
Council Minutes –21 May 2025

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 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 Phillippa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Emily Reed (Corporate Planner), Richard Mabon (Senior Policy Advisor), Tayyaba Latif (Policy Advisor), Lou Dunstan (Policy Advisor), Mark Chamberlain (Roading Manager), Renee Julius (Property Manager), Tania Paddock (Legal Counsel) and Hernando Marilla (Operations Manager).

8 members of the public attended.

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

The Mayor advised that Liz Krause is unable to attend today and the Kainga Ora presentation has been rescheduled for the 4 June Council meeting.

That pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 the following item be introduced as extraordinary business, to be taken with the public excluded as item 14:

- Ashburton Business Estate – verbal update – Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities

McMillan/Braam

Carried

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 7/05/25

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7 May 2025, be taken as read and confirmed.

Cameron/Todd

Carried

5 Rating Boundary Maps

1. **That** Council approves changes to Map 2 (Rural Amenity Rate Boundary) and Map 7 (Ashburton Urban Amenity Rates Boundary).
2. **That** Council approves the Rating Area Map Book 2025 with the changes to Maps 2 & 7.

Ellis/Lovett

Carried

6 Adoption of Annual Plan 2025-26

Council supported the Mayor's suggestion that a new \$10 fee be introduced for abandoned road cones. Officers were asked to develop a process to determine how abandoned cones will be identified.

That Council applies a \$10 fee for abandoned road cones.

Mayor/Cameron

Carried

In adopting the Annual Plan, Council agreed that having more detail on projects and how they are funded would be useful when budgets are presented next year.

1. **That** Council adopts the Ashburton District Council Annual Plan 2025/26 and sets the fees and charges for the 2025/26 year.
2. **That** Council delegates to the Chief Executive the authority and responsibility to make minor editorial changes and correction of minor errors to the Annual Plan 2025/26 document.

Mayor/McMillan

Carried

7 Setting of the Rates 2025/26

That Council sets the following rates under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on rating units in the district for the financial year commencing 1 July 2025 and ending on 30 June 2026.

All section references are to sections in the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. All amounts are GST inclusive.

- The definition of connected and serviceable is contained in Council's Funding Impact Statement – Rating Information.
- The definition of separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit is contained in Council's Funding Impact Statement – Rating Information.
- The definition for the amenity rating area is contained within Council's Funding Impact Statement – Rating Information.

Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)

A uniform annual general charge (UAGC) of \$853.70 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, set under section 15.

The UAGC funds wholly or in part the following activities of Council:

- Public Conveniences
- Community Grants & Funding
- Ashburton Library
- Ashburton Youth Council
- Council
- Community Safety
- Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum
- EA Networks Centre
- Emergency Management

General rate

A general rate set under section 13 of \$0.000407 per dollar of capital value of a rating unit in the district.

The general rate will be used to fund either wholly or in part the following activities of Council:

- Footpaths and Cycleways
- District Promotion
- Stormwater
- Solid Waste Management
- Emergency Management
- Environmental Health
- Cemeteries
- Stockwater Management
- Reserves and Campgrounds
- Elderly Persons Housing
- Business and Economic Development
- Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee
- Urban Beautification
- Alcohol Licensing & Gambling Venue Consenting
- Animal Control
- Building Regulation
- District Planning (including land information)
- District Plan (policy and development)
- Community Safety
- Rural Beautification

Roading rate

A targeted rate for road services set under section 16 of \$0.000512 per dollar of capital value on each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the district.

Water supply rates

The following differential targeted rates are set under section 16 for each water supply area listed below. In each case the differential categories are:

- a) Connected rating units
- b) Serviceable rating units

The differential targeted rates are set as a fixed amount per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit. Rating units outside the defined water supply areas listed below, but which are nonetheless connected to a water supply scheme servicing a particular water supply area, will be charged the connected rate for that water supply area.

Water supply area	Connected	Serviceable
Ashburton urban	\$741.50	\$370.75
Lake Hood	\$741.50	\$370.75
Methven	\$741.50	\$370.75
Rakaia	\$741.50	\$370.75
Fairton	\$741.50	\$370.75
Hakatere	\$741.50	\$370.75
Hinds	\$741.50	\$370.75
Mayfield	\$741.50	\$370.75

Chertsey	\$741.50	\$370.75
Mt Somers	\$741.50	\$370.75
Dromore	\$741.50	\$370.75
Methven -Springfield*	\$741.50	-
*No serviceable charges apply		

Water meters – Extraordinary and non-residential supply

In addition to the above targeted rates, a targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19, will apply for:

- a) Rating units which fall outside a defined water supply area, but which are nonetheless connected to a water supply scheme servicing a water supply area (except Montalto, Lyndhurst and Barrhill); or
- b) Rating units which are used for non-residential purposes, and which are connected to a water supply scheme in a water supply area (except Montalto, Lyndhurst and Barrhill).

The rate is \$1.00 per 1,000 litres of water consumed in excess of 90 cubic metres consumed in the quarterly periods during each year. The quarterly periods are 1 July to 30 September, 1 October to 31 December, 1 January to 31 March, and 1 April to 30 June. These properties will be billed quarterly

Water meters – Residential extraordinary supply

Defined as properties connected to the Council water supply network located in Residential D, or Rural A zones of the Ashburton District Plan; or Methven-Springfield rural water supply.

In addition to the above targeted rates, a targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19, will apply for:

- a) Rating units which fall outside a defined water supply area, but which are nonetheless connected to a water supply scheme servicing a water supply area (except Montalto, Lyndhurst and Barrhill); or
- b) Rating units which are used for non-residential purposes, and which are connected to a water supply scheme in a water supply area (except Montalto, Lyndhurst and Barrhill).

The rate is \$1.00 per 1,000 litres of water consumed in excess of 438 cubic metres per annum. The period is 1 July – 30 June. These properties will be billed annually.

Montalto water supply rate

A targeted rate under section 16 of \$2,252.00 per rating unit in the Montalto water supply scheme, plus \$75.30 per hectare of land in the Montalto water supply scheme.

Lyndhurst water supply rate

A targeted rate under section 16 of \$193.20 on all rating units connected to the Lyndhurst water supply.

Barrhill village water supply rate

A targeted rate under section 16 of \$391.60 on all rating units within the scheme boundary for the Barrhill Village water supply.

Residential wastewater disposal rates

The following differential targeted rates are set under section 16 for wastewater (sewage) disposal for the Ashburton urban area, Methven, and Rakaia townships, as listed below. In each case the differential categories are:

- a) Connected rating units
- b) Serviceable rating units

The targeted rates are set as a fixed amount per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit.

	Connected	Serviceable
Ashburton urban area	\$603.60	\$301.80
Methven township	\$603.60	\$301.80
Rakaia township	\$603.60	\$301.80

The following additional targeted rates are set under section 16 for wastewater disposal on connected rating units (other than those rating units used primarily as a residence) within the Ashburton urban area, Methven and Rakaia townships as listed below. These rates are set differentially based on location and the number of urinals / pans in excess of three, in each rating unit, as listed below.

	Urinal / pan charge from 4+
Ashburton urban area	\$201.20
Methven	\$201.20
Rakaia	\$201.20

Solid waste collection rates

The following rates are set under section 16 for waste collection for each area to which the service is provided as listed below. The targeted rates are set as a fixed amount per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit.

Ashburton urban	\$276.30
Ashburton CBD (inner)	\$428.60
Methven	\$276.30
Rakaia	\$276.30
Hinds	\$276.30
Mayfield	\$276.30
Mt Somers	\$276.30
Chertsey	\$276.30
Fairton	\$276.30
Lake Clearwater	\$160.20
Rangitata Huts	\$162.20
Ashburton District extended	\$276.30

Stockwater rate

A targeted rate under section 16 on all rating units within the general stockwater scheme. The rate is to be determined in accordance with the following factors:

- a) A rate of \$700.00 per rating unit within the general stockwater scheme; and
- b) For those rating units where the total length of any stockwater races, aqueducts or water channels that pass through, along or adjacent to, or abuts the rating unit exceeds 246 metres in length an additional rate of 65 cents per metre will be applied.

Amenity rates

Targeted rates for amenity services under section 16 are as follows:

Ashburton CBD (inner) footpath cleaning rate

\$0.000503 per dollar on the capital value of each business rating unit within the Ashburton CBD (inner) rating area (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book), for footpath services.

Ashburton urban amenity rate

\$0.000724 per dollar of capital value of each rating unit in the Ashburton urban area (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book) to meet the costs of stormwater services, footpaths, and parks and open spaces.

Ashburton business amenity rate

\$0.000250 per dollar of capital value of each business rating unit within the Ashburton urban area (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book) for the provision of public conveniences, and district promotion.

Methven business amenity rate

\$0.000306 per dollar on the capital value of each business rating unit within the Methven township area (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book) for the purposes of public conveniences, and district promotion.

Methven amenity rate

\$0.000473 per dollar on the capital value of each rating unit within the Methven township (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book) to meet the costs of stormwater services, footpaths, parks and open spaces, and reserve boards.

Rakaia business amenity rate

\$0.000258 per dollar on the capital value of each business rating unit within the Rakaia township area (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book) for the provision of public conveniences, and district promotion.

Rakaia amenity rate

\$0.000387 per dollar on the capital value of every rating unit within the Rakaia township (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book) to meet the costs of stormwater services, footpaths, parks and open spaces, and reserve boards.

Hinds stormwater rate

\$0.000103 per dollar on the capital value of every rating unit within the Hinds township area for the provision of stormwater services.

Rural amenity rate

\$0.000036 per dollar on the capital value of every rating unit within the rural area, for the provision of footpaths, and parks and open spaces.

Methven Community Board rate

A targeted rate to fund the Methven Community Board under section 16 of \$115.20 per rating unit within the Methven township (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book).

Mt Hutt Memorial Hall rate

A targeted rate to partially fund the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall under section 16 of \$0.000128 per dollar on the capital value of each rating unit in the Methven township (as more particularly described by reference to the Ashburton District Council Rating Areas Map Book).

Due dates for payment of rates

The rates will be payable in four equal instalments due on:

- 20 August 2025
- 20 November 2025
- 20 February 2026
- 20 May 2026

Where the 20th of a month in which rates are due does not fall on a working day, rate payments will be accepted without penalty up to and including the first working day after the 20th of that month.

Due dates for payment of water meter charges – Extraordinary Supplies

That water meter charges are due on:

Quarterly period	Reading dates completed	Due date
1 July to 30 September 2025	15 October 2025	20 November 2025
1 October to 31 December 2025	15 January 2026	20 February 2026
1 January to 31 March 2026	15 April 2026	20 May 2026
1 April to 30 June 2026	15 July 2026	20 August 2026

Due dates for payment of water meter charges – Extraordinary residential supply

That water meter charges are due on:

Annual period	Reading date completed	Invoice date
1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026	15 July 2026	20 August 2026

Penalties

In accordance with sections 57 and 58, the Council will apply the following penalties on rates unpaid by the due date.

A 10% penalty will be added to instalment balances remaining unpaid as at the following dates:

- 21 August 2025
- 21 November 2025

- 21 February 2026
- 21 May 2026

In addition, unpaid rates and charges levied prior to 30 June 2026 will attract a further 10% penalty if still unpaid as at 1 July 2026. The penalty will be applied on 31 August 2026.

A further penalty of 10% will be added to any rates that were assessed prior to 30 June 2026 and remain unpaid on 28 February 2027.

Cameron/Lovett

Carried

8 Local Water Done Well – Service Delivery Option

That Council adopts the Stand Alone Business Unit (SABU) as the delivery model for Council's Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP) for the future delivery of water services in Ashburton District.

Cameron/Todd

Carried

(Carried unanimously)

9 Water Races Bylaw – Adopt Draft for Public Consultation

1. **That** Council, having considered the tests under s. 155 of the Local Government Act 2002, determines that the preferred course of action is to make the Water Races Bylaw 2025.
2. **That** Council confirms that the draft Water Races Bylaw 2025 set out in Appendix 1 is the preferred form of bylaw for public consultation.

McMillan/Braam

Carried

10 Draft Climate Change & Sustainability Strategy and Consultation Document

That Council approves the draft Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy for public consultation from 26 May to 18 June 2025.

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

11 Lake Hood Water Quality Issues

Officers have identified the need to focus on getting more water through the lake and better understanding cyanobacteria and the lake's infrastructure and cyanobacteria. Council will continue to be updated through the Activity Briefing report.

That Council receives this report.

Ellis/Braam

Carried

12 Mayor's Report

That the Mayor's report be received.

Mayor/Cameron

Carried

Welcome to Staff - 3.03pm.

Katie Perry, People & Capability Manager, introduced new staff – Arti Kadian (GIS analyst), Carolyn Couchman (Customer Service Officer), Louisa Hormann (Curator, Social History) and Stuart Nicholson (Building Official).

Council acknowledged the long service of Amanda Watson, Deborah Anderson, Gene Moore, Jenny Soal and Karen Nieman who have each completed 10 years, and Katelyn Roddy-Dixon (5 years).

Business transacted with the public excluded 3.10pm.

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:	
12	Council 7/05/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forestry land• Land purchase• Glasgow lease• People & Capability report• ACL quarterly report	Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities Commercial activities Commercial activities Protection of privacy of natural persons Commercial activities
13	Award of Solid Waste Contract	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
14	Extraordinary business – Ashburton Business Estate	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

McMillan/Wilson

Carried

Council adjourned for afternoon tea from 3.10pm to 3.30pm.

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **Award of Contract REFU0343 Solid Waste Services**
- 1. **That** Council awards the Solid Waste Services Contract (REFU0343) to WasteCo Limited in the amount of Forty Million, Three Hundred and Twenty One Thousand, Six Hundred and Eighty Seven Dollars (\$40,321,687), excluding GST and cost fluctuation payments.
- 2. **That** the duration of the contract will be nine (9) years, with a possible nine (9) year extension at Council's discretion.

Braam/Ellis

Carried

A division was called –

Supporting the motion: Crs Braam, Ellis, Cameron, Hooper, Lovett and Wilson

Against the motion: Mayor & Crs Mackle, McMillan and Todd

Council concluded at 5.00pm.

[Confirmed by Council 4 June 2025]

MAYOR