

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 31 March 2022

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

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

In attendance

Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive [via Zoom]
Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager – Democracy and Planning
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager – Corporate Services
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services [via Zoom]
Mr Danny Le Mar, Manager Financial Services [via Zoom]
Ms Hilary Walker, Management and System Accountant [via Zoom]
Mrs Jess Mcilroy, Operations Manager [via Zoom]
Ms Adina Foley, Senior Project Manager [via Zoom]
Ms Christin Ritchie, People and Culture Advisor [via Zoom]
Mr Hamish Waugh, General Manager – Infrastructure (MDC) [via Zoom]
Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome

The Mayor opened the meeting at 1.00 pm.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/064

That the apologies for Cr Hiroa and Cr Raukawa be received.

HWTM/Cr N Belsham. Carried

3 Public Forum

No public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There were no changes to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Council Minutes

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/065

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 February 2022, as amended, 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.

Amendment: p. 3, COI for Cr Raukawa change "Taihape" to "Marton".

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Mrs Gordon advised that a formal response has now been provided to Mr Collier.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/066

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

Cr G Duncan/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - March 2022

The Mayor advised that he has met with a member of the Putorino Water Supply Scheme and that he felt Council had an obligation to look at this work. Mr Beggs advised that he has invited this scheme member to speak at the Council meeting in April, and that there are two staff currently working with the individual.

Undertaking:

Staff to provide a report to the April Council meeting on the Putorino Water Supply Scheme.

The Mayor advised that he is not paid for his involvement in the working group for the Three Waters reform, and that he is participating as it is an opportunity for Council to seek changes from Central Government. He will hold public meetings in Bulls, Marton and Taihape, in order to update people on what is happening with the reforms legislatively, what Council's position is, and the Department of Internal Affairs' current work in this space.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/067

That the Mayor's Report – March 2022 be received.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - March 2022

Cr Dalgety noted that the mobile vaccination at Queens Park (sect 1.2) is in Hunterville.

Update on Council's Request for Service (RFS) Improvements

In response to a query about Magiq's software update for the RFS system, Mrs Gordon advised that the testing has gone well and there are no significant issues. The update will go live shortly and staff will receive training on the improvements. This should occur in early April.

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Annual General Meeting and Remit Process

The Mayor explained that there are two ways to put forward a remit to LGNZ. One way is to seek support from four other councils, and submit a combined remit (backed by five councils). Another option is to go to a zone meeting or rural provincial meeting and get a backing vote via these forums.

COVID-19 Protection Framework

Mr Beggs advised that libraries will continue to only operate a click and collect service, and that this reduced level of service will be reviewed on a regular basis. Staff are being encouraged to work from home and this will also be reviewed on a regular basis.

In response to a query, Mr Beggs advised that he would need to see evidence of case numbers within the district (both active and new cases) reducing before the executive leadership team would reconsider the level of service currently being provided.

Loan Request – The Bulls Historical Society

Mr Beggs advised that any work completed by the society will be checked by Council's regulatory team, and it will have to comply with the Building Act 2004. Mr Beggs also advised that he has made it clear to the society that Council staff do not have any preference on what organisation completes this strengthening work, and that the society is responsible for their own due diligence in this matter.

Undertaking:

That the Chief Executive provide the terms and conditions of the loan to elected members via email, for their information.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/068

That the Chief Executive's Report – March 2022 be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/069

That Council confirms that all three Northern Ward Councillors be appointed to assist the development of the Taihape Town Hall Development Business Case, using the Better Business Case model.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/070

That Council agrees to grant a loan to The Bulls Historical Society for \$159,000 (plus GST) to undertake earthquake strengthening on the old Bulls Library Building.

Cr N Belsham/Cr B Carter. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/071

That Council endorses the Chief Executive's decision around the limitation of services for Council's libraries and information centres, and further endorses the decision making process.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Adoption of Supporting Documents and Documents for Simultaneous Consultation for the 2022/23 Annual Plan

Mrs Gordon advised that the draft Annual Plan 2022/23 still has to go through final design, proofreading and formatting. This will be done prior to consultation next week.

In response to a query about organisations submitting requests for funding, Mrs Gordon advised that the best time for this to be submitted is when the submissions for the Annual Plan open (end of next week). Groups can submit requests as part of the submissions process, and these will then go to Council as part of the deliberations process. The Mayor agreed with this advice, but added that minor matters can be brought to Council at any time.

In response to a query, Mrs Gordon advised that Audit NZ do not audit the Annual Plan (only the Long Term Plan).

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/072

That the report 'Adoption of Supporting Documents and Documents for Simultaneous Consultation for the 2022/23 Annual Plan' be received.

Cr C Ash/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/073

That the Council adopts the following documents as information relied on by the content of the Consultation Document for the development of the 2022/23 Annual Plan:

- The draft 2022/23 Annual Plan
- The adopted 2021-31 Long Term Plan

HWTM/Cr R Lambert. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/074

That Council adopts for consultation, using the special consultative procedure, simultaneously with Framing 2022/23, the following associated documents:

- Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2022/23
- Draft Rates Remission Policy
- Draft Rates Remission Policy for Māori Freehold Land

Cr A Gordon/Cr D Wilson. Carried

10.2 Adoption of "Framing 2022/23" - the Consultation Document for the draft 2022/23 Annual Plan

Mrs Gordon confirmed that all consultation documents will be finalised by Friday, 08 April.

The Mayor advised that he was happy to respond to any requests for communication from groups, and would encourage interested parties to get in touch with Council as early as possible. Mrs Gordon advised that calendar invitations for the Facebook live sessions will be distributed once timings are finalised.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/075

That the Adoption of "Framing 2022/23" - the Consultation Document for the draft 2022/23 Annual Plan report be received.

Cr G Duncan/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/076

That the Council resolves to adopt "Framing 2022/23" as the Consultation Document for the 2022/23 Annual Plan (in terms of section 95A of the Local Government Act 2002), subject to minor editorial and formatting changes.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

10.3 Triennial Elections 2022

Elected members felt that using a 'random order' methodology would be the fairest way to list candidate's names on voting documents.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/077

That the 'Triennial Elections 2022' report be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/078

That the names of the candidates for the 2022 Rangitikei District Council triennial elections, and any subsequent by-elections, be arranged on the ballot paper in the order chosen below:

- Random Order

Cr R Lambert/Cr N Belsham. Carried

10.4 Taihape Grandstand Project Summary - March 2022

Ms Prince advised Heritage NZ hopes to complete a site visit at the end of April/beginning of May. It was noted that a previous Council motion had halted the start of construction in order to ensure that the selected option (steel framing) would not jeopardise any potential funding applications. Ms

Foley advised Heritage NZ has indicated there are no issues with the steel framing from their perspective.

In response to a query, Ms Prince confirmed the unbudgeted expenditure is included within the overall \$1 m project budget that was confirmed in the Long Term Plan 2021-31.

The Mayor noted there had been an estimate of \$1.3 m or higher for the overall project cost, and that once this figure is confirmed, Council will need to make a decision around either halting the project or seeking further funding first.

Ms Prince advised that the Grandstand Sub-Committee will be the lead body for any required fundraising and staff have met with them and offered assistance.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/079

That the report 'Taihape Grandstand Project Summary – March 2022' be received.

Cr A Gordon/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/080

Noting that Council's contribution to the Taihape Grandstand project is \$1 million in total, that Council request the Chief Executive provide staff support to Taihape Heritage Trust – Grandstand Sub-Committee for fundraising (if required), and that any costs incurred by Council staff be funded from the \$1 million Taihape Grandstand budget.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/081

That Council agree to postpone any building work on the Taihape Grandstand until the compliance position of Heritage New Zealand, and financing, is understood.

HWTM/Cr N Belsham. Carried

10.5 Changing Rooms at Te Matapihi, Bulls Community Centre

In response to a query, Mr Benadie advised the likely cost of the proposed feasibility study would be in excess of \$100,000. Council discussed the implications of this level of expenditure and decided that they were not in a position to approve it without further information being provided by staff on the various functional and costing options available.

Elected members also discussed the scope of the changing rooms. There were indications from community groups that they would like the changing rooms to accommodate a minimum of 200 people. Several elected members felt that this was a substantial increase to the original scope, and that this level of capacity was not necessarily warranted.

In response to a query, staff confirmed there are no contractual obligations in place that are necessitating the beginning of detailed designs and construction. Mrs Mcilroy advised that the estimate for the detailed design of the two current proposals is in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Council confirmed that resolution 21/RDC/375 (requesting staff to complete detailed design

engineering for two construction proposals) should be deferred until more information is made available at a future Council meeting.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/082

That the report 'Changing Rooms at Te Matapihi, Bulls Community Centre' be received.

Cr B Carter/Cr W Panapa. Carried

Recommendation

That Council **approve** the scope of the 'Te Matapihi Additional Changing Room' project be expanded to allow staff to undertake a feasibility study for the best suitable space (considering restrictions and requirements), as requested by the Bulls user group and as defined in 3.1 of this report, **noting** this will take approximately 6-9 months.

AND

That Council approve for staff to seek feedback from the Larger Community Event holder groups in regard to the development and presentation of options of this feasibility study, to make sure the options best fulfil their requirements.

Cr Carter/Cr Panapa. Lost

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/083

That Council defer the decision made 28 October 2021 (resolution 21/RDC/375) until a further subsequent report on functional and costing options is available.

HWTM/Cr N Belsham. Carried

10.6 Project Management Office Report - March 2022

Mangaweka Bridge Replacement

In response to a query about what work is required before the bridge can be opened, Mrs Mcilroy advised that there needs to be a cutover of the road, progress the artwork and plan an opening ceremony (no date set for this yet). Mrs Mcilroy also advised that staff are in contact with iwi, and that no more traffic will cross the bridge before the formal opening. The project completion is currently scheduled for the end of June.

Cr Gordon asked how the scour protection performed during the recent flood down the river. Mr Waugh advised that he has not been informed of any problems, but he will enquire with the project team to confirm that there was no damage.

In response to a query about potential cost increases, Mr Waugh advised that the final price should match what was forecast in the budget or be very close. However, he is unable to confirm the exact figure at this time. The Mayor noted that previous reports/updates had indicated that the project was on budget, and asked if these variances should have been made known to Council earlier. Mr Waugh advised that an internal review on this had been completed, and linking the Waka Kotahi budget to Council's purchase orders was an area of improvement that has been identified.

The meeting was adjourned at 3.04 pm and re-convened at 3.14 pm.

Bulls Bus Lane and Town Square

In response to a query, Mrs Mcilroy advised that a portion of the town square is not owned by Council and staff have reached a verbal agreement with the owner of it. This is currently in the process of being formalised.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/084

That the Project Management Office Report – March 2022 be **received**.

Cr C Ash/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/085

That the Chief Executive is authorised to expend the approved Waka Kotahi budget of \$4,953,345 for the construction phase of the Mangaweka Bridge project, noting Council's 2018 LTP included \$4.9m capital budget for this project.

Cr N Belsham/Cr D Wilson. Carried

10.7 Request to become a Guarantor Council with the Local Government Funding Agency

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/086

That the report 'Request to become a Guarantor Council with the Local Government Funding Agency' be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/087

That Council:

1. Confirms its intention to become a guaranteeing member of LGFA; and
2. Delegates authority to the Acting Chief Executive, the Mayor and the Chair of the Finance/Performance Committee, to execute the Certificates and Deeds as required to become a guaranteeing member of LGFA.

HWTM/Cr N Belsham. Carried

10.8 Wellington Road Council Flats - Reroof and Insulation

Mrs Mcilroy advised that staff are proposing to substitute a majority of the extra cost via underspent work in the Long Term Plan 2021-31. In response to a query, staff advised that the specific area of underspend was for the Ratana cemetery expansion as this was completed this year, and next year's funds that were allocated to it are no longer needed.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/088

That the report 'Wellington Road Council Flats – Reroofing and Insulation' be **received**.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr R Lambert. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/089

That Council **approve** a deviation from Council's procurement policy in that only two tenderers were invited to quote for the works and not three as the policy requires.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/090

That Council **approve** for the Chief Executive to sign a contract of \$363,614.57 plus hold contingencies of \$36,385.43 for a total project budget not to exceed \$400,000 for the reroofing and insulation of the Wellington Road Council Flats.

AND

That Council note \$300,000 funding will be brought forward from an underspend of the 2022/23 capital budget.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

10.9 Views on Government's Proposal to Remove Exotic Forests from the ETS

Council endorsed option three, noting that there were opportunities for the better utility of land under this option.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/091

That the report 'Views on Government's Proposal to Remove Exotic Forests from the ETS' be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr A Gordon. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/092

That Council endorses the below option:

- Option three: Place limits on exotic forestry from registering in the permanent post-1989 category in the NZ ETS, but with exceptions for exotic species under certain conditions or criteria

Cr F Dalgety/Cr A Gordon. Carried

10.10 Scooter Rack Installation at Te Matapihi

In response to a query, Mr Benadie confirmed that the bespoke option for a scooter rack would not fit beside the book return bin.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/093

That the report 'Scooter Rack Installation at Te Matapihi' be received.

Cr B Carter/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/094

That Council approves the Bulls Community Committee request to cover the cost for the manufacture and installation of a scooter rack, be that bespoke or an 'off the shelf' solution.

Cr B Carter/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/095

That Council approves the installation of the bespoke scooter rack at the front of the building next to the main entrance as proposed by the Bulls Community Committee.

Cr B Carter/Cr A Gordon. Carried

11 Reports for Information

11.1 RDC Offices DSA summary

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/096

That the report 'RDC Offices DSA summary' be received.

HWTM/Cr C Ash. Carried

12 Discussion Items

Nil

13 Minutes from Committees

13.1 Minutes from Committees

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/097

That the following minutes are received:

- Assets/Infrastructure Committee, 10 February 2022
- Audit & Risk Committee, 15 December 2021
- Audit & Risk Committee, 10 March 2022
- Finance/Performance Committee, 24 February 2022

- Hunterville Community Committee, 14 February 2022
- Marton Community Committee, 08 December 2021
- Policy/Planning Committee, 10 February 2022
- Santoft Domain Management Committee, 23 February 2022
- Taihape Community Board, 16 February 2022
- Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti, 08 February 2022
- Turakina Community Committee, 03 February 2022

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

14 Recommendations from Committees

14.1 Recommendation from the Marton Community Committee 08 December 2021

In response to a query about the lack of specificity, Mr Garstang advised that the Chair of the Marton Community Committee is now following up on this at an operational level. The recommendation was therefore left to lie on the table.

Recommendation

That Council approves / does not approve [~~delete one~~] the below recommendation from the Marton Community Committee meeting on 08 December 2021:

- a. The Marton Community Committee recommend to Council that Signage is installed throughout the District which shows correct / up-to-date / relevant contact details to aid users to report faults or issues.

Left to lie on the table.

14.2 Recommendation from the Hunterville Community Committee 14 February 2022

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/098

That Council approves the below recommendation from the Hunterville Community Committee meeting on 14 February 2022:

- a. The Committee requests that Council approve a carry-forward from 2020/21, of 100% of the annual allocation of the Small Projects Fund (\$857), to the 2021/22 financial year.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr R Lambert. Carried

15 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session 3.44 pm.

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/099

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

1. Confirmation of Council Minutes (Public Excluded) – 24 February 2022
2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings
3. Rates Remission Application - Remission of Penalties
4. Rates Remission Request
5. Request to Waive Water Accounts
6. Marton to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation - engagement of Lowe Environmental
7. Marton Rail Hub - Commissioning of below-ground rail design
8. Minutes from Committees (Public Excluded)
9. Chief Executive Review

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 – Confirmation of Council Minutes (Public Excluded) – 24 February 2022	s7(2)(a) - privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - commercial position s7(2)(c)(ii) - public interest s7(2)(f)(i) - free and frank expression of opinions s7(2)(h) - commercial activities s7(2)(i) - negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.2 – Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings	s7(2)(a) - privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - commercial position s7(2)(c)(ii) - public interest s7(2)(f)(i) - free and frank expression of opinions s7(2)(h) - commercial activities s7(2)(i) - negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.3 – Rates Remission Application – Remission of Penalties	s7(2)(a) - privacy	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.4 – Rates Remission Request	s7(2)(a) - privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - commercial position	s48(1)(a)(i)

15.5 – Request to Waive Water Accounts	s7(2)(a) - privacy	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.6 – Marton to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation – engagement of Lowe Environmental	s7(2)(i) - negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.7 – Marton Rail Hub – Commissioning of below-ground rail design	s7(2)(h) - commercial activities	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.8 – Minutes from Committees (Public Excluded)	s7(2)(b)(i) - trade secret s7(2)(f)(i) - free and frank expression of opinions s7(2)(j) - improper gain or improper advantage	s48(1)(a)(i)
15.9 – Chief Executive Review	s7(2)(a) - privacy	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 D Wilson. Carried

16 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 5.05 pm.

Resolved minute number 22/RDC/115

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

22/RDC/100 - 22/RDC/114

HWTM/Cr N Belsham. Carried

The meeting closed at 5.05 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 April 2022.

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Chairperson