

# MINUTES

## FINANCE/PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, 30 September 2021

**Time:** 9.30 am

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

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**Present**

Cr Nigel Belsham  
Cr Fi Dalgety (*via Zoom*)  
Cr Cath Ash (*via Zoom*)  
Cr Brian Carter (*via Zoom*)  
Cr Angus Gordon (*via Zoom*)  
Cr Tracey Hiroa (*via Zoom*)  
Cr Dave Wilson  
Cr Gill Duncan (*via Zoom*)  
HWTM Andy Watson

**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  
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services (*via Zoom*)  
Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager – People and Culture (*via Zoom*)  
Mr George Forster, Policy Advisor  
Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

**Order of Business**

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## 1 Welcome / Prayer

Cr Belsham opened the meeting at 9.32 am and read the Council prayer. Cr Belsham explained that the meeting would be recorded, due to the inability of the public to attend in person.

## 2 Apologies

**Resolved minute number**                                      **21/FPE/045**

That the apology for Cr Panapa be received.

Cr C Ash/HWTM A Watson. Carried

## 3 Public Forum

No Public Forum.

## 4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Duncan and Cr Ash declared a potential conflict of interest in relation to item 8.1; the Huntley School Jubilee Committee funding application. Both councillors have family who either attended the school and/or have been invited to the event. Cr Belsham stated that in his opinion, these did not warrant conflicts of interest, as there is no potential for pecuniary advantage.

Cr Dalgety declared a potential conflict of interest in relation to item 8.1; the Lions Club of Hunterville Charitable Trust application. Cr Dalgety's husband is a member of the Lions Club. Cr Belsham stated that in his opinion, this did not warrant a conflict of interest.

## 5 Confirmation of Order of Business

The Chair's report was tabled (after item 7.1 and before item 8.1).

## 6 Confirmation of Minutes

**Resolved minute number**                                      **21/FPE/046**

That the minutes of the Finance/Performance Committee meeting held on 26 August 2021, as amended, be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

### Amendment

Page 10; Cr Hiroa is noted as leaving at 11.27 am, but she is then recorded as subsequently moving or carrying several recommendations. The place of entry of this comment (Cr Hiroa's departure) should be altered, to sit immediately below resolution 21/FPE/037 within the minutes document.

Cr B Carter/Cr N Belsham. Carried

## **7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings**

### **7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Finance/Performance Meetings**

Mr Tombs confirmed that the figures of sales in August's 'Quarterly Property Sales' report was measured against the new QV valuation.

**Resolved minute number**                                      **21/FPE/047**

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Finance/Performance Meetings' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

### **Tabled Item        Chair's Report - September 2021**

Cr Belsham advocated for the inclusion of Ms Mauchline Campbell and Ms Fannin within the assessment board for both the Events Sponsorship Scheme and Community Initiatives Fund.

**Resolved minute number**                                      **21/FPE/048**

That the tabled Chair's Report – September 2021 be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr G Duncan. Carried

## **8 Reports for Decision**

### **8.1 Events Sponsorship Scheme - Consideration of Applications for Round One of 2021/22**

Several Committee members requested training on how to use the SmartyGrants programme. Staff will organise a workshop to facilitate this.

For future funding rounds (for both Events Sponsorship Scheme and Community Initiatives Fund), staff will email the assessor spreadsheet to Committee members alongside the Order Paper, one week prior to the meeting. This will allow assessors more time to consider the views of other members prior to the meeting and decision phase.

The Committee discussed the funding of Marton's Christmas parade. It was noted that with Project Marton no longer organising this, no applications had been received to the Events Sponsorship Scheme for this purpose. The Committee also discussed the Marton Harvest Festival, which had

previously been organised by Project Marton. Mrs Gordon advised that this will be discussed in the Council meeting, and that an application to Pub Charity was going to be made by staff. Some of the funding that was earmarked to Project Marton as an MoU partner will also be used.

#### Taihape Horse Society

The Committee felt that this was a good event that helps to attract visitors from outside the district.

#### Taihape Area Dressage Group

The Mayor noted that this application, like several others, included a line item in their income list as 'grants'. It was not always clear whether the applicant was referring to anticipated grants from Council, or other grants.

#### Taihape Riders Fundraising Committee

The Committee acknowledged that this application was for a fundraising event, and that this went against the guidelines for the Events Sponsorship Scheme. However, the Committee felt that the event was still worthy of sponsorship and noted that the proceeds will be distributed back into the community.

#### Huntley School Jubilee Committee

The Committee queried the likelihood of the event getting 1,000 people to attend the banquet, especially in consideration of recent COVID-19 events.

#### Lions Club of Hunterville Charitable Trust

The Committee noted that this was also a fundraising event, but that it was still worthy of sponsorship as the proceeds will benefit the district and support community wellbeing.

#### Hunterville Huntaway Festival

The Mayor noted that events are becoming more and more expensive to run, and Council had to consider funding these events or risk losing them. The Committee felt that the event was iconic for the district, and deserved Council's support.

Cr Ash advised that she had received some feedback from community members in the past, that had raised some concerns about the treatment of animals at this event.

#### Turakina Caledonian Society Inc.

The Committee felt that this was a great event and will promote community wellbeing.

#### Taihape Community Development Trust



Cr D Wilson/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11.26 am and re-convened at 11.34 am.

The Mayor re-entered the meeting (from the adjournment) at 11.36 am.

## **9.2 Financial Snapshot - August 2021**

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number** **21/FPE/053**

That the Finance and Performance Committee receive the report 'Financial Snapshot – August 2021'.

Cr D Wilson/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

## **9.3 Summary of Bad Debts**

The Mayor sought assurance from staff that there were no undue concerns with Council's position. Mr Tombs confirmed that he did not have any concerns.

In response to a query, Mr Tombs confirmed that staff were using the same external providers for debt recovery.

**Resolved minute number** **21/FPE/054**

That the report 'Summary of Bad Debts' be received.

Cr B Carter/Cr A Gordon. Carried

## **9.4 QV Monthly Report- July/ August**

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number** **21/FPE/055**

That the 'QV Monthly Report- July/ August' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

Mr Forster entered the meeting at 11.41 am.

## **9.5 12 Month Statement of Service Performance**

Mr Forster advised that we had only achieved 22 out of the 50 measures, which was not a good look. However, several of the measures were linked into a single combined measure – meaning that if one of the individual measures was a 'not achieved', then all of the measures linked to it would

also be given a status of ‘not achieved’. Additionally, there were several measures that were technically unachievable, and therefore were not good indicators of Council performance. Mrs Gordon advised that the new reporting style and measures will allow for more accurate and useful reporting in future.

In response to a query about non-connectivity (e.g. access to the internet) in the field, Mr Forster advised that several staff are unable to immediately update requests in real time. Instead, they have to wait until they return to the office and had internet access. He acknowledged that there were also instances of staff not signing off tasks as soon as they were back in the office, which was a process issue that was being considered.

Cr Belsham clarified for the Committee that the full report should only come to the Finance/Performance Committee, with areas of concern being elevated to the appropriate Committee when needed.

The Committee requested that future Statement of Service Performance dashboards be made available online, once they have been received by the Finance/Performance Committee.

The Committee also requested that focus areas of improvement identified by staff are highlighted in future reporting to the Finance/Performance Committee.

**Resolved minute number    21/FPE/056**

That the 12 Month Statement of Service Performance report, be received.

Cr C Ash/Cr G Duncan. Carried

**9.6 Annual Residents Survey 2021**

Cr Belsham requested that this report be provided to a future Council meeting for a full discussion. Due to time constraints, the report was not discussed in depth during this meeting.

**Resolved minute number    21/FPE/057**

That the Annual Residents Survey Report 2021 be received, and referred to full Council for consideration at a future meeting.

HWTM A Watson/Cr D Wilson. Carried

**The meeting closed at 12.05 pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Finance/Performance Committee held on 28 October 2021.**

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**Chairperson**