
Council Minutes –4 June 2025

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 4 June 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), and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

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

Three members of the public attended.

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Item 17 – The Mayor and Cr Cameron gave notice that they will leave the meeting for this item.

Long-service recognition – Jill Watson

Council acknowledged the 50 years long service of Jill Watson who started with the former Ashburton Borough Council as a Children’s Librarian in May 1975 and has continued with the Ashburton District Council as Library Manager since October 1989.

Kainga Ora presentation (3.21pm)

Liz Krause (Regional Director Canterbury) and Zoe Puke (Senior Stakeholder Relationship Manager) were welcomed to the meeting and invited to update Council on Kainga Ora’s activities.

Key points:

- Kainga Ora’s focus is shifting from growing its portfolio to investing in the quality of housing stock
- Selling old, not fit for purpose homes to build new ones
- Nationally, have 78,000 homes with 264 properties across the Ashburton district currently
- Since 2021, 100 new homes have been delivered in Ashburton. In addition, have substantially renewed 79 older homes

- Currently 63 people on the social housing register who have indicated they would like to live in Ashburton.
- Need and demand has changed (nationwide) – i.e. smaller homes (1 and 2 bedrooms)
- Kainga Ora have recently introduced Social Pinpoint (web access) as a way for people to stay up to date on what's planned in an area
- With funding changes, projects for next year are under review. At this stage there are no further plans to build in Ashburton. Council will be updated when more is known.

Liz and Zoe were thanked for their presentation.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 21/05/25

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 May 2025, be taken as read and confirmed.

McMillan/Braam

Carried

5 Ashburton Airport Subcommittee – 13/05/25

That Council receives the minutes of the Ashburton Airport Subcommittee meeting held on 13 May 2025.

Braam/Lovett

Carried

6 Audit & Risk Committee – 14/05/25

That Council receives the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 14 May 2025.

Cameron/Ellis

Carried

- **EA Networks Centre Poolsafe Audit**

That Council receives the EA Networks Centre Poolsafe Audit Report 2025.

Braam/Cameron

Carried

- **Transwaste Canterbury Ltd Constitution and Shareholders Agreement**

That Council receives the report, noting the changes to Transwaste Canterbury Limited's Constitution and Shareholders Agreement.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

7 Three Waters Committee – 14/05/25

That Council receives the minutes of the Three Waters Committee meeting held on 14 May 2025.

Ellis/Todd

Carried

8 Creative Communities Assessment Committee – 29/04/25

That Council receives the minutes of the Creative Communities Assessment Committee meeting held on 29 April 2025.

Todd/Hooper

Carried

9 Hakatere Reserve Bollards and Camping – June 2025

1. **That** Council confirms the 31 bollards remain permanently removed from the Upper Hakatere Reserve.
2. **That** Council confirms that camping is not permitted at the Upper Hakatere Reserve.
3. **That** Council disestablishes the Hakatere Working Group.

Lovett/Todd

Carried

That the minutes of the Hakatere Working Group meeting held on 8 May 2025, be taken as read and confirmed.

Ellis/Wilson

Carried

10 Financial Variance Report – April 2025

That Council receives the April 2025 financial variance report.

Ellis/Braam

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded 1.58pm.

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:	
11	Council 21/05/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ABE land [Now in open meeting]• Award of Contract REFU0343	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
12	Airport Subcommittee 13/05 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Landing fee reviews	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
13	Audit & Risk Committee 14/05	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
14	Community Grants 2025-26	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
15	Award of Contract WWAT0429	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
16	Civic Financial Services AGM	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
17	Resource Consent Appeal	Section 7(2)(g)	Maintain legal professional privilege

Todd/Hooper

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

• Community Grants & Funding 2025/2026

1. **That** Council allocates **\$263,009** in community grants and funding 2025/26 as per the following categories:
 - 1.1 Arts & Culture – Community Libraries Grant - \$15,500
 - 1.2 Community Development – Agency Grant - \$72,500
 - 1.3 Community Development – Community Projects Grant - \$33,100
 - 1.4 Economic Development – Community Events Grant - \$21,173
 - 1.5 Natural & Built Environment – Biodiversity Grant - \$16,080
 - 1.6 Natural & Built Environment – Community Infrastructure Grant - \$52,862
 - 1.7 Natural & Built Environment – Heritage - \$33,464
 - 1.8 Sport & Recreation – School Holiday Programme Grant - \$5,330
 - 1.9 School Prize-giving - \$3,000

2.0 Community Trail Maintenance Fund - \$10,000

2. **That** Council allocates **\$15,000** for the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund for 2024/25.
3. **That** Council allocates the remaining Community Development Funding of \$1000, Biodiversity Funding of \$833 and Community Events Funding \$147 to be included as part of the 2025/26 Discretionary Fund.

McMillan/Hooper

Carried

- **Award of Contract WWAT0429 – Sewer pipeline relining 2025-2030**

That Council awards the five year contract WWAT0429 – Sewer Pipeline Relining 2025-2030 to Pipe Technologies Limited in the amount of One Million, one hundred and seventeen thousand seven hundred and twenty dollars \$1,117,720.00) excluding GST.

Ellis/Cameron

Carried

- **Civic Financial Services Annual General Meeting**

1. **That** Council formally receives the 2024 Annual Report of Civic Financial Services Limited.
2. **That** Council supports the nomination for the Board of Civic Financial Services Limited; and
3. **Delegates** the Chief Executive to appoint a proxy to vote on behalf of Council at the Annual General Meeting; and
4. **Delegates** the Chief Executive to complete and sign the proxy form on behalf of Council as a shareholder in Civic Financial Services Limited.

Hooper/Todd

Carried

- **Notice of Appeal against HHWET/RDRML Resource Consent Decision**

The Mayor and Cr Cameron left the meeting for this item from 2.53pm to 3.07pm.

1. **That** Council lodges a notice to join the Environment Court proceedings (ENV-2025-CHC022) between Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua and Environment Canterbury as an interested party under section 274 Resource Management Act 1991.
2. **That** Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive to sign any documentation related to the proceedings on behalf of Council, including any mediated settlement agreement (if any).

Lovett/Todd

Carried

Cr Mackle recorded his vote against the motion.

Council concluded at 3.08pm.

[Confirmed by Council on 18 June 2025]

MAYOR