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

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 18 November 2026, which commenced at 8.30 am at the Manawatū 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
	Wiremu Greening	Acting General Manager – Infrastructure
	Frances Smorti	General Manager – Corporate
	Kate Jarvis	General Manager – People
	Lyn Daly	General Manager – Community
	Joel Richards	Chief Financial Officer
	Ash Garstang	Governance and Assurance Manager
	Angela Rule	Senior Policy Adviser
	Michael Taylor	Community Assets Manager
	Marko Blagojevic	Information Services Manager
	Lisa Thomas	Strategy Manager

MDC 25-28/492

MEETING OPENING

Cr Sam Hill opened the meeting.

MDC 25-28/493

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

MDC 25-28/494

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

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

Moved by: **Cr Grant Hadfield**

Seconded by: **Cr Sam Hill**

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/495

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

MDC 25-28/496

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests for public forum.

MDC 25-28/497

REPRESENTATIVE FUND – 2026 CANOE POLO ASIA PACIFIC CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS IN CHINA

Stella Irwin and Josh Irwin were in attendance and spoke to Council.

- The men's Team had some tough losses to Russia and Poland but finished seventh overall.
- Josh was captain of the men's team during the championship and brought many of those learnings back to his coaching in New Zealand.
- The women's team won their final against Malaysia.
- Stella had a knee injury going into the competition.
- Stella helps coach a Palmerston North Girl's team.

MDC 25-28/498

REPRESENTATIVE FUND – U12 MANAWATU MAORI RUGBY LEAGUE 2026 TOURNAMENT TEAM, ROTORUA

Indi Cashell-Elers could not attend the meeting.

MDC 25-28/499

NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/500

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from committees.

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

MDC 25-28/501

COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

The following Community Committee meetings were notified for information.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
Glen Oroua-Taikorea – Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins	• 17 November 2026
Hiwinui – Cr Raewyn Loader	• 17 November 2026
Sanson – Cr Alison Short	• 12 November 2026
Tangimoana – Cr James McKelvie	• 16 November 2026
Waituna West – Cr Sam Hill	• 11 November 2026
https://www.mdc.govt.nz/about-council/committees-and-organisations/community-committees-and-plans	

Liaison Councillors provided brief updates on their respective Committees.

- Glen Oroua-Taikorea – Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins. The Committee has made enquiries to Council about the amount of rubbish accumulating on the corner of Rongotea Road and Leen Road by the cemetery. The Committee went through the Community Plan, and they are keen for Mayor Michael Ford to attend their meeting on 16 February 2027. The Committee has received a response from staff on safety at the Rangiotu Road and Main Drain Road intersection but are seeking a more detailed response.
- Hiwinui – Cr Raewyn Loader. Following an incident outside the school gates they are looking at improved lighting and front gate security. The school's strategic plan includes building on agricultural learning and forming partnerships with a nearby farm. They are also considering an outdoor planting area. Preparations are underway for the Community Hamper run on Sunday 29 November 2026. Lastly, there was a request for berm side mowing to be extended to the welcome signs to Hiwinui.
- Sanson – Cr Alison Short. The Committee received an electronic scoreboard from Basketball Manawatū. They are also looking into a generator for the Hall but have been advised by two electrical companies that the switchboard is not sufficient for this. The Committee is making enquiries about the roading spraying as they feel this could benefit from some improvement.
- Tangimoana – Cr James McKelvie. The exterior painting of the hall has occurred, and some other maintenance has been completed. They have received the new Civil Defence booklet draft. The memorial project is progressing and an old brass plaque commemorating PTE James Webby has been found, so this will be included in the memorial.
- Waituna West – Cr Sam Hill. A new principal is starting at the school, and they have a new Police officer. The Committee discussed historic photos in the hall and the upcoming Christmas party.
- Kimbolton informal meeting – Cr Rob Duindam. A new concept coming up is a Manawatū Great Cake competition, on 21 February 2027 at the Kimbolton Domain. James Adamson visited the Committee to talk about their reserves and Stacey McLaughlin is attending their next meeting.

MDC 25-28/502

MARAE LIAISON COUNCILLORS

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

- Aorangi Marae – Cr Rob Duindam. He has shared a copy of Council's submission on the ring road with the marae.

MDC 25-28/503

ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Report of the General Manager – Corporate seeking adoption of amendments to the Significance and Engagement Policy for water services contracts, as required by the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025, and to add the Manawatū Resource Recovery Centre to the Strategic Assets list in Schedule 3 of the Policy.

RESOLVED

That the Council considers, on reasonable grounds, that it has sufficient information about community interests and preferences to achieve the purpose of the Significance and Engagement Policy, and resolves not to consult on the proposed amendments under section 76AA(5) of the Local Government Act 2002.

Moved by: **Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins**

Seconded by: **Cr Alison Short**

CARRIED (12-0)

RESOLVED

That the Council adopts the Water Services amendments to the Significance and Engagement Policy being the addition to the amended section 2.2, the new section 5 and the addition of a definition of water services to the Glossary.

Moved by: **Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins**

Seconded by: **Cr Alison Short**

CARRIED (12-0)

RESOLVED

That the Council adopts the addition of the Manawatū Resource Recovery Centre to the Strategic Assets list in Schedule 3 of the Significance and Engagement Policy.

Moved by: **Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins**

Seconded by: **Cr Sam Hill**

CARRIED (12-0)

RESOLVED

That the Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive to make minor editorial amendments before publication that do not change Council's decisions.

Moved by: **Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins**

Seconded by: **Cr Colin Dyer**

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/504

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLVED

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

1. **Confirmation of Minutes; 04 November 2026**
2. **Spark Phone Booths**
3. **CEDA Appointment of Directors**

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 November 2026	*To consider the accuracy of the minutes of the public excluded Council meeting on 04 November 2026.* *Any changes to previous minutes may require members*	s48(1)(a)

	to discuss the content of the public excluded session.	
14.1 Spark Phone Booths	s7(2)(i) – *negotiations* *This report discusses Spark phone booths located on Council land*	s48(1)(a)
14.2 CEDA Appointment of Directors	s7(2)(a) – *privacy* *This report discusses private details about individuals who may or may not be appointed to the CEDA Board*	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 Michael Ford**

Seconded by: **Cr Sam Hill**

CARRIED (12-0)

The meeting went into public excluded session at 9.03 am. For items MDC 25-28/505 to MDC 25-28/508 refer to public excluded proceedings. The meeting returned to open session at 9.15 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 9.15 am.

Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins left the meeting at 9.50 am.

The meeting was reconvened at 9.50 am.

MDC 25-28/509

FEILDING CIVIC CENTRE TRUST ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the General Manager – Community presenting Feilding Civic Centre Trust's Annual Report 2025/26 for Council's receipt.

Evan Tull and Sarah Manthel from FCCT spoke to the item.

RESOLVED

That Council receives the Feilding Civic Centre Trust's 2025 – 2026 Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2026.

Moved by: **Cr Raewyn Loader**

Seconded by: Cr Colin Dyer

CARRIED (11-0)

MDC 25-28/510

CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/511

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 9.56 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