

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY BOARD
HELD AT THE FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, 14 WAKEFIELD STREET, FEATHERSTON.
ON WEDNESDAY, 6 AUGUST 2025 AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: Mr Tui Rutherford (Chair), Mr John Dennison, Mr Warren Maxwell, Ms Annelise Schroeder, Cr Colin Olds

APOLOGIES: Mr Russell O'Leary (General Manager, Planning and Regulatory) Cr Rebecca Gray

IN ATTENDANCE: Miss Shanin Brider (Community Governance Advisor), Ms Joanna Baldwin (Welcoming Communities Advisor)

PUBLIC FORUM: Mr Barry O'Neale – Featherston resident
Mrs Vicky Alexander, Secretary of Featherston Patrol & Sgt Steve Cameron from NZ Police

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 7pm to 8.49pm except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

Chair Rutherford welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with a karakia. This was followed by a health and safety briefing, and a round of whakawhanaungatanga which included all those present at the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr O'Leary who was currently on leave and Cr Grey who departed her Council in the prior week.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/35

Moved: Mr W Maxwell

Seconded: Ms A Schroeder

And resolved:

That Featherston Community Board receive apologies for Mr O'Leary and Cr Gray

CARRIED

3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

A discussion took place around members of the board and their involvement with one of our grant applicants, the Featherston Patrol. This is a community organisation that all members of the committee have an interest in. Ms Schroeder's husband is a patrol team member, Ms Baldwin is a patrol team member, Mr Dennison is a patrol team member and Mr Maxwell is a patrol team member and a member of the Featherston Patrol committee. The consensus from the board was that Mr Maxwell would abstain from discussion and voting on the grant application due to his direct association with committee members responsible for the application made. Other committee members have an interest by association. Due to the small community Featherston is, and the ability to need a quorum to proceed with decision making, only Mr Maxwell would refrain from discussion and voting on this matter.

4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES

The board acknowledged the tragic passing of Bev McNally who was killed in a car accident. Bev made a huge impression on the Featherston community with the number of initiatives she was involved in. Condolences to the McNally family at this sad time.

Chair Rutherford also acknowledged the current board members for their efforts over the last triennium.

5 URGENT BUSINESS

Section 7 urgent business was moved ahead of public participation for this meeting, to include allowing Mr O'Neale time in public participation to advise the board of issues in his surrounding neighbourhood area. Chair Rutherford allowed Mr O'Neale time to make his submission to the board, on the grounds we have available time in the public participation section for this to take place, and the matter needs to be raised with this current board due to it being the last meeting of the current board.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Barry O'Neale provided the board with an update of the current state of the Hickson Road and Harrison Street East area. A copy of his letter is included as an attachment to these minutes. Mr O'Neale advised board members these issues had been logged directly to council officers via a request for service. It was also mentioned that Cr Olds was informed directly, along with the mayor who also passed the matters to council officers for acknowledgement and action. There has been no further update and the situation continues to worsen. Action items include:

Hickson Street north of Bell Street

- Blackberry on eastern side of road, and where grass is mown contractors are dumping clippings. This is creating an issue with flies.
- Gutters and drains require cleaning

Harrison Street East

- Blackberry and broom on council land
- No footpath and street lighting to the Donald's Creek bridge which is often used by dog walkers
- Bridge safety rail broken
- Planted trees need attended to or removed
- Fennel growing rampant including in cracks of footpaths

Vicky Alexander spoke to her application for funding on behalf of the Featherston patrol, who have requested up to \$5,700 in funding to support the operation of the towns CCTV cameras. Mrs Alexander explained to the board the ongoing and rising costs of having these cameras monitored and is looking for immediate and ongoing support.

Sgt Steve Cameron from NZ Police accompanied Mrs Alexander and provided the board with an update on what the CCTV footage has meant for the police around the region. Because of the number plate recognition the camera service provides, police were able to apprehend offenders in relation to theft, and track those leaving and coming from the Wairarapa for the purposes of crime, including two recent murders that took place earlier this year. It was vital for the police that access to this level of monitoring and surveillance continued.

7 ACTIONS FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Miss Brider to investigate previous requests from Mr O'Neale and follow up the requests made at this meeting.

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**8.1 MINUTES OF THE FEATHERSTON COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/36**

Moved: Ms A Schroeder

Seconded: Mr W Maxwell

Abstained: Cr Olds (did not attend this meeting)

And resolved:

1. That the minutes of the Featherston Community Board meeting held on 4 June 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

9 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

10 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF**10.1 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT**

Miss Brider spoke to this report, where the purpose was to update the board on their current financial position. The board were advised that organisation that still had funding yet to be uplifted had been contacted and their projects were complete. There is a total of \$2,715 of surplus funding for these projects that needed to be moved back to the main allocation pool.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/37

Moved: Mr W Maxwell

Seconded: Mr J Dennison

And resolved:

That the Featherston Community Board

1. Receive the Income and Expenditure Report
2. Agree to move the \$2,290 from FCB2022/42 back to the main allocation pool for distribution
3. Agree to move the \$394 from FCB2024/17 back to the main allocation pool for distribution
4. Agree to move the \$29 from FCB2024/19 back to the main allocation pool for distribution.

CARRIED

10.2 GRANT APPLICATION REPORT

Miss Brider asked the board if they had any further questions or required information around the grant application received. A full copy of the applications has been provided and presentations made by those wanting to attend today.

The board discussed the applications and identified the immediate need the Featherston Patrol

had, but would like them to find other funding opportunities to assist with these annual costs moving forward. Miss Brider to put them in touch with Council's Grants Co-ordinator

Members also determined the funding of koha should not be supported.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FCB2025/38**Moved:** Cr C Olds**Seconded:** Ms A Schroeder**Abstained:** Mr Maxwell from recommendation 3.**And resolved:**

That the Featherston Community Board:

1. Receive the Community Development Grant Report.
2. **Accept/decline** the application from Wai Wheels Featherston for \$600 towards advertising costs for their annual car show.
3. **Accept/Decline** the application from Featherston Community Patrol of up to \$5,700 for funding towards the annual subscription to monitor cameras
4. **Accept/Decline** the application from Friends of St Theresas for \$250 to koha Featherston Patrol on gala day.

CARRIED**11 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF****11.1 ACTION ITEMS UPDATE**

The following updates were made to action items:

390 – Berm Planting Policy

Miss Brider spoke to the board about this policy review and provided guidance to the board around expectations, staffing requirements for the work and community input to the project. It was discussed that this matter should be included in further community consultation if there was appetite for it with the new board and members were prepared to undertake the work required to get this policy in the best position for consideration in the future.

476 – Website updates

Miss Brider acknowledged the information on the website was out of date and needed to be addressed. It was determined due to the timing elections, staff availability, and the amount of updates required post election, that this work would be completed at this time. Miss Brider advised the board she would manage community board page updates for the board moving forward to ensure the information is available and updated in a timely manner.

196 – Criteria for road naming in the Featherston Ward

This work will commence following the adoption of the Māori Policy work and is sitting with the Pou Māori as scheduled work upon completion.

Project title will be added to grant accountability forms when new forms are generated for boards. A letter of support for Anne Hynds is no longer required as the submissions have closed.

12 CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBER REPORTS**12.1 UNDERHILL ROAD SAFETY REPORT**

Ms Schroeder provided a detailed report to members around the safety concerns on Underhill Road. The board thanked Ms Schroeder for the comprehensive information and amount of work she had put into this report. Miss Brider advised members the report was also sent to James O'Connor who was working his way through the points raised to determine what might already be covered through the programme of work scheduled. Underhill Road safety will be brought to the attention of the new board and further work will commence around solutions for this road post-election.

12.2 BROWN-BARR RESERVE UPDATE

Ms Schroeder also tabled a report updating the board on the reclassification of Brown-Barr Reserve. This included the update provided in September 2025 and the letter via email from the Brown-Barr family to the Chief Executive. Miss Brider advised the board that the reserves work was to be completed in the coming year and the decisions around Brown-Barr Reserve would be made in line with this work taking place. Stakeholders have been advised that this work is currently scheduled as per correspondence with Mr O'Connor

13 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

Chair Rutherford closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 8.49pm.

Appendices included - submission presented by Mr O'Neale in public participation

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Mayor/Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)