

Council Minutes – 25 July 2023

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 25 July 2023, commencing at 9am 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 and Richard Wilson.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Leanne Macdonald (GM Business Support), Sarah Mosley (GM People & Facilities), Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Tayyaba Latif (Policy Advisor), Simon Worthington (Economic Development Manager), Hernando Marilla (Operations Manager) and Justin Bloomfield (Operations & Services Officer).

1 Apologies

Crs Rob Mackle and Tony Todd

Carried

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Item 7 –Crs Hooper and Braam, as members of the Tinwald Reserve Board, both declared an interest and gave notice that they will withdraw from debate and decision on this matter.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 28/06/23

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 28 June 2023, be taken as read and confirmed.

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

5 Audit & Risk Committee – 21/06/23

That Council receives the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 21 June 2023.

Ellis/Cameron

Carried

6 New Library & Civic Building – parking time restrictions

1. **That** as shown on the attached plan, Council introduces;

- (i) A time restriction of 30 minutes for five of the angle parks opposite the new building and 60 minutes for the remaining 13 angle parks;
- (ii) a time restriction of 10 minutes for one park on Havelock Street between the kerb build-out and the coach/loading zone;
- (iii) a time restriction of 120 minutes for the five parks along Havelock Street adjacent to the new building.

2. **That** Council reviews the above parking time restrictions after the new building has been operational for 12 months.

[Amended 9/08/23 Cr Lovett as mover]

Lovett/Braam

A suggestion to review all of the CBD parking after 12 months of the new building becoming operational was generally supported. Councillors speaking in support acknowledged that there may be some unintended consequences resulting from the new building's parking proposal and reassessing in 12 months will have the benefit of parking warden and public feedback.

Councillors opposed had concerns that a full review is likely to further restrict parking and negatively impact retailers and businesses in the CBD who are already faced with the challenge of high vacancy rates.

Amendment

1. **That** as shown on the attached plan, Council introduces;
 - (i) A time restriction of 30 minutes for five of the angle parks opposite the new building and 60 minutes for the remaining 13 angle parks;
 - (ii) a time restriction of 10 minutes for one park on Havelock Street between the kerb build-out and the coach/loading zone;
 - (iii) a time restriction of 120 minutes for the five parks along Havelock Street adjacent to the new building.
2. **That** Council reviews all time restricted parking within the Ashburton CBD after the new building has been operational for 12 months.

Ellis/Lovett

Carried

The amendment became the substantive motion and was carried.

Cr Cameron and Cr Wilson recorded their votes against the amendment.

7 Use of Reserve Contributions

Crs Braam and Hooper withdrew from the debate and decision.

• Chertsey School playground

Council wouldn't support a new playground being developed on the reserve land at Chertsey, due to its location on the state highway, but acknowledged that reserve contributions shouldn't be used to fund play equipment on Ministry of Education land.

1. **That** Council declines to fund the Chertsey School Playground project from the Council's reserve contributions account; and
2. **That** Council requests an Officer's report on the feasibility and cost of developing an alternative playground in Chertsey, with this to be considered through the LTP process.

Cameron/Ellis

Carried

• Tinwald Domain Disc Golf

1. **That** Council approves funding of \$15,000 from the reserves contributions account for the Tinwald Domain Disc Golf course.

Cameron/Ellis

Carried

8 Bike Skills Park location

1. **That** Council approves the development of a Bike Skills Park on the Ashburton Domain in and around the existing pump track next to the playground.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

9 Service Delivery Review – Economic Development

1. **That** Council receives the Economic Development section 17A review, as in Appendix 1.
2. **That** Council continues to deliver the Economic Development service in-house.
3. **That** progress reporting on Economic Development be done through activity briefings and six-monthly reporting on the Economic Development Strategy Action Plan.
4. **That** a high-level third party desktop review of the Economic Development service delivery is recommended prior to the LTP 2027-37.
5. **That** the Long Term Plan (2024/34) include budget for a service delivery review by a third party.

Cameron/McMillan

Carried

10 Ashburton and Rakaia resource recovery fees and charges

1. **That** Council approves increasing the minimum charges for residual waste at the Ashburton and Rakaia resource recovery parks to account for the Government's \$20 waste levy increase, and the increase in Transwaste's transport charges to the Kate Valley landfill; and
2. **That** effective from 1 July 2023 the following charges will apply:

Ashburton & Rakaia resource recovery park fees	1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024	1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024
Residual waste minimum charge (up to 40kg)	\$8.00	\$9.00
Residual waste minimum charge (40 – 80kg)	\$19.00	\$23.00
Residual waste minimum charge (80 – 120kg)	\$33.00	\$39.00
Residual waste loads over 120kg (rate per tonne)	\$301.00	\$344.00

Braam/Lovett

Carried

11 Affordable Waters Reform

The Deputy Mayor suggested that Council may want to delay making a decision on its preferred date for *Entity I* to start and give the Canterbury and West Coast councils time to meet and develop a collective view. This approach was discussed at an online meeting of the C4LD aligned councils which she joined on 21 July where it was agreed to invite the West Coast councils to attend the Mayoral Forum on 25 August.

The Mayor commented that agreeing to a date would signal that Council is willing to join the new Entity, but Council remains opposed to the 3Waters Reform. He suggested that Council should wait until after the October elections before making any further decision on the proposed 1 April 2025 start date, as a change of government will bring new rules.

The Chief Executive advised that Council needs to express an opinion now, rather than later. He cautioned that delaying could result in Council being unable to influence the start date for *Entity I* and it will make it difficult for the Mayor to present ADC's view to the Mayoral Forum. Supporting the 1 April 2025 date would provide certainty for affected staff and would also enable three waters to be taken out of the LTP 2024-34.

Councillors in support of delaying the decision shared a view that supporting the establishment of *Entity I* : Canterbury / West Coast on 1 April 2025 would imply support for the reforms. Others commented that a date should be set, as late as possible.

That the matter lies on the table until the Council meeting on 18 October 2023.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

12 Deputy Mayor's report

The Mayor recorded his thanks to the Deputy Mayor for her support and attendance at a number of meetings and events while he was on leave in July.

That Council receives the Deputy Mayor's report.

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

- **Flood event**

Council received a brief update on the status of road closures throughout the district following the weekend's flood event. The Assets Manager reported that approximately 40 roads were closed and are being reopened once deemed safe.

Business transacted with the public excluded – 10.44am

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:	
13	Council 28/06/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Library & Civic Centre PCG 13/06/23• EPH – Friendship Lane	Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities Commercial activities
14	Audit & Risk Committee 21/06/23	Sections 7(2)(a) & (h)	Protection of privacy of natural persons Commercial activities
15	Executive Committee 5/07/23	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
16	EA Networks Centre masterplan	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Braam/Hooper

Carried

The meeting concluded at 11.15am.

[Confirmed by Council 9 August 2023]

MAYOR