



South Wairarapa District Council Minutes from 22 February 2023

Present: Mayor Martin Connelly, Councillors Colin Olds, Pip Maynard, Kaye McAulay, Alistair Plimmer, Rebecca Gray, Martin Bosley and Aaron Woodcock.

Apologies: Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter and Councillor Ellims.

In Attendance: Harry Wilson (Chief Executive Officer), Amanda Bradley (General Manager Policy and Governance), Sheil Priest (General Manager Communications and Engagement), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager Partnerships and Operations), Russell O’Leary (Group Manager Planning and Environment), Paul Gardner (General Manager HR and Corporate Services) James Witham (Planning Manager), and Amy Andersen (Committee Advisor).

Public Forum: Mary Byrne and Claire Bleakley.

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 10:02am to 1:01pm except where expressly noted.

Open Section

A1. Karakia Timatanga - Opening

Cr Maynard opened the meeting.

A2. Apologies

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/14) to accept apologies from Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter and Cr Ellims.

(Moved Mayor Connelly /Seconded Cr Maynard)

Carried

A3. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

A4. Acknowledgements and Tributes

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Cr Olds acknowledged and paid tribute to individuals and communities who have been affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, and the efforts and work of people and organisations to support local Councils and communities.

Mayor Connelly noted he had a request from LGNZ to partner with Councils affected by Cyclone Gabrielle and has accepted the call for support.

Cr Maynard acknowledged Te Rangiura o Wairarapa, Ngāti Kahungunu, who are competing in Te Matatini today and wished them the best of luck.

A5. Public Participation

Mary Byrne - Fluoridation of Water

Ms Byrne (Fluoride Free NZ), presented to Council on fluoridation of water, and provided information to Councillors.

Members asked Ms Byrne what she knew about the Council's responsibilities with regard to fluoridation.

Claire Bleakley - Fluoridation of Water

Ms Bleakley, presented to Council on fluoridation of water. She requested Council Officers write a report and engage in community consultation on the costs, needs and risk of fluoridation with experts on both sides of the debate.

Members asked about the research quoted by Ms Bleakley.

A6. Actions from public participation

Members noted the participation from Ms Byrne and Ms Bleakley in today's meeting, and discussed whether to raise the concerns with central government/DHBs.

A7. Extraordinary Business

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/15) to add the BDO Review and Lessons learned Report to the agenda for discussion as item B4, which was due to go to the Audit and Risk committee in February 2023, but has been delayed due to finding a suitable Independent Chair. It cannot be delayed as there is high interest in ensuring that we have captured the lessons learnt and needs to be discussed prior to the process for setting rates in the Annual Plan.

(Moved Cr McAulay /Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/16) to add the 2022 Residents' Perception Survey Report to the agenda for discussion as item B5, which would normally be released at the time of the release of the annual report as the survey provides the source data for a number of the KPI's that Council is required to report on. There has been significant delay from Audit New Zealand in providing a timely audit and we are unlikely to have an audit completed until the end of March 2023. This has high public interest and provides useful information for the timing to decide on a response as part of the Annual Plan.

(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Cr Maynard)

Carried

Against Cr Woodcock

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A8. Community Board / Māori Standing Committee Reports from Meetings

There were no members present.

A9. Minutes for Confirmation

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/17) that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 8 February 2023 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

(Moved Cr Bosley/Seconded Mayor Connelly)

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 Local Governance Statement

Ms Bradley spoke to the report and responded to a query from members regarding engagement with mana whenua on the development of the statement.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/18) to:

1. Adopt the Local Governance Statement 2022-2025 for publication to the South Wairarapa District Council website.
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to maintain the Local Governance Statement by making administrative updates as and when required.

Items 1-2 read together

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

B2. Wairarapa Policy Working Group Terms of Reference 2022-25

Ms Bradley spoke to the report.

Members queried the Smoke and Vape Free Policy update status. For more information visit our website [here](#).

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/19) to:

1. Note that Councillor Bosley and Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter were appointed to the Wairarapa Policy Working Group by Council at its meeting on 14 December 2022;
2. Approve the Wairarapa Policy Working Group Terms of Reference 2022-25; and
3. Appoint Councillor Robyn Cherry-Campbell from Carterton District Council as the Chairperson of the Wairarapa Policy Working Group.

Items 1-3 read together

(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Cr Bosley)

Carried

B3. Additional staffing request for roading team

Mr Wilson spoke to the report and responded to members queries regarding vacancies and management of staff workload, recruitment, development and

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planning for next financial year / Annual Plan, salary banding, and possibility of reducing staff in other departments to support other roles.

Mayor Connelly noted that the report should have included more information and assessment on the source of funding and implications of approving the additional staffing.

Members acknowledged and thanked Tim Langley, Roothing Manager, for his hard work to date.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/20) to:

1. Note that demands on the roading team across a range of planned and unplanned activity are significant and increasing, and the team urgently requires an experienced roading engineer to continue to meet current outputs.

2. Approve unbudgeted costs of \$30,000 in the current 2022/2023 FY connected to the permanent appointment of a Senior Roothing Engineer to the Ruamahanga Roothing team.

3. Note that this unbudgeted cost will be met by phasing current vacancies.

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

B4. BDO Review and Lessons Learned Report

Mr Wilson spoke to the report and summarised the recommendations. Mr Wilson responded to queries from members regarding the timing to release the report, future communication with the public.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/21) to:

1. Receive the BDO Investigation Report.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Bosley)

Carried

2. Note the lessons learned, recommendations and the actions taken to implement the recommendations.

3. Direct that the report will be make publicly accessible on the South Wairarapa District Council website.

(Moved Mayor/Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32am.

The meeting recommenced at 11:42am.

B5. 2022 Residents' Perception Survey Report

Mayor Connelly spoke about matters included in the report and raising expectations and restoring the confidence of residents in future. Members gave examples of positive feedback and progress since the last triennium to lift performance.

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*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/22) to receive the 2022 Resident Perceptions Survey Results Report.
(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Maynard)* Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59am.

The meeting was recommenced at 12:33pm.

C Chairperson's Report

C1. Report from The Mayor

Mayor Connelly spoke to the report and responded to queries from members regarding change to governance. Noted that Ms Rutene is the Chair of the Māori Standing Committee.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/23) to:

1. Receive the report from the Mayor.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Gray)

Carried

2. a) Agrees that Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki Nui a Rua Treaty Settlement Trust be appointed as a Mana Whenua Partner Entity (MPWE) as specified in the Shareholders and Partners Agreement for Wellington Water Limited; and
b) Notes that Andrea Rutene is the nominated representative for Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki Nui a Rua Treaty Settlement Trust.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Maynard)

Carried

Against Cr Plimmer and Cr Woodcock

D 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
Public Excluded Council Meeting Minutes, 8 February 2023 (Progress Report from CEO Review Committee Report)	Good reason to withhold exists under 7(2)(a)	Section 48(1)(a)
Rural Resource Management in the Proposed District Plan Report	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7(2)(g) and (7)(2)(j)	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution (DC2023/24) 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:

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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 prevent disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.	Section (7)(2)(j)

(Moved Cr Plimmer/ Seconded Cr Gray)

Carried

- D1. Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes from Council meeting, 8 February 2023**
- D2. Rural Resource Management in the Proposed District Plan Report**

E Karakia Whakamutunga – Closing

Mayor Connelly closed the meeting.

The meeting closed at 1:01pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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