

# KIWITEA COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

**Meeting Location:** Kiwitea Hall, Kiwitea

**Date:** 28 February 2024

**Time:** 7.00pm (NZST)

## 1. Present:

Michael Ford, Paula Scott, Amy Weston, Vicki Doyle, Glen Terry, Jo Terry, Desiree Silk, Vicki Stack, Negin Nema, Gayna Brown, Audra Hoggard, Pete Thomas, Bailey Jacobs

## Apologies

Erana Cadwallader  
Kate Ellery

## 2. Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes were passed as a true record of the meeting dated 30 October 2023.

**Moved: Paula**  
**Second: Glen**

## Matters Arising

Ladder - Glen has purchased a ladder for the Hall.  
Negin to check with James where the hall boundary is.

## 3 .Inwards Correspondence

- 3.1 Neighbour hood support are looking for a community engagement coordinator.
- 3.2 Email from Negin with the council end of year council report.
- 3.3 Email from the council regarding the new app Antenno which is a mobile app to communicate with the council

## 4. Finance

Opening balance 01/01/2024	\$22,586.54
Plus income	
Hall Hire	\$ 0.00
Credit Interest	\$ 21.10

Less Expenses	\$0.00
Closing balance	\$22,607.64

### **5. Community Consultation**

Looking at holding a community consultation (in relation to the long term plan) / civil defence community meeting / kitchen opening joint function. Community Support are keen to attend this meeting and can possibly contribute towards the function. Committee to contact Nick Galpin who will assist in facilitating the meeting /function with the feedback from the local Kiwitea Community about what we want for Kiwitea in the Long term plan.

### **6. Hall Painting**

Paula to talk to Guthrie Bowron re paint, undercoat, required prep work to be done. There will be a working bee on 17 March to prep the building for painting. 24 March as a back up date.

Neign advised the committee talk to James re the painting to cover off health & safety.

Helen Thomas has offered to paint the building with help. The committee agreed she will be paid for painting.

### **7. Community newsletter**

Paula and Desiree spoke about putting out another community newsletter with input from the community, School, Playgroup and the church. Paula and Des are happy to work on this, Des and Vicki to confirm the school will print, and will ask the NZ Post driver to deliver in the area.

### **8. Council Matters**

A couple of weeks ago we had cause for celebration. Mayor Helen went to Parliament on the Tuesday to see them repeal the previous Government's three Waters legislation. This is fantastic news for the Manawatu District Community and we, particularly Mayor Helen, have played a leadership role nationally in achieving this repeal. Helen was Co-Chair of Communities 4 Local Democracy (C4LD), a grouping of 30 Councils opposed to the previous Government's model. I also served on the C4LD national committee. It was a lot of work for about 2 ½ years but so worth the effort and fight. The new model will work so much better for us, and other Councils with more problems than us will get funding help, probably in the form of easier borrowing.

Council's main job currently is the Long Term Plan. A 10 year plan done every 3 years. After much agonising and compromise we have got a good balance, in my opinion, as a draft to go to public consultation on 25th March for a month. We will either present the draft LTP at a KCC meeting or if that timing doesn't work there will be a northern cluster meeting at Kimbolton. Have a read and have your say. We have good business as usual including good infrastructure, we have an average rates increase of 7.09% for year 1, dropping to an average for the 10 years of 6.25%, and we have some new growth projects that will improve the District. Many councils are proposing rates increases of over 10% and some over 20%. Much of the increase is from depreciation, increased interest, increased audit fees and other

invisible costs.

50% of the roading rate is collected from Feilding and 50% is collected from outside Feilding. About 90% of the Council's roading spend is in the rural areas and 10% in Feilding. It is proposed to remove the roading differential only, over 3 years. It is not proposed to change the General rate differential or the Parks & Reserves rate differential. Rural rates are some of the lowest in NZ and Feilding residential rates are the 2 nd highest in NZ. We propose that roading be one roading network as we all use it rather than having some (the people of Feilding) paying a higher rate.

Fulton Hogan has won the Tender for the District's roading work for the next 3 years. They will replace Higgins.

The Local Government sector through LGNZ has reached a reasonable consensus on changes that the sector wants to talk to the Government about that affect Local Government. A main one is an addition to rates income. Possible options include Councils retaining the GST on rates which are a tax on a tax, and the Government actually paying rates on its properties.

MDC and PNCC have come up with a new Statement of Expectations for CEDA our combined Economic Development Agency. Top priorities are Te Utanganui the Central Distribution Hub, Manawatu Food Strategy, which involves paddock to plate, key tourism and visitor destinations and Inward investment in Feilding and PN.

Council is working on its Growth Strategy. Where do we want Feilding to grow and where do we want the District to grow? Eg. East of Feilding? West of Feilding? Rongotea? Rangiwahia? Colyton? Kiwitea? Etc.

We have received a lot of submissions from the pre engagement consultation for the Rural Sectional District Plan Change. Officers are digesting the submissions and Council will then go out with the actual proposed Plan Change this year. There is a lot of interest in flood issues, National Policy Statement: Highly Productive Land (NPS:HPL) and changes to it, Nodal Areas, minimum sized rural lots, number of lots that can be subdivided, timing of changes, and other matters. There are a number of issues involving flood maps and soil maps that have to be sorted out with Horizons, so we intend to gain better clarification before notifying the Plan Review.

We are waiting for the new Government to exclude Class 3 Soils from NPS:HPL, which will give the District a little more flexibility. I have received confirmation from Minister Todd McClay yesterday that it is definitely happening. We agree that Class 1 and 2 Soils should be protected from inappropriate subdivision. We are also lobbying Horizons Regional Council in respect to what soil testing is required.

The First Stage of Turners Road extension opened on Monday. That piece of road is nearly full with new businesses already. This is an important economic development initiative. Stages 2 and 3 commence in 17 months time.

The new Community Hub/Library will be open in July. It is on time, on budget and looking impressive.

The suburb of Maewa (Mywah) is developing rapidly. We had a ground breaking ceremony 2 weeks ago for the new stormwater retention ponds, which is a \$4m - \$5m contract. The ponds will also double as a recreation reserve, park and walkway/cycleway.

Wastewater Centralisation continues piping sewage from Ohakea, Sanson, Rongotea and Halcombe to Feilding. We opened the impressive Sanson/Ohakea pump station last week. We are looking to remove all direct treated discharge to the River by discharging through irrigators to land in the dry months and constructing large wetlands which will further filter the treated discharge.

Feilding Water resilience continues but with a \$10m treatment requirement that we don't consider is required. It will be interesting to see whether we can negotiate on this point.

#### 9. General Business

Negin spoke about the new app Antenno where you can report faults and issues. There is a function which sends through notifications related to your address. Paula to share the app on the Facebook.

There is a family fun day at Kowhai park on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March.

The community committee MDC forum is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April from 5-8 pm. The committee have been asked to consider presenting the kitchen project at the forum as it was such a success.

Hall Bookings. Need to set up google calendar to share with school, community and playgroup.

The committee moved to apply for a heat pump grant. Paula will apply for a grant through Central Energy Trust

#### 10. **Next meeting date will be Wednesday 24 April at 7.pm. Going forward the committee meetings will be the last Wednesday of every second month.**

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed  
(Chair)

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