

## *Council Minutes – 21 February 2024*

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 21 February 2023, commencing at 1pm 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), Jane Donaldson (GM Strategy & Compliance), Leanne Macdonald (GM Business Support), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Sarah Mosley (GM People & Facilities), and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Richard Mabon (Senior Policy Advisor), Tayyaba Latif (Policy Advisor), Shirin Khosraviani (Art Gallery & Museum Director), Femke van der Valk (Corporate Planner), Richard Wood (Sport & Recreation Manager) and Erin Register (Finance Manager).

### **1 Apologies**

Nil.

### **2 Extraordinary Business**

Nil.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

Nil.

### **4 Confirmation of Minutes – 7/02/24**

**That** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7 February 2024, be taken as read and confirmed.

Braam/Hooper

Carried

### **5 Methven Community Board – 29/01/24**

**That** Council receives the minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on Monday 29 January 2024.

Todd/Cameron

Carried

### **6 Revenue & Financing Policy – Stockwater management**

**1. That** Council adopts Option Two – Increase minimum charge to \$700 in 2024/25 – as its preferred policy option for public consultation.

**2. That** Council includes the three following options as alternatives for public consultation:

- Maintain the status quo
- Increase the minimum to charge to \$500 in 2024/25
- Increase the minimum charge to \$700 by 2025/26

Wilson/Cameron

Carried

- 7 Revenue & Financing Policy – Roads with rural targeted rate**
- That** Council approves the status quo funding approach for roads – Targeted Roding Rate (CV), for consultation alongside LTP (2024-2034).
- Wilson/Cameron Carried
- 8 Revenue & Financing Policy – Consultation alongside LTP 2024-34**
- That** Council approves the draft Revenue and Financing Policy for consultation alongside LTP 2024-2034 (Option 1).
- McMillan/Lovett Carried
- 9 Draft Development & Financial Contributions Policy for consultation**
- That** Council approves the draft Development and Financial Contributions policy 2024-27 for public consultation alongside the 2024-34 Long-term Plan.
- Cameron/Braam Carried
- 10 Art Gallery & Museum - exhibition lighting**
- The recommendation wasn't fully supported. Councillors speaking against commented on the significant cost and noted that not all lighting needs to be replaced at this stage. Those in support agreed that complete replacement of the specialised lighting now will ensure consistency.
- That** Council approves the purchase of new exhibition lighting for the Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum with funds to come from the Arts and Culture Reserve.
- Braam/Lovett Carried
- Cr Wilson recorded his vote against the motion.
- 11 Mid-year Performance Report**
- That** Council receives the mid-year non-financial performance and strategy report.
- Mayor/Todd Carried
- 12 EA Networks Centre – accessible changing rooms**
- That** no changes are made to EA Networks Centre accessible poolside change/bath rooms.
- Hooper/Todd
- Amendment**
- That** the EA Networks Centre change facility, fitted with the hoist, be designated for the exclusive use of persons with a disability.
- Cameron/Braam Carried
- A show of hands gave 6 for and 4 against and the amendment was passed
- Cr Wilson recorded his vote against the motion.
- 13 Ashburton Car Club – Gravel Sprint event road closure**
- That** Council permits the Upper Downs Road, Mt Somers, from Quarry Road to approximately 518 Upper Downs Road, to be closed from 8.00am Sunday, 24 February 2024 until 6.00pm the same day, to allow the Gravel Sprint event to take place.
- McMillan/Lovett Carried

## 14 Speed limits at urban schools

**That** Council retain the permanent 30km/hr school speed limits and add a supplementary sign with *School Days 8:30am to 9:30am and 2:30pm to 3:30pm*, with the signs only to be erected once the Setting of Speed Limits Rule has been changed by Government to permit the new signs.

Mayor/Todd

Carried

## Amendment

**That** Council retain the permanent 30 km/hr school speed limits and add a supplementary sign with *School Days 8:30am to 3:30 pm*, with the signs only to be erected once the Setting of Speed Limits Rule has been changed by Government to permit the new signs.

Ellis/Braam

The amendment failed to pass. The original motion was put and carried.

## 15 Financial variance report – December 2023

**That** Council receives the December 2023 variance report.

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

## 16 Mayor's Report

### • Declaration of state of local emergency

Following the signing of the Local Emergency Declaration for the Port Hills fires on 14 February, the Mayor has today signed the Declaration to move into recovery phase.

**That** the Mayor's report be received.

Mayor/McMillan

Carried

## Welcome to Staff

Katie Perry, People & Capability Manager, introduced new staff - Ann McDowall (Accountant), Angela Sparrow (Parking Warden), Courtney Sutton (Planning Administrator), Mercedes Walkham (Welcoming Communities Advisor) and Dean Carr (Property Advisor).

Council also acknowledged the long service of Kathy Hoy (In-house Trainer) – 10 years' service.

Council adjourned for afternoon tea from 3.06pm to 3.27pm.

## Business transacted with the public excluded – 3.27pm

**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:	
17	Council – 7/02/24 • Library & Civic Centre PCG 23/01/24	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Ellis/Braam

Carried

There being no resolutions passed, Council resumed in open meeting and concluded at 3.28pm.

**[Confirmed by Council on 6 March 2024]**

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MAYOR