

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, RANGIORA SERVICE CENTRE, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 3.30PM.

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors J Goldsworthy, T Fulton, and P Williams.

C Brown (General Manager - Community and Recreation), M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager), G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager), T Sturley (Community Team Manager), K Steel (Ecologist – Biodiversity), V Thompson (Senior Advisor Business and Centres), R Thornton (Community Development Facilitator), M McGregor (Senior Advisor Community and Recreation), C Taylor-Claude (Parks Officer) and A Smith (Governance Coordinator).

1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest reported.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee held on 29 November 2022.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

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 29 November 2022, as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

4 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

5 DEPUTATIONS

5.1 Biddy Riley

B Riley introduced herself to the Committee and spoke on behalf of Katie Croft who was unable to attend the meeting. B Riley had been a permanent wheelchair user for the past four and a half years following an accident. Prior to this accident, B Riley advised she had led an active outdoor life, which included swimming at the beach and rivers, using walking tracks and biking. Since being confined to the wheelchair B Riley had come to realise

how many barriers there were for her and others in the same situation and she believed that beaches, rivers and tracks should be accessible to all ratepayers. Attention was brought of the current challenges of accessibility to the beaches in the Waimakariri district for people in wheelchairs. It was intended that a submission be made to the Council's Annual Plan for wheelchair access be considered in all future plans and policies and that beach matting be installed on Waikuku Beach. The beach matting would be placed on top of the sand and it could be positioned from the carpark access beside the Surf Lifesaving Clubrooms, out to the beach between the surf lifesaving flags. As well as wheel chair users, the beach matting would also allow easier access to the beach for push chairs, people who use walking aids, mobility scooters and anyone with walking difficulties. It was suggested that the matting could be rolled out each day by the surf lifesavers and stored in the surf lifesaving clubrooms overnight. Having access to beaches for everyone allowed for inclusiveness in all activities, including swimming, paddle boarding or being part of a family outing and there was potential improvement in health and wellbeing of having this available to wheelchair bound people. Beach matting was already available in New Zealand and had been installed at many beaches by other Councils, including Mount Maunganui, Papamoa, Waihi and New Brighton. It was also requested that the Council consider making beach accessible wheel chairs available for people to hire, which could possibly also be stored in the Waikuku Beach surf lifesaving clubrooms. These could be reserved for two-hour periods on an online booking system. In closing, B Riley asked the Councillors to consider this request and make Waikuku beach accessible for all to enjoy.

Mayor Gordon sought clarification that if there was the beach matting installed, would there still be a need for the beach wheel chairs to be available for hire. B Riley advised that in her case she would not need one, but they would be required by some people.

In response to a question from Councillor Williams, B Riley said that it was envisaged that it would be advertised that the matting would be available for use when the surf lifesavers were on duty and had rolled it out, and then at the end of the day it would be rolled back up.

Following a question from Councillor Brine on the numbers of people who may use this matting to access the beach, B Riley believed it would be of benefit to many people, wheel chair users, families with push chairs, and people who needed to use walking aids.

In response to this deputation, C Brown advised that several years ago the Waimakariri Access Group had identified beach access as an issue to the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Working Group. At the time the Council had put aside funding to build a platform at the top of the stop bank, to allow anyone access to view the ocean. Since this time, there had been many beaches throughout the country where the matting had been installed, as previously indicated by B Riley. At the other locations throughout the country where the matting had been installed, surf club members had undertaken to rolling out the matting each day. There would need to be discussions with Waikuku Beach Surf Club regarding their members undertaking this role, and also any design of the placement of the matting would also need to be discussed with the Club. Once a design had been confirmed, this would need to go to the Woodend-Sefton Community Board for the agreement of the Board members. C Brown also confirmed that B Riley would be kept informed of the process and provided with an opportunity to review the design.

The Chairperson thanked B Riley for her presentation to the Committee.

6 REPORTS

6.1 Two applications to the Biodiversity Contestable Fund – K Steel (Ecologist – Biodiversity)

K Steel presented this report seeking the approval of the Committee for two applications to the Biodiversity Contestable Fund. The first application was for an expansion of the Mount Richardson Trapping Project, run by the Foothills Hunters Conservation Group. Initial funding had been received from Department of Conservation (DOC) and Environment Canterbury for this project and had staff support from the Rangiora DOC office. The funding would be used for additional traps targeting stoats, rats, possums, and hedgehogs.

The second application was for the repair and upgrade of a damaged fence at Taylor's Bush, which was a high value beech and podocarp remnant of 8.3ha at the base of the Oxford Foothills. This area contained a number of threatened plant species and was protected under a QEII covenant.

There were no questions.

Moved: Councillor Redmond

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 230209017216.
- (b) **Notes** the amount available in the Biodiversity Contestable Fund totals \$49,623.
- (c) **Approves** a grant of \$5120.00 towards the work of the Foothills Hunters Conservation Group on the Mount Richardson trapping project.
- (d) **Approves** a grant of \$2171.30 towards a fence repair and weed control in Taylor's Bush (716 Woodside Road, Oxford).
- (e) **Notes** that successful applications would be subject to an accountability agreement between the applicant and the Council.

CARRIED

In supporting the recommendation, Councillor Redmond believed that both applications were worthy of the Council support.

6.2 Placemaking Initiative – V Thompson (Senior Advisor Business and Centres)

V Thompson presented this report which sought approval to allocate \$2,000 funding for large outdoor games for the community's use. These games would be placed on the pavement and/or lawn area in front of the Rangiora Library from Monday to Friday during business hours, over the summer months. The games would be stored in the library offices outside business hours. It was noted that the beanbags on the Council and library lawns had been well received and the games could be relocated to other sites if required. This was part of a wider Council placemaking programme led by the Greenspace unit, initiating small low-cost placemaking interventions around Rangiora town centre, to support businesses that operated centrally by encouraging more people into the area.

Moved: Councillor Cairns

Seconded: Councillor Brine

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 23010500065.
- (b) **Endorses** the project and the general approach toward low-fi placemaking initiatives implemented by staff to date, as listed in this report.
- (c) **Approves** the proposed \$2,000 budget from budget code 10.484.670.2465 (Economic Development) for the purchase of large outdoor games and/or other programming expenses linked to this project.

CARRIED

6.3 **Trustee Appointments – Waimakariri Public Arts Trust – M McGregor (Senior Advisor Community and Recreation)**

M McGregor presented this report, which sought approval for the appointment of Trustees to the Waimakariri Public Arts Trust. The Trust currently had four members and the Trust deed allowed for a maximum of seven members, with two additional Advisory Trustees known as “Charitable Trustees”. The Trust could also appoint Specialist Advisors for advice in particular areas of expertise.

M McGregor took the opportunity to introduce to the Committee, recently appointment Greenspace staff member, Chrissie Taylor-Claude, Parks Officer.

Councillor Blackie advised that Trustee Nicole Weber had now tendered her resignation from the Trust.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 230209016863.
- (b) **Approves** the appointment of Judith Hoult, Margot Korhonen and Nicole Weber as Trustees for the Waimakariri Public Art Trust for a term of three years.
- (c) **Notes** that Judith Hoult and Nicole Weber were previous members of the Trust board whose terms expired in September 2022, they had applied to be reappointed through the expressions of interest process to serve another term.
- (d) **Approves** the appointment of Win Stringer and Shelly Topp as Charitable Trustees for a period of three years.
- (e) **Approves** the appointment of Areta Wilkinson as a Trust Board Advisor for a period of three years.
- (f) **Notes** by approving the appointment of the recommended Trustees that the Trust would then have the maximum number of trustees and charitable trustees allowed under the Trust Deed.

- (g) **Notes** the initial term of the original trustees was staggered to avoid all board positions falling vacant at the same time, the Trust Deed stipulates that the term for all subsequent trustees was three years.
- (h) **Notes** the Trust had one elected member appointed to the Trust board, this was currently Councillor Al Blackie whose term expired in September 2023. At the expiration of this term, Councillor Blackie's appointment would need to be reviewed and rolled over, or another elected member appointed.

CARRIED

6.4 **Covid-19 Social Recovery – Key Projects Update – T Sturley (Community Team Manager)**

T Sturley and R Thornton presented this report which provided an overview of the Community team activity relating to key strategic project areas, for Covid-19 social recovery. Some aspects of the original full Council Covid-19 Recovery Strategy are now either completed or absorbed back into business as usual, however social recovery was a longer-term process.

R Thornton spoke to a presentation and overview of the Next Steps website that had been under development for the past two years. This website would be a one stop shop and a hub of information that would replace the Social Services Waimakariri website. The project was designed to empower the community to have information easily accessible, if required. The website would be officially launched on 29 March 2023. The Next Steps project dovetailed with the Mobile Community Hub. R Thornton confirmed the website address was NextSteps.org.nz.

Following a question from Councillor Cairns, it was confirmed that this would be a stand-alone website as a directory of information and was easy to use.

Councillor Redmond asked how it was intended to promote the website and R Thornton advised that funding had been acquired for many promotional features, including advertising on buses, promotional wristbands, pens and table coasters which would be placed in local hospitality premises.

Mayor Gordon commended all who had been involved in the project, and suggested it was exactly what the community needed.

Councillor Fulton referred to families dealing with financial difficulties and the issue of stigma of poverty for high school children of these families who were not being well fed. R Thornton advised that in developing this website there had been discussions with the high schools and other key users, so that Counsellors at the schools could share the information about the website with the families for their own use.

Moved: Councillor Cairns

Seconded: Mayor Gordon

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 230208016559.
- (b) **Notes** the evidence-based, collaborative approach applied to the facilitation of social recovery from COVID-19, gave effect to the social recovery aspects of Council's 2020 draft COVID- 19 Recovery Plan.
- (c) **Notes** a number of key projects including Food Security, the Kaiapoi Community Hub, Arts Strategy Development and the establishment of the 'Next Steps' website, including the acquisition of funding for its development, promotion and maintenance.

- (d) **Notes** that, with Central Government's significant financial contribution and the collaborative approach, sound governance and planning applied to date, key funders, including Rata Foundation and Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) had expressed significant interest in continuing to support the further development of these key projects.
- (e) **Notes** that Food Secure North Canterbury had been used by Ministry of Social Development as a 'best practice' exemplar for the creation of a food secure District.
- (f) **Notes** recent and unexpected opportunities to empower local residents, particularly the Mobile Hub and Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs initiatives.

CARRIED

Councillor Cairns supported this initiative which was a way to connect the right organisations with people in need and congratulated all involved in the development of the website.

6.5 Aquatics February Update – M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager)

M Greenwood presented this report, which updated the Committee on aquatic centre matters. Key issues highlighted were staffing and recruitment, which continued to be a challenge in the current employment environment. It was noted that some pools (Hanmer Springs and Queenstown) have had to reduce hours of operation due to staffing issues. Locally, there had been steps put in place at Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre regarding staffing levels. Also highlighted was the delivery to the aquatics facility of various ladies hygiene products, which would help to address period poverty, minimising the stigma and enabling access to those affected. The Council's Youth Development Facilitator, Emily Belton, organised the delivery of these products to a number of support networks, including the aquatic facilities. Also noted was the issue of a shortage of CO₂ gas to a number of plant shutdowns throughout the country. This gas was used to manage the pH levels in the pool water. As the shortage was likely to continue for some time, alternative treatment options were being investigated.

M Greenwood also highlighted a six-month trial being introduced for a \$3.20 entry fees for approved community service card holders for pre-school swimmers. This discount would benefit those most in need, while minimising the impact on the wider aquatic community. This would be an effective trial without locking the Council in for any lasting effects and would be a saving of approximately \$1 per individual. Figures were sought from the Ministry of Social Development on card holders in the district and those visiting the pools, but these figures were not available at the time of the report being written. It was estimated that approximately 3,000 (or half) of the visitors would be community services card holders.

Following a question from Councillor Cairns, M Greenwood responded that the six month trial would allow time to gauge the feedback and balance that against the budget.

Councillor Fulton asked if this would mean further pressure on staffing levels, with an increase in visitors to the pools. M Greenwood responded that if this trial drew in more business, that would be a benefit for the quieter time during the middle of the day. The impacts of staff shortages were during the evenings and on the weekends.

Councillor Goldsworthy asked what the overall capacity for visitors to the Dudley Pool was and staffing levels. In reply, M Greenwood advised that there were always two lifeguards on duty at all times, with the ratio being two to 80 swimmers with another staff member on duty for every 80 visitors beyond that. As capacity changed during the day, the staff numbers were adjusted accordingly and there needed to be consideration given to staff required for pool testing and administering any first aid requirements. The figures of exact numbers of daily visitors would be determined and that information subsequently provided to committee members.

Councillor Redmond asked if there was to be certain times and days when the community services card could be used. M Greenwood noted that Christchurch City Council had set the trial for use of discount cards for Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm, but he had not determined any specific times as he did not envisage that there would be any significant impact on the operation of the pool. Pre-school swimmers generally visited the pool during the quiet periods.

Moved: Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Cairns

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 230124008696.
- (b) **Notes** Aquatic Facilities progress against key performance indicators including Financial results, Water Quality and Customer Satisfaction.
- (c) **Approves** a limited six month trial of a discounted entry rate of \$3.20 for Preschool and Caregivers who hold a valid Community Service card.
- (d) **Supports** staff in further investigation of this initiative with the aim of informing Councils Long Term Plan.
- (e) **Notes** the impact of recent recruitment and staffing movements which had required a temporary period of shorter hours at the Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre.
- (f) **Notes** investigation of alternative treatment methods following national CO² supply issues.
- (g) **Notes** the opportunity for staff to address Period Poverty through collaboration with the Councils Community team.
- (h) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Councillor Brine agreed that there should not be any restrictions on when the holders of Community Service Cards could make use of the discounted visits to the pools for pre-schoolers to swim. Councillor Brine also took the opportunity to note that the swimming instructors at Dudley Pool were very dedicated and also commended M Greenwood on his management of the facilities.

Councillor Cairns supported this report and the trial for the discounted swims for pre-schoolers visiting with Community Services Cards. The introduction of any programmes to reduce the number of drownings in New Zealand was to be promoted.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

8 PORTFOLIO UPDATES

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

Councillor Blackie noted that the Huria Reserve was moving into Stage Two now which involved more planting and paths, curving around where Aqualand were located. A Resource Consent had been required for Stage two but there had been no any delays with this.

The resignation of Greg Byrnes from the Te Kohaka o Trust was highlighted and Councillor Blackie advised that there was currently a recruitment process being undertaken. He was pleased to report that the Trust managing the Waikuku Beach Campground had got through its first busy summer months.

The marina at Kaiapoi was currently full, with the arrival of another boat over the weekend and there were now no spare moorings available. Councillor Blackie noted that it was good for the Council to be getting some returns on that investment.

The Kaiapoi River Carnival date was now set for 1 April 2023

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

Councillor Brine noted that the Rangiora Town Hall seating improvements in Theatre Three was underway, as well as the upgrade to the foyer area. The foyer upgrade was being fully funded by Town Hall Cinemas.

The Community Facilities Network Plan – a Request for Proposal would soon be going out to the community. The Plan would look at all Council and private community meeting spaces to make sure there were sufficient facilities available in the right places to meet the needs of the communities now and in the future. This included the Southbrook Sports Club.

Following a recent meeting with the North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust regarding Mainpower Stadium with a decision being made to bring some changes to the operation of the Stadium with potentially commercial leases of some spaces and contract services for some areas. This was a change to the current arrangement and more information would be brought to the Community and Recreation Committee once details had been investigated further.

8.3 Community Development and Wellbeing – Councillor Brent Cairns.

Councillor Cairns noted that there was currently a shortage of some food items, impacting on hospitality businesses in the district (including lemons and lettuces). The Kaiapoi Food Forest and Community Garden were both encouraging community members to develop gardens and have their own food supplies.

there had been a delay to the Rangiora Hospital improvements due to an increase in services to be provided in the new facility, which would ultimately be of benefit to the district.

There had been 73 migrant residents who had learnt to speak English which would benefit all, as it meant migrants would be in a position to seek employment in the community.

The Hope Trust was now providing community dinners and on Wednesday, 70 people attended between 5.30pm – 7.30pm at the Baptist Church.

There would be a volunteer expo held in March 2023.

The Kaiapoi Community Hub discussions would be held on Thursday 27 February 2023 between 5pm – 7pm or on Saturday 4 March 2023 between 10.30 and 12.30 at the Kaiapoi Library.

North Canterbury Neighbourhood Support's database "Gets Ready", which lists information on items members had on their properties which could be used during emergency situations. It was hoped that this database information could be made available to Civil Defence. It was suggested that there be a demonstration of the "Gets Ready" database to the Committee at a future meeting or workshop.

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

Councillor Blackie was disappointed to advise that there had been a setback with the installation of artwork at Mainpower Stadium. The donators did not approve of the options of artwork suggested by the artist and had withdrawn the funding.

The artwork donated by the Marshalls had been installed beside the Whites Road access path to Ohoka Domain and encouraged members to visit the site and view this artwork.

9 **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions.

10 **URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no urgent general business.

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

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Moved Councillor Redmond

Seconded Councillor Blackie

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is 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:

Item N°	Report for Information:	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
11.1	Report from Chris Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation)	Community Facilities North Woodend	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) 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 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Item N°	Reason for protection of interests	Ref NZS 9202:2003 Appendix A
11.1	Protection of privacy of natural persons To carry out commercial activities without prejudice	A2(a) A2(b)ii

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING

Resolution to resume in Open Meeting

Moved Councillor Redmond

Seconded Councillor Blackie

THAT open meeting resumes and the resolution(s) made with the public excluded be made public.

CARRIED

OPEN MEETING

11.1 **Community Facilities North Woodend** – Chris Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation)

Moved Mayor Gordon

Seconded Councillor Blackie

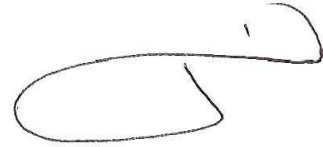
THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 230203014865.
- (b) **Approves** that staff proceed to consult with the wider Pegasus community on the two proposed locations to confirm the site for the Pegasus Community Centre development.
- (c) **Notes** that a further report will be submitted to the Committee on the outcome of the consultation, and to approve the preferred location, the development of the internal and the external design, the proposed procurement route and the formation of a Project Steering Group.
- (d) **Notes** the formation of a Project Steering Group (PSG) is proposed to develop the design and contractual terms. This will be subject to the appropriate delegation being transferred.
- (e) **Notes** that staff are still working through valuations and land options for the North Woodend Community Facility (Ravenswood) solution and will submit a further report to the Council once this has been completed.
- (f) **Circulates** this public excluded report to the Woodend-Sefton Community Board and also send a memorandum to Board members prior to this.

CARRIED

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.14pm.

CONFIRMED



Chairperson
Councillor Philip Redmond

21 March 2023

Date