

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 11 May and Friday, 12 May 2023

Time: 9.30am

Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
Taihape

Council Chamber
46 High Street
Marton

Present

HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Brian Carter
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Jarrod Calkin
Cr Fi Dalgety

In attendance

Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive
Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy and Planning
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services (Zoom)
Ms Adina Foley, Group Manager-Capital Projects
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome / Prayer

His Worship the Mayor read the Council prayer and opened the meeting at 9.30am.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/115

Apologies received from Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa and Cr Coral Raukawa.

Cr B Carter / Cr D Wilson. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Loudon declared a conflict of interest regarding submission from Felicity Wallace / Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei (IROMAR).

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Reports for Decision

6.1 Hearing of Submissions on Annual Plan, Draft Community Spatial Plan and Simultaneous Consultation

This report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/116

That the report 'Hearing of Submissions on Annual Plan, Draft Community Spatial Plan and Simultaneous Consultation' be received.

Cr J Calkin/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/117

That the Council hears oral submissions on the:

- draft Community Spatial Plan
- Annual Plan Consultation Document (Framing 2023/24)
- Proposed schedule of Fees and Charges for 2023/24
- Proposed Amendment to Revenue and Financing Policy.

Cr R Lambert/Cr B Carter. Carried

Taihape – 11 May 2023

Steve Cross- Submissions AP 099 and AP 202

- Vray Sound and Light Design
- Town Hall Subcommittee

Mr Cross works in audio and lighting and provides this for shows, funerals, and ballets in the Taihape town hall.

Mr Cross presented a video of the Taihape Drama Club and the production from Mamma Mia.

Mr Cross confirmed he wants a voice on the planning and advocated that Council does not compromise on the floor planning and that Council should increase heating in the town hall

Mr Cross acknowledged that acoustics in the townhall currently are challenging but equipment these days are helpful.

Sarah Bell- Submission AP 190

- Taihape Tennis and Netball

Ms Bell talked about how two years ago Council granted \$100,000 for upgrades to the tennis courts and the opportunity to resurface the courts became available, which will happen first thing next summer costing \$40,000 with a further \$10,000 towards nets.

Ms Bell confirmed the club has gone from 100 people to 125 in two years and continue growing as a club.

Ms Bell sated that the proposal is to use \$50,000 for tennis from previous LTP funding, the tennis club would contribute \$10,000 from own funds and the netball club contribute \$8,000 from their own funds. The request is for the remaining \$48,300 to be provided by Council.

Ms Bell stated that the group are going out for other quotes.

Ms Bell confirmed no other funders have been approached at this stage and that tennis resolved to become incorporated again at its last meeting.

Ken Bellamy – Submission SP 122

Mr Bellamy spoke of the grandstand and stated that 640 people opposed the amenities building and wanted to restore the grandstand. Mr Bellamy advocated that Council should do work on the grandstand.

Mr Bellamy said his background was as a builder and a developer and has looked at the earthquake strengthening report. Mr Bellamy advocated for Council to replace earthquake problems areas.

Mr Bellamy proposed a block of land from the town hall down to Tui Street creating a new land block. Mr Bellamy wants a green belt through this such as a park which people can sit in and a play area and exercise area. He is proposing behind the area a mixed housing division.

Mr Bellamy confirmed that his suggestion for the Taihape Town Hall includes taking down the façade if it is a problem area.

Mr Bellamy stated that there is a need for more dressing areas in the grandstand.

Mr Bellamy suggested that investments and ventures could be established between Council and private investors to support Tui Street development.

Philippa Williams – Submission AP 179

- Fairburn Holdings Limited

Ms Williams is located on the Manawatū side of the river across the Otara bridge. There are economic issues for farmers as they are unable to get anything over the bridge and alternative roading routes are long and unreliable. Farming operations and staffing issues are also a problem as there is a 1 hour to trip to Fielding when the bridge is closed but 20 mins to Hunterville and 30 mins to Taihape when the bridge is operating.

Ms Williams stated that Rangitikei district is where he uses the services and businesses not in the Manawatū district. Ms Williams also stated that this impacts schooling for kids as it creates delays.

There have been different weights mentioned such as forty tonnes or forty-four tonnes. The bridge needs to be able to have a full sheep trailer/ truck to cross to support farming operations.

Ms Williams has not been to Manawatu District Council but will, as this is an issue that needs to be a priority for both councils. Ms Williams requested more information on why the bridge is compromised and the weight limit for the bridge.

Bryan Rendle and Elizabeth Russell- Submission AP 229

Mr Rendle presented on this submission.

Mr Rendle supported option one for the Taihape Townhall stating that something needs to happen but advocated against what happened with Bulls and Te Matapihi, stating there were significant costs and overruns. He acknowledged that there was a change of CE during the process and there was a report afterwards around project management.

Mr Rendle was against the proposed Marton Civic Centre as there is no hall in the building. He acknowledged that Council needs something for facilities but advocated that staff find cheaper alternatives as ratepayers cannot afford that level of debt. Mr Rendle also noted that there has not been a business case presented to justify these costs.

Mr Rendle stated that there is confusion of weight limits for Otara bridge, for example on Council's website it seems to be different from what other people are saying.

Mr Rendle stated that both Manawatū District Council and Rangitikei District Council have let their communities down with the bridge, for example it took 6 years to get a sign on the bridge for one

vehicle at a time. This was a recommendation following a report in 2017 from GHD engineers. Mr Rendle recommended elected members to read the GHD 2017 report.

Mr Rendle acknowledged that working with two Council has its difficulties but commented that the hangers that are meant to be getting tested are still there on the bridge. There were meant to be biannual bridge inspections and every six years a comprehensive inspection.

Angela McIntyre Submission AP 235

- McDunhaven Deer Park

Elizabeth Russell spoke on behalf of Angie McIntyre.

The McIntyres are large scale farmers in the Manawatū district advocating that Council prioritise spending on the Otara bridge and that the weight capacity be returned to previous standards.

The McIntyres do not support the infrastructure spend for Taihape or Marton civic centres.

Otara bridge is relied on for school bus routes, visitors and tourists and is significant for the famers. The McIntyres rely on services from the Rangitikei but stated that they are now looking at Manawatū district to access these.

Ms Russell gave the example of trucks taking deer to Rotorua stating that it took an hour and a half longer which causes animal welfares concerns. Having to take a different route adds extra costs and impacts the abilities for ambulance and fire trucks to access properties leaving people vulnerable.

Ms Russell stated that the Otara Road detours when state highway has crashes, should have maintenance triggers.

Otara bridge is the only swing bridge in the district and is vulnerable if taken out by an extreme weather event.

Ms Russell also acknowledged that there were concerns about car races impacting the deer's welfare, questioning whether Council should support these types of events.

Renee Russell Submission AP 256 and SP 105

Annual Plan Comments

Ms Russell advocated that the Otara bridge weight limit of six tonnes, for trucks and trailers needs to be fixed. She stated her concerns that 2018 was the last fix and whether we would be asking for the same support in five years' time.

Spatial Plan

Ms Russell stated that she agrees with Gina Parkes views on Ōhingaiti and that this is a great little village, but a small percentage let the whole place down with antisocial behaviour.

Ms Russell stated that cemetery needs to be looked after more by Council.

Ms Russell commented on the vision for Ōhingaiti and that the current state is not green and not safe. Ms Russell described an increasing number of slums and stated that there is a goal to build a better future, however Council should support the community and crack down on tiny houses.

Ms Russell has investigated further into funding and has spoken to Cr Duncan regarding the community initiatives fund for the 2022 centurion of the centaur would create opportunities to use the town hall more.

Ms Russell is advocating for a right-hand turning bay on state highway 1 turning on to Otara Road and that Council should advocate on behalf of the community to Waka Kotahi. People in the community currently, when travelling north on state highway 1 pull to the left or other people sit in the middle. Otara road hosts cross country, white cliff boulders and multiple events.

Ms Russell stated that the bridge should be at the previous weight limit, but Council should look into future proofing the bridge.

Gina Parkes Submission SP 102

- Ōhingaiti Farm Cottage

Ms Parkes owns a successful farm cottage business. Ōhingaiti is taking a backward step with antisocial behaviour, such as rubbish on the road and burnt-out cars. Ms Parkes understands some of this is happening on private land but indicated that the land in front of the shed is Council land. Ms Parkes questioned if there was the option of planting it up.

Ms Parkes described issues impacting the community such as unlicensed dogs and the incidents involving the armed defenders the week before. Ms Parkes has spoken to police, and they have told her that Ōhingaiti uses too many police resources.

Ms Parkes outlined the impact that tiny homes are having on residents and the area, such as toilets in paddocks. Ms Parkes would like to see Council investigate the powers Council could utilise to have tiny homes brought up to housing standards.

Ms Parkes responded to questions that there are squatters and there are private landowners with properties not big enough for their own septic's.

Shirley Russell and James Russell Submissions SP 103 and AP 104

Both Mr and Mrs Russell have lived on both sides of the river and have an interest in both districts.

James Russell:

Mr Russell stated that when the bridge closed in 1961 and 1962 it influenced him as a kid as they were not able to go anywhere for two years. And now that schools have been closing, there will be no schools for the kids if the bridge closed.

In Ōhingaiti, there is a small minority who ruin the place for others. Mr Russell stated he was concerned regarding the rubbish in the area and that this should be taken away.

Mr Russell advocated that there should be beautification of Council land, but it should not be done to hide what is there, but that it should be removed, for example the old burnt down engineering shop.

Shirley Russell:

Mrs Russell stated that the bridge is stressful for the families on the Manawatū side and that there is extra planning involved for farmers on getting stock moved and what trucking companies will come out to the farms.

Jan Byford Submissions AP 122

Ms Byford is on the Taihape Heritage Trust subcommittee.

This is a 110-year-old building in sparsely populated area however there is population growth, state highway traffic and successful performances, such as the ballet in the Taihape Town Hall. Mr Russell advocated that there should be beautification of Council land, but it should not be done to hide what is there, but that it should be removed, for example the old burnt down engineering shop.

Ms Byford advocated that there be upgrades for the hall such as power, heating and lighting, earthquake strengthening and top IT facilities.

Ms Byford is happy with the layout but wants to enhance the building, she also stated that people in the community can help support this.

Moira Raukawa-Haskell Submission SP 126

Chairperson for Opaea - Ms Moira Raukawa- Haskell.

Ms Raukawa-Haskell stated that Opaea are the mana whenua of the township of Taihape, and they are unhappy that they are not included in the spatial plan.

Ms Raukawa-Haskell stated that when buildings within the township of Taihape, that Council should involve iwi and that Council should inform early and at the beginning of the project.

Colin Baird Submission SP 164

Mr Baird congratulated Council and Ms Gray on the spatial plan.

Mr Baird spoke about Taihape growth areas for development and the need to look outside of the town boundaries. Mr Baird spoke of the importance that expansion of housing which will go hand in hand with growth of businesses.

Mr Baird lives on Jones Road which has been identified as suitable for residential in the spatial plan. Mr Baird has spoken to developers regarding development of his property who have suggested between 17-18 houses could be built. Mr Baird encourages Council to work on the roading, sewage, and consents and indicates that traffic noise is a problem in the area.

Mr Baird asked Council to approach Waka Kotahi about the turn off on the state highway onto Jones Road as this is an unsafe turn and advocated for the pedestrian crossing in the main street to be moved further down the road or have a raised island crossing instead.

Mr Baird suggested a tree top walk to attract Taihape as a destination to.

Mr Baird is not asking Council to purchase the land but a possibility to sell that land to a developer if there was a developed plan in place. Mr Baird is aware that the infrastructure agreement is with the submitter and the developer.

Peter Kipling Submission AP 021, AP 141, and SP 133

- Taihape Community Board

Annual Plan

Mr Kipling stated that it was interesting hearing from others and stated that the Taihape community board have tried to go to all community engagements.

Mr Kipling spoke that he wants to use what we have and build on resources and therefore supports option one for Taihape Town Hall. Mr Kipling spoke of the number of tourists who photograph the town hall and that it is in the town centre. However, problems exist such as heating and sound and advocated that Council should have input from the users to make it fit for purpose.

Mr Kipling is supportive of the pathway but also suggest that it does set a precedent for other pathways if Council were to fund it.

Mr Kipling spoke about the proposed reduction in community funding and his concerns that this will remove the motivation created through seed funding which this provides for groups.

Spatial Plan

Mr Kipling spoke about needing more land for housing as there is little flat land in the area and how this might require planning or regulation changings, for example the impact from the slip zone. Mr Kipling advocated that Council should be able to allow residents to subdivide.

Mr Kipling also spoke on the pressures on businesses in Taihape to attract staff.

Mr Kipling advocated that Council investigate recycling in the next LTP as residents want to recycle but current options can be a long drive for residents and is limited to open hours.

Mr Kipling told Council he had received feedback in relation to the slip zone from people in Taihape questioning if it is not actually slipping, then why can't they do something with that land.

Cr Wong read submission 024 AP Submission Max Shierlaw Tabled document

The meeting adjourned at 12.03pm in Taihape and resumed in Marton at 2.02pm.

Marton – 11 May 2023**Helen Campbell and Lesley Carter – Submission AP183**

- Nga Tawa Diocesan School

Lesley Carter is the principal and Helen Campbell is the school bursar for Nga Tawa school. Ms Carter said the school is excited for consideration of the pathway since they believe they are a part of the Marton community and want students to be able to access town safely and access as much of the resources as possible.

Ms Carter spoke of the increased concern of the safety on the road and how it would benefit students to walk to town as it will improve physical exercise and allow use of the swimming pool. Ms Carter also noted that the Marton community are using the walkway and would be a benefit for the entire community.

Ms Carter responded to questions indicating the school is unable to contribute to the cost and believes that the school contributes sufficiently to the community, even if it is not visible.

Ms Carter answered that on a weekend about eighty plus students walk to town, and 20-25 of swimming squad use the swimming pool.

Ms Carter stated it would be best for a path that clearly separates students from the road as this is the most important function.

Ms Carter said that no parent has written in requesting the pathway but did say incidents occur every week outside the school, however not necessarily pedestrian.

Ms Carter stated that changing the speed limit would be advantageous.

Mr Shane Casey- Submission AP 197

- Youth line Palmerston North

Mr Casey, the CEO of Central North Island Youth Line has requested funding for youth services in the Taihape area. Taihape Area School is delighted to extend and support a consistent presence of youth workers who have identified resources for whanau support in relation to drugs and alcohol abuse.

Currently, three workers visit Taihape every Friday and the Taihape lobby on Thursday afternoons. A financial commitment is needed to increase services, and the submission proposes a funding figure of \$19,000 for six months of services. This amount includes travel costs for the two staff members.

Mr Casey noted that Youth Line operates on a not-for-profit basis, offering services at cost through third parties on Fridays. There is currently no central government funding to youth line. Youth line will be able to provide reports to Council on any updates.

Youth line has visited the high school in Marton, but services have been cancelled prior to visiting however, the request for Taihape is an extension of services. Mr Casey said that he is unaware of any counsellor at Taihape school.

Bell Coll-Submission AP 197

Tabled maps received.

The two maps showed two circles, one is of Mr Colls property and the second is an early childhood centre. The proposal is that 620 meters of Henderson line and Pukepapa road be set to 50km.

Mr Coll noted that 12-13 houses have been built since the speed limit had been set to 70km.

Mr Coll has spoken to majority of people in the area, and they are in agreeance that there needs to be a decrease in the speed limit.

Councillors suggested a petition with those names should come to Council.

David Stuteley Submission AP 052

Tabled document received.

Mr Stuteley stated that there is an inequitable rate rises on farmers, general ratepayers, and rateable properties.

Mr Stuteley lives in Whangaehu with the river on our boundary with seven consecutive titles. His rates bill is \$14,362 household which is higher than the average rates in Marton Mr Stuteley stated that he receives no services for his rate bills and must pay for services himself.

Mr Stuteley stated that rates should not be taken from one group to another, those who use them should be the ones who pay.

Mr Stuteley gave the view that the proposals on the civic centre Taihape and Marton are excessively expensive and therefore is against this. Mr Stuteley stated that every Council could bankrupt themselves if they were fixing every earthquake prone building.

Mr Stuteley commented that rural roading should be paid by those who are living on them.

Mr Stuteley responded to questions that he is not against the civic centre projects ever happening, but is not agreeable to the timing and to who is paying for these projects.

Peter Matich Submission AP 108

- Federated Farmers

Peter Matich, Tim Matthews, and Ian Strawn presented.

This submission is on behalf of members on consultation

Federated farmers recommends that there should be a cap on the rate increase at the rate of inflation and that Council should be seeking four times forestry differential for land classified as

exotic. Wairoa District Council has been successful in introducing a forestry differential, and this has been to the high court.

The global economy has not nosedived yet, but we do not believe in discretionary projects that are not essential and therefore should wait to be done.

Mr Strawn stated that global economy has not nosedived yet, but they do not believe in discretionary projects that are not essential and therefore should wait to be done.

Mr Matich spoke of the logging operations and the increases on the use of the road and advocated that there needs to be a fair reflection of the use on the roads. Federate farmers also noted how is the forestry differential enforceable, for example if a residential property did not pay rates, then the property would be sold to pay for this however what is the process on forestry.

Tim Matthews Submission AP 254

Mr Matthews explained this is a personal submission and does not necessarily reflect the views of Federated Farmers.

Mr Matthews wants a delay on Marton and Taihape civic centres and the pathway along calico line.

Mr Matthews spoke of the roading service contract and stated he has observed a decline on actively managing what is happening on the roads. Mr Matthews advocated that the CE investigate the efficiency of services by the contractor.

Mr Matthews spoke of carbon forestry being a huge issue for neighbouring councils and the Rangitikei and suggested this will become a liability for the district in the future if Council does not address this. Mr Matthews requested Council look at rating this as part of the next LTP.

Mr Matthews questioned the role of Council if three waters were transitioned and what services would be provided once this is transitioned.

Mr Matthews noted that the spatial plan needs to consider the ability to travel safely on the roads.

John Vickers- Submission AP 166 and SP 109

Mr Vickers is on the Whanganui Regional Trust as the Rangitikei representative. Mr Vickers spoke about Marton having significant assets, but they do pose problems for example the proposed site of Marton civic centre being situated in a flood zone.

Mr Vickers is concerned about roads as they are vital for national network and critical to residents,

Mr Vickers stated that the civic centres are ambitious projects but requested that Council learn from cyclone Gabrielle, if you do not have good infrastructure then you have not got much at all.

Mr Vickers advocated for Taihape town civic centre should be in the Grandstand as this has a future and makes buildings more useful.

Mr Vickers encouraged Councillors to consider that the building on the corner of high street Marton should be privately owned or leased.

Helen Craig Submission AP 247

- Chair of Whanganui Regional Heritage Trust

Ms Craig stated that Whanganui has invested in their town and the Rangitikei can be the same.

Ms Craig spoke about how towns or provincial places with heritage buildings, walkways and parks, that show how New Zealand used to be can develop into “cool” attractions with wide appeal.

Ms Craig endorsed the need to enhance and keep what the Rangitikei has, and that Council must get behind it with bold decisions to strengthen buildings. Ms Craig used Whanganui as an example and explained that there is a low socio-economic base of ratepayers, and that Council could have said it cannot afford to act. Ms Craig stated that it is unlikely a private investor will do the work to strengthen heritage buildings without an incentive.

Ms Craig commented that heritage buildings are unique and one of a kind in New Zealand. They add value overall and saving these buildings will decrease the amount of building waste going to landfill which also lowers the carbon footprint to do them up.

Heritage Trust, a not for profit in Whanganui started to run heritage month, however the trust has not invested in buildings instead have celebrated it and reward people. Mrs Craig suggested that Council creates messaging around what is great about heritage buildings in the Rangitikei.

Belinda Harvey Larsen Submission AP 208

Tabled document provided to Councillors.

Ms Harvey-Larsen referenced her submission regarding the Marton civic centre.

Ms Harvey Larsen provided tabled documents in relation to dog poo bins. She explained how in 2018/19 a resolution for the Sir James Wilson Park was passed to purchase and install the poo bins.

Ms Harvey-Larsen requested that the memorial carpark and memorial hall are water blasted and planting of gardens increased.

Ms Harvey Larsen spoke of calico line and advocated for a quick fix using a crash wire and use of reflector poles. She also advocated for the use of tactile indicators to warn sight impaired and those on walking frames and those using mobility scooters.

Ms Harvey Larsen confirmed that her information on Nga Tawa school came from the school's website and is current at the date of writing.

Ms Harvey Larsen stated that she prefers the option to wait and apply for funding, however, there do need to be more pedestrian crossings. Ms Harvey-Larsen spoke of the two children hit outside Marton Junction 2019 on Wellington Road and suggested this should be prioritised over calico line.

Dean Raymond- Submission AP 116

- Heritage New Zealand

Mr Raymond spoke regarding the Marton civic centre and the advantages and disadvantages of this. He noted that there are risk levels involved under the district plan and the ability to get a resource consent. Mr Raymond stated Heritage New Zealand would oppose the demolition but would collaborate with Council on keeping the façade. There may still be opposition from other groups but working alongside Heritage New Zealand would reduce the risk.

Mr Raymond spoke of the benefits of retention of the category two heritage and that local landmarks should be retained, with the reuse of buildings and providing modern fit for purpose utilities. Mr Raymond also noted that it is important to reflect on the environmental cost of demolition waste

Mr Raymond stated that the availability of funding is only for private owners and not available for councils however Heritage New Zealand can provide letters of support if Council want to apply for grant funding.

Mr Raymond also noted that Heritage NZ would be submitting to the Manawatū District Council on the Mangaweka bridge as part of the district plan process.

Jo Anson- Submission AP 188 and SP 040

Ms Anson congratulated Council on its spatial plan and that it reflected community views.

Ms Anson proposed a reserve management plan which would work with Rangitikei District Council, Horizons Regional Council and Ngāti Apa. Ms Anson requested \$5,000 annually from Council and Horizons Regional Council and this would enable pest and reserve management.

Ms Anson spoke of the completion to of upgrades to the campgrounds and that the facilities are now top notch and users are complimentary. Ms Anson indicated that there is a proposal to increase non-powered sites adjacent to the playground to make it more accessible to people.

Ms Anson requested in the spatial plan a change to enhancements of the campground.

Ms Anson requested that the Koitiata domain be an open space to reflect the recommendation.

Ms Anson requested Council advocate to Horizons for flooding and surface water issues that have developed further than just the lagoon.

Ms Anson reflected on climate resilience and stating that FENZ don't do training on flood management as it comes under civil defence. Ms Anson has worked on the community response plans with Mr Chaffe, and requested appropriate training is needed with residents. Ms Anson also noted a lack of suction hoses in the event of a flood.

Ms Anson summarized her submission stating she wants a rezoning of the domain, development of a reserve management plan and improvements to the non-powered campsite.

Ms Anson suggested that the \$5,000 would be funded by general rate as it is identified as an endangered area in the region and therefore this is of regional interest.

Neville Palmer Submission – SP 041

Oral submission withdrawn.

Felicity Wallace Submission AP 209 and SP 177

- Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei

Spatial Plan

Ms Wallace stated she is the partner of Cr Loudon and can confirmed he has not taken part in either submission.

Ms Wallace is the chairperson of IROMAR. Ms Wallace advocated for a plan showing more than a flat map, instead showing the mountain, countryside, marae as well as having the environmental qualities clearly identified such as the topology and soils.

Ms Wallace said Council need to actively plan for climate change and there needs to be places of refuge.

Ms Wallace spoke about new housing and advocated for Council to speak to landscape designers and urban designers. Ms Wallace also noted that if Council are driving growth there should be consideration of how are people getting to places and how are they connected, driving, walking.

Annual Plan

Ms Wallace stated support for option one for Taihape Civic Centre and calico line. However, is in opposition of Marton civic centre and the increase in rates and debt levels associated with this.

Ms Wallace encouraged Council to contact a landscape architect to look at staff buildings. Replacement of the buildings is too expensive and therefore suggest Council remain in the current site and sell the proposed site on the corner.

John Whittaker Submission AP 121 and SP 077

Mr Whittaker supports the flexibility with sections to subdivide properties stating this would be cheaper for Council to utilize services in the road that are already there while increasing the number of sections. Mr Whittaker noted there seems to be more tiny homes and self-contained and questioned if they need to have services on the boundary. Mr Whittaker is not aware of any minimum section currently.

Mr Whittaker requested Council increase the number of community houses provided for pensioner housing or for Council to advocate for more housing. Mr Whittaker noted organisations like the Marton food pantry who serve residents are struggling to supply food and get donations.

Cr Wong and Cr Duncan left the meeting at 4.52pm.

Carolyn Bates Submission AP 214 and SP 079

- Marton Community Committee with Annie McDowell.

Annual Plan

Ms McDowell stated that everybody has a different perception in the community.

Ms McDowell spoke of the financial distress on families and members of our communities.

Ms McDowell advocated for the water to be fixed in Marton and stated concern about recycling especially those buying water and not recycling plastic bottles.

Ms McDowell requested back to basics and gave the example of recycling as not everyone can afford to drive to the dump to recycle.

Ms McDowell questioned if there were other options for the Marton Civic Centre.

Ms McDowell questioned how much of the community would use the walkway and why Nga Tawa school were being prioritised.

Spatial Plan

Ms McDowell spoke of the concerns of businesses meeting the needs of the community and enabling businesses to thrive.

Ms McDowell spoke of inclusive consultation and that it should take as long as it takes, suggesting 10 minutes is not long enough to speak. The annual plan consultation document Ms McDowell picked up from the library was 2 years old.

Ms McDowell questioned if businesses provided opportunities that are accessible or relevant to residents in Marton especially with eight hundred houses being built.

Marton Community Committee members have attended meetings for spatial plan and annual plan.

Ms Bates responded that being a leader does not mean being on Broadway or the main street of Marton.

Carolyn Bates Submission AP 215 and SP 78

Ms Bates provided a tabled document.

Ms Bates spoke of carparking and the challenges of this especially if the civic centre in Broadway and the concerns of being in a flood prone location. Ms Bates advocated that Council stay on its current site.

Ms Bates states that it is a good idea to install the Calico Line pathway and raised concerns about other footpaths. Ms Bates requested Council make sure existing streets in town have at least one sealed surface – giving the example that Canteen Street does not have a footpath.

Ms Bates spoke of a lack of detail of information on the website and consultation documents on AP and LTP and noted that the documents available were year 2 of the annual plan.

Ms Bates spoke of funding opportunities available advertised by Council and questioned why there is no mention of community committees.

Ms Bates questioned consultation on the forestry differential and that this affects all people using the districts roads.

Ms Bates created signage for the public toilets so that users can report problems. This was distributed to Councillors.

The Meeting adjourned at 5.23pm on 11 May 2023

12 May 2023 – Marton

His Worship the Mayor read the Council prayer and resumed the meeting at 9.31am on 12 May 2023.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/118

Apologies received from Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa, Cr Raukawa and Cr Calkin.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

His Worship the Mayor notified elected members of remits coming to Council after the zone 3 meeting.

Manawatū District Council is submitting a remit that LGNZ investigate help Council and communities with earthquake prone buildings with priority areas. Rangitikei District Council does not have priority areas.

Horowhenua District Council is submitting that the rates rebate scheme is out of date. His Worship the Mayor will send further information to elected members on this.

Timaru District Council to request an exemption of the waste levy from waste at closed landfills.

New Plymouth District Council remit about road transport funding to increase crown funding of state highways.

His Worship will supply further information to elected members and responses to him by Monday.

Marton (Friday – 12 May 2023)**Bain Simpson- Submission SP 086**

Mr Simpson suggested a one-way street along Broadway in Marton- he will provide a sketch of this to staff.

Rangitikei Development support the Marton Rail Hub and the long-term benefits this will bring for Marton.

Mr Simpson spoke of the demand for housing in the area and that more land is required for development in Marton.

Mr Simpson suggested that MAR02 with MAR207 be identified as high suitability dependent on willing landowners, and indicated that based on his enquiries, MAR04 is owned by iwi and there is a low chance of doing anything with this.

Mr Simpson stated that the rest of the current residential is in a flood zone or has contaminated soils and therefore is not worth developing or is not suitable. Mr Simpson also noted concerns with stormwater management.

Rangitikei development has provided flooding maps to Horizons. RDL private plan change as they will be out of land to develop in 12 months. This comes at a significant cost to RDL. RDL increase the rating pool rather than rate increases.

Mr Simpson is in support of the spatial plan.

Emma Uncles Submission SP 003

Withdrawn oral submission.

Jo Rangooni Submission SP 001

Ms Rangooni spoke on the Bulls summary for the spatial plan advocating that Council needs to attract the 24–35-year-old age group to the area and increase the range of housing. Housing is close together and this will require more car parks. She also advocated for more signage for cars to slow down in the Bulls area.

Ms Rangooni spoke positively of visits to Te Matapihi for the toilets and the building and the EV charging available.

Ms Rangooni stated that the security of water for Bulls is paramount, and that residents rely on Council to make good decisions for them, so it is important for Council to understand water and consents.

Ms Rangooni stated that Council should carefully consider rate increases.

Ms Rangooni encouraged Council to attract all types of diversity to the town as it enriches people's lives, suggesting that Rangitikei can be a conservative district.

Ms Rangooni clarified that her written submission on relationship building, and Te Matapihi staff are separate ideas.

Lynette Baish Submission SP 004 and SP 071

Ms Baish owns a category two listed farmhouse and believes that any changes made to the property should be done right and with transparency, considering they are a public good.

The discussion also touched upon parks and places throughout the district highlighting the importance of heritage buildings.

Ms Baish is concerned about costs and anticipated overruns, suggesting that the risks associated with these options may be higher than perceived, despite Council categorizing it as low to moderate risk in the consultation document.

Ms Baish emphasized the need for more investment in the town centres, as well as addressing issues such as water running through the electrics in the proposed building site. Heritage has played a significant role in regeneration and development efforts, particularly in neighbourhood renewal. Ms Baish emphasized that the Council should appreciate the value of these heritage buildings and the concept of heritage.

Regarding the Marton civic centre, Ms Baish expressed support for option two but requested more information on the associated risks and cost structures. She also sought clarification on what exactly would be going and what would be staying as part of the proposed changes.

Ms Baish advocated for equal investment across towns, stating that Taihape is also a boutique town deserving attention.

Heather Thorby Submission SP 018

- Santoft Domain Management Committee

Tabled document supplied to Councillors.

Mr Geurtjens the project manager for the domain could not be here this morning, three of the committee members and three from the incorporated society for the domain are present.

Ms Thorby spoke of the reduction in community funding and her concerns that funding such as the parks upgrade fund would not be available when the committee came to apply.

Ms Thorby spoke of the Council produced open parks strategy and the lack of consultation with the committee even when they requested to be involved. Ms Thorby called the thrive consultant and stated that they had received out of date information on the domain.

Ms Thorby spoke of recreational assets being prioritised in urban areas and a loss of recreational space in the lower rural Rangitikei.

Mrs Patricia Pearce- Submission SP 087 (and Mr Timothy Pearce)

Mrs Pearce displayed a map, showing an area of approximately forty hectares which she owned in MAR01.

Mrs Pearce highlighted that land use, and the rating process are two distinct aspects. They expressed a desire for a change in the rating system but acknowledged that this would need to be addressed during the LTP discussions.

Overall, Mrs Pearce expressed support for the spatial plan and commented that while the current zoning is described as “moderate residential” her suggestion is to be more creative in land use, enabling the development of small lifestyle blocks to maximise productivity.

Robert Snijders Submissions AP 210 and SP 073

Annual Plan

Mr Snijders noted that public consultations often suffer from poor attendance, indicating a lack of engagement with the community, stating that nobody attended the engagement he went to.

Mr Snijders voiced concerns with the Council building the civic centre on Broadway in Marton as it is known to flood.

Mr Snijders noted the library costs including books and magazine replacement are expensive especially with no charge for late returns, he encourages Council to compare this with other Councils.

Mr Snijders commented on Council turning away early contractors for the Taihape town hall and the impact of closed Council workshops.

Mr Snijders described ongoing issues concerning the Bulls town hall and its associated costs, including operational expenses, and building maintenance.

Mr Snijders questioned Council consulting on the Calico line pathway if no accidents had occurred. He was concerned that funding for such projects might overshadow more pressing needs, such as extending the hours of operation for swimming pools.

Spatial Plan

Mr Snijders advocated for a more comprehensive picture for the spatial plan such as geographical features, proposed new roads and current footpath.

Mr Snijders compared the spatial plan to other Councils and recommended the version from Kaipara district Council.

Mr Snijders recommended more information on the three water bores and the taps to the dams. He voiced concern if there was an impact on the water bores this will impact on water supply to Marton.

John Ransom- Submission SP 120

Mr Ransom stated he is a long-term resident of Scott's ferry and wishes to speak on the inadequacy of Scott's ferry stormwater. He explained that drainage is through two drains out to the Rangitikei River. The flaps on the drain stop back flow which causes surface flooding. Mr Ransom stated that a pump on Amon drain would help if the road is flooded.

Mr Ransom indicated that flooding has been occurring several times a year and some sections can be quite deep for his whole life- 74 years.

Bruce Potaka- Submission SP

- Nga Puna Rau O Rangitikei

Oral submission withdrawn.

Bruce Dear-Submission SP16

Council received tabled documents.

Mr Dear advocated for Haylock Park to be developed into a play and sports area with neighbouring development working in tandem.

Mr Dear stated the soccer club has been playing at Clifton school, but it is not very well maintained or practical. Mr Dear is on the Bulls Community Committee who have had discussions on the park but will not be bringing the park on as the committees responsibility.

Mr Dear has not spoken to developers.

Mr Dear responded to questions that the development of the housing has changed the demand for Haylock versus the domain.

Gretta Mills- Submission AP 219, Fees and Charges, and Revenue and Financing Policy*AP and Fees and Charges*

Ms Mills spoke of consultation documents and how large the LTP is for the average person. She questioned how many residents have the internet and stated that there is lack of hardcopies at the library and information centres. Ms Mills stated that she was only able to get the Marton spatial plan documents in Marton rather than an overview of the district, as well as a consultation document from last year. Ms Mills spoke of Council highlighting what we think and providing tick options with choices already narrowed down.

Ms Mills spoke of the average income in Marton and the impacts of costs.

Ms Mills requested Council learn from the Horowhenua consultation document showing key differences between the options listed and the rating changes. Horowhenua have monthly newsletters and they have a cup of tea with a Councillor across the district.

When queried if she had been able to attend the engagement sessions organised by Council, Ms Mills confirmed she did not attend but did read the documents.

Ms Mills also pointed out the differences between the draft revenue and financing policy and previous policy.

Meeting took a break at 11.47am.

Cr Wong and Cr Duncan left the meeting at 11.47am.

Emily Levenson Submission SP 107-via zoom

Ms Levenson explained the growth opportunity provided by, especially considering the warmer weather that can accommodate suitable crops. In Ms Levenson indicated it is important to persevere the land for primary agricultural purposes and consider it as a space for developing horticulture, positioning Bulls as a hub for the horticulture sector.

Ms Levenson will get back to Council on specific information regarding the minimum section size suitable for horticulture, but suggested an orchard spanning 1-2 hectares is economically viable.

Councillors questioned if Council would be able to use this submission to support advocacy to Waka Kotahi around rural roads which Ms Levenson agreed to.

Ms Levenson stated there are fifteen growers in the district and supports Council reaching out to Horticulture New Zealand.

Kent Atkinson- Submission SP 090

Oral submission withdrawn

7 Meeting Closed

The meeting closed at 12.10pm on Friday, 12 May.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 01 June 2023.

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Chairperson