

MEETING MINUTES		
COUNCIL		TIME
THURSDAY 15 MAY 2025		8:33 AM

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Thursday 15 May 2025, which commenced at 8.33 am at Hato Hone St Johns, 35 Bowen Street, Feilding.

PRESENT:

Mayor Helen Worboys	Chairperson
Cr Bridget Bell	
Cr Steve Bielski	
Cr Lara Blackmore	
Cr Stuart Campbell	
Cr Michael Ford	
Cr Grant Hadfield	
Cr Colin McFadzean	
Cr Andrew Quarrie	
Cr Kerry Quigley	
Cr Alison Short	
Cr Fiona Underwood	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Shayne Harris	Chief Executive
Hamish Waugh	General Manager – Infrastructure
Lyn Daly	General Manager – Community
Amanda Calman	Chief Financial Officer
Ash Garstang	Governance and Assurance Manager
Lisa Thomas	Strategy Manager

MDC 22-25/1141

MEETING OPENING

Cr Steve Bielski opened the meeting with a prayer.

MDC 22-25/1142

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

MDC 22-25/1143

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 1 May 2025 be adopted as a true and correct record.

Moved by: Cr Alison Short

Seconded by: Cr Kerry Quigley

CARRIED (12-0)

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MDC 22-25/1144

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Andrew Quarrie – LGNZ Membership: allocated a seat at the LGNZ conference.

Councillor Alison Short – Adoption of the Remuneration and Reimbursement for External Committee Members Policy: she is a member of the District Licensing Committee.

MDC 22-25/1145

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests for public forum.

MDC 22-25/1146

NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business notified for consideration.

MDC 22-25/1147

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from committees.

MDC 22-25/1148

COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

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

COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
Creative Communities Assessment Committee	• 29 April 2025

COMMUNITY COMMITTEES	
Halcombe Community Committee	• 5 May 2025
Rongotea Community Committee	• 5 May 2025
Sanson Community Committee	• 8 May 2025

YOUTH COUNCIL	
Meeting	• 05 May 2025

Liaison Councillors provided brief updates on their respective Committees.

- Creative Communities Assessment Committee – Cr Alison Short advised that there was almost enough funding to approve all grants to their full level.

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- Halcombe Community Committee – Cr Colin McFadzean advised that the ANZAC service at Halcombe was attended by more than 500 people. They appreciate that they need to get their Community Plan in place by June.
- Rongotea Community Committee – Cr Fiona Underwood. They had an extended meeting and updated their Community Plan. They were thankful for the pathway that has been completed, but a resident has requested an extension so that the pathway goes past their house as they have young children.
- Sanson Community Committee – Cr Alison Short. Working on their history boards. They are getting a bus shelter on SH 3. Horizons are engaging with them on the design, and they will make it a blue colour in alignment with the RNZAF Base close by.
- Youth Council – Cr Lara Blackmore. They are planning the Youth Market for 19 July.

MDC 22-25/1149

MARAE LIAISON COUNCILLORS

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

- Aorangi Marae – Cr Andrew Quarrie. He met with marae representatives which went very well.

MDC 22-25/1150

DECISION ON LOCAL WATER DONE WELL

Report of the General Manager – Infrastructure presenting Council's preferred option for Local Water Done Well for adoption. The decision Council makes today will inform the preparation of Council's Water Services Delivery Plan.

Cr Alison Short left the meeting at 9.03 am and returned at 9.04 am.

RESOLVED

1. That the Council adopt Option 1 – that an in-house stand-alone business unit is adopted for the delivery of water services in the Manawātū District.
2. That Council approve the responses to issues and concerns raised in submissions on Local Water Done Well (Annex A) for distribution.

Note: The Water Services Delivery Plan will be developed based on the preferred option and will be presented to Council for adoption and approval for submission to the Department of Internal Affairs at the 24 July 2025 Council meeting or before if possible.

Moved by: Mayor Helen Worboys

Seconded by: Cr Michael Ford

CARRIED (12-0)

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MDC 22-25/1151

REPRESENTATIVE FUND PRESENTATION – TE MATATINI O TE KAAHUI MAUNGA

Haimona Searancke spoke to Council on behalf of Te Tu Mataora about attending the Te Matatini o Te Kāhui Maunga 2025 Festival at the Bowl of Brooklands, New Plymouth in March 2025.

Highlights:

- It was a wonderful experience to represent the region. The group are the reigning champions for our regional competition.
- Te Tū Mataora placed 24th out of 55 competing groups. The competition was fierce, and the group was proud of their result. The event is an opportunity to present the group's kaupapa and acknowledge one of their founding members Coral.
- In response to a query around the District hosting a future Te Matatini event in six year's time, he advised that accommodation and spaces for groups to practice will be the key challenges to address.

MDC 22-25/1152

HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS - SIGNIFICANCE & ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Report of the General Manager – People and Corporate providing an opportunity for submitters to present their views and to verbally interact with Council, as required by Section 83(1)(d) of the Local Government Act 2002.

RESOLVED

That the Council receives this report and hears verbal submissions on the Significance & Engagement Policy.

Moved by: Cr Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Lara Blackmore

CARRIED (12-0)

005 Angela Baker

Highlights:

- Believes that 'equality' should be changed to 'equity' under Schedule 4: Engagement Principles.
- Would like to see a shift away from the term 'stakeholder' and would prefer the term 'Community' is used as this is more inclusive.
- Angela is not fond of the term "ratepayers and residents", as this creates a distinction. She would prefer that the term "residents" is used more widely.

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- In general, she believes that the Council should do all it can to increase the participation of the community. For example, joint community-Council committees on big issues. She believes that many people perceive the Council's formal consultations as being foregone conclusions and that Council has a reputation for conducting business behind closed doors.
- Angela believed that the Council needs to do better with LGOIMA requests (requests for official information), as requests are sometimes interpreted strictly and not all relevant information is provided in the Council responses.
- Future generations need to be considered in every decision, acknowledging that this is difficult.

In response to questions, Angela Baker advised:

- Balancing apathy against the wish of those who want to be engaged is tricky, but she believes that it is somewhat of a vicious cycle. I.e., not engaging well reinforces community apathy.
- She acknowledged that her comments on Cr Ford's views on a Feilding Community Committee were slightly misconstrued and accepted that the case for a Feilding Community Committee was an open question that needed addressing.

006 Mark Wasley

Highlights:

- Overall, Mark approved of the draft Policy.
- On page 89 (of the agenda) it stated that the Council will use plain English and avoid jargon where possible and provide a plain English summary document if needed. He supported this provision.
- He supported the inclusion of the Māori and Mana Whenua participation principle in Schedule 4 of the Policy.
- There are multiple ways to engage with the community, including radio. He suggested that the Council recommence its use of TikTok.
- Feilding Community Committee – the consensus from "Keep Feilding Beautiful" was that the Feilding area was too large to form a cohesive group. However, Mark hopes that this question is revisited after the 2025 election.

In response to questions, Mark Wasley advised:

- He does not personally use TikTok and cannot comment on its utility, however Palmerston North City Council make good use of social media and engaging with youth and are a good example to look to.
- He would like to see a livestream of Council meetings.

007 Frances Pere (on behalf of Te Kōtui Reo Taumata)

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Highlights:

- Te Kōtui Reo Taumata support the intent of the Policy. She also acknowledged the efforts of elected members in forming relationships with iwi and Māori (e.g., marae liaisons).
- She queried how the Council will continue to progress these relationships in view of the Māori wards referendum and encouraged the Council to continue its work in living up to the standards that the Policy lays out.
- She mentioned that at the Te Kōtui Reo Taumata workshop that staff attended, the group provided several suggested amendments for inclusion in the Policy.

In response to a question, Frances Pere advised:

- While policies and procedures are important, the foundation of strong relationships lies in authenticity and trust. Manaakitanga captures these values – it reflects how genuine connections allow people to uplift and enhance each other's mana.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.07 am and reconvened at 10.34 am.

MDC 22-25/1153

ADOPTION OF THE REMUNERATION AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXTERNAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS POLICY

Report of the General Manager – People and Corporate presenting to Council the Remuneration and Reimbursement for External Committee Members Policy to the Council for adoption.

RESOLVED

That the Council adopts the Remuneration and Reimbursement for External Committee Members Policy without amendment, noting that funding will be sourced from existing budgets.

Moved by: Cr Stuart Campbell

Seconded by: Cr Lara Blackmore

CARRIED (11-0)

Cr Alison Short abstained from the vote due to a declared conflict of interest

MDC 22-25/1154

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND MEMBERSHIP

Report of the Chief Executive seeking a Council decision on whether to renew its membership with Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ).

RESOLVED

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That the Manawātū District Council renews its membership with Local Government New Zealand and pays the subscription of \$53,730.53 (GST EXCL) for the 2025-26 year.

Moved by: Cr Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Bridget Bell

CARRIED (8-4)

Cr Grant Hadfield, Cr Andrew Quarrie, Cr Kerry Quigley, and Cr Fiona Underwood voted against the motion

MDC 22-25/1155

CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items notified for consideration.

MDC 22-25/1156

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLVED

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes – 1 May 2025
2. Tender Award - MDC1470-1 Feilding Food Waste Collection - Bin Supply, Distribution and Ongoing Collection
3. Feilding Civic Centre Trust new trustee appointments
4. Public Excluded Resolutions for Release

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; 1 May 2025	<i>To consider the accuracy of the minutes of the public excluded Council meeting on 1 May 2025.</i> <i>Any changes to previous minutes may require members to discuss the content of the public excluded session.</i>	s48(1)(a)

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14.1 Tender Award - MDC1470-1 Feilding Food Waste Collection - Bin Supply, Distribution and Ongoing Collection	s7(2)(i) – commercial negotiations <i>This report discusses Council's commercial position and negotiations relating to a Feilding Food Waste Collection</i>	s48(1)(a)
14.2 Feilding Civic Centre Trust New Trustee Appointments	s7(2)(a) – privacy <i>This report discusses private individuals prior to any formal appointment</i>	s48(1)(a)
14.3 Public Excluded Resolutions for Release	s7(2)(a) – privacy s7(2)(h) – commercial activities <i>To consider the release of previous public excluded resolutions. Any discussion around these need to remain public excluded</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.

Moved by: Mayor Helen Worboys

Seconded by: Cr Alison Short

CARRIED (12-0)

The meeting went into public excluded session at 11.15 am. For items MDC 22-25/1157 to MDC 22-25/1161 refer to public excluded proceedings. The meeting returned to open session at 12.01pm.

MDC 22-25/1162

CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED RESOLUTIONS IN OPEN SESSION

MDC 22-25/063 – South Street Land Sale – Special Development Zone Humphries (02 Feb 23)

RESOLVED

1. That the Council disposes of 'real property', by entering into a sale and purchase agreement for the sale of 3,000 square metres (more or less), legally described as Lot 4 Deposited Plan 573030 (Record of Title 1042223) with Humphries Developments Limited for the purchase price of five hundred and five thousand dollars (\$505,000) plus GST (if any).

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AND

2. That the Chief Executive be delegated all powers necessary to conclude the transaction including settling the final conditions of sale, imposing any reasonable covenants, and anything else necessary to execute an Agreement for Sale and Purchase and complete the transfer of the land.

Moved by: Cr Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Colin McFadzean

CARRIED

MDC 22-25/215 – Purchase of Feilding High School Land for Walkway (01 Jun 23)

RESOLVED

That the Council approve the acquisition of 'real property' of approximately 1.89 hectares (subject to survey) being a part of the property comprised in New Zealand Gazette 1968 p 584 held for a Secondary School, New Zealand Gazette 1963, p 1989 held for a Secondary School, and in New Zealand Gazette 1974 p 2646 held for a Secondary School; for one hundred and two thousand one hundred and seventy-five dollars \$102,175 plus GST (if any) noting this is within budget for settlement in the 2023/2024 financial year.

AND

That the Chief Executive be authorised to undertake such actions as necessary to complete the transfer of this land to Council.

Moved by: Cr Michael Ford

Seconded by: Mayor Helen Worboys

CARRIED

MDC 22-25/832 – CEDA Director Recruitment (03 Oct 24)

RESOLVED

That the Council supports the recommendation of the Electoral College as per the CEDA Appointment of Directors Policy, Section 3.4a:

AND

1. Appoints Bobbie O'Fee as director and chair of Central Economic Development Agency until 31 December 2027.

2. Appoints Margy Maré and David Norman as directors of Central Economic Development Agency until 31 December 2026.

3. Note advertising will not be necessary as the reappointment of the members above will ensure continuity of strategic direction.

Moved by: Mayor Helen Worboys

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Seconded by: Cr Grant Hadfield

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 22-25/968 – Animal Control Services Contract Renewal (05 Dec 24)

RESOLVED

That Council approve the Animal Control Contract Renewal between Rangitīkei District Council and Manawātū District Council for the period 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2027 at a cost of \$1,032,458.40 (excl GST) which is within the existing budget.

Moved by: Cr Grant Hadfield

Seconded by: Cr Lara Blackmore

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 22-25/1030 – Manawatu Community Trust Trustee Recruitment (20 Feb 25)

RESOLVED

That Council re-appoints Allan Davey to the Manawātū Community Trust for a further 3-year term from 6 May 2025 to 5 May 2028, and undertake a recruitment process for one Trustee.

Moved by: Cr Alison Short

Seconded by: Cr Michael Ford

CARRIED (12-0)

ARC 22-25/205 – Key Project Status Report (13 Mar 25)

RESOLVED

That the Audit and Risk Committee receives the Key Project Status Report from March 2025.

Moved by: Cr Lara Blackmore

Seconded by: Cr Grant Hadfield

CARRIED (5-0)

MDC 22-25/1070 – Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trustee Recruitment (20 Mar 25)

RESOLVED

That Council:

1. Accepts Matt Davis's resignation from the Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trust as a Trustee effective 19 December 2024 and establishes a vacancy.

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2. Accepts Rachel Harrison's resignation from the Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trust as a Trustee effective 31 January 2025 and establishes a vacancy.

3. Appoints Tracey Alston as a Trustee to the Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trust for a three-year term from 20 March 2025 to 19 March 2028, and

4. Appoints Jo Morris as a Trustee to the Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trust for a three-year term from 20 March 2025 to 19 March 2028.

Moved by: Cr Alison Short

Seconded by: Mayor Helen Worboys

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 22-25/1071 – Feilding Civic Centre Trustee Recruitment (20 Mar 25)

RESOLVED

That the Council:

1. Accepts Kelly Hayes' resignation from the Feilding Civic Centre Trust as a trustee effective from 12 April 2025.

2. Notes that there are two existing trustee vacancies.

3. Approves a recruitment process to be undertaken for three trustees.

4. Appoints Cr Grant Hadfield as an interim trustee for up to three months, if necessary, effective from 12 April 2025, to ensure the Trust has a minimum of six trustees, as is required in the Trust Deed, during the trustee recruitment process.

Moved by: Cr Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Kerry Quigley

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 22-25/1091 – Tender Award Recommendation – MDC1963 Wastewater Centralisation Rising Main Construction (03 Apr 25)

RESOLVED

1. That the Council authorises the award of contract MC1963 to Fulton Hogan Ltd for construction of the Wastewater Centralisation – Halcombe Stage 1 and Rongotea contract (excluding the Awahuri-Kauwhata line) for a sum not exceeding three million, seven hundred and sixty two thousand, one hundred and fifty dollars, and forty two cents (\$3,762,150.42) plus GST.

2. That a contingency amount of two hundred and sixty four thousand, forty seven dollars, and seventy five cents (\$264,047.75) plus GST is approved, to be spent only upon written instruction from the Engineer to the Contract.

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Note: That future stages of related contract work may be awarded directly to Fulton Hogan Ltd as recommended by Council officers, subject to satisfactory performance during the original contract, and noting that any future stages awarded are to be authorised as per the Delegations Manual.

Note: Pre-award negotiations may reduce the contract award price.

Note: The proposed contract spans the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years. A portion of the recommended contract price will be expended in 2025/26.

Note: This project is funded through wastewater renewal budgets which are funded by depreciation.

Moved by: Cr Colin McFadzean

Seconded by: Cr Steve Bielski

CARRIED (9-0)

MDC 22-25/1163

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 12.01 pm.

Meeting Video

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