

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE
DELIBERATIONS ON THE CAPE PALLISER PAPER ROAD – PROPOSED BYLAW
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH
ON WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 11:30 AM**

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter (Chair), Cr Alistair Plimmer (from 11:41am), Cr Aaron Woodcock, Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Colin Olds, Mayor Martin Connelly, Cr Pip Maynard, and Cr Kaye McAulay.

APOLOGIES: Cr Martin Bosley and Ms Violet Edwards.

IN ATTENDANCE: Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Jessica Hughes (Principal Advisor, Legal), Narida Hooper (Pou Māori), Alex Pigou (Manager Communications), Lina McManus (Funding Coordinator), Tim Langley (Principal Advisor, Roding), Dani Armstrong (Executive Assistant to CEO & Mayor), Hayley Gastmeier (Advisor, Digital Communications) and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).

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 11:31am to 2:40pm except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

All in attendance opened the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

2.1 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/146

Moved: Cr P Maynard

Seconded: Cr C Olds

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to accept apologies from Cr Bosley; and Ms Edwards for lateness.

CARRIED

3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

As per the hearings on this matter, Cr Plimmer will abstain from voting on the bylaw due to judicial role as a Justice of the Peace.

4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES

Cr Olds paid tribute to Peter Gray of Gray Brothers Contracting in Greytown and Joe Hansen, a former coastal Department of Conservation ranger who have passed away recently.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/147

Moved: Cr C Olds

Seconded: Cr A Woodcock

The Strategy Working Committee resolved that the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 3 September 2025 (hearings on the Paper Road - Bylaw) are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5.2 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 SEPTEMBER 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/148

Moved: Cr C Olds

Seconded: Cr A Ellims

The Strategy Working Committee resolved that the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 4 September 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5.3 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/149

Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter

Seconded: Cr P Maynard

That the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 10 September 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record; and

CARRIED

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/150

Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter

Seconded: Cr A Woodcock

That the public excluded minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 10 September 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

6.1 CAPE PALLISER PAPER ROAD - PROPOSED BYLAW

Cr Plimmer arrived at 11:41am.

Ms Smith spoke to the report, noting she had picked this up work in 2024 to address the issues and find solutions with the team. In terms of consultation, Ms Smith acknowledge the response from the local and wider community was unprecedented – Ms Smith went onto highlight the breakdown of responses and summary of feedback, as well as the three options as presented in the report.

Members entered deliberations, such queries included:

- how long would it take to receive road survey data and the process to complete this (Officers noted they had tried to find previous survey from 1996, but it cannot be found. Funding is required to do the survey, so the team need a decision to give direction for next steps and would need to get valuer on board to sort it, so it could be months before that will be completed);
- whether a two stage process would be a better way to progress a solution;
- whether amendments to option 1 can be made (noted that the Committee can recommend actions for next steps as part of this process);
- enforcement of the proposed bylaw (capability and capacity/resourcing, dealing with the consequences of illegal actions/activity);
- and whether the proposed bylaw was the best tool for protecting the land.

Members commented on: the need for fencing; the support for vehicle restriction in the feedback received during consultation; the inclusion/exclusion of quad bikes; access for e-bikes; the support and motivation of the local community to collaborate on solutions; emergency access (noted that if any gates are installed, fire and emergency responders would be provided keys).

Mr Langley, supported by Ms Smith, responded to queries regarding road surveys and unformed legal roads (ULRs); possible use of traffic management to close a road rather than using a bylaw; Council's liabilities in relation to maintenance and whether the community maintain an unformed road.

Noted this morning in pre-deliberations briefing there is no camping allowed at the Stone Wall – DOC admitted they are unable to enforce and there is no signage for this currently.

Members further discussed issues, focusing on proposed recommendations which were separate to the bylaw - in order to establish long-terms solutions for access.

Meeting adjourned at 12:56pm

Meeting resumed at 1:30pm (Cr Ellims not in room).

Cr Ellims arrived at 1:31pm.

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter summarised where things were at in terms of options.

Members agreed that marking of the paper road and a road survey needed to take place as soon as possible. Members also noted they viewed the Rural and Coastal Advisory Group as playing a key role in future steps.

Deliberations were resumed; discussion between members focused on progressing future steps.

Members discussed the proposed amendments and appropriate wording prior to finalisation.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/151

Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter

Seconded: Cr A Ellims

That the Strategy Working Committee receive the *Cape Palliser paper road – Proposed bylaw* report.

CARRIED

AMENDMENT 1

Moved: Cr A Ellims

Seconded: Cr A Woodcock

The Strategy Working Committee recommend that Council:

1. Amend the proposed Cape Palliser Paper Road bylaw to allow pedestrian, non-motorised wheeled devices, quad bikes and side by side vehicles, access for a 24-month period only;
2. Immediately survey and define the exact route of the Unformed Legal Road (ULR); and
3. Install signage to identify the exact route of the Unformed Legal Road (ULR).

[Items 1-3 read together]

In Favour: Cr A Woodcock and Cr A Ellims

Against: Cr C Olds, Mayor M Connelly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr P Maynard, and Cr K McAulay

Abstained: Cr A Plimmer

LOST 2/5

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/152

Moved: Mayor M Connelly

Seconded: Cr P Maynard

AMENDMENT 2 became the substantive resolution.

The Strategy Working Committee recommend that Council:

1. Amend the proposed Cape Palliser Paper Road bylaw to allow pedestrian, bicycles and e-bikes, access for a 24-month period only, with an exception of motorised vehicles for landowners, Department of Conservation and Council invitees;
2. Immediately survey and define the exact route of the Unformed Legal Road (ULR); and
3. Install signage to identify the exact route of the Unformed Legal Road (ULR).

[Items 1-3 read together]

In Favour: Cr A Woodcock, Cr C Olds, Mayor M Connelly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr P Maynard and Cr K McAulay

Against: Cr A Ellims

Abstained: Cr A Plimmer

CARRIED 6/1

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/153

Moved: Cr C Olds

Seconded: Cr A Ellims

AMENDMENT 3 became the substantive resolution.

The Strategy Working Committee resolved:

1. That the stakeholder access group for the Cape Palliser Paper Road comprised of: Ngati Hinewaka, Ngawi community/ Ratepayers Association, Council, Rural and Coastal Advisory Group, Department of Conservation, Outdoor Access Commission (Herenga Ā Nuku), Heritage NZ and the National 4-Wheel Drive Association are invited to consider options for the future access and use of the unformed legal road (ULR); and
2. That Council works with the Department of Conservation with urgency to publicise that camping is not permitted at Stone Wall.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter noted the next steps:

Resolution #152 will be submitted to Council for adoption on 8 October 2025.

Resolution #153 will be completed by council officers as soon as possible. This will be added to the Council actions list for monitoring.

7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:40pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Chair)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)

..... (Date)