



# Rangitikei District Council

## Policy and Planning Committee Meeting

Agenda – Thursday 12 September 2019 – 1:00 p.m.

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The quorum for the Policy and Planning 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, ie 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 Public Forum**

## **3 Apologies/Leave of Absence**

## **4 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.

## **5 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.

## **6 Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 8 August 2019 are attached.

File ref: 3-CT-15-2

### **Recommendation:**

That the Minutes of the Policy/Planning Committee meeting held on 8 August 2019 [as amended/without amendments] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

## **7 Chair's Report**

A report will be tabled at the meeting.

File ref: 3-CT-15-1

### **Recommendation:**

That the 'Chair's Report' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 12 September 2019 be received.

## **8 Progress with strategic issues – Update**

With priority 4 projects (Earthquake-Prone buildings), Council agreed to undertake consultation on the location of priority areas in the urban centres over the period 7 October to 7 November 2017, with oral submissions being heard by this Committee at its meeting on 9 November 2017. As well as advising the Bulls, Marton and Hunterville Community Committees and the Taihape Community Board and making letter drops to all potentially

affected businesses and property owners, there were public meetings held in Taihape and Marton. At its meeting on 30 November 2017, Council resolved not to adopt any priority areas under section 133AF of the Building Act 2004 and to send a strong message to Government about the severe impacts of the legislation on the viability of many businesses and sustainability of the District's towns. Rangitikei was a participant in the September forum of regional mayors with the Minister of Building and Construction, Jenny Salesa, who undertook to review how the legislation affects rural towns. The initial formal assessments of building in Marton's CBD area started in September and is now complete. The process following these assessments was outlined in the Committee's March 2019 meeting agenda. The Building Amendment Act 2019, which gives councils powers to evacuate, repair, or demolish buildings which an earthquake has caused to be unsafe, comes into effect in December 2019.

An application was submitted to the Lotteries Heritage and Environment Fund in February 2018 for a grant towards a feasibility study on establishing the Marton Heritage Precinct Project as a collaborative initiative between private building owners and the Council. Funding of up to \$100,000 had been agreed to between the parties. However, Lotteries declined the application. An approach is being made to the Provincial Growth Fund.

Further work to safeguard water and wastewater treatment plants was included in the 2017/18 Annual Plan programme, continued in the 2018-28 Long Term Plan, with revised timing of elements in the 2019/20 Annual Plan. The major project is the linkage of Marton to Bulls and subsequent discharge to land, which Council confirmed as its preferred option at its meeting on 30 August 2018.

Regarding priority 5 projects, a new agreement for the continued delivery of Infrastructure Services by Manawatū District Council has been finalised between the Chief Executives of both councils. It builds on the original foundation of collaboration, but introduces a more structured arrangement and explicit performance framework. Quarterly reporting is provided to the Finance/Performance Committee, starting April 2018. This is one of the key priorities for the Principal Advisor – Infrastructure, Arno Benadie, who started on 3 September 2018.

A member of Te Roopu Ahi Kaa was appointed to the Assets/Infrastructure Committee (from its February 2017 meeting) with full speaking and voting rights. Discussions last year with the Komiti showed interest in this being extended to other Council Committees. At its meeting on 1 March 2018 Council resolved to formally extend the invitation to Te Roopu Ahi Kaa offering them a seat as contributing members to the Policy/Planning and Finance/Performance Council committees. New members were nominated (and subsequently accepted by Council) for Assets/Infrastructure and Policy/Planning Committees. The Komiti has yet to nominate a member for the Finance/Performance Committee. Last year's appointment of a Strategic Advisor Iwi/Hapu is enabling more meaningful relationships with Māori outside Te Roopu Ahi Kaa; the reorganisation of the delivery of youth programmes is securing greater interest and participation from this target group. The Memorandum of Understanding – Tutohinga is currently under review. At its meeting on 25 July 2019, Council approved the Mayor signing (on behalf of the Council) the Manatu Whakaaetanga – Memorandum of Understanding between Te Rūnanga o Nga Wairiki-Ngati Apa and the Council and having a Councillor to represent the Council at the monthly meetings. This is the first such formal agreement by Council with an individual Iwi.

There has been substantial Council involvement with Marton's Centennial Park skateboard park extension, the Marton Memorial Hall playground upgrade and the Hautapu River Parks

development proposal in Taihape: all three are community-led projects. A similar involvement is envisaged for the revival of the Onepuhi Domain. Complementing this, Council has secured community engagement in projects it has led, notably the planting at Marton's B & C Dams.

A review of the arrangements to support young people in the District resulted in the appointment of a full-time Youth Co-ordinator (instead of two part-time co-ordinators) and the opening of new youth centre ('The Lobby' in both Marton (in 2018) and Taihape (in 2019). The Rangitikei Youth awards were offered in 2016, 2017 and 2018, and again in 2019. A Youth Council has been formed, and has now had *five* meetings. The annual Youth Awards were presented on 23 May 2019.

The Policy/Planning Committee recommended to Council that the Significance and engagement policy be adopted for consultation at the same time as the Consultation Document for the 2018-28 Long Term Plan. At its meeting on 1 March 2018, Council decided to defer that consideration until its meeting on 29 March, which it did. Following deliberation on submissions at Council's meeting on 31 May 2018, the policy was adopted.

The Council's role in responding to climate change has been highlighted in the Consultation Document for the 2019/20 Annual Plan and suggestions for further action were received. It is also a topic in the Productivity Commission's draft report on local government funding and financing and an issue raised in Council's submission to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill. *On 3 September 2019, His Worship the Mayor signed a Memorandum of Understanding with all other local authorities in the Horizons region to enshrine a collaborative approach to work on climate change.*

A new Council brand is being implemented. The agendas for the October 2018 meetings of Community Boards and Community Committees included clarification on Council's plans and process for town and District signage and sought their views on local icons to be included. The roll-out of the new signage has progressed – at Hunterville, and has extended to Taihape, Turakina, Koitiata and Scotts Ferry. *Ratana, Bulls, Marton, Mangaweka and Moawhango have yet to be completed.*

## 9 Update on Communication Strategy

A report is attached.

File ref: 3-CT-15-1

### **Recommendation:**

That the 'Update on Communications Strategy' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 12 September 2019 be received.

## 10 Legislation and Governance Update, September 2019

A report is attached.

File ref: 3-OR-3-5

**Recommendation:**

That the 'Legislation and Governance Update, September 2019' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 12 September 2019 be received.

**11 Improvement plans from 2019 residents' survey**

A report will be tabled at the meeting.

**Recommendation:**

That the 'Improvement plans from 2019 residents' survey' report to the 12 September 2019 Policy/Planning Committee meeting be received.

**12 MoU framework**

A draft memorandum is attached.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Tūtohunga defines a number of protocols reflecting how the Council and the Iwi/hapū of the Rangitīkei will conduct their affairs of common interest. Te Rōpū Ahi Kā have at their last meeting requested changes/inclusions to the MOU — these areas have been reflected in red, for subsequent discussion at their next komiti hui, see the attached memorandum. The requested changes/inclusions stem from the desire to see Māori values forming part of Councils decision making processes, at both a Governance and Operation level. It is expected that following the next Te Rōpū Ahi Kā komiti hui, a request will be made to the Policy/Planning Committee (or the postelection appropriate committee) for consideration.

**Recommendation:**

That the 'Draft Memorandum of Understanding: Tūtohunga' to the 12 September 2019 Policy/Planning Committee be received.

**13 TAB Venue Policy and Gambling Venue Policy (Class 4) Review**

A report is attached.

**Recommendations:**

- 1 That the 'TAB Venue Policy and Gambling Venue Policy (Class 4) Review' report to the 12 September 2019 Policy/Planning Committee meeting be received.
- 2 That the Policy/Planning Committee recommend to Council that the draft TAB Venue Policy, draft Gambling Venue Policy (Class 4), Statement of Proposal and supporting information are released for public consultation.

## **14 Review of policies on reducing or waiving fees**

A memorandum is attached.

File: 3-PY-3-11

### **Recommendations:**

1. That the memorandum 'Review of policies on reducing or waiving fees' to the 12 September 2019 Policy/Planning Committee meeting be received.
2. That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that the policies on reducing or waiving fees – use of Council facilities and internal consenting costs

EITHER

be amended as proposed to the Committee

OR

be amended as follows.....

OR

continue without amendment.

## **15 Draft submission on Proposed priority products and priority products stewardship scheme guidelines**

A draft submission will be tabled at the meeting and circulated electronically beforehand.

### **Recommendation:**

That the 'Draft submission on Proposed priority products and priority products stewardship scheme guidelines' to the 12 September 2019 Policy/Planning Committee meeting be received and referred to Council [without amendment/as amended].

## **16 Draft submission on Proposed National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land**

A draft submission will be tabled at the meeting and circulated electronically beforehand.

### **Recommendation:**

That the 'Draft submission on Proposed National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 12 September 2019 be received and referred to Council [without amendment/as amended].

## **17 Policy options around poor state of unoccupied CBD properties**

An earlier proposal to apply a differential rating was referred to Simpson Grierson: their view was that it would be complex and it was preferable to incentivise improving the state of these buildings. A broader approach, such as Marton's heritage precinct proposal or the Levin Town Centre strategy, aims at stimulating investment in town centres, encouraging existing businesses to develop and attracting new investment.

This might be advanced for consideration as one of Councils strategic objectives for the 2019-22 triennium and, if that is decided upon, it would be advanced during the development of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

## **18 Jurisdiction Collaboration team**

This is a topic to be explored during the negotiations for the triennial agreements for local authorities in the Horizons region.

## **19 The case for a geopark in the Rangitikei**

This is an issue to be explored in the evolving economic development strategy.

## **20 Public Art in Marton**

Cr Ash will lead the discussion on this item.

## **21 Mangaweka to Utiku Disused Rail Tunnels Walk**

A report from Cr Aslett is attached.

File: 4-ED-4-5

### **Recommendation**

That the report 'Mangaweka to Utiku Disused Rail Tunnels Walk' to the 12 September 2019 Policy/Planning Committee meeting be received.

## **22 Policy & Community Planning Project and Activity Report – August 2019**

A report is attached.

File ref: 1-CO-4-8

### **Recommendations:**

- 1 That the report 'Policy & Community Planning Project and Activity Report – August 2019' to the Policy/Planning Committee on 12 September 2019 be received.



- 2 That the Policy/Planning Committee approve the funding application to the Whanganui Community Foundation of up to \$10,000 for the Swim 4 All programme 2019/2020.
- 3 That the Policy/Planning Committee approve the funding to Kiwi Sport of up to \$8,000 for the Swim 4 All programme 2019/2020.

## **23 Activity Management**

A report is attached.

File: 5-EX-3-2

### **Recommendation:**

That the report 'Activity Management' to the Policy/Planning Committee on 12 September 2019 be received.

## **24 Questions put at previous meeting for Council advice or action**

None.

## **25 Late items**

As agreed in Item 5.

## **26 Future items for the agenda**

## **27 Next meeting**

This is the final meeting of the 2016-2019 triennium.

*The inaugural meetings of the three standing committees is tentatively scheduled for 19 December 2019, starting 9.00am.*

## **28 Meeting closed**