

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH
ON WEDNESDAY, 4 JUNE 2025 AT 10:00 AM**

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter (Chair), Mayor Martin Connelly (until 12:11pm), Cr Alistair Plimmer (from 10:05am to 11:05am), Cr Aaron Woodcock, Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Martin Bosley (until 1:39pm), Cr Colin Olds, Cr Rebecca Gray and Ms Violet Edwards.

APOLOGIES: Cr Kaye McAulay and Cr Pip Maynard.

IN ATTENDANCE: Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Paul Gardner (Group Manager, Corporate Services), Matt Vins (Manager Governance and Business Operations), Siv F, Narida Hooper (Pou Māori), Jo Baldwin (Welcoming Communities Coordinator), Sandra Burles (Walking and Cycling Coordinator), Lisa Matthews, Mia Wilton (Manager, Environmental Services), Sara Edney (Manager, Building Services) and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).

Anna Nielson (Destination Wairarapa); Nicola Belsham and Tui Rutherford (Business Wairarapa); Matt Carrere and Natasha Kyd (Wellington NZ).

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 10:02am to 2:02pm except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

All in attendance opened the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

2.1 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/91

Moved: Cr R Gray

Seconded: Cr A Ellims

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to accept apologies from Cr McAulay and Cr Maynard; Cr Plimmer and Mayor Connelly for early departure.

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

There were no acknowledgements and tributes.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

Cr Plimmer arrived at 10:05am.

6 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 APRIL 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/92

Moved: Cr C Olds

Seconded: Cr R Gray

The Strategy Working Committee resolved:

1. That the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 16 April 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record.
2. To note this was the afternoon public excluded session.

In Favour: Cr A Plimmer, Cr A Woodcock, Cr A Ellims, Cr C Olds, Mayor M Connelly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr R Gray and Ms V Edwards

Against: Nil

Abstained: Cr M Bosley

CARRIED

7.2 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30 APRIL 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/93

Moved: Cr R Gray

Seconded: Cr C Olds

The Strategy Working Committee resolved that the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 30 April 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to the following

change: spelling of Hera not Heta on page 21 of the agenda.

CARRIED

7.3 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/94

Moved: Cr M Bosley

Seconded: Cr R Gray

The Strategy Working Committee resolved that the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 8 May 2025 (Local Water Done Well Deliberations) are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

7.4 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/95

Moved: Cr M Bosley

Seconded: Cr R Gray

The Strategy Working Committee resolved that the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 14 May 2025 (Long Term Plan Deliberations) are confirmed as a true and correct record.

In Favour: Cr A Plimmer, Cr A Ellims, Cr M Bosley, Cr C Olds, Mayor M Connolly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr R Gray and Ms V Edwards

Against: Nil

Abstained: Cr A Woodcock

CARRIED

8 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

12 MEMBER REPORTS ITEM MOVED

12.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - THE FUTURE OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA SPORTS AND RECREATION

Cr Gray spoke to the Notice of Motion, providing the background and reasons for putting this forward to the Committee.

Members discussed their individual viewpoints, for the motion (coordinated approach to delivery of sports and recreation, benefits to children/youth – occupation, alleviate social issues,

enrichment) and against the motion (wanting to retain earlier decision from LTP deliberations, prioritisation of work items, financial concerns).

Members queried the arguments against MOUs at the deliberations meeting on 14 May 2025 (the multiyear aspect and the impact of making decisions towards the end of the triennium before new Council is elected); how Council sets up a new role for success and how does a subsequent Council approach this in future to ensure it has longevity - at what point would there be more shaping of the role (measurement of success including KPIs, KRAs, reporting).

Members highlighted key issues and challenges that sports and recreation alleviates in the community and wider society, the role of volunteers, and the level of engagement and consultation undertaken with local clubs and groups.

Mr Vins responded to the Committee's questions on the design component of the role, how will tender process would work, noting it would be expected that the entity reports back to Council on progress.

Members further discussed views in support of the motion, which echoed the points made above regarding the benefits for the community.

Members also discussed concerns regarding a lack of information around governance structure and how work will proceed in future – noted this information had not been requested of Council Officers at this stage.

Ms Smith noted that there would be a gap in funding Greytown Sports and Leisure if there were changes to resolutions today – interim funding may need to be approved for the existing organisation to continue whilst the Expressions of Interest (EOI) for tender is in progress.

Mr Vins stated that the timeframes for a tender process depended on what the Committee expects – noting three months is the average for a process like this, but could be shortened. Members expressed their desire for a tender process to be completed as soon as possible.

Members queried amendments to allow for the interim funding for Greytown Sports and Leisure during the EOI.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/96

Moved: Cr R Gray

Seconded: Cr A Plimmer

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Revoke resolution SWC2025/79 for the South Wairarapa Sports & Recreation Service
2. Approve operational funding of \$80,600 per annum for 2025/26 and 2026/27 to facilitate the establishment and delivery of a South Wairarapa Sports and Recreation service.

In Favour: Cr A Plimmer, Cr A Woodcock, Cr M Bosley, Cr C Olds, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr R Gray and Ms V Edwards

Against: Cr A Ellims and Mayor M Connelly

CARRIED 7/2

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/97**Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter****Seconded: Cr R Gray**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Approve to fund Greytown Sports and Leisure \$5000 per month for a maximum of three months or until the South Wairarapa Sports and Recreation Service is established, to retain the existing service level for clubs in South Wairarapa.
2. Note that the funding of \$5000 per month will come from the \$80,600 per annum funding for the South Wairarapa Sports and Recreation Service

In Favour: Cr A Plimmer, Cr A Woodcock, Cr M Bosley, Cr C Olds, Mayor M Connelly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr R Gray and Ms V Edwards

Against: Cr A Ellims

CARRIED 8/1

Cr Plimmer left the meeting at 11:05am and did not return.

Cr Woodcock left the meeting 11:05am.

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 updates.

10 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF**10.1 SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCILS MEMBERSHIP OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND**

Mr Gardner spoke to the report, highlighting the timing around elections and the value that LGNZ brings in terms of specialist advice and support for Council. Advocacy is also a key part of LGNZ's work and Mr Gardner noted the importance of this to a council of SWDC's size.

Members discussed the recommendations and shared their thoughts about how councils operate, the changes across government and opportunities to network with other councils and their elected members.

Cr Woodcock returned to the meeting at 11:12am.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/98**Moved: Cr R Gray****Seconded: Cr C Olds**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the 'South Wairarapa District Councils Membership of Local Government New Zealand' report
2. Approve the renewal of Councils membership of LGNZ and payment of the invoice annual subscription for 2025/26 of \$40,443.58 plus GST
3. Notes that should a commitment to membership be made, then subscriptions will continue to be paid throughout the term of the LTP unless directed otherwise
4. Notes that the costs for the current years membership subscriptions for membership of Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) have been included in the Enhanced Annual Plan budget for FY 24-25
5. Notes that the costs for ongoing membership of Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) have been included in the LTP 2025-34 budgets

[Items 1-5 read together]

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:18am.

The meeting resumed at 11:25am.

10.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025 REGISTRATION

Mr Gardner spoke to matters included in the report.

Members queried whether a staff member would be attending and discussed the nominations of representatives.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/99**Moved: Ms V Edwards****Seconded: Cr A Ellims**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Nominate Cr Colin Olds to represent South Wairarapa District Council at the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2025 as presiding delegate.
2. Nominate Mayor Martin Connelly and Russell O'Leary to represent South Wairarapa District Council at the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2025 as delegates.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

CARRIED

10.3 TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT TO WAIRARAPA FIVE TOWNS TRAIL TRUST

Mr Gardner spoke to matters included in the report.

Members discussed the significant responsibility of being an appointed trustee. Mr Gardner highlighted information on liability and reputational risks as outlined in the report.

Members discussed the timing of the request, with expectations it would come back to the table in the new triennium

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/100

Moved: Mayor M Connelly

Seconded: Ms V Edwards

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the 'Trustee Appointment to Wairarapa Five Towns Trail Trust' Report.
2. Resolve not appoint a member of Council to the Wairarapa Five Towns Trail Trust at this time.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

CARRIED

10.4 UPDATES TO STANDING ORDERS

Ms Andersen spoke to matters included in the report. Members queried the use of cameras being during meetings (to ensure members are present, if attending online) and how to manage this moving forward.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/101

Moved: Cr M Bosley

Seconded: Cr R Gray

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the 'Updates to Standing Orders' Report.
2. Adopt the amended Standing Orders 2025 for the conduct of its meetings and those of its committees (including community boards); with the amendment to item 13.7 – to note that cameras must be turned on if attending remotely.

CARRIED

11 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

11.1 DESTINATION WAIRARAPA - Q3 REPORTS

Ms Nielson spoke to matters included in the report and highlighted their focus on international tourism in relation to wine and food, as well as the Dark Sky Reserve.

Ms Nielson raised the matter of regional branding – need confident identity which attracts investment.

11.2 BUSINESS WAIRARAPA - Q3 REPORTS

Ms Belsham spoke to matters included in the report and highlighted partnering more closely with Wellington NZ in future to deliver a regional MBIE programme for business development, a recent visit to Parliament, the Wairarapa Business Summit in July, as well as the training and support initiatives they are running.

Mr Rutherford, in attendance as a board member, highlighted the work in relation to supporting and promoting Featherston businesses, including principles and branding identity, telling stories of Featherston and working on a resource pack for businesses to engage with, as well as forming a coordinated events strategy.

Members queried the work in relation to Air Chathams' potential use of Hood Aerodrome.

The meeting adjourned at 12:11pm.

Mayor Connelly left during the adjournment.

The meeting resumed at 12:42pm.

11.3 WAIRARAPA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (WEDS) Q3 REPORTS

Mr Carrere supported by Ms Kyd spoke to matters included in the report and highlights included: the regional economic development summit which took place in Carterton a few weeks ago, focus on water resilience, land use and workforce initiatives; promoting the region for international tourism; a training partnership with Business Wairarapa; industrial land project;

Mr Carrere responded to questions from the Committee in relation to budget surplus of \$60k for delivery and noted Wellington NZ are carrying a vacancy but this would be filled soon, and noted this would be carried over into the new financial year.

Members were positive about the Golden Shears World Championship and focus on this by Wellington NZ (major events funding).

11.4 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UPDATE

Ms Smith spoke to matters included in the report and responded to members queries regarding the Speed Management consultation timeframes. This is now live on Have Your Say.

Member also queried the details of the RMA bill and any impacts on the Combined District Plan.

11.5 ACTION ITEMS

Further updates were requested with regard to actions:

321 and 322 - these actions relate to Speed Management. Ms Smith agreed to raise this with the Roading team.

SWC 2024/137 – Noted that the Coastal & Rural Advisory Group Terms of Reference is in progress, however, this must go to the Local Government Commission prior to adoption, to ensure the intent and purpose is correct and in line with the recent Representation Review; the timing for completion of the action is expected to be in the new triennium.

SWC 2025/32 – To be actioned in the next report.

13 APPOINTMENT REPORTS

13.1 MEMBERS FEEDBACK FROM THE MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

Ms Edwards noted there has not been a Māori Standing Committee meeting recently, but highlighted the work NIWA will be undertaking on lake/swamp gas emissions readings in the near future.

Cr Woodcock noted the Greytown Community Board have been focussed on allocating grants funding and the upcoming volunteer expo on 8 June.

Cr Ellims highlighted that the Martinborough Community Board had a successful community hub event, Pain Estate Fund is open for community applications (this round closes on Monday, 30 June 2025), and the installation of emergency containers at Lake Ferry and Ngawi.

Cr Gray noted the Featherston Community Board have a meeting tonight and also highlighted that a grant funded mural has been completed outside The Bakehouse.

Mr Gardner noted officers have been working with Community Boards and the Māori Standing Committee regarding the allocation of grant funding and managing this with fairness and equity.

13.2 COMMUNITY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Cr Gray spoke to matters included in the report, highlighting Booktown, attending a civics wananga (for ages 15-19), and climate change data / reports and how this is reflected in Council reports.

Cr Olds left the meeting at 1:32pm

Cr Gray gave a presentation highlighting the work of the Community Development Team.

Cr Olds returned to the meeting at 1:34pm.

Members acknowledged the work of the Community Development Team.

Cr Bosley left the meeting at 1:39pm and did not return.

13.3 PLANNING AND REGULATORY PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Cr Olds spoke to matters included in the report, supported by Mr O’Leary.

Ms Wilton noted the trend in the reduction of issues relating to dogs.

Members queried legislation changes regarding granny flats – this has not been passed by Parliament yet. If this goes through, there would be a requirement to request a Project information memoranda (PIM). Queried what impact on infrastructure would be?

Mr O’Leary provided an explanation of 2B3 and 2B4 applications, reflects a nationwide downturn in consents (limits relate to water connections, trades and construction).

Cr Woodcock left the meeting at 1:54pm.

Ms Edney provided an overview of record management for documentation, including building consents and plans.

Cr Woodcock returned to the meeting at 1:56pm.

14 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/102

Moved: Cr R Gray

Seconded: Ms V Edwards

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
14.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Strategy Working Committee Meeting held on 16 April 2025	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the	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	Relates to discussion on 6.1 - Martinborough Wastewater Disposal to Land report.

	<p>information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7</p>	
<p>14.2 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Strategy Working Committee Meeting held on 30 April 2025</p>	<p>s7(2)(c)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest</p> <p>s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Relates to minutes on Transitioning Water Services Update and Bylaw Paper Road reports discussed at meeting held on 30 April 2025.</p>
<p>14.3 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Strategy Working Committee Meeting held on 14 May 2025</p>	<p>s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Relates to discussion on Featherston Green Space report.</p>

		under section 6 or section 7	
CARRIED			

15 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:02pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Chair) (Chief Executive)

..... (Date) (Date)