



South Wairarapa District Council Minutes from 28 June 2023

- Present:** Mayor Martin Connelly (Chair) Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter, Councillor Aidan Ellims, Pip Maynard, Alistair Plimmer, Rebecca Gray, Martin Bosley (until 1:15pm) and Aaron Woodcock (via Zoom) and Colin Olds.
- Apologies:** Councillor Kaye McAulay.
- In Attendance:** Paul Gardner (Interim Chief Executive Officer), Amanda Bradley (General Manager Policy and Governance), Sheil Priest (General Manager Communications and Engagement), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager Partnerships and Operations), Karon Ashforth (General Manager Finance), Charly Clarke (Senior Financial Accountant), Russell O’Leary (Group Manager Planning and Environment), Leanne Karauna (Principal Advisor Māori), Kaity Carmichael (Lead Policy Advisor), Nicki Ansell (Lead Advisor Community Governance) and Amy Andersen (Committee Advisor).
Natalie Street and Emma Wright McHardie (GMD Consultants).
- Public Forum:** Jim Hedley, Warren Woodgyer, Mike Gray and Perry Cameron.
- Conduct of Business:** This meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, 62 Texas Street, Martinborough and via audio-visual conference. This meeting was live-streamed is available to view on our YouTube channel. The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 10.00am to 1:27pm except where expressly noted.
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Open Section

- A1. Karakia Timatanga - Opening**
Mayor Connelly opened the meeting.
- A2. Apologies**
COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/90) to accept apologies from Cr McAulay and Cr Bosley (for early departure).
(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Gray) Carried
- A3. Conflicts of Interest**
There were no conflicts of interest.
- A4. Acknowledgements and Tributes**

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Mayor Connelly acknowledged and thanked Interim CE Paul Gardner for his work as since taking on the role, and also to ELT for their support during this transition.

Mayor Connelly acknowledged and thanked Councillors for their efforts through the Annual Plan process, and also acknowledged the responsibilities, contributions and support of the Committee Chairs (Cr McAulay, Cr Ellims, Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter, Cr Olds and Cr Gray) and Cr Plimmer (Wairarapa Combined District Plan Joint Committee / District Licensing Committee).

Cr Ellims acknowledged the passing of Ian Campbell of Te Muna, Te Muna Road, Martinborough.

A5. Public Participation

Jim Hedley – Fair and equitable rates

Mr Hedley spoke to Council about rates (urban vs rural), including animal control, governance and footpaths; and the fairness of the current rating system.

Warren Woodgyer – Greytown Community Charter

Mr Woodgyer, supported by Mr Gray and Mr Cameron, spoke to Council about the development of a charter between Greytown residents/ratepayers and the SWDC community board.

Members queried whether the charter was supported by the Greytown Community Board and if there were other charters around the country.

Mr Gardner noted that the current Standing Orders used by SWDC support ethical conduct and guidelines for engagement for Community Boards.

A6. Actions from public participation

Members noted that Mr Hedley's comments will be captured for the rating review.

A7. Extraordinary business

There was no extraordinary business.

A8. Māori Standing Committee/Community Boards

Noted this item will be rethought in terms of arrangements for the next meeting of Council.

A9. Minutes for Confirmation

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/91) that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7 June 2023, 8 June 2023 and 9 June 2023 are confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to the following change in the 9 June 2023 minutes:

From: *COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/88)* to alter the community and youth grants scheme budget to \$120k in the Annual Plan FY 23/24.

(Moved Sadler-Futter /Seconded Mayor Connelly)

Carried

Against: Cr Plimmer

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To: *COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/88)* to alter the community and youth grants scheme budget to \$120k in the Annual Plan FY 23/24.

(Moved Sadler-Futter /Seconded Mayor Connelly)

Carried

Against: Cr Plimmer and Cr Gray

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Sadler-Futter)

Carried

A10. Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

B Decision Reports from the Chief Executive and Council Officers

B1. Adoption of the Annual Plan 2023/24

Ms Ashforth and Ms Bradley spoke to the report.

Members commented on the challenges relating to the Annual Plan and thanked officers for their work on the budgets, and that Council are listening through the work undertaken to engage and consult with the community.

Members queried the balance sheets on page 80 of the agenda.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/92) to:

1. Receive the Adoption of Annual Plan 2023/24 and Setting of Rates Report.
2. Agree to carry over operating and capital expenditure from the 2022/23 financial year to the 2023/24 financial year.
3. Adopt the 2023/24 Annual Plan (including the schedule of fees and charges) in accordance with Section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002.
4. Delegate authority to the Mayor and Interim Chief Executive to approve minor edits that don't change the intent of the content prior to publication of the Annual Plan 2023/24 document.
5. Adopt the rates resolution for the 2023/24 year in accordance with the Local Government Rating Act 2002, including the "Part B" notice.
6. Note that the updated fees and charges schedule is attached as Appendix 3 and will be updated on the SWDC website.
7. Note that the final 2023/24 Annual Plan will be published within one month of its adoption.

(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter)

Carried

For: Cr Olds, Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter, Mayor Connelly, Cr Gray, Cr Plimmer and Cr Bosley

Against: Cr Ellims, Cr Woodcock and, Cr Maynard

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**B2. Wairarapa Economic Development Strategy (WEDS) Work Programme for Approval
ITEM WITHDRAWN**

B3. Freedom Camping Bylaw Development and Determinations

Ms Bradley introduced Ms Street and Ms Wright McHardie who spoke to matters in the report and responded to questions from members including: funding for an enforcement officer; collaboration with Greater Wellington Regional Council; and any current regulations.

Ms Bradley, supported by Mr O'Leary noted the early stages of collaborative work with Masterton District Council and benefits of the bylaw.

Members queried whether further information was required on the consequences of bylaw, and what other ways could potentially support protection of the areas; and whether any analysis of the previous bylaw existed or could be made available.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13am.

The meeting was reconvened at 11:32am.

Alternative recommendations were discussed during the adjournment.

Members queried costs and collaboration with MDC and what would occur if a bylaw is not created.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/93) to:

1. Receive the *Freedom Camping Bylaw Development and Determinations Report*;
(*Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Maynard*) Carried
2. Determine it is necessary to make a bylaw under section 11(2) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 for one or more of the following purposes:
 - (a) to protect an area;
 - (b) to protect the health and safety of people who may visit an area;
 - (c) to protect access to an area; and
3. Request the Chief Executive develop a new draft bylaw and statement of proposal for public consultation.
[Item 2-3 read together]
(*Moved Cr Maynard/Seconded Cr Olds*) Carried
For: Cr Olds, Cr Maynard, Cr Gray, Cr Bosley, Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter
Against: Cr Woodcock, Mayor Connelly, Cr Ellims
Abstained: Cr Plimmer

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B4. Adoption of the Grants Policy

Ms Bradley, with support from Ms Carmichael, spoke to matters included in the report and responded to queries from members including: query on Pain Farm and a separate Pain Farm funding distribution policy and application forms.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/94) to adopt South Wairarapa District Councils Grant Policy.

(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter)

Carried

C Information Reports from the Chief Executive and Council Officers

C1. Representation Review

Ms Bradley, supported by Mr Gardner, spoke to matters in the report. Members queried changes including local government reform, potential amalgamation and how this will be captured in the upcoming review.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/95) to receive the Representation Review Report.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Ellims)

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:46pm.

C2. Action Items

The following updates were provided:

420 – Mr Gardner noted this was an ongoing piece of work. Members requested further discussion in a roading workshop planned for July 2023.

559 – Dog pound project completed. Action closed.

47 – Mr Gardner noted discussions in relation to this action are ongoing; officers to provide an update at next meeting of Council, 2 August 2023.

739 – Mr O’Leary noted the prospective purchaser has now provided officers with a contact for legal counsel and copy of the sale and purchase agreement has been sent to

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the prospective purchaser. Mr O’Leary will provide a briefing paper to next Council on this matter.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/96) to close action 137 and refer this to LTP discussions and considerations.

(Moved Cr Olds, Seconded Cr Bosley)

Carried

D Mayor’s Report

D1. Report from The Mayor

Mayor Connelly spoke to matters included in the report noted Council want to focus on Wednesdays for meetings.

Members queried the attendance of Councillor at the LGNZ conference, alongside the Mayor and Interim CE.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/97) to:

1. Receives the Report from the Mayor.
2. Note that Councillors Aaron Woodcock and Martin Bosley have stepped down from the Hearings Committee.
3. Appoint Councillors Rebecca Gray and Pip Maynard to the Hearings Committee.
4. Delegate the Mayor, Councillor Gray and the Interim CEO to:
 - i. vote on behalf of the council for the role of President of LGNZ; and
 - ii. vote for any remits as they think fit if not previously discussed by Council.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Ellims)

Carried

Cr Bosley left the meeting at 1:15pm.

E Appointment Reports

E1. Wairarapa Road Safety Council (WRSC) – Councillor Plimmer

Cr Plimmer acknowledged the valuable work being undertaken by the organisation and the benefits to the community through driver training and licencing.

Cr Plimmer responded to queries from members including: support for simplification of road signage; speed reduction; enforcement; and links to the current speed review.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/98) to receive the Appointment Report -Wairarapa Road Safety Council.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Olds)

Carried

F Public Excluded Business

The general subject 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(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

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Report/General Subject Matter	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this Resolution
Public Excluded Council Meeting Minutes, 7 June 2023 (Recommendations from Martinborough Community Board Report).	Good reason to withhold exists under 7(2)(i)	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution (DC2023/99) is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this Resolution
The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial negotiations.	section 7(2)(i)

(Moved Cr Plimmer/ Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter)

Carried

F1. Confirmation of public excluded minutes, 7 June 2023

G Karakia Whakamutunga – Closing

Mayor Connolly closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 1:27pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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