



## SANSON COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

### Monthly Meeting Minutes Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2026

7pm Opening

**Present:** Steve Gill (Chair), Jen Berquist, Shane Hainsworth, Brynn Nielson, Ross Polkinghorne, Alison Short. **Quorum achieved**

**Apologies:** Alicea Brosnan, Grant McGaughey, Caroline Smith, Steve Morgan, Trevor Hendra. Yvette Doorey – (Has stood down from committee)

**Previous minutes:** Accepted as read

Moved – Brynn Nielson

Seconded – Jen Berquist

**Correspondence:** In/Out – Nil

**Matters arising:** Nil

**Chairmans Report:**

- Steve explained that the hall and the funds raised by it will be transferred from the Society to the SCC under the direction of Manawatu District Council. Any hall funding raised will be available for hall related expenses.
- An account setup is underway with ANZ bank with meetings booked. Initially there will be 3x signatories, Jen Berquist, Steve Gill & Shane Hainsworth. This was moved by Brynn and seconded by Ross.
- Steve informed the committee that he had been notified by Alicea that although they had tagged funds for support of the ANZAC service, this was now withdrawn and they were not in a position to fund this. This left the committee in a position of possibly needing to cancel the ANZAC service. Fortunately, Steve was able to negotiate financial support from

the MDC to the amount of approx. \$800. This will be repaid following the next round of community funding.

- The ANZAC service this year will be lead by Roger Black (Senior Chaplain Ohakea) and the service will be outside in its entirety unless raining. No hall setup required except for morning tea. Sufficient seating will be set up outside.
- Steve pointed out a possible 'conflict of interest' between the society and SCC, but preferred to discuss when all parties are present at next committee meeting.

***Councillors Report:***

- Annual Community Committee Joint meeting. Thank you to Steve, Alecia and Grant for attending. There were a number of informative presentations and an open Q & A amongst attendees. Most community committees were able to attend.
- The council is engaging with the community as part of our 10yr Long Term Plan preplanning. If you would like to join in helping council choose its priorities you can go on the MDC website and use the interactive feedback form or you could visit our stand in Manchester Square on Fri 10th at the Farmers Market or Sat 18th April at the Cultural Festival.
- ANZAC Day. Many communities are holding an ANZAC Day service this year in our district and there will be a councillor present at each one. I will join you here in Sanson.
- MDC 2026 Community Honours. Nominations are open now and close on the 31st July. Nomination form available on MDC website.
- Fuel shortages. Council is closely watching the current cost of fuel and trying to be as efficient as possible. Unfortunately, this has also made some key products go up in price as well. Bitumen, which is imported has gone up 70% and plastic pipeline has gone up 20-25%.
- Civil Defence. At the time of the meeting Cyclone Vaianu is bearing down on NZ from the Pacific. We are planning for the worst but hoping for the best. It is possible we will get very heavy rain and strong winds next Sunday & Monday. The key messages are: before Sunday secure any loose property, plan for power outages, stock up on food and water, don't travel, check on your neighbours, follow the Manawatu District Council and Civil Defence Manawatu Whanganui

Facebook pages, or listen to local PN based radio stations for important notifications (if any).

- During the event: if a threat to life, ring 111. – For power outages ring your electricity retailer.
- For road issues like flooding or trees down: NZTA for state highways (0800) 44 44 49. Local roads phone MDC (06) 323 000.
- If you need to contact MDC urgently please ring as this is 24/7. (Email and Antenna are Mon – Fri business hours).

**Motion:** Jen be appointed as ‘Hall Custodian’ answerable back through the committee and Chair. Moved – Steve Seconded – Shane

**General Business:**

- Contact needs to be made with school principal for ANZAC and future collaborative events. Steve will follow up with this.
- Ross pointed out that he would like to pursue placing aircraft notice boards near Ohakea entry. He has made previous contact through Brendon Deer. Steve is happy to be the conduit to carry this on. All agreed it’s a good idea.
- Steve notified of his intent to seek funding for new seating in the hall. Longer term project.

**Meeting Closed:** 8.25pm

**Next Meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> May 7pm