

COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES, RANGIWAHIA HALL - 25 February 2026

PRESENT: Greg Clifton, Fiona Morton, Kate Gee-Taylor, Paul Quarrie, Alison Short, Lorna Day, James McKelvie, Mary Bielski, Steve Bielski

APOLOGIES:

Grant Hadfield, Fraser Martin, Janine Hawthorn, Shelley Dew-Hopkins, Nat Masters, Janine Hawthorn.

M/S: GC/KGT

PREVIOUS MINUTES - 26 November 2025

That the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record. Peter Mangold listed twice.

M/S:GC/KGT

MATTERS ARISING

1. Dog sign installed
2. Cleaning cupboard light not working
3. Shower trap has been replaced and extractor fan realigned
4. Mary to follow up regarding a quote from Sol for painting hall doors.
5. Concert - work in progress
6. Action points from previous minutes for MDC need to remain (bollards etc)

CORRESPONDENCE

7. Correspondence

In (via email)

- Invoices (Mary will cover)
- MDC Community Bulletins
- Joy McKean Bantam Day out - 8 November 2026
- EMO MDC Check in post storm event
- Thank you Glenn for gift
- Submission to speed in village
- Nat report about Neighbourhood support framework

Out (via email)

- November Minutes
- Response to EMO MDC
- Submission to Council re speed limits

M/S: FM/GC

FINANCIALS

8. Financials as at February 2026

Go Account \$ 269.84
OnCall \$ 8,629.10

Total income for the period was \$1,655.99, generated from the motorhome/cyclist site, the shower block, and hall hire.

A \$500 donation was received from Barry Scott (Massey) to contribute toward the purchase of an AT200 trap for the Rangiwahia Scenic Reserve.

Total expenditure amounted to \$1,343.32, which included the purchase of a “No Dog” sign, reimbursement to S. Bielski for replacement keys, grill replacement in the shower block by Baird Built, annual rental to Rockgas Wanganui, and funds transferred to the Go account for power payments.

Project 3 - BBQ lockup - pending. Fraser Martin will now organise Terry to undertake this project.

Work can commence on the memorabilia room.

Paper copies of the finances were made available for inspection at the meeting.

That the Financial Report be accepted.

M/S: MB/PQ

GENERAL BUSINESS

9. Neighbourhood support rep

Discussion on email received regarding neighbourhood support rep. Nat was endorsed to be the point of contact with Mary and Kate Gee Taylor to assist if needed.

All present agreed.

10. Scenic Reserve

Mary advised that \$500 had been received from Barry Scott(Massey). The donation was to be put towards an AT220 trap. Mary advised there was \$263 in the give-a-little account. Mary will talk to Fiona Burke (MRCC) re-traps to see if a discounted price could be obtained. Agreed that two traps should be purchased, with balance coming from Hall account. A notice will be put in the newsletter to see if there are others in the community who may wish to purchase one.

To register your interest either fill out this form [AT220 Interest registration Form](#) or email rangiwahia1886@gmail.com by **10 April 2026**.

All present agreed

ADDENDUM - Mary has discussed the traps with Fiona Burke. Fiona is investigating the discount. A grant could be sought from the “Environmental Initiatives Fund Small Grants 2025-2026” using the No.2 option - “Protect and enhance biodiversity, and freshwater quality.”

[Environmental Funding | Palmerston North, Manawatū, Horowhenua, Tararua – ENM](#)

11. Signage

Mary requested approximately \$40 for Information signs at the bush entrance.

All present agreed

ADDENDUM: Post meeting, the invoice for the signs was \$86.25

12. Scenic Reserve

Steve updated on reserve. There is a trail camera in there currently to observe pests. The Bielski's are working with DoC regarding the track and possible improvements in a couple of areas. Last year, DoC requested an engineer's report for the track. Lower Hutt engineer Isaac Black (Kim Black's son) came to the reserve with two DoC staff members, as well as Steve and Mary. As yet no Engineer's report has been submitted. Steve provides a report to DoC every 3 months which includes volunteer hours, pest numbers and weed control in both reserves. The recent storm events have done very little damage. Potentially, one day, a Predator-free fence could be investigated. There are some further bush remnants in close proximity on neighbouring farms that could potentially be retired and included in the reserve.

13. Wasps

Mary talked about the issue of wasps at this time of year and the need to reduce the populations of this pest. Mary purchased an online wasp bait starter kit plus wasp lure from Hawkeye.Kiwi. It has been very effective in reducing the wasps around Steve and Mary's property. The information can be found here . <https://www.hawkeye.kiwi/>

14. Traffic/Police Report - Ben Flintoff

Ben had checked in via email after the wind/rain storm to check if the community was ok and if any help was required.

COUNCIL REPORTS

15. Officer report - Janine Hawthorn

Janine Hawthorn was unable to attend the meeting as required at another Committee meeting, so there was no report.

16. Council Report - Cllr Hadfield (Alison Short attending)

Grant provided a written report (below) which Alison went through and provided comment on.

There are 7 new Councillors, who have currently been touring around the District. This tour included the Mangaweka Pedestrian Bridge, which a decision will need to be made about as NZ Heritage no longer wishes to be part of the upkeep (original offer withdrawn).

Storm update - Districts do not get as much rain as expected, although high in some areas. A lot of wind damage, plantations and specimen trees were damaged.

James McKelvie (new Councilor) was also in attendance. He introduced himself to the meeting.

Council update since last meeting 20th August

December 2025

Representative Fund Presentations:

Adam Wasley – NZ Junior Singles Zone Final (Indoor Bowls)
Theo McMenamain – NZ National Shakespeare Schools Production
Seanna Bennitt – 2025 Asia Pacific Cup Canoe Polo Champs
Mateo Blythe – U11 Manawatu Maori Rugby League Rep Team

Residents satisfaction Survey quarterly report – 130 odd people complete survey. Benchmarked against 21 Councils, overall satisfaction rate @ 75%. Three key themes, Infrastructure and Services, Rates and Value, Community and Engagement. Significant increase in satisfaction in the 18-34 age group, up 20% on previous results.

Consideration of new initiatives to include in the budget for the draft annual plan 2026/27

Submissions made by Council between 24 June 2025 to 30 October 2025:

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Consultation
Freedom Camping Homelessness Exemption
RMA National Direction Packages 1 - 3
Draft National Infrastructure Plan
Moving People in 2055
Online Casino Gambling Bill
Going for Housing Growth
Open Letter to Minister Watts on Rates Capping
Building New Zealand's Long Term Resilience to Hazards
Local Government (System Improvements) Amendment Bill
Standard Code of Conduct
Antisocial Road Use Legislation Bill
ID For Water Services
Education and Training (Vocational Education and Training System) Amendment Bill

Manawatu Community Trust Annual Report 24/25
Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Annual Report 24/25
Delegations Manual (RMA Amendments – Compliance Officer
Annual Plan Consultation Decision
Endorsement of the Environmental Scan
Adoption of the Community Honours Policy
Priority Service Contracts, Reports from:

- Manchester House Social Services
- Palmerston North Surf Life Saving Club
- Manawatū Rural Support Services
- Whatunga Tuao – Volunteer Central

January 2026

No Council Meetings, Elected Members went on a two day tour of the District taking in key projects and facilities. This happens at the beginning of each triennium and was most useful especially for new EM's.

February 2026

Representative Fund Presentations:

Saskia Symonds – Ballarat Cup (Football)

Eleanor King – Junior International Canoe Polo Tournament

Bailey Jeffery – ITF Taekwon-Do World Champs

Establishment of the Creative Communities Funding Panel – Crs Raewyn Loader and James McKelvie appointed. This is funded by Creative NZ.

Priority Service Contracts – Annual Reports from:

SnapBACK Gym

Te Manawa Family Services

Feilding and Districts Arts Society

Youthline Central North Island Inc

Neighbourhood Support Manawatū

Age Concern Palmerston North and District

Himatangi Beach Community Patrol

Sandra Crosbie and Sarah Manthel appointed as Civic Centre Trustees

Colin McFadzean and Antony Haywood appointed as CEDA Directors

Jo Morris appointed as Chair, AFKP Trust

Feilding & District Promotion 6 month report

17. Upcoming events:

- Fire Brigade Awards Night - 7 March 6pm - Dan Coleman
- Dog Trials - 9-11 April
- Anzac - 25
- Netball
- Trek for Life
- Joy McKean Bantam Day out - 8 November 2026

Meeting closed: 8.53pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 27 May 2026

Meeting Outcomes/Actions

1. Mary Bielski - AT220 traps and note in newsletter [AT220 Interest registration Form](#)
2. Mary Bielski - CEDA sign

Manawatu District Council Actions - some ongoing

3. Additional Bus and Speed signs required (outstanding November 24 meeting)
4. Install lockable removable bollards to prevent close access at the rear of the hall.
Contact Mary Bielski (ongoing)
5. Otara Road Rangitikei River Bridge bumps require addressing (ongoing)
6. Feral animal (deer) signage

Signed

Greg Clifton

Chair

25 February 2025