



# Rangitikei District Council

## Council Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 30 March 2017 – 1:15 p.m.

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- Present:** His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson  
Cr Nigel Belsham  
Cr Jane Dunn  
Cr Angus Gordon  
Cr Dean McManaway  
Cr Graeme Platt  
Cr Ruth Rainey  
Cr Lynne Sheridan  
Cr David Wilson
- In attendance:** Mr Ross McNeil, Chief Executive  
Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager  
Mr George McIrvine, Finance & Business Support Group Manager  
Ms Ellen-Webb-Moore, Policy Analyst/Planner  
Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Policy Analyst/Planner  
Ms Samantha Kett, Governance Administrator
- Tabled documents:** **Item 8 Portfolio Updates** – Update from Cr Platt on Ohakea  
**Item 9 Administrative Matters** – Request to waive fees from St David’s Presbyterian Church, Taihape  
**Item 15 Receipt of Committee Minutes and Resolutions to be Confirmed** – Ratana Community Board  
**Item 16 Public Excluded** - Infrastructure Shared Services & Earthquake Prone Buildings

## 1 Welcome

His Worship the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2 Public Forum

### **Richard Gower – Dog Cemetery in Hunterville**

Mr Gower narrated a presentation on the potential for a Dog Cemetery in Hunterville, similar to one he had visited in Corrigin in Western Australia. He requested that Council look into the possibility of offering the former Council works site at 27 Milne Street (also SH1) for this project.

Mr Gower sees this as a tourism opportunity as Hunterville is tagged as the 'Huntaway capital of the world' and a dog cemetery would tie in with this theme.

Council asked about who would be responsible for the project and the upkeep of the cemetery, if he had a 'plan-B' if this site wasn't suitable and whether he had approached the Hunterville Lions Club for support. Mr Gower stated that he didn't have a concrete idea of who would eventually become responsible for the cemetery (either Council or a Community Group, e.g. the Hunterville Community Committee), he hadn't researched a 'plan-B' if the identified site wasn't suitable and that he was intending to approach the Hunterville Lions Club at their next meeting.

It was suggested that this be taken as a submission to Council's draft Annual Plan 2017/18 and Mr Gower accepted this suggestion.

### **Margaret Kramer – Tails and Trails Dog Club**

Ms Kramer gave a brief presentation on what the Tails and Trails Dog Club is, what they hope to achieve within the District and what support they would like from Council. The Saturday meetings on Wilson Park were attracting increasing numbers. She saw potential for Rangitikei to position itself as a good place to establish pet-centric businesses and as a dog-friendly place, noting a number of people traveling in RVs had dogs with them.

Council asked questions around how useful Ms Kramer had found Council's website in finding information on dog-friendly areas within the District and whether or not the proposed dog cemetery could be included in the website. Ms Kramer informed Council that Council's website was useful when finding information that related to Council activities but she had to dig for information on tourism and other activities. If the proposed dog cemetery went ahead it would definitely be included in the website.

## 3 Apologies/Leave of Absence

That the apologies for absence from Cr Ash, Cr Aslett and Cr Peke-Mason, and the apology for leaving early from Cr Dunn and Cr McManaway be received.

Cr Belsham / Cr Gordon. Carried

#### **4 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.

#### **5 Confirmation of order of business**

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/049**                      **File Ref**

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, request for fee waiver from St David's Presbyterian Church, Taihape, approval to submit funding application to the Ministry for the Environment's Freshwater Improvement Fund, and 'Response to 2009 Structure Surveys of Council Buildings' be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.<sup>1</sup>

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Belsham. Carried

#### **6 Confirmation of minutes**

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/050**                      **File Ref**

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 February 2017 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Wilson / Cr Rainey. Carried

#### **7 Mayor's Report**

His Worship the Mayor spoke briefly to the report, noting that he hadn't attended the meeting in Moawhango as he had an unexpected opportunity to meet with David Bennett, the Associate Transport Minister.

He requested that letters be sent to Alan Troon and Darren Meadows from the Taihape Volunteer Fire Brigade on being awarded gold stars for 25-years' service with the brigade, and the Ohakea Air Base to congratulate them on the very successful transport arrangements and road management for the Air Tattoo at the end of February 2017.

He was able to see for himself the dynamics of the Covi Motorhome Show in Auckland where Rangitikei and neighbouring councils had taken stands. This experience would be helpful in examine the merits of future promotional activities.

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<sup>1</sup> The request for fee waiver from St David's Church was, by agreement, considered during item 9. 'Response to 2009 Structure Surveys of Council Buildings' was considered in Public Excluded.

His Worship the Mayor also provided further detail from the recent Local Government Rural and Provincial meeting on 16-17 March 2017.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/051**                      **File Ref**                      3-EP-3-5

That the Mayor's Report to the Council meeting on 30 March 2017 be received.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Sheridan. Carried

## 8 Portfolio Updates

- Ohakea - Cr Platt

Cr Platt tabled an update on Ohakea.

- Cr Wilson offered congratulations to Cr Ash and the Project Marton Team on running a very successful Harvest Fair.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/052**                      **File Ref**                      3-EP-3-5

That Cr Ash and the Project Marton team be congratulated on running a very successful Marton Harvest Fair on 26 March 2017.

Cr Wilson / Cr Belsham. Carried

## 9 Administrative Matters – March 2017

Mr McNeil spoke briefly to the report.

He outlined the suggested changes to Council's Standing Orders around the Activity Management Templates for the Assets/Infrastructure and Policy/Planning Committees. He undertook to provide a list of relevant email contacts of staff.

He gave further background to the item on the wind-up of Rangitikei Tourism. Ms Trisha Eames (interim Chair of Rangitikei Tourism) also spoke to this item, stating she was confident of a smooth handover to Council and that there were some members of the Committee who had expressed an interest at becoming part of an advisory group to Council on tourism within the District. She confirmed that going into recess was not a viable option.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/053**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That the report 'Administrative matters – ~~February~~ March' be received.

Cr Gordon / Cr Sheridan. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/054**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That Council gives notice of its intention to withdraw from the Local Authorities Protection Programme (LAPP) from 1 July 2017 and requests the Chief Executive to arrange an additional meeting of the Audit/Risk Committee to consider whether Council should exercise its right to withdraw from LAPP and to make a recommendation to Council’s meeting on 25 May 2017.

Cr Sheridan / Cr McManaway. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/055**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That, to make best use of the monthly activity reports to committees, Council’s Standing Orders be amended as follows:

**9.4: Order of Business** After ‘Appendix 10’ add:

Activity reports will be at the end of the agenda, immediately before Late items.

**20.3: Questions to staff.** Add new paragraphs:

In the email advising Elected Members that the Committee Order Papers have been uploaded, they will be asked to email questions before the meeting to the relevant Group Manager (and copied to the Governance Administrator). The answers will be copied to all Elected Members, the Chief Executive and the Governance Administrator. The full email exchange will be tabled at the meeting. Outstanding questions will be noted in this document.

Questions may still be asked at the meeting. The minutes will record those which require further clarification or actions by staff and note whether this is to be by email before the next meeting (in which case it will be included as a document in the Order Paper) or through a report or agenda note at the next meeting.

Cr McManaway /Cr Belsham. Carried (75% majority vote obtained)

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/056**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That the section on impact of changing population in Key priority 4 of the adopted strategic intention for the 2016-19 triennium be amended to reflect the suggested revision from the Policy/Planning Committee:

Current	Proposed
<b>Impact of changing population</b>	<b>Impact of changing population</b>
A declining population (at least in the northern towns) means fewer local	A changing population may produce different demands from local customers

customers and thus represents a risk to the economic viability to retail businesses in the urban centres. However, local population is not the sole source of trading for the CBD areas: visitor spending is significant in Bulls, Marton and Taihape	and is thus a potential risk to the economic viability of existing retail businesses in the urban centres (yet also a pointer to new business opportunities). However, local population is not the sole source of trading for the CBD areas: visitor spending is particularly significant in Bulls, Marton and Taihape, but this alone will not sustain our urban centres.
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Cr Sheridan / Cr Gordon. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/057**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That the Chief Executive be authorised to make an application to the additional funding round of the Regional Mid-sized Tourism Facilities Grant Fund (closing 12 April 2017) on the basis of the location preferences for new toilets in submissions to the Consultation Document for the 2017/18 Annual Plan, provided that at least 75% of submissions on this topic are in favour of such an application being made.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Belsham. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/058**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That His Worship the Mayor be authorised to sign, on behalf of the Council, the submission to the Department of Internal Affairs on its discussion document 'Transitional levy relief and calculation of levy on insurance covering different property types'.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Dunn. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/059**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That the Council notes, with regret, the winding up of Rangitikei Tourism, records its gratitude for the promotional initiatives undertaken for the District, and accepts the transfer of its assets including the website.

Cr Rainey / Cr Gordon. Carried

## **13 Horizons Regional Council Annual Plan 2017/18**

Bruce Gordon, Chairman, and Michael McCartney, Chief Executive, from Horizons Regional Council narrated a presentation on the draft 2017/18 Annual Plan for the Regional Council.

They made explicit Horizons' continuing commitment in 2017/18 to supporting Accelerate 25.

Discussion was held around the expanded science programme (which included monitoring of ground water and swimming places), the reduced demand for the SLUI programme, the need to find a solution to people that 'opt-out' of animal and plant pest control programmes and the proposed safety improvements to the detention dams within the District. Mr Gordon also informed Council that Horizons had been invited to update the business case for the Capital Connection train service to Central Government to try and secure funding to keep this service going.<sup>2</sup>

Council's submission will be circulated to all Elected Members before being submitted to the Regional Council.

## 9 Administrative Matters – March 2017

Continued...

Mr McNeil carried on giving a brief overview to each item.

Council requested a more formal proposal from Pare Kore, including a list of Marae in the District that will be targeted as part of the programme. However, the matter would remain on the agenda for Te Roopu Ahi Kaa to consider at its next meeting on 11 April 2017.

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>17/RDC/060</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	5-EX-4
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That the item on funding for Para Kore lie on the table until a formal proposal has been received with a list of marae within the Rangitikei District that would be included in the programme.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Platt. Carried

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>17/RDC/061</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	5-EX-4
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That Council agrees to the sale of the land at 16 Barnett Drive, Marton, confirms that the non-financial considerations in Council's policy on disposal of surplus lands and buildings do not apply, and authorises the Chief Executive to proceed on an open sale basis through an agent.

Cr Belsham / Cr Wilson. Carried

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<sup>2</sup> Mr Gordon and Mr McCartney also presented and spoke to the submission which Horizons had prepared to Rangitikei's Annual Plan Consultation Document. Their comments (and discussion with Elected Members) are recorded in the table of Oral Submissions heard at Council's meeting on 20 April 2017.



**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/062**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That Council authorises the Chief Executive (on behalf of Council) to sign the relevant documentation to complete the transfer of Council owned land associated with the subdivision to address misaligned boundaries in Koitiata.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Gordon. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/063**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That, following the abandoned land process for Lot 33 DP 2996 (valuation 1350026200), section 495 and 496 Rangitikei District, lying to the south of Parewanui Road, be offered to the successful owners, provided that Council does not incur costs associated with the transfer.

Cr Belsham / Cr Sheridan. Carried

#### **Motion**

That under Council's rates remission policy providing for remission of rates on the grounds of disproportionate rates compared to the value of the property, the UAGC portion of rates be remitted from 1 July 2017 be granted to Jo Te Au Coley in respect of the property at 3 Alexander Street, Ohingaiti, (valuation 1337007600) so long as the capital value of the property does not exceed \$10,000.

Cr Wilson / Cr Platt.

#### **Amendment**

...a full remission of rates for 12 months...

Cr Belsham / Cr Rainey. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/064**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That under Council's rates remission policy providing for remission of rates on the grounds of disproportionate rates compared to the value of the property, a full remission of rates for 12 months from 1 July 2017 be granted to Jo Te Au Coley in respect of the property at 3 Alexander Street, Ohingaiti, (valuation 1337007600) so long as the capital value of the property does not exceed \$10,000.

Cr Wilson / Cr Platt. Carried  
Cr Wilson against

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/065**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That a waiver of 0% be approved of the fee for Building Warrant of Fitness and Compliance Schedule audit inspection at the Lounge Café, Broadway, Marton, randomly selected by the Council's building team.

Cr Rainey / Cr Gordon. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/066**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That a waiver of 50% be approved of the Building Consent fee [excluding the BRANZ and DBH levies] for the earthquake strengthening works to the St David's Presbyterian Church in Taihape.

Cr Belsham / Cr Wilson. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/067**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That Council agrees to pay the cost of hiring porta-loos on production of an invoice, to assist with the Robert Cunningham Bruce commemoration being held on 23 April 2017 at the Bruce Memorial Reserve, Turakina Valley Road.

Cr McManaway / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Cr McManaway left the meeting 3.45pm

Cr Dunn left the meeting 3.56pm

## **10 Top Ten Projects – Status, March 2017**

Council requested an update on progress with the amenity block at the Mangaweka Campground.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/068**                      **File Ref**                      5-EX-4

That the memorandum 'Top ten projects – status, March 2017' be received.

Cr Rainey / Cr Belsham. Carried

## **11 Health & Safety Quarterly Report for Council**

Mr McNeil spoke briefly to the report.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/069**                      **File Ref**                      5-HR-8-3

That the report 'Health & Safety Quarterly Report for Council' for the period January-March 2017 be received.

Cr Rainey / Cr Belsham. Carried

## **12 Department of Conservation: Wellington Conservation Management Strategy – Submission**

Ms Webb-Moore narrated a presentation on the Department of Conservation's draft Wellington Conservation Management Strategy.

Council requested the addition of the following points to Council's submission:

- Exact location of the proposed UNESCO Global Geopark and what the implications are for private land owners in this area if it were classed as a geopark.
- Further detail on the issue of landlocked land, both of DoC land by private owners and of private land by DoC.
- Add Turakina to the areas affected by crack-willow.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/070**                      **File Ref**                      3-OR-3-5

That His Worship the Mayor be authorised to sign, on behalf of the Council, the submission as amended to the Department of Conservation on the Wellington Conservation Management Strategy.

Cr Wilson / Cr Sheridan. Carried

## **14 Feedback on Powerco's Investment Proposal**

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/071**                      **File Ref**

That Council supports the application by PowerCo to the Commerce Commission to increase rates for investment.

Cr Platt / Cr Belsham. Carried

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

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/072**                      **File Ref**

That the minutes of the following meetings be received:

- Hunterville Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee, 20 February

2017

- Hunterville Community Committee, 20 February 2017
- Finance/Performance Committee, 23 February 2017
- Assets/Infrastructure Committee, 9 March 2017
- Policy/Planning Committee, 9 March 2017
- Ratana Community Board, 14 March 2017 *Tabled*

Cr Belsham / Cr Sheridan. Carried

## 16 Public Excluded

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/073**                      **File Ref**

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

Item 2: Earthquake-Prone Buildings

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 2 Earthquake-Prone Buildings	Briefing contains information which if released would be likely unreasonably to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of members, officers or employees of any local authority from improper pressure or harassment.	Section 48(1)(a)(g)

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 Belsham. Carried

**17/RDC/074**

**17/RDC/075**

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/076**                      **File Ref**

That Council moves back into open meeting.

Cr Belsham / Cr Gordon. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/077**                      **File Ref**

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

Item 1:    Infrastructure Shared Services

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 Infrastructure Shared Services	Briefing contains information which if released would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the ability of the Local Authority holding the information to carry-on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).	Section 48(1)(a)(j)

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.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Sheridan. Carried

**17/RDC/078**

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/079**                      **File Ref**                      3-OR-5-3

That Council moves back into open meeting.

Cr Gordon / Cr Belsham. Carried

## 17 Late Items

### Funding Application to the Freshwater Improvement Fund

Mr McNeil spoke briefly to the late item, giving Council the opportunity to formally approve an application to the Ministry for the Environment's Freshwater Improvement Fund.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/RDC/080**                      **File Ref**

Council endorse the application for funding from the Ministry for the Environment Freshwater Improvement Fund for supporting the upgrade of Council's wastewater treatment plants in Marton, Bulls and Ratana in order to improve environmental outcomes, and notes that any final decision about the nature, scope and funding of the upgrades will be made as part of the 2018-28 Long Term Plan.

Cr Wilson / Cr Gordon. Carried

### Thank-you letter from Irene Loader

The Mayor had received a letter of thanks from Irene Loader for the funding provided towards the Mangaweka Long Twilight Dinner (which was funded through the Events Sponsorship Scheme). Her letter mentioned fund-raising done during the dinner for victims of the Kaikoura earthquake. The Mayor would write to her.

## 18 Future Items for the Agenda

Nil

## 19 Next Meeting

Thursday 20 April 2017, 9.30am (oral hearing of submissions to draft Annual Plan 2017/18)

Thursday 27 April 2017, 1.15 pm

## 20 Meeting Closed

5.22 pm

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

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