

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 16 December 2021

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

HWTM, Andy Watson
Cr Nigel Belsham
Cr Brian Carter
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Angus Gordon
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Tracey Hiroa
Cr Waru Panapa
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Cath Ash [*via Zoom*]

In attendance

Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive
Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager – Democracy and Planning
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager – Corporate Services
Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager – People and Culture
Mrs Jess Mcilroy, Operations Manager
Ms Adina Foley, Senior Project Manager
Mr George Forster, Policy Advisor
Ms Sheryl Bright, Finance Officer – Rates
Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

Order of Business

1	Welcome	3
2	Apologies	3
3	Public Forum	3
4	Conflict of Interest Declarations	3
5	Confirmation of Order of Business	3
6	Confirmation of Minutes	3
6.1	Confirmation of Council Minutes	3
7	Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings	4
7.1	Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings.....	4
8	Mayor’s Report	4
8.1	Mayor's Report - December 2021	4
9	Chief Executive’s Report	4
9.1	Chief Executive's Report - December 2021	4
10	Reports for Decision	5
10.1	Local Easter Sunday Trading Policy	5
10.2	Project Management Office Report – December 2021	5
10.3	Correction of Road Boundary Errors	6
10.4	Hautapu River Pedestrian Bridge	7
11	Reports for Information	7
	Nil	
12	Discussion Items	7
	Nil	
13	Minutes from Committees	8
13.1	Minutes from Committees	8
14	Recommendations from Committees	8
14.1	Recommendation from the Finance/Performance Committee 24 November 2021	8
14.2	Recommendation from the Ratana Community Board 07 December 2021.....	8
14.3	LATE ITEM - Recommendation from the Taihape Community Board 15 December 2021	9
15	Public Excluded	10
16	Open Meeting	11

1 Welcome

The meeting opened at 1.00 pm.

2 Apologies

Recommendation

That the apology for Cr Raukawa be received.

Cr Carter/Cr Lambert. Carried

3 Public Forum

Mr Charlie Sutton and Ms Rachel Rowe, two recipients of the Rangitikei College Scholarship, spoke to Council at 1.13 pm.

Mr Sutton will be studying aeronautical engineering at the Marlborough Institute of Technology, and intends to use the scholarship towards purchasing tools for his training.

Ms Rowe will be studying a Bachelor of Communications at Victoria University.

The Mayor advised Council that there were four scholarships awarded this year – two to Rangitikei College students and two to Taihape Area School students. Both schools followed a formal interview process.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Carter declared a conflict of interest with regards to item 10.2 (Project Management Office Report – December 2021), specifically in relation to the 'Te Matapihi and Bulls Bus Lane and Town Square' section.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Item 3 (Public Forum) took place after item 7.1 (Follow-up Actions) and before item 8.1 (Mayor's Report – December 2021).

Item 15.6 (Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings) took place after item 15.4 (Rates Remission Requests) and before item 15.5 (Chief Executive Review Outcome).

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Council Minutes

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/444

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 November 2021, without amendment, be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the Mayor's electronic signature be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr G Duncan/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

In response to a query, Mr Benadie advised that fundraising for the Taihape Grandstand will be undertaken by the community, as it is a community function.

Regarding resolution 21/RDC/423 (Scooter Rack at Te Matapihi), Mr Benadie advised that staff are awaiting feedback from the roading team with regards to any regulations that may affect the placement of the scooter rack. Cr Carter requested that staff keep the Bulls Community Committee informed of its progress.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/445

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

Cr B Carter/Cr A Gordon. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - December 2021

The Mayor advised that he fully supported the Chief Executive's decision regarding the closure of the Taihape Town Hall and Library, due to the need for earthquake strengthening.

In response to a query, the Mayor advised that the Accelerate25 programme is progressing well, and that the Mayor of the Tararua District Council was now a member.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/446

That the Mayor's Report - December 2021 be received.

HWTM/Cr N Belsham. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - December 2021

The Mayor encouraged elected members to be familiar with the Resource Management Act 1991, and noted that although it is a complex, contradictory and confusing piece of legislation, there were many good resources available that provided concise and comprehensible summaries of its intent.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/447

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

Cr T Hiroa/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/448

That the following Elected Members be delegated to review and sign-off the final submission on the RMA Reforms:

- His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson
- Cr Angus Gordon
- Cr Dave Wilson

Cr N Belsham/Cr G Duncan. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Local Easter Sunday Trading Policy

In response to a query, the Mayor advised that there were no restrictions (e.g., place of residence) on who could provide a submission during the public consultation process.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/449

That the report 'Local Easter Sunday Trading Policy' be received.

Cr T Hiroa/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/450

That submissions made to the Local Easter Sunday Trading Policy be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/451

That Council adopt the Local Easter Sunday Trading Policy without amendment.

Cr A Gordon/Cr G Duncan. Carried

10.2 Project Management Office Report – December 2021

Marton to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation Project

Mrs Mcilroy advised that the contractor (Fulton Hogan) is waiting on the delivery of materials, and staff were unsure at this stage whether or not this will result in a delay of the programme.

In response to a query, staff advised that irrigation systems generally need to be designed after land has been obtained. In this case, staff are taking a proactive approach and are going to owners to express interest, rather than waiting for land to become available on the market. Staff are therefore trying to get an idea of what an appropriate irrigation system is likely to be in anticipation of attaining suitable land in the future.

Te Matapihi and Bulls Bus Lane and Town Square

In response to a query, Mr Beggs advised that the risk associated with the land owner of the green space potentially not allowing Council to complete the town square work has since been resolved.

Taihape Memorial Park Upgrade

In response to a query about usage of specific materials, staff advised that this is generally decided by the design consultants. Staff will set the scope for a project and consultants are required to operate within this, but the specific choice of materials is generally left to the consultant to manage as they are the experts. The Mayor advised that elected members can request that staff consider certain preferences when deciding the scope of an upcoming project.

Marlon Rail Hub

In response to a query about the risk of this project, Mrs Mcilroy advised that it is outside of the control of the project team. The Environment Court process is ongoing and there will likely be some hearings for this.

Marlon Water Strategy

In response to a query, Mr Benadie confirmed that staff expect there to be sufficient water capacity over summer.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/452

That the Project Management Office Report – December 2021 be **received**.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

10.3 Correction of Road Boundary Errors

Mr Benadie confirmed that all interested parties have been consulted.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/453

That the report 'Correction of Road Boundary Errors' be received

HWTM/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/454

That Council approves the realignment of road boundaries and exchange of land at Pungatawa Road and Waiaruhe Road as indicated in the aerial overlay presented in this report

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/455

That Council acknowledge no adjustment for value of exchanged land will be made and Council will meet all of its costs without contribution from the adjoining landowners.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Gordon. Carried

10.4 Hautapu River Pedestrian Bridge

Mr Benadie explained that the Friends of Taihape Society (FOTS) felt that this would be better managed through Council staff. As FOTS had procured the contract, staff would be required to deviate from the Procurement Policy rules in order to assist in the construction of the bridge. All funding is being sourced by FOTS.

In response to a query, Mr Benadie confirmed that Council will not have liability for the project and all Health & Safety protocols are being adhered to.

Mr Beggs advised that this work will put extra demand on staff, but that it was the right thing to do. Council agreed that it was a good idea for staff to be involved.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/456

That the report "Hautapu River Pedestrian Bridge" to the Council meeting of 16 December 2021 be received.

Cr G Duncan/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/457

That for the Hautapu River Pedestrian Bridge project financed by Friends of Taihape Society, Council approve a waiver from RDC's Procurement Policy regarding the requirement of three written tenders (for projects in excess of \$50,000).

Cr C Ash/Cr B Carter. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/458

That Council authorise the CEO to enter into a contract with the Contractor selected by the Friends of Taihape Society group for the construction of the pedestrian bridge, acknowledging that all Contractor costs shall be met by the Friends of Taihape and all Project Management and Contractor management costs will be met by Council.

Cr N Belsham/Cr C Ash. Carried

11 Reports for Information

Nil

12 Discussion Items

Nil

13 Minutes from Committees

13.1 Minutes from Committees

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/459

That the following minutes are received:

- Creative NZ Committee, 15 November 2021
- Finance/Performance Committee, 24 November 2021
- Ratana Community Board, 07 December 2021

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

14 Recommendations from Committees

14.1 Recommendation from the Finance/Performance Committee 24 November 2021

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/460

That Council approves the below recommendation from the Finance/Performance Committee meeting on 24 November 2021:

- a. That the Finance and Performance Committee recommend to Council the carrying over from 2020/21 the list of projects included in this report, and the 2021/22 budgets are amended accordingly.

Cr N Belsham/Cr D Wilson. Carried

14.2 Recommendation from the Ratana Community Board 07 December 2021

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/461

That Council, noting the recommendation below from the Ratana Community Board, names the Right of Way associated with RM200035 serving 6 lots along Rangatahi Road as "Meihana Place":

- a. That the Ratana Community Board recommend to Council the Right of Way associated with RM200035 serving 6 lots along Rangatahi Road be named Meihana Place.

Cr W Panapa/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

14.3 LATE ITEM - Recommendation from the Taihape Community Board 15 December 2021

In response to a query, Cr Duncan advised that the blue whale colour is identified with Taihape and a colour that is used throughout the town.

Mr Beggs advised that an alternative location for services that were being provided out of the Taihape Town Hall and Library will likely be operating by 22 December 2021

Mr Beggs noted that due to the lateness of the recommendations from the Taihape Community Board, staff had not had sufficient time to review and understand the outcomes of them. Once staff have all of the relevant information at hand, they will prepare a report for Council around options for Taihape moving forwards. This report will not be presented to Council until at least April/May 2022. Mr Beggs further noted that the Taihape Community Board will not have had all of the available and up-to-date information at hand, and he will contact the Chair of the Board to provide her with this.

Council held a robust discussion about recommendation 4, and decided not to approve it. This is partly because the work is already being undertaken by staff with urgency, and partly because staff do not yet have all of the information at hand to make firm and final decisions.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/462

That the late item "Recommendations from Taihape Community Board" be dealt with as part of the agenda for the Council meeting on 16 December 2021, it is preferable that the item not be delayed until a subsequent meeting as the Council is beginning the discussions on the earthquake risks with the Taihape Town Hall. The reason the item is not on the agenda is that the Taihape Community Board meeting was held on 15 December 2021 after the recommendations from that meeting were received after the Council agenda had been sent out.

Cr A Gordon/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/463

That Council approves the below recommendation from the Taihape Community Board meeting on 15 December 2021:

- a. That the Taihape Community Board endorses the names Ngā Awa Block for the whole Amenities block, with Rangitikei, Hautapu, Moawhango, and Kawhatau for individual rooms.

Cr T Hiroa/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/464

That Council approves (in principle) the below recommendation from the Taihape Community Board meeting on 15 December 2021:

- a. That the Taihape Community Board asks that, as the Taihape Town Clock is presently being prepared for re-painting, that the base be re-painted in the colour 'Blue Whale'.

Cr T Hiroa/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/465

That Council does not approve the below recommendation from the Taihape Community Board meeting on 15 December 2021:

Taihape Community Board, in considering the recent closure of the Taihape Town Hall/Civic Centre building, asks that Council:

1. Moves with urgency to progress a solution for the building, and
2. Re-considers the prioritisation of the Taihape Town Hall/Civic Centre capital expenditure project within the 2021/31 Long term Plan programme.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

15 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session 2.33 pm.

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/466

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

1. Council Minutes (Public Excluded) – 24 November 2021
2. Disposal of surplus land in Taihape
3. Taihape Amenities Building - Tender Award and Budget Update
4. Rates Remission Requests
5. Chief Executive Review Outcome
6. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings

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
15.1 - Council Minutes (Public Excluded) – 24 November 2021	s7(2)(a) – Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) – Commercial position s7(2)(h) – Commercial activities s7(2)(i) – Negotiation	s48(1)(a)
15.2 - Disposal of surplus land in Taihape	s7(2)(b)(ii) – Commercial position s7(2)(h) – Commercial activities s7(2)(i) – Negotiation	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.3 - Taihape Amenities Building - Tender Award and Budget Update	s7(2)(h) – Commercial activities s7(2)(i) – Negotiation	s48(1)(a)(i)

15.4 - Rates Remission Requests	s7(2)(a) – Privacy	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.5 - Chief Executive Review Outcome	s7(2)(a) – Privacy	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.6 - Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings	s7(2)(a) – Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) – Commercial position s7(2)(h) – Commercial activities s7(2)(i) – Negotiation	s48(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 N Belsham/Cr R Lambert. Carried

16 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 4.26 pm.

Resolved minute number 21/RDC/467

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

21/RDC/467 - 21/RDC/476

Cr R Lambert/Cr B Carter. Carried

The meeting closed at 4.26 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 December 2021.

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Chairperson