

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 15 May 2025
Time: 9.30am
Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

**Kokako Street Hall
Taihape**

Present

HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Brian Carter
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa (Zoom)
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Paul Sharland

In attendance

Mrs Carol Gordon, Chief Executive
Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
Ms Katrina Gray, Group Manager – Strategy, Community and Democracy
Ms Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager – Corporate Services
Ms Janna Isles, Corporate Planner
Ms Gaylene Prince, Northern Area and Property Manager

Order of Business

1 Welcome / Prayer 3

2 Apologies 3

3 Conflict of Interest Declarations..... 3

4 Reports for Information..... 3

 4.1 Hearing of Submissions on the Annual Plan 2025/26 & Co 3

Submitter name	Organisation	Summary of topic and context	Summary of key questions posted by Elected Members and responses
#21 Kate Williams	Rangitikei Branch of Forest and Bird	<p>Tabled presentation provided.</p> <p>Ms Williams highlighted the reserves in the district and the work being completed by the group for pest management.</p> <p>Ms Williams asked council to consider the carparking at McPhersons Reserve.</p>	<p>Cr Wilson: When was the \$46,000 pricing indicated to you and the form this was indicated in? Answer: Indicated earlier this year following an onsite conversation. There was an email received as well.</p> <p>Cr Maughan: Expected cars to be parking there. Answer: The weekend is unknown, but a working bee is 6-8 cars.</p> <p>Cr Carter: Sealed carpark on the side road and a crossing with a car park in the reserve Answer: Not consider but there are big trees in there.</p>
#13 Felicity Wallace and Sally Patrick	Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei	Ms Patrick advocated for transparency and communication from Council.	<p>HWTM: What can council do better for communication with the community? Answer: A plan of communication along with the Long-Term Plan and years 2 and 3 to understand what is available and important to have key information on the council website.</p> <p>Cr Raukawa: Seen an example that you would like from other councils. Answer: Whanganui was pretty good in terms of the type of engagement.</p>
#11 Charlotte Oswald	Taihape Playground Group	Ms Oswald asked for funding of \$67,249 for the Taihape Playground Group to pay for a sheltered barbeque area.	<p>Cr Wilson: What other funding has been applied for? Answer: Going for funding we really needed a plan, only just got the playground plans back and the next phase is the application for funding. Previously funding from council was \$50,000 in 2021.</p>

			<p>Cr Hiroa: Time it takes to get things together, the money has been spent so far. Answer: The funding from council has not been received yet and has not been spent.</p> <p>Cr Raukawa: How long do you seeing this playground being around for and future demographics? Answer: This is a playground for the whole community and there will always be children in our community. Multigenerational for younger and older children</p> <p>Cr Maughan: \$800,000 fundraising how is that going? Answer: To date raised \$60,000 from small fundraiser. There is more funding that come through and then majority from grants.</p> <p>HWTM: Would it be useful for staff and councillors to meet with your group to fully understand this process? Answer: Yes, we've met with Pio, and she was our connection to council. Currently good but should meet with the parks and reserves team to make sure this works.</p> <p>Cr Lambert: The \$67,000 was part of \$800,000 project and if this was taken out separately could it be done cheaper. Answer: Potentially, quote from the playground we have looked at other quotes and groups. Hoping to bring this down.</p> <p>Cr Hiroa: Any other playgrounds used by the community in Taihape?</p>
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