

MINUTES

POLICY/PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, 10 February 2022

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

- Cr Angus Gordon
- Cr Cath Ash *[via Zoom]*
- Cr Fi Dalgety *[via Zoom]*
- Cr Gill Duncan *[via Zoom]*
- Cr Richard Lambert
- Cr Dave Wilson
- Mr Chris Shenton (TRAK representative)
- 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 *[via Zoom]*
- Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services *[via Zoom]*
- Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager – People and Culture *[via Zoom]*
- Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner
- Ms Anne McLeod, Acting Manager Community Development
- Mr Jaime Reibel, Strategic Advisor – Economic Development
- Ms Jen Britton, Strategic Advisor – District Promotions
- Ms Melanie Bovey, Team Leader Library Services *[via Zoom]*
- Ms Aly Thompson, Welcoming Communities Coordinator *[via Zoom]*
- Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome

The meeting opened at 1.06 pm.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/001

That the apologies for His Worship the Mayor (away on Council business), Cr Tracey Hiroa and Cr Nigel Belsham be received.

Cr A Gordon/Cr D Wilson. Carried

3 Public Forum

No public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

No changes to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/002

That the minutes of the Policy/Planning Committee meeting held on 09 December 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: Typo for resolution 21/PPL/035 (two movers and seconders).

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Policy/Planning Meetings

Staff will formally advise the next Policy/Planning Committee (April 2022) of the amount of unspent funds from the MOU for Project Marton.

In response to a query about the unspent MOU funds for Project Marton, Ms McLeod recommended that a formal resolution be made to carry the funds forward once the exact amount of remaining funds is confirmed to the Committee.

Mr Benadie advised that several Bulls properties (the old information centre and the old town hall) will be listed on the market in mid-February. Mr Beggs advised that the Mayor had contacted the relevant iwi groups and advised them of Council's intent with these properties - he does not recall there being any objection to Council's plan to sell them.

Mr Shenton joined the meeting at 1.18 pm.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/003

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Policy/Planning Meetings' be received.

Cr R Lambert/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - February 2022

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/004

That the Chair's Report – February 2022 be received.

Cr A Gordon/Cr D Wilson. Carried

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Rates Remission Policy for Maori Freehold Land

Mr Shenton advised that the amendments to this policy were received favourably by the Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/005

That the 'Rates Remission Policy for Maori Freehold Land' report be received

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/006

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommend to Council that the Rates Remission Policy for Maori Land be adopted for public consultation.

Cr G Duncan/Mr C Shenton. Carried

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Democracy & Planning Group - Operational Update

Mrs Gordon advised that staff have followed up on the request to Ngāti Waewae, regarding the offer of a Rangitikei River Accord.

HWTM joined the meeting at 1.35 pm.

Mr Shenton noted that it would be important to consider farmers within the catchment.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/007

That the report 'Democracy & Planning Group – Operational Update' be received.

Cr R Lambert/Cr G Duncan. Carried

10.2 Community Development Update - December 2021 and January 2022

In response to a query, Ms Prince advised that the new space in Taihape for the library and facilities centre was mostly up and running, although wifi and wall shelves still needed to be installed. Staff also have access to the Kokako St Pavilion for confidential meetings.

It was noted by the Committee that section 3.2 of this report should read as "... a negative *rapid antigen test*" (rather than a negative PCR test).

In response to a query, Ms McLeod advised that the Youth Council is currently open for nominations.

Regarding the Marton Harvest Festival, Ms Britton advised that staff are open to joining local events if the COVID-19 situation permits this.

Cr Duncan advised staff that the take-away activity packs for primary school aged students have not reached children in Taihape. Ms Bovey advised that these had intended to be distributed prior to Christmas 2021, but the closing of the Taihape Town Hall had interrupted this work. She will try and get these into the Taihape library as soon as possible.

The Mayor advised that there was not going to be a TUIA applicant this year. He also advised that the Ratana Community Board are considering organising a matariki celebration and/or something in conjunction with the new playground.

Welcoming Communities

Ms Thompson advised that she is currently reaching out to community members and seeing if there are opportunities for collaboration with coordinators in other areas (e.g., Palmerston North and Wellington). She indicated that she was open to guidance from Committee members to help her engage with the wider community.

Cr Gordon advised that the community development trusts used to distribute welcome packs for new residents, and he suggested that this could be a useful initiative as part of the Welcoming Communities Programme. Ms Thompson agreed.

Cr Dalgety indicated that she would contact Ms Thompson privately and pass on some contacts for local farming communities.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/008

That the report 'Community Development Update - December 2021 and January 2022' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Gordon. Carried

10.3 Economic Development Update - December 2021 and January 2022

Mr Reibel advised that he has since drafted the survey questions on behalf of the Taihape housing steering group and will distribute this survey within Taihape shortly.

In response to a query, Mr Reibel advised that a 'shared house' is a place with multiple individuals living there independently, but with shared communal areas.

Mr Reibel advised that the General Services Building in Taihape could be redeveloped, although the hospital has first choice for this location (depending on their need for capacity).

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/009

That the 'Economic Development Update - December 2021 and January 2022' be received.

Cr R Lambert/Cr C Ash. Carried

The meeting closed at 2.11 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Policy/Planning Committee held on 14 April 2022.

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Chairperson