

Report Cover Sheet (not for publication)

Report Title:	Manfeild Park Trust - New Trustees	Committee Name:	Council		
		Meeting date:	7/10/2026	Report completion deadline:	27/09/2026

Sign-offs	Name/Position	Description	Date
Author	Lyn Daly General Manager - Community		01/10/2026
Chief Financial Officer		<i>The Chief Financial Officer must be consulted with if the report has significant or unplanned financial implications</i>	
Manager		<i>For review</i>	
General Manager	Lyn Daly General Manager - Community	<i>All reports require GM approval</i>	01/10/2026
Other		<i>If the report has implications for another team or department, it is advisable that an appropriate person (subject matter expert, manager or GM) peer review it.</i>	
Governance and Assurance Team	Ash Garstang GA Manager	<i>All reports undergo a final review from the GA team. The team will check formatting, recommendations and delegations for Council/Committees.</i>	01 Oct 26

Council

Meeting of 07 October 2026

Business Unit: Community

Date Created: 25 September 2026

Manfeild Park Trust - New Trustees

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of changes to the Manfeild Park trustees and a variation to the Manfeild Park Trust Deed increasing the maximum number of trustees from five to six.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohunga

That Council:

- Note that Richard Jeffery, Helen Worboys and Kelvyn Eglinton have been appointed by the Manfeild Park Electoral College as trustees to the Manfeild Park Trust.
- Note that the Manfeild Park Trust Deed has been varied with the approval of the settlors to increase the maximum number of trustees from five to six.

Report prepared by:

Lyn Daly

General Manager - Community

Approved for submission by:

Shayne Harris

Chief Executive

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

- 1.1 The Manawatū District Council (Council) is one of three settlors of Manfeild Park along with the Feilding Industrial Agricultural & Pastoral Association and the Manawatu Car Club.
- 1.2 The Manfeild Park Trust Board was formed in October 2004 and the stakeholders at that time agreed to vest their property and interests to the Manfeild Park Trust (MPT). The stakeholder property consisted of: Manawatū District Council (major park area, horse racing track), Feilding Industrial Agricultural and Pastoral Association (pit area and stock buildings) and the Manawatū Car Club (Manfeild circuit and garages).
- 1.3 As a result of the property and interests being vested to MPT in 2004, stakeholders' responsibilities changed to be that of a settlor via the Manfeild Park Electoral College. Council has two representatives (the Chief Executive and Mayor) on the Electoral College who, along with other settlor representatives, appoint the trustees for the Manfeild Park Trust.
- 1.4 The MPT is an independent Board that was made up of five professional trustees whose responsibility is to manage Manfeild Park to *"provide community recreation and event management activities for the benefit of the members of the public of the Manawatu district and the wider community of New Zealand"*.
- 1.5 Before the variation, the MPT Trust Deed allowed for a minimum of two and a maximum of five trustees. Before the new appointments, the board members were Hamish Waugh (Chair), Amanda Linsley, Kevin Hansen, Stefan Speller and Stella Coleman (Rackham).
- 1.6 Outside of its settlor responsibilities, Council also provides an operating grant of \$435,939 plus GST and a range of administration service supports.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 The support of Manfeild Park aligns with Council's strategic priorities:
- 2.2 A place to belong and grow – by enhancing a significant asset to enable conferences, events, sports and recreation for all ages and abilities.
- 2.3 A future planned together – by positioning Manfeild Park as a sustainable asset that can realise its potential providing economic development opportunities for surrounding businesses and enhances the living experience of residents in the district.
- 2.4 Infrastructure fit for the future – by providing facilities that could meet much of the described need in the community for indoor court capacity, if upgraded to do so.

3 Discussion and Options Considered **Ngā Matapakinga me ngā Kōwhiringa i Wānangahia**

- 3.1 The term for two MPT trustees, Stefan Speller and Stella Coleman, has come to an end and the Electoral College initiated a recruitment process to fill these roles.
- 3.2 Council agreed to administer the recruitment process and marketed the roles widely through a range of recruitment and governance channels, attracting over 60 applications.
- 3.3 During recruitment, the Electoral College considered the Park's challenging financial position, further trustee terms ending within the next 12 months, succession planning and recruitment costs. The Electoral College agreed that increasing the maximum number of trustees from five to six would strengthen governance and enable three appointments from the applications received.
- 3.4 MPT agreed with the proposal and passed a resolution to accept the variation. The attached Deed of Variation records the trustees' amendment of clause 5.1 of the Trust Deed, with the settlors' approval, to allow a minimum of two and a maximum of six trustees. Trustees continue to be appointed by the Electoral College.
- 3.5 The following three trustees were appointed by the Electoral College, with their terms commencing on 1 October 2026:
 - 3.5.1 **Richard Jeffery ONZM** brings more than 25 years of senior management experience across business, local government and philanthropy. As founding Chief Executive of Second Nature Charitable Trust, he led the Vodafone Events Centre and Vector Wero projects and directly raised more than \$100 million. He brings experience in venue operations, property management, project delivery and stakeholder relationships.
 - 3.5.2 **Kelvyn Eglinton** is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors and leads Craigs Investment Partners' Waikato and Bay of Plenty operations. As Chief Executive of Momentum Waikato, he grew its endowment fund to \$47 million and led delivery of the \$85 million Waikato Regional Theatre project. He brings investment, organisational change and sporting governance experience, including chairing Surf Lifesaving New Zealand.
 - 3.5.3 **Helen Worboys** served as Mayor of Manawatū District Council and Chair of the Manfeild Park Trust Electoral College from 2016 to 2025. A former Park management committee member and Manager of Feilding Promotion, she brings longstanding local relationships and experience in business and community development, event delivery, sponsorship, fundraising and volunteer coordination.

4 Risk Assessment **Te Arotake Tūraru**

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5 Engagement Te Whakapānga

Significance of Decision

- 5.1 The Council's Significance and Engagement Policy is not triggered by matters discussed in this report. No stakeholder engagement is required.

Māori and Cultural Engagement

- 5.2 There are no known cultural considerations associated with the matters addressed in this report. No specific engagement with Māori or other ethnicity groups is necessary.

Community Engagement

- 5.3 There are no matters addressed in this report that require community engagement.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

- 6.1 There are no operational implications with this report.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

- 7.1 There are no financial implications with this report.

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

- 8.1 There are no statutory requirements for this report.

9 Next Steps Te Kokenga

- 9.1 Manfeild Park Trust is scheduled to present its 12-month report to Council in the coming weeks which may present an opportunity to meet the new trustees.

10 Attachments Ngā Āpitihanga

- 10.1 MPT signed Deed of Variation