



# Rangitikei District Council

## Finance and Performance Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 27 July 2017 – 9:30 AM

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The quorum for the Finance and Performance Committee is 5.

Council's Standing Orders (adopted 3 November 2016) 10.2 provide: The quorum for Council committees and sub-committees is as for Council, i.e. half the number of members if the number of members (including vacancies) is even or a majority if the number of members is odd.

**Present:** Cr Nigel Belsham  
Cr Cath Ash  
Cr David Wilson  
Cr Soraya Peke-Mason  
Cr Graeme Platt  
Cr Ruth Rainey  
Cr Lynne Sheridan  
His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

**Also Present:** Cr Jane Dunn  
Cr Angus Gordon

**In attendance:** Mr Ross McNeil, Chief Executive  
Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager  
Mr George McIrvine, Finance & Business Support Group Manager  
Ms Nardia Gower, Governance Administrator  
Ms Linda Holman, Governance Administrator

## 1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

## 2 Council Prayer

Cr Platt read the Council Prayer

Cr Sheridan arrived at 9:32

Cr Peke-Mason arrived at 9:40

## 3 Public Forum

### Community Initiatives Fund – Speakers

#### **Clifton School Kapahaka Group**

Danelle Whakatihi of Clifton School spoke to the application made for new Kapa Haka uniforms. Ms Whakatihi informed the Committee that the current uniforms are 11 years old and not fit for purpose for the growing participation in Kapa Haka. The group now consists of 65 participants. For a full Kapa Haka kit including but limited to pui pui, poi and taiaha will exceed \$20,000. Due to the multi iwi whakapapa of the various participants targeting single iwi to financially contribute has been difficult. The school, parents and friends are committed to fundraising and will continue to assist in the construction of uniforms when fitting to do so.

#### **Marton Community Garden – Bed Build II**

Nardia Gower of the Marton Community Garden spoke to their application. Ms Gower stated the high usage of both the garden and the Marton #foodisfree Wagon where harvested produce is given freely to and appreciated by the community. Positive statements from donators on the Give a Little Page were read. The current bank balance of the Marton Community Garden of only \$670 approximately, falls short of the funds needed to buy soil and timber to construct the remaining beds. The Committee queried the higher cost of soil in comparison the previous funding applications, and asked if a cheaper medium such as straw and manure would be more suited and cheaper. Ms Gower replied that the soil supplier had reached their limit of discounted soil for the project and was now charging full price. Spray free baleage and manure has been used and is still used when available but the sources have been drained by the previous bed builds. Further discussions between Committee members and Ms Gower highlighted the following

- The beds are a large size at 6 x 2 metres
- More beds are needed as the number of people who require a free source of produce is high. The Marton Community Committee has agreed at this stage that a donations box will not be situated on the wagon.
- Marton Community Garden works with other service providers such as Get'n'Give and the Opportunity Shop by sharing information about the garden's location, wagon and workshops requesting in turn they share that with their clients. At this stage all harvested produce is given away via the wagon.

**Project Marton – Festival for the Future Leaders Forum**

Cr Cath Ash spoke to the Project Marton application for the Future for the Festival Youth conference. Cr Ash highlighted that, although surrounding councils and others throughout New Zealand fund their youth to attend the annual conference, the Rangitikei District Council has never done so. Project Marton has been able to significantly reduce the cost to \$400 per youth which includes accommodation, the event and transport. Discussions between Committee members and Cr Ash highlighted the following:

- Funding applications as a group have been sought as raising funds for each individual youth would have been difficult particularly given the short time period between Project Marton being made aware of the conference and the event date.
- Although numbers of attending Rangitikei youth have fluctuated the per youth cost remains at \$400
- Parent/Caregiver contributions have made up approximately \$2000 of the required funds.

**Bulls & District Historical Society – Scotts Ferry Restoration**

Cr Jane Dunn spoke to the application for the Scotts Ferry restoration and offered to answer any questions the Committee may have. Discussions between Committee members and Ms Dunn highlighted the following:

- The advice received by Heritage New Zealand is that Scotts Ferry can retain its Heritage One status by using materials that are as close as like to like as possible.
- Like the last restoration this new project will utilise a large portion of in-kind community labour.
- Poor maintenance has been attributed to the lack of a committee set up following the previous restoration.
- The community is fundraising with the descendants of Thomas Scott contributing.

**Events Sponsorship Scheme- Speakers****Samoan Ministers' Association – four events**

Mr Farani Va'a spoke to the Samoan Ministers Association application for four events. Mr Va'a expressed the desire for the sports event to engage Samoan youth. Mr Va'a commented that all four events aim at building internal relations between the all Marton's Churches and the wider community.

Discussions between Committee members and Mr Va'a highlighted the following:

- The Samoan Ministers Association works with other non-Samoan Churches and with other community groups and organisations. The Samoan ministers work closely with other church ministers building the community as one.
- All the events are open to the wider community and districts
- The performance fee component of the application is to aid with purchasing performance uniforms
- No other funding has yet been applied for.

**Huntermville Huntaway Festival – 2017 Shemozzle**

Shane Ratima spoke to the application for the Huntermville Shemozzle. Mr Ratima informed the committee that this will be the 20 year anniversary of the event and for that reason the event organisers set about building their coffers from last year's event and are seeking

external funding to make this a memorable anniversary. The Shemozzle committee are increasing their expenses this year by \$20,000, increasing their participation numbers and upgrading the event. Mr Ratima stated that the event participation and buy-in stretches beyond the Rangitikei District as shown by current Shemozzle Committee members living in Feilding, Marton, and Whanganui along with Hunterville.

Discussions between Committee members and Mr Ratima highlighted the following:

- Various categories of sponsorship can allow for naming on radio advertising. The radio ads are set up to enable all qualified sponsors airtime.
- It would be logistically difficult to charge an entry fee to the Shemozzle due to the town's streets being incorporated into the event.
- The \$7000 expense for merchandise includes items such as shirts and hoodies in both adult and youth sizes, that will be sold and used for prizes.

#### **4 Apologies/Leave of Absence**

That the apologies for Cr McManaway be received

Cr Rainey / Cr Wilson. Carried

#### **5 Members' conflict of interest**

Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda. The Chair advised that Councillors declare their conflict of interest pertaining to any application at the time of discussion.

The Committee agreed that Cr Dunn was able to sit in on deliberations and take part in discussions (other than the application the Cr Dunn is associated with) but will have no voting rights.

#### **6 Confirmation of order of business**

The Chair noted the Order of business was unchanged.

#### **7 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>17/FPE/127</b>	<b>File Ref</b>
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That the Minutes of the Finance/Performance Committee meeting held on 29 June 2017 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Ash / Cr Wilson. Carried

#### **8 Chair's Report**

The Chair took his report as read.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/128**                      **File Ref**                      **3-CT-14-1**

That the Chair's Report to the Finance/Performance Committee meeting on 27 July 2017 be received.

Cr Belsham / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

## **9 Progress with strategic issues**

The Committee noted the progress outlined in the meeting. agenda.

## **10 Interim financial results for 2016/17**

Mr McIrvine narrated his presentation highlighting:

Re-evaluations completed

- Roding is down 8 million
- 3 Waters is up 15 million
- Council Buildings – up 1.827 million

Highlights

- 35.5 million of revenue
- Expenses currently 30.6 million
- Bank remains in good position
- Costs remain in check against budgets

\$5 million retained from working capital

Rates on LGFG better than banks

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/129**                      **File Ref**

That the interim financial results for the year ending 30 June 2017 be received.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Rainey. Carried

## **11 Consideration of applications to Community Initiatives Fund**

The Chief Executive spoke to the matter of Conflicts of Interest stating two components for consideration by the Committee:

- Pecuniary Interest
- Perception of bias by the public, for example a member of the Committee having connections to any of the applications.

The Committee discussed the potential perception of conflict and bias of interest towards all applications from any Committee member that has applied to either CIF or ESS funding application themselves, and whether that member should abstain from all discussions and voting.

In discussing the potential perception of bias the Committee agreed that, due to the Rangitikei District's size and population, Councillors are likely to have some association with one or more applications. Councillors are elected by the public on the understanding that they will make fair and just decisions. Committee members concluded that declaring a conflict of interest and abstaining from deliberation and voting from applications with which they have a direct involvement with the organisation and/or event, was an adequate course of action.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/130**                      **File Ref**

Where Elected Members have declared a Conflict of Interest in considering an application for grant funding, they will remove themselves from voting on that application.

Cr Belsham / Cr Wilson. Carried

The Committee discussed the ranking system used when considering funding applications versus the monetary value placed on the initiative or event, and agreed to remove the ranking system in future funding rounds, requesting corresponding guidance questions as a replacement.

Members questioned whether the ICT Hubs could be considered for core Council funding. They suggested promotion of Council support for each funded initiative/event on the Council website and Facebook page.

The Committee discussed the merits of each application. A granted total was decided for each application by each Committee member providing a figure they would be happy providing the applicant and an average was taken of these figures.

The following Councillors abstained from the following funding applications

- Cr Peke-Mason                      Ratana Playground
- Cr Ash                                      Festival for the Future and Marton Community Garden

Cr Peke-Mason noted that she had no conflict of interest with the Whangaehu Hall application.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/131**                      **File Ref**                      **3-GF-8-3**

That the report 'Consideration of applications for the Community Initiative Fund 2017/2018 – Round One be received.

Cr Peke-Mason / Cr Ash. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/132**                      **File Ref**                      **3-GF-8-3**

That the following Project Report Forms be received:

- Marton Community Garden – Garden Bed Build Part I
- Marton & Surrounds ICT Hub Charitable Trust
- Diabetes NZ – Support Group
- Koitiata Centenary Committee – celebrations
- Alzheimers Whanganui – The Group
- Rangitikei Heritage Group – Heritage Brochure
- Marton Junior Rugby Club – Rugby Jerseys

Cr Rainey / Cr Ash. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/133**                      **File Ref**                      **3-GF-8-3**

That the Finance / Performance Committee approve the applications, listed below, and disperse the Community Initiatives Fund as outlined to successful applicants.

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • Clifton School Kapahaka Group             | \$ 1300 |
| • Marton & Surrounds ICT Hub                | \$ 3000 |
| • Ratana Communal Board                     | \$ 1500 |
| • Royal NZ Plunket                          | \$ 1600 |
| • Bulls & District Historical Society       | \$ 2000 |
| • Project Marton                            | \$ 1900 |
| • Marton Community Garden                   | \$ 2000 |
| • Majestic Theatre Trust                    | \$ 1200 |
| • Wanganui Area Neighbourhood Support Group | \$ 800  |
| • Whangaehu Hall Committee                  | \$ 2500 |
| • Rangitikei Heritage Group                 | \$ 2000 |
| • Alzheimers' Whanganui – The Group         | \$ 600  |

Cr Rainey / His Worship the Mayor. Carried

## 12 Consideration of applications to Event Sponsorship Scheme

The Committee discussed the merits of each application. A granted total was decided for each application by each Committee member providing a figure they would be happy providing the applicant and an average was taken of these figures.

The following Councillors abstained from the corresponding funding applications

- His Worship the Mayor      Rotary's Pedal for Pleasure
- Cr Belsham                      Rotary's Pedal for Pleasure



- Cr Wilson Rotary's Pedal for Pleasure
- Cr Sheridan Rangitikei Shearing Sports

Cr Peke-Mason noted that she had no conflict of interest with the Ratana Rugby application.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/134**                      **File Ref**                      **3-GF-11-3**

That the report 'Consideration of applications for the Events Sponsorship Scheme 2017-2018 – Round One be received.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Wilson. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/135**                      **File Ref**                      **3-GF-11-3**

That the following Project Report Forms be received:

- Ruapehu REAP – 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Whanau Sports event
- Marton Country Music Festival – 2017
- Hunterville Huntaway Festival – 2016 Shemozzle
- Mangaweka Community Committee – French Twilight Dinner
- Marton Jaycees – Marton Christmas Parade 2016
- Turakina Caledonian Society – 153<sup>rd</sup> Highland Games
- Parklee Bullride Club – Hunterville Bullride
- Rangitikei Tourism – The Mudder 2016
- Ratana Sports Club - 90 Years of Sports
- Rangitikei Shearing Sports – 2017 event
- Taihape Area Dressage Group

Cr Sheridan / Cr Rainey. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/136**                      **File Ref**                      **3-GF-11-3**

That the Finance / Performance Committee approve the sponsorship of events listed below, and disperse the Events Sponsorship Scheme as outlined to successful applicants:

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • Samoan Ministers' Association – four events                 | \$ 2200 |
| • Turakina Caledonian Society – Highland Games                | \$ 2500 |
| • Hunterville Huntaway Festival – 2017 Shemozzle              | \$ 2750 |
| • Rangitikei Shearing Sports – 2018 Shearing Sports event     | \$ 1900 |
| • Marton Rotary – Pedal 4 Pleasure                            | \$ 650  |
| • Marton Country Music Festival – 2018 Country Music Festival | \$ 2750 |
| • Ratana Rugby - Jamie Berry Memorial Shield                  | \$ 800  |
| • Nga Iwi o Mokai Patea Services Trust - Whanau Sports Day    | \$ 1600 |

Cr Ash / Cr Sheridan. Carried

Cr Ash left at 10:52 – 10:56  
Cr Gordon arrived at 11:46  
Cr Dunn left at 12:10-12:23  
Cr Peke-Mason left at 12:29-12:32

### **13 Opportunities for subdivision in Marton and Bulls**

Ms Gray spoke to her presentation which was tabled.

The Committee discussed the merits of Council acting as developers or offering incentives for external developers. Benefit was seen in increasing rateable properties alongside potential profit on property sale.

The following incentive options were discussed

- Where subdivision development is on private land incentives could include rating as a parcel until property is sold versus individual rate of unsold subdivided land.
- Council could offer to put in the infrastructure against a lien on each property.

It was suggested that the Committee form a working group to with a view to facilitate new subdivisions.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/137**                      **File Ref**

That the Finance/Performance Committee recommends to Council that the Chair of Finance, Cr Wilson, Cr Platt and His Worship the Mayor forms a working group with a view to facilitate new subdivisions.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Belsham. Carried

#### **Resolved**

That the Finance / Performance Committee adjourn the meeting at 12.43 and reconvene following the Council meeting.

Cr Belsham / Cr Rainey. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 12:43 pm and reconvened at 4:24 pm

### **14 Standardising lease arrangements for sports club facilities**

Mr Hodder spoke to the report. During the discussion the following points were clarified:

- The area used by each facility will bear no weight in the lease figure.
- Variations of the different rental values to date has occurred through different contracts being drawn by past Boroughs, Counties and Councils.
- Parks are non-rateable, therefore these facilities pay no rates.
- The new lease agreements will include provisions for maintenance and general level of upkeep.

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/138**                      **File Ref**                      **6-CF-5-5**

That the report 'Standardising lease arrangements for facilities on Council land' be received.

Cr Rainey / Cr Sheridan. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **17/FPE/139**                      **File Ref**                      **6-CF-5-5**

That a rental of \$200.00 per annum be applied to an organisation with facilities on Council land (or Council administered land), with this rental to be considered annually as part of the Fees and Charges annual consultation, and that all utility fees are to be paid by the organisation, including a specific water charge if a meter is not installed.

Cr Wilson / Cr Sheridan. Carried

## **15 Late items**

None

## **16 Future items for the agenda**

None

## **17 Next Meeting**

Thursday 31 August 2017, 9.30am

## **18 Meeting closed**

4.36 pm.

**Confirmed/Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_

Date: