

Council Minutes – 6 September 2023

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 6 September 2023, commencing at 1pm in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

Present

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

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Leanne Macdonald (GM Business Support), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Sarah Mosley (GM People & Facilities), Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Janice McKay (Communications Manager) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Mark Smith (Corridor Manager-Roading), Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Femke van der Valk (Policy Advisor), Tayyaba Latif (Policy Advisor), Ann Smith (Community Liaison Officer), Richard Wood (Sport & Recreation Manager), Ellen Nichol (Stadium & Aquatics Manager), Michael Wong (Building Regulation Manager), Rick Catchpole (Environmental Monitoring Manager) and Hernando Marillo (Projects Manager).

1 Apologies

Cr Rob Mackle

Sustained

2 Extraordinary Business

The Mayor gave notice that the EA Shareholder Committee presentation will be taken in open meeting.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

Presentations

Hekeao Hinds Water Enhancement Trust – 2.22pm-3.02pm

EA Shareholder Committee – 3.22pm-3.34pm

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 23/08/23

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 August 2023, be taken as read and confirmed.

Cameron/Lovett

Carried

5 Rakaia wastewater treatment plant

That Council approves:

1. Construction of wastewater sludge drying beds at the Rakaia wastewater treatment plant on Acton Road, Rakaia in the 2023/24 financial year with a budget provision of \$2.5M excluding GST;

2. A carryover of the \$3.14M established for the Grit Chamber Pipeline Renewal project in the 2022/23 year, to cover the remaining design, and consenting works of the grit chamber project, and the sludge drying bed budget provision; and
3. Reprogramming the physical works phase of the Grit Chamber Pipeline Renewal project for construction in the 2024/25 financial year.

Ellis/Cameron

Lost

The recommendation wasn't fully supported. Councillors opposed agreed there was insufficient information to make a decision. It was considered there may be more appropriate, and less costly options than disposing the sludge to landfill.

The Chief Executive suggested that officers provide an outline of alternative options with an assessment of capital and operational costs.

That Council requests officers to report with alternative options for the disposal of the Rakaia WWTP sludge, that are less costly than \$2.5m, with this to be considered in a Council workshop.

Mayor/Todd

Carried

6 **Road closure – Standing quarter mile meeting, Blands Road**

That Council permits the temporary road closure of Blands Road from Dip Road to the Methven Highway from 9.00am on Saturday 9 September 2023 until 4.30pm on Saturday 9 September 2023 to allow the Standing Quarter Mile Meeting.

Lovett/Todd

Carried

7 **Representation Review and electoral system**

1. **That** Council continues to use the First Past the Post (FPP) electoral system, noting that this will apply for the 2025 local election.
2. **That** Council gives public notice no later than 19 September 2023 of the resolution passed under section 27 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system.

Braam/McMillan

Carried

8 **Ashburton Santa Parade**

1. **That** Council revokes the decision to grant \$4,000 of Community Event funding 2023/2024 for the Ashburton Santa Parade for Sunday 3 December 2023.
2. **That** Council approves the application for \$4,000 of Community Event funding 2023/2024 for the Ashburton Santa Parade for Saturday 2 December 2023.

Wilson/McMillan

Carried

9 **Tinwald community pool**

1. **That** Council agrees not to operate the Tinwald Pool for the 23/24 season.
2. **That** the long-term plan process will determine whether or not the Tinwald Pool rebuild project commences.

Braam/Todd

Carried

10 **Building Regulation service delivery review**

1. **That** Council receives the Building Regulation section 17A review, as attached in Appendix 1.
2. **That** Council continues to deliver the Building Regulation service in-house.

McMillan/Ellis

Carried

11 Dog control annual report

1. **That** the report be received.
2. **That** Council give public notice of the report and make it publicly available.

Cameron/Hooper

Carried

12 District Licensing Committee annual report

1. **That** the report be received.
2. **That** the report be posted on the Ashburton District Council website.
3. **That** the report be submitted to the Secretary for the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority by 30 September 2023.

Lovett/Braam

Carried

13 Councillors' reports

That Council receives the Deputy Mayor's report.

McMillan/Ellis

Carried

14 Mayor's Report

That Council receives the Mayor's report.

Mayor/McMillan

Carried

Hekeao Hinds Water Enhancement Trust

Peter Lowe and Brett Painter provided a progress report the Trust's activities and initiatives (ppt presentation).

Council adjourned for afternoon tea from 3.06pm to 3.22pm.

Electricity Ashburton Shareholder Committee

Robert Newlands, Anne Marrett and Tony Potts provided an update, including recent changes to the Shareholder Committee membership. Robert has replaced Ian Cullimore, who stood down from the Committee and Stuart Begg has been recently elected. Council noted that the Company's Chief Executive, Roger Sutton has announced his resignation.

The Shareholder Committee has identified there is a need to find a way to attract more local people into governance roles. The Board's constitution allows two directors from outside and four within the district. The challenge is to grow governance talent within the district.

Business transacted with the public excluded – 3.34pm

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:	
15	Council 23/08/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Methven water treatment plant• ACL report	Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities Commercial activities

16	Ocean Farm – removal of standing grass	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
17	EA Shareholder Committee	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Braam/McMillan

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **Removal of standing grass at Ocean Farm**

That Council approves the extension of Contract WWAT0176 Removal of Standing Grass at Ocean Farm for one harvest period at the rate of \$0.12 (twelve cents) per kg of dry matter from October 2023 to April 2024.

Ellis/Todd

Carried

The meeting concluded at 3.42pm.

[Confirmed by Council on 20 September 2023]

MAYOR