

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH
ON THURSDAY, 25 JUNE 2026 AT 11:00 AM**

PRESENT: Mayor Fran Wilde (Chair), Cr Martin Bosley, Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Chris Archer, Cr Andrea Rutene, Cr Simone Baker, Cr Rachel Clarke (via Teams), Cr Rupert Watson (25 June 2026 only), Deputy Mayor Rob Taylor.

Cr Collier Isaacs (present only in public excluded on 29 June 2026).

APOLOGIES: Cr Collier Isaacs (25 June 2026).

IN ATTENDANCE: Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Corporate Services), Clare Barton (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory) James O'Connor (Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations), Charly Clarke (Chief Financial Officer), Alex Pigou (Communications and Engagement Manager), Melissa Stockley (Manager, Community Operations), Nicki Ansell (Lead Advisor, Performance and Strategy), Bruce Vincent (Contract Manager - 3 Waters) and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS: This meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, 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 11:00am to 12:03pm except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

All in attendance opened the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

2.1 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION DC2026/30

Moved: Cr C Archer

Seconded: Cr A Rutene

Council resolved to accept an apology from Cr Isaacs.

CARRIED

3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No interests were disclosed relating to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES

Mayor Wilde acknowledged former Councillor Colin Olds for his service to Council (2013–2019, 2021–2026), including contributions to local projects and community organisations.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

6 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28 MAY 2026

RESOLUTION DC2026/31

Moved: Deputy Mayor Taylor

Seconded: Cr Rutene

Council resolved to accept that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 May 2026 are confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to change in the wording of item 10.4 regarding Rapaki Road – to acknowledge how the current name originated, and explicitly note that the recommendation already had a prior name before the new naming was applied.

CARRIED

8 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

9 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

9.1 ADOPTION OF 2026/27 ANNUAL PLAN

Ms Clarke spoke to the report and the following key points were noted:

- Lower-than-forecast rates increase due to reduced interest and deferred project timing.
- Additional investment in infrastructure resilience.
- Minor editorial corrections identified (no impact on financials) which were noted by Ms Clarke.

Members thanked council officers for their work on the Annual Plan.

RESOLUTION DC2026/32**Moved: Mayor Wilde****Seconded: Cr Bosley**

Council resolved to:

1. Receive the Adoption of the 2026/27 Annual Plan report.
2. Note that the 2026/27 Annual Plan has been prepared based on the resolution DC2026/07.
3. Approve an increasing adjustment factor of 12% for Financial Contributions as allowed in the Combined District Plan and Council's Financial Contributions Policy.
4. Adopt the 2026/27 Schedule of Fees and Charges, to come into effect for 1 July 2026
5. Adopt the 2026/27 Annual Plan
6. Approve carry-over of unspent capital budget from the 2025-26 financial year to the 2026-27 financial year where it represents delays to the programme.
7. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to approve minor editorial changes, that do not change the intent of the content, as part of the publication process.
8. Note that the 2026/27 Annual Plan will be published within one month of its adoption in accordance with section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002.

[Items 1-8 read together]

CARRIED**9.2 SETTING OF RATES, DUE DATES, AND PENALTIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2027**

Ms Clarke spoke to the report. Rates were set in accordance with adopted Annual Plan and existing revenue and financing policies.

Members requested that it should be noted that the Greytown urban water rate is included in the stormwater rate.

RESOLUTION DC2026/33**Moved: Mayor Wilde****Seconded: Cr Archer**

Council resolved:

1. To receive the "Setting of rates, due dates, and penalties for the year ending 30 June 2027" report.
2. That, in accordance with Section 23 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (the Act), Council sets the rates as described below for the rating year starting on 1 July 2026 and ending on 30 June 2027.

All rates and charges are shown inclusive of GST.

General Rates

Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)

In accordance with Section 15 of the Act a Uniform Annual General Charge will be set per Separately Used on Inhabitable Part (SUIP) on every rateable rating unit.

Basis of Assessment		Rate
Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)	Per SUIP	\$491.47

General Rate

In accordance with Section 13 of the Act a General Rate will be set per dollar of rateable capital value.

No differentials are to be applied to the General Rate, i.e., every rateable property in the district is rated the same amount per dollar of capital value.

Basis of Assessment		Rate
General Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00135912

Targeted Rates

In accordance with Section 16 of the Act the following targeted rates will be set.

Footpaths

A rate will be set per dollar of rateable capital value, on properties within the urban zones of the district, according to the district plan.

Basis of Assessment		Rate
Footpath Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00004196

Infrastructure resilience

A rate will be set per dollar of rateable capital value, on a uniform basis across the district.

Basis of Assessment		Rate
Infrastructure Resilience Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00008208

Refuse & recycling

A uniform targeted rate will be set per rating unit that is serviced by, or capable of being serviced by, the districts refuse & recycling scheme. Ratepayers who request additional wheelie bins will incur an additional charge per bin requested.

Basis of Assessment		Rate
Refuse & Recycling Rate	Per Rating Unit	\$542.06
Additional wheelie bin rate	Per additional bin	\$542.06

Roading***Uniform roading rate***

A uniform targeted rate will be set per Separately Used on Inhabitable Part (SUIP) on every rateable rating unit.

	Basis of Assessment	Rate
Roading Charge	Per SUIP	\$190.62

Roading rate

A rate will be set per dollar of rateable capital value, on a uniform basis across the district.

	Basis of Assessment	Rate
Roading Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00041453

Stormwater

A rate will be set per dollar of rateable capital value, on properties within the urban zones of the district, according to the district plan.

	Basis of Assessment	Rate
Stormwater Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00026091

Wastewater

A uniform targeted rate will be set on every rating unit that is connected to, or capable of being connected to, the district wastewater network.

In addition to the differential rate, where the total number of toilets or urinals connected either directly or indirectly in a rating unit exceeds two per SUIP an additional pan rate will be assessed in respect of the third and every subsequent water closet or urinal (pan) per SUIP.

Differential	Basis of Assessment	Rate
Wastewater – Serviced	Per connected SUIP	\$1,290.00
Wastewater - Serviceable	Per rating unit	\$645.00
Additional pan rate	Per toilet or urinal	\$1,290.00

Water Supply

A uniform targeted rate will be set on every rating unit that is connected to, or capable of being connected to, the district water supply network as follows:

Differential	Basis of Assessment	Rate
Water Supply - Serviced	Per connected SUIP	\$1,350.15
Water Supply - Serviceable	Per rating unit	\$675.08

Water Supply by Meter

An additional targeted rate is proposed where the volume of metered water exceeds 250 m³ per year for all metered connections. This charge will be \$2.63 per m³ for the 2026-27 year.

Water Races

A rate will be set per dollar of rateable land value of each rating unit in the district that is serviced, or capable of being serviced, by the district's rural water races, on a differential basis according to provision of service.

Differential	Basis of Assessment	Rate
Water Race - Longwood	Per \$ of Land Value	\$0.00170022
Water Race - Moroa	Per \$ of Land Value	\$0.00037276

Due dates for payment of rates (excluding metered water usage)

In accordance with Section 24 of the Act all rates, excluding those set for metered water per Section 19 of the Act, are charged by way of four equal instalments.

Each instalment is to be paid on or before the due dates below.

Under section 57 and 58 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a 10 percent (10%) penalty will be added to any portion of the current instalment that remains unpaid after the due date as shown below.

Rate Instalment	Due Date	Penalty Date
First instalment	20 th August 2026	31 st August 2026
Second instalment	20 th November 2026	30 th November 2026
Third instalment	20 th February 2027	26 th February 2027
Fourth instalment	20 th May 2027	31 st May 2027

Arrears penalties

Under section 57 and 58 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, an additional 10 percent (10%) penalty will be added on to any rates remaining unpaid from previous financial years on the dates below.

	Arrears Penalty Date
First arrears penalty	2 nd July 2026
Second arrears penalty	5 th January 2027

Due dates for payment of rates for metered water usage

Water meters will be read annually in June. Rates set for metered water per Section 19 of the Act, are charged by way of an annual instalment. Each instalment is to be paid on or before the due dates below.

Under section 57 and 58 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a 10 percent (10%) penalty will be added to any portion of the current instalment that remains unpaid after the due date as shown below.

Rate Instalment	Due Date	Penalty Date
Annual reading to June 2027	20 th August 2027	31 st August 2027

Properties with high metered water usage will have an additional reading completed in January 2026.

Rate Instalment	Due Date	Penalty Date
High use reading to December 2026	20 th February 2027	26 th February 2027
Annual reading to June 2027	20 th August 2027	31 st August 2027

[Items 1-2 read together]

CARRIED

9.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMALGAMATION

Council received updates from Mayor Wilde and Ms Smith regarding the options for amalgamation, proposals being due to central government by 9 August.

Members queried the current workstreams - there was confirmation that Council is participating in both the Wairarapa and Wellington regional workstreams.

Members discussed the direction of the proposal – Mayor Wilde noted that the key considerations identified are affordability and local representation / voice.

A report will be presented to Council on 30 July to approve the proposal.

RESOLUTION DC2026/34

Moved: Mayor Wilde

Seconded: Cr Archer

Council resolved to:

1. Receive the Local Government Amalgamation paper.
2. Receive the benchmarking report prepared by Morrison Low, acknowledging that it does not provide a conclusive position regarding the viability of a Wairarapa Unitary option.
3. Agree that South Wairarapa District Council will continue to work with the other regional councils to submit either a sub-regional (Wairarapa) or regional (Wellington - including all of the current region) application to the Head Start programme.
4. Approve the CE to work with Carterton District Council, Masterton District Council and Martin Jenkins to establish a financial model for a Wairarapa Unitary Council.
5. Note that the outcome of the modelling will be assessed alongside the Regional Unitary model before making a decision regarding next steps.
6. Note engagement with the community will be undertaken towards the end of July, if possible, to receive community views on the options.
7. Request a report be brought to Council at the end of July to enable a decision to be taken with regards to the most suitable option for the Wairarapa.

[Items 1-7 read together]

CARRIED

9.4 FUNDING REQUEST FOR NATIONAL MUSIC CENTRE

Members debated the options included in the report regarding a \$11,000 contribution to a National Music Centre. Discussion included cultural and regional benefits especially for the youth of the district versus financial constraints and other priorities.

RESOLUTION DC2026/35

Moved: Cr Watson

Seconded: Cr Rutene

Council resolved to:

1. Receive the Funding Request for National Music Centre Report.
2. Approve funding of \$11,227.68 for the National Music Centre from within existing budgets and delegates authority to the Chief Executive to identify the necessary savings to accommodate this funding request.

[Items 1-2 read together]

In Favour: Mayor Wilde, Cr Archer, Cr Rutene, Cr Clarke and Cr Watson

Against: Cr Bosley, Cr Ellims, Cr Baker and Deputy Mayor Taylor.

CARRIED 5/4

9.5 LGOIMA - POLICY UPDATE

Ms Hughes spoke to the report, noting that the Policy was updated to introduce clearer charging and request management processes. There is an emphasis on transparency, managing high-volume or complex requests and encouraging refinement of requests.

Members queried the frequency of charging (rare) and handling of vexatious requests (case by case under LGOIMA section 17(h)).

RESOLUTION DC2026/36

Moved: Cr Taylor

Seconded: Cr Rutene

Council resolved to:

1. Receive the LGOIMA – Policy Update report
2. Adopt the LGOIMA - Charging and Proactive Release Policy
3. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to:
 - a) Make minor editorial or administrative amendments to the policy; and

- b) Update the policy as required to reflect changes in legislation, Ombudsman guidance, or Council processes, provided such changes do not materially alter the policy intent.

[Items 1-3 read together]

CARRIED

9.6 APPOINTMENTS TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Mayor Wilde noted that the Deputy Chair position will be appointed following the completion of the by-election in October 2026.

RESOLUTION DC2026/37

Moved: Mayor Wilde

Seconded: Cr Archer

Council resolved to:

1. Receive the *Appointments to the Infrastructure Committee* report.
2. Appoint Councillor Aidan Ellims as the Chairperson of the Infrastructure Committee.

[Items 1-2 read together]

CARRIED

9.7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NZ REMITS 2026

Members briefly discussed the remits and their preferences for voting / prioritisation at the LGNZ Annual General Meeting.

RESOLUTION DC2026/38

Moved: Deputy Mayor Taylor

Seconded: Cr Bosley

Council resolved to:

1. Receive the Local Government NZ Remit 2026 report.
2. Appoint Mayor Fran Wilde as the primary nominee to attend the LGNZ Annual General Meeting on 31 July 2026 to vote on remits.
3. Authorise the primary nominee to endorse the LGNZ remits with the following vote:

Proposed Remit		Vote – Yes, No or Abstain
1	Priorities for Dog Control Act reform	Yes
2	Improved regulation of vape retailers	Yes
3	Financial support for government reform implementation costs	Yes

4	Removal of Representation Review requirements during Simplifying Local Government reform	Yes
5	Devolution of place-naming authority to Territorial Authorities	No
6	Enhanced role for government in supporting subnational diplomacy	No
7	Bulk funding of transport activities	No
8	Improving LTP audit requirements	Yes
9	A fairer approach to uneconomic transport infrastructure funding	Yes

4. Authorise the primary nominee to prioritise the remits as follows:

- i. Financial support for government reform implementation costs
- ii. Removal of Representation Review requirements during Simplifying Local Government reform
- iii. Improving LTP audit requirements
- iv. A fairer approach to uneconomic transport infrastructure funding
- v. Priorities for Dog Control Act reform
- vi. Improved regulation of vape retailers
- vii. Devolution of place-naming authority to Territorial Authorities
- viii. Enhanced role for government in supporting subnational diplomacy
- ix. Bulk funding of transport activities.

[Items 1-4 read together]

CARRIED

10 MAYORAL REPORTS

10.1 MAYORAL REPORT - ACTING ARRANGEMENTS JULY 2026

Noted: After the meeting had closed, Mayor Wilde confirmed she would be returning on the morning of 27 July, not 29 July.

RESOLUTION DC2026/39

Moved: Mayor Wilde

Seconded: Cr Archer

Council resolved to appoint Deputy Mayor Rob Taylor as Acting Mayor from 10 July – 28 July 2026 (inclusive).

CARRIED

11 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC****RESOLUTION DC2026/40****Moved: Cr Ellims****Seconded: Cr Bosley**

Council resolved that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution	Plain English reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter
11.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 May 2026	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7	These minutes relate to the following reports heard at this meeting: Destination Wairarapa MOU Extension, Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades and Review of Remission Application.
11.2 - Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrades - Delivery Costs	s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7	This relates to commercially sensitive information prior to the signing of contractual documents.
11.3 - Open Spaces Contract	s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings	The report contains information relating to costs and

	Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7	negotiations which have not yet been completed.
CARRIED			

Meeting adjourned at 12:03pm.

Meeting resumed in public excluded at 12:40pm.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40pm until Monday, 29 June 2026 at 7:30pm.

Meeting resumed in public excluded on Monday, 29 June 2026 at 7:34pm.

12 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 7:37pm on Monday, 29 June 2026.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Mayor)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)