

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 29 July 2021

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

- Cr Nigel Belsham
- Cr Brian Carter
- Cr Fi Dalgety
- Cr Gill Duncan
- Cr Angus Gordon
- Cr Richard Lambert (via Zoom)
- Cr Waru Panapa
- Cr Dave Wilson
- Cr Cath Ash
- Cr Coral Raukawa

In attendance

- Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive
- Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
- Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager - Community Services
- Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services
- Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager - People and Culture
- Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner
- Ms George Forster, Policy Analyst
- Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Administrator

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1 Welcome / Prayer

Cr Belsham opened the meeting at 1.00pm. Cr Wilson read the Council prayer.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/210**

That the apologies for the Mayor and Cr Hiroa be received. Cr Raukawa will leave the meeting early at 4.00pm.

Cr B Carter/Cr G Duncan. Carried

It was noted that the Mayor is away on Council business.

3 Public Forum

Nil.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Dalgety declared a conflict of interest in relation to the Chief Executive's report (Item 9) – specifically with regards to paragraph 7 'Huntermville St John Facility', as she is a member of the Huntermville Sport and Recreation Trust.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Taking into account the explanation provided as to why the item the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, the Submission to the Inquiry on the Natural and Built Environments (NBA) Bill (item 11.3) was dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Council Minutes

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/211**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 June 2021 [without amendment] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr A Gordon/Cr B Carter. Carried

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/212**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 08 July 2021 [without amendment] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/213**

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings' be received.

Cr W Panapa/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Cr Lambert joined the meeting (via Zoom) at 1.15pm.

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - July 2021

The report was taken as read in the Mayor's absence.

Cr Dalgety and Cr Duncan reported on the Local Government Conference that they attended recently. It was a great event for meeting other people in local government and discussing topical issues (such as Three Waters). It was noted that there were a lot of central government speakers, and that opportunities to ask questions were limited.

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/214**

That the Mayor's Report – July 2021 be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr B Carter. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - July 2021

Engagement and Consultation Schedule – 2021/22

Elected members were advised to inform staff if they wished to be involved in specific topics on the Engagement and Consultation Schedule.

Cr Wilson advised that he was happy to be involved with the 'Marton Buildings' topic.

Cr Raukawa advised that she would like to be involved with the 'Changes to Māori wards and constituencies' topic.

Infrastructure Acceleration Fund

Mr Beggs clarified that he does not expect to bring future decisions around this fund back to Council for approval.

In response to a question, Mr Benadie advised that this fund was intended to help local council's by contributing to network upgrades and capital expenditure on new developments.

Electronic Building Consents

Mr Beggs advised that staff are trying to fast track this but are in a queue with other councils. This project is a part of a wider effort by staff to streamline the building consent process. There are now three full time building control officers (previously there was one), and a cadet.

Huntermville St John Facility

Mr Beggs explained the context of these recommendations. St John's are not currently in a position to build their own facility. Therefore, the Huntermville Sport and Recreation Trust have proposed that they lease the old Scout Hall site and construct a new building on the site for the purpose of hosting ambulance facilities. They intend to then sub-lease this facility to St John's. St John's have provided a letter of intent, affirming that they would accept the sub-lease from the Huntermville Sport and Recreation Trust.

It was noted that \$50,000 was committed to Huntermville St John's for the purpose of operating an ambulance facility in the Long Term Plan 2021-31. Council agreed that while St John's are no longer in a position to build their own facility, the proposal by the Huntermville Sports and Recreation Trust would fulfil the original intent of the \$50,000 funding – being that an ambulance facility is established and operated out of Huntermville.

Mr Beggs noted that the old Scout Hall is on reserve land and will therefore require public consultation.

Council also agreed that there was no requirement to include a 'final funder' provision into the new recommendations. The absence of this provision will allow the \$50,000 funding to contribute to removal costs and clearance of the proposed site.

Taihape Scenic Reserve

In response to a query, Mr Beggs advised that Council has had no input into plans for the implementation of the electronic donation system and that this was being managed by the Friends of Taihape Society.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/215

That the Chief Executive's Report – July 2021, be received.

Cr B Carter/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/216

That Council signals its intention to grant a lease to Hunterville Sport and Recreation Trust (HSRT) of the old Scout Hall site at market rental, to be remitted for so long as the site is utilised for activities providing for an on-call ambulance, subject to public notification of the intention to grant a lease;

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/217

That, subject to recommendation 2.a [*resolution 21/RDC/216*], Council consents to a sub-lease to an appropriate ambulance provider.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/218

That Council re-confirms providing \$50,000 in year 1 of the LTP for providing ambulance services in Hunterville, and that the removal costs for the Scout Hall and clearance of the site (as per resolution 19/RDC/223) will come from this sum.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/219

That the Chair of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee and Chief Executive are delegated the hearing of submissions or objections to the public notification of the intention to grant a lease for ambulance facilities in Hunterville and to make decisions on the proposed lease and sub-lease agreements.

Cr N Belsham/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/220

That, given the advice from the Department of Conservation, Council approves the use of an electronic payment/donation system and accompanying signage to collect donations for using the tracks/parks etc, that have been upgraded, with all donations received being directed to the Friends of Taihape Society.

Cr A Gordon/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/221

That Council approves the creation and installation of a sign at the Marton RSA and Citizens' Memorial Hall, at a cost of \$2,500, plus \$1,000 for installation (including GST).

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Three Waters Reform Update

Mr Benadie advised that the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) had issued a series of reports, based on data that they gathered from local councils in 2020. The DIA will fund tools for Council to test the 'no worse off' proposition from central government – staff are contracting a consultant to undertake this work.

Council acknowledged the difficulty with public consultation around the Three Waters reform, due to a lack of information from central government. It was agreed that it would be best to wait until after the Three Waters Reform workshop to initiate public consultation, so that elected members would have as much specific information as possible.

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/222**

That the Three Waters Reform Update be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/223**

That the Council agree to staff hosting a Three Waters Reform workshop with Elected Members, Iwi and Community Board Chairs.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr G Duncan. Carried

10.2 Project Management Office Report - July 2021

Marton to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation Project

In response to a query, Mr Benadie confirmed that the timeframe around construction (i.e. before March 2022) is still on track.

Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project

Mr Benadie advised that there were two farmers who were potentially interested in the sale of land. Any proposed land would be checked for suitability by staff before final decisions were made, although it was noted that staff would only check the piece of land under proposal – not the entire property of the farmer.

Remediation of the Historic Landfill on Putorino Road

Mr Benadie advised that staff and Horizons Regional Council are currently in negotiations around the sheet piling that is currently installed. Staff have received written notification from Horizons that the sheet piling has to remain in place (which would incur significant costs) as per the consent for this work, but staff at RDC have a different interpretation of the consent requirements.

Regional Treatment Plant Consenting Programme

Mr Benadie advised that staff intended to progress with this project independently of the Three Waters Reform, as it was high priority and culturally sensitive.

Marton Swim Centre

Mr Beggs advised that the centre will be closed for the duration of the re-roofing. Staff are striving to get this completed while the swimming pool is already closed, and have made the award for the tender.

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/224**

That the Project Management Office Report - July 2021 be received.

Cr G Duncan/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Cr Belsham adjourned the meeting at 2.56pm and re-convened at 3.17pm.

11 Reports for Information

11.1 Rangitikei Beyond 2050: Project Update

Ms Gray advised that she will be attending upcoming community committee and community board meetings to discuss this project. She also submitted a report to the Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti in August.

In response to a query, Ms Gray advised that the intended date to publicly notify the district plan review is late-2023.

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/225**

That the report 'Rangitikei Beyond 2050: Project Update' be received.

Cr A Gordon/Cr B Carter. Carried

11.2 Marton Water Supply Strategy

Mr Benadie advised that staff were considering both the initial purchase cost and future operating costs when considering new bores.

In response to a query, Mr Benadie advised that some research had been completed around the underground water supply in Marton and that it was probable that the underground water was all connected to the same aquifer.

Mr Benadie advised that a test bore is generally used for exploring potential bores, as this reduced the risk of spending a lot of money on establishing bores that subsequently turn out not to be suitable.

Regarding the main pipeline for Marton, Mr Benadie advised that staff will gather more information and complete a business case before proposing any permanent solutions.

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/226**

That the Marton Water Supply Strategy be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

11.3 Late Item – Submission to the Inquiry on the Natural and Built Environments (NBA) Bill

Ms Gray advised that the submission noted concern about the establishment of regional planning committees. This re-focus of planning through a predominantly regional lens could make it difficult for the regions to adequately deal with local issues.

Elected members discussed different viewpoints regarding the protection of the natural environment above all else, compared with a balancing approach.

In response to a query, Ms Gray advised that this is an exposure draft of the proposed Natural and Built Environments (NBA) Bill and that once the Bills itself is released for public engagement, Council will have another chance to submit.

Cr Raukawa left the meeting at 3.57pm.

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/227**

That Council agrees to accept the late item “Submission to the Inquiry on the Natural and Built Environments (NBA) Bill”, to be dealt with at the Council meeting on 29 July 2021, under the provision 9.12 of the Standing Orders - *Items of business not on the agenda which cannot be delayed.*

Cr N Belsham/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/228**

That Council approves without amendment, the submission to the Inquiry on the Natural and Built Environments Bill: Parliamentary Paper.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

12 Minutes from Committees

12.1 Minutes from Committees

In response to a query about the Youth Council's comments that "*councillors could be more supportive*" (in relation to the Youth Awards), Mr Beggs advised that he believed this was a reference to the number of councillors that attended. Six councillors, the Mayor and the Chief Executive attended the Youth Awards.

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/229**

That the following Minutes are received:

- Finance/Performance Committee, 24 June 2021
- Santoft Domain Management Committee, 16 June 2021
- Taihape Community Board, 16 June 2021
- Hunterville Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee, 21 June 2021
- Youth Council, 08 June 2021
- Youth Council, 13 July 2021

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Cr Lambert left the meeting at 4.07pm.

13 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session at 4.07pm.

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/230**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

1.1 Council Minutes (Public Excluded) – 24 June 2021

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
1.1 - Council Minutes (Public Excluded) – 24 June 2021	s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(i) - Negotiations s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(f)(i) - Free and frank expression of opinions s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities	s48(1)(a)

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 D Wilson/Cr W Panapa. Carried

14 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session at 4.10pm

Resolved minute number **21/RDC/232**

That the public excluded meeting move into an open meeting, and the following recommendations be confirmed in the open meeting:

21/RDC/231

Cr G Duncan/Cr B Carter. Carried

The meeting closed at 4.11pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 August 2021.

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Chairperson