

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY BOARD
HELD AT THE FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, 14 WAKEFIELD STREET, FEATHERSTON.
ON WEDNESDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2026 AT 6:30 PM**

- PRESENT:** Mrs Tanja Schubert-McArthur (Chair), Mr Warren Maxwell, Cr Rupert Watson, Cr Rachel Clarke, Ms Anne Hynds, Mrs Joanna Baldwin
- APOLOGIES:** Mayor Fran Wilde
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Siv Fjaerestad (Advisor, Community Governance)
- PUBLIC FORUM:** Sonya Logan, Ed Harcourt and Sian Harcourt (The Bucks Road Campsite Community Engagement Group), Darrin Goulding (South Wairarapa Community Empowerment Trust), Jane Ross and Mark Pacey (Te Waiwhakaata Wairarapa Film Festival), Marty Parker and Julia Milne (Lawn Monster Ltd and Featherston Cycle Hub), Melissa Stockley (Featherston Pride Festival), Jo Clarke (Moana Trail Trust), Belinda Milnes and Cr Peter Biggs (Featherston Business Engine), Mary Gow (Mulled Wine Concerts, online), Brooke Turner (Innovative Young Minds), Barbara Priest and supporting members (Wai Wheels), Garrick Emms.
- CONDUCT OF BUSINESS:** This meeting was held in the Featherston Community Centre, 14 Wakefield Street, Featherston. The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 6.32pm to 9.32pm, except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

Mrs Schubert-McArthur opened the meeting with a karakia.

Mrs Schubert-McArthur vacated position of chair, and Mrs Baldwin chaired items 2 to 4.

2 APOLOGIES

2.1 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/20

Moved: Mr W Maxwell

Seconded: Ms A Hynds

The Featherston Community Board resolved to accept the apology from Mayor Fran Wilde.

CARRIED

3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Ms Hynds declared a conflict of interest as member of Bucks Road Campsite Community Engagement Group and the Featherston Business Engine.

Cr Clarke declared a conflict of interest as member of Featherston Business Engine and a perceived conflict of interest of Moana Trail Trust.

Mrs Baldwin declared two perceived conflicts of interest as previously involved with Featherston Business Engine and previously employed by the South Wairarapa Community Empowerment Trust.

4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES

Mrs Baldwin acknowledged the recent passing of Garry Dittmer and also since the last meeting, the passing of Francie Smith. Both were big contributors and passionate community members.

Mr Maxwell congratulated Peter Biggs on becoming Councillor, and acknowledged Brenda West for putting themselves forward for the by-election for Councillor for Featherston Ward.

Mrs Shubert-McArthur returned as Chair and noted that the meeting was ahead of schedule, and they were waiting for more public participants to arrive.

With the agreement of the meeting, the Chair brought Item 8 forward and it was considered following Item 4.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8.1 MINUTES OF THE FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 5 AUGUST 2026

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the Featherston Community Board meeting held on 5 August 2026 are confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to the following changes throughout the minutes: correction from “Ms” to “Mrs” of Mrs Schubert-McArthur and Mrs Baldwin, from “receives” to “received”, “resolves” to resolved”, and “perceived conflict”, and “as well as”.

With the agreement of the meeting, the Chair returned to Item 5.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms Hynds left meeting at 6.43pm

Sonya Logan and Ed Harcourt (The Buck’s Road Campsite Community Engagement Group) spoke to the application for funding to support two community engagement events to support restoration of native planting and improvement to the campsite amenities. This is an ongoing project undertaken in partnership with Department of Conservation, He Kotare Tree Nursery, and South Wairarapa Community Empowerment Trust.

Ms Hynds returned to the meeting at 6.50pm.

Members noted that the Featherston Bowling Club had withdrawn their application.

Cr Clarke and Ms Hynds left the meeting at 6.51pm.

Belinda Milnes (Featherston Business Engine) spoke to the application for funding for the Featherston Paetumokai Core Narrative and Visual Identity Project – a place-making initiative to position Featherston Paetumokai as a flourishing and sustainable destination for the businesses, visitors and residents. The funding is requested for the purpose of enabling consultation with mana whenua and community, and any design changes and “brand” guidelines.

Cr Clarke and Ms Hynds returned to the meeting at 6.57pm.

Marty Parker and Julia Milne, (Lawn Monster Ltd and Featherston Cycle Hub), spoke to the application for funding to create a safe environment for community to repair, move and ride bikes, providing affordable and accessible solutions for everyone in the community. Funding is sought for a coordinator role mapping local cycling assets, providing repairs and safety equipment, training, promotion of hub.

Jo Clarke (Moana Trail Trust) spoke to the application to fund costs connected to culverting, signage and shelter of the planned cycling and walking trail from Featherston to Moana Wairarapa. This complements a multi-agency funding application to Trust House for the cost of fencing the trail. Recent developments include the completion of carparking spaces by SWDC.

Melissa Stockley (Featherston Pride Festival) spoke to the application for funding to support Featherston Pride 2027 and a youth ball event. A highly collaborative multi day event with social, educational and community focussed activities, Featherston Pride Festival focuses on breaking down barriers, building community, creating a safe and accessible environment for all. The flagship event attracts visitors from the across the region and wider Aotearoa.

Brooke Turner (Innovative Young Minds) spoke to the application to support the deliver of IYM Satellite Wairarapa, a one day in-person STEMM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics and high tech manufacturing experience with the focus on careers in the Wairarapa. The event takes place in Carterton on 8 October and is for Year 11 and Year 12 students from the greater Wellington area.

Mary Gow (Mulled Wine Concerts) spoke to the application for funding to support the costs of a classical concert in the Anzac Hall in July 2027, including hall hire, piano tuning, design, printing and promotion, musician fees. The concert brings highly qualified musicians and is aimed at families who love classical music concerts and those who would like to experience them for the first time.

It was noted that the Owls of Featherston were not able to speak to their application at this time.

Darrin Goulding (South Wairarapa Community Empowerment Trust) spoke to the application to provide graphic design and advertising support for ten key Featherston community events within the Featherston Phoenix Community Newspaper.

Darrin Goulding (South Wairarapa Community Empowerment Trust) spoke to the application to purchase a new audio-visual system for the Featherston Community Centre, providing enhanced capability for current activities and services, and attracting new users.

It was noted that the South Wairarapa Pipe Band were not able to speak to their application at this time.

Jane Ross and Mark Pacey (Waiwhakaata Wairarapa Film Festival) spoke to the application to support Lemon Squeezers and Walking Sticks, Treasures of the Featherston Heritage Museum – World Premiere Screening and Heritage Talk. The film presents a unique piece of Featherston history; World War I and World War 2 Camps, and includes three accessible screenings, a talk with Mark, and will be donated to the Featherston Heritage Museum.

Barbara Priest (Wai Wheels) spoke to the application to support Wai-Wheels, a Wheels and Deals Swap Meet and Car Show' on 15 November at Card Reserve, Featherston. With Live Music, Carnival rides, Retro Fashion Show, Rock n Roll demonstrations, the event is a great affordable day out for the whole family. The returns of the event is donated to local schools and groups.

Members noted that the Featherston Friday Craft Group and the Wairarapa Walking Festival were not able to speak to their applications at this time.

Grant applicant presentations concluded.

Garrick Emms spoke to the Featherston Wastewater GETS budget and the Featherston CLG meeting on Thursday 8 October 2026. Mr Emms questioned the current costings and the effect of the current budget on the stage 2 development and on Featherston Rates. Mr Emms strongly supported the the formation of the new CLG in Featherston, providing a forum, for open and informed discussion about the Hodder Farm and Wastewater treatment project.

The meeting adjourned at 7.53pm for a ten minute break.

The meeting resumed at 8.03pm.

With the agreement of the meeting, the Chair brought Item 10.2 - Applications to the Board's October Round 2026.

7 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

10.2 APPLICATIONS TO THE BOARD'S OCTOBER 2026 FUNDING ROUND

The Board noted the significant number of applications, and the quality of projects supporting Featherston ward community wellbeing outcomes. Members weighed fully funding high-priority applications against retaining funds for a later round. Considering the round has received applications for the entire year, people are prepared and aware, members favoured allocating available funding now.

In considering the applications, members noted the importance of considering the longevity and sustainability of projects, durable assets, long-term outcomes, projects that will continue to "grow and give back" for the Featherston community and focussing on the initiatives that create the most significant impact.

08.32pm – Ms Hynds left the meeting so that members could discuss the application from Buck's Road Campsite Community Engagement Group.

08.34pm – Cr Clarke left the meeting, so that members could discuss the application from the Featherston Business Engine.

08.37pm – Ms Hynds and Cr Clarke returned to the meeting.

In discussing the total applications, members considered :

- whether funding would improve an applicant's or initiative's ongoing financial sustainability rather than meet a recurring shortfall.
- whether co-funding had been secured, whether other funders were more appropriate, and whether the project would proceed without Board support.
- that through the assessment process, a few applications aligned well with what the Board has been hearing from the community engagement.
- applying caution with regards to funding multiple applications from one organisation, duplicating services or supporting activity already funded or completed.
- the importance of providing clear budgets, quotes where applicable, and sufficient data or information on the impact that projects would have on the local community.
- that any applicants who use a gst registered fundholder, must apply for or be granted gst exclusive funding.

Members also acknowledged Officers for providing early and helpful advice regarding conflicts of interest considerations.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/21

Moved: Cr Clarke

Seconded: Cr Watson

The Featherston Community Board resolved to receive the "Applications to the Board's October 2026 funding round" report.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/22

Moved: Cr Clarke

Seconded: Ms Hynds

The Featherston Community Board resolved to:

1. Accept in full the application from Wai-Wheels Featherston for \$800 to fund the Wheels and Deals Swap Meet and Car Show.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/23

Moved: Mr Maxwell

Seconded: Mrs Schubert-McArthur

The Featherston Community Board resolved to:

1. Accept in part the application from Buck's Road Campsite Community Engagement Group to the amount of \$2,500 for two community engagement events, including a Planting Day and Celebration and Promotion of a new Bike Rack.
2. Accept in part the application from Featherston Business Engine to the amount of \$1,000 to fund Featherston Paetūmokai Core Narrative and Visual Identity Project.
3. Accept in part the application from Lawn Monster on behalf of Featherston Cycle Hub to the amount of \$900 to fund the Featherston Cycle Hub Project (Year One).
4. Accept in part the application from Featherston Friday Craft Group to the amount of \$500 for "Keeping the Community Warm".
5. Accept in part the application from Owls of Featherston to the amount of \$1,000 to provide an Over 70's Christmas Lunch.
6. Accept in part the application from Featherston Pride Festival to the amount of \$2,240 to deliver a Pride Youth Ball in December 2026 and the Featherston Pride festival in March 2027.
7. Accept in part the application from Mulled Wine Concerts in Featherston to the amount of \$200 for the cost of piano tuning for the 2027 Mulled Wine Concerts in Featherston.
8. Accept in part the application from South Wairarapa Community Empowerment Trust to the amount of \$2,000 to fund either the Coordinated Phoenix Community Newspaper Promotion of Featherston Public Events, or the Audio Visual System Upgrade, conditional upon the applicant using the funding for one project only.
9. Accept in part the application from South Wairarapa Pipe Band to the amount of \$300 to purchase Extra Uniform Pieces for New Members.
10. Accept in part the application from Te Waiwhakaata Film Festival to the amount of \$2,000 to fund Lemon Squeezers and Walking Sticks: Treasures of the Featherston Heritage Museum – World Premiere Screening and Heritage Talk.
11. Accept in part the application from Wairarapa Moana Trail Trust to the amount of \$4,000 to fund the Preparation of the "Mōkai Trail" (stage one).

CARRIED**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/24****Moved: Cr Clarke****Seconded: Mrs Baldwin**

The Featherston Community Board resolved to:

1. Decline the application from Innovative Young Minds for \$2,000 to fund a IYM Satellite Wairarapa event.
2. Decline the application from Wairarapa Walking Festival for \$250 to fund the Wairarapa Walking Festival 2026.

CARRIED

Members noted that it may take up to 10 working days for Officers to notify applicants of the outcome of their applications, and up to 20 working days to process payments to applicants.

Members requested that Officers provide them with an update as soon as applicants have been notified.

Action for Ms Fjaerestad:

To notify applicants of the outcome, and process information relating to the payments, and notify members when this has been completed.

With the agreement of the meeting, the Chair returned to consider Item 7, and any subsequent remaining items of the agenda.

8 ACTIONS FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no actions from Public Participation, but members noted Mr Emms presentation, and that the Board would be appointing the Board's representative on the Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant Community Liaison Group at this meeting.

9 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

10 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

11 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

10.1 LONG-TERM PLAN 2027-37

Ms Fjaerestad spoke briefly to Ms Ansell's report, and offered to take any questions back to Ms Ansell.

The Report outlines the LTP process and identified two opportunities for the Board to provide input into the LTP.

The first is an informal review of the current LTP, with feedback to officers requested by the end of September 2026. This review focuses on Years 3-9 of the current plan and considers whether existing priorities remain appropriate or if changes need to be considered.

To support this process, officers have provided Boards with a list of current projects and commitments. The Community Boards and the Maori Partnership Committee are invited to a meeting with Councillors on 22 October to support LTP discussions.

The second opportunity for Board input is through a formal submission on the LTP. The recommendation is that, in early 2027, the Board pass a resolution to make a submission as part of the formal consultation process, including identifying submission topics, the author of the submission, and the member(s) nominated to speak at hearings.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/25

Moved: Ms Hynds

Seconded: Cr Clarke

The Featherston Community Board resolved to:

1. Receive the “Long-Term Plan 2027-37” Report.
2. Agree to review the current project plan for years 4-9 of the existing LTP and provide feedback to officers.

CARRIED

10.3 APPOINTMENT TO THE FEATHERSTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Mr Warren was nominated to attend the Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant Community Liaison Group (CLG) and unanimously appointed.

Members noted that they would like to attend the first meeting together with Mr Maxwell, and sought clarification on whether or not multiple members can attend the meetings.

Action for Ms Fjaerestad:

To seek clarification on whether or not multiple members can attend the CLG meetings.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/26

Moved: Mrs Baldwin

Seconded: Cr Watson

The Featherston Community Board resolved to:

1. Receive the “Appointments to the Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant Community Liaison Group” report.
2. Appoint Mr Warren Maxwell as the Board’s representative on the Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant Community Liaison Group.
3. Authorise the appointed representative to attend meetings, receive information and reports, and provide feedback on behalf of the Board.
4. Note that the appointment will remain in effect until revoked or replaced by the Board.

CARRIED

10.4 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/27

Moved: Mrs Baldwin

Seconded: Ms Hynds

The Featherston Community Board resolved to receive the Income and Expenditure Report.

CARRIED

Members enquired about updates on projects that have been funded and completed.

Action for Ms Fjaerestad: Report back on accountability for projects at December meeting.

12 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

11.1 ACTION ITEMS

The action items report was taken as read, noting that there were no further updates to the report.

13 CHAIRPERSON REPORTS

12.1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Mrs Schubert-McArthur reflected on the significant number of participants to the recent community engagement events held at the Featherston Community Centre, while the attendance at the rural event was very low.

Members noted the significant range and number of collaborative and relationship-building activities that the Chair and Board had attended since last meeting. Members noted a new opportunity to build on community relationships through collaborating with the upcoming Buck's Road Community Engagement Group events.

Members discussed the need to support the annual Featherston Christmas Parade with traffic management, promotional and/or related costs as well as the need to replace the Board's Christmas Flags, estimated at approximately \$1,800.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2026/28

Moved: Ms Hynds

Seconded: Mr Maxwell

The Featherston Community Board resolved to:

1. Receive the "Chairperson's Update" Report.
2. Agree to ringfence expenditure up to the amount of \$3,333 for the purpose of contribution to Christmas Celebrations including the Christmas Parade, Christmas Flags; contingent on consideration of quotes.

CARRIED

14 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

Mrs Schubert-McArthur closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 9.32pm.

[Type here for Appendices if required.](#)

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)