



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
Annual Plan 2023/24 Deliberations
Ordinary Meeting
Minutes from 9 June 2023**

Present:	Mayor Martin Connelly, Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter, Councillors Colin Olds, Aidan Ellims Pip Maynard (via Zoom), Alistair Plimmer, Rebecca Gray, Martin Bosley and Aaron Woodcock.
Apologies	Councillor Kaye McAulay (present for item 6.1 from 11:30am to 1:40pm via phone).
In Attendance:	Paul Gardner (Interim Chief Executive Officer), Amanda Bradley (General Manager Policy and Governance), Karon Ashforth (General Manager Finance), Charly Clark (Senior Financial Accountant), Sheil Priest (General Manager Communications), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager Partnerships and Operations, and Amy Andersen (Committee Advisor).
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 2:34pm except where expressly noted.

1. Karakia

Mayor Connelly opened the meeting with a karakia.

2. Apologies

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/78) to accept apologies from Councillor McAulay (noted she would attend part of the meeting for deliberations on the water budget).

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Ellims)

Carried

3. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4. Annual Plan 2023/24 Deliberations Report

Ms Bradley spoke to matters included in the report. Members queried the community's commentary regarding themes relating to rural roading reserves and water.

Members provided an overall indication of where they were "sitting" in terms of the options available under each key area for decisions. Ms Bradley provided a summary of Council's views.

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*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/79) to receive the Annual Plan 2023/24 Deliberations Report.
(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Ellims)* Carried

Meeting adjourned at 11:06am.

Meeting reconvened at 11:12am.

5. Extraordinary Business

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/80) to add discussion regarding the funding of wastewater treatment; this cannot be delayed because of the potential impact on decisions relating to rates, to be added to the agenda as part of the deliberations on the water budget.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried

Cr McAulay joined the meeting at 11.30am (via phone).

6. Annual Plan Deliberations

6.1 Deliberations – Water Budget

Members discussed whether to keep the LTP Year-3 water budget of \$3.541 million (including inflation) or increase the budget to reduce legal, health and safety, and plant failure risks.

Mr Gardner, Ms Ashforth and Ms Clarke spoke to matters and options relating to funding of wastewater treatment. Mr Corbett spoke to the use of better off funding, which was previously raised at Council meeting held on 7 June 2023 (item B11).

Council Officers responded to queries from members including: equity relating to the water budget, the phasing of costs and use of Better Off Funding to support desludging of ponds and debated the merits of the options currently available.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06pm.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:46pm.

Mr Corbett responded to queries from members including whether the phased approach to desludging would be accepted by regulators. Members discussed the lack of climate related projects in the current Long Term Plan and suggested climate change receives some funding to support this using the Better Off Funding package.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/81) to receive the oral report from the CE on the funding of wastewater treatment.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Gray) Carried

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC 2023/82) to approve \$1m of additional funding in the Annual Plan FY 23/24 rates, to be spent on:

- a) Bringing the Martinborough Wastewater Treatment Plant back to compliance, including desludging at an estimated total cost of \$0.862m; and
- b) Desludging of the Greytown WWTP at an estimated cost of \$0.360m.

(Moved Mayor Connelly / Seconded Cr Plimmer) Tied

For: Mayor Connelly, Cr Plimmer, Cr Bosley, Cr Woodcock, Cr Gray,

Against: Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter, Cr Olds, Cr Maynard, Cr McAulay, Cr Ellims

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Noted: this vote was tied and the Mayor declined to make a casting vote until after an adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18pm
The meeting was reconvened at 1:26pm.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/83) to approve \$0.5m of additional funding in the Annual Plan FY 23/24 rates and \$0.5m from DIA Better Off Funding, to be spent on:

- a) Bringing the Martinborough Wastewater Treatment Plant back to compliance, including desludging at an estimated total cost of \$0.862m; and
- b) Desludging of the Greytown WWTP at an estimated cost of \$0.360m.

(Moved Cr Gray / Seconded Cr Bosley)

Carried

For: Mayor Connelly, Cr Gray, Cr Plimmer, Cr Bosley, Cr Woodcock, Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter.

Against: Cr Olds, Cr Ellims, Cr Maynard, Cr McAulay.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm.
Cr McAulay left the meeting during the break.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/84) to approve the \$4.5m (orange) option for the water budget for the Annual Plan FY 23/24.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Olds)

Carried

The meeting was reconvened at 1:51pm.
Cr Maynard left the meeting at 1:51pm.

6.2 Deliberations – Rural Roding Reserve

Councillors discussed whether to keep the current \$300,000 annual budget, or to increase it to provide a buffer during times of urgent need.

Members acknowledged the large amount of feedback Council received about rural roading and asked CE to investigate the level of services by contractors and the quality of work completed.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/85) to approve the rural roading reserve to be increased to \$500k for the Annual Plan FY 23/24.

(Moved Cr Ellims/Seconded Cr Bosley)

Lost

For: Cr Ellims, Cr Olds, Cr Bosley

Against: Mayor Connelly, Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter, Cr Plimmer, Cr Gray, Cr Woodcock.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/86) to keep the current rural roading reserve \$300,000 annual budget for the Annual Plan FY 23/24.

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Gray)

Carried

6.3 Deliberations – Casual Library Staff

Councillors discussed whether to include a budget of \$165,000 for a pool of casual Library staff to cover leave or exclude it.

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Members noted that libraries are also service centres and asked for this to be communicated more clearly to the community.

Mr Gardner noted there is a bigger discussion to hold in terms of libraries and what they provide, and the innovations in this space.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/87) to exclude the extra \$165,000 for a pool of casual Library staff in the Annual Plan FY 23/24.

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Bosley)

Carried

Against: Cr Gray, Cr Olds

6.4 Deliberations – Community and Youth Grants

Councillors discussed whether to keep or remove the community and youth grants scheme with a budget of \$170,000.

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

7. Consideration of MSC and Community Board submissions

Members discussed the the key items raised in each of the submissions from the Māori Standing Committee and the Community Boards.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2023/89) to co-operate with whanau to support the clean-up of the urupa at Kohunui Marae, Whakatomotomo and Pāpāwai Marae.

(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Cr Ellims)

Carried

8. Karakia

Mayor Connelly closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:34pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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