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## ***Council Minutes – 20 August 2025***

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 20 August 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: Tania Paddock (General Counsel), Jacqui Watson (Senior Legal Counsel), Mark Chamberlain (Roading Manager) and Erin Register (Finance Manager).

### **Presentations**

NZTA – 1.05pm-1.25pm

Tuia – 2.05pm-2.15pm

ACL – 3.48pm-4.15pm

### **1 Apologies**

Nil.

### **2 Extraordinary Business**

Nil.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

Nil.

### **4 Confirmation of Minutes – 6/08/25**

**That** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 August 2025, be taken as read and confirmed.

McMillan/Hooper

Carried

### **5 Audit & Risk Committee – 30/07/25**

**That** Council receives the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 30 July 2025.

Cameron/Ellis

Carried

- **Bancorp Treasury Report**

1. **That** Council receives the Bancorp Treasury report for the June 2025 quarter.
2. **That** Council approves the establishment of a line of credit facility to meet liquidity requirements required by Council's Treasury Policy for the most favourable option available.

Cameron/Lovett

Carried

## 6 **Three Waters Committee – 30/07/25**

**That** Council receives the minutes of the Three Waters Committee meeting held on 30 July 2025.

Ellis/McMillan

Carried

- **Keenans Road watermain extension**

**That** Council approves:

1. the construction and initial funding of a water network extension in Seafield Road, Southpark Road and Keenans Road, as shown in the plan in Appendix Three to this report;
2. the part recovery of the construction cost through lump sum contributions from the connecting landowners (totalling an estimated \$45,990 exclusive of GST); and
3. recovery of the balance of the construction costs from each property as they connect to the watermain in future (estimated at \$9,198 exclusive GST, and to be indexed to inflation), with this charge to be incorporated into the 2026-27 Annual Plan.

Lovett/McMillan

Carried

## 7 **Biodiversity Advisory Group – 4/08/25**

**That** the minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group meeting held on 4 August 2025, be taken as read and confirmed.

Braam/Wilson

Carried

## **NZTA – Second Ashburton bridge (2AB)**

Rich Osborne and Albert Chan provided an update on second Ashburton bridge project, the key issues being –

- Procurement – preferred early contractor involvement process is to be completed by September and the design and construct contract to be awarded at the end of the calendar year at which time there will be more detail on timelines and where costs will fall.
- Environmental – resource consent and DOC obligations are being met in respect to the braided river nesting birds and lizard protection and archaeological authority has been granted for both parts of the project. The regional resource consent will be lodged over the next two weeks and alteration to the designation will be undertaken by the end of the year (with input from the preferred ECI contractor).
- Geotechnical – around 20 boreholes completed in and around the river with samples being tested. Testing existing roads and paddocks was completed in May.
- Upcoming – working through principal requirements and remaining statutory approvals, finalising property acquisition and will work with preferred ECI contractor to find ways to accelerate the work programme such as early or enabling work.
- Community information session – Thursday 11 September between 3.30pm – 6.30pm at the Event Space, Te Whare Whakare, Ashburton Library & Civic Centre.

## 8 Water Services Delivery Plan Adoption

Officers tabled an update to page 8 of the Plan, noting the additional comment that there will be continued outsourcing of projects for design to external consultants, and that day to day operations of water services will continue to be contracted out.

**That** Council:

- a) Notes the Chief Executive agrees to certification of the Water Services Delivery Plan; and
- b) Adopts the attached Water Services Delivery Plan for submission to the Secretary for Local Government.

Todd/Braam

Carried

The Water Services Delivery Plan was adopted unanimously and will now be submitted to the Secretary of Local Government for review and acceptance.

## 9 Grant of Easements on Reserve – Bridge Street, Ashburton

1. **That** Council approves the granting of a right of way easement and a right to convey water easement over Lot 8 Deposited Plan 13457 (being Local Purpose (Road) Reserve) at Bridge Street, Ashburton in favour of Lot 1 Deposited Plan 614133 (Record of Title 1224085) subject to section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977.
2. **That** Council agrees that the notification of the intention to grant the easement is not required, as the statutory test in section 48(3) of the Reserves Act 1977 is met, for the reasons set out in the report.
3. **That** Council exercises the authority delegated to administering bodies by the Minister of Conservation for the granting of an easement over reserve land.
4. **That** Council authorises the Chief Executive to sign all documentation in connection with the registration of the easement.

Lovett/Hooper

Carried

## 10 Road Closure – Ashburton Car Club Gravel Bent Sprint

Following public notice of the road closure, no objections were received.

**That** Council permits the temporary closure of a portion of Le Bretons Road and Chertsey Road on Saturday, 13 September 2025 from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm to allow the Gravel Bent Sprint Meeting to be held.

Cameron/Ellis

Carried

## 11 Financial Variance Report – (Preliminary) 30 June 2025

- Parks borrowing – officers to provide a break-down of what the \$5.8m relates to.

**That** Council receives the 31 May 2025 financial variance report.

Cameron/Braam

Carried

## Ashburton District Tuia

The Mayor welcomed Tayla Argyle, the current Tuia representative for Ashburton district, who was invited to talk about her experiences at wānanga (courses) she attended this year in Hamilton and Rotorua.

Tayla spoke positively about the Tuia leadership programme which has helped her identify her strengths and weaknesses and has given her a sense of connection and purpose. Tayla concluded by thanking the Mayor and Council for the support she has been given in the role.

### Welcome to staff – 2.15pm

Katie Perry, People & Capability Manager, introduced new staff – Richard Ward (Property Maintenance Officer) and Gordon Cruickshank (Financial Performance Manager).

Council also acknowledged the long service of Community Liaison Officer Ann Smith (10 years).

Council adjourned for afternoon tea from 2.18pm to 3pm.

### Business transacted with the public excluded 2.18pm.

**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 6/08/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RDRML Land</li> </ul> [Now in open meeting] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reserve contribution – green strip at 61 Albert St</li> <li>Financial systems &amp; reporting resource</li> </ul>	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
13	Audit & Risk Cmte 30/07/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health &amp; Safety report</li> </ul>	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
14	Three Waters Cmte 30/07/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tradewaste</li> </ul>	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
15	People & Capability Report	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
16	EA Shareholders Committee	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
17	Land purchase	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
18	Land purchase	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
19	ACL quarterly update	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

McMillan/Hooper

Carried

### Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- EA Shareholder Committee appointment**

**That** Council reappoints David Ward to the Electricity Ashburton Shareholders Committee for a further three year term expiring at the Company's annual meeting in 2028.

Braam/Todd

Carried

Council concluded at 4.25pm.

**[Confirmed by Council on 3 September 2025]**

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MAYOR