

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026	8:31 AM

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 7 October 2026, which commenced at 8.31 am at the Manawātū District Council Chambers, 135 Manchester Street, Feilding.

PRESENT:

Mayor Michael Ford	Chairperson
Councillor Bridget Bell	
Councillor Shelley Dew-Hopkins	
Councillor Rob Duindam	
Councillor Colin Dyer	
Councillor Grant Hadfield	
Councillor Sam Hill	
Councillor Raewyn Loader	
Councillor James McKelvie	
Councillor Jerry Pickford	
Councillor Andrew Quarrie	
Councillor Alison Short	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Shayne Harris	Chief Executive
Hamish Waugh	General Manager – Infrastructure
Ash Garstang	Acting General Manager – Corporate
Kate Jarvis	General Manager – People
Lyn Daly	General Manager – Community
Estelle de Beer	Acting Chief Financial Officer
Steph Skinner	Governance and Strategy Officer

MDC 25-28/413

MEETING OPENING

Martin Baldwin was in attendance from Feilding Baptist Church and opened the meeting.

MDC 25-28/414

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

MDC 25-28/415

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 16 September 2026 be adopted as a true and correct record, as amended:

- **Correct to MDC 25-28/403 Marae Liaison Councillors – it was the marae that visited the koroneihana.**

Moved by: Cr Grant Hadfield

Seconded by: Cr Colin Dyer

CARRIED (12-0)

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026	8:31 AM

MDC 25-28/416

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

MDC 25-28/417

PRESENTATION - REPRESENTATIVE FUND - U12 MANAWATŪ RUGBY LEAGUE - ANZMRL TAMARIKI TOURNAMENT, ROTORUA

Arama Te Moana was unable to attend the Council meeting and a video from him was played instead. Highlights:

- Arama was acknowledged as the best forward in the team.
- The tournament helped Arama gain more confidence in his skills.

MDC 25-28/418

PRESENTATION - REPRESENTATIVE FUND - GLOBAL GAMES 2026, TAUPO

Levai Hadfield was in attendance and spoke to Council. Highlights:

- Levai enjoyed the experience, and particularly a tough game against Auckland.
- One of Levai's goals for the future is to make the first 15 team in high school.
- Levai plays in the second-five position.

MDC 25-28/419

PUBLIC FORUM

James Beard was in attendance and spoke to Council about an arcade covering for Gladstone Street. Highlights:

- James was a foreign exchange student in Japan and recalls the arcade coverings there.
- He discussed the potential name for a covering, including in Japanese script.

MDC 25-28/420

PRESENTATION – THE CITY TO SEA RAIL TRAIL, MANAWATU

Alice Williamson from the Bainesse-Rangiotu Community Committee was in attendance and updated Council about this project. Highlights:

- LINZ operates the stock route on behalf of KiwiRail.
- In terms of what assistance, the project group would like from the Council:

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026	8:31 AM

- Continued support and advocacy for recreational cycling.
- Assist with communication with government agencies.
- A member point of contact – Mayor Ford volunteered to be Council’s liaison with the group.
- Support at the Mayoral Forum.

MDC 25-28/421

CENTRAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the General Manager – Community presenting the Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA) Annual Report 01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

Attending from CEDA were Katie Brosnahan (Board Member), Jerry Shearman (Chief Executive), Jacqui Middleton (GM Finance & Operations), Jordyn Blackett (GM Destination, Marketing & Communications), Tainui Woodmass (GM Māori Relationships), and Greg Bignall (GM Economic Development).

RESOLVED

That Council receives the Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA) Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2026.

Moved by: Cr Alison Short

Seconded by: Cr Rob Duindam

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/422

PRESENTATION – HOMES FOR PEOPLE

Darren Birch was in attendance speaking to Council about community housing and rent-to-own models, discussing potential Development and Financial Contributions policy changes that could enable more affordable first-home housing in Feilding and reduce long-term reliance on social housing.

- Darren and his wife founded Homes for People in 2016, and it is one of the few organisations that builds new homes for first-home buyers. They run four different home ownership programmes, and two of them are aimed at people over 40.
- By 2040 it is estimated that 40% of over 65-year-olds will not own a home.
- Development contributions add to the cost of intensification projects, and there is a degree of proportionality to consider for intensified housing.

The meeting was adjourned at 9.58 am and reconvened at 10.22 am.

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026	8:31 AM

MDC 25-28/423

SUPERHUMAN, TŪ KAHA AWARD – NOMINATION FOR CR ALISON SHORT

Mayor Michael Ford acknowledged Cr Alison Short's nomination for the Superhuman, Tū Kaha Award, being decided at LGNZ's SuperLocal Awards on 15 October 2026.

MDC 25-28/424

NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/425

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE RE: DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 2026

Report of the Chief Financial Officer presenting a recommendation from the Finance and Performance Committee that the Council receives the Draft Annual Report for the Year Ending June 2026 and note its release to Audit NZ (FPC 25-28/078).

The purpose of the report is to present the draft Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2026 and detail the process required to adopt the Annual Report.

RESOLVED

That the Council:

- Notes the recommendation from the Finance and Performance Committee at its meeting 23 September 2026 (FPC 25-28/078), regarding the receipt of this report; and**
- Receives the draft Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2026 and note its release to Audit NZ.**

Moved by: Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins

Seconded by: Cr Colin Dyer

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/426

COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

The following Council Committees, Community Committees and Youth Council meetings were notified for information.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
Finance and Performance Committee	• 23 September 2026

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026	8:31 AM

COMMUNITY COMMITTEES	
Āpiti – Cr Sam Hill	• 16 September 2026
Colyton – Cr Colin Dyer	• 17 September 2026
Glen Oroua-Taikorea – Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins	• 22 September 2026
Halcombe – Cr Jerry Pickford	• 5 October 2026
Rongotea – Cr James McKelvie	• 5 October 2026
Tangimoana – Cr James McKelvie	• 21 September 2026

Liaison Councillors provided brief updates on their respective Committees.

- Āpiti – Cr Sam Hill. The Committee discussed recurring pothole issues (specifically around White Bridge). The Committee is happy with the work ongoing around the memorial trees, and the removal of lichen from footpaths.
- Colyton – Cr Colin Dyer. The Committee agreed a design for a ‘Welcome to Colyton’ sign. Four residents have donated \$5,000 each to the continuation of the pathway that has started, which is being added to the \$15,000 approved via the contestable fund.
- Glen Oroua-Taikorea – Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins. The Committee was pleased to receive \$8,000 from the contestable fund for waterproofing the hall. There will be emergency management training at the November meeting. The Committee had written to the infrastructure team regarding safety concerns at the Rangiotū Road and Main Drain Road intersection and have since received a reply from officers indicating that the roading team will look into the issue further.
- Halcombe – Cr Jerry Pickford. The Community there is asking about the playground at the rugby fields and some fencing restricting access to parts of the park. The Committee is going to reach out to staff. They are also interested in any updates on Mt Lees.
- Rongotea – Cr James McKelvie. There was a demonstration of the new camera system (licence plate recognition). The spuds competition is now ongoing. There are questions about how “open plus” is going to work with the mix of books that will be there.
- Tangimoana – Cr James McKelvie. Cr Andrew Quarrie visited the meeting as well (on behalf of the RSA), to discuss the memorial for Richard Webber. New library lights have been installed, and there is a new children’s play group at the hall.
- Kiwitea – Cr Andrew Quarrie. There was concern regarding the playcentre, with the existing trustees looking to retire. They are struggling for finances, but they are an independent playcentre which makes it difficult to attract outside funding. The meeting did not have quorum.

MDC 25-28/427

MARAE LIAISON COUNCILLORS

Councillors provided a verbal update on their attendance at marae meetings.

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026	8:31 AM

- Aorangi Marae - Cr Rob Duindam. Along with Cr Bell they met with Oriana Paewai for initial introductions.
- Kauwhata Marae – Cr Raewyn Loader. Nothing to report.
- Parewahawaha Marae – Cr Alison Short. Nothing to report.
- Poupatatē Marae – Cr James McKelvie. Nothing to report.
- Taumata-o-te-rā Marae – Cr Colin Dyer. Has been in touch with Amber Moffit to arrange a meeting.
- Te Hiiri Marae – Cr Sam Hill. Nothing to report.
- Te Rangimārie Marae – Cr Jerry Pickford. Nothing to report.
- Te Tikanga Marae – Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins. Nothing to report.
- Ngāti Te Au – Cr Grant Hadfield. Upcoming meeting this Friday.
- Ngāwhakaraua marae – Cr Andrew Quarrie. Nothing to report.

MDC 25-28/428

ADOPTION OF THE 2027 MEETING CALENDAR

Report of the General Manager – Corporate presenting to Council the proposed meetings schedule for the 2027 calendar year, for adoption.

RESOLVED

That the Council adopts the Meetings Schedule for 2027, as set out in Attachment 1 of this report, without amendment.

Moved by: Cr Grant Hadfield

Seconded by: Cr Jerry Pickford

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/429

MANFEILD PARK TRUST - NEW TRUSTEES

Report of the General Manager – Community advising 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.

RESOLVED

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.**

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026	8:31 AM

- Note that the Manfeild Park Trust Deed has been varied with the approval of the settlers to increase the maximum number of trustees from five to six.

Moved by: Mayor Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Colin Dyer

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/430

CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/431

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

1. Confirmation of Minutes: 16 September 2026

That the general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
13. Confirmation of Minutes; 16 September 2026	<i>To consider the accuracy of the minutes of the public excluded Council meeting on 16 September 2026.</i> <i>Any changes to previous minutes may require members to discuss the content of the public excluded session.</i>	s48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026	8:31 AM

Moved by: Mayor Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Sam Hill

CARRIED (12-0)

The meeting went into public excluded session at 10.57 am. For items MDC 25-28/432 to MDC 25-28/433 refer to public excluded proceedings. The meeting returned to open session at 10.58 am.

MDC 25-28/434

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 10.58 am.

Meeting Video

<https://www.mdc.govt.nz/about-council/meetings-agendas-and-minutes/videos-of-council-and-committee-meetings/manawatu-district-council-meeting-videos>