

Waimakariri District Council

Community and Recreation Committee

Agenda

Tuesday 17 September 2024

3.30pm

Council Chambers
215 High Street
Rangiora

Members:

Cr Robbie Brine (Chairperson)

Cr Al Blackie

Cr Brent Cairns

Cr Niki Mealings

Cr Philip Redmond

Mayor Dan Gordon (ex officio)



WAIMAKARIRI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 3:30PM.

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by the Council

BUSINESS

Page No

1 APOLOGIES

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicts of interest (if any) to be reported for minuting.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee held on 23 July 2024

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 23 July 2024 as a true and accurate record.

3.2 Matters arising (From Minutes)

3.3 Notes of the Community and Recreation Committee Workshop held on 23 July 2024

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** the circulated workshop notes of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 23 July 2024.

4 DEPUTATIONS

4.1 Waikuku Beach Accessibility Matting – Tammi Martin, Katie Croft and Biddy Riley

T Martin, K Croft and B Riley will be in attendance to discuss the current challenges with accessing the beach at Waikuku Beach and the benefits of installing beach matting.

5 REPORTS

5.1 Libraries Update to 5 September 2024 – Luke Sole (District Libraries Manager)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 240911154839.
- (b) **Notes** the community benefits of the below initiatives, with reference to children's literacy development, providing valuable social and vocational skills as part of a curriculum-based robotics initiative, and the addition of further services to promote inclusion and social connection for those with Alzheimer's and dementia or related conditions.
- (c) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

5.2 Aquatics September 2024 Report – Matthew Greenwood (Aquatics Manager)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 240905150863.
- (b) **Notes** a strong response to recent recruitment activity with over 60 candidates applying for Lifeguard and Learn to Swim positions at our facilities.
- (c) **Notes** council staff working closely with Ministry of Social Development to identify opportunities for funded training and development of employment opportunities.
- (d) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

7 PORTFOLIO UPDATES

7.1 Greenspace (Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds) – Councillor Al Blackie.

7.2 Community Facilities (including Aquatic Centres, Multi-use Sports Stadium, Libraries/Service Centres, Town Halls and Museums) – Councillor Robbie Brine.

7.3 Community Development and Wellbeing – Councillor Brent Cairns.

7.4 Waimakariri Arts and Culture – Councillor Al Blackie.

8 QUESTIONS

9 URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS

10 MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act (or sections 6, 7 or 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may be), it is moved:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting:

- Item 10.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the public excluded portion of a meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee meeting held on Tuesday 23 July 2024.
- Item 10.2 Contract CON2418 Pines Beach Relocation Tender Evaluation and Contract Award Report.

The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public are excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the 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:

| Meeting Item No. and subject | Reason for excluding the public | Grounds for excluding the public- |
|--|--|--|
| 10.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the public excluded portion a meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee meeting held on Tuesday 23 July 2024. | Good reason to withhold exists under section 7 | Section 7(h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act; "enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities". |
| 10.2 Contract CON2418 Pines Beach Relocation Tender Evaluation and Contract Award Report. | Good reason to withhold exists under section 7 | Section 7(h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act; "enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities". |

CLOSED MEETING

See Public Excluded Agenda (separate document)

OPEN MEETING

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee will be held on Tuesday 26 November 2024 at 3.30pm.

Workshop

- *Waikuku Beach Accessibility Matting – Isibéal Clark (Project Manager Community and Recreation) and Grant Stephens (Design and Planning Team Leader) – 15 Minutes*

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON TUESDAY 23 JULY 2024 AT 3:30PM.

PRESENT

Councillors R Brine (Chairperson), A Blackie, B Cairns, N Mealings, and P Redmond.

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors T Fulton and P Williams.

J Millward (Chief Executive), C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation), T Sturley (Community Team Manager), L Sole (District Libraries Manager), M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager), G Stephens (Design and Planning Team Leader), J Rae (Senior Advisor Community and Recreation, Assets and Capital), I Beal (Project Manager Community and Recreation), M Pugh (Community Development Facilitator), and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

There were four members of the public present.

1 APOLOGIES

Moved: Councillor Cairns Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT an apology for absence be received and sustained from Mayor Gordon.

CARRIED

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts declared.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee held on 28 May 2024

Moved: Councillor Redmond Seconded: Councillor Cairns

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 28 May 2024 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

3.2 Matters arising (From Minutes)

There were no matters arising.

4 DEPUTATIONS

4.1 Age Friendly Advisory Group – Norman West

N West spoke to the Committee noting that in 2024 the Age Friendly Advisory Group were reporting to the Committee as per the commitment in their terms of reference. He acknowledged and thanked the Council for the support the Advisory Group had received from M Pugh who was a key staff contact person and facilitator for age friendly within the Waimakariri. He also acknowledged the contribution to the Advisory Group from Councillor Goldsworthy and Board Member Shona Powell. He acknowledged the members of the Advisory Group. In 2023 the Advisory Group reported to the Committee regarding its ongoing role in making the Waimakariri District a more age friendly district. At that meeting

they referenced a document developed by the World Health Organisation which identified eight key themes which would enable change to ensure more age friendly communities. Subsequently United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) developed a document which elaborated on these themes and developed a number of best practice actions as a guide to governing bodies. There were several attempts at developing a questionnaire for use in the community to assess the perceptions of age friendliness in the district. They then discovered similar work had been undertaken in The Hauge to develop a questionnaire to assess age friendliness. The Advisory Group trialled this version at the 2023 Older Persons Expo and based on this experience adapted the questionnaire to be used as a consultation tool. It was acknowledged that the questionnaire consultation had some limitations as the survey was relatively small, and the results were from people who were attending meetings or who were volunteers. Therefore, the results were very heavily weighted to the positive. However, the group were conscious that age friendly should apply to all older people in our community. Given the results of the questionnaire it was reasonable to conclude that the Waimakariri District was age friendly.

Councillor Redmond queried if the group were surveying people that were already engaged with them or if it was more random. N West noted that they had gone to people that were engaged with community groups. The survey was also available in the library and the group has also engaged people at campgrounds.

Councillor Williams asked how active the group were in going out to let other people know about the group's existence. J Mather noted that they had received a better result than they had in 2023 and was a much bigger sample.

Councillor Williams asked what age group was considered 'aged'. J Mather noted that when the questionnaire was installed at the library, they asked for people that were over 60.

Councillor Williams asked how they would raise the profile of the group. J Mather noted that they catered to a wide range of people that they represented so they went back to the constituent bodies and the occasional news release.

Councillor Cairns asked about question five of the questionnaire. He noted most events were advertised on social media and asked if they provided any solution to the older people getting access to more events. J Mather noted that the question had a fairly positive response. The questions where there was not such a positive response were questions nine and ten. This highlighted an area where they needed to do further work.

Councillor Brine asked about access to banking services. J Mather noted that it was a major problem which was persistently coming up. Grey Power advocated strongly in this area.

5 REPORTS

5.1 Approval of Capital Work Renewals Programmes and Sports Ground Growth Programme for Greenspace – J Rae (Senior Advisor Community and Recreation, Assets and Capital)

J Rae spoke to the report which sought approval for the proposed Greenspace Capital Works Renewal Programmes and the Sports Ground Growth Programmes. These programmes were proposed for years one and three and were indicative for the remaining seven years. She noted that staff would be reporting back to the Committee during the last quarter of the financial year to give an update on progress. The report recommended that the Committee recommended to the Council to bring forward the public toilet renewals budget scheduled in year three to year two. This report did not seek additional budget but rather the reallocation of the timing of general budgets already approved through the Long Term Plan process.

Councillor Williams sought clarification on the Kaiapoi NCF Park/Community Hub Playground for \$235,000 under playground safety/surface equipment renewals and below under non-specific reserve enhancement Kaiapoi NCF Park/Community Hub Playground for \$165,000 and asked what this was for. J Rae noted that the play safety surface budget was for the playground and the non-specified reserve enhancement was a betterment budget to supplement the playground budget. The total combined budget was \$400,000.

Councillor Blackie noted that this had resulted from the Long Term Plan. He asked if there was anything that did not interface with the Long term Plan. C Brown explained that this was based on current budgets, staff were not asking for any additional funding.

Councillor Mealings noted the amount in year five for the Sefton Domain of \$140,000. She asked if the \$180,000 proposed reflective in any of these budgets. J Rae noted that it was reflected in the community facilities budget.

Councillor Cairns noted that in the Long Term Plan had identified a BMX upgrade in either Rangiora or Kaiapoi. He asked if that had been included and if so, where was it shown. C Brown noted that it was included as the Rangiora BMX Track.

Councillor Redmond asked where the Kaiapoi Boat Club Reserve Carpark was as referred to on page 25 of the report. J Rae noted that there were three carparks similar in distance to each other and this was the front carpark closest to the water.

Councillor Redmond noted , the Woodend-Sefton Community Board had received a deputation regarding the Woodend Beach Domain toilets which were constantly being deferred. He asked for confirmation on when they would be scheduled. J Rae noted that the toilet upgrade was scheduled in year two which was 2025/26 and was indicative of the Council approving the budget being brought forward.

Councillor Mealings noted, the public toilet renewals on page 34 from Carlton Domain down showed no budgets. She asked if that was because they were recently done and did not require any work in the next ten years. J Rae noted that staff had looked at those locations and some were used for lease purposes and were under the lessee's requirement. Some were in good condition and had maintenance upgrades that would not require renewal in the first ten years.

Councillor Mealings noted that the Warren Community Reserve had been mentioned in the report. G Stephens noted that K Howat was leading on Warren Reserve project and would continue working with the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board.

T Fulton noted he had received a request from the Oxford Pony Club for a potable water supply for Carlton Domain.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Cairns

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 240711113837.
- (b) **Approves** the attached (i) Greenspace Capital Works Renewal Programmes and Sports Ground Growth Programmes LTP 2024-34 for years one to three and indicative seven year programme (TRIM No. 240711113857).

| | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| (c) Greenspace Capital Works Renewal Programmes and Sports Ground Growth Programme - Proposed Programme 2024/25- 2026/27 | | | |
| Play Safety/Surface Equipment Renewals | | | |
| <i>Project Name</i> | 24/25 | 25/26 | 26/27 |
| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 |

| | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Kaiapoi NCF Park /Community Hub Playground | \$ 235,000.00 | | |
| Currie Park/ Norman Kirk | \$ 191,816.00 | | |
| Canterbury Street Reserve | \$ 100,000.00 | | |
| Woodend Beach Domain | | \$ 136,136.00 | |
| Allin Drive Reserve | | | \$ 60,000.00 |
| Pegasus View Park | | | \$ 100,069.00 |
| Non-Specified Reserve Enhancement | | | |
| Kaiapoi NCF Park /Community Hub Playground | \$ 165,000.00 | | |
| Currie Park/ Norman Kirk | \$ 108,184.00 | | |
| Canterbury Street Reserve | \$ 100,000.00 | | |
| Woodend Beach Domain | | \$ 263,864.00 | |
| Allin Drive Reserve | | | \$ 90,000.00 |
| Pegasus View Park | | | \$ 179,931.00 |
| Pines Beach Relocation | \$ 35,000.00 | | |
| Roads & Carparks Renewals | | | |
| Baker Park - Footpath | \$ 45,000.00 | | |
| Waikuku Beach - Central Area: Path | \$ 5,000.00 | | |
| Woodend Beach Domain: Carpark Surface | \$ 100,000.00 | | |
| Woodend Beach Domain: Carpark | \$ 100,000.00 | | |
| Waikuku Beach - Central Area: Carpark | \$ 240,000.00 | | |
| Ashgrove Park: Driveway Surface | \$ 5,000.00 | | |
| Darnley Square- North: Carpark | \$ 100,000.00 | | |
| Rangiora Airfield - Driveway | | \$ 255,000.00 | |
| Kaiapoi Boat Club Reserve: Carpark | | \$ 100,000.00 | |
| Kaiapoi Riverbank S-East Side: Path | | | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Matawai Park: Path - Pedestrian Only | | | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Mainpower Oval: Carpark Surface | | | \$ 100,000.00 |
| Sefton Domain: Carpark Surface | | | \$ 65,000.00 |
| Askeaton Park: Carpark Surface | | | \$ 190,000.00 |
| Hard Surface Renewals | | | |
| no programme of works within the first three years | | | |
| Public Toilets Renewals | | | |
| Ashley Picnic Grounds- Cones Rd | \$ 357,980.00 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Woodend Beach Domain | \$ - | \$ 375,150.00 | \$ - |
| Future Sports Ground Development | | | |
| Kaiapoi River Sport User Hub | \$ 250,000.00 | - | - |

| | | | |
|--|---------------|---|---------------|
| Coldstream Road Sporting Precinct | \$ 50,000.00 | - | - |
| Maria Andrews irrigation investigation and field upgrade | \$ 105,000.00 | - | - |
| Southbrook Park Field Upgrade | \$ 100,000.00 | - | \$ 160,000.00 |
| Gladstone Drainage | \$ 120,000.00 | - | - |
| A&P lighting Upgrade | \$ 120,000.00 | - | - |
| Kendall Park Drainage | - | - | \$ 273,000.00 |

- (d) **Notes** staff will report back to the Community and Recreation Committee during the last quarter of the financial year to update on the status of each project.
- (e) **Notes** staff will provide regular reports throughout the year to the Audit and Risk Committee as part of the standard capital project reporting system.
- (f) **Notes** that any programme changes will be reported to the Community and Recreation Committee. For example, this might be due to factors such as project engagement results, tender pricing, or breakages to other assets during this period.
- (g) **Notes** that by assigning the budgets as recommended, there is no provision made for reactive works. Greenspace does not have the budget required to react to new requests. Any such requests will result in a report back to the Community and Recreation Committee to consider changes to the programme and will impact other programmed works.
- (h) **Notes** that the General Reserves Landscape Budgets that are delegated to the local Community Boards are not considered within this work programme.
- (i) **Notes** that all renewal projects which are specifically listed in the Long Term Plan are not considered within this report, as these are consulted on through the Long Term Plan process.
- (j) **Notes** that growth budgets for land development and land purchase have not been included in this report due to the changing nature of how and when the budgets are needed. These budgets need to be flexible to react to growth and ongoing negotiations with developers.
- (k) **Circulates** this report to all Boards for their information.

AND

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee recommends:

THAT the Council:

- (l) **Receives** Report No. 240711113837.
- (m) **Recommends** that Council approve bringing forward the public toilet renewals budget scheduled for year three into year two.

CARRIED

Councillor Cairns commented that the Greenspace team would be busy over the next few years and congratulated staff on the report.

5.2 **Youth Development Update – T Sturley (Community Team Manager) and E Belton (Youth Development Facilitator)**

T Sturley spoke to the report which provided an overview of progress in youth development and delivery of the Youth Strategy 2018. She noted that the strategy was due for review particularly with the changing demographics in the district since the strategy had been implemented in 2018. She highlighted the results detailed in the report centred on best practice, youth development, participation. She also highlighted the success of the Youth Futures Programme and Mayors Taskforce for Jobs which both centred on youth education, employment and opportunity as well as the success of the Brad Olsen Seminar.

Councillor Cairns asked what it cost to run the programmes, where the funds come from. T Sturley replied that the general youth development role was rate funded. The projects, that were delivered were funded from a variety of funding streams. For example, there was collaborative funding for the Youth Futures project, most of which came from the Ministry of Social Development and Ministry of Education. There were a lot of high level stakeholders involved. Youth Town had funded a lot events and opportunities while, Rata, various gaming trusts had also provided funding assistance.

Councillor Cairns noted that Pegasus, Ravenswood and Waikuku areas were missing Skate Jam events. He asked if there were any plans to put youth events into those areas. T Sturley replied that, looking at the last iteration of the Youth Strategy, young people were asked what would make the biggest difference for them. Only 3% listed events. Most of the feedback related to facilities, sport, shops and access to transport. The overwhelming impression was a desire for a sense of belonging and having a youth friendly district where they could access services, sport and facilities were really important. Going forward when staff reviewed that strategy, they needed to look at what did work.

Councillor Mealings asked if district wide skate jams could be a possibility in the future. T Sturley noted that the Council had undertaken a number of skate jams in Rangiora, Kaiapoi and Oxford. They were an easy to run event and were very popular, therefore they would continue.

Councillor Redmond noted that the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs was funded by the Ministry of Social Development and asked if the position was still being funded. T Sturley replied that the position was funded for two years.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Cairns

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 240710113131.
- (b) **Notes** the breadth of work undertaken to engage, connect, inform and empower local young people so that they can be well supported and included in local activities and decision making.
- (c) **Notes** the success of the Youth Futures initiative and associated Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs programme in linking local young people into information, support and opportunities for training and employment, which would not have otherwise been available.
- (d) **Notes** the valuable role that Youth Council has played as a mechanism to capture the voice of young people in local decision making, so that our District's services, supports and recreational opportunities fit the needs of the next generation of local rate payers.

- (e) **Notes** that, despite the need to cancel many youth-led events over the COVID period, several thousand local young people were linked into at least one of an extensive range of local youth-led events and activities.
- (f) **Notes** the importance of the planning and delivery of youth-led activities being evidence-based and relevant, so that funding spend is appropriately targeted. This is in line with the national, Ministry of Health Best Practice Guidelines for Youth Development, as detailed in 4.2, below.
- (g) **Notes** the pending review of the existing Youth Strategy This process will begin in the second quarter of this financial year, with a new document, in the form of an action and implementation plan, produced in time for the 2025/2026 financial year.

CARRIED

Councillor Mealings thanked staff for the report. She commented having a front row seat to a lot of these initiatives and commended E Belton's work in the youth space. It was encouraging that there were so many engaged youth. She commented on the success of the Youth Futures Event and that the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs had very positive outcomes.

Councillor Cairns concurred with Councillor Mealings. He looked forward to the upcoming review of the Youth Strategy. He commended the Community Team for its work.

5.3 **Airfield Operations Update – O Stewart (Airfield Manager and Safety Officer)**

G Stephens spoke to the report noting that O Stewart had been in the role for twelve months. O Stewart had spent time building his reputation and relationships at the Airfield with the users and the Advisory Group and helping to build a health and safety culture. He had also been looking at the wider picture to ensure that the Airfield was operating using best practices and operating efficiently.

In response to a question from Councillor Williams, C Brown noted that there was a planner's report prepared in response to a submission to the District Plan from Daniel Smith for a special zone for the airfield. This encompassed residential business and other areas within the airfield, including the Priors Road land area. If that project, for any reason did not go ahead, the Council would still be able to develop the land it owned on Priors Road. Currently Daniel Smith was working with his experts to provide comments in response to the planner's report.

Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 240710113130.
- (b) **Notes** staff will provide status report to the Community and Recreation Committee during the last quarter of the financial year.
- (c) **Notes** that any significant programme changes will be reported to the Community and Recreation Committee.
- (d) **Notes** that Council has responsibility to maintain a safe operating environment under Civil Aviation Authority Aerodrome Operating Rule 139.503 Unsafe Conditions.

CARRIED

5.4 **Aquatics July Report – M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager) and S Bergin (Dudley Park Centre Manager)**

M Greenwood took the report as read. He noted that the mobility chair had arrived and was installed. There was programme being worked through to train staff who also worked with caregivers and support workers who utilised the pool. Staff had completed the aquarobics customer satisfaction survey which had received an overall 97% satisfaction rate.

Councillor Cairns noted a spike in attendance figures in March 2022/23 and asked if there was any particular reason for that. M Greenwood replied that the figures included sales items and commented that there had been some good weather during that time, however, he was unsure of the exact reason for the spike in attendance.

Councillor Fulton asked if staff could revisit the pricing structure for the Oxford Pool. M Greenwood replied that staff had looked into this, however it was a fine balance. Running an outdoor pool had a lot more heating costs. It was finding a balance of ticket sales versus rates funding. There were a number of options including a seasonal pass.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Cairns

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 240709112171.
- (b) **Notes** strong attendance at the Aquatic Facilities with 263,322 total visits for the 2023/24 year which is 6500 more than the previous year.
- (c) **Notes** delivery of a mobile hoist at Dudley enabling greater access to all pool.
- (d) **Notes** an overall customer satisfaction result of 97% for the Aquarobics programme in a recent customer satisfaction survey.
- (e) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Councillor Mealings commented that in spite of the fact that they only needed 3% to get to 100% satisfaction staff had acknowledged that there was always room for improvement. It was heartening to see the numbers were rising. She was pleased that the hoist was now installed as a number of groups had been asking for it.

Councillor Cairns commented that the rationale for having the pools was to try and get people to become more comfortable with water. There were a huge number of drownings in New Zealand that should not be the case. The work that staff were doing was crucial to ensure that our young people were staying safe. He congratulated staff on the pool hoist.

Councillor Redmond noted that it was pleasing to see that the revenue was up, and the expenditure was down.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

7 **PORTFOLIO UPDATES**

7.1 **Greenspace (Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds) – Councillor Al Blackie.**

- The two observation platforms at Waikuku and Pegasus were now completed minus some planting. The Ocean Access Group were working with Greenspace staff to get the mats down from the platforms to the edge of the water.
- The Huria Mahinga Kai Reserve path was almost finished.
- Silverstream and Honda Forest planting days were well attended by the public.
- Te Kohaka Trust was going to the public for possible Trustees.
- Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Hearing and Deliberations were held on 18 and 19 July. It was disappointing that eight submitters did not attend the hearing. The main issues were dogs on the beach and planes over the estuary.

7.2 **Community Facilities (including Aquatic Centres, Multi-use Sports Stadium, Libraries/Service Centres, Town Halls and Museums) – Councillor Robbie Brine.**

- The Bowling Club were wanting to know what stage the Council was. There was a lot of work to go on. He and Board Member Steve Wilkinson attended a Southbrook Sports Club meeting where there was also a lot of discussion that still needed to be held.
- The requested architectural and engineering services proposal for the Pegasus Community Centre had been finalised and would go out to three selected companies.
- The new hoist at Dudley had been installed.

7.3 **Community Development and Wellbeing – Councillor Brent Cairns.**

- Write On and Waimakariri libraries had a special celebration at Kaiapoi library on Thursday 1 August at 5.30pm. Young writers from across the district held a masterclass creating poems, many based on artifacts displayed in the Kaiapoi museum.
- National Poetry Day would be celebrated on Friday 23 August at 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Rangiora library. This event would launch Fuego volume 2.
- Viewing platforms had been installed at both Pegasus and Waikuku beaches, with the latter to have a mat (about 30 metres long) which could be rolled out giving those with mobility issues greater access to the beach.
- Community Wellbeing had an increase of 50 food parcels handed out in July, compared to previous month but overall, a decrease in the number being handed out due to additional services being provided. The second visit to the food bank with 30 days triggered a meetings with the manager, budget advice and could involve health providers.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters were putting on “The Big Variety Show” in Rangiora on the 28 September. They were looking for people with unique talents to apply via the charity’s website.
- Signage had been printed and ready to be installed on cycleways (should be installed in the next couple of months). This would be especially important as there were a number of people getting lost on the trails due to the lack of signs directing people where to go.
- Researched different housing models and found Queenstown Lakes Community Housing Trust – www.qlcht.org.nz – which allowed a family to have a 100 year lease. They had 300 homes and 1,300 people on the waiting list. He liked its simple easy to read policies, which unlock homes for the community. The Trust took advantage of the Government’s Progressive Home Ownership fund and received \$22million interest free over 15 years to help locals into assisted ownership across three separate developments.

- At a recent Waimakariri Access Group meeting raised an issue in High Street in Rangiora with the Liquid Amber street trees which dropped its seed pods all over the footpath and road which had caused a wheelchair member to topple out of his chair. The staff had been working hard to establish the best way forward.
- Thank you to M Greenwood and his aquatic team in getting the access chair sorted and in place at Dudley pool.
- This terms free English classes started on the 27 July at the Rangiora Town Hall function room from 10am till 1pm.
- In June Food Secure North Canterbury held a successful gathering of interested groups (46 people attended). Good speakers and the chance to network had meant these quarterly meetings were proving worthwhile i.e. The Woodend Lions had offered land to provide vegetables to local food banks.
- This week Lotteries funding closed, so a number of groups had been working hard on getting applications in. Funding of projects and events had become very hard. At the recent funding workshop, Rata Foundation said they were becoming more targeted in where they were allocating money. With the Government pulling back on giving funds it left a large hole to fill and some would struggle. Rata made it clear that they were not there to fill the gap where the Government had turned its back on groups and projects.
- One business he spoke to had, prior to the election, had a year's work ahead of education department contracts, after the election those contracts were cut in half.
- Had reports of Christchurch Hospital discharging patients at 2am in the morning. Rangiora residents would receive a free taxi chit, Kaiapoi residents do not.
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group gathering at 9.30am to 11am at 200 King Street on 27 July and 24 August.
- Inclusive sports day would be held again at Mainpower stadium on the 29 September 10.30am to 2.30pm.
- The Kaiapoi Food Forest had a vacancy for a coordinator – if anyone knows someone that was keen on paid work for 10 hours a week. They had visits from an International Business where staff donated time and the business paid for almost \$1,000 of trees and plants. Another international group had approached the food forest, based on the values that were similar to its own and in September would provide a large donation of trees. They ran a successful pruning workshop this past weekend, with more workshops planned over the coming months. They had a visit from two philanthropists with the view of funding the educational building.
- The Rangiora Museum run monthly talks which were always interesting. The next is at 7.30pm this 25 July at the museum on Good Street.
- Pegasus Residents Group had their Annual General Meeting on 24 July at 7pm at the school hall.
- Abbeyfield Waimakariri Inc. (AWI) extended an invitation to attend the 3rd Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday, 25 July 2024 at the Rangiora Bridge Club Rooms, 31 Good Street, Rangiora commencing at 7 p.m.

7.4 **Waimakariri Arts and Culture – Councillor Al Blackie.**

- Kaiapoi Art Expo was very successful, there was around 8,000 people that attended. Sales were slightly down which was a measure of the economic climate. Overall, in conjunction with Blackwells Fire and Ice it was a successful event.
- As part of the Arts Strategy, it allowed for a 20 hours a week half time facilitator. Council had made an offer.

8 MATTER REFERRED FROM THE WOODEND-SEFTON COMMUNITY BOARD

8.1 Sefton Domain and Pavilion – I Clark (Project Manager Community and Recreation)

I Clark spoke to the report which provided an update on the Sefton Public Hall Society's progress relating to the rebuild of the Sefton Hall facility. The report also sought approval to replace the full wastewater system at Sefton Domain, using the general renewals building budget. The replacement allowed not only for the repair but also for futureproofing when the new facility would be built. Staff needed to go through a procurement process to confirm the exact cost.

Councillor Williams asked about timing and had brought the issue up after ANZAC Day. There was a portaloos there currently, however this would be a public hall. I Clark replied that prior to ANZAC Day, the Council had been notified of the wastewater fail. Staff then undertook an assessment which had taken some time. Greenspace staff had then gone to the Council's Water Unit to assess the report. It was unfortunate that it had taken so long.

Councillor Williams asked how long it would take for the system to be replaced. I Clark replied that staff needed to go through a design phase prior to going to tender. She hoped it would be finished this year.

Councillor Fulton asked about the provision for the Sefton Public Hall. He noted under risk management there was provision that the lease was for 11 years on the new site allowing sufficient time for fundraising the structure of the new facility. He asked what fallback there was if funds could not be raised. C Brown noted that they would be selling the land the current hall was on and the Sefton Library and using that money as well as extra fundraising. The Council had allocated \$200,000 in the Long Term Plan towards the building costs. Once they had done that, they were still far away from being able to build. He noted that this was a problem for Sefton however there were a number of other communities that owned their own facilities which needed to be upgraded.

Moved: Councillor Redmond

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Approves** option one for staff to replace the wastewater system at Sefton Domain.
- (b) **Approves** staff utilising up to \$180,000 from the General Building Renewals budget (PJ code 101179.000.5014) for the replacement of the septic system within the 2024/25 financial year.
- (c) **Notes** that the General Building Renewals programme will have an impact due to the use of allocation of this budget.
- (d) **Notes** the Community Facilities Network plan supports the Sefton Public Hall Society replacing the facility it owns that was damaged in the earthquake and requires renewal.
- (e) **Notes** that staff will be bringing a programme for Greenspace budgets to the Community and Recreation Committee in its July meeting. This report will propose the Greenspace program of works for the next three years, including the General Building Renewals Budget.

CARRIED

Councillor Redmond supported the motion. He noted that the matter had been to the Woodend-Sefton Community Board. There was a problem at the domain that need to be

repaired and related to the hall which would be located in the domain. This was futureproofing as a septic tank would be required in the future.

9 **QUESTIONS**

Nil.

10 **URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

11 **MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act (or sections 6, 7 or 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may be), it is moved:

Moved: Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

1. That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting:

Item 11.1 Pines Beach Playground Relocation – Budget Reallocation

CARRIED

The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public are excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the 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:

| Meeting Item No. and subject | Reason for excluding the public | Grounds for excluding the public- |
|---|--|--|
| 11.1 Pines Beach Playground Relocation – Budget Reallocation | Good reason to withhold exists under section 7 | Section 7(h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act; “enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities”. |

CLOSED MEETING

See Public Excluded Agenda (separate document)

The meeting adjourned at 5:05pm and reconvened in public excluded 5:09pm.

CLOSED MEETING

Resolution to Resume in open meeting

Moved: Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Redmond

THAT open meeting resumes and the business discussed with the public excluded remains public excluded.

CARRIED

OPEN MEETING

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee will be held on Tuesday 17 September 2024 at 3.30pm.

- | |
|---|
| <p>Workshop (5:09pm to 5:34pm)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Trevor Inch Memorial Library Shelving Replacement and Revised Layout Plan – Luke Sole (District Libraries Manager)</i> |
|---|

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 5:34PM.

CONFIRMED

Councillor R Brine (Chairperson)

Date

NOTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE WORKSHOP HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, RANGIORA SERVICE CENTRE, ON TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2024, AT 5.09PM.

PRESENT

Councillors R Brine (Chairperson), A Blackie, B Cairns, N Mealings, and P Redmond.

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor T Fulton.

J Millward (Chief Executive), C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation), T Sturley (Community Team Manager), L Sole (District Libraries Manager), M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager), G Stephens (Design and Planning Team Leader), I Clark (Project Manager Community and Recreation), and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

1. Trevor Inch Memorial Library Shelving Replacement and Revised Layout Plan

Presenter(s) - L Sole (District Libraries Manager)

- Where would the 3D printing area be located in the proposed new layout?
Because the Council did not have a dedicated space for digital experiences like some larger libraries, it had a flexible model where staff could set equipment out and refresh the available technology.
- Was the Adult Fiction area expected to be noisy and the Non-fiction area quiet?
The layout was indicative of the ebb and flow during the day and the fact that staff needed to create flexible-use spaces. Some people would not want to engage in library activities and quietly read a book; however, at other times of the day, it would be noisier.
- The Council envisaged going out to tenders in August 2024. However, was there an expectation of getting the work done in 2024?
Staff intended to complete the project by the end of the year. Libraries were very busy over the summer holiday period, and the shelving challenges had to be resolved before then.
- Have provisions been made for breakaway workspaces?
Modular furniture formed booths that could be used by community members as workspaces.
- Would the new proposed layout result in more or less shelving in the library?
It was a balancing act to provide for the community's needs. The proposed layout would slightly reduce the collection to accommodate other demands, however, not in a way that would disadvantage the community.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE WORKSHOP CONCLUDED AT 5.34PM.

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

FILE NO and TRIM NO: LIB-04-01 / 240911154839

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 17 September 2024

AUTHOR(S): Luke Sole – District Libraries Manager

SUBJECT: Libraries update to 5 September 2024

ENDORSED BY:
(for Reports to Council,
Committees or Boards)



General Manager



Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

1.1. This report provides an update on services, programmes and experiences offered to our hapori (community) by Waimakariri Libraries from 16 May – 5 September 2024. The report details recent initiatives of note, including a well-attended event coinciding with National Poetry Day, the establishment of robotics and podcasting programmes for children, and additional services to support community members with Alzheimer's and dementia.

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 240911154839.
- (b) **Notes** the community benefits of the below initiatives, with reference to children's literacy development, providing valuable social and vocational skills as part of a curriculum-based robotics initiative, and the addition of further services to promote inclusion and social connection for those with Alzheimer's and dementia or related conditions.
- (c) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. Waimakariri Libraries promote reading, literacy, and lifelong learning, to support healthier, and more resilient communities, support pathways to vocational learning, contribute to economic and social wellbeing, and deliver excellence in public service.
- 3.2. Since the last update report there have been several programmes and events which have been undertaken which are described in more detail below.

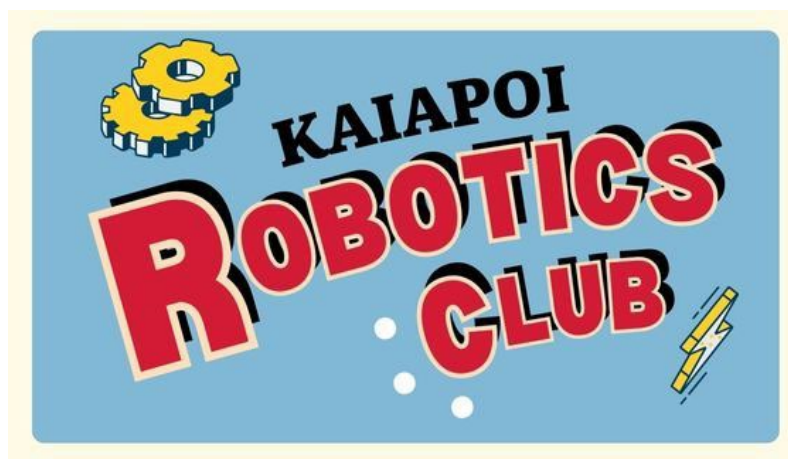
4. ISSUES AND OPTIONS

- 4.1. Waimakariri Libraries celebrate National Poetry Day with well-attended book launch.
 - 4.1.1. Over 100 people recently gathered to celebrate National Poetry Day, and launch Fuego Volume 2, The World Congress of Poets Literary Journal. Rangiora Library was filled with poets of all ages, who contributed work to the journal, and it was wonderful to see their families and educators in attendance to support them



- 4.1.2. Many of the children had previously participated in the libraries KidsFest Magic of Metaphors workshop, and Tuahiwi School composed poetry in a Matariki Masterclass with the Write on School for Young Writers. Both groups of children feature in the journal.
- 4.1.3. The audience were also treated to performances by some of our leading and emerging poets, including the reigning Christchurch Poetry Slam Champion, Lee Fraser, Ockham Award finalists Isla Huia and Annabel Wilson, Storylines Margaret Mahy Medal winner Bill Nagelkerke, award winning poet and artist Pat White, as well as the North Canterbury Cancer Society Writers and Orators group.
- 4.1.4. Fuego Volume 2 also features many leading international poets, including Bei Ta, who serves the National Museum of Modern Chinese Literature as a professional poet, critic, and translator, and Joaquín Pasos, one of Nicaragua's most important and beloved poets, almost unknown to English-language readers, except for the exceptional translations by Roger Hickin.
- 4.1.5. The amazing artwork in this volume was created by Hamish Reid, a Digital Artist working from a small town in the South Island of New Zealand. His work ranges in scope from Science Fiction to Scientific. He also illustrates children's books and produces humorous calendars.
- 4.1.6. Learning Connections Coordinator, Jason Clements, who writes under the pen name Doc Drumheller, is the editor and publisher of Fuego, and has been invited to represent New Zealand at the 43 World Congress of Poets, where he looks forward to showcasing our talented poets from Waimakariri, and the outstanding work by our tamariki at a special launch event in Madurai, India, 20-25 November.
- 4.2. Dementia-friendly libraries – Collaboration with Alzheimers New Zealand, Dementia Canterbury and The Reading Revolution.
- 4.2.1. A monthly Next Chapter group co-led with Dementia Canterbury started in Kaiapoi, facilitated by the Waimakariri Libraries Team. The aim is to socially connect dementia patients within our community, and support patients and their families to together invoke positive memories through literature, photos (via [Waimakariri Heritage](#)), and artifacts (Kaiapoi Museum) in safe and supportive environment.
- 4.2.2. Five team members have been trained to be Reader Leaders with The Reading Revolution to run shared reading groups. The Reading Revolution is a registered charity established with the purpose of using libraries to socially connect isolated older people living alone in our communities. It involves reading aloud and listening to stories in small groups before sharing their unique responses and perspectives.

- 4.2.3. Similar initiatives in other regions have resulted in positive outcomes for participants managing dementia, chronic pain, social isolation, mental health issues, depression, and addiction. The scheme gives voice to members of the community that live alone or are otherwise socially isolated.
- 4.2.4. Once the training is completed Waimakariri Libraries intend to offer the programme within each of the libraries. It is also intended to be offered as an outreach service to rest homes.
- 4.3. Kaiapoi Robotics Club – providing STEAM skills to support future study and employment
- 4.3.1. Kaiapoi Library Robotics Club is an introduction to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) to tamariki (children) in our hāpori (community), providing a hands-on opportunity for our community to engage in these interests early on. Sessions are run weekly on Thursdays during school terms and are held in Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Library.
- 4.3.2. The purpose of the programme is to enable local children to access and participate in STEAM experiences that they may not otherwise be able to access at school or home. It is known that participation in STEAM learning builds important social skills, critical thinking, and problem solving. Contemporary research suggests that it helps improve numeracy skills through the ‘real world’ application of mathematics and engineering.
- 4.3.3. Each week, these ākonga (students) learn in both theory and practice, doing so by working towards finishing a tangible project in the form of competition builds, or digital technology projects. Their current project is in collaboration with First LEGO League and involves building small robots that can successfully navigate a detailed base map.
- 4.3.4. Most competitions and projects are also designed to align with the New Zealand Curriculum, adding value for participating schools.



- 4.4. KidsFest 2024 brings in huge visitor numbers across each of the libraries
- 4.4.1. Waimakariri libraries were filled with the sound of families, including parents, grandparents, teenagers, and young children, coming together to collectively have fun and learn something new at our KidsFest programme this year. The combined door count across three libraries for the last week was 8,637 visitors, which equates to around 1600 visitors each day.
- 4.4.2. The Oxford Observatory collaboration provided a great opportunity for generational learning, as budding astronomers discovered the different types of telescopes, learned about the moon, and how to find Matariki, the famous open star cluster.

- 4.4.3. Creative tech time utilised our new product suite of tech devices, from digital drawing with iPads, to 3D modelling, 3D printing, and craft cutting. It's apparent that there's a community appetite for these experiences to learn, prototype, and have fun, with over 70 people participating in the two-hour session.
- 4.4.4. The VR experience had 65 participants and 20 'spectators' over a single two-hour session in Rangiora, and families have toured the district to have another opportunity to participate at our other libraries
- 4.4.5. Yoga for Kids was another successful new initiative with 75 people participating over two sessions



- 4.5. Plan to Podcast partnership to teach core podcasting skills
 - 4.5.1. Plan to Podcast is a programme for primary school groups facilitated by Sionainn Byrnes from Christchurch City Libraries and is funded by Greater Christchurch Schools Network (GCSN).
 - 4.5.2. As part of the programme, Waimakariri Libraries are working with a senior group from Kaiapoi Borough School for sessions at Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Library. Within these sessions, the ākonga (students) learn about the process of production, from the idea to the outcome. The ākonga research, refine the information, and write an engaging script. It is then recorded in segments and edited using software.
 - 4.5.3. The end-product is a 20-minute podcast episode that goes up on the Plan to Podcast Spotify page, broadcasted on Plains FM, and may be entered in the Top of the Pods competition; going in to win for the schools' own RodeCaster recording equipment.
 - 4.5.4. Podcasting is becoming increasingly popular with our District's children and teenagers, as it is an incredibly accessible type of media, requiring only the use of a mobile phone at a basic level. The programme teaches key skills around creative production and utilises library resources to effectively edit, research and fact-check content. The process of researching and translating information into an informal media that encourages learning and discussion amongst peers.
- 4.6. Device Advice – providing drop-in support for issues with technology
 - 4.6.1. Device Advice, our new drop-in service for help with all things tech related has been running for over a month at the Rangiora library with great success.
 - 4.6.2. The service is aimed at helping members of our community with short, tech-oriented questions, usually 10-15 minutes in duration.



- 4.6.3. The sessions run from 10-11am on Wednesday mornings and are staffed by librarians from our Learning & Heritage team.
- 4.6.4. So far, we have helped customers download and learn how to use apps from our digital library space (Freegal or the library app), as well as assisting people with setting up new devices such as tablets, providing support with downloading and printing documents, and photos too.
- 4.6.5. The service will be rolled out in Kaiapoi and Oxford over the coming months.

Implications for Community Wellbeing

There are not implications on community wellbeing by the issues and options that are the subject matter of this report.

- 4.7. The Management Team has reviewed this report and support the recommendations.

5. COMMUNITY VIEWS

5.1. Mana whenua

Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri hapū are / are not likely to be affected by or have an interest in the subject matter of this report.

5.2. Groups and Organisations

While there are no specific groups or organisations affected as a result of the recommendations in this report, the Waimakariri Libraries service provides events and programmes for a number of groups. The events and programmes vary however all provide significant benefit for the groups and individuals involved.

5.3. Wider Community

Waimakariri Libraries has growing visitor numbers, attendance at events and programmes, and borrowing across physical and digital collections. Preliminary reporting as part of the Public Libraries New Zealand 2024 National Data Collection project suggest visitation has increased by 7% over the previous year, with a 5% increase in memberships. A comprehensive commentary will be provided in the next Libraries update in November.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1. Financial Implications

The below summary report is dated from July 2024. New to this budget overview is the addition of the Development Contributions revenue line. This is specifically linked to the extension of the Trevor Inch Memorial Library. No revenue has been collected in July as this is a new Development Contribution however, as developments progress it is expected that the revenue will increase.

| Library Summary Report July 2024 | | Actual | Budget | |
|---|--|---------------|---------------|---|
| Revenue | | | | |
| Revenue | | 6,971 | 7,402 | ↓ |
| Development Contributions | | - | 68,360 | ↓ |
| Subsidies | | - | 14,167 | ↓ |
| Rates | | 419,460 | 424,391 | ⇒ |
| | | 426,431 | 514,320 | |
| Operating Expenses | | | | |
| Maintenance | | 214,314 | 262,516 | ↑ |
| Overheads | | 42,959 | 69,320 | ↑ |
| Internal Interest | | 99,541 | 99,036 | ⇒ |
| Depreciation | | 1,124 | 1,124 | |
| | | 85,771 | 85,771 | |
| | | 443,709 | 517,767 | ↑ |
| Surplus/ (Deficit) | | (17,278) | (3,447) | ↓ |

6.2. **Sustainability and Climate Change Impacts**

The recommendations in this report do have sustainability and/or climate change implications through the availability of technologies in a library setting reducing the need for participants in programmes to purchase their own technology and devices. Libraries promote sustainability by providing wide-ranging collections and resources that are borrowed extensively, including digital resources that carry a reduced carbon footprint. In addition, as public libraries act as providers of information, libraries play a role in teaching environmental literacy by educating communities to learn about climate change.

6.3. **Risk Management**

There are no specific risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report. Given the

6.4. **Health and Safety**

There are no Health and safety risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

7. **CONTEXT**

7.1. **Consistency with Policy**

This matter is a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

7.2. **Authorising Legislation**

7.3. **Consistency with Community Outcomes**

The Council's community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

7.4. **Authorising Delegations**

The Community and Recreation Committee have the delegation to receive this report.

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

FILE NO and TRIM NO: GOV-01-04 / AQU-02-09 / 240905150863

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 17 September 2024

AUTHOR(S): Matthew Greenwood, Aquatics Manager

SUBJECT: Aquatics September 2024 Report



General Manager



Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Community and Recreation Committee with a summary of the Aquatic Facilities year to date progress, as measured against the unit's most significant Key Performance Indicators. It includes a summary of customer attendance data to 31 August 2024.
- 1.2. The report contains budget results for the year to 31 July 2024.
- 1.3. Additionally, this report contains an update on recent recruitment and staff training initiatives.

Attachments:

- i. Nil

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 240905150863.
- (b) **Notes** a strong response to recent recruitment activity with over 60 candidates applying for Lifeguard and Learn to Swim positions at our facilities.
- (c) **Notes** council staff working closely with Ministry of Social Development to identify opportunities for funded training and development of employment opportunities.
- (d) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

3. BACKGROUND

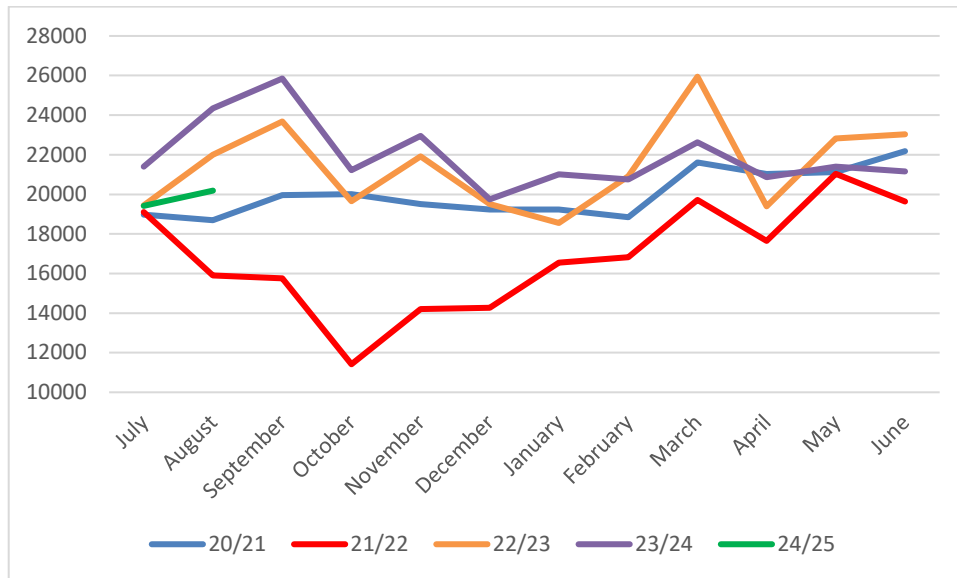
- 3.1. The Waimakariri District Council's Aquatic Facilities team deliver best practice aquatic programmes and enjoyable recreation opportunities for the ongoing wellbeing of our community and visitors. We do so from four sites: two indoor, year-round facilities and two seasonal summer pools, which operate over the summer period from October to April.
- 3.2. The Aquatic Facilities team work closely with partner organisations, clubs, trusts and interest groups to support water safety programmes, grow and develop swimming and Aquatic exercise initiatives, and works with the Council to ensure our facilities are inclusive places, accessible to all members of the community.

- 3.3. Customer satisfaction surveys are run every six months as a means of engaging with our users, inviting feedback on the facilities, staff and programmes offered. Overall satisfaction with our offering is measured as part of the survey against a target result of 90% or greater and is one of the facilities non-financial key performance indicators.

4. ISSUES AND OPTIONS

4.1. Aquatics customer attendance

The following table provides a summary of ticket sales across the facilities to date as at 31 August 2024.



August through December of 2021 (Red) saw the introduction of level restrictions, vaccine passes and head count limits within indoor spaces which restricted our ability to deliver services, on top of a time when the community were cautious of gathering in groups and indoor spaces.

Attendance at the facilities are currently down on a month by month comparison against last year with just over 4,000 fewer visits, although up by 800 visits when compared to the previous month of July.

August saw a number of weather extremes including snow, which generally discourages customers from swimming. Dudley’s Spa pool had a run of issues including impellor, filter issues and pipe blockages which required a closure of just over 3 weeks while the problems were diagnosed and parts sought and replaced.

While impacts from Covid are now less common, winter sickness was rife both within the team and with customers. Increased awareness of the risks of communicable diseases has seen an increased number of customers choosing not to visit or staying away from their booked lessons rather than risk spreading any sickness further.

It is also important to note the economic impacts both currently in play and across the last few years, with a surprisingly strong economy initially, post covid outbreak, through to the current economic situation and cost of living pressures impacting on discretionary spending.

4.2. Recruitment and staff development

Following a number of challenging years with the recruitment and development of new staff, the tide seems to have turned. Where in previous years we have had between ten to fifteen candidates to choose from, in our most recent recruitment we saw over 60 responses.

This will have been aided in large part by the work done with the Human Resource and Communications and Engagement teams to promote the Aquatics roles and the Council as a great workplace. This included a great video put together by our Comms staff which stars a number of our great team members, highlighting their journey within Aquatics and what they enjoy about working for Council. This can be viewed on the information displays scattered around Council facilities and on Council's Facebook page.



Additionally, staff from Aquatics and a number of other areas across Council worked a stand at the recent North Canterbury Youth Futures expo which was held while applications were open for the roles. It was great to be able to engage directly with potential candidates, talking about the opportunities afforded and the training and development we can offer.

We are currently working through the short listing process to narrow down the pool of candidates to those best suited, with prior knowledge or experience and availability which matches both our current need but also that of the business as we head into the busier summer months.

In addition to this we have begun a targeted recruitment drive for staff to work at the summer pool and support that facility for the season. Oxford community pool is a much loved asset so it is fitting that we can support the community through local jobs, services and training opportunities.

The Human Resource team and Aquatics staff are currently working on an opportunity with the Ministry of Social Development which would see a number of candidates identified and supported through both training and a work trial all funded by the ministry. This looks to be a promising way to identify, train and trial some new staff, putting them in a really good position to apply for future vacancies. Candidates will come away with real world qualifications and experience with support from the ministry to cover training, wage and support costs.

While there has been a lot of pressures on facility staffing levels of late, we look forward to once again having a robust and resilient team, ahead of the coming busy summer months.

Implications for Community Wellbeing

Community Wellbeing continues to be the key driver for all activities within the district's Aquatic Centres. From the sharing of knowledge, developing key life skills, fellowship and the opportunity for recreation, rehabilitation and recovery, the wellbeing of our community is central to our ongoing relationship with our customers.

- 4.3. The Management Team has reviewed this report and support the recommendations.

5. COMMUNITY VIEWS

5.1. Mana whenua

Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri hapū are not likely to be affected by, or have an interest in the subject matter of this report.

5.2. Groups and Organisations

There are a number of groups and organisations who are affected by, or to have a vested interest in the ongoing operation of the districts Aquatic Facilities. Aquatics staff continue to work closely with key community partners and wider industry organisations, including North Canterbury Swim Club, Water Skills for Life, Waimakariri Access Group, Recreation Aotearoa, Swimming NZ and the North Canterbury Sports and Recreation Trust, to name a few.

5.3. Wider Community

In our most recent General Customer Satisfaction survey run April 2023, Aquatics achieved an overall customer satisfaction rating of 95%. This is up from our previous result of 94% six months prior and ahead of our targeted $\leq 90\%$. The next survey is scheduled to run in May 2024.

A review of the District Aquatics plan in 2023 reinforced the outcomes of the original document, with growing community demand for Hydrotherapy a key area of opportunity, additional leisure space at Kaiapoi and the integration of the Pavilion into the main facility at Dudley and what this would mean for current changing spaces.

Aquatics staff continue to engage with our community, through platforms such as SwimDesk, the Councils website, Facebook pages and emails to members. Further, we invite feedback through our in-house surveys, customer feedback boxes, staff engagement and social media channels.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1. Financial Implications

The following table summarises the Aquatic Facilities operational financial position in the 2024/25 year as at 31 July 2023. August Financials are still in draft, waiting for final invoicing and month end procedures.

| Aquatic Facilities Budget Summary | YTD Actual \$'000 | YTD Budget \$'000 | Variance \$'000 |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Operational Income | 102 | 113 | (11) |
| Rates Funding | 373 | 381 | (8) |
| Total Income | 475 | 494 | (19) |
| Operation Expenses | 311 | 349 | 38 |
| Maintenance | 19 | 31 | 11 |
| Corporate overheads | 70 | 77 | 6 |
| Internal Interest | 30 | 30 | 0 |
| Depreciation | 74 | 74 | 0 |
| Total Expenditure | 504 | 559 | 55 |
| Total Surplus (deficit) | (29) | (65) | 36 |

As noted in 4.1 attendance was down against the previous year for a number of reasons as discussed. The Learn to swim programme continues to operate at capacity with a number of new staff coming onboard to help address increased demand.

Of the three main activities, income results remain on budget for recreation and pre-paid entries, with learn to swim income higher than forecast due to the recent increased numbers. Facility hire and schools programme represent a portion of the negative income result with invoicing for schools yet to occur at the end of the term and our main facility hire period being school swimming sports which happens in the new year.

Direct staffing costs remained on budget due to the need to continue to meet contractual obligations and safe operating requirements.

There are no financial implications of the decisions sought by this report.

This budget is included in the Annual Plan/Long Term Plan.

6.2. **Sustainability and Climate Change Impacts**

While the recommendations in this report do not have a direct sustainability or climate change impact, the impact our operation has on the community and environment are key drivers for the delivery of services and our planning processes.

As explored in the District Aquatic Strategy, ensuring the efficiency of our operation is key to managing the sustainability of current and future offerings. This ensures that facilities will be well utilised and continue to be good value for money for future generations.

Aquatic staff continue to investigate more sustainable and climate conscious alternatives with examples including switching to LED lighting, closely monitoring our water quality to reduce the need for additional chemical balancing and switching products to prioritise less impactful chemicals for cleaning and filtration.

To further minimise its environmental impact, our pool plant utilises systems to recirculate water and recover heat, which decrease the overall energy required to operate.

6.3 **Risk Management**

Changing attitudes around the risks from communicable diseases and colds continue to impact on both our staffing ability but also on customers attendance for recreation and programmed activities.

The treatment systems and processes around the ongoing monitoring of water quality are designed to minimise risk to customers from water borne illness and communicable disease. Staff will continue to work closely with Te Whatu Ora to address situations as we are made aware of them and take the appropriate steps.

Fluctuating attendance affects the revenue split between ticket sales and rates revenue. Staff will continue to monitor revenue and expenses closely, reporting regularly, working to refine the business model to identify efficiencies and meet the community demand for low cost, safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities.

There are no risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

6.4 **Health and Safety**

Customer and staff safety is key to the ongoing success of the facilities with leadership staff working closely with Council's Health and Safety team, SportNZ, and other key groups to ensure our ongoing operation continues to comply with Ministry of Health instructions and guidance.

Community spread from colds, viruses and notifiable diseases can impact our availability to safely operate facilities. The Aquatics Standard Operating Procedures and Pool Water Quality Risk Management Plan outline the steps taken around effective treatment of pool water to ensure we provide a safe environment for our customers. Our Aquatics BCP outlines how we will manage staffing pressures to ensure we continue to operate a safe and secure environment for our customers at all times.

Poolsafe accreditation requires robust practices around reporting, investigation, trending and management of both staff and public accidents. This is on top of the Council's Health and Safety requirements and ensures a comprehensive overview.

There are no health and safety risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

7. CONTEXT

7.1. Consistency with Policy

This matter is not a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

7.2. Authorising Legislation

Poolsafe - Though not currently a legislative requirement, Poolsafe accreditation is recognised as industry best practice, representing a base safe standard for operating a public aquatic facility following a coronial enquiry delivered in October 2006.

7.3. Consistency with Community Outcomes

The Council's community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report.

Public spaces are diverse, respond to changing demographics and meet local needs for leisure and recreation.

Council commits to promoting health and wellbeing and minimizing the risk of social harm to its communities.

Our community has access to the knowledge and skills needed to participate fully in society and to exercise choice about how to live their lives.

People are able to enjoy meaningful relationships with others in their families, whanau, communities, iwi and workplaces.

Our community has equitable access to the essential infrastructure and services required to support community wellbeing.

Public spaces express our cultural identities and help to foster an inclusive society.

Waimakariri's diversity is freely expressed, respected and valued.

People are supported to participate in improving the health and sustainability of our environment.

Our district transitions towards a reduced carbon and waste district.

The natural and built environment in which people live is clean, healthy and safe.

There is access to meaningful, rewarding, and safe employment within the district.

Our district recognizes the value of both paid and unpaid work.

Infrastructure and services are sustainable, resilient, and affordable.

Our district readily adapts to innovation and emerging technologies that support its transition to a circular economy.

There are sufficient skills and education opportunities available to support the economy.

7.4. Authorising Delegations

This committee has delegated authority for the governance of the Aquatic Facilities.