



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
Minutes from 17 November 2021**

- Present:** Mayor Alex Beijen, Deputy Mayor Garrick Emms, Councillors Pam Colenso, Rebecca Fox, Leigh Hay, Brian Jephson, Alistair Plimmer, and Brenda West.
- In Attendance:** Harry Wilson (Chief Executive), Russell O’Leary (Group Manager Planning and Environment), Katrina Neems (Chief Financial Officer), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager Partnerships and Operations), Bryce Neems (Amenities and Waste Manager), Olivia Stevens (Property Portfolio Advisor), Paul Gardiner (Human Resources Manager), Melanie Barthe (Climate Change Advisor), and Suzanne Clark (Committee Advisor).
Community Boards: Ann Rainford (Greytown Community Board Chair).
- Conduct of Business:** Due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was held via video conference and live streamed to Council’s YouTube channel. All members participating via video conference count for the purpose of the meeting quorum in accordance with clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.
The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 10:00am to 4:40pm except where expressly noted.
- Public Forum:** Trinity Shaw, and Jim Hedley.
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Open Section

Cr Emms read the Council affirmation.

- A1. Apologies**
*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/93) to accept apologies from Cr Pip Maynard.
(Moved Cr Fox/Seconded Cr Colenso)* Carried
- A2. Conflicts of Interest**
There were no conflicts of interest declared.
- A3. Acknowledgements and Tributes**
Cr Jephson acknowledged the passing of Phillip Maynard. Phillip had done a lot for the district and all his children have had an input into Council business.
Mayor Beijen acknowledged the passing of Wendy Cameron.

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A4. Public Participation

Ms Shaw had researched the flood risk of the Te Awaiti Campsite, and data from Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) showed that a 1:100 year flood had never happened. GWRC had suggested that a flood warning monitoring system be put in place in addition to a gate with a barrier arm and that the system could be run by volunteers.

Mr Hedley was not in favour of moving to a capital value rating system due to inequalities and disincentivising investment in the district. Other methods of targeted rating could be put in place to ensure that those that received the benefit of the expenditure paid for the service. Mr Hedley did support a rating review. Mr Hedley did not believe the rates increase for the current year was explained at all and that the words used in Council communications was carefully selected.

A5. Actions from public participation

Mayor Beijen noted that a rating review was a planned project that would consider all options and that an outcome could not be predetermined.

Mr Wilson advised that a report on the Te Awaiti Campsite would be going to the Martinborough Community Board meeting on the 25 November 2021.

A6. Extraordinary Business

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/94) to consider the Options for Reducing Budget and Rates for 2021/22 Report. It was late as the last public meeting was the 11 November and it had taken time to consider information put forward by the public. It can't wait until the next meeting as the public are expecting a report to be presented at this meeting.

(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Hay)

Carried

C1 Options for Reducing Budget and Rates for 2021/22 Report

Mr Wilson advised that Council officers preferred position had not changed, but suggestions from the community had been incorporated into advice.

Members' discussed the potential savings areas as identified by the community.

Elected members sought assurances that all leases were providing the best returns possible.

Members noted key infrastructure areas were subject to contractual obligations and alliances with other Wairarapa councils.

Members noted cost inefficiencies and overruns within the Wellington Water shareholding. Concerns regarding the Wellington Water tendering process for contracts and removal of responsibility areas from Wellington Water was discussed (e.g. Featherston Wastewater and water races). Members requested some analysis of all water project deliverables against timeline and budget.

Members discussed the uncertainties regarding the three waters reform, money budgeted for wastewater and the GWRC consent requirements.

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The meeting adjourned at 11:35am.

The meeting reconvened at 11:50am.

Officers gave assurance that software license contracts were needs dependant and required.

Councillors noted the climate change effects of using hybrid vehicles and that the vehicles were fitted with tracking software for health and safety purposes. Private cars were not suitable alternatives to company cars for this reason.

Members noted that there would be a marginal effect on rates if land assets were found to not be required for Featherston wastewater.

Members discussed the impact of extending borrowing beyond the asset life, regular asset revaluation, and the yearly cost of the 1.5m loan.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/95):

1. To receive the Options for Reducing Budget and Rates for 2021/22 Report.
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Fox) Carried
2. To agree that Option 3 (to make reductions in costs that do not significantly reduce levels of service and carrying over savings to the next financial year) is the preferred option with regards to the balance of the 21/22 year.
3. To note that a full review of options including a full LTP review or an LTP variation will be presented at the first Council meeting of the 2022 year.
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried
Cr West abstained.
4. Action 549: Provide financial return information on Council's commercial lease properties to the Assets and Services Committee; S Corbett
5. Action 550: Setup a workshop with Colin Crampton and Wellington Water to discuss cost efficiencies; H Wilson
6. Action 551: Consider the budgetary impact of removing Featherston wastewater and water races away from Wellington Water as the provider; K Neems
7. Action 552: Advise councillors of the outstanding loan amount for the Featherston golf course; K Neems
8. Action 553: At the first Council meeting of 2022 provide options and costs for councillors to consider with regards to a full LTP review, undertaking a variation to the LTP or preparing an Annual Plan; K Neems

A7. Community Board/Māori Standing Committee Report from Meetings

Mrs Rainford thanked officers for the 85-87 West Street briefing, requested that the Greytown Community Board be permitted to move forward with preparing entrance signs for Greytown, and wanted to know the process for requesting a report on the future use of the land behind the Greytown Pensioner Housing units.

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A8. Minutes for Confirmation

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/96) that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 15 September 2021 are a true and correct record.

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Fox)

Carried

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/97) that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 October 2021 are a true and correct record.

(Moved Cr Hay/Seconded Cr Jephson)

Carried

B Recommendations from Committees and Community Boards

B1. Minutes of Council Committees and Community Boards

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/98):

1. To receive the information.

(Moved Cr Colenso/Seconded Cr West)

Carried

2. To receive the minutes of the Greytown Community Board meeting 22 September 2021.

3. To receive the minutes of the Māori Standing Committee meeting 28 September 2021.

4. To receive the minutes of the Featherston Community Board meeting 5 October 2021.

5. To receive the minutes of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee meeting 6 October 2021.

6. To receive the minutes of the Martinborough Community Board meeting 7 October 2021.

7. To receive the minutes of the Martinborough Community Board meeting 13 October 2021.

8. To receive the minutes of the Assets and Services Committee meeting 27 October 2021.

9. To receive the minutes of the Planning and Regulatory Committee meeting 3 November 2021.

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Fox)

Carried

C2. Council Extraordinary Vacancy

Members were in agreement that the councillor extraordinary vacancy in Featherston should be filled so all communities were equally represented and to help share the overall load. Criteria and candidate selection was discussed.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/88):

1. To receive the Council Extraordinary Vacancy Report.

(Moved Cr Fox/Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

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2. To note that the Council has an extraordinary vacancy that has been created pursuant to clause 5 Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 effective from 18 October 2021.
(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Colenso) Carried
3. That the extraordinary vacancy will be filled by the appointment of Colin Olds, and the process and criteria by which Colin Olds was selected for appointment are:
 - a. He was a Featherston ward candidate that stood for election for the 2019-2022 triennium but was not successfully elected.
 - b. He is considered to have the necessary skills and experience to undertake the role.
 - c. He represents a sector of the community that is not well represented around the Council table to better achieve equality of representation (i.e. the Featherston community)
 (Moved Cr Fox/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried
4. To note that the decision of Council will be publicly notified in accordance with the requirements of the Local Electoral Act 2001.
(Moved Cr Fox/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried

The meeting adjourned at 1:16pm.

The meeting reconvened at 1:30pm.

C3. Central Greytown Property: Project Plan

Mr Wilson noted Council's prior decision on the West Street land and that the work required to undertake an investigation was not within this year's budget and that the difference between the options was the start date and whether parts of the project process could be integrated within another project to save costs.

Members' discussed future demographics, ensuring that the potential future use of the land was understood before a decision was made, decision significance of a decision on use, the effect of the local government elections on the timeline, whether wider community consultation was required, current use of the land, alternative ways of funding the project, and that the cost between starting the work in July versus starting in October was not significant.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/99):

1. To receive the Central Greytown Property: Project Plan Report.
(Moved Cr Fox/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried
2. To agree that the proposed project plan to consider the future use of 85-87 West Street commences next financial year subject to confirmation of a budget including consultation in the 22/23 Annual Plan.
(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Hay) Carried

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C4. Revoking Council Resolution Permitting Subdivision of Council Owned Land in Greytown

Members noted that any future decision on the land and subsequent use would follow Council processes and policy.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/107):

1. To receive the Revoking Council Resolution Permitting Subdivision of Council Owned Land in Greytown.
(Moved Cr Fox/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried
2. That pursuant to Standing Order 23.6 Council revoke resolution DC2000/9 (4) bullet points one and three within the General Manager's Monthly Report dated 16 February 2000, being:
 - a. Council approve the sub-division of Lot 1 DP29958 at the Greytown Flats, West Street, Greytown.
 - b. The necessary notice under section 230 of the Local government Act 1974 be advertised to allow for the possible sale of the Greytown sections.
3. To note that should an advertisement dating from this period be discovered, then it was placed at the authority of the Council at the time.
(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Colenso) Carried

C5. Adoption of the 2022 Schedule of Ordinary meetings

Harry noted the staffing implications of moving to an eight-weekly cycle and that the quality of officer reports had been lifted over the past year.

Members discussed the levels of service and current staffing numbers, the importance of reporting to the right committee and not relitigating discussion or decisions, and ensuring the right number of Finance, Audit and Risk meetings to maintain a high level financial overview.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/100):

1. To receive the Adoption of the 2022 Schedule of Ordinary Meetings Report.
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Fox) Carried
2. To revoke resolution DC2020/124 endorsing an eight-week schedule of meetings.
(Moved Cr West/Seconded Cr Emms) Carried
3. To delegate to the Chief Executive, or the Mayor, the ability to alter the schedule of ordinary meetings in consultation with each other or the committee chair as required.
(Moved Cr West/Seconded Cr Emms) Carried

The meeting adjourned at 2:40pm.

Mayor Beijen vacated the Chair and left the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 2:52pm.

Deputy Mayor Emms assumed the Chair.

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C6. Climate Change

Ms Barthe advised the submission needed to be lodged by the 24 November 2021 and outlined the nature of the consultation and answered questions on government planting incentives, soil recovery time following pine plantation harvesting, public transport in a rural environment, and nature based climate change solutions such as reestablishment of wetlands.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/101):

1. To receive the Climate Change Report.
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr West) Carried
2. To receive the Te hau Mārohi ki anamata Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future discussion document.
3. To receive the summary of the Te hau mārohi ki anamata Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future discussion document.
4. To receive the joint submission to Te hau mārohi ki anamata Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future.
5. To adopt the joint submission.
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Fox) Carried

C7. Pedestrian Improvements to Bidwills Cutting Road

Members' discussed the incorporated feedback, the proposed budget, carpark safety, and the proposed footpath location.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/102):

1. To receive the Pedestrian Improvements to Bidwills Cutting Road Report.
(Moved Cr West/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried
2. To approve the option shown on the amended Plan C01 Bidwills Cutting Road Improvements-Pedestrian access and safety improvements to Five Rivers Hospital.
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Fox) Carried

C8. Māori Standing Committee Appointments Report

Members agreed that Council should write to Suzanne Murphy and Teresa Aporo in appreciation of their work and effort over the years on the Māori Standing Committee.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/103):

1. To receive the Māori Standing Committee Appointment Report.
(Moved Cr Colenso/Seconded Cr Hay) Carried
2. To make the following external appointment to the Māori Standing Committee: Violet Edwards (Kohunui Marae).
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Fox) Carried
3. To make the following external appointment to the Māori Standing Committee: Lee Flutey (Kohunui Marae).
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Fox) Carried

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4. Action 555: Write to Suzanne Murphy and Teresa Aporo and thank them for their contribution and time while representing their marae on the Māori Standing Committee; Mayor Beijen

Cr Plimmer left the meeting at 3:23pm.

Mayor Beijen returned to the meeting at 3:23pm.

D Information Reports

D1. Action Items Report

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/104) to receive the Action Items Report.

(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Fox)

Carried

E Chairperson's Report

E1. Report from His Worship the Mayor

There was no Mayoral report.

F Appointments Reports

Cr Emms spoke to reports as submitted and the potential establishment of a governance group to coordinate equitable health outcomes for rural South Wairarapa and Māori.

Members' agreed in principal to establish a governance group with details to be confirmed at the next meeting.

Cr Plimmer rejoined the meeting at 3:31pm.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2021/105) to receive reports from appointments.

(Moved Cr Colenso/Seconded Mayor Beijen)

Carried

G 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:

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
New Lease of Martinborough Golf Course	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7(2)(h) and section 7(2)(i)	Section 48(1)(a)
Committee minutes – publicly excluded	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7(2)(a), and section 7(2)(g), section 7(2)(h) and section 7(2)(i)	Section 48(1)(a)

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Lake Ferry Holiday Park Update and Options Review	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7(2)(a), and section 7(2)(g), section 7(2)(h) and section 7(2)(i)	Section 48(1)(a)
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This resolution (DC2021/106) is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) 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 protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	Section 7(2)(a)
The withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege	Section 7(2)(g)
The withholding of the information is necessary to enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 7(2)(h)
The withholding of the information is necessary to enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).	Section 7(2)(i)

(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Colenso)

Carried

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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