

# SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

18 NOVEMBER 2015

## AGENDA ITEM E1

### REPORT FROM HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR

#### **Purpose of Report**

To update Council on activities and issues which have arisen since my last report to Council.

#### **Recommendations**

Her Worship the Mayor recommends that Council:

1. *Receives the information.*
2. *Provide guidance on whether to consider rebranding.*

#### **1. Wairarapa Moana Governance Group Meeting**

<b>Name</b>	Mayor Adrienne Staples
<b>Meeting – Date &amp; Venue</b>	Wairarapa Moana Governance Group Meeting 9 November 2015 GWRC Masterton
<b>Key issues from meeting</b>	Wetlands Project Update Interpretation Plan Proposal SW Schools Environmental Education Programme Contestable Funding for Community Groups 3 year work programme
<b>Specific item/s for Council consideration</b>	Contestable Funding for Community Groups – this is a new GW initiative to support community restoration projects around Wairarapa Moana. A contestable fund of \$15k has been established. Funding will be provided through an application process.
<b>General</b>	Copies of reports can be provided or are available from GWRC's website.

## 2. Wairarapa Water Use Project

<b>Name</b>	Mayor Adrienne Staples
<b>Meeting – Date &amp; Venue</b>	Wairarapa Water Use Project 9 November 2015 GWRC Masterton
<b>Key issues from meeting</b>	Project Update Leadership Group Involvement in WWUP Science and Regional Plan Update Demand Work
<b>Specific item/s for Council consideration</b>	The WWUP Governance Group wishes the TA to consider what their role is in championing the project with consideration of a formal MOU.
<b>General</b>	Copies of reports can be provided or are available from GWRC's website.

## 3. Additional Matters

An email has been received from Leigh Earnshaw regarding Council's logo (see correspondence).

Guidance is sought from Council as to whether they wish to consider rebranding.

Matters to take into consideration are:

1. Council carried out a modest 'refresh' of our logo about 3 years ago which involved reprinting of cards and stationery.
2. Current budgets have not included rebranding.
3. Is this a prudent time to rebrand given that reorganisation of the three Wairarapa councils is still very much work in progress?

Two letters have been received from Trish Higginson on behalf of the Martinborough Ratepayers Action Group (see correspondence).

Council's decision on the future plans for the Waihinga Centre will be necessary to enable an adequate reply.

## 4. Correspondence

### 4.1 Inwards

DATE	INWARDS	SUBJECT
24/09/15	Mike and Sue Anders	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
24/09/15	Trish and Graham Higginson	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
28/09/15	Stephen Baker	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
25/09/15	Hon Paula Bennett, Minister of Local Government	Report of the Rules reduction Taskforce
29/09/15 (rec'd)	Bruce and Sue Sullivan	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
30/09/15 (rec'd)	Tracey Lindsay	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
30/09/15	Greytown Trustlands Trust	Annual Report year ending 31/3/15
30/09/15	LGNZ 3	3 Waters Project position paper – Improving NZ's water, wastewater and stormwater sector.
01/10/15	Hon Paula Bennett , Minister of Local Government	Report on the Rules Reduction Taskforce.
02/10/15 (rec'd)	Casey Freeman	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
02/10/15 (rec'd)	Heather Nathu	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
02/10/15 (rec'd)	Jackie Nathu	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
02/10/15 (rec'd)	Martin Barber	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
05/10/15	Greytown Trust Lands	Annual report for year ending 31 March 2015
06/10/15	NZ Recreation Association	Recreation manifesto 2015-2016
07/10/15 (rec'd)	Michelle Warrington	*Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
07/10/15 (rec'd)	James Pittard	Targeted Rate Proposal for Martinborough Town Hall
09/10/15	CentrePort Wellington	Annual report
05/11/15	Martinborough Ratepayers Action Group	Thanks for a well-run community consultation process on the proposed targeted rate for the Waihinga Community Centre.

\*Letters addressed to the Mayor, Chief Executive and councillors. CE responded on behalf of all recipients.

## 4.2 Outwards

DATE	INWARDS	SUBJECT
12/10/15	Wairarapa United Football Club,	Letter of support of Club's entry into the National League.
12/10/15	Shavorne Simmonds	Dog Policy to be considered at next Infrastructure and Services meeting.
12/10/15	Malcolm Stayner	Council considered correspondence

## 5. Other Meetings and Engagements

DATE	ENGAGEMENT	DATE	ENGAGEMENT
12/10/15	Waihinga Centre Info Evening	29/10/15	Community Response Forum
13/10/15	Panel deliberation Youth Awards	29/10/15	Gold Awards
14/10/15	funeral	29/10/15	Disability forum
14/10/15	Rimutaka March wind up meeting	29/10/15	Secondary School Sports Awards
16/10/15	Access radio conference	02/11/15	Martinborough Community Board
16/10/15	Booktown launch	02/11/15	Shared Services/Governance
17/10/15	Greytown Kindergarten Anniversary	03/11/15	Greytown Public Meeting
17/10/15	Booktown	04/11/15	Targeted Rate Hearing
19/10/15	Wellington water	04/11/15	Kuranui College Prize Giving
19/10/15	Maori Standing Committee	07/11/15	Greytown Fire Brigade Gold Star
20/10/15	Minister Bennett	09/11/15	Featherston Public Meeting
20/10/15	Featherston Menz Shed AGM	10/11/15	Combined Council Forum
21/10/15	Civil Defence workshop	11/11/15	Armistice Day
21/10/15	Petroleum presentation	11/11/15	Infrastructure and Services
21/10/15	LGNZ Conference Committee	11/11/15	Apprentice Graduations
27/10/15	Featherston Community Board	12/11/15	Waihinga Centre Steering Group
28/10/15	Extraordinary Council Meeting		
28/10/15	Local Government Commission		
28/10/15	Greytown Community Board		

## 6. Appendix

Appendix 1 – Correspondence

Prepared By: Her Worship the Mayor, Adrienne Staples

# **Appendix 1 - Correspondence**

## Adrienne Staples - Her Worship the Mayor

---

**From:** leigh earnshaw <leighearn@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 30 October 2015 7:54 p.m.  
**To:** Adrienne Staples - Her Worship the Mayor  
**Subject:** Council Logo

Dear Mayor Staples

I was amazed by your councils logo. In this day and age, four men's hands, suits worn !!!

Please, represent our modern and equal electorate in your logo. Mayor, please make this one of your undertakings for this term in office, bring the Wairarapa into the 21st Century. The suited arms are so outdated and non-representative.

With thanks,

Leigh Earnshaw

# MARTINBOROUGH

---

## RATEPAYERS ACTION GROUP

"WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY"

Ms Adrienne Staples  
Her worship the Mayor

5 November 2015

Dear Adrienne,

Thank you for a well-run community consultation process on the proposed targeted rate for the Waihinga Community Centre. We wish to acknowledge the fairness and openness with which you and the Councillors received all the submissions, and the prompt timing of your decision on the proposal.

We believe Council passed the correct resolution given the vote among ratepayers and the submissions made at yesterday's hearing. As noted by the independent Chair, all of us want the best for Martinborough.

We note that Council has resolved to talk to the Community Centre Steering Group on next steps with the project given the fact that there could be no targeted rate for part funding. As I hope you and Council are now fully aware, this group represents a substantial body of ratepayers who wish to contribute further to discussion, information gathering and decision making on proposals for renewal and/or replacement of the old Town Hall. We seek, therefore, an early opportunity to meet with you and appropriate other members of Council and the Steering Group to share ideas.

We are confident that Martinborough and the South Wairarapa District can benefit from next steps that include both meaningful community engagement and much of the work that has been undertaken to date on the Town Hall project. We appreciate your interest and goodwill, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Higginson

*Letter to Mayor 5/11/2015*

On behalf of the Martinborough Ratepayers Action Group

MEDIA STATEMENT:

The proposed targeted rate for Martinborough ratepayers has today been voted down by South Wairarapa District Council in a unanimous decision.

We are pleased the democratic submissions process has allowed community input into this decision and Council have kept their word to listen to ratepayers.

Council have said they will now meet with the Waihinga Centre steering group to decide on the future of this project.

The Martinborough Town Hall & Community Centre project group now have the opportunity to engage the entire community in the consultation process as we move forward.

We are committed to working alongside the community to develop an affordable option for the future of the Martinborough Town Hall.



# MARTINBOROUGH

---

## RATEPAYERS ACTION GROUP

“WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY”

To: South Wairarapa District Mayor and Councillors

Her Worship, Ms Adrienne Staples  
Mayor of South Wairarapa District  
Martinborough.

11 November 2015

Dear Adrienne

Further to our correspondence of 5 November, please find attached a list of questions we wish to discuss with Council. These are intended to help build understanding of past decisions made on the Waihinga Centre proposal, and of next steps foreseen by Council and the Community Centre Steering Group.

We appreciate your efforts to set up a meeting between a Martinborough Ratepayers Action Group delegation, and yourself and appropriate Councillors as indicated in your 5 November email.

At this stage, I request that this letter and the attached questions please be tabled at Council's monthly meeting on 18 November. I also request an opportunity for myself or another member of our ratepayers group to briefly address that meeting at a suitable point on the agenda.

As stated publicly on various occasions, our purpose is simply to help Council inform the Martinborough community more fully on all aspects of the Waihinga Centre proposal, and to promote community engagement in decision making on this project by Council and the Steering Group from this point onwards.

I look forward to hearing from you in coming days about the requested meeting. I also look forward to attending Council's regular meeting on 18 November.

Yours sincerely

Trish Higginson  
On behalf of  
Martinborough Ratepayers Action Group

11/11/2015

## **Questions to SWDC Mayor and Councillors**

### **Next Steps**

1. Following Council's resolutions of 26 August and 4 November, does Council and the Community Centre Steering Group intend that the Waihinga Centre proposal will proceed in a "new form" and if so, how and when will the community be engaged in decision making on this new form? (The resolutions above bind Council not to proceed with the "current form".)
2. How and when will Council follow sections 3 and 5 of its Consultation Policy to ensure that it has determined "the overall community view" on any new form of community centre project?
3. Given that Council consulted the community on its targeted rate proposal and resolved not to proceed with that proposal, is Council able now to confirm its previously-stated position that no town hall or community centre project will have additional effect on rates in the South Wairarapa District?

### **Community Centre Steering Group**

4. Why has Council delegated so much decision making to the Community Centre Steering Group on this project? What are the Steering Group's terms of reference (as approved by the Council in October 2014 but not published on the SWDC website)?
5. How was membership of the Steering Group decided? What effort was made during 2014 or since to ensure that the group included a cross section of the Martinborough community (or in fact, was this not a Council intention)?
6. Can Council give absolute re-assurance that it retains proper oversight and accountability for the project as the community expects given the cost and significance of the project?
7. Why did the Steering Group – on Council's behalf – set about securing financial pledges from certain individuals and groups in the Martinborough community and not others? Why did Council not follow the same approach adopted when community support was solicited for the Martinborough Medical Centre, ie people were able to contribute labour, time, expertise and other resources as well, or instead of, money?

**Community Engagement & Decision Making**

8. How and why did the Council decide that the community centre project should move from a “consultation phase” into a “design phase” (as Council minutes indicate has been the case since 15 October 2014)?
9. Following the public presentation of a community centre design concept (including visual designs) in April 2014, what community submissions did the Council receive? How have those submissions or any other form of community input been considered in decision-making by Council and the Steering Group between May 2014 and November 2015?
10. In March 2012, Council held a community hearing to gather information and opinions on options for the Town Hall, including strengthening the current building or demolition with either replacement or non-replacement. Only six people submitted in favour of retaining and strengthening the existing building. On what basis, and when, did Council decide to pursue that option (and drop the others) *and* to convert a strengthened town hall into a community centre?
11. Can Council demonstrate how, in 2012 and since, it has met its obligations under sections 77, 78 and 79 of the Local Government Act 2002? (These sections place obligations on Council to assess options for the Town Hall in terms of their advantages and disadvantages, to engage the community in Council decision making and to quantify costs & benefits.)

///