

MINUTES

HUNTERVILLE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 5 August 2026

Time: 5.30pm

Venue: Hunterville Town Hall
Bruce Street
Hunterville

Present Mr Justin Adams
Cr Fi Dalgety
Ms Charissa Lawlor
Ms Kelsey Smith

In attendance Mr Darryn Black, Acting GM – Assets Infrastructure and Projects
Ms Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor
Mr Simon Beckwith, President of the Hunterville RSA

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1 Welcome

The meeting opened at 5.32pm.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/022

That the apologies received from His Worship the Mayor Watson and Ms Sandra Carroll be accepted.

Ms K Smith/ Ms C Lawlor

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

The late item 10.1 RSA Update on Inglis Bridge was added due to the availability of Mr Beckwith from Hunterville RSA to provide an update.

The late item 10.5 Community Funding Roadshow was added and Ms Lawlor tabled the document 'Community Funding Roadshow Flyer'.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Ms Lawlor pointed out the inconsistencies between 'Ms Lawlor' and 'Charissa' and requested that these be amended to 'Ms Lawlor' and for future minutes to be consistent when referring to members' names.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/023

That the minutes of Hunterville Community Committee Meeting held on 3 June 2026 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.

Ms K Smith/Ms C Lawlor. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Hunternville Community Committee Meetings

Members discussed the follow-up action items below:

Item 1: Porewa/Ongo Streams Maintenance

The Chair will take drone shots of the areas of concern and forward these to Horizons, asking for a management or maintenance plan regarding the protection of the Hunternville township in a flood.

Members noted some there has been some maintenance works around the stream but they are still concerned.

Item 2: Master Mechanic Sign

The sign has been printed. The next step is get it into town, take photos of how it will sit to share with NZTA. It is not a requirement to get consent from NZTA as it is on private property.

A letter to request a fee waiver for the resource consent will be drafted to the Chief Executive.

An item will be raised at the next meeting regarding allocating funds for erecting the sign (if required) and an unveiling event.

Members thanked the Chair for collecting the sign.

Item 3: Simpson's Reserve/Inglis Bridge

This was discussed in Item 10.1 RSA Update on Inglis Bridge.

Item 4: Ambulance Building

Members noted that there is concern in the community that the process of getting the ambulance building will not be forthcoming. There has been no traction with St John despite there being new buildings in Taihape, Marton and Levin. Ms Smith refreshed members on the progress made so far. St John has said no to the options of existing buildings available as ambulance buildings need to be IL4 standard. The community had sourced plans to build such a building and proposed agreements with St John to lease it. These plans and agreements are sitting with St John to approve, but there has been no response.

Item 5: Swimming Pool

This was discussed in Item 9.3 Swimming Pool Update.

Item 6: Printing of the 'Are you Prepared?' Notice

Ms Lawlor received 235 paper copies and has distributed these. Ms Lawlor requested an A4 sized digital copy to print into the next Hunternville Bulletin.

Item 7: No payment for hiring the hall for Huntermville Community Committee meetings

Members discussed that there is a roundabout of money through this process and they are happy with how this works. Adding a payment fee will only land with ratepayers.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/024

That the report Follow-up Action Items from Huntermville Community Committee Meetings be received.

Mr J Adams/Ms K Smith. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - August 2026

There was no Chair's Report.

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Mayor's Report - July 2026

The Chair took the report as read.

Members acknowledged the benefits of the agreement with NZDF, noting this is not a new agreement but a renewal.

Members discussed the Head Start process and their concerns for the future of Rangitikei. Local identity and voice is their priority but there are benefits of amalgamation. Members agreed central government should be providing more funding and support for district councils through the transition, and that there has not been enough time to make an adequately informed proposal.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/025

That the Mayor's Report – July 2026 be received.

Mr J Adams/Ms C Lawlor. Carried

9.2 Small Projects Fund Update - August 2026

Members discussed confirming the figures in this report as there was a large difference in the quote and invoice prices for the work done on the Master Mechanic sign. There will be upcoming costs to continue with the sign installation and an unveiling event for the community which will need to come out of the Small Projects Fund. An item will be added to the 07 October Meeting to allocate these funds.

A member discussed potential collaboration with Council officers to install the sign, with the premise that no existing concrete will be damaged.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/026

That the report Small Projects Fund Update – August 2026 be received.

Ms K Smith/Ms C Lawlor. Carried

9.3 Funding Schemes Update - August 2026

The report was taken as read.

Members encourage the Huntermville community to apply.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/027

That the Funding Schemes Update – August 2026 be received.

Ms K Smith/Mr J Adams. Carried

10 Discussion Items

10.1 RSA Update on Inglis Bridge

Mr Beckwith gave a verbal update on the progress Huntermville RSA has made on the inspection and restoration of the Inglis Bridge from Simpson's Reserve.

Cr Dalgety and RSA members went see the parts of the bridge. They are in good condition but there is one knuckle missing – this will need to be recast.

The next issue is where it can be put to be displayed. It is very unique as one of three bailey bridges in the world, and the only one in the southern hemisphere. RSA has spoken to NZDF representatives who are in support of the bridge being re-erected. It cannot be re-erected in its previous position due to safety issues. As a monument, these safety issues would be mitigated.

The RSA is proposing the bridge be erected on top of a concrete display similar to Scott's Ferry. RSA's preferred location is at Queen's Park to increase visibility to travellers and to allow for storytelling and wider connection to other displays of Huntermville's history already there.

Members discussed that there are two separate issues – the restoration of the Inglis Bridge and the restoration of public access to Simpson's reserve. They reinforce each other and the opportunity is there to celebrate and reconnect the community to its history and natural environment.

Members discussed exploring avenues of using crowdfunding to re-erect Inglis Bridge and to seek engineer expertise and advice regarding the options of restoring public access to Simpson's Reserve. Members acknowledged that community discussions would need to be had before making decisions, but there was general consensus that there would be support for this as many locals want to give back to the community.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/028

That the Huntermville Community Committee will seek permission from the Chief Executive for the Inglis Bridge previously located at Simpson's Bush Reserve to be placed on a concrete plinth at Queen's Park and for the Huntermville Community Committee to investigate the requirements of restoring public access to Simpson's Reserve using local crowdfunding.

Cr F Dalgety/Ms C Lawlor. Carried

10.2 Bruce Street Traffic Island / Garden

The report was taken as read.

Mr Black spoke to the pavement damage from trucks and heavy vehicles due to navigating around the island at high speeds. This damage will increase with the heat of summer so he is bringing the matter to the committee to get community views on the issue. This is not an urgent matter but is being raised to future-proof the road and preserve local identity.

Members discussed the ongoing problems with trucks driving through Bruce Street at high speeds, including by the school, regardless of speed limits. Greater enforcement may be necessary.

Members acknowledged that a community member who has been a truck driver and is now a local business owner has been advocating for removing the island. Ms Smith acknowledged Maureen Fenton, a member of the community who invested significant time and resources to establish the traffic island. Members noted that Council should consult her before any plans are made. Members also raised concerns regarding the relocation of the items of interest, such as the sheep and the statue.

Members discussed the comparative costs of removing the island versus maintaining it, with figures being relatively similar (around 100k), but maintenance would be a reoccurring cost versus a one off for removal. Members acknowledged that ongoing maintenance costs would be a significant burden to Huntermville ratepayers.

Ultimately, safety is the biggest concern regarding this area of the road, especially considering elderly community members and the upcoming opening of the preschool. Members wanted to see alternate options for traffic calming and pedestrian safety before making any decisions regarding the removal of the island.

Members thanked Mr Black for reaching out for feedback and considering the community's views as important.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/029

That the report Bruce Street Traffic Island / Garden be received.

Ms C Lawlor/Mr J Adams. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/030

That Huntermville Community Committee recommends Council approach Maureen Fenton (the instigator of the Bruce Street traffic island and displays) for her feedback and that Council (officers) provide a minimum of two alternate options relating to pedestrian safety and the placement of the items of significance should the island be removed.

Ms K Smith/Ms C Lawlor. Carried

10.2 Draft Thank you Letter for the Police Area Commander and District Commander

Members discussed minor grammatical amendments. The Chair will make these amendments and send the letter.

The Chair noted that he had discussed with Constable Green if there is anything of concern for the community and there is not.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/031

That the Huntermville Community Committee does approve sending the attached letter with amendment to the Police Area Command and District Commander thanking them for their engagement on local policing in Huntermville.

Mr J Adams/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

10.3 Huntermville Swimming Pool Update

The report was taken as read.

Mr Black spoke to the issue, highlighting that there are complex earthworks and alterations required to achieve the Certificate of Code of Compliance. He updated the Committee on the progress Council has made and that the contract will be awarded to a contractor once all quotes are returned. The Committee will be provided with an update at the 07 October meeting regarding the timeline of the works, and once they are completed, the Huntermville Swimming Pool will be able to apply for the Certificate of Code of Compliance.

Members also noted that the curb has already been lowered.

Resolved minute number 26/HCC/032

That the report Huntermville Swimming Pool Update be received.

Ms K Smith/Mr J Adams. Carried

10.4 Community Funding Roadshow

Ms Lawlor tabled the document 'Community Funding Roadshow Flyer' for an event at Te Matapihi, Bulls on 30 September 26. This event is an opportunity for community members to engage directly

with funders. Ms Lawlor noted that funding can be hard to receive for Huntermville and this will be a great opportunity for community groups and members to explore potential funding options.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Huntermville Community Committee held on 7 October 2026.

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Chairperson