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## ***Council Minutes – 5 February 2025***

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 5 February 2025, commencing at 1.00pm in the Hine Paaka Council Chamber, Te Whare Whakatere, 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), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Ian Hyde (GM Compliance & Development), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Sarah Mosley (GM People & Facilities), Tania Paddock (Acting GM Business Support) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Tayyaba Latif (Policy Advisor), Lou Dunstan (Policy Advisor), Brad Thomson (District Planning Manager), Ravi Trevedi (Asset Engineer Roothing), Poppy Surridge (Applications Officer), Erin Register (Finance Manager), Katie Perry (People & Capability Manager), Renee Julius (Property Manager) and Michelle Hydes (Property Advisor).

### **1 Apologies**

Nil.

### **2 Extraordinary Business**

Nil.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

*Item 13* – Cr Wilson declared an interest and gave notice that he will leave the meeting for this item.

### **4 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **- Council – 18/12/24**

**That** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 December 2024, be taken as read and confirmed.

Lovett/Cameron

Carried

### **5 Submission – Resource Management Amendment Bill**

Council asked for some minor changes to be made to the draft submission which will be updated and circulated for feedback before 10 February.

- Paragraphs 8, 42 & 43 – reference to gas pipelines removed
- Paragraph 20 – Council would expect to be consulted and have assurance there is sufficient monitoring if the discharging into receiving waters change comes through. The submission will request that consents be publicly notified to allow Council opportunity to provide feedback.

- Paragraph 29 – updated statistics to include the most recent GDP data for 2023-24 and added dairy payout information.
- Paragraph 37 – reference to the Lauriston Solar Farm rephrased to ‘one of the largest’.

A suggestion from Cr Cameron that the comment in respect to heritage buildings be amended wasn’t fully supported and paragraph 62 will remain.

**That** Council approves the submission to the Environment Select Committee on the Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Bill, as amended and attached in Appendix 1.

Todd/Hooper

Carried

Cr Cameron recorded her vote against the motion

## 6 Service Delivery Review – Transportation

1. **That** Council receives the Transportation section 17A review, as attached in Appendix 1.
2. **That** Council continues to deliver the transportation activity through the status quo approach of combination of in-house and contracted services.

Wilson/Braam

Carried

## 7 Review of Council Delegations (LocoDelegations)

**That** the matter lies on the table, pending a Delegations workshop.

McMillan/Cameron

carried

## 8 Elected Members’ Remuneration 2025-26

**That** Council receives the Remuneration Authority (elected member remuneration 2025-2026) report.

Lovett/Todd

Carried

## 9 Art Gallery & Museum Mechanical Plant Relocation

Officers acknowledged the feedback and time given by the six individual landowners whose views have helped form the options presented.

Council noted that the recommended location for the construction of the new mechanical plant enclosure, to the east of the existing building, is considered to be least impactful to neighbours.

This option wasn’t fully supported. Councillors speaking against agreed that the alternative option, with the enclosure located in line with the existing building, has more aesthetic appeal as it retains the mature tree that would otherwise be removed and avoids the need to narrow the footpath.

**That** Council resolves to build the new mechanical plant enclosure for the Ashburton Art Gallery & Heritage Centre to the east of the building (Option 2), subject to obtaining the necessary statutory consents and approvals required to construct the enclosure within the area proposed.

McMillan/Ellis

## Amendment

**That** Council resolves to build the new mechanical plant enclosure for the Ashburton Art Gallery & Heritage Centre to the north of the building (Option 1), subject to obtaining the necessary statutory consents and approvals required to construct the enclosure within the area proposed.

Cameron/Braam

Carried

The amendment became the substantive motion and was passed on a show of hands (6 for and 4 against)

## **10 Road Closure – Ashburton Car Club Gravel Street Sprint**

**That** Council permits the closure of Upper Downs Road, Mt Somers, from Quarry Road to approximately 518 Upper Downs Road from 8.00am Saturday 15 February 2025 until 6.00pm the same day, to allow the Gravel Sprint event to take place.

Hooper/Lovett

Carried

## **11 Financial Variance Report – December 2024**

Further information sought –

- Show separate payment to staff / supplier expenditure (activity briefing report)
- Transportation variance – explanation to be provided showing effect of carry-over expenditure on the variation (activity briefing report)
- Forestry – explanation on the anticipated harvest that is unlikely to occur in this financial year to be reported to Council.

**That** Council receives the December 2024 financial variance report.

Cameron/McMillan

Carried

## **Business transacted with the public excluded – 2.06pm**

**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:

<b>Item No</b>	<b>General subject of each matter to be considered:</b>	<b>In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:</b>	
<b>12</b>	People & Capability Report	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
<b>13</b>	Land acquisition	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Ellis/McMillan

Carried

Council resumed in open meeting at 2.43pm.

## **Welcome to Staff**

Katie Perry, People & Capability Manager, introduced Shanon Williams, recently appointed as Horticulturist in the Open Spaces team.

Council also acknowledged 5 years' long service of Tayla Hampton (Data Management Officer).

Council adjourned for afternoon tea and concluded at 2.46pm.

**[Confirmed by Council 19 February 2025]**

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MAYOR