

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH  
ON WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 10:00 AM**

- PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter (Chair), Mayor Martin Connelly, Cr Alistair Plimmer (from 1:36pm), Cr Aaron Woodcock, Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Martin Bosley (from 10:35am), Cr Colin Olds, Cr Pip Maynard, Cr Rebecca Gray, Ms Violet Edwards and Cr Kaye McAulay.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Fran Wilde (Destination Wairarapa, Council Representative)
- Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations), Paul Gardner (Group Manager, Corporate Services), Narida Hooper (Pou Māori), Peter Trafford (Principal Engineer, Waters), Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).
- Matt Carrere and Natasha Kyd (WellingtonNZ)
- Anna Nielson (Destination Wairarapa) and Nicola Belsham (Business Wairarapa).
- PUBLIC FORUM:** Reiner Schoenbrunn, Michael Smith.
- 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 10:08am to 2:29pm except where expressly noted.

**OPEN SECTION**

**1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING**

All in attendance opened the meeting.

**2 APOLOGIES**

**2.1 APOLOGY**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/01**

**Moved:** Cr R Gray

**Seconded:** Cr A Ellims

To accept apologies from Cr Plimmer for absence and Cr Bosley for lateness.

**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

Cr Maynard acknowledged the passing of Kaye Mills, Martinborough resident, founding member of Madcaps (Martinborough and Districts Company Of Amateur Players), and the passing of Ray Thompson, who established the Tirohana Estate alongside his family and acknowledged his work as a board member on the committee of trustees for Hau Ariki Marae, and his work to support those touched by Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Ms Edwards acknowledged the passing of Mihi Keita Namana of Hurunuiorangi Marae and Māori Standing Committee member, Whitu Karauna's father, and former SWDC Pou Māori, Leanne Karauna's mother.

Mayor Connelly acknowledged for Mike Gray, Greytown resident for being awarded in King's New Year's honours.

### 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Schoenbrunn spoke to the Committee regarding his concerns about safety for cyclists using Underhill Road, Featherston. Mr Schoenbrunn sought the Committee's support to install signage and consideration of speed reductions on this particular road.

Mr Smith spoke to the Committee regarding his concerns about Lake Ferry Road roadworks and repairs occurring over the past 3-4 months. Mr Smith sought the Committee's support to follow up with contractors to rectify any issues raised as concerns at today's meeting.

### 6 URGENT BUSINESS

#### 6.1 URGENT BUSINESS - APPOINTMENT REPORT FROM FRAN WILDE

##### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/02**

**Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter**

**Seconded: Cr P Maynard**

To accept the appointment report from Fran Wilde and add to the agenda to be discussed as item 11.6. The report is late as it was thought that it would form part of the overall economic development update, but that wasn't the case. It cannot be delayed until the next scheduled meeting, as the issues raised in the report may influence future investment planning in to economic development as part of the LTP.

**CARRIED**

## 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 7.1 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2024

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/03

**Moved:** Cr C Olds

**Seconded:** Cr K McAulay

That the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting (Greytown Water Services Deliberations) held on 13 November 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to the correction of: seconder for apologies (from Cr Maynard to Cr Gray).

**CARRIED**

### 7.2 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2024

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/04

**Moved:** Cr R Gray

**Seconded:** Cr A Ellims

That the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 13 November 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to the correction of: Action 128 – enter the word *detailed* next to breakdown.

**CARRIED**

## 8 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

## 9 REPORT BACKS AND REQUESTS FROM MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

### 9.1 REPORT BACK AND UPDATES FROM THE MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

There were no report backs or updates from Community Boards or MSC.

## 10 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

### 10.1 LAKE FERRY WWTP RE-CONSENTING OPTION

Mr Trafford spoke to matters included in the report.

Cr Bosley arrived at 10:35am.

Members queries included mana whenua consent, meeting with iwi (when, where is this happening), the application of local knowledge, climate change impacts (mitigation and adaptation) and seeking more advice on these issues.

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/05**

**Moved: Cr A Ellims**

**Seconded: Cr C Olds**

1. Receive the Lake Ferry WWTP Re-consenting Option Report
2. That *the Strategy Working Committee* approve **option 2** to develop the resource consent application for Lake Ferry Wastewater Treatment Plant, consisting of:
  - Upgrades to the pre-anoxic blend tank and textile filters to increase capacity;
  - Additional UV and to have it run continuously rather than just for wetland discharge;
  - Connection of soil moisture probes to the plant control system. The plant operation will be changed to increase the soil moisture limit for land irrigation from 38% to 50%;
  - Installation of a dedicated pipeline from the treated effluent tank to the wetland and control system changes to run it when the soil moisture reading exceeds the limit of 50%; and
  - Inflow & infiltration reduction in the Lake Ferry wastewater network to exclude stormwater from the sewage and reduce treated effluent discharge volumes.

[Items 1&2 read together]

**CARRIED**

#### **10.2 APPOINTMENTS REVIEW**

Cr Maynard left the meeting at 10:47am.

Mr Gardner spoke to the report.

Cr Maynard returned to the meeting at 10:49am.

Members discussed the reappointments to support the Deputy Mayor in reducing her workload.

There was a hand count for each of the appointments where two members put themselves forward for nominations:

Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee, Mayor Connelly (received a majority of 6 votes)

Regional Transport Committee, Cr Woodcock (6 votes), Cr Plimmer (2 votes).

Noted: Cr Maynard, not Cr McAulay should be highlighted in the appointments register for Martinborough Community Board.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/06****Moved: Mayor M Connelly****Seconded: Cr P Maynard**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the *Appointment Review* Report.
2. Review the current appointments for elected members.
3. Approve the following appointments:
  - a) Councillor Colin Olds to the Featherston Community Board;
  - b) Councillor Aaron Woodcock to the Regional Transport Committee;
  - c) Mayor Martin Connelly to the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee; and
  - d) Councillor Martin Bosley to the CEO Employment Committee.

[Items 1-3 read together]

**CARRIED****11 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF****11.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UPDATE**

Ms Smith spoke to matters included in the report. Focus in on LTP and Local Waters Done Well. Members queried the work relating to the Martinborough Wastewater Treatment Plant abatement notice, including the processes and timeframes, as well as knowing who won the tender.

**ITEM MOVED****11.3 WAIRARAPA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (WEDS) QUARTERLY REPORTING**

Mr Carrere, accompanied by Ms Kyd spoke to matters included in the reports provided to the Committee, highlighting work relating to water, food and fibre, and skills development.

Members queried employment, futureproofing businesses and programme support for local businesses.

Members requested that future reports cover actions and outcomes, as well as evaluations of work undertaken.

**11.2 DESTINATION WAIRARAPA QUARTERLY REPORTING**

Ms Nielson, accompanied by Ms Wilde and Ms Belsham, spoke to the report.

Members queried what will be different in 5 years in local tourism area (government targets for export, Tourism NZ, environmental issues); alignment with Business Wairarapa, Masterton tourism figures, and the impact of events moving away from Wellington.

#### **11.4 BUSINESS WAIRARAPA QUARTERLY REPORTING**

Ms Belsham spoke to the matters included in the report.

Members queries success of combining members groups.

Members acknowledged the work of Business Wairarapa and their regional awards.

#### **ITEM MOVED**

#### **11.6 APPOINTMENT REPORT - THE FUTURE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, A PROPOSAL**

Ms Wilde, supported by Ms Nielson and Ms Belsham, spoke to the tabled report.

Ms Wilde acknowledged multiple dependencies between all groups working on economic development, leading to fragmented delivery. In order to remedy this, Destination Wairarapa and Business Wairarapa sought the Committee's support to review the proposal with Masterton and Carterton District Council's (shared services), noting that a solution could be designed and delivered in the next financial year.

Members queried whether this proposal had been socialised with local businesses, and requested a top down approach (development/design by the groups back to the Committee).

Ms Smith confirmed that a decision paper will need to come to next SWC meeting in March. Assigned to P Gardner.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01pm.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:41pm

#### **11.5 ACTION ITEMS**

Updates to actions:

Action 128 – as noted in the confirmation of minutes section of the meeting, this will be updated with “detailed breakdown”, and will remain open until that information has been provided by council officers.

Action 409 – Cr Bosley noted that Greytown Community Board were working to finalise details for this trial having written a paper, spoken with council officers and to Pae tu Mokai about plant types. Work in progress. Members discussed what was appropriate to plant, native to the area.

Action 461 – Council officers are in the final stages of collating data, following extensive engagement with community group – report is due to the next SWC meeting in March.

Action 126 – There were no further updates in relation to Pain Farm.

## 12 CHAIRPERSON REPORTS

### 12.1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter spoke to matters in the report.

Members queried the letter of endorsement and opportunity for community consultation if it goes through (this is anticipated to be a multi decade project, for supporting conversation and investigation only), members requested further information from the Remutaka Road Action Group,

Members discussed their views on the investigation and agreed more information on the letter for endorsement was required before a resolution could be voted on.

The Deputy Mayor agreed to follow up with the Remutaka Road Action Group.

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/07**

**Moved: Cr R Gray**

**Seconded: Cr P Maynard**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to nominate Councillor Colin Olds as the liaison for upcoming discussions on Traffic Management Plans with RSAs in Featherston and Greytown.

**CARRIED**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/08**

**Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter**

**Seconded: Cr M Bosley**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to appoint Councillor Bosley as Deputy Chair or alternate to the Strategy Working Committee.

**CARRIED**

## 13 APPOINTMENT REPORTS

### 13.1 MEMBERS FEEDBACK FROM THE MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

For the Greytown Community Board, Cr Bosley noted the organisation of an upcoming Matariki event, the Volunteer Forum in June, events for Arbor Day on 3 July, LTP plan - consulting with community, and attendance to the parks and reserves user group.

For the Māori Standing Committee, Mayor Connelly and Ms Edwards provided updates including to support the Te Tiriti o Waitangi event on 9 February, organised by Ms Hooper and held at Pae

Tu Mokai. Ms Edwards noted that members will be out at Tora this weekend to dedicate the new container for civil defence and emergency resources.

### 13.2 INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Cr Ellims spoke to matters included in the report, noting that he was aware that the community would like more information on pedestrian lighting and looking to source another company to complete the work on this.

Members queried the Tauwharenikau River renewal pipeline work and the emergency supply plan (comms strategy with Featherston residents, emergency management education).

Mr Gardner noted there will be an update to ARF on emergency management office across all three councils in February.

Members' queries included: pedestrian lighting work completed prior to contractor going into liquidation, the tender process and inclusion of local tenders of this work; the pedestrian crossing project timeframes; changes to the . Also, the work related to the Martinborough Wastewater Treatment Plant timeframes (estimated at 16 weeks). Noted there is no confirmation as to whether the tender has been awarded - members requested confirmation of this when that information is available and a confirmation of clear timeframes.

Cr Maynard agreed to complete a Members report to request the re-establishment the Infrastructure Committee.

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/09

**Moved:** Mayor M Connelly

**Seconded:** Cr C Olds

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to receive the Infrastructure Portfolio Update.

**CARRIED**

## 14 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

### RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/10

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter

**Seconded:** Cr R Gray

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
<b>14.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Strategy Working Committee Meeting held on 13 November 2024</b>	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	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	To protect external consultants and contractors fee proposals (relates to the SWDC Office Accommodation - Recommended Option Report)
<b>14.2 - Land purchase options</b>	s7(2)(f)(i) - free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of any local authority  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	To allow negotiations to occur should council decide to pursue the purchase of land
<b>14.3 - 48 Brandon Street Featherston - Collapsed Wastewater Pipe</b>	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	To allow for the completion of negotiations in line with current practice.

**CARRIED**

Cr Plimmer arrived at 1:36pm

**15 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING**

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:29pm.

**Confirmed as a true and correct record.**

..... (Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)