MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2026	8:30 AM

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 28 October 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 Alison Short	
APOLOGIES:	Councillor Andrew Quarrie	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Shayne Harris	Chief Executive
	Hamish Waugh	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

MDC 25-28/454

MEETING OPENING

Mayor Michael Ford opened the meeting.

MDC 25-28/455

APOLOGIES

Cr Andrew Quarrie was on a pre-approved leave of absence.

MDC 25-28/456

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

MDC 25-28/457

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests for public forum.

MDC 25-28/458

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations scheduled for this meeting.

MDC 25-28/459

NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/460

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from committees.

MDC 25-28/461

COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

The following Community Committee meetings were notified for information.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEES	
Bainesse-Rangiotu – Cr Raewyn Loader	• 21 October 2026
Himatangi Beach – Cr Jerry Pickford	• 22 October 2026

Liaison Councillors provided brief updates on their respective Committees.

- Bainesse-Rangiotu – Cr Raewyn Loader. Two new people joined the Committee. The Committee presented community honours awards at their meeting. A community movie evening is being organised to screen footage from the ball. The Committee also discussed signage and that a tree will be planted in honour of Alan Horsfall.
- Himatangi Beach – Cr Jerry Pickford. The Committee passed on their thanks to Council staff. The local holiday park has won another award. The community is considering hosting another triathlon in March and have a Christmas parade planned for 12 December 2026. The Big Dig will be on the Wellington Anniversary weekend.

MDC 25-28/462

MARAE LIAISON COUNCILLORS

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

- Parewahawaha Marae – Cr Alison Short. Met with Cliff Brown last week. They are meeting with the Defence Force soon to discuss PFAS levels, as they appear to be rising. They also highlighted the dangerous conditions at Tangimoana and the mouth of the Rangitīkei River, which has seen several fatalities this year.

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MDC 25-28/463

ADOPTION OF THE 2025-26 ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the Chief Financial Officer seeking Council adoption of the Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2026.

The Chief Executive advised that the auditors have confirmed that they are unable sign off the Annual Report for the present meeting. There are a couple of issues that need to be corrected and re-audited. The Annual Report will instead be reported to the Council meeting next week (04 November 2026) for adoption.

MDC 25-28/464

CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/465

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

There was no Public Excluded Business for this meeting.

MDC 25-28/466

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 8.59 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