



South Wairarapa District Council Minutes from 8 February 2023

- Present:** Mayor Martin Connelly, Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter, Councillors Colin Olds (until 2:13pm), Aidan Ellims, Pip Maynard, Kaye McAulay, Alistair Plimmer, Rebecca Gray, Martin Bosley and Aaron Woodcock.
- In Attendance:** Harry Wilson (Chief Executive Officer), Amanda Bradley (General Manager Policy and Governance), Sheil Priest (General Manager Communications and Engagement), Rick Mead (Environmental Services Manager), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager Partnerships and Operations), Siv Fjaerestad (Community Development Co-ordinator), Tim Langley (Roading Manager), James O'Connor (Partnership and Operations Manager), James Witham (Planning Manager), and Amy Andersen (Committee Advisor).
- Public Forum:** Helen Smith, Warren Woodgyer and Gary Dittmer.
- 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 3:02pm except where expressly noted.
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Open Section

A1. Karakia Timatanga - Opening

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter opened the meeting.

ITEM MOVED

A3. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

A2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

A4. Acknowledgements and Tributes

Cr Olds acknowledged the passing of Bryan Love late last year and his contributions to Featherston community, including the Red Cross.

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A5. Public Participation

Helen Smith - Fluoridation of Water

Ms Smith, standing in for Mary Byrne (Fluoride Free NZ), presented to Council on fluoridation of water. Ms Smith referenced recent changes to legislation, studies conducted globally, and requested Council push back on central government on this matter.

Mayor Connelly requested comment from Mr Wilson, who informed that the water in South Wairarapa is not fluoridated and SWDC had not been issued a notice to fluoridate. Mr Wilson explained that the decision whether or not to fluoridate is not SWDC's to make, but that the decision-maker (District Health Board) is not requiring SWDC to do so either.

Council Projects - Greytown

Mr Woodgyer provided a written submission to Council on three projects in Greytown (Tauherenikau Bike Trail, Wheels Park, Kuranui School Hall) and requested clarification on a number of issues.

Gary Dittmer - Rates

Mr Dittmer spoke to Council about the setting of rates and information provided by SWDC in publications between 2018 and 2022. Mr Dittmer requested an increase in transparency regarding the setting of rates and asked for further clarification of calculations/figures.

A6. Actions from public participation

Members discussed Mr Woodgyer's presentation and requested answers to his questions included in his paper.

Members noted if there is any information on rates that is incorrect, this should be put right as soon as possible in order to respond to the issues raised by Mr Dittmer.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/01) the Chief Executive Officer to respond to questions raised by Mr Woodgyer in a written response to Councillors prior to the next meeting of Council.

(Moved Cr Olds/ Seconded Cr Maynard)

Carried

In response to Ms Smith's presentation, members requested updates and information related to fluoridation from Mr Wilson if SWDC receives any directions to fluoridate drinking water from Director-General of Health or DHBs.

A7. Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

A8. Community Board / Māori Standing Committee Reports from Meetings

There were no members present.

A9. Minutes for Confirmation

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/02) that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 December 2022 are confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to the

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amendment of Resolution (DC2022/115), point one – (from “adopt” to “withdraw”) in order to reflect the conversation held by members and align with point 5.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Woodcock)

Carried

B Recommendations from Committees and Community Boards

B1. Recommendations from Infrastructure and Community Services Committee

Councillor Ellims and Mr Corbett spoke to the report.

Members queried alignment with climate change plans and requested clarification with regard to the project funding source (due to a correction in the report noted by Mr Corbett) and the Land Transport Plan.

It was noted that progress reports and updates on funding of the project are to come the Finance Committee.

Members noted the community response to news of the project in Martinborough has been positive.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/03) to:

1. Approve Option 1 - to install pedestrian lighting on all noncompliant pedestrian crossings in the SW District, beginning with the ones in the Martinborough Square and Jellicoe/Venice Street corner. Pedestrian lighting in Martinborough to be funded from the from the appropriate reserve, as identified by the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Executive Officer, at a cost of up to \$200,000 and work to commence in FY 2023/24. Pedestrian lighting in the other Wards to be included in the next Land Transport Plan 2024-2027 at a cost of up to \$300,000 and, if our application is successful, work to commence in FY 2024/25. Council Officers to produce a costed project plan including the findings for the investigative work being done about the current square lighting, and solar power options by 1 March 2023.
2. To agree that implementation of pedestrian lighting in the Martinborough Square is completed without public consultation on the basis that the current pedestrian lighting is a risk to public safety and is not compliant with current requirements, noting the high level of public feedback and the desire to have the issue resolved.
3. To identify that the decision not to consult is inconsistent with the Martinborough Square Management Plan (2012), and that this requirement of the Management Plan will be reviewed as part of the global review of all of Council’s reserve management plans.

Items 1-3 [read together]

(Moved Cr Ellims/Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

Meeting break at 10:56am

Meeting returned at 11:05am

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C Decision Reports from Chief Executive and Staff

C1. Approval of Financial Contributions Offset and Compensation for Vested Works – Westec Developments Limited

Mr Wilson spoke to the report and apologised for the delays in bringing this matter to Council. Mr Witham responded to questions from members including: the layout plan on p.68 of the meeting agenda; expenditure funding source; land valuation and how this was conducted; processes moving forward and costs to the ratepayer for the development of landscaping and beautification; open waterways/drains/culverts included in this plan and concerns about safety (refer to p.70 of the agenda); and possible future developments under the Long-Term Plan.

Members noted that future reports of this kind should include all financial information/costings and use of images/artists impression which take into account ratepayer expectations.

Action 45: Request Council Officers provide a report to the Infrastructure and Community Services (ICS) Committee on safety of children/people relating to open water ways/races in the district.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/04) to:

1. Approve the offset of financial contributions and financial compensation for Westec Developments for the vesting of the lineal reserve being the amount of \$567,991 (+GST).
2. Note compensation to be paid when the lineal reserve is vested being at the release of a certificate confirming compliance with section 224 of the Resource Management Act 1991 for stages 3B, 5 and 5.

Items 1&2 [read together]

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Olds)

Carried

C2. Revocation of the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw 2019, Part 11: Speed

Mr Wilson spoke to the report. Members queried updates on the speed review in relation to rural roads, changes to the processes to set speeds, previous requests for changes to speeds in Martinborough and alignment with other local Councils.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/05) to:

1. Note that Waka Kotahi provides advice to inform decisions on setting speed limits in the South Wairarapa District;
2. Note that speed limits in the South Wairarapa District are available in the National Speed Limit Register which is the legal instrument for registering speed limits;

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3. Note that the changes set out in the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022 effectively replaces the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw 2019, Part 11: Speed;
4. Note that the changes set out in the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022 do not automatically revoke Council's speed bylaws;
5. To note that Carterton District Council will consider this decision on 15 February 2023;
6. Revoke the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw 2019, Part 11: Speed and its corresponding Speed Limit Schedules effective from 20 February 2023; and
7. Make minor amendments to the other parts of the Wairarapa Consolidated Bylaw 2019 to reflect the revocation of Part 11: Speed and its corresponding Speed Limit Schedules effective from 20 February 2023.

[Read together]

Items 1-7 (Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

C3. Greytown Wheels Park Contract Engagement

Cr Plimmer spoke to the report and responded to members questions including: plans and progress on community funding to support the Wheels Park development; the scope of what Council funding will cover in terms of construction, suitability of the proposed development area, history of the development, costings and funding changes due to material and inflation, community needs, alignment with Council's climate change aspirations. Mr Wilson noted the use of lessons learned from the Waihinga Centre development would occur in the early stages of this project.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/06) to:

1. Approve the contract being awarded to the preferred provider to build the Greytown Wheels Park with Council contribution of \$1,000,000 as per the Long- Term Plan (LTP).
2. Delegate the physical contract signing (as per point 1) to the Chief Executive Officer.

Items 1 & 2 [read together]

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Bosley)

Carried

C4. Triennial Agreement

Mayor Connelly spoke to the report. Mr Wilson provided background and history of the Triennial Agreement, and minor changes required to the document prior to signing.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/07) to:

1. Enter into the draft Triennial Agreement 2022-25 in Appendix 1.

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2. Delegate to the Mayor the authority to make any minor amendments required as a result of minor changes requested by other local authorities in the region as part of the adoption process.
3. Authorise the Mayor to sign the Triennial Agreement on behalf of Council.

Items 1-3 [read together]

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter)

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25pm

The meeting was recommenced at 1:00pm

D Information Reports from Chief Executive and Staff

D1. Chief Executive's Update

Mr Wilson spoke to matters in the report and responded to members questions regarding: central government's current position on Three Waters; resource management reforms; Hinekura road and updates to the community; South Wairarapa significant sites (Wairarapa Combined District Plan review) and making this information readily available to the public; timeframes relating to the Rating Review;

Members acknowledged positive comments from community on dealing with the recent road closures due to Cyclone Hale.

Mr Wilson provided a verbal update on the Annual Report 2021-22; completion is now expected March 2023.

Action 46: Members requested that the timetable for the Rating Review be updated to include pre-consultation/engagement, *K Ashforth/A Bradley*

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/08) to receive the Chief Executive's Update Report. (Moved Mayor Connelly/Cr Plimmer) Carried

D2. Action Items

Members sought updates to actions:

- 259 (Dog Pound – build in progress, opening expected in March/April 2023)
- 420 (Members requested report required by 5 April 2023).

Members agreed to close action 552 and noted that water races are to be raised at the ICS committee.

Action 47: Request Council Officers respond to member's query about the status of the Greytown Rugby Club lease arrangements, *S Corbett/J O'Connor*

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E Chairperson's Report

E1. Report from The Mayor

Mayor Connelly spoke to the report. Members queried representation for flood management.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/09) to:

1. Approve the following appointments:

- a. Cr Maynard to the Lower Ruamāhanga Valley Flood Management Advisory Committee and Cr Gray as an alternate.
- b. Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter to the Featherston Community Board after the next Community Board meeting 22 February 2023.
- c. The Mayor to the Wairarapa Safer Community Trust.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Olds)

Carried

2. Agree that any report to Council which includes financial considerations for expenditure from any committee, must have the signed comments from the Chief Financial Officer (General Manager Finance).

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter)

Carried

F Appointments Reports

F1. Report from Councillor Plimmer – Wairarapa Road Safety Council

Cr Plimmer spoke to the report.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/10) to receive the appointment report from Councillor Plimmer on the Wairarapa Road Safety Council.

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Mayor Connelly)

Carried

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G Public Excluded Business

G1. Public Excluded Minutes from Council meeting held on 14 December 2022

G2. Progress Report from the CEO Employment Review Committee

Cr Olds left the meeting at 2:13pm

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, 14 December 2022 (Proposed Land Purchase Report)	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7(2)(h), section 7(2)(i), and section 7(2)(j)	Section 48(1)(a)
Progress Report from CEO Review Committee	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7(2)(a)	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution (DC2023/11) 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 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)
The withholding of the information is necessary to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7(2)(j)
The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	Section 7(2)(a)

(Moved Cr Maynard /Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

H Karakia Whakamutunga – Closing

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter closed the meeting.

The meeting closed at 3:02pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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