



MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2026	8:30 AM

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 18 February 2026, which commenced at 8.30 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
Frances Smorti General Manager – People and Corporate
Jason Rosenbrock Acting General Manager – Community
Joel Richards Acting Chief Financial Officer
Steph Skinner Governance and Strategy Officer
Helen King Grants Connector

MDC 25-28/124

MEETING OPENING

Cr Alison Short opened the meeting.

MDC 25-28/125

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

MDC 25-28/126

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 04 February 2026 be adopted as a true and correct record.

Moved by: Cr Grant Hadfield

Seconded by: Cr James McKelvie

CARRIED (12-0)

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MDC 25-28/127

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Alison Short – Item 10.2 Priority Service Contracts – Annual reports - Youthline

MDC 25-28/128

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests for public forum.

MDC 25-28/129

PRESENTATION - REPRESENTATIVE FUND - JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL CANOE POLO TOURNAMENT

Elleanor King was in attendance speaking to Council.

- Her team travelled from 17 July to 7 August 2025 to Irelands biggest Aqua park, Lets Go Hydro.
- They came sixth in the Open Under 18's category and placed second in the Under 21 Womens category, placing them sixth overall.
- On their way home they stopped in Copenhagen, walking the city site-seeing for 5 hours.
- This tour has influenced her polo game and pushed her team to achieve greater heights. Elleanor's new focus was coaching the next generation of players.

MDC 25-28/130

PRESENTATION - REPRESENTATIVE FUND - ITF TAEKWON-DO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bailey Jeffery was in attendance speaking to Council.

- This is the eighth year Bailey has completed for New Zealand, this year in Croatia.
- Bailey had 9-month lead up to competitions however during this time he suffered sickness and injuries, all while taking on the running of the Palmerston North club.
- He was scheduled for five events, but after suffering a head injury 3 months before competitions had to pull out of the sparring category.
- New Zealand took fifty competitors and came eighth overall. His highlight was being one of two New Zealand flag bearers, a huge privilege.

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- His next goal is to compete at the World Cup in Spain.
- Bailey was asked about participation in Feilding Taekwon-do. Unfortunately the club had seen a large decline in numbers since Covid.

MDC 25-28/131

NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/132

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from committees.

MDC 25-28/133

COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

The following Community Committee meetings were notified for information.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEES	
Glen Oroua-Taikorea Community Committee	• 17 February 2026
Hiwinui Community Committee	• 17 February 2026
Kimbolton Community Committee	• 9 February 2026
Kiwitea Community Committee	• 16 February 2026
Sanson Community Committee	• 12 February 2026
Tangimoana Community Committee	• 16 February 2026
Waituna West Community Committee	• 11 February 2026

Liaison Councillors provided brief updates on their respective Committees.

- Glen Oroua-Taikorea - Meeting postponed due to weather event.
- Hiwinui – Cr Raewyn Loader – Acknowledged the positive impact the committee has made over the last year, upgrading signate in the district, working on environmental impacts with the school and hosting a community food drive for Manchester House.
- Kimbolton – Cr Rob Duindam – Held their triennial meeting. The new committee accepted the previous chairs report and will work with this in the coming year. Nine committee members elected, no treasurer or secretary at this stage.
- Kiwitea – Cr Andrew Quarrie – A motivated community committee with ten members. Looking at new hall improvements.
- Sanson – Cr Alison Short – Held their triennial meeting last Thursday with twenty-five people attending the meeting, an excellent turnout compared to

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previous years. Eleven members were elected, with office holders being selected at their March meeting.

- Tangimoana - Meeting postponed due to weather event.
- Waituna West – Cr Sam Hill – A committee of ten with new and returning members. The hall and culverts a concern. One metal road had been graded.

MDC 25-28/134

FEILDING & DISTRICT PROMOTION - SIX-MONTH REPORT

Report of the General Manager – Community presenting the Feilding & District Promotion (FDP) six-month report for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025 for acknowledgement, in accordance with the letter of agreement to Feilding & District Promotion for the annual \$500,000 grant funding received from Manawatū District Council.

In attendance from FDP were:

FDP Operations Team – Sarah Gilbertson, Kathy Graham, Megan Wishnowsky.

FDP Executive Team – Evan Tull, Mark Marsden, Murray Lyons, Dean Williamson, Vonese Walker, Natasha Harding.

- Their presentation gave elected members an insight into FDP’s strategic pillars, goals, and aspirations.
- Moving back into the square and the heart of Feilding has been a catalyst for change and catapulted FDP to dig deep for improvement on how to connect, engage, and help the community they serve.
- Digital platforms have seen significant growth. 2.5 million Facebook views over 6 months with nine and a half thousand followers. The Farmers Market also had increased followers. These results exceed national levels. Digital is about their team being connected and consistent.
- FDP are focused on Feilding being the place to come to for everything.

Questions:

- Events in rural areas and FDP’s relationship with our community committees? They have increased connecting with rural events coordinators and open to having more direct contact with community committees.
- The Stockyard Tour is iconic to Feilding. Would like to see more promotion of this locally.
- Accommodation and Events – do we get the full benefit of our rural areas? How do we improve use of rural accommodation during events.
- The Farmers Market. FDP are looking forward to having a permanent covered structure which will give more stability and permanency for stall holders.

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- FDP work closely with CEDA on our tourism.
- Information Centre services now at the Manawatū Community Hub Libraries (MCHL). FDP have seen an increase in community events and work closely with the MCHL, meeting fortnightly.

RESOLVED

That the Council acknowledge receipt of the Feilding & District Promotion Six-Month Grant Funding Performance Report for the period ending 31 December 2025.

Moved by: Cr Sam Hill

Seconded by: Cr Jerry Pickford

CARRIED (12-0)

The meeting adjourned at 9.45am and resumed at 10.10am.

MDC 25-28/135

PRIORITY SERVICE CONTRACTS - ANNUAL REPORTS X 3

Report of the General Manager – Community seeking Council receive the following Annual Reports.

Every three-years Council makes Priority Services funding available to the community. Applications that meet the criteria in Manawatū District Council's Community Development Policy are considered. Successful organisations enter into a three-year Priority Service Contract with Council and are required to report to Council on their performance against agreed performance measures at six-monthly and 12-monthly intervals.

The Priority Service Contracts for the previous triennium ended on 30 June 2025. This report presents the 12-month reports for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 from four of the 18 contracted organisations.

Presentations:

- Age Concern Palmerston North and District- Julie Macdonald
- Neighbourhood Support Manawatū- Nicky Birch
- Youthline Central North Island Inc.- Brian Devonshire (via zoom)

RESOLVED

That Council receives the 12-month Priority Service Contract reports for the period ending 30 June 2025 from:

- **Youthline Central North Island Inc**

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- **Neighbourhood Support Manawatū**
- **Age Concern Palmerston North and District**

Moved by: Cr James McKelvie

Seconded by: Cr Sam Hill

CARRIED (11-0)

Cr Alison Short abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

MDC 25-28/136

CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/137

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLVED

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

- 1. Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes – 04 February 2026**
- 2. Sale of part of 10 Eyre Street, Feilding**

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; 04 February 2026	<i>To consider the accuracy of the minutes of the public excluded Council meeting on 04 February 2026.</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 Sale of part of 10 Eyre Street, Feilding	<i>7(2)(i) To enable Council to continue business during commercial negotiations</i>	s48(1)(a)
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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 Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins

CARRIED (12-0)

The meeting went into public excluded session at 10.51am. For items MDC 25-28/138 to MDC 25-28/141 refer to public excluded proceedings. The meeting returned to open session at 11.41am.

MDC 25-28/142

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 11.41am.

Meeting Video

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