
Council Minutes – 17 November 2021

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 17 November 2021, 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, John Falloon, Rodger Letham, Lynette Lovett, Angus McKay, Diane Rawlinson and Stuart Wilson.

In attendance

Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure Services), Paul Brake (GM Business Support), Jane Donaldson (GM Strategy & Compliance), Steve Fabish (GM Community Services), Sarah Mosley (Manager People & Capability), Ruben Garcia (Communications Manager) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Toni Durham (Strategy & Policy Manager), Emily Reed (Corporate Planner), Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Hernando Marilla (Operations Manager), Erin Register (Finance Manager) and Ian Hyde (Planning Manager).

6 members of the public attended for part of the meeting.

Presentations

(Public Forum) Ross Road – 2.19pm-2.35pm

Ashburton Police – 2.35pm-2.56pm

(Public Forum) Redcliffs Station bridge – 3.30pm-3.52pm

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Item 11 – The Mayor declared an interest and gave notice he will withdraw from the meeting for the duration of this item and the Deputy Mayor will take the chair.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 3/11/21

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 3 November 2021, be taken as read and confirmed.

McMillan/Letham

Carried

5 Biodiversity Advisory Group – 2/11/21

That Council receives the minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group meeting held on 2 November 2021.

Letham/Lovett

Carried

6 Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee – 2/11/21

Council heard that an agreement is in place with Waka Kotahi to have contractors helicoptered in to assist with traffic management in the event that the Rakaia (SH1) bridge becomes unpassable.

It was noted that the traffic management plan has failed to be implemented on three recent occasions, most recently when Police had to man the bridge for around four hours after an accident.

Council supported the Mayor's suggestion to write to Waka Kotahi expressing Council's dissatisfaction and seeking assurance that future events will be dealt with in accordance with the agreement.

That Council receives the minutes of the Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee meeting held on 2 November 2021.

Rawlinson/Lovett

Carried

7 Audit & Risk Committee – 10/11/21

That Council receives the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 10 November 2021.

Braam/Falloon

Carried

8 Methven Cemetery clean-up funding

1. **That** the Council receives the report.
2. **That** Council completes the site clean-up and future extension work at Methven Cemetery; and
3. **That** this work be funded from net log sales of \$20,000 along with the Methven Cemetery cost centre incurring up to \$70,000 in an operating deficit for the 2021/22 financial year.

McMillan/Braam

Carried

9 Ashburton District Parking Strategy and Ashburton Town Centre Parking Management Plan

- Minor changes agreed (removing “potential” from the second bridge reference and noting the Rakaia charging station for EVs is beside the “Salmon Site”).
- Council will be further updated on the proposal to include age-related parking when the Mobility Parking Policy is reviewed. It's not intended to fundamentally change parks but the time limit may be extended for over 80's.
- Parking issues raised during the CBD upgrade will be addressed in the final audit of that project.
- The Parking Strategy is at a high level and greater detail will be shown in the more frequently updated management plan.

1. **That** Council adopts the Ashburton District Parking Strategy.
2. **That** Council adopts the Ashburton Town Centre Parking Management Plan and the summary document.

Braam/Letham

Carried

10 Regional Waste Minimisation Co-ordination in Canterbury

1. **That** Council endorses Environment Canterbury being invited to become a member of the Canterbury Waste Joint Committee and being approached to host the position within their staff structure.
2. **That** Council approves the increase in Council's contribution to the regional waste minimisation fund from \$5,835.20 to \$10,552.73 for the creation of a new staff position, and that this amount is adjusted annually for inflation.

McMillan/Cameron

AMENDMENT

1. **That** Council endorses Environment Canterbury being invited to become a member of the Canterbury Waste Joint Committee and being approached to host the position within their staff structure.
2. **That** Council approves the increase in Council's contribution to the regional waste minimisation fund from \$5,835.20 to \$10,552.73 for the creation of a new staff position for a period of two years only.

Falloon/Letham

Carried

The Amendment became the substantive motion and was put and carried.

Cr McKay recorded his vote against the motion.

11 Results of Stockwater Provision Trial 2 – Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation Ltd Scheme

The Mayor withdrew from table and the Deputy Mayor took the Chair for item 11.

That in accordance with the recommendation from the Water Race Network Advisory Group at their 1 October meeting, Council endorses Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation Limited as the preferred supplier of stockwater within their scheme command area.

Wilson/Rawlinson

Carried

12 Financial Variance Reports

That Council receives the financial variance reports for August and September 2021.

Falloon/Cameron

Carried

Public Forum – 2.19pm – 2.35pm.

Jock Ross asked Council to consider renaming a section of Mill Road as “Ross Road” to reflect his family’s connection to the Lagmhor district. An earlier application was declined due to the identically named “Ross Road” in the Mayfield / Ruapuna district. He was supported by Alison Barrett and Linton Ross, descendants of George Ross for whom Ross Road (Mayfield) is named. Their support includes a proposal to rename Ross Road as “George Ross Road”.

Council heard that there are no other households on either the existing or proposed Ross Road and this would reduce the likelihood of confusion in the event that emergency services had to be called.

The presenters were thanked and advised that officers will be asked to prepare a report in 2022 to consider the request for the road name changes. The Ross families will be notified when the report is presented to Council.

Ashburton Police

Senior Sergeant Leigh Jenkins was welcomed to meeting at 2.35pm and invited to update Council on policing activities in the Ashburton district.

- Staffing – approximately 45 sworn and 2 non-sworn currently plus a Sergeant position available (currently backfilled from Christchurch) and the possibility of an Intel Officer being relocated to Ashburton.
- The biggest challenge currently is retention of staff with older staff entering into retirement and new recruits coming in.
- One family harm officer (reporting through Timaru/Christchurch team) which operates out of Christchurch alongside with partner agencies.
- AOS from Christchurch and Timaru.
- Spike in crime recently (vehicle break-ins with offenders from Christchurch apprehended). BAU currently.
- Police want an indicator of where areas of concern are and where to deploy staff. Pushing message through radio / media for people to report crime. There’s not the issue of Police being unable to investigate all reports in this district.

- While it's not possible to call the Ashburton Police directly, phones are answered as soon as practicable and the call taker redirects to the relevant area. (Dial 105 for non-emergencies).
- Neighbourhood Support and Safer Community agencies are very useful for the Police.
- CBD speed limit – Mayor noted the Business Association are seeing people not used to the 30km speed reduction – can the Police reinforce this?
- Confirmed – Police will use speed detectors and an education programme initially. Will put this onto targeting patrol.
- Police call on local security firms when they need to but regular meetings are not held currently.

Welcome to staff – 2.56pm

Sarah Mosley, Manager People & Capability, acknowledged the long service of Letitia Smart (Horticulturalist Team Leader) - 5 years, Lynn McGregor (Learn to Swim Instructor) - 5 years, and Carla Verberne (Library Assistant) – 15 years.

New staff introduced – Danielle Campbell (Art Gallery & Museum Deputy Director) and Mark Chamberlain (Roading Manager).

Council adjourned for afternoon tea from 3.03pm until 3.30pm.

Public Forum

Ross Bowmar, along with Paul and Willie Ensor spoke about the ongoing threat that the Redcliffs Bridge continues to pose. The creek channel cuts below the bridge and material continues to build up above, increasing the probability of the bridge being buried.

Council's assistance to keep the road open to date was acknowledged and is appreciated by the property owners who are now asking Council to help protect the asset for the long term by restoring the creek, below the bed, to the condition it was in in 1983, with 4-5 metres of clearance.

The community is working on an emergency management plan and would be interested to learn from Council how decisions are being made on the road and when they'll take place. The impact of the May and July floods remains a focus as the rebuild progresses. ECan have provided advice but more certainty is needed.

The road provides public access (estimated over 30 vehicle movements/day). Beyond the bridge there are other areas of concern (Whisky Creek and west of the bridge). The road is rougher and new creeks have appeared further restricting access and increasing travel time.

The Mayor thanked the presenters and advised that officers will be asked to liaise with ECan and report back to Council with options and costs of short and longer term solutions.

3 Mayor's Report

- **Covid-19 vaccinations**

The Mayor recorded that the Ashburton District Council elected members are now 100% vaccinated.

- **Diary**

It was noted that Cr McKay deputised for the Mayor at the Industry training awards and the Deputy Mayor also attended.

- **3 Waters Reform**

The Mayor referred to a draft Memorandum of Understanding that has been forwarded to Councillors. The MoU proposes that a partnership of councils will campaign against the Government's proposed actions and seek an alternative solution. A report will be provided to Council on 1 December to further consider this proposal.

That the Mayor's report be received.

Mayor/McMillan

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded – 4.03pm

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:

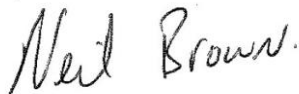
Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
14	Council 3/11/21 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elderly Persons Housing• Service Delivery – Animal Control• Service Delivery – Environmental Monitoring• EA Networks report	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
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		Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
15	Refugee Resettlement Steering Group	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons
16	Library & Civic Centre PCG 9/11/21	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
17	Audit & Risk Committee 10/11/21	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
18	ACL Quarterly Report	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

McMillan/Letham

Carried

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm.

Confirmed 1 December 2021



MAYOR