MINUTES



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 8 July 2021

Time: 11.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber

Rangitīkei District Council

46 High Street

Marton

Present: His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

Cr Nigel Belsham

Cr Cath Ash
Cr Brian Carter
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Angus Gordon
Cr Tracey Hiroa
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Waru Panapa
Cr Dave Wilson

In attendance: Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive

Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager – Democracy and Planning Mr Arno Benadie, Group Manager – Assets and Infrastructure

Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager – Corporate Services
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services
Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager – People and Culture
Ms Kathryn McDonald, Management and Systems Accountant

Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Administrator

Mr Chris Webby, Audit NZ

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MINUTES OF RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL, 46 HIGH STREET, MARTON ON THURSDAY, 8 JULY 2021 AT 11.00 AM

1 Welcome / Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting at 11.04 am. Cr Duncan read the prayer.

2 Apologies

Nil apologies. Cr Raukawa did not attend the meeting.

3 Public Forum

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

The Mayor advised that elected members had declared conflicts of interest throughout the Long Term Plan process, as specific issues arose. He would not require them to re-state any conflicts of interest during this meeting.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Nil changes.

6 Reports for Decision

6.1 Adoption of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan, and Adoption of the 2021/22 Rates Resolution

Mrs Gordon outlined the process undertaken over the past year to produce the final Long Term Plan and thanked the elected members for their valuable input. She noted it had been a particularly challenging process this time, due to COVID-19, the 3 waters reform and other time and work pressures. The number of submissions had been a significant increase from the last LTP and attributed this to the extensive early engagement process undertaken. She highlighted appreciation for the assistance from Audit NZ, noting that it has been a very difficult process for them due to tight time pressures and reduced staffing numbers.

Mrs Gordon advised that the final LTP document will be available within one month of the adoption, in both hard copy and on Council's website.

Mr Webby from Audit NZ advised Council has been given a clean audit opinion. There are five matters of emphasis identified by Audit NZ in the Long Term Plan, and these will refer readers to Council's disclosures in the same document. The Mayor thanked Mr Webby for Audit NZ's input and willingness to accommodate several timeframe changes throughout the Long Term plan process.

In response to a query about the listing of Defence land under capital value (for rateable value), Ms McDonald advised that this was due to a requirement for all unit types to be consistent, and clarified that the rate amount for Defence is still based on the land value.

Resolved minute number

21/RDC/205

That the report Adoption of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan, and Adoption of the 2021/22 Rates Resolution be received.

Cr Wilson/Cr Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number

21/RDC/206

That Council considers it is prudent to adopt a budget that is not balanced in Years 3, 4 and 5 on the basis that it is financially prudent to do so and achieves a sustainable balanced budget.

Cr Belsham/Cr Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number

21/RDC/207

That the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan including the report from the Council's auditor be adopted in compliance with section 93 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Cr Duncan/Cr Carter. Carried

Resolved minute number

21/RDC/208

That the Mayor and Chief Executive sign the letter of representation for the audit of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan as requested by Audit New Zealand.

Cr Hiroa/Cr Panapa. Carried

Resolved minute number

21/RDC/209

That Council adopts the rates resolution for 2021/22, noting the discontinuation of the discount for early payment of the year's rates in full.

HWTM/Cr Wilson. Carried

The Mayor thanked all of the submitters, elected members and staff, for the amount of effort that has gone into the production of this Long Term Plan. He acknowledged that not all of the submitters could receive detailed answers, as some issues will be covered under the future spatial and reserve management plans.

Mr Beggs also thanked everyone for their hard work. He re-iterated the Mayor's comments about the co-operative relationship between Council and Audit NZ throughout the process.

The Meeting closed at 11.22 am.
The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on .

Chairperson