
Council Minutes – 5 March 2025

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 5 March 2025, commencing at 1.00pm in the Hine Paaka Council Chamber, Te Whare Whakatare, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

Present

His Worship the Mayor, Neil Brown; Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan and Councillors Leen Braam, Carolyn Cameron, Russell Ellis, Phill Hooper, Lynette Lovett, Rob Mackle, Tony Todd and Richard Wilson.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Helen Barnes (GM Business Support), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Ian Hyde (GM Compliance & Development), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Sarah Mosley (GM People & Facilities), and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Mark Chamberlain (Roading Manager), Erin Register (Finance Manager), Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager) and Tania Paddock (Legal Counsel).

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

Public Forum

Darel Hall, General Manager Cholmondeley Children's Centre (1.04-1.12pm)

Darel thanked Council for this community's support of the Cholmondely service. This Friday will mark 100 years of the service in Canterbury.

Darel provided a brief overview of the respite service that Cholmondely Children's Centre offers to families throughout Canterbury and thanked Council for the community support provided by the wider Ashburton community. Council heard that this Friday 7 March, will be Cholmondely's 100th anniversary.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

- Council – 19/02/25

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 19 February 2025, be taken as read and confirmed.

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

5 Audit & Risk Committee – 12/02/25

That Council receives the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 12 February 2025.

Ellis/Cameron

Carried

6 Three Waters Committee – 12/02/25

That Council receives the minutes of the Three Waters Committee meeting held on 12 February 2025.

Hooper/Todd

Carried

7 Triennial elections 2025 – Order of candidates’ names

1. **That** the report be received.
2. **That** the names of the candidates for the 2025 Ashburton District Council triennial elections, and any subsequent by-elections, be arranged on the ballot paper in random order.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

8 Ashburton Car Club Road Closure – Sealed Autocross

That Council permits Seaside Road, from Bonningtons Road to Fitzgerald Road, to be closed from 8.00am until 6.00pm on Sunday 30 March 2025, to allow the Sealed Autocross Event to take place.

Ellis/Todd

Carried

9 Financial Variance Report – January 2025

The Finance Manager will report back with an explanation for the 80% community safety expenditure. Council will also be updated on the delay to the forestry harvest and borrowing.

That Council receives the 31 January 2025 financial variance report.

Todd/Hooper

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded –1.30pm

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

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
10	Council 19/02/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Methven & Foothills Birdsong Initiative Trust	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
11	Audit & Risk 12/02/24 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H&S report	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
12	Local Water Done Well	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
13	Ashburton Contracting Ltd	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
14	Executive Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CE recruitment	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons

Cameron/Braam

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **Local Water Done Well**

1. **That** Council removes the ‘Single Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) governed and managed by shared arrangement with EA Network’s model as an option for the Ashburton District’s delivery of water services; and
2. **That** Council’s remaining options for water services delivery are a Stand-alone Business Unit of Council and a single Council CCO.

Wilson/Cameron

Carried

Passed on a show of hands giving 8 for and 2 against

- **Chief Executive appointment**

That Council adopts the negotiated terms and authorises the Mayor to sign the five year employment agreement for Hamish Riach that will commence on 10 September 2025.

Todd/McMillan

Carried

- **Acquisition of 77 Johnstone St – second urban bridge road network** [\[Council 5/02/25\]](#)

1. **That** Council approves the entry into an Agreement for Sale and Purchase for the purchase of 77 Johnstone Street, Tinwald, legally described as Lot 2 Deposited Plan 60937 and contained in Record of Title CB36A/1150, comprising of 2.0215 hectares more or less, being land designated for Ashburton’s second urban bridge, for a purchase price of \$1,460,000 inclusive of GST (if any), and that the Agreement include provision for an additional \$50,000 in compensation as required by the Public Works Act 1981.
2. **That** Council approves the property purchase being loan funded.

Mayor/McMillan

Carried

Council concluded at 3.46pm.

[Confirmed by Council 19 March 2025]

MAYOR