



AGENDA

Featherston Community Board Wednesday, 6 August 2025

I hereby give notice that a Featherston Community Board meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, 6 August 2025

Time: 7:00 pm

**Location: Featherston Community Centre, 14 Wakefield
Street, Featherston.**

**Janice Smith
Chief Executive Officer**

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1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

Kia hora te marino
Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana
Hei huarahi mā tātou i te rangi nei
Aroha atu, aroha mai
Tātou i ā tātou katoa
Hui ē! Tāiki ē!

May peace be widespread
May the seas be like greenstone
A pathway for us all this day
Let us show respect for each other
For one another
Bind us all together!

2 APOLOGIES**3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST****4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES****5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION****6 ACTIONS FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION****7 URGENT BUSINESS**

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8.1 MINUTES OF THE FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025

Author: Shanin Brider, Advisor, Community Governance

Authoriser: Russell O'Leary, Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory

File Number:

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the minutes of the Featherston Community Board meeting held on 4 June 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Minutes of the Featherston Community Board Meeting held on 4 June 2025

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY BOARD
HELD AT THE FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, 14 WAKEFIELD STREET, FEATHERSTON.
ON WEDNESDAY, 4 JUNE 2025 AT 7:00 PM**

- PRESENT:** Cr Rebecca Gray, Mr Tui Rutherford (Chair), Mr Warren Maxwell, Ms Annelise Schroeder
- APOLOGIES:** Mr John Dennison, Cr Colin Olds
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Lina McManus (Grants and Funding Co-ordinator), Shanin Brider (Community Governance Advisor)
- PUBLIC FORUM:** Graeme Gray and Lynn Bushell from Cobblestones Museum, Ella Butler-Peck from Kuranui College, Amy Ross from Mahu Mutts and Anne Hynds.
- CONDUCT OF BUSINESS:** This meeting was held in the Featherston Community Centre, 14 Wakefield Street, Featherston. The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 7pm to 9.12pm except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

Chair Rutherford welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with karakia, followed by whakawhanaungatanga.

2 APOLOGIES

2.1 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cr Olds and Mr Dennison.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/29

Moved: Cr R Gray

Seconded: Mr W Maxwell

And resolved

That the Featherston Community Board accept apologies from Cr Olds and Mr Dennison.

CARRIED

3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Mr Maxwell noted he was a teacher at Kuranui College, so would abstain from discussion and voting on the football teams grant application. Ms Schroeder also noted she was a resident of Underhill Road.

4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES

Ms Schroeder wanted to acknowledge Miss Brider joining Council, and welcomed her to the team. Chair Rutherford acknowledged the work Anne Hynds does for the community and has nominated her to receive a community services award.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cobblestones Trust – Graeme Gray and Lynn Bushall

Graeme and Lynn spoke to their application, requesting \$1,176.83 for preservation of trees and heritage buildings from the community development fund.

Kuranui College – Ella Butler-Peck

Ella spoke to her application, requesting \$1,000 from the community development fund, for the school First XI football team to travel to tournament in Napier later this year.

Mahu Mutts – Amy Ross

Amy spoke on behalf of colleague Olivia Workman who was not able to attend. Mahu Mutts is requesting \$1,480.37 of funding for their community canine project from the community development fund.

Anne Hynds

Anne spoke to the board regarding dangers on Underhill Road. She will be making a submission to the Proposed Speed Management Plan and wanted to encourage the board to also submit in favour of the speed reduction on Underhill Road.

Foundation of Research and Equity

Pip McLean was a late apology, so staff read a speech to the board on behalf of the applicant. The Foundation of Research and Equity is requesting \$856 from the community development fund to fund their lead the change workshop in Featherston.

Divine River Trust

Lisa Birrell was an apology to attend this meeting, but provided a short video presentation which staff played for the board. Lisa is requesting \$1,000 of funding from the community development fund to support sustainable workshops in Featherston.

6 ACTIONS FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MOTION

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/30

Moved: Mr T Rutherford

Seconded: Mr W Maxwell

And resolved

That Featherston Community Board delegate authority to Chair Rutherford to submit on behalf of the board to the Proposed Speed Management Plan, supporting the speed reduction on Underhill Road.

CARRIED

ACTION: Miss Brider to liaise with staff to determine the best path forward for the board in resolving issues around public safety on Underhill Road, where concerns are not related to speed.

7 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**8.1 MINUTES OF THE FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 9 APRIL 2025****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/31**

Moved: Cr R Gray

Seconded: Mr W Maxwell

And resolved

1. That the minutes of the Featherston Community Board meeting held on 9 April 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

9 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

10 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF**10.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT REPORT****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/32**

Moved: Mr T Rutherford

Seconded: Ms A Schroeder

And resolved

1. That the Featherston Community Board receive the Community Development Grant Report.
2. That the Featherston Community Board approve the application from the **Kuranui College Girls First XI Football team** for **\$ 1,000** to support their participation in a secondary schools football tournament from the Community Development Fund.
3. That the Featherston Community Board approve the application from **Divine River** for **\$ 1,000** to their workshops and services in Featherston from the Community Development Fund, on the provision that the funds yet to be uplifted from 2023 will not be uplifted.
4. That the Featherston Community Board approve the application from the **Foundation for Equity and Research NZ** for **\$ 856** to support the Lead the Change Project: Accessibility in Action in Featherston from the Community Development Fund.
5. That the Featherston Community Board approve the application from **Cobblestones Museum** for **\$1,176.83** to support **Preservation of Trees and Heritage Buildings** from the Community Development Grant Fund.

6. That the Featherston Community Board approve the application from **Mahu Mutts** for **\$1,480.37** to support **The Canine Community Project** from the Community Development Grant Fund.
7. That the Featherston Community Board approve the application from **Wairarapa Earth School** for **\$1,000** to support **Food Forests in Schools** from the Community Development Grant Fund.

CARRIED

11 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

11.1 ACTION ITEMS REPORT

Action 390 can be closed. To go to the Strategy Working Committee. Miss Brider to locate the report and make sure this is on the agenda.

431 can be closed.

476 will be followed up by Chair Rutherford

Chair Rutherford to write letter of support for Anne Hynds in relation to her submission on the Proposed Speed Management Plan Consultation

Ms Brider to seek information from staff on the best process moving forward to deal effectively with dangers on Underhill Road, not appropriate for the Speed Management Plan.

11.2 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

Miss Brider to confirm with finance if unspent funds in operational costs roll over to the following financial year.

12 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/33

Moved: Mr T Rutherford

Seconded: Mr W Maxwell

And resolved

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution	Plain English reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter
12.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Featherston Community Board Meeting held on 9 April 2025	s7(2)(f)(i) - free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of any local authority s7(2)(f)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of Council members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7	Relates to notice of motion Chairperson's report (discussion on feasibility study)
CARRIED			

13 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

Chair Rutherford closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 9.12pm

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Mayor/Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)

9 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

10 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

10.1 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

Author: Shanin Brider, Advisor, Community Governance

Authoriser: Russell O'Leary, Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory

File Number:

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update the Featherston Community Board on their current financial position and recent income and expenditure. Note the Annual Report has not yet been audited, therefore these results may be subject to change.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Featherston Community Board as at 30 June 2025 has a grant allocation pool of \$4,332. This excludes any surplus funds as stated in the recommendations of this report.

There are still three grant allocations from the last funding round yet to be uplifted. There are also three grants with surplus funds which require further action.

The Beautification Group have completed their project for the concrete sculptures. An accountability form has been sent to this group for completion. The group has been advised they could apply again for funding if they had future projects, they would like assistance with.

As the expenditure from Flags (FCB2024/17) and Anzac Flags (FCB2024/19) was invoiced at the end of 2024, the assumption has been made that these purchases are complete.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Featherston Community Board

1. Receive the Income and Expenditure Report
2. Agree to move the \$2,290 from FCB2022/42 back to the main allocation pool for distribution
3. Agree to move the \$394 from FCB2024/17 back to the main allocation pool for distribution
4. Agree to move the \$29 from FCB2024/19 back to the main allocation pool for distribution.

BACKGROUND

The Income and Expenditure Report is supplied to the community board to ensure clear and transparent use of South Wairarapa District Council funds. Funds are used to support the ordinary operation of the community board and provide a grant fund for the community.

DISCUSSION

Members can request clarification of the Income and Expenditure Report through the Community Governance Advisor

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	This is a matter of low significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with South Wairarapa District Council Terms of Reference.
State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no implications for Māori.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.
State the possible implications for health and safety	There are no health and safety considerations

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Featherston Community Board finances to June 2025

Featherston Community Board

Community Development fund for the Period Ended 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)

**Please note the Annual report for 2024/25 has not been audited by Audit NZ, therefore these results may be subject to change.*

Allocation Grants Annual Budget 2024-25	\$	15,180
Unused funds from 2023-24	\$	27,809
Less Expenditure 2024/25 (Funds Uplifted)		
Aug-24		
FCB2024/46 Nuku Ora	\$	1,000
FCB2024/44 Wai Wheels Featherston	\$	600
FCB2024/48 Courage Dear Heart	\$	2,000
Sept-24		
FCB2024/47 - Lady Featherston Ball	\$	1,500
FCB2024/45 - Kuranui College	\$	1,000
FCB2024/35 -Featherston phoenix monthly page	\$	260
Oct-24		
FCB2024/35 -Featherston phoenix monthly page	\$	260
Nov-24		
FCB2024/57 - RNZSPCA operational	\$	500
FCB2024/57 - Featherston Community Centre Charitable Trust	\$	7,000
FCB2024/35 - Featherston phoenix monthly page	\$	260
FCB2024/17 - Flagmakers street flags	\$	1,665
Dec-24		
FCB2024/18 - Friends Automate Limited flag design	\$	250
FCB2024/18 - Friends Automate Limited flag design	\$	217
FCB2024/18 - Friends Automate Limited flag design	\$	33
FCB2024/58 - Featherston's Own Charitable Trust Matariki	\$	1,000
FCB2024/57 - Featherston Bowling Club Inc	\$	500
FCB2024/19 Flagmakers Flags	\$	1,248
Jan-25		
FCB2024/19 - Flagmakers Anzac flags	\$	89
FCB2024/35 - Featherston phoenix monthly page	\$	260
Feb-25		
FCB2025/07 Fstn Pride Parade	\$	2,600
FCB2025/07 Fstn Toy Library	\$	1,500
FCB2025/09 Mulled Wine Concerts	\$	500
FCB2024/58 He Kōtare Native Plant Nursery	\$	3,000
FCB2024/35 - Featherston phoenix monthly page	\$	260
Mar-25		
FCB2024/11 - Mulled wine concerts	\$	250
FCB2024/35 - Featherston phoenix monthly page	\$	260
Apr-25		
FCB2025/10 - Fareham Creative space	\$	863
FCB2025/26 Bower & Book	\$	295
FCB2024/35 - Featherston phoenix monthly page	\$	260
May-25		
	\$	-
Jun-25		
FCB2025/32 - Te Kura O Pat 106844/01 Grant	\$	1,000
FCB2025/32- Mahu Mutts 107040/01 Grant FCB2025/32	\$	1,480
FCB2025/32 - Divine River NZ 106846/01 Grant	\$	1,000
Less funds granted and uplifted to 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$	32,911
Balance as at 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$	10,078
Less funds not uplifted from previous Community meetings as at 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)		
FCB 2022/42 - Beautification Group - Meeting 29.09.22	\$	2,290
FCB2024/17 - Flags - Meeting 08.05.24	\$	394
FCB2024/19 - Anzac Flags - Meeting 08.05.24	\$	29
FCB2025/32 - Kuranui College Girls first XI football team - Meeting 04.06.25	\$	1,000
FCB2025/32 - Foundation for Equity and Research NZ - Meeting 04.06.25	\$	856
FCB2025/32 - Cobblestones Museum - Meeting 04.06.25	\$	1,177
Less funds not uplifted from previous community meetings	\$	5,746
Community Fund Account balance as at 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$	4,332

Featherston Community Board

Operational expenditure for the Period Ended 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)

**Please note the Annual report for 2024/25 has not been audited by Audit NZ, therefore these results may be subject to change.*

Annual Budget 2025	\$ 2,024
Less Expenditure 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	
Jul-24	
Local Governmen 104173/03 Community Boards Executive Committee levy 202	\$ 275
FCB2022/54 - Room hire for meetings	\$ 35
	\$ 35
Aug-24	
FCB2022/54 - Room hire for meetings	\$ 35
Oct-24	
FCB2022/54 - Room hire for meetings	\$ 35
FCB2024/11 - Dennison, Peter - Flyers	\$ 70
Nov-24	
FCB2022/54 - Room hire for meetings	\$ 35
Dec-24	
FCB2022/54 - Room hire for meetings	\$ 35
Jan-25	
	\$ -
Feb-25	
FCB2025/11 - Blooms in the Grove wreath for Featherston Incident	\$ 120
FCB2022/54 - Room hire for meetings	\$ 35
Mar-25	
	\$ -
Apr-25	
FCB2022/54 - Room hire for meetings	\$ 35
May-25	
Jun-25	
Featherston Pho 104964/07 FCB monthly Phoenix page	\$ 260
Featherston Pho 104964/07 FCB monthly Phoenix page	\$ 260
	\$ -
Less expenditure uplifted to 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$ 1,266
Balance as at 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$ 758
Less committed expenditure not uplifted from previous Community meetings as at 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	
Less committed expenditure not uplifted from previous community meetings	\$ -
Operational Account balance as at 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$ 758

Featherston Community Board

Training expenditure for the Period Ended 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)

Annual Budget 2025	\$ 1,012
Less Expenditure 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$ -
Less expenditure uplifted to 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$ -
Balance as at 30 June 2025 (DRAFT)	\$ 1,012

10.2 GRANT APPLICATION REPORT

Author: Shanin Brider, Advisor, Community Governance

Authoriser: Russell O'Leary, Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory

File Number: n/a

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the board with the grant applications for funding since the last meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Three applications have been received from the community this funding round. These applications are attached to this report for your consideration. The total of these applications is \$6,650.

The Featherston Community Board has a balance of \$4,332 to allocate this funding round.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Featherston Community Board:

1. Receive the Community Development Grant Report.
2. Accept/decline the application from Wai Wheels Featherston for \$600 towards advertising costs for their annual car show.
3. Accept/Decline the application from Featherston Community Patrol of up to \$5,700 for funding towards the annual subscription to monitor cameras
4. Accept/Decline the application from Friends of St Therasas for \$250 to koha Featherston Patrol on gala day.

BACKGROUND

South Wairarapa District Council is committed to promoting sustainable social, economic, cultural and environmental outcomes within the district. One way to achieve this is to provide community investment via grants to eligible community groups and projects benefiting the people of South Wairarapa.

The Featherston Community Board has delegated authority to make financial decisions within the allocated and available budget. The Board operates its grant fund in accordance with the Council's Grants Policy. The Grants Policy applies to all grants funded by Council, including Committees and Community Boards.

Community boards are allocated funding for grants through the Long-Term Plan/Annual Plan.

Grant allocations and board expenditure must be made by resolution at a formal meeting.

DISCUSSION

Under the current Grants Policy, eligibility for Community Board grants include:

- Community organisations, marae committees, school, an individual, or a group of individuals who have come together for a common purpose to benefit the South Wairarapa.
- Whilst the applicant does not need to be based in the South Wairarapa or the ward from where the funds are being sought, they should be able to demonstrate that the activity benefits the local community.

Under the current Grants Policy, the following allocation principles are applied:

- We are impartial and treat all applicants fairly.
- We operate transparently while protecting applicant's financial confidentiality

OPTIONS

The board may choose to fully fund, partially fund, or decline the applications presented.

CONSIDERATIONS

Financial

The Featherston Grant Fund and Community Development Fund was allocated to the Community Boards from the Council's Enhanced Annual Plan process. Therefore, the delegation for decision making is with the Featherston Community Board and has no further impact on the Council's AP/LTP, OPEX/CAPEX, rating impact or procurement process.

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Full consideration has been given to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 S77 in relation to decision making, in particular:

1. A Local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,
 - a) Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and
 - b) Assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
 - c) If any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.
2. This section is subject to Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions.

Compliance requirement	Staff assessment
State the level of significance (high or low) of the issue or proposal as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy	This is a matter of no significance.
State the relevant Council policies (external or internal), legislation, and/or community outcomes (as stated in the Long Term Plan) that relate to this decision.	This report complies with Grant Policy.

State the possible implications for Māori and how Māori have been provided with an opportunity to contribute to decision making if this decision is significant and relates to land and/or any body of water.	There are no implications for Māori.
Chief Financial Officer review	The Chief Financial Officer has not reviewed this report.
State the possible implications for health and safety	None

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Application from Wai Wheels Featherston**
- Appendix 2 Application from Featherston Community Patrol**
- Appendix 3 Application from Friends of St Therasas**

From: enquiries@swdc.govt.nz <enquiries@swdc.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:38 PM

To: Grants <grants@swdc.govt.nz>

Subject: New submission from Grant Application Form

Name
Gillian Higgison
Organisation (if applicable):
Wai Wheels Featherston
Physical address:
Postal address:
Phone No. (Day):
Mobile No.:
Email:
waiwheelsfeatherston@gmail.com
Would you like to speak in support of your application?
No
Through our funding we support one-off and ongoing activities. Please select which type of funding you are applying for:
Project or event funding
Using this flow chart, please select which funding pool you are applying for:
Featherston Community Board
Activity, initiative, or project title (this will be recorded publicly):
Wheels & Deals Car Show and Swap Meet
Please select which of the funding outcomes your activity aligns with:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Social/Oranga Hauora
Please describe your activity and how it supports the above outcome(s):
Our car show and swap meet has become a Featherston annual event. This event brings the community together and fundraises for local organisations. Visitors come from out of town for this so local businesses and tourism benefit from this as well.

How will you know these outcomes have been achieved?
Feedback from people and local businesses. Monies raised for local organisations. Feedback from the beneficiaries of the fundraising, this has always been positive and to date has enabled them to achieve the desired outcomes.
Start date of proposed activity:
16/11/2025
Anticipated completion date:
16/11/2025
Where will the activity or project take place (check as many as applicable)?
<input type="checkbox"/> Featherston
How many people will participate in your project, activity or initiative?
In excess of 250 show cars with an expected passenger and driver in each. as well as stall holders and vendors.
How many people will benefit from your project, activity or initiative?
Beneficiary will be Local Schools. Free entry for public.
Does your project have an effect on climate change?
Unknown
Do you have any further comments you would like to add?
This event has proven to be popular. bringing people into our town and involving many locals. We offer a great family day of entertainment. Gate takings and a locally run Quiz evening will be donated to the local recipients.
Total cost of the project (e.g. venue hire, food, presenters, performers, marketing, building works):
\$5000
Amount applied for in this application:
\$600
Untitled
Advertising in Featherston Phoenix \$295+GST Advertising in Petrolhead Magazine \$563.50+GST Advertising in Wairarapa Times Age \$345+GST
Your organisation's contribution:
\$1200
Other outside funding (please supply brief details, see South Wairarapa Fund Finder for more information):

FOCT \$600 Sponsorship \$1100 As part of sponsorship we also get trophies made and engraved at no charge, Billboard signs made at no charge and products donated for raffles and giveaways.
Project income (if applicable, e.g. generated from sales to public):
\$4000
Have you ever applied to SWDC for funding before?
Yes
When, for what purpose and how much was granted?
Last year we received \$600 towards advertising.
Are you in the process of applying for any further SWDC funding?
No
Are you GST registered?
No
Please enter your bank account details:
<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 1.2em;"></div>
I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
I agree that the necessary documentation listed below is attached to this application.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
I confirm that we will complete a grant accountability form within 12 months of the date the grant is paid out.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
The organisation will keep receipts/records of all expenditure for seven years.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
All expenditure will be accounted for in the Accountability Report.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
(If working with children) I confirm our organisation has an appropriate working with children policy e.g. Child Safeguarding/Protection policy.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Please enter your full name:

Jill Higgison

Designation:

Wai Wheels Administrator

File

- [FCB-letter.docx](#)
- [2025-Show-Poster.jpg](#)
- [Wai-Wheels-Committee-Printout.pdf](#)

The Wai-Wheels Team once more value the opportunity to be able to approach the Board in relation to funding assistance of \$600.00 in presenting Featherston's 4th annual 'Wheels & Deal Car Show & Swap Meet' at Card Reserve Johnston St, Featherston on Sunday the 16th November.

While the team have been proactive leading up to the Show and have raised monies to cover most expenses, the assistance of \$600.00 would assist with local and national advertising essential in promoting the Show. We have been able to negotiate a good discount from 2 providers that enable a great lead up exposure to Show Day.

The main purpose of this event is as a Fundraiser to benefit local recipients in the town, we also take the opportunity to promote our great community with its many benefits such as great schools, variety of clubs and sporting teams and awesome support services available for residents. Then for the visitors to the town – we showcase our historical achievements such as Featherston's Military history, our Railways development and Rural Farming successes along with a display of our own collection of Speciality, Vintage & Working vehicles. This event will be beneficial for local Businesses, local Tourism and our Community in general.

This year adding to our program will be an area for the schools to showcase themselves, with marketable goods such as fresh drinks, sausage sizzle or market stalls, along with fun for the family including, food caravans, rides, market & memorabilia stalls and the main attraction - a display of the beautifully restored Classic Cars/Trucks & Bikes of all makes from all from all eras.

The total amount of entry fees for both Show cars and vendors will be going to the South Featherston School & Kahutara Country School for exciting and specific projects within the schools. Based on our past events, expected monies from the entries should raise around \$4,000.00 to be divided between the schools for special projects they have planned.

Once more thank you for the opportunity to approach you and we hope you will consider this venture and our application favourably.

Yours Sincerely
Barbara Priest
for Wai-Wheels Featherston Team



MUSIC RAFFLES

WAI WHEELS
- FEATHERSTON -
4th Annual

VENDORS TROPHIES

**WHEELS & DEALS
CAR SHOW & SWAP MEET**

ENTRY
PUBLIC - GOLD COIN DONATION
SHOW CARS/BIKES - \$10
VENDORS - \$20

NOV 16TH
10AM TO 2PM
CARD RESERVE
Featherston
For more info
contact Vince 0274479990
or Graham 0210737177

From: enquiries@swdc.govt.nz <enquiries@swdc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 8 July 2025 10:36 pm

To: Grants <grants@swdc.govt.nz>

Subject: New submission from Grant Application Form

Name
Vicky Alexander
Organisation (if applicable):
Featherston Community Patrol
Physical address:
[REDACTED]
Postal address:
[REDACTED]
Phone No. (Day):
[REDACTED]
Mobile No.:
[REDACTED]
Email:
[REDACTED]
Would you like to speak in support of your application?
Yes
Through our funding we support one-off and ongoing activities. Please select which type of funding you are applying for:
Operational/ongoing funding
Using this flow chart, please select which funding pool you are applying for:
Featherston Community Board
Activity, initiative, or project title (this will be recorded publicly):
Remote Technical Support Subscription for CCTV Cameras
Please select which of the funding outcomes your activity aligns with:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social/Oranga Hauora • Economic/Oranga Ōhanga
Please describe your activity and how it supports the above outcome(s):
The Featherston Community Patrol has managed to fund the installation of 4 LPR CCTV camera systems on each of the access road into Featherston, plus an additional camera near the supermarket. These cameras demonstrated their value within weeks of their installation. There is, however, an annual 4G Data Connection and Remote Technical Support Subscription of \$5700 plus gst
How will you know these outcomes have been achieved?

The Community Patrol will be invoiced each year for this subscription fee by the Smart Security Solutions, 'Blue Eagle', who monitor the operation of these cameras.
Start date of proposed activity:
01/09/2025
Anticipated completion date:
30/09/2025
Where will the activity or project take place (check as many as applicable)?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Featherston • South Wairarapa • Wairarapa
How many people will participate in your project, activity or initiative?
Blue Eagle Smart Security Solutions
How many people will benefit from your project, activity or initiative?
Wairarapa-wide
Does your project have an effect on climate change?
Unknown
Do you have any further comments you would like to add?
We are able to provide a reference from the Senior Sergeant of the Wairarapa Police Prevention Team, commending how effective these cameras have already proven in crime fighting, including the apprehension of the culprits involved in two murders, one in Lower Hutt where the person responsible fled to the Wairarapa, and the second when a male was shot and killed in the Fresh Choice carpark in Featherston. As a result of both instances there are three males in custody facing murder charges.
Total cost of the project (e.g. venue hire, food, presenters, performers, marketing, building works):
5700.00+gst
Amount applied for in this application:
Any contribution up to the project cost would be much appreciated
Untitled
The full payment covers 4G Data Connection and Remote Technical Support Subscription (per year), 1x unlimited 4G Data connection per camera; 1 x hour per month of remote technical support; 1 x yearly software updates of all hardware; 1 x system health reporting service to notify of any possible errors; 1 x connection of the system to the police to aid their investigations. *This fee is subject to a price increase of 45% per annum or in line with the CPI+1%, whichever is greater
Your organisation's contribution:
Other outside funding (please supply brief details, see South Wairarapa Fund Finder for more information):
At this stage we have not applied for other funding, but intend to do so. The Community patrol receives no government or dedicated funding and relies totally on grants and

donations. To find \$5700+gst is a huge sum, so we are going to apply to as many Fund Finder groups as we can in the hope of securing this necessary amount.
Project income (if applicable, e.g. generated from sales to public):
-
Have you ever applied to SWDC for funding before?
Yes
When, for what purpose and how much was granted?
For the initial purchase of the 4 x LPR CCTV Cameras in 2024, SWDC kindly granted \$30,000
Are you in the process of applying for any further SWDC funding?
No
Are you GST registered?
No
Please enter your bank account details:
[REDACTED]
I/we agree to provide SWDC additional information in relation to this application if requested
Yes
I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
I agree that the necessary documentation listed below is attached to this application.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
I confirm that we will complete a grant accountability form within 12 months of the date the grant is paid out.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
The organisation will keep receipts/records of all expenditure for seven years.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
All expenditure will be accounted for in the Accountability Report.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Please enter your full name:
Vicky Gay Alexander
Designation:
Secretary

Smart Security
Solutions



QUOTE

Attention:
Featherston Community Patrol

Date
19 August 2024

Valid To: 18 September 2024

Quote Number
Q16869

Blue Eagle Ltd
Head Office:
7-9 Commerce St
Porirua
Wellington NZ
E: admin@blue-eagle.com
W: www.blue-eagle.com
P: +64 (0) 4 8311112

Featherston CCTV Solution

This proposal is for the supply and installation of four LPR CCTV camera systems in the town of Featherston. The purpose of these cameras is to provide protection and peace of mind to the people of Featherston and to assist the Police in carrying out their investigations of crimes committed in the area. These cameras will be located in four key spots as identified with Warren and the local community. At each location, we will require a power supply from the host premises, and the ability to mount the hardware in a suitable location to provide best possible coverage.

Tasks	Time	Rate	Amount
Items License Plate Recognition(LPR) Kit Includes: 1 x Recorder (Approx. 45 days recording capacity) 1 x 4G Router (To provide remote login capability for reviewing footage) 1 x UPS Battery Backup with Surge Protection (This device keeps the system operating for a limited time during a power failure and provides surge protection to the sensitive electronics) 1 x Dual lens LPR Camera. 1 x Cabling kit for the camera and associate hardware 1 x Consumables (Waterproofing, Fixings etc) 1 x Installation (Technician installation by an approved security technician)	4.00	5,905.76	23,623.04
Access Equipment - 1 Day Usage	1.00	475.00	475.00
4G Data Connection and Remote Technical Support Subscription (Per Year) This fee includes: 1 x Unlimited 4G Data connection per camera. 1 x Hour per month of remote technical support. 1 x Yearly software updates of all hardware. 1 x System health reporting service to notify of any possible errors. 1 x Connection of the system to the Police to aid their investigations. *This fee is subject to a price increase of 4% per annum or in line with the CPI +1%, which ever is greater.	1.00	5,700.00	5,700.00
Subtotal			29,798.04
15% GST on Income			4,469.71
Total			34,267.75



Gill Flower
Senior Sergeant
Prevention Manager – Wairarapa

Vicky Alexander
Featherston Community Patrol
Featherston

6th June 2025

To Whom it May Concern

A few months ago, the Featherston Community Patrol put a proposal into the SWDC to install several cameras around the Featherston CBD. This was so the Police could monitor vehicle movements on critical roadways, disorderly behaviour on the streets, property damage and crimes of violence.

Around the 10th December 2024 these cameras were installed at three critical locations on SH2 and also at one location on SH53. These cameras have the ability to not only monitor critical locations, they also have the ability to record and read number plates (NPR).

Within 7 days of operation, these cameras were utilised by the Police after a person wanted for murder in the Hutt Valley was seen driving through Featherston. Within two days this male was arrested and is now before the courts.

In March this year a male was shot and killed in the Fresh Choice car park in Featherston. The new cameras recorded the whole incident, and two males are now in custody facing murder charges.

The Wairarapa Police are grateful to the Featherston Community Patrol team and the SWDC for installing these cameras as they have had an immediate effect on monitoring and reducing crime by identifying offender's and the vehicles they drive.

Yours Sincerely

Gill Flower

Senior Sergeant

Prevention Manager – Wairarapa Police

From: enquiries@swdc.govt.nz <enquiries@swdc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 22 July 2025 7:43 pm

To: Grants <grants@swdc.govt.nz>

Subject: New submission from Grant Application Form

Name
Cheryl Gallaway
Organisation (if applicable):
Friends of St Teresas FOSTA
Physical address:
Bell Street Featherston 5710
Postal address:
Bell Street Featherston 5710
Phone No. (Day):
[REDACTED]
Mobile No.:
[REDACTED]
Email:
[REDACTED]
Would you like to speak in support of your application?
No
Through our funding we support one-off and ongoing activities. Please select which type of funding you are applying for:
Project or event funding
Using this flow chart, please select which funding pool you are applying for:
Featherston Community Board
Activity, initiative, or project title (this will be recorded publicly):
Spring Gala 2025
Please select which of the funding outcomes your activity aligns with:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social/Oranga Hauora
Please describe your activity and how it supports the above outcome(s):
<p>The St Teresa's Spring Gala is run by the fabulous fundraising team to benefit all our students. It is a popular community event, raising funds to support various school initiatives and projects. Our recent fundraising efforts have helped fund a new junior playground and helping to purchase a school van. We are now raising funds to go towards our outdoor areas, obstacle course, a new sandpit, outdoor learning, play equipment and supporting St Teresa's students.</p>

We are applying to the community board for a grant so that we can koha the Featherston community Patrol for their crucial role in keeping the hundreds of patrons safe during the gala by manning the pedestrian crossing between St Terasa's school grounds and The Anzac Hall, both of which are in use by visitors during the gala.
How will you know these outcomes have been achieved?
We know that the outcome of keeping the community safe and well is achieved by the community being looked after by the experienced community patrol. This happens during an exciting and busy day where young and old come out to enjoy them selves and support the local school with their fundraising efforts. In turn the koha to the Community Patrol will further support community well being.
Start date of proposed activity:
24/08/3035
Anticipated completion date:
24/08/3035
Where will the activity or project take place (check as many as applicable)?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Featherston
How many people will participate in your project, activity or initiative?
500+
How many people will benefit from your project, activity or initiative?
500+
Does your project have an effect on climate change?
Unknown
Amount applied for in this application:
250.00
Untitled
\$250 to koha the Featherston Community Patrol
Have you ever applied to SWDC for funding before?
No
Are you GST registered?
No
I/we agree to provide SWDC additional information in relation to this application if requested
Yes
I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes
I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes
I agree that the necessary documentation listed below is attached to this application.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes
I confirm that we will complete a grant accountability form within 12 months of the date the grant is paid out.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes
The organisation will keep receipts/records of all expenditure for seven years.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes
Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes
All expenditure will be accounted for in the Accountability Report.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes
(If working with children) I confirm our organisation has an appropriate working with children policy e.g. Child Safeguarding/Protection policy.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes
Please enter your full name:	
Cheryl Gallaway	
Designation:	
Parent Volunteer	

11 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

11.1 ACTION ITEMS UPDATE

Author: Shanin Bridger, Advisor, Community Governance

Authoriser: Russell O'Leary, Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory

File Number: n/a

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to keep the Featherston Community Board up to date with current outstanding actions and resolutions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Action items from previous meetings are presented to the Featherston Community Board for information. The Chair may ask Council officers for comments and all members may ask Council officers for clarification and information through the Chair.

If the action has been completed between meetings it will be shown as 'actioned' for one meeting and then will remain in a master register but no longer reported on.

As this is the final meeting, and there are likely to be changes to reporting in the next triennium, below are the actions remaining as they currently stand, and updates against actions where provided.

Action No.	Action description	Update
390	Berm Planting Policy	Was to be closed and on the SWC agenda, but the report was not appropriate to be considered. An update will be provided to the board and a plan put in place to progress this initiative in the new triennium if there is interest
476	Website updates to include strategic plans	The website needs a lot of updating when it comes to board information and grant information. Once new members are elected it will all be done at once and be kept updated
196	Suitable criteria for road naming in the Featherston Ward	Work on street names will follow the Māori Policy work which was presented to the Māori Standing Committee on 29 July. This is sitting with the Pou Māori
	Request to add the project title onto the accountability report	Update to be provided at meeting
	Chair Rutherford to write a letter of support for Anne Hynds	Update to be provided at meeting

	regarding her Speed Management submission	
	Process for moving forward with safety concerns on Underhill Road	Annelise has provided the Community Governance Advisor a summary of safety issues on this road. An update will be provided at the next meeting.
	Do operational budgets roll over to the following year	No. The Community Development Fund surplus will be put into reserves, but operational and training budgets are reset.

APPENDICES**Nil**

12 CHAIRPERSON REPORTS

12.1 UNDERHILL ROAD SAFETY REPORT

Author: Annelise Schroeder, Ms

Authoriser: Russell O'Leary, Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory

File Number:

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update the board on safety issues relating to Underhill Road.

DISCUSSION

Annelise to provide a verbal update to her report which is attached to this cover.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Underhill Road Safety Concerns - Report by Annelise Schroeder

FCB Member's Report

Annelise Schroeder

6 August 2025

Safety issues on Underhill Road

Safety on Underhill Road, stretching from Harrison Street in Featherston to the Tauwharenikau River, has long been a focus of community concern. Despite its growing role as part of the Five Towns Trail and access route to public amenities such as Barr-Brown Reserve and the Featherston Junior Football Club, the road remains unfit for the volume and diversity of users now relying on it.

This report outlines the key safety issues observed and documented along Underhill Road, from its southern urban edge through to the rural gravelled northern stretch. While a minor speed reduction is being consulted on, it is clear that much broader and more targeted improvements are needed to genuinely improve real and perceived safety.

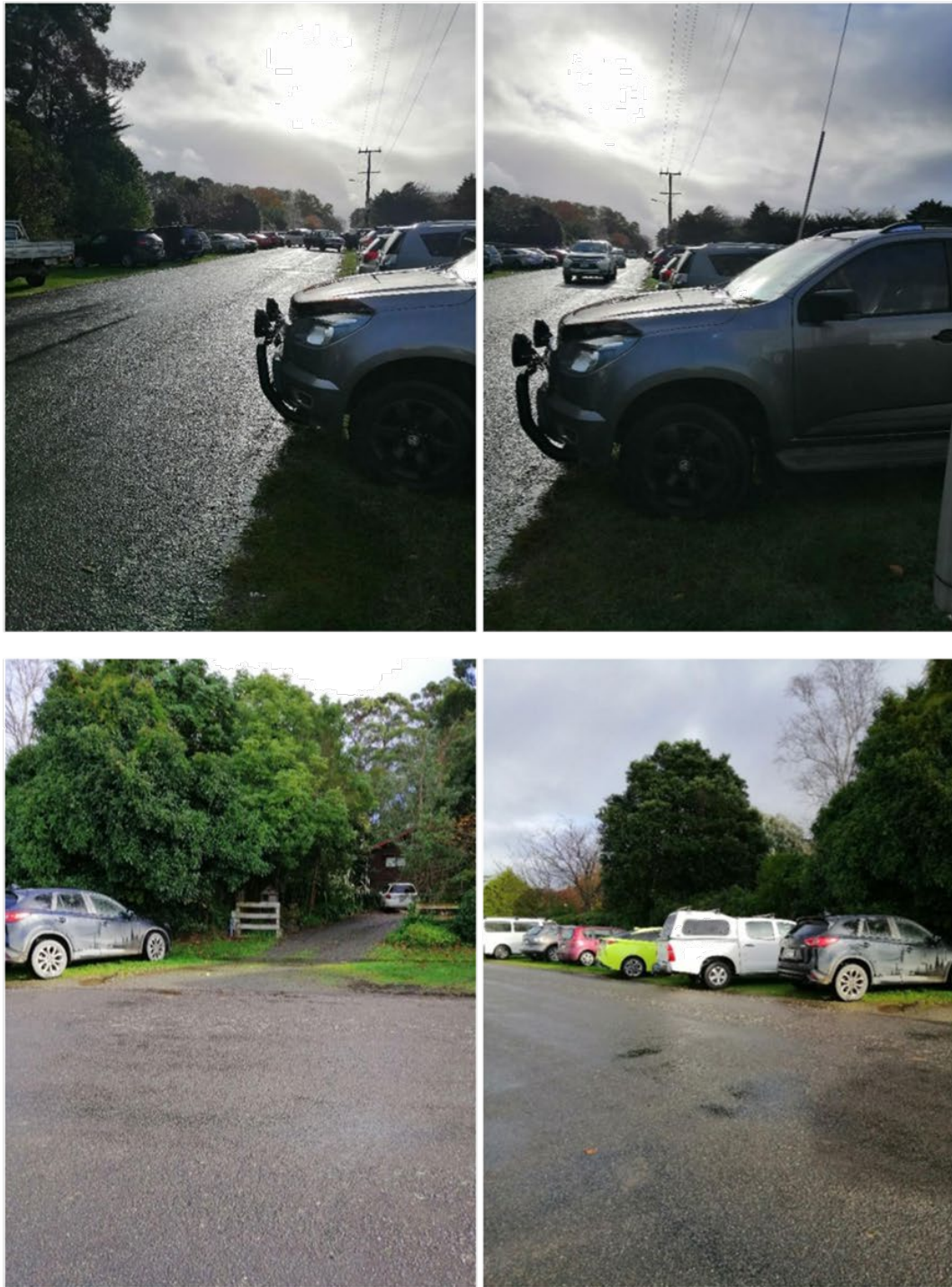
1. Southern end/sports hub area

At the southern end of Underhill Road, the Featherston Junior Football Club draws large numbers of people every winter weekend - especially families with young children. With no formal parking or footpaths, parents, children and other pedestrians are left to navigate muddy verges and moving traffic.

"It's not wide enough for people to park and safely walk to the grounds - an especially acute nightmare when we have 500 kids between the ages of 4-12 there at the same time." - Featherston Junior Football Club (FJFC)

The only pedestrian access to the sportsground from this part of Underhill Road is via a small gate across the road from number 69. This gate opens directly onto the roadside, where there is no paved path or safe crossing point. At dusk and during busy Saturday mornings, the situation becomes dangerous, with people walking in the vehicle lane.

On busy practice nights and winter mornings, visibility is further compromised by low light and the number of vehicles parked closely along both sides of the road. Parents are often carrying gear, pushing strollers, or supervising small children, making the lack of any safe pedestrian route particularly risky. Even minor modifications - such as a gravel path or warning signage - would make a meaningful difference.



Images 1-4: Vehicles parked outside 69 to 73 Underhill Road for Saturday morning football matches, 21 June 2025



Images 5-7: Vehicles and families on Underhill Road after football practice, dusk, 12 June 2025

Vehicles park chaotically, making it difficult for residents of Titoki Grove and numbers 69 and 71 Underhill Road (and sometimes beyond) to enter or exit driveways and for children to be seen when crossing the road. After rain, verges become saturated and deeply rutted. Flooding is common on the verges outside 51-57 Underhill Road.



Images 8-10: Verges outside 69 Underhill Road after football practice, 3 July 2025



Image 11: Verge after Saturday morning football matches, 22 June 2025



Image 12: Damage to verge months after football season has ended, September 2024, also showing small pedestrian gate and football clubhouse (Google Street View image)

2. Sportsground infrastructure

Some of the safety issues stem from inadequate facilities inside the grounds. According to the FJFC:

- Clubroom toilets could be repurposed as public toilets to reduce reliance on club access.
- New equipment lockups, perhaps at the back of the South Wairarapa Sports Stadium, would reduce the need for vehicles to be driven onto muddy grass.
- A “football wall” (kick wall) would give children a defined play area.
- Safer pathways and dedicated parking would significantly ease congestion and protect pedestrians.

“A row of garages/lockups ... would also enable clubs to purchase additional equipment without having to worry about where to store it ... Win/win.” - FJFC

These infrastructure changes go hand-in-hand with road safety. They deserve inclusion in any holistic safety improvement plan for the area.

These are not aspirational upgrades; they are practical responses to well-documented and persistent issues. The same concerns arise year after year. As one club organiser put it, “This isn’t about

convenience - it's about safety and basic usability." Including these improvements in any safety planning is not just sensible, but necessary.



Images 13-16: Junior football festival 2023, showing inadequate parking infrastructure for cars, trailers and buses, and lack of pedestrian safety measures near Titoki Grove

3. Midsection of Underhill Road

This stretch of Underhill Road is visually deceptive. Although sealed and relatively flat, it has no formed shoulder, markings or space for cyclists and pedestrians. Waka Kotahi has identified in Research Reports 255 and 300 that long, straight roads like this subconsciously encourage drivers to speed - even where posted limits are low - especially when there are few visual cues or interventions to signal a change in environment.

“Straightening roads, widening them or adding passing lanes without visual cues all increase speed. Visual treatments such as narrowing and threshold treatments can counteract this effect.” - NZTA RR 300, “The influence of visual cues on speed behaviour”, <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/research/reports/300/300.pdf>



Image 17: Underhill Road looking north from outside number 73, showing cyclists and “runway” effect of straight stretch of open road beyond

The intersection of this midsection with the entrance to Barr-Brown Reserve is a particular hazard. The Council actively promotes this reserve as:

“A magical 400-year-old native bush remnant with a network of short walks to explore and towering mātai trees. Access from Underhill Road.” - SWDC, “Parks and Reserves”, <https://swdc.govt.nz/parks-reserves/>

However, there is no visible entrance from the road. Visitors exit the track immediately after a narrow bridge with no shoulder, no warning signage and poor visibility. We observed families with young children and walkers with dogs on leads exiting this track straight onto the road. There are no advance warnings or signs to indicate that this is a pedestrian access point - a basic oversight that could be rectified quickly with modest investment. A gravel pull-off or widened shoulder at this location would allow vehicles to park safely and give walkers a buffer from fast-moving traffic.

This is a clear mismatch between encouraged recreational use and infrastructure safety.



Image 18: Underhill Road looking north from outside number 79, showing bridge with (hidden) BBR access on left (Google Street View image)



Image 19: Damage to road surface just past the bridge

4. Gravel section/northern end

North of the sealed section, Underhill Road becomes gravel - and considerably more hazardous. Anne Hynds, a local resident, has documented four car crashes within a short stretch where the seal ends and gravel begins. Large potholes and the abrupt change in surface are frequent causes.

“The photos were of three car accidents down Underhill Road all just after the tarseal meets the gravel ... Another one (a fourth) happened almost at the same site ... the powerpole was taken out. No power for residents and the road was closed for several hours.” - Anne Hynds



Images 19-21: Three vehicle accidents on the gravel section of Underhill Road in 2024

Council staff acknowledged safety concerns in the original Featherston Quarry consent, stating:

“While traffic management did not present concerns, it was pointed out that the narrowness of the road would make it difficult for two trucks to pass. However, it is a straight road and trucks should be travelling at a low speed so all road users will have adequate warning, should they need to pull to the side.” - SWDC Featherston Quarry resource consent, <https://swdc.govt.nz/featherston-quarry-consent/>, 4 March 2022

Why should vulnerable road users be expected to pull aside for heavy trucks? Even if drivers are courteous, the dust clouds created by quarry traffic can make it impossible to see anything on the road. This is especially bad in the summer, when there are not only more cyclists and walkers but also increased holiday traffic to and from the DOC campsite and swimming hole on Bucks Road. Even ordinary weekdays will see up to 20 heavy vehicle movements to and from the quarry year-round. These trucks, often with attached trailers, are noisy and create vibrations that can be felt inside homes.



Image 22: Clouds of dust raised up by a heavy truck, completely obscuring Underhill Road

Image 23: Quarry truck on narrow sealed stretch near the gravel transition

The truck drivers are, by all accounts, professional and courteous. However, the physical limitations of the road - its width, surface condition, and lack of escape space - create unavoidable risks. Unlike more typical quarry access roads, Underhill Road is shared with homes, farms, recreational users and the district's growing network of cycle trails. It's a mixed-use road being asked to carry a load it was never designed for.

5. Cycle trail

In 2024, a 2.2 km trail was built alongside the gravel section of Underhill Road, helping cyclists avoid the worst of the truck traffic. According to the Greytown Trails Trust:

“The final piece of the puzzle is now in place ... The southern portion of Underhill Road can be busy at times with trucks coming and going from a nearby quarry but now cycling from Featherston to the Tauwharenikau Rail Trail Bridge is now so much safer.” - *Trailblazer* newsletter, <https://greytowntrails.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Trail-Blazer-DECEMBER-2024.pdf>, December 2024

This is a positive step. However, safety issues remain on the sealed section of Underhill Road, where cyclists continue to share narrow unmarked space with all vehicles. Since the cycle bridge opened in 2022, cycle numbers have increased significantly.

“Cyclists and walkers will be able to travel between Featherston and Greytown in a direct and scenic way while avoiding the state highway.” - Harry Wilson, then SWDC CEO, “News: Excitement builds as bridge nears completion”, <https://swdc.govt.nz/news/news-excitement-builds-as-bridge-project-nears-completion/>, 9 July 2022

Unfortunately, the current route along Underhill Road arguably presents more hazards than the state highway itself, which at least has safety features and regular maintenance.

6. Speed review

The Council’s draft speed review proposes to reduce the speed limit from 100 to 60 kph on the gravel section and from 50 to 40 kph at the southern end. While this is a start, it does little to address the true safety issues:

- There are no visual or physical road changes to encourage speed reduction.
- No paths or shoulders exist for non-vehicle users.
- Signage and road markings remain inadequate.
- Congestion and visibility issues persist.

Research consistently shows that signage alone is not enough. Waka Kotahi’s studies highlight that visual cues and road design are essential to get drivers to slow down:

“Drivers make speed choices based on the visual appearance and feel of the road, not the posted speed limit.” – NZTA RR 255, “The influence of road infrastructure on speed limits”, <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/research/reports/255/255.pdf>

In this context, reducing posted speeds without improving the physical layout of the road is unlikely to significantly change driver behaviour or improve safety for other users.

This report does not seek to criticise individual drivers or council staff, but to highlight an increasingly urgent misalignment between infrastructure, expectations and actual use. Underhill Road connects our community and helps visitors enjoy our region - but right now, it also puts them at risk. With modest, targeted investment, this can change.

Prepared in good faith by Annelise Schroeder (Featherston Community Board member), with assistance from local residents, the Featherston Junior Football Club, and publicly available sources including SWDC, Waka Kotahi, NZ Herald, and the Greytown Trails Trust. Photos by David Coates, Anne Hynds, Annelise Schroeder and Google Maps.

12.2 BROWN-BARR RESERVE UPDATE**Author:** Annelise Schroeder, Ms**Authoriser:** Russell O'Leary, Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory**File Number:****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the board on the topic of Barr-Brown Reserve.

DISCUSSION

Attached to this cover are the following documents for discussion:

- The current update for board members
- The update from September 2024 provided to the board
- An email request made to Council from Celia Barr Brown

APPENDICES**Appendix 1** Barr-Brown Reserve update July 2025**Appendix 2** Barr-Brown Reserve update September 2024**Appendix 3** Email request from Celia Barr-Brown

FCB Member's Report

Annelise Schroeder

6 August 2025

Barr-Brown Reserve update**Where we were**

In September 2024, I submitted a report to the Featherston Community Board and the Strategic Working Committee outlining the situation at Barr-Brown Reserve, a much-loved remnant of native bush off Underhill Road. Following some unsympathetic developments earlier that year, community members had begun actively reconnecting with the site and discussing its future.

At the time, a new Facebook group, the Barr-Brown Reserve Users Group, had been formed to share updates and ideas, and a community meeting onsite included members of the public, council staff, and descendants of Alan Barr-Brown, whose family donated the land. The Barr-Brown family followed this up with a formal request to council that the reserve be reclassified as a scenic reserve, a step first proposed and approved in principle back in 2009. That request received no reply for nine months.

Meanwhile, community stewardship of the reserve continued, including regular pest control by Predator Free Featherston and informal monitoring by local residents.

Where we are now

Earlier this year, in response to renewed questions, Council staff advised that reclassification, along with planning and management of the reserve, would be addressed through a district-wide review of reserve management plans, scheduled to begin in 2025/26.

However, the recently adopted Long-Term Plan 2025-34 contains no mention of Barr-Brown Reserve, nor of reclassification, reserve management plans or any related project. The LTP does include a single line item allocating \$512,500 in 2026 under the heading "Featherston greenspace," along with a note that "Featherston Community Board's request to include Featherston greenspace in the budget was resolved." It is unclear what this funding refers to or whether it includes any provision for Barr-Brown Reserve. It does not appear to reflect the clear and specific requests made by the Community Board or the Barr-Brown family over the past year.

A separate issue earlier this year also highlighted the risk of council acting without fully understanding the reserve's context. As part of a district-wide signage upgrade, staff proposed replacing the Barr-Brown Reserve signs without consulting the family who originally funded and helped design them. After I raised concerns, the signage plan was paused and council agreed to revisit the matter once the reserve's classification has been resolved - a sensible outcome, but one that again required community intervention to achieve.

Where we want to be

The community continues to care deeply about the future of Barr-Brown Reserve. There is strong support for its reclassification as a scenic reserve, in keeping with its history, purpose, and ecological value. Many would also like to see a small group of local volunteers and experts empowered to work alongside council on pest and weed control, native planting and improved access.

These are realistic, well-supported goals. The people who value this reserve, including descendants of its original donor, are now looking for clear signs of progress. What's needed is timely and visible action to show that this important place has not been forgotten.

Barr-Brown Reserve update

Annelise Schroeder, Featherston Community Board

17 September 2024

Where we were

Barr-Brown Reserve, under council control since 1977, is a much-loved remnant of ancient native bush on the edge of Featherston. It is a hidden treasure and deserves particular care and protection. However, it is plagued by weeds and pests and its entrances are not accessible for all. Pīwakawaka, prevalent a decade ago, are now rarely seen and only the occasional tūi is heard. It is rare to hear birds other than exotic finches and rosellas.

After many years of council providing only essential maintenance, in March 2024 former owner Brent Slater undertook some work (seating, stepping stones and tree labelling), which members of the local community felt was not sympathetic to the ambience of the reserve and had not involved their input.

Where we are now

In April, the “Barr-Brown Reserve Users Group” Facebook group was formed to share news and information, and now has 58 members.

In May, local community folk joined Mr Slater, members of the extended Barr-Brown family and council staff at the reserve to begin discussions about its future. We agreed that Brent’s work would be paused and that future care of the reserve would involve the community with support from the council.

In July, the Barr-Brown family sent to the council CE a formal request that the reserve’s classification be changed from recreation reserve to scenic reserve to better reflect Alan Barr-Brown’s original intentions when the land was declared a sanctuary in 1946.

Having filmed rat and possum activity in the reserve, volunteers from Predator Free Featherston laid 14 traps in August and have so far caught five rats and a mouse.

A team from Corrections thoroughly swept and tidied the paths in September.

Where we want to be

As soon as possible, we want a group comprising local enthusiasts and experts to be formed and given appropriate powers and responsibilities to look after the reserve with council support. Specific projects will include continuing pest control, starting weed control and new native planting, and improving accessibility.

When the LTP comes up for consultation at the end of 2025, if not earlier, we want the council to reclassify Barr-Brown Reserve as a scenic reserve so that it has the legislative protections it deserves.

In the long term, we want Barr-Brown Reserve to remain a hidden treasure while becoming a flourishing home for native flora and fauna.

We would appreciate councillors’ support for these efforts. Please do visit the reserve (on Underhill Road, Featherston, opposite number 80) and feel free to contact me if you would like a tour or more information.



RE: Barr-Brown Bush Reserve

From Celia Barr-Brown

Date Sun 7/7/2024 8:25 PM

To Janice Smith - CEO
Attention: Janice Smith, CEO SWDC

On behalf of the Barr-Brown family and direct descendants of Allan John Barr-Brown we formally request that SWDC re-classify the Barr-Brown (B-B) Bush Reserve to **Scenic Reserve** from Recreation Reserve.

The decision was approved by the SWD Council in 2009 as Task 8 of the approved Featherston Walkways and Reserve Trust Barr-Brown Reserve Action Plan. This action plan was informed by the report by Tony Silbery of the Department of Conservation, Wairarapa Area Office dated 11 April 2008. ***“A change in status from Recreation to Scenic Reserve would better reflect its value.”*** This will also honour the intent, foresight, and vision of AJ Barr-Brown to preserve and protect its natural values, the block was declared a Sanctuary in 1946 by the Department of Internal Affairs under the 1921-22 Animals Protection and Game Act.

We were advised in the letter from SWDC Mayor Adrienne Staples to M Barr-Brown dated 4 March 2009 that the ***“Council gave the plan unanimous endorsement”*** (File No 375-01) The Mayor’s letter was in response to our letter to Mr Jack Dowds the CEO of SWDC dated 14 February 2009.

Barr-Brown family representatives attended that SWDC meeting and understood the classification issue was to be rectified, it is extremely disappointing that 15 years later it is still only classified as a Recreation Reserve.

We have waited very patiently for the re-classification to occur and request that SWDC now action this request.

We understand that section 24A of the 1977 Act says the council can gazette a change, so the Council has the legal ability to make the change without further delay.

We have been asking for updates in this current round of engagement with SWDC since 26 May 2023, via numerous emails.

So, another year has passed by, we cannot understand what the barriers are to sorting out the re-classification.

It is fantastic that Daniel Millar at Predator Free Featherston has secured funding for 14 x DOC200 traps to target rats and mustelids (stoats, ferrets, and weasels). Predator trapping by volunteers will assist the more than 90 native species identified in Botanical Surveys (completed in 1977 & 2004). Re-classification could be a quick win that would foster relationships.

We look forward to your response
Nga mihi

Celia Barr-Brown

13 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

Kua mutu ā mātou mahi
Mō tēnei wā
Manaakitia mai mātou katoa
O mātou hoa
O mātou whānau
Aio ki te Aorangi

Our work is finished
For the moment
Blessing upon us all
Our friends
Our families
Peace to the Universe