



Present:	Tui Rutherford (Chair), John Dennison (Deputy Chair), Annelise Schroeder, Warren Maxwell, Councillor Rebecca Gray and Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter
In Attendance:	Russell O’Leary (Group Manager, Planning & Environment), Nicki Ansell (Acting GM, Democracy and Engagement) and Robyn Ramsden (Community Democracy Advisor, Democracy & Engagement).
Public Participation:	Romain Busby, Graeme Gray, Karen Mikaera, Michelle Sandford, Marc van de Loo, Natasha Micheletti, Gary Dittmer, Brett Slater, Rhonda Jones.
Conduct of Business:	The meeting was conducted in public in the Featherston Community Centre, 14 Wakefield Street, Featherston, between 7.00pm and 9:17pm.

Members opened with a karakia.

1. EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS

No extraordinary business.

2. APOLOGIES

No apologies received.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Warren Maxwell declared a conflict of interest with Item 9.4 as he is a committee member of Pae Tū Mōkai O Tauria.

4. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND TRIBUTES

Members would like to acknowledge this year’s Anzac Parade in Featherston and to acknowledge the traffic control efforts made by the Community Patrol on 25 February at the POW Incident Commemoration. Excellent to see collaboration between Council and RSA.

Members acknowledged the 100th birthday of Pat Flynn a prominent figure in Featherston.

Members wished the organisers of Featherston Booktown well for their event this coming weekend. This is the 9th year for this event, and it has increased in strength and popularity.

Members wish to acknowledge the recent recipient of Wellingtonian of the Year. Local Liz Mellish.

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/13) to extend Public Participation time limit by 10 minutes as per 15.1 of SWDC Standing Orders.

(Moved Cr. Gray /Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter)

Carried

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5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Romain Busby – Welcome to Featherston Signs

Ms Busby requested 'Welcome to Featherston' sign updates. She discussed the damage done to the dog park. She thanked the members of the volunteer fire brigade who secured the damaged structure. She expressed concerns at recent break ins around town.

Members discussed update from Ms Busby.

Graeme Gray – Cobblestones Museum Trust

Mr Gray spoke in support of his application for financial assistance. The requested funding is for cleaning the spouting as the group who used to do it are no longer able to do it. They are approaching the three Community Boards as this spreads the requests around the area.

Members thank him for his time.

Karen Mikaera – Pae Tū Mōkai O Tauria

Ms Mikaera and MS Sandford spoke in support of their application for financial assistance. They need to keep the seedlings off the ground and having the benches would be easier on their volunteers. The proposed benches are the cleanest option. They discussed how the nursery supports all four wellbeing pillars. The nursery has increased capacity by 33%, producing 70,000 plants this year. Benches are scalable.

Members asked about the volunteers and if they did not receive the requested amount of funding would the project still go ahead.

Marc van de Loo – Featherston Sports Hub

Mr van de Loo spoke in support of the Sports Hub application for financial assistance. The Sports Hub hosts multiple sports clubs. Mr van de Loo explained the situation with the fridges at the Sports Hub. The clubs were doing fundraising to help support their members and the facilities at the Sports hub including delivering Yellow Pages and water meter reading. Purchasing fridges is modular and scalable.

Members asked how the organisers arrived at the price needed and if they were not to receive all the funding requested, would the project continue.

Natasha Micheletti – Balanced Therapy

Ms Micheletti spoke in support of her application for financial assistance. She clarified the request is to provide services for families and not as part of the business. She is wanting to provide a free service for any family with children up to 10 yrs old. It would be advertised in schools, doctors' offices, and by word of mouth.

Members asked how parents would discover the course offered and who would come to the course and that the funding comes from the wider community.

Gary Dittmer - Various

Mr Dittmer spoke about the increase in rates, number of people living in the district, and his concerns that people on fixed incomes cannot pay the increasing rates.

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Meeting adjourned at 7:41pm
Meeting reconvened at 7:46pm.

Brett Slater – Barr- Brown Reserve

Mr Slater spoke on the history of Barr-Brown Reserve and his passion for getting action on cleaning up and setting up the reserve for future generations. He has met with SWDC staff regarding his plans (supplied). Pest Control is underway. Mr Slater listed future tasks for the reserve; stepping stones, picnic table, tree naming, build a new entrance to the Reserve.

Members discussed meeting with Mr Slater and interested parties on-site this afternoon. Discussion on how plan might progress. Establish a group to progress these plans and engage with the Featherston Community.

Rhonda Jones – Featherston Beautification Group

Ms Jones is the Chair of the Featherston Beautification Group (FBG) and lead of the 'Welcome to Featherston' signs. FBG were given written permission by Waka Kotahi. Consent applications have been sent by SWDC. One of the signs was damaged when removed and must have a section replaced. Work on this is underway. The signs are now stored at Pope and Gray. The project is still forward movement despite the setback.

Members thanked Ms Jones for her work and remarked at her tenacity and persistence to get this project off the ground and to keep working on despite the setbacks.

6. ACTIONS FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Welcome to Featherston Signs can be discussed under Item 9.5 Action Items Report. Cobblestones Museum Trust, Pae Tū Mōkai O Tauria, Featherston Sports Hub and Balanced Therapy can be discussed under Item 9.4 Financial Assistance Report.

Members discussed Mr Slaters Barr-Brown presentation. Noting that work is paused. Discussion on what oversight looks like for this project. Would it come from FCB, SWDC or a Community Group.

Action 207 - Request staff provide information on how reserves are managed by SWDC. And if there is a reserve management plan for Barr-Brown Reserve.

7. FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES – 7 FEBRUARY 2024

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/14) that the minutes of the Featherston Community Board meeting held on 7 February 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

(Moved Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter /Seconded Cr. Gray)

Carried

Correction: John specifically requested resource consent for the Welcome to Featherston Signs.

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8. CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

8.1 FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/15) to receive the Chairpersons Report.

(Moved Cr. Gray /Seconded Mr Maxwell)

Carried

Topic 1 – Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25

Submission to the enhanced annual plan. See Chair’s report.

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/16) to accept the text in the Chairs report is the substantial submission from the Featherston Community Board to the Enhanced Annual Plan.

(Moved Ms Schroeder /Seconded Mr Maxwell)

Carried

Topic 2 – Welcome to Featherston Flags

Topic 3 – Welcome to Featherston Flag design

Topic 4 – ANZAC Flag Replacements

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/17) to fund \$2,059.00 ext GST from the Community Development Grant on replacement “Welcome to Featherston” flags.

(Moved Cr. Gray /Seconded Ms Schroeder)

Carried

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/18) to fund \$500.00 incl GST from the Community Development Grant to commission of for design of new Featherston/ Pae Tū Mōkai flags.

(Moved Cr. Gray /Seconded Mr Maxwell)

Carried

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/19) to fund \$1902.61 ext GST from the Grant/Community Development Grant on replacing the Anzac flags with a new design.

(Moved Mr Maxwell /Seconded Ms Schroeder)

Carried

9. REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

9.1 Representation Review Report

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/20) to receive the Representation Review Report.

(Moved Cr. Gray/Seconded Mr Maxwell)

Carried

Ms Ansell spoke to the report. Highlighted the increase in population for all three wards. Provided the timeline of the Representation Review. Encouraged the Community Board to engage with their community. Answered questions on the options for the Māori Ward.

9.2 Proposed naming of a new private road, at 90-94 Fox Street, Featherston

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/21) to receive the proposed naming of a new private road, at 90-94 Fox Street, Featherston Report.

(Moved Mr Maxwell/Seconded Cr. Gray)

Carried

Members discussed suitability of Flynn Way and acknowledge the second option carried great personal weight for the applicant.

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FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/22) to approve the proposed naming of 'Flynn Way' for the new private road at 90-94 Fox Street, Featherston.

(Moved Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter/Seconded Cr. Gray) Carried

9.3 **Income & Expenditure Report**

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/23) to receive the Income and Expenditure Report.

(Moved Mr Maxwell/Seconded Mr Rutherford) Carried

Members discussed the outstanding remaining financial commitments.

9.4 **Financial Assistance Report**

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/24) to: Receive the Financial Assistance Report.

(Moved Cr. Gray/Seconded Mr Maxwell) Carried

Action 219 - Members discussed lack of detail in the application from Bhartiya Samaj Lower Hutt North Island. Request staff provide feedback that there wasn't enough information to make a decision. The Board requests information on how the applicant will reach into this Community.

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/25) to approve the application from Featherston MenzShed for funds of \$250.00 for the purpose of building little libraries in the Featherston community, to come from the Community Development Fund.

(Moved Dennison/Seconded Cr. Gray) Carried

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter provided background on the Little Libraries project. Confirmed that there is no resource consent required. Maintenance will be collaborative between the MenzShed and the Featherston Community Patrol.

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/26) to approve the application from Cobblestone Museum for funds of \$868.00 for the purpose of cleaning out the guttering on heritage buildings, to come from the Community Development Fund.

(Moved Cr. Gray/Seconded Mr Maxwell) Carried

Members thanked Mr Gray for speaking to his organisations request for financial assistance. They agree that Cobblestones Museum is an amazing facility for the whole district.

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/27) to approve the application from Wairarapa Mathematics Association for funds of \$300.00 for the purpose of running the annual event Matharapa, to come from the Grant Fund.

(Moved Cr. Gray/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter) Carried

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/28) to approve the application from Pae Tū Mōkai O Tauria for funds of \$2,500 for the purpose of purchasing steel bench sets for the seed raising house, to come from the Community Development fund.

(Moved Mr Dennison/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter) Carried

Abstain: Mr Maxwell.

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Members discussed that if the project was granted a lesser amount would the project still move forward. The Kaupapa aligns closely with FCB strategic plan. Meeting the Four Wellbeing pillars and good governance. Worthwhile investing in for our community.

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/29) to approve the application from Featherston Sports Hub for funds of \$2,500 for the purpose of replacing the food fridges at the Sports Hub, to come from the Community Development Fund.

(Moved Cr. Gray/Seconded Mr Maxwell)

Carried

Members discussed that the Featherston Sports Hub touches so many in our community. Commented that the amount requested is substantial.

FCB RESOLVED (FCB2024/30) to approve in part to \$2,500 from the Community Development Fund the application from Balanced Therapy on the condition that they can source additional funding prior to drawing down on the grant to provide the course 'Circle of Security Parenting programme'.

(Moved Ms Schroeder/Seconded Mr Dennison)

Carried

Abstain: Cr. Gray.

Members discussed the applications importance and merits.

9.5 Action Items Report

FCB RESOLVED (FCB 2024/31) to receive the Action Items Report.

(Moved Mr Maxwell/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter)

Carried

Members discussed open actions and noted further updates.

83 – Original sites not supported by NZTA. Heard during public participation from the project lead, Ms Jones. They are looking at alternative sites.

550 – Ms Schroeder is meeting with DoC. To ensure Mana Whenua are keep up to date with progress invite SWDC Pou Māori to the next informal meeting.

192 – A defined result would be the establishment of a long-term lease.

196 – Māori Policy still in progress. Request SWDC Pou Māori attend next FCB informal meeting.

212 - More detailed reporting of grants in the Financial Assistance Report required and reconsider a funding modification for grants to be changed from \$500.

The \$500 maximum was listed on the Grant Application forms for the 2021/22 financial year. This requirement is not a restriction based on the current grant policy or any available plans by the Community Board. Actioned.

476 – FCB Chair to write up the strategic pou and overarching strategy to inform grant applicants.

14 – Update done by Ms Schroeder. Actioned.

27 & 28 effectively the same thing request. Actioned.

29 – Last Communication as via FB on 20 March linked to an update on the SWDC website.

<https://swdc.govt.nz/notices-and-updates/welcome-to-featherston-signs-update-2/>

Actioned.

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30 – working with finance to pinpoint funding.

10. MEMBERS REPORT

No Members reports received.

Members closed with a karakia

The meeting closed at 9:17 pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

.....Chairperson

.....Date

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