDP growth.



Meridian is continuing to advance Project Central Wind and is not simply 'land banking' the Project consents as some parties have contended at the 14 May meeting. Progress and efforts are set out in the January 2015 application and the ongoing substantive progress and effort includes:

- On-going wind monitoring, which is critical to the assessment of wind turbine suitability and electricity generation potential, and obtaining a commercially sensitive independent energy assessment of the Project Central Wind site that was undertaken by DNV-GL's Australian Office.
- Actively assessing the optimal turbine choice for the Central Wind Project, including discussions with, and recent visits to, manufacturers in Germany and Denmark in relation to the latest developments in wind turbine technology and the suitability of new turbine models for Project Central Wind.
- Maintaining land access arrangements for the majority of the wind farm.
- Continuing environmental monitoring to support the management of construction effects.
- Addressing the consent 'lapsing' periods.

Meridian continues to actively review and optimise the Project to maintain it as investment ready, something it would not do if it had no intention to build Project Central Wind. The process of assessing new turbine technology for Project Central Wind as described above is a significant and crucial task. Given changes and improvements in turbine technology over time (and since the original detailed design had been undertaken), a different (and more optimal) turbine is likely to be the preferred turbine choice for the project. Every time a new turbine model is released on the market which has dimensions that fit within the consents for Project Central Wind, Meridian's wind technical team assesses the suitability of it and its impact on generation yield for Project Central Wind.

In addition to the above, and prior to the Project being signed off for construction, the tender process will have to be undertaken from scratch in order to receive final construction cost figures. This process takes 6-9 months following the final design being agreed. Note that this process will need to be undertaken again even if no changes are made to the current project design.

Meridian has had to respond to the dip in market demand and the future need of New Zealand for renewable electricity generation projects. It has deliberately reduced the size of its renewable energy development portfolio so that it can concentrate on progressing a small number of its best projects that are being advanced to a build ready state in an environment now of increasing electricity demand.

Project Central Wind is one of only three consented wind farms Meridian retains in its development portfolio. At the 14 May Council meeting, Mr Barclay described that Meridian has been very clear and transparent in discontinuing projects that have not made the grade. Central Wind was not removed from Meridian's development portfolio in 2012, as others have implied. Indeed Central Wind was detailed in the Meridian's Share Offer Documents in September 2013. Meridian is of the view that its generation projects will be needed in the future and developed at a suitable (but as yet unknown) time in the future and as such continues to progress these projects and expends effort and financial resources to ensure these are development and investment ready.

**Are there any affected parties to the consent lapsing extension?**

Meridian maintains that there are no affected parties to this application, being an application for the extension to the existing consent. Council's advisors support this position, albeit Mr Hodder reached the view following further enquires in response to Mr Williams' advice (dated 16 February 2015). Mr Eccles finds that: *"The community have been living with any latent uncertainty about implementation of the consents for that period and there is no evidence currently available (hearsay or otherwise) that would suggest that the community has been adversely affected. Existing lawful landuse activities being carried out by members of the community will continue to be able to be carried out if the extension to lapse period is granted"*. (para 4.29). Mr Hodder finds: *"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"*. (para 4.29).

There is no unacceptable uncertainty as claimed by some parties. The concept of unacceptable uncertainty relates to the presence of the unimplemented consents having undue influence on people in the surrounding environment (as opposed to within the consented site). It is not an opportunity to relitigate the effects of the original proposal. Typically, uncertainty would be evidenced by a negative influence or change in activities in the surrounding area. For example, existing activities or those which could be expected in the area are put on hold or discontinued as people delay decisions such as investment decisions, or where people move out of an area or neighbourhood due to the impending change from implementing the consent. This is often referred to as "planning blight".

Activities are being carried out regardless. Further analysis undertaken by Meridian of the consents issued by Rangitikei District Council within a 25 km radius of the wind farm site since January 2010 and the additional work by the Council testing this further analysis has not identified any evidence of 'unreasonable uncertainty'. Meridian notes that Table 1 of the January 2015 Section 125 Application was brought to the Council's attention on 14 May. This table refers to the total number of resource consents issued for the whole of the Rangitikei District as sourced from the MfE RMA Local Authority Surveys on Resource and Building Consents. Tables 2 and 4 were not brought to the Council's attention. These tables refer to the Resource Consents and Building Consents respectively that the Council has issued within a 25 km radius of Project Central Wind site since 2010 to the end of 2014. Further analysis of these consents issued was undertaken and provided to the Council in April 2015. The results of the further testing of this analysis by Mr Hodder are entirely consistent with Meridian's finding that there is no unacceptable uncertainty. Planning blight is not about individual concerns. There is no physical evidence of Project Central Wind causing decline in the Rangitikei community or deterioration of the rural area such as deteriorating buildings, or lack of investment in properties including agricultural or farming practice.



We note that the meeting on 28 May is for the Council to "consider" the objection following the hearing on 14 May. This is not an opportunity to raise new issues or reconsider the adverse effects of the consented wind farm.

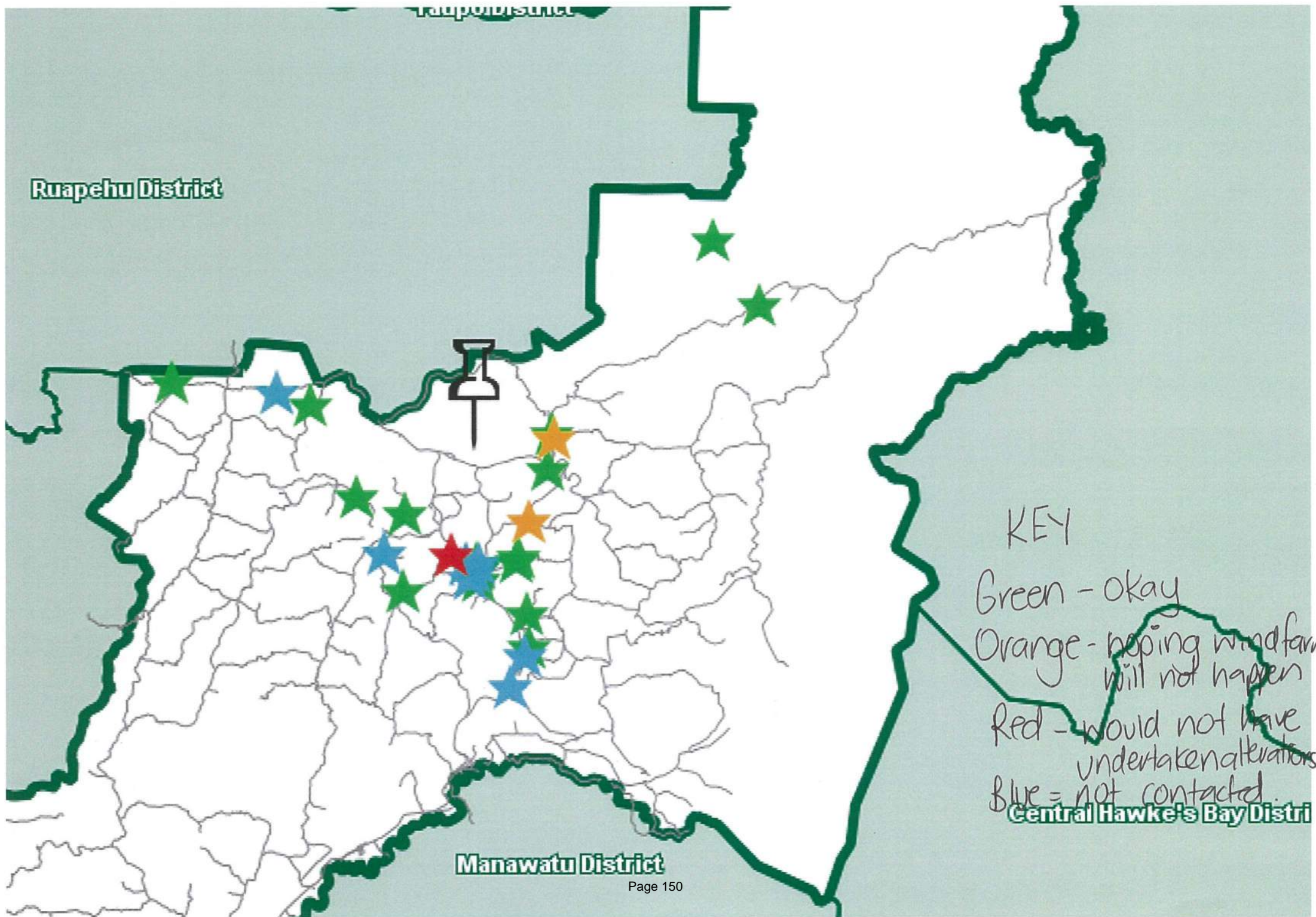
Meridian trusts this additional information is of assistance and clarifies points raised at the Council 14 May meeting.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Thomson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chris Thomson  
**Environmental Manager**

# *Appendix D*



# NEW/RELOCATED DWELLINGS

Building consent number	Address	Work undertaken	Were they aware of the wind farm consent at the time of applying for BC?	If not, would they have proceeded with the project?	Other comments
CONTACTED					
100058	23 Takahe Street, Taihape	Relocate dwelling	No - did not know Meridian had consent (but knew there was an idea for a windfarm).	Yes - would not have made difference to their decision about relocating the dwelling.	The proposed windfarm could possibly result in increased employment for Taihape, which would be a positive contribution. The windfarm if constructed, would not stop them constructing new dwellings in the future.
100156	419 Papakai Road, Awarua	New Dwelling	Yes - did know that Meridian had consent. Did not influence their decision to build.	Yes - did not influence their decision to construct their dwelling	
100237	2512 Mangaohane Road	New Dwelling	No	Yes - would have still built dwelling anyway.	
100315	190 Kakariki Road	Relocated Dwelling	No	Yes - cannot see the turbines from their property.	Do not think the windfarm will affect them. If they were closer to the windfarm they would have been more concerned.
120007	425 Waiarua Road	New Dwelling	Somewhat - vaguely aware through what they had read in the newspapers.	Yes - Would have built dwelling regardless of Meridian having consent or not because it was not going to directly affect their property.	Windfarm is far away from property.
130252	434 Owhakura Road	New Dwelling	No	Yes - would not have affected their decision to build. They need the dwelling for the farm.	
110022	3 Kokako Street, Taihape	Demolition/relocate Construct a new dwelling and demolish existing dwelling.	Yes - did know that it was in place.	Yes - would not have affected their decision.	Using alternative energy sources is good, but the range is beautiful. Iconic site, shame to put turbines on it. But it is progress for energy development.
110039	598 Te Moehau Road		Yes - aware of the windfarm.	Yes - No effect on decision to rebuild.	
120272	161 Hautapu Street	Relocation of dwelling to site	Yes - were aware of windfarm.	Yes - encouraged them to go ahead.	Thought there would be increased requirements for housing in the area as a result of the wind farm. Want the wind farm to go ahead, so long as it isn't too unsightly and is carefully located.
1200254	390 Papakai Road	relocated building			
100057(A)	149 Hautapu Street	Relocate dwelling to site	No - did not know about the consent	Yes - would not have changed mind.	A Taihape local who needed a new house.
120045	Moawhango Valley Road	New non-residential building.			Spoken with Iwi at April TRAK meeting. No concerns were expressed
COULD NOT CONTACT					
140030	18 Micklesons Road	Replacement Dwelling			
110188	157 Ridge Road North	New Dwelling			
130074	629 Waiarua Road	Farm house for workers			
130008	181 Hautapu Street	New dwelling			
100184	Torea Street	New Dwelling			

## DWELLING ALTERATIONS OVER \$50,000

BC	Addresss	Work undertaken	Were they aware of the wind farm consent at the time of applying for BC?	If not, would they have proceeded with the project?	Other comments
<b>CONTACTED</b>					
120011	135 Wairanu Road	Alterations to an existing residence, including recladding and all new window joinery. New ensuite extension and small extension to the kitchen.	Yes	Yes	Although the wind farm did not affect their decision to undertake alterations to their dwelling, it is of concern, especially with the increasing number of people (locals and tourists using the Taihape-Napier Road).
120018	55 Pukenua Road	Additions and alterations to dwelling	Unsure	Probably not	Possibly could have affected their decision because of their view being adversely affected by the wind farm. Their view is important and the wind farm consent means they are cautious about investing money into the property. Probably wouldn't have undertaken the alterations.
110135	497 Waikakahi Road, Erewhon	Additions & alterations to dwelling. Kitchen/dining area, walk in wardrobe and carport. New roof framing over whole house with colour steel roofing.	Yes	N/A	Undertook alterations hoping windfarm will not go ahead. Their response if the windfarm is built will depend on the subsequent effects on their lifestyle.
130153	32 Wherewhere Road	To alter kitchen/dining areas, new bathroom upgrade to existing bathroom, change roof height and pitch. Install multifuel solid fire and install solar water heating system.	Yes	N/A	Undertook alterations based the assumption it wont go ahead due to lack of progress. If windfarm is constructed will think about moving from the area.
120326	515 Mataroa Road	Addition of double garage, conversion of carport to studio new entrances glasshouse	Yes	Yes	No issues for them as the wind farm is out of their sightline
100318	179 Mangapapa Road, Awarua	Alterations to existing kitchen, bathroom and laundry.	No	Yes	The work needed to be done regardless of the wind farm application.
140137	624 Pukenua Road	Alteration to dwelling-bedroom, ensuite and deck addition	No	Yes	Thought the wind farm was not happening, but would not have made a difference to their decision
120260	2143 Taihape-Napier Road	Construct stage 1 alterations to existing visitor accomodation and home.	No	Yes	
<b>NOT CONTACTED</b>					
120200	5 Titi Street, Taihape	Renovation of house, repiling, reroofing, replacing windows and doors. Installation of hot water system, remodeling bathroom and kitchen.			
120324	9 Goldfinch Street, Taihape	Addition and alterations to form new lounge, covered deck and ensuite with walkin wardrobe			
140129	25 Linnet Street, Taihape	Relocation of the laundry, complete upgrading of the kitchen, toilet and bathroom, with construction of a new deck.			

# Attachment 7



# MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

FROM: Denise Servante

DATE: 21 May 2015

SUBJECT: **Draft final 2015-25 Long Term Plan following Deliberations**

FILE: 1-LTP15-5-1

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This memorandum outlines the major changes that have been made to the draft 2015-25 Long Term Plan following submissions and deliberations. Minor editorial changes have not been marked up.

The document has been formatted ready for the final layout. The page layout is still subject to change so, where possible, page references have been replaced with references to Articles or Sections. Where a page reference has been retained for clarity and precision, it has not been finalised and left as xx. This will be put right in the final document. The references to figures and a table of figures are also to be finally formatted.

## **Article I Introduction**

The message from His Worship the Mayor still needs to be included. But the Council's participation in the regional initiative has been confirmed through the submissions process.

## **Article V Infrastructure Strategy**

The most likely scenario and principal alternative options for Marton and Taihape civic centre developments have been brought to this section from the previous section on key choices (see below on Article VIII, Response to Submitters)

The wording describing the most likely scenario and principal alternative for the Mangaweka wastewater upgrade has been amended to reflect Council's decision to undertake further analysis, community consultation and advocacy before confirming its view of the most likely scenario.

These changes are left marked up for ease of reference.

## **Article VI District Overview**

This article has been amended with the updated population projections from Statistics New Zealand as based on 2013 Census data rather than the outdated 2006 Census figures. The 2014 economic data from InfoMetrics has also been included. The new projections are more in line with the feedback from the community, that population decline has slowed down, perhaps particularly fuelled by more stable rural populations. The key impact is possible

even greater urgency and need for economic development focussed on retaining local jobs and retraining women and older people to meet skill shortages.

These changes are left marked up for ease of reference.

#### **Article VIII Response to submitters**

The previous section on key choices has been replaced in its entirety and so is not marked up, with a new section analysing the submissions received and outlining Council's response to submissions. This will also form the basis of the feedback to individual submitters once the final LTP is adopted on 25 June. However, it is formatted to highlight the key choices that Council put out in its consultation document.

#### **Article IX Council Activities**

All the financial information has been updated to reflect Council's decisions through deliberations. This is not marked up.

Where activity management plans have been amended as a result of deliberations, these changes have been left marked up. Specifically,

Section 9.04: Water Supply –to reflect changes in the wording regarding the replacement of reticulated water schemes in smaller communities. In addition, a new major level of service around prevention/minimisation of water loss has been included to align the level of service with the new mandatory performance measures.

Section 9.05: Sewerage and the treatment and disposal of sewage - to reflect changes in the wording regarding the replacement of reticulated wastewater schemes in smaller communities. In addition, the commitment to secure a trade waste agreement with MidWest Disposals Ltd with regard to accepting leachate from the Bonny Glen landfill has been included.

Section 9.07: Community and leisure Assets – to reflect decisions made by Council to:-

- a) Supply a water source to Memorial Park, Taihape for irrigation purposes
- b) To fund park upgrades to a maximum of \$50,000 per year in partnerships with community organisations
- c) To waive entry fees to schools from the District undertaking programmed swimming lessons and for pre-school children taking part in swimming lessons
- d) Include the major programmes approved by Council through the deliberations process, viz repairing the seal on the access road off Taroa Street in Taihape, re-metalling the access road to Dudding Lake and broadening the scope of the review of the Town Maintenance contract with the Ratana Communal Board

Section 9.08: Rubbish and Recycling – to include a review of the opening days and times for the Ratana Waste Transfer Station as a major programme in 2015/16

Section 9.11: Statement of Service Performance – some work still needs to be done on the Performance Framework itself, specifically relating to upgrades to the Request For Service (RFS) system upon which some of the measures rely.

The Major programmes of work for the first three years have been updated to reflect undertakings from the deliberations on submissions.

## **Article X: Financial Statements and Policies**

All the financial statements have been updated. These are not marked up.

Section 10.01: Revenue and Financing Policy – some adjustments have been to the policy so that it aligns with the financial projections (and impact of rates) noted in the consultation document “What’s the Plan Rangitikei..?”. This means that animal control is now 50% UAGC and 50% general rate; halls have moved from being funded by the UAGC to the general rate; and information centres, economic development and community partnerships are fully funded but the general rate instead of 50% being funded by the UAGC. Without these adjustments, the UAGC would have been about 32% of rates, exceeding the statutory limit of 30% and rates for lower value properties would have increased noticeably. The adjustments take into account the funding requirements of decisions taken at deliberations.

Section 10.11: Statement of Accounting Policies - a completely new set of accounting standards for Public Benefit Entities (of which the Council is one) has been issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board for financial statements commencing on or after 1 July 2014. While some of the changes were implemented in the 2014/15 annual plan, a more comprehensive review has been undertaken for the long-term plan and have been incorporated in the final version.

Most of the differences are of a minor nature for this Council and mainly involve changes in terminology used throughout the financial statements.

One significant change that affects the long-term plan is the requirement to divide revenue, and accounts receivable, into two new over-riding categories of income. The two categories are “exchange” revenue, and “non-exchange” revenue. The definitions are complex and it may be some time before a generally accepted interpretation of the two categories becomes standard throughout local government. Almost all the Council’s income, such as rates and subsidies, falls within the non-exchange category.

Another change as a result of the new set of accounting standards, is that the accounting policies which form part of the financial statements have been revised in some detail. Again, the main difference in policy lies around the interpretation of exchange and non-exchange revenue.

The average rate increase for 2015/16 is now 1.67% (this includes the impact of approved carry-forwards); the average annual increase over the 10 years of the plan is 2.47%.

## **Article XI Other Information**

Section 11.04: Variation between the Council’s LTP and its assessment of water and sanitary services and waste management plans – this is a new section that has been inserted in its

entirety and is not marked up. It is a requirement of Schedule 10 of the LGA 2002 that it be included in the LTP.

### **Recommendations**

- 1 That the memorandum "Draft Final 2015-25 Long Term Plan following deliberations: be received
- 2 That the draft final 2015-25 Long Term Plan [as amended] be submitted to Audit New Zealand for scrutiny (and amendment as needed) prior to issue of its opinion and the adoption of the Plan by Council on 25 June 2015.

Denise Servante  
Strategy and Community Planning Manager

# Attachment 8

# Rangitikei District Council

## Turakina Community Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 2 April 2015 – 7:30 p.m.

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10	Other business .....	3
11	General business .....	4
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13	Meeting closed – 9.34 pm .....	4

### Present:

Mr Steve Fouhy (Chair)  
 Mr Alastair Campbell  
 Ms Laurel Mauchline-Campbell  
 Mr Nick Eagland  
 Ms Carol Neilson  
 Ms Denise Wallen  
 Ms Shona Welsh  
 Cr Mike Jones  
 Cr Rebecca McNeil  
 Cr Soraya Peke-Mason  
 His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

### In attendance:

Mr Ross McNeil, Chief Executive



## **1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Apologies**

That the apology for absence from Ms K Bayler be received.

Ms L Mauchline-Campbell / Mr A Campbell. Carried

## **3 Confirmation of minutes**

Resolved minute number	15/TCC/003	File Ref
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That the Minutes of the Turakina Community Committee meeting held on 5 February 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Ms S Welsh / Mr A Campbell. Carried

## **4 Matters arising**

### **Meeting re Turakina Valley Road**

Mr S Fouhy advised he had received a phone call from a Council employee (Reuben Pokiha) and they are trying to set up a meeting to look at the road and bridges in question.

### **Correspondence**

Cr Peke-Mason advised she had emailed a report to the Committee. However on checking back this had not been attached to the email in which she mentions the report. Ms D Wallen has emailed back asking for her to resend this.

### **Garden Area**

Ms S Welch passed on thanks to Cr Peke-Mason for getting the garden area fixed up.

### **Spraying**

Ms S Welch asked about Council spraying the area she is currently mowing - this could be done as a Service Request.

## **5 Council decisions on recommendations from the Committee**

The Committee noted that there were no recommendations from the Committee presented to Council's meeting on 26 March 2015.

## **6 “What’s the Plan Rangitikei” – the consultation document on the 2015/25 Long Term Plan**

His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive (Ross McNeil) gave a presentation on Council’s Long Term Plan 2015-2025. This is reviewed every three years and it is possible to make changes at those points.

Copies of the consultation document “What’s the Plan Rangitikei...” were given to everyone present at the meeting, this includes the submission form.

Questions were raised about Council’s swimming pools. His Worship the Mayor agreed to email information on the number of people using the pools (excluding Schools).

His Worship the Mayor advised his willingness to meet again if needed. There are a number of advertised public meetings across the District, including one at Koitiata and one at Ratana.

The Chair thanked His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive for their presentation.

## **7 Small Projects Grant Scheme**

The Committee was advised that this fund does not roll over and that the year runs from 1 July to 30 June.

## **8 Council responses to queries raised at the last meeting**

The Committee requested further explanation to the question of the difference in water charges between Feilding and Marton. His Worship the Mayor explained that different Councils have different cost structures. He undertook to look into it, and advised that Rangitikei District Council is looking at a single tank of water being free. This is a proposal in the Long Term Plan.

## **9 Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy**

The Committee noted that the draft Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy had been out for public consultation during March.

## **10 Other business**

The reclassification of the village area from Rural Settlement to Urban was raised. This had occurred in 2013 but most residents were not aware of the change. This became an issue due to a complaint by a resident. Council staff are required to respond to any complaints.

Options:

- Residents can apply to operate outside the rules for urban areas, in regards to the keeping of animals, etc.
- A zoning change request can be made by the whole community.

A letter can be sent to Council (by a group or individual), asking for the issue to be put on the Policy Review list (with specifics as they pertain to Turakina and Animal Control bylaws) and Council will then respond with a timeline, etc. (this process can take time).

The Animal Control Bylaw was reviewed 2013. Questions were asked as to whether activities happening prior to the change were over-ridden by the change.

The Chief Executive, Ross McNeil, undertook to follow up with information on the status of the Bylaw and permitted activities in Rural Settlements and Residential areas, by next week if possible.

The Committee will consider at next meeting what action (if any) to take.

## **11 General business**

### **Timing of Council Order Papers**

The Order Paper for the full Council meeting on 26 March was not received by the Chair of the Committee until the following day (27th). It was noted that the Order Paper was possibly not on the website either.

Also there had apparently been issues with the receipt of the Turakina Community Committee minutes from the February meeting by Council. These had been emailed by Ms L Mauchline Campbell in plenty of time, but "mislocated" within Council.

## **12 Next meeting**

Thursday 4 June 2015, 7.30 pm

## **13 Meeting closed – 9.34 pm**

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Rangitikei District Council

## Turakina Reserve Management Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 2 April 2015 – 9:35 p.m.

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### Contents

1	Welcome.....	2
2	Apologies .....	2
3	Confirmation of minutes.....	2
4	Council response to recommendations from the Committee.....	2
5	General business.....	2
6	Date of next meeting .....	3
7	Meeting closed – 9.50 pm .....	3

### Present:

Mr Steve Fouhy (Chair)  
 Mr Alastair Campbell  
 Ms Laurel Mauchline-Campbell  
 Ms Denise Wallen  
 Cr Soraya Peke-Mason

## **1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Apologies**

Nil

## **3 Confirmation of minutes**

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/TRMC/002**                      **File Ref**

That the Minutes of the Turakina Reserve Management Committee meeting held on 5 February 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Ms L Mauchline-Campbell / Mr S Fouhy. Carried

## **4 Council response to recommendations from the Committee**

The Committee noted that at its meeting on 26 March 2015, Council recommendation 15/TRMC/001.

## **5 General business**

### **Turakina Caledonian Society**

The Caledonian Society has asked if they could send a representative to the Reserve Management Committee meetings. The person proposed is Durry Benton.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/TRMC/003**                      **File Ref**

The Durry Hill be formally co-opted as a member of the Turakina Reserve Management Committee.

Ms L Mauchline-Campbell / Mr A Campbell. Carried

### **Meeting time for the Committee**

The time of the Reserve Management Committee meeting's was discussed.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/TRMC/004**                      **File Ref**

That the time of the Turakina Reserve Management Committee meeting's be changed to 7.00 p.m. (before the Turakina Community Committee meetings).

Ms D Wallen / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried.

**Activity on the Turakina Reserve**

It was noted that there had been sheep grazing on the reserve. Apparently a Council officer had given verbal consent to a resident for this.

That Rangitikei District Council staff note that requests for any activity on the Turakina Reserve must go through the Committee for approval, via the contact person (Ms L Mauchline-Campbell).

As there are new trees to be planted shortly, the Chairman will talk to the resident informally, in person, re not grazing the Reserve.

**6 Date of next meeting**

Thursday 4 June 2015, 7.00 pm

**7 Meeting closed – 9.50 pm**

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Rangitikei District Council

## Omatane Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee Meeting

Minutes – Wednesday 15 April 2015– 3:00 p.m.

### Contents

1	Apologies .....	2
2	Confirmation of minutes.....	2
3	Matters Arising .....	2
4	Water Managers Report .....	2
5	Scheme Overseers Report .....	2
6	Financial Report.....	3
7	Options for management of the Omatane Rural Water Supply Scheme .....	3
8	Members/Questions.....	3
9	Date of Next Meeting .....	3

#### Present:

Mr A McKay, Chairperson  
Mr L Kelly  
Mr A Ramsay  
Mr J Taylor

#### In Attendance:

Ms J Saywell, Utilities Asset Managers  
Mr D Miller, Asset Engineer  
Mr M Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager  
Mr G McIrvine, Finance & Business Support Group Manager  
Cr R Rainey  
Cr A Gordon  
Mr M Thomas  
Ms R Baird, Administration

## 1 Apologies

Resolved minute number      15/ORW5/001      File Ref

That the apologies for Dean Hammond and Luke Bird for absence be received.

J Taylor/L Kelly. Carried

## 2 Confirmation of minutes

There was one amendment to the previous minutes.

### Item 5 Scheme Overseer's Report

*Mr Andrews* to be replaced with *Mr Ramsay*.

The sentence to read: "He reported that the gate valves on Mr Ramsay's property would need to be replaced in the near future."

Resolved minute number      15/ORW5/002      File Ref

That the minutes of the Omatane Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee meeting held on 10 September 2014 as amended be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

L Kelly/J Taylor. Carried

## 3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

## 4 Water Manager's Report

Mr Miller spoke to his report.

Resolved minute number      15/ORWS/003      File Ref

That the Water Manager's Report, be received.

Mr Ramsay/Mr Kelly. Carried

## 5 Scheme Overseer's Report

No report due to Mr Hammond and Mr Bird being absent.

## 6 Financial Report

Mr McIrvine explained the financial statement including the overheads allocation, depreciation and the general rate which is charged to all ratepayers district wide.

**Resolved minute number** 15/ORW5/004 **File Ref**

That the Statement of Operations: for period ending 28 February 2015, be received.

Mr Taylor/Mr Kelly. Carried

## 7 Options for management of the Omatane Rural Water Supply Scheme

**Resolved minute number** 15/ORW5/005 **File Ref**

That the report "Options for management of the Omatane Rural Water Supply Scheme" be received and noted as (for the Council) constituting a review of delivery of services under section 17A of the Local Government Act 2002 (and potentially an approach applicable to the District's other rural water supply schemes) and that the report will be discussed at the August meeting.

Mr McKay/Mr Ramsay. Carried

## 8 Members/Questions

Mr Taylor asked if the members decided to run the scheme would the Council continue to rate it. Mr McIrvine said Council could rate on their behalf.

Mr Taylor asked how much do they pay for insurance and what is the scheme covered for. Mr McIrvine said it is \$572.00 per annum. Mr Miller said he would find out what the scheme is covered for and bring it to the next meeting.

## 9 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 12 August 2015

## 10 Meeting closed

The meeting closed at 3:40pm

**Confirmed/Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Rangitikei District Council

## Huntermville Community Committee Meeting

Minutes – Monday 20 April 2015 – 6:30 p.m.

### Contents

1	Welcome.....	2
2	Appointment of Chair .....	2
3	Apologies .....	2
4	Confirmation of minutes.....	2
5	Council decisions on recommendations from the Committee .....	2
6	"What's the Plan Rangitikei" – the consultation document on the 2015/25 Long Term Plan .....	2
7	Huntermville Town Centre Plan .....	2
8	Rules and regulations applying to the Huntermville Huntaway Festival – the Shemozzle .....	3
9	Small Projects Grant Scheme .....	3
10	Policy on Insanitary and dangerous buildings .....	3
11	General business.....	3
12	Date of next meeting .....	4
13	Meeting closed – 8.00 pm .....	4

#### Present:

Ms Maureen Fenton (Chair)  
 Ms Karen Kennedy  
 Ms Jean Signal  
 Ms Erina True  
 Ms Jane Watson  
 Cr Dean McManaway  
 His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

#### In attendance:

Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

## **1 Welcome**

Cr McManaway welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Appointment of Chair**

Ms Maureen Fenton was appointed Chair for the remainder of the triennium. She welcomed everyone to the meeting, extending a special welcomed to representatives of the Hunterville Shemozzle Committee and members of the Community present to hear the presentation on Council's 2015-2025 Long Term Plan.

The Committee also noted the resignation of Ms Jean England.

## **3 Apologies**

Nil

## **4 Confirmation of minutes**

Resolved minute number	15/HCC/001	File Ref
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That the Minutes of the Hunterville Community Committee meeting held on 20 October 2014 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr McManaway / Ms J Signal. Carried

## **5 Council decisions on recommendations from the Committee**

The Committee noted that recommendation **15/HCC/018** was confirmed by Council at its meeting on 27 November 2014.

## **6 “What’s the Plan Rangitikei” – the consultation document on the 2015/25 Long Term Plan**

His Worship the Mayor narrated a presentation on “What’s the Plan Rangitikei...?”, the Consultation Document to Rangitikei District Council’s 2015-2025 long Term Plan.

The five key issues were presented to the Committee and they were encouraged to have their say through the process of a submission form for each issue.

The Committee decided that submissions would be made on an individual basis.

## **7 Hunterville Town Centre Plan**

Cr McManaway advised the Committee that the Steering Group had completed stage one of this project, clearing tress, and repainting seating and swings in Queens Park. The working bee on 21 February 2015 was very well attended by an energetic and very enthusiastic team.

## **8 Rules and regulations applying to the Hunterville Huntaway Festival – the Shemozzle**

Representatives of the Hunterville Huntaway Festival Committee (the Shemozzle) took the opportunity to inform both the Committee and Council of the challenges this iconic event faces (ever increasing costs for security, building permits and the marquee). Whilst the Hunterville Huntaway Festival Committee acknowledges health, safety and security are required for the event, they would like some assistance from Rangitikei District Council to meet some of these expenses.

His Worship the Mayor was supportive of the event and invited the Hunterville Huntaway Festival Committee to make a submission to Council on the challenges they face. He expressed a view that there may be assistance with regards to the marquee costs , along with possible Council funding for these types of events.

**Resolved minute number**                      **1S/HCC/002**                      **File Ref**                      **1-CO-4-7**

That the report on rules and regulations for the Shemozzle festival be received.

Ms E True / Ms K Kennedy. Carried

## **9 Small Projects Grant Scheme**

The Committee noted the balance of the Small Projects Grant Scheme for the Hunterville Ward.

## **10 Policy on Insanitary and dangerous buildings**

The Committee noted that the draft Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy had been out for public consultation during March.

## **11 General business**

### **Picnic table and seats by Centennial Hall**

Cr McManaway has been in communication with Ms Prince (Community & Leisure Services Team Leader for Rangitikei District Council), who has been waiting for clarification for the Hunterville Town Centre Plan Steering Group as to who was to be responsible for this area of town (was the Steering Group looking to rejuvenate this part of town?).

**Resolved minute number**                      **1S/HCC/003**                      **File Ref**

That the Hunterville Community Committee recommends that Council provide a replacement picnic table and appropriate seating for Centennial Hall, Hunterville.

Ms M Fenton / Ms K Kennedy. Carried



**Blackberry Spraying**

The Committee agreed that Ms K Kennedy would submit a Request for Service to Rangitikei District Council for the spraying of the blackberry both north and south of the town entrance.

**Nuisance Dogs**

The problem of nuisance dogs in the township is still an issue. Cr McManaway advised the Committee to continue to contact Council's Animal Control team whenever this problem arises.

**Cenotaph**

The Chair informed the Committee that Ms Prince has been asked to remove the flax that is proving to be a visibility hazard for motorists in small cars.

**12 Date of next meeting**

Monday 15 June 2015, 6.30 pm

**13 Meeting closed – 8.00 pm**

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Rangitikei District Council

## Finance/Performance Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 30 April 2015 – 9:32 a.m.

### Contents

1	Welcome .....	2
2	Council prayer .....	2
3	Apologies/leave of absence .....	2
4	Confirmation of order of business .....	2
5	Confirmation of minutes .....	2
6	Chair's report .....	2
7	Financial Highlights and Commentary to 31 March 2015 .....	2
8	Nine-month Statement of Service Performance .....	3
9	Review of Criteria for Funding Events through Council's Contestable Funding Scheme .....	4
10	Update on Strategic Water Assessment and review of the Hunterville Rural Water Supply Scheme .....	5
11	Late items .....	5
12	Future items for the agenda .....	5
13	Next meeting .....	5
14	Meeting closed – 11.28am .....	5

### Present:

His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson  
 Cr Nigel Belsham  
 Cr Cath Ash  
 Cr Tim Harris  
 Cr Dean McManaway  
 Cr Rebecca McNeil  
 Cr Ruth Rainey  
 Cr Lynne Sheridan

### In attendance:

Mr Ross McNeil, Chief Executive  
 Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager  
 Mr George McIrvine, Finance & Business Support Group Manager  
 Ms Samantha Whitcombe, Governance Administrator

### Tabled documents:

**Item 7** Financial Highlights and Commentary to 31 March 2015 (Rates Debtors Report as at 31 January 2015)

## **1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Council prayer**

Cr McNeil read the Council prayer.

## **3 Apologies/leave of absence**

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

His Worship the Mayor / Cr McManaway. Carried

## **4 Confirmation of order of business**

The Chair informed the Committee that a report on Rates Debtors would be tabled as part of the discussion on Item 7.

## **5 Confirmation of minutes**

Resolved minute number	15/FPE/011	File Ref
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That the Minutes of the Finance/Performance Committee meeting held on 26 March 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Belsham. Carried

## **6 Chair's report**

His Worship the Mayor spoke briefly to his report.

Resolved minute number	15/FPE/012	File Ref	3-CT-14-1
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That the Chair's report to the Finance/Performance Committee meeting on 30 April 2015 be received.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Sheridan. Carried

## **7 Financial Highlights and Commentary to 31 March 2015**

Mr McIrvine spoke to the report, giving a brief overview of the commentary to the report and the budget variances.

The Committee asked for a breakdown of what is in Net Projects to be brought to the next meeting.

The following queries for referred to the Assets/Infrastructure Committee:

- Will the unspent capital funds within the Halls activity be carried forward?
- Will the capital funds tagged for a pit access upgrade at the Marton Waste Transfer Station be used this financial year?

The Committee also asked that the following information be included in future reports:

- Identify the \$100,000 grant for the Shelton Pavilion upgrade.
- Additional budgetary provisions for overspent or new projects.
- Carry-forwards from the previous financial year.
- A forecasting position (at least on a quarterly basis).

It was agreed that a report on the benefits of E-road would be provided to Council after a full twelve-months experience with the system had elapsed and the necessary analysis done.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/FPE/013**                      **File Ref**                      **5-FR-4-1**

That the report 'Financial Highlights and Commentary to 31 March 2015' be received.

Cr McManaway / Cr Sheridan. Carried

During this item, Mr McIrvine tabled a report on overdue rates debtors. He spoke briefly to the report and informed the Committee of what is being done to recover these overdue rates.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/FPE/014**                      **File Ref**

That the Finance/Performance Committee recommends to Council that it proceed with further action pursuant to the Local Government Rating Act 2002, including the sale of the properties owned by the six ratepayers identified in the report who have been through the all the prescribed steps, to recover the overdue unpaid rates on these properties.

Hs Worship the Mayor / Cr Harris. Carried

## **8      Nine-month Statement of Service Performance**

Mr Hodder spoke briefly to the nine-month Statement of Service Performance, highlighting the inclusion of the results of the recent Versus surveys.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/FPE/015**                      **File Ref**                      **5-FR-1-2**

That the nine-month Statement of Service Performance to 31 March 2015 be received.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Belsham. Carried

## 9 Review of Criteria for Funding Events through Council's Contestable Funding Scheme

Mr Hodder spoke briefly to the report, focusing on the conclusions drawn within the report and what feedback is being sought from the Committee.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/FPE/016**                      **File Ref**                      **3-GF-8**

That the report "Review of Criteria for Funding Events through Council's Contestable Funding Scheme" be received.

Cr Sheridan / Cr McNeil. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/FPE/017**                      **File Ref**

That a further report is brought to the Finance/Performance Committee's meeting in May 2015 with a draft Event Sponsorship Application Form prepared in line with the conclusions in the report "Review of Criteria for Funding Events through Council's Contestable Funding Scheme" as amended, viz:

- Council will consider developing sponsorship arrangements with any organisation seeking financial support for an event in the District;
- Council will consider recurring sponsorship arrangements where an event has the potential to gain considerable community interest and/or achieve a high profile outside the District;
- The normal maximum term of any sponsorship arrangement (reviewed annually) will be 5 years, at which time Council and the event organisers will jointly review the value of the event and its future potential (after which Council may develop a further sponsorship arrangement);
- Events will be classified as community, community/high profile or high profile based on actual and/or estimated numbers and locations of participants/attendees;
- Applicants will be required to outline their strategies for maximising interest in attending the event and for income generation strategies (including the potential for the event to be self-funding);
- Successful applicants will be required to complete a Post-Event report form which includes financial and attendance data;
- Council may commission an independent economic impact report for all high profile and high profile, community events
- Evaluation of events will be incorporated into the annual residents' survey.
- Council will require recognition of its sponsorship of an event (signage), and events need to be listed on the events calendar on Rangitikei.com.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Sheridan. Carried

## **10 Update on Strategic Water Assessment and review of the Hunterville Rural Water Supply Scheme**

Mr McNeil provided a brief verbal update on the Strategic Water Assessment and the review of the Hunterville Rural Water Supply Scheme.

He provided a brief overview of the meeting held with the local farming community to inform them of the proposed stage two application for funding. At this meeting there was universal support for the development of a stage two application.

## **11 Late items**

Nil

## **12 Future items for the agenda**

Treasury Function Policy

## **13 Next meeting**

Thursday 28 May 2015, 9.30 am

## **14 Meeting closed – 11.28am**

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Rangitikei District Council

## Bulls Community Committee Meeting

Minutes – Tuesday 12 May 2015 – 5:30 p.m.

### Contents

1	Welcome .....	2
2	Apologies .....	2
3	Confirmation of minutes.....	2
4	Matters arising.....	2
5	Council decisions on recommendations from the Committee .....	2
6	Bulls Town Centre Plan .....	2
7	Update on the Bulls Wastewater Upgrade Project Focus Group .....	2
8	Council responses the queries raised at the previous meeting.....	3
9	Current infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities in the Bulls Ward .....	3
10	Small projects grant scheme.....	3
11	General business.....	3
12	Notification of business for the next meeting.....	4
13	Next meeting .....	4
14	Meeting closed – 7.10 pm .....	4

### Present:

Mr Hew Dalrymple (Chair)  
 Ms Sandra Boxall  
 Ms Jane Dunn  
 Mr John Guinan  
 Ms Jodi Jamieson  
 Mr Keith Scott  
 Ms Heather Thorby  
 Cr Tim Harris  
 His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

### In attendance:

Mr Kevin Morris, Policy Team  
 Ms Jayme Anderson, Bulls Community Development Manager

## **1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Apologies**

That the apologies for absence from Mr B Hammond, Ms C Lewis, Mr A Walker and Cr McNeil be received.

Ms H Thorby / Ms J Dunn. Carried

## **3 Confirmation of minutes**

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>15/BCC/020</b>	<b>File Ref</b>
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That the Minutes of the Bulls Community Committee meeting held on 14 April 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Mr K Scott / Ms J Dunn. Carried

## **4 Matters arising**

- It was confirmed that the tree between the Bulls Library and Platts Pharmacy had been removed.
- The Committee discussed toilet signage in the Bulls Library. His Worship the Mayor confirmed that signage for the toilets would not occur.

## **5 Council decisions on recommendations from the Committee**

The Committee noted that there were no recommendations from the Committee presented to Council's meeting on 30 April 2015.

## **6 Bulls Town Centre Plan**

His Worship the Mayor spoke to the item, confirming that the Criterion Hotel site had been purchased, and that Mr H Dalrymple and Mr J Turkington were joint ventures partners with Council in the project.

His Worship the Mayor thanked the Bulls Town Centre Plan Steering Group, Ms J Dunn, Mr K Morris (RDC) and Ms D Servante (RDC) for their role in this process. He informed the Committee that there would be further community consultation after the 2015-2025 Long Term Plan has been adopted by Council.

## **7 Update on the Bulls Wastewater Upgrade Project Focus Group**

The Committee noted that there was no progress to report at this stage.

## **8 Council responses the queries raised at the previous meeting**

No verbal update on the proposed pedestrian crossing for State Highway One was provided to the meeting. The Committee asked for an update to be brought to the June 2015 meeting.

## **9 Current infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities in the Bulls Ward**

Resolved minute number                      15/BCC/021                      File Ref                      3-CC-1-5

That the memorandum 'Current Infrastructure projects / upgrades and other Council activities in the Bulls Ward' be received.

Mr K Scott / Ms H Thorby. Carried

## **10 Small projects grant scheme**

The Committee noted the balance of the Small Projects Grant Scheme for the Bulls Ward, and requested clarification as to whether the \$300 payable to the Bulls Museum was included in the \$473.81 balance.

## **11 General business**

### **Ms J Anderson**

- Informed the Committee of her resignation as the Bulls Community Development Manager due to another career opportunity. The process for finding a replacement is underway.

### **Cr Harris**

- Spoke to the Committee on the upgrade to the Bulls Gaol and the budget of \$30,000. The Committee discussed the requirements for Heritage New Zealand and the concept of an iron roof. Ms Prince is chasing up a contractor to get the job done.
- Informed the Committee that there are firewood rounds available at the Domain.

### **His Worship the Mayor**

- Informed the Committee of the application from Meridian Energy Ltd for extend time to build a wind farm in the Moawhango Valley area.
- Informed the Committee that the roading maintenance contract for the District was currently being discussed by Council.

### **Mr J Guinan**

- Explained the issues with maintenance at the Bulls Skateboard Park and the demolition of one of the ramps.

### **Ms H Thorby**

- Informed the Committee of a Pink Ribbon Breakfast on 31 May 2015 and new businesses to the town.

**Mr K Scott**

- Raised the following issues that would be put into Council as Requests for Service:
  - A shortage of cups and saucers in the Bulls Supper Room.
  - The uneven and dirty paving/footpaths on Bridge and Main streets.
  - The graffiti/tagging in several locations near the centre of town.

**Ms J Dunn**

- Expressed her thanks to the Bulls Town Centre Plan Steering Group.

**Mr H Dalrymple**

- Informed the meeting of localised flooding on Parewanui Road and the risk of aquaplaning.
- Informed the Committee that there is no one at the Bulls Police Station full-time.

**12 Notification of business for the next meeting**

- Update on the pedestrian crossing on State Highway One
- Progress on the Bulls Gaol

**13 Next meeting**

Tuesday 9 June 2015, 5.30 pm

**14 Meeting closed – 7.10 pm**

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Rangitikei District Council

## Erewhon Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee Meeting

Minutes – Wednesday 13 May 2015 – 4:03 p.m.

### Contents

1	Apologies .....	2
2	Confirmation of Minutes .....	2
3	Matters Arising .....	2
4	Engineers Report .....	2
5	Financial Report .....	2
6	Members/Questions Report .....	2
7	Date of Next Meeting .....	3

Present: Mr J Gilbert, Chairperson  
Mr P Batley  
Mr G Duncan  
Mrs M Mako  
Mr G Melville  
Mr B Thomas  
Cr A Gordon

In Attendance: Mr D Miller, Asset Engineer  
Mrs J Saywell, Asset Manager  
Mr A van Bussel, Operations Manager  
Mr D Smith, Taihape Plumbing  
His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson  
Ms R Baird, Administration

## 1 Apologies

That the apologies from Mr Bird for absence be received.

Mr B Thomas/Cr A Gordon. Carried

## 2 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 15/ERWS/005 File Ref

That the minutes of the Erewhon Rural Water Scheme Sub-Committee meeting held on 11 February 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate record of the meeting.

Mrs M Mako/Mr P Batley. Carried

## 3 Matters Arising

1. Mr Smith said from the previous minutes in the Engineers Report it should say 150 meters of polyethylene pipe instead of galvanised pipe.

## 4 Engineer's Report

Mr Miller spoke to his report. The verification of the flow meter for consent compliance will be done by Alf Downs in conjunction with Mr Smith.

Resolved minute number 15/ERWS/006 File Ref

That the Engineer's Report, be received.

Mr P Batley/Mr G Melville. Carried

## 5 Financial Report

Mr van Bussel said that, once the Long Term Plan is adopted, he and Mr Smith would earmark what renewals needed to be done and would present them at the August meeting.

Resolved minute number 15/ERW5/007 File Ref

That the Statement of Operations: Period ending March 2015, be received.

Mr B Thomas/Mr P Batley. Carried



## **6 Members/Questions Report**

None

## **7 Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 12 August 2015

## **8 Meeting Closed**

The meeting closed at 4:31pm

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Unconfirmed



## **1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Apologies**

That the apologies for absence from Mr N Kuyper, Ms L Pearson and His Worship the Mayor be received.

Mr N Kane / Ms A George. Carried

## **3 Confirmation of minutes**

Resolved minute number                      15/MCC/039                      File Ref

That the Minutes of the Marton Community Committee meeting held on 8 April 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Mr N Kane / Cr Belsham. Carried

## **4 Council decision on recommendations from the Committee**

The Committee noted that at its meeting on 30 April 2015, Council confirmed **15/MCC/035**.

The Committee thanked Council for agreeing to meet the entire cost of transport for the Marton and District Pipe Band.

## **5 Update from the Project Marton Co-ordinator**

A verbal update was provided at the meeting.

## **6 Update on the Marton Town Centre Plan Projects March 2015**

Ms C Bates gave an update on the Steering Groups plans. Images of the planned upgrade to the Library and Rural Fire Depot were circulated to members.

## **7 Council responses to queries raised at the previous meeting**

The Committee noted that there were no queries raised at the previous meeting that required a response from Council staff.

## **8 Items noted for inclusion at the previous meeting**

### **Town Signage on Highways**

- This item was proposed by Ms L Pearson, who was not in attendance at the meeting. The Committee agreed to hold the item over until the June 2015 meeting. This item is also on the agenda for the next Marton Town Centre Plan Steering Group.

## **9 Current Infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities in the Marton Ward**

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/MCC/040**                      **File Ref**                      **3-CC-1-5**

That the memorandum 'Current Infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities in the Marton Ward' be received.

Ms C Bates / Ms J Greener. Carried

## **10 Small projects grant scheme**

The Committee noted the balance of the Small Projects Grant Scheme for the Marton Ward. Ms C Bates undertook to compile a detailed breakdown of the amount spent so far from the Scheme and any amount outstanding for the June 2015 meeting.

## **11 General Business**

### **Wilson Park**

- Ms A George circulated a District Monitor news article regarding the installation of Stepping Poles at Wilson Park.
- Volley Ball Poles are now in place, nets have yet to be installed.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/MCC/041**                      **File Ref**

That the Marton Community Committee requests an update on the work discussed to happen at the Wilson Park children's playground.

Ms C Bates / Ms J Greener. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/MCC/042**                      **File Ref**

That the Marton Community Committee requests that Ms A George obtain a quote for paint for the Wilson Park Children's Playground fence adjoining Marumaru Street, to be brought to next Committee meeting.

Ms C Bates / Ms J Greener. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/MCC/043**                      **File Ref**

That the Marton Community Committee requests that Ms A George liaise with Ms Prince to ensure that the Wilson Park children's playground fence is water blasted to allow the timber to be painted.

Ms C Bates / Ms J Greener. Carried

Ms A George advised that Ms Prince plans to contact Andrew Morriss regarding Scotch Block Tiles at Wilson Park Children's Playground.

#### **Maori Carvings**

Cr Belsham advised that the Maori Carving had been sprayed for moss and will be water blasted on Sunday 17 May. The painting should be complete before 21 June, when the walkway is to be officially opened by the Lions Club.

#### **Duck Sculpture for Frae Ona Park**

A memorandum was tabled at the meeting.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/MCC/044**                      **File Ref**

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

Ms J Greener / Ms C Bates. Carried

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

That the Marton Community Committee supports the installation of the proposed Duck Sculpture in Frae Ona Park by Mrs Rona Rippon.

Ms J Greener / Ms C Bates

#### **Youth Expo**

Mr N Kane advised that a free Youth Expo is to be held on 23 May from 10am to 1pm at the Youth Centre.

#### **Resignation**

Mr N Kuyper had notified the Committee that he will be away for the next few months so felt he should resign. The committee felt that as other members have had to excuse themselves for work commitments, Mr Kuyper could too and then return to the Committee on his return to Marton.

#### **Town Map**

Ms C Bates gave an update on the installation of the town map on the Broadway wall of Countdown.

## **12 Notification of business for the next meeting**

- Town signage on State Highways
- Update on Wilson Park children's playground.

## **13 Next meeting**

Wednesday 10 June, 7.00 pm

## **14 Meeting closed – 8.12 pm**

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Rangitikei District Council

## Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 14 May 2015 – 3:45 p.m.

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

**In attendance:** Mr Michael Hodder, Acting Chief Executive  
Mr Hamish Waugh, Infrastructure Group Manager  
Ms Joanna Saywell, Asset Manager - Utilities  
Mr Glenn Young, Project Manager – Utilities  
Mr David Rei Miller, Asset Engineer – Utilities  
Mr Andrew van Bussel, Operations Manager – Utilities  
Ms Gaylene Prince, Community & Leisure Services Team Leader  
Ms Carol Downs, Executive Officer  
Ms Samantha Whitcombe, Governance Administrator

**Tabled Documents:** **Item 7** Questions referred from other Committees  
**Item 9** Resource Consent Compliance (colour photographs)

## **1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Apologies/leave of absence**

Nil

## **3 Confirmation of order of business**

The Chair informed the Committee that there would be no change to the order of business from that set out in the agenda.

## **4 Confirmation of minutes**

**Resolved minute number** 15/AIN/028 **File Ref**

That the Minutes of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 9 April 2015 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Belsham / Cr Jones. Carried

## **5 Chair's report**

There was no tabled Chair's report this month. The Chair gave a verbal update of happenings during the last month, focusing the Bonny Glen Landfill Opus reports and the Marton Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the need to keep the focus on this.

**Resolved minute number** 15/AIN/029 **File Ref** 1-CT-13-1

That the Chair's report to the Assets/Infrastructure Committee meeting on 14 May 2015 be received.

Cr McManaway / Cr Belsham. Carried

## **6 Activity management templates**

Mr Waugh, Mr Young, Mr Miller and Ms Prince spoke to the non-financial reporting templates for asset based groups of activities for April 2015.

The Committee expressed disappointment that there had been no mention of Rangitikei District Council in media articles about the work on Wylies Bridge. Mr Waugh gave assurance they would be included in future articles and publications and would be included in the opening ceremony.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/AIN/030**                      **File Ref**                      **5-EX-4**

That the non-financial reporting templates for Asset based groups of activities for April 2015 be received.

Cr Belsham / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

Cr Sheridan left the meeting 4.15 pm  
Cr Peke-Mason left Chambers 4.15 pm / 4.23 pm  
Cr Rainey left the meeting 4.20 pm

## **7 Questions referred from other Committees**

The Committee requested that any information on the Ratana Waste Transfer Station brought to this Committee, be included in the agenda of future meetings of the Ratana Community Board.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/AIN/031**                      **File Ref**                      **3-CT-13-4**

That the memorandum 'Questions referred from other Committees' be received.

Cr Peke-Mason / His Worship the Mayor. Carried

## **8 Marton Water Collection Dams – Maintenance**

Mr Waugh and Ms Saywell spoke to the report and tabled coloured photographs of the current state of the surrounds of the dams.

They informed the Committee that plant pests have been re-sprayed where regrowth was identified and that other plant species are starting to grow now that some of the plant pests have been removed.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/AIN/032**                      **File Ref**                      **6-WS-3-6**

That the report 'Marton Water Collection Dams – Maintenance' be received.

Cr Jones / Cr Harris. Carried

## **9 Resource Consent compliance**

Ms Saywell spoke briefly to the report.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/AIN/033**                      **File Ref**                      **3-CT-13-4**

That the report 'Consent Compliance – Jul 2014 to Apr 2015' to the Assets/Infrastructure Committee meeting on 14 May 2015 be received.

Cr Jones / Cr Gordon. Carried

Cr Harris left Chambers 4.47pm / 4.49pm

**10 Late items**

Nil

**11 Future items for the agenda**

Nil

**12 Next meeting**

Thursday 11 June, 9.30 am

**13 Meeting closed – 4.54 pm**

Confirmed/Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_