

**FINANCE/PERFORMANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

ORDER PAPER

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019, 9.30AM

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL
46 HIGH STREET, MARTON**

Website: www.rangitikei.govt.nz

Email: info@rangitikei.govt.nz

Telephone: 06 327-0099

Facsimile: 06 327-6970

Chair - Councillor Nigel Belsham

Deputy Chair - Councillor Lynne Sheridan

Membership

Councillors Cath Ash, Dean McManaway, Graeme Platt, Ruth Rainey
and Dave Wilson.

His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson (ex officio)

Please Note: Items in this agenda may be subject to amendments or withdrawal at the meeting. It is recommended therefore that items not be reported upon until after adoption by the Council. Reporters who do not attend the meeting are requested to seek confirmation of the agenda material or proceedings of the meeting from the Chief Executive prior to any media reports being filed.

Making this place home.





Rangitikei District Council

Finance and Performance Committee Meeting

Agenda – Thursday 25 July 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Contents

1	Welcome	2	
2	Council Prayer	2	
3	Public forum	2	
4	Apologies/Leave of Absence	2	
5	Members' Conflict of Interest	2	<i>Agenda note</i>
6	Confirmation of order of business	2	<i>Agenda note</i>
7	Minutes of Previous Meeting	2	Attachment 1, pages 7-13
8	Chair's Report	2	<i>To be tabled</i>
9	Progress with strategic issues	2	<i>Agenda note</i>
10	Financial Highlights and Commentary – June 2019	4	Attachment 2, pages 14-16
11	Property sales report, April – June 2019	4	<i>To be tabled</i>
12	Questions raised at previous meeting	4	<i>To be tabled</i>
13	Economic Development Project and Activity Report July 2019	5	Attachment 3, pages 17-19
14	Economic Development Strategy	5	<i>Discussion item</i>
15	Late Items	5	
16	Future Items for the Agenda	5	
17	Next Meeting	5	
18	Meeting Closed	5	

The quorum for the Finance and Performance Committee is 4.

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.

1 Welcome

2 Council Prayer

3 Public forum

4 Apologies/Leave of Absence

5 Members' Conflict of Interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

6 Confirmation of order of business

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

7 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes from the Finance/Performance Committee meeting held 27 June 2019 are attached.

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Finance/Performance Committee meeting held on 27 June 2019 [as amended/without amendment] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

8 Chair's Report

A report will be tabled at the meeting.

File ref: 3-CT-14-1

Recommendation:

That the 'Chair's Report' to the Finance/Performance Committee meeting on 25 July 2019 be received.

9 Progress with strategic issues

Advocacy by His Worship the Mayor (including Ministerial discussions) has continued for unlocking the Māori land-locked land in the north of the District. In response to the direction from Judge Harvey, Council has formally indicated its desire to be an interested party to the

proceedings of the Waitangi Tribunal proceedings on landlocked land in the Taihape region. This has been approved.

The Hunterville/Tutaenui rural water pre-feasibility study is complete. An application to the Provincial Growth Fund for a feasibility study was submitted on 3 May 2019.

Progress continues with the proposed new civic/community centres in Bulls and Marton. Tenders for constructing the Bulls centre were considered by Council on 30 August 2018, and a preferred contractor identified for negotiation. At its meeting on 15 November 2018, Council confirmed a contract with W & W Construction (2010) Ltd. Construction has started. Monthly updates are provided to Council.

The value of placemaking initiatives was reinforced to all Community Boards and Community Committees at their meetings in February 2019.

Consideration was given by the Policy/Planning Committee's meeting on 13 July 2017 to services provided by information centres (with a further report to Council's meeting on 27 July 2017).

Two workshop discussions have been held on economic development and District promotion and a potential budget envelope identified. A draft policy on using the legislative provisions for development agreements to incentivise housing and other developments was considered at the Finance/Performance Committee's October meeting and a revised draft considered at meeting in January 2018. A further workshop session was held on 23 August 2018, considering Wellington City Council's policy on rates remission for first home builders. A draft policy was considered by Policy/Planning Committee on 13 September 2018; at its meeting on 25 October 2018, Council approved public consultation for this draft policy; the policy was adopted at Council's meeting on 31 January 2019. Overtures have continued to interest developers in providing new housing on Council's two vacant blocks in Bulls.

Priorities for economic development were one of the key choices in the Consultation Document for the 2018-28 Long Term Plan. The Government's Provincial Growth Fund (announced in February 2018) is a potentially significant mechanism to stimulate development and growth in the Rangitikei. An appointment to the Economic Development Advisor role has been confirmed. An update was provided to the Committee's February meeting and is now a standing agenda item. A workshop was held on 11 April 2019 to ascertain Elected Members' priority actions for residential growth, business, education and promotion. Following discussion with iwi partners, further work has been done on a strategy, *to be provided to the Committee's July 2019 meeting.*

Council submitted to the Horizons Regional Council long-term plan supporting the proposed establishment of a regional facilities fund. However, there were varying responses from other councils so the proposal will not proceed. However, at its meeting on 12 July 2018, the Assets/Infrastructure Committee considered a presentation on the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Sport Facility Plan and recommended to Council that it consider that plan as a tool to guide the future planning, development, management and operation of sports facilities in the Rangitikei and wider Manawatū-Whanganui region.

In March 2018, Chorus advised an accelerated timetable for the roll-out of fibre in Rātana/Whangaehu, Marton, Mangaweka, Hunterville, Taihape and Bulls, to be completed by June 2022. At the Digital Local Government Partnership Launch on 15 August 2018, the

Minister for Government Digital Services indicated that the rollout of rural broadband would be completed by the end of 2021.

Rates modelling is part of the new financial modelling software which has been used as the basis of preparing the financial statements for the 2018-28 Long Term Plan and for the 2019/20 Annual Plan.

The review of the revenue and financing policy is complete and included in the draft Long term Plan – analysis of all expenditure activities has now been undertaken in Council workshops.

Impact of forestry on roading has been considered in the roading asset management plan and in developing the Traffic and Parking Bylaw.

The Independent Assessment Board released its report on the Council's operations under the Local Government Excellence Programme. Actions to effect the suggested improvements are in progress. A report was included in the agenda for the Committee's November 2018 meeting.

MW LASS collaboration has been used to provide insurance cover for below-ground infrastructure assets from 1 July 2017.

Staff are continuing to manage the Rangitikei.com website.

10 Financial Highlights and Commentary – June 2019

Provisional results are attached.

File ref: 5-FR-4-1

Recommendation:

That the memorandum 'Financial Highlights and Commentary – June 2019' to the Finance/Performance Committee meeting 25 July 2019 be received.

11 Property sales report, April – June 2019

A report will be tabled at the meeting.

File ref: 4-ED-1-5

Recommendation:

That the property sales report, April - June 2019 be received.

12 Questions raised at previous meeting

Costs to date for the new Bulls Community Centre

A report with the entire process (i.e budget and estimated costs) will be tabled at the meeting.

13 Economic Development Project and Activity Report July 2019

A report is attached.

File ref: 4-ED-1-NGHS

Recommendation:

That the 'Economic Development Project and Activity Report July 2019' to the 25 July 2019 Finance/Performance Committee meeting be received.

14 Economic Development Strategy

A presentation will be made to the meeting for discussion.

15 Late Items

As agreed at item 6.

16 Future Items for the Agenda

Grant funding and utilisation of the website*

Rural Water*ⁱ

17 Next Meeting

29 August 2019, 10.30 am.

18 Meeting Closed

ⁱ * First raised 30 May 2019

Attachment 1



Rangitikei District Council

Finance and Performance Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 27 June 2019 – 10:30 a.m.

Contents

1	Welcome	3
2	Council Prayer	3
3	Public forum.....	3
4	Apologies/Leave of Absence	3
5	Members' Conflict of Interest.....	3
6	Confirmation of order of business	3
7	Minutes of Previous Meeting.....	3
8	Chair's Report	3
9	Progress with strategic issues	4
10	Financial Highlights and Commentary – May 2019.....	4
11	Question raised at previous meeting.....	4
12	Economic Development Project and Activity Report May/June 2019.....	5
13	Late Items.....	5
14	Future Items for the Agenda.....	5
15	Next Meeting	6
16	Meeting Closed	6

Present: Cr Nigel Belsham (Chair)
Cr Lynne Sheridan
Cr Cath Ash
Cr Graeme Platt
Cr Ruth Rainey
Cr David Wilson
His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

In attendance: Mr Ross McNeil, Chief Executive
Ms Jo Devine, Group Manager – Finance & Business Support
Mr Arno Benadie, Principal Advisor – Infrastructure
Mr Blair Jamieson, Strategy and Community Planning Manager
Ms Gioia Damosso, Economic Development
Ms Bonnie Clayton Governance Administrator

Tabled Documents

Item 7	Chairs report
Item 10	Bulls Community Centre - Costs to 31 May 2019
Item 11	Economic Snap Shot 2018-2019

1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10.33am.

2 Council Prayer

Nil

3 Public forum

Nil

4 Apologies/Leave of Absence

That the apology for Cr McManaway be received.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Rainey. 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.

There were no conflicts declared.

6 Confirmation of order of business

The order of business was confirmed.

There were no late items.

7 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved minute number

19/FPE/032

File Ref

That the Minutes of the Finance/Performance Committee meeting held on 30 May 2019 without amendment be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Wilson / Cr Ash. Carried

8 Chair's Report

The Chair took his tabled report as read.

Resolved minute number **19/FPE/033** **File Ref** **3-CT-14-1**

That the 'Chair's Report' to the Finance/Performance Committee meeting on 27 June 2019 be received.

Cr Belsham / Cr Ash. Carried

9 Progress with strategic issues

The Committee noted the commentary in the agenda.

His Worship the Mayor updated the Committee that with the signing of Ngati Rangi settlement coming up, Rangitikei District Council has reiterated its interest in resolving landlocked Maori land. He was waiting for a response from the Crown.

10 Financial Highlights and Commentary – May 2019

The memorandum was taken as read.

The Committee discussed the Activity Performance Report and noted a zero rates revenue from Community Housing.

Undertaking	Subject
--------------------	----------------

Ms Devine to reissue page 8 of 25 of the Activity Performance Report.	
---	--

Resolved minute number **19/FPE/034** **File Ref** **5-FR-4-1**

That the memorandum 'Financial Highlights and Commentary – May 2019' to the Finance/Performance Committee meeting 27 June 2019 be received.

Cr Ash / Cr Wilson. Carried

11 Question raised at previous meeting

Rates rebate policy

The fact sheet was taken as read.

Vehicle Policy

A revised policy on replacing council vehicles is being developed.

Disaster Relief Funds

The only reserve fund council currently maintains is the flood damage reserve.

Costs to date for the new Bulls Community Centre

The tabled report was taken as read.

The Committee noted that the report is a snapshot from the 2018/19 year. A larger report will come post 30 June 2019 which will reflect the entire process (i.e. budget and estimated costs).

12 Economic Development Project and Activity Report May/June 2019

The report was taken as read. Ms Damosso spoke to the report:

- Business – Visited Te Pae Tata in Ohakune a learning / digital / innovation / business hub for Ruapehu. The visit was to look at how a similar model a centralised business network would work in the Rangitikei. The Provincial Growth Fund has offered \$400,000 to 3 regions to fund their Digital / Business Centres, Rangitikei will be applying for this funding and will also link with Iwi.
- Hemp Info Day – Hemp Info Day is to be held on the 30 July 2019 from 2pm – 5pm, with three speakers confirmed. There is a lot of interest from the public. The day is open to all who may have an interest in the future of hemp.
- Whanganui - Rangitikei Skills and Talent – The tertiary and industry lead initiative has had its first meeting. These are every 6 weeks, with Rangitikei representatives Speirs, Gallaghers and Alf Downs have been asked to attend the second meeting scheduled for 28 July at Te Poho Tuariki.
- Promotion - The filming at Rakatepauma Marae has been completed, this was the final section needed to complete the film. The first edit is a work in progress and we will be working alongside the Communications team once it is finalised.

Resolved minute number

19/FPE/035

File Ref

4-ED-1-NGHS

That the 'Economic Development Project and Activity Report May/June 2019' to the Finance/Performance Committee meeting 27 June 2019 be received.

Cr Rainey / Cr Ash. Carried

His Worship the Mayor left 11.41 am – 11.42 am.

13 Late Items

As agreed at item 6.

14 Future Items for the Agenda

Grant funding and utilisation of the website*

Rural Water*ⁱ

15 Next Meeting

25 July 2019, 9.30 am.

16 Meeting Closed

11.45 am

Confirmed/Chair: _____

Date:

ⁱ * First raised 30 May 2019

Attachment 2



Rangitikei District Council

Financial Year End 2019



Interim June 2019 Results

- Revenue rates and other total \$33.84m against a budget of \$33.6m.
- Expenses currently total \$32.5m against a budget of \$32.03m. It is anticipated there will be a minor movement with the full completion of the June 19 accounts.
- Bank remains in good position
 - Cash for immediate needs \$4.35m
- Bank Investments
 - Westpac Term Deposits \$5.0m
 - Deposits with 28, 61 days maturity

Attachment 3

Report

TO: Finance/Performance Committee

FROM: Gioia Damosso, Strategic Advisor – Economic Development | Kaihautū Ōhanga

DATE: 18 July 2019

SUBJECT: Economic Development Project and Activity Report – July 2019

FILE: 4-ED-1-NGHS

1 Background

- 1.1 This report summarises the programmes, activities and focus areas of staff in the Economic Development within the Policy & Community Planning Team. Added commentary is provided where necessary.
- 1.2 This report covers the month of July, 2019.

2 Programme and Activity Overview

- 2.1 The following highlights the key programmes, activities and progress of staff in this area.

Programme/Activity	Progress For This Period
Tourism Focus Group	The first Tourism Focus Group meeting was held on 10 July 2019, being attended by local business owners and event organisers. The purpose of the meeting was to critique the first edit of the promotional video and to discuss the possibilities for an improved digital tourism platform and the associated user requirements. Examples from other councils in this space are: https://www.visitruapehu.com and https://www.visitwhanganui.nz/ . The feedback from the digital survey and focus group was that a platform similar to the Visit Ruapehu and Whanganui websites could be more useful in promoting Rangitikei as a visitor destination with a specific tourism and events focus than the current Rangitikei.com website provides. The purpose of this platform – something like – Explore Rangitikei – would aim to showcase and promote activities and experiences in the Rangitikei to potential visitors. It would ideally be the platform for district business collaboration, with such offerings as district business package deals. An internal workshop has been planned to discuss the options for how this could look and fit in with Council's current and future Information service platforms.
Business	The Proposal to the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) for the Regional Digital Hub was declined as Tararua, Ruapehu and Horowhenua were identified as preferred locations. A meeting with Te Puni Kokiri to discuss other funding options for this project will occur, as well as engaging in further discussions

Programme/Activity	Progress For This Period
	with Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa to explore collaboration and funding opportunities.
Hemp Info Day	Details for the Hemp Info Day have been confirmed. The info session will be held at Te Poho o Tuariki on 30 July 2019, from 2pm to 5pm, around 50 people have already RSVP'd. Staff attended and were broadcast on Awa FM to promote the event. Interviews occurred with NZ Herald with approaches made to the Whanganui Chronicle and District Monitor
Arts and Placemaking	Meeting on the 11 th of July with Riah King Wall, Strategic Lead: Creative Industries and Arts from Whanganui and Partners and Ellen Young: Town Centre Regeneration Project Manager from Whanganui District Council, Nardia Gower Strategic Advisor - Youth, Ali Tilley and Belinda Howard to discuss the opportunities for public art and placemaking in the Rangitikei. The meeting addressed how we could fit in to a bigger picture in terms of regional tourism and opportunities such as the NZ Coastal Arts Trail, Artist Open Studios and the Whanganui Walls events amongst others. Additional discussion occurred on the possibility of forming an arts/placemaking steering group to coordinate and provide oversight to community art and placemaking activities.
Regional Skills and Talent Meeting	Held in Whanganui on 19 July 2019, with Economic Development officers from the region, Mayors and government officials to discuss central government priorities in the skills and training space and to pass on local priorities.
Rural Enterprise Scheme	Staff met with Mark Maxwell from Tararua District Council and Mark Ward from Whanganui and Partners to discuss Rural Enterprise project. Tararua are undertaking a similar project also with PGF funding. A new company has been contracted and the project is once again up and running.
Promotion	1 st edit of promotional video has been received. In response to feedback additional filming will occur to include more agri tourism – mustering and shearing demonstration at Rangitikei Farmstay on the 22 July 2019, which will be the last piece of filming for this project. A call to action will need to be settled upon for the end of the video, i.e. the explore Rangitikei website and a tourism appropriate tagline eg. Rangitikei: Yours to Explore.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That the report 'Economic Development Project and Activity Report July 2019' to the 25 July 2019 Finance/Performance Committee meeting be received.

Gioia Damosso

Strategic Advisor – Economic Development | Kaihautū Ōhanga