

MINUTES

POLICY/PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, 11 August 2022

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

- Cr Angus Gordon
- Cr Tracey Hiroa
- Cr Cath Ash [*via Zoom*]
- Cr Nigel Belsham
- Cr Fi Dalgety
- Cr Gill Duncan
- Cr Richard Lambert
- Cr Dave Wilson
- Mr Chris Shenton
- HWTM Andy Watson

In attendance

- 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
- Mrs Sharon Prince, Group Manager – People and Performance [*via Zoom*]
- Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner
- Ms Georgia Etheridge, Corporate Planning Advisor
- Ms Melanie Bovey, Manager – Library Services [*via Zoom*]
- Mr Jaime Reibel, Strategic Advisor – Economic Development
- Mr Crystal Johnson, Executive Assistant
- Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome

The meeting opened at 1:00 pm.

2 Apologies

The Committee noted that the Chief Executive could not be present as he was away on urgent Council business.

3 Public Forum

No public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Item 9.3 (MoU Partner Organisations Update – August 2022) took place after item 6 (Confirmation of Minutes).

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/029

That the minutes of Policy/Planning Committee Meeting held on 9 June 2022, without amendment, 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.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Policy/Planning Committee Meetings

It was noted that the funding towards the Mahi Tahi programme is now \$450,000.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/030

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

Cr A Gordon/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - August 2022

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/031

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

Cr A Gordon/Cr G Duncan. Carried

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Democracy & Planning Group - Operational Update

Ms Gray advised that the Policy and Bylaw work programme is underway and leads out to 2028.

Ms Etheridge advised that a future workshop will be held on the Traffic and Parking bylaw.

The Committee noted that the district was potentially behind other councils with regards to having a formal smoking and vaping policy, although it was noted that there are guidelines around public smoking contained within other policy documents. Staff noted that they are always open to re-prioritising items within the work programme if elected members wish to do so.

Mr Shenton arrived at 1.10 pm.

In response to a query, Mrs Gordon advised that the Executive Leadership Team are reviewing staff's process around LGOIMA's to ensure that it aligns with the Ombudsmen's expectations. It was noted that there has been an increase of LGOIMA requests in recent months.

In response to a query, Mrs Gordon advised that a future workshop will be held on the process and transparency of Council's workshops moving forwards, as workshops form part of the Ombudsmen's investigation. Staff will also consider when meetings are livestreamed.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/032

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

Cr N Belsham/Cr G Duncan. Carried

9.2 Community Development Update - June and July 2022

It was noted that the recent Youth Council meeting had been held in the Taihape Fire Station, and that this had turned out to be a very good venue.

Cr Hiroa noted that the "local iwi provider" is different to the one mentioned in the report – the provider is Mokai Patea services.

The Committee noted their thanks to Ms Widdowson, citing the recent initiative for using the van in Taihape to travel to Forge Boxing. Staff noted that there was potential to include youth from Hunterville within this initiative. The Committee asked if those adults (including elected members) involved in these youth initiatives were police vetted. Ms Prince said that she will take this question under consideration.

In response to a query, Mr Reibel advised that the workshop around earthquake strengthening will be publicised and livestreamed.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/033

That the report 'Community Development Update – June and July 2022' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

9.3 MoU Partner Organisations Update - August 2022

Ms Pania Winiata (Taihape Community Development Trust) advised that illness and COVID-19 has proved to be a hinderance for the Trust in recent months, although they are adapting and moving forward with their planned deliverables.

In response to a query, Ms Winiata advised that the Trust is looking at other ways to distribute the Taihape Newsletter more widely.

Ms Winiata noted that the number of CCTV cameras across the district has increased, and the next stage will be to look at rural areas.

Mrs Bonnie Ellery (Bulls and District Community Trust) tabled and spoke to her report.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/034

That the report 'MoU Partner Organisations Update – August 2022' be received.

Cr G Duncan/Cr N Belsham. Carried

9.4 Regional Sport Facility Plan - 2021/22

Mr Brad Cassidy (Sport Manawatu) spoke to the Committee about the review of the regional facilities plan. Mr Aidan O'Connor (Sport Whanganui) was also present to answer questions.

The Committee noted that it was unclear what role the Ministry of Education had in the development of sports facilities at schools. Mr Cassidy agreed, noting that Sport Manawatu had to be very selective about which facilities they agreed to support as there was a limited pool of funding to go around, although there is equity available for investment.

Cr Wilson left the meeting at 1.44 pm.

In response to a query, Mr O'Connor advised the funding received by Sport Whanganui is not just for Whanganui, but for surrounding areas.

Cr Wilson returned to the meeting at 1.49 pm.

In response to a query, Mr O'Connor advised that there is a sports co-ordinator role in Whanganui, but currently no role in the Rangitikei. There may potentially be funding in the future for such a role.

The Committee noted that they were glad to see the Rangitikei come back under Sport Whanganui for support.

In response to a query around top-level performance, Mr Cassidy advised that their focus was on support for sports participation across all skill levels and that they did not focus on sports performance at the high end.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/035

That the report 'Regional Sport Facility Plan – 2021/22' be received.

Cr F Dalgety/HWTM A Watson. Carried

9.5 Community Services

In response to a query, Ms Bovey advised that there are currently no plans to host digital help classes in Hunterville, but she will undertake to look into setting these up.

Cr Wilson left the meeting at 3.12 pm.

In response to a query, staff advised that there were still some books stored in the old Taihape Library, although staff are occasionally transferring them to the new building.

Cr Wilson returned to the meeting at 3.15 pm.

Resolved minute number 22/PPL/036

That the report 'Libraries and Information Centres – June/July 2022' be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr R Lambert. Carried

The meeting closed at 3:16pm.

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Chairperson