

# MINUTES

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, 9 June 2022

**Time:** 1.00 pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber  
Rangitikei District Council  
46 High Street  
Marton

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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*]  
Cr Coral Raukawa

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 [*via Zoom*]  
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services  
Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager – People and Culture  
Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner  
Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

**Order of Business**

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## 1 Welcome

The meeting opened at 1.01 pm.

## 2 Apologies

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/183**

Cr Raukawa will leave at 3.00 pm. Cr Wilson will leave at 3.30 pm.

Cr N Belsham/Cr B Carter. Carried

## 3 Public Forum

No public forum.

## 4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Hiroa and Cr Raukawa declared conflicts of interest in relation to item 6.4, specifically with regards to remuneration provisions for Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa, as they are both members of the Komiti.

Cr Duncan declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 6.4, specifically with regards to the targeted rate increase for the Erewhon Rural Water Supply scheme, as she is a member of the scheme.

Cr Dalgety and Cr Lambert declared conflicts of interest in relation to item 6.4, specifically with regards to the 0% increase to the targeted rate for the Hunterville Rural Water Supply scheme, as they are both members of the scheme.

## 5 Confirmation of Order of Business

No changes to the order of business.

## 6 Reports for Decision

### 6.1 Analysis of Submissions and Adoption of the Rates Remission Policy for Māori Freehold Land

There was some discussion around whether “commercial activities” should be included under section 5 of the policy (Exclusions). Council determined that staff have sufficient discretion under this policy to consider and exclude activities of a commercial nature.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/184**

That the report ‘Analysis of Submissions and Adoption of the Rates Remission Policy for Māori Freehold Land’ be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/185**

That the submission received on the Draft Rates Remission Policy for Māori Freehold Land be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr A Gordon. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/186**

That the Rates Remission Policy for Māori Freehold Land be adopted without amendment.

Cr N Belsham/Cr A Gordon. Carried

## **6.2 Analysis of Submissions and Adoption of the Rates Remission Policy**

Ms Gray advised that the policy that went out for consultation contained several date errors under section 9 – they originally read as 2022, but have since been amended to 2023.

In response to a query, Mr Benadie advised that section 4.2 (Uniform Annual Charge for multiple toilet pans) was in place for bigger installations, such as schools, hospitals and motels. Staff would not generally charge an individual property more if they have multiple toilet pans.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/187**

That the report ‘Analysis of Submissions and Adoption of the Rates Remission Policy’ be received.

Cr G Duncan/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/188**

That the submissions received on the Draft Rates Remission Policy be received.

Cr A Gordon/Cr B Carter. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/189**

That Council adopt the Rates Remission Policy without amendment.

Cr N Belsham/Cr R Lambert. Carried

## **6.3 Analysis of Submissions and Adoption of the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2022/23**

Ms Gray advised that the policy would need to be adopted before dog registrations can be distributed.

Council discussed the new rate for the Kokako Street Pavilion, noting that there were several submissions on this. Council determined that the new rate was justified in light of increasing costs.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/190**

That the report 'Analysis of Submissions and Adoption of the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2022/23' be received.

Cr A Gordon/Cr R Lambert. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/191**

That submissions 001 to 006 (and Annual Plan 059 submission point) for the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2022/23 be received.

Cr B Carter/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

**Recommendation**

That the Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2022/23 be adopted as amended below:

- That the fees and charges for the Kokako St Pavilion, Taihape, not be increased for the 2022/23 year, as per the feedback contained in submission 005.

Cr Duncan/Cr Hiroa. Lost

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/192**

That the Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2022/23 be adopted without amendment.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

## **6.4 Analysis of Submissions to Framing 2022/23 Annual Plan**

### Wellbeing Programme

The Mayor advised that he has unfortunately received advice from the Remuneration Authority stating that it would be against the law for elected members to be a part of this programme.

### Forestry Differential

There was robust discussion on the merits of introducing the proposed forestry differential. Council determined that after considering submission responses on this issue, there would be value in deferring this until 2023/24 in order to allow Council to undertake more consultation and research.

### Marton Rail Hub CCO (Council Controlled Organisation)

Mr Beggs advised that Council approval of this would not necessitate the establishment of a CCO, but would allow staff to explore this option if it was required. He noted that the Marton Rail Hub was currently before the Environment Court and staff would need to wait for the outcome of this before determining any future plans for it.

In response to queries, Mr Beggs advised that the specific details of establishing a CCO (e.g., who would be members) would come back to Council for consideration at a future date, if and when required.

Council agreed to approve the establishment of a CCO (if required), noting that this would allow staff to begin investigating future options around the Marton Rail Hub once the Environment Court has made a determination later in the year.

#### Hunterville Rural Water Supply Scheme

In response to a query, Mr Tombs confirmed that the scheme currently has a surplus.

#### Chinese Language Week

It was noted that Council offers more suitable funding schemes for this type of event.

#### Housing Business Case

Ms Prince advised that in respect of submissions 005, 006 and 010, staff wish to expand the scope of reference for the housing business case in order to include residential subdivision across the district. Staff may request an additional \$20,000 from the 'Better Off' funding, but this would come back to Council at a future date for approval.

#### Hunterville Sports Complex

In response to a query, Ms Prince advised that of the \$100,000 annual budget for the Parks Upgrade Partnership Fund, \$25,000 has been allocated so far in 2021/22. The Mayor noted that as this is an existing budget, any approved funding to the Hunterville Sports Complex would have no effect on Council's rating position.

Ms Prince advised that a condition of the funding will be that the complex is made available for public use, which the organisation has informally agreed to. Staff will formalise this arrangement via an MOU.

#### Koitiata Campground

In response to a query, Ms Prince advised that funding to the Koitiata Campground could not come from the Parks Upgrade Partnership Fund, as it would not be eligible.

#### CCTV Cameras

In response to a query, Ms Prince advised that \$5,000 per year is usually contributed towards the maintenance of the existing cameras, although this has not been used in 2021/22.

Council determined that it would not provide funding at this state, as they did not feel that enough information was yet available to warrant funding. Staff will continue to liaise with the submitter on their progress with other funding that is currently in progress.

#### Friends of Taihape Charitable Society

The Mayor explained that although there is a significant amount of money available under the 'Better Off' funding, Council was only able to make one application this year (although multiple projects/requests can be bundled into this application).

Cr Ash left the meeting at 2.54 pm.

In response to a query, Ms Prince advised that 'Better Off' funding would have to be spent within seven years.

Cr Ash returned to the meeting at 2.55 pm.

In response to a query, Ms Prince advised that project management can be included for Better Off funding. The Mayor noted that any funding from the 'Better Off' fund would not affect Council's rating position.

Council supported the application for funding to the 'Better Off' fund, noting that the specifics of how much funding would be required will be explored at a future workshop.

### General Engagement

It was noted that Council was disappointed with the low response rate to the Annual Plan consultation (and simultaneous consultations). Council agreed that the onus for garnering interest and engagement during consultations resided with both staff and elected members.

Mrs Gordon advised that recent legislation from central government has made voter turnout a key performance indicator for the Chief Executives of territorial authorities. She further advised that staff are placing particular emphasis on communications during this election cycle, in order to increase engagement.

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/193**

That the report 'Analysis of Submissions to Framing 2022/23 Annual Plan' be received

Cr A Gordon/Cr N Belsham. Carried

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/194**

That Council receive the submissions made to the 'Framing 2022/23 Annual Plan' between 8 April and 9 May 2022, including the late submissions 061, 062, 063, 064, and 065.

Cr T Hiroa/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/195**

That Council does not increase the wellbeing programme budget by \$6,000.

HWTM/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/196**

That Council confirm the additional staff resources, noting they will be funded via existing budgets.

Cr N Belsham/Cr D Wilson. Carried

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/197**

That Council confirm their approval to include an additional \$11,300 for attendance and mileage payments to TRAK members.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/198**

That Council defers the intention to establish a targeted differential on the roading rate for forestry, and instead undertakes further targeted consultation with the forestry sector and iwi before the 2023/24 financial year.

Cr A Gordon/Cr N Belsham. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/199**

That Council accepts this consultation as meeting requirements under the Significance and Engagement Policy and Local Government Act 2002 to consult on the establishment of a Council Controlled Organisation in order to contribute to a potential Rail Hub Special Purpose Vehicle and:

- Supports the establishment of a Council Controlled Organisation for the Marton Rail Hub, if required.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Gordon. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/200**

That Council commits to developing a Climate Impact Strategy and Action Plan in 2022/23, subject to funding being received for the project from the "Better Off" fund.

Cr G Duncan/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/201**

That the targeted rate associated with Erewhon Rural Water Scheme be increased by 100% for the 2022/23 financial year.

Cr T Hiroa/Cr A Gordon. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/202**

That the targeted rate associated with the Hunterville Rural Water Scheme remain unchanged for the 2022/23 financial year (0% increase).

Cr N Belsham/Cr G Duncan. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/203**

That Council does not provide funding [to Chinese Language Week NZ] and instead supports Officers to assist the submitter with an application to Council's funding schemes.

Cr N Belsham/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/204**

Subject to further costs being provided by Officers, that Council supports in principle, the scope of the terms of reference for the housing business case to be extended to capture the points raised by submitters 005, 006 and 010 regarding Council's potential role in housing, which would be subject to the approval of funding via the "Better Off" fund.

Cr G Duncan/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/205**



That Council approves funding of \$20,000, for the Hunterville Sports Complex equipment from the Parks Upgrade Partnership Fund.

Cr C Ash/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/206**

That Council provides funding of \$70,000 for refurbishment of the toilets/showers at the Koitiata Campground in the 2022/23 Annual Plan.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr W Panapa. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/207**

That Council does not provide funding towards the upgrade of the CCTV cameras in Marton, at this stage.

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/208**

That Council in principle agrees to applying for 'Better Off' funding, to support the work being done by the Friends of Taihape Charitable Society, subject to further consideration of the ongoing operational impact associated with the project.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3.01 pm and reconvened at 3.13 pm.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/209**

With regard to comments made by submitters 001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 014, 015, 016, 017, 018, 019, 020, 022, 023, 024, 025, 026, 027, 028, 029, 030, 031, 032, 033, 034, 035, 036, 037, 038, 039, 040, 041, 042, 043, 044, 045, 046, 047, 048, 049, 050, 051, 052, 053, 054, 055, 056, 057, 058, 060, 061, 062, 063, 064, 065 summarised in Attachment 3, Council has considered the Officer comments and accepts them, noting they will be included as Council's response to submitters.

HWTM/Cr N Belsham. Carried

## 7 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session at 3.30 pm.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/210**

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

1. Property Matter

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
7.1 – Property Matter	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 B Carter/Cr D Wilson. Carried

## 8 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 3.47 pm.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/213**

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

22/RDC/211 - 22/RDC/212

Cr A Gordon/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

**The meeting closed at 3.48 pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 June 2022.**

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**Chairperson**