

## WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA, ON TUESDAY 31 MAY 2022, AT 3:30PM.

#### PRESENT

Councillor Mealings (Chairperson), Mayor Gordon, Councillor Blackie, Councillor Brine, Councillor Doody and Councillor Redmond.

#### IN ATTENDANCE

C Brown (Manager Community and Recreation), G MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager), M Greenwood (Aquatic Facilities Manager), P Eskett (District Libraries Manager), T Sturley (Community Team Manager), M Burton (Age-Friendly Community Facilitator), G Maxwell (Policy Technician), M Kwant (Community Projects Officer), V Spittal (Senior Policy Analyst) and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

#### **1** APOLOGIES

Moved: Councillor Doody                      Seconded: Councillor Blackie

**THAT** an apology for early departure be received and sustained from Councillor A Blackie.

**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 15 March 2022

Moved: Councillor Blackie                      Seconded: Councillor Redmond

**THAT** the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 15 March 2022, as a true and accurate record.

**CARRIED**

#### **4** MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

#### **5** DEPUTATIONS

##### **5.1** The Hope Trust (the Trust)

T Sturley introduced Tracy Pirie, the Manager of the Trust, one of the Council's key partners in supporting the community by providing a range of services and support, particularly to those who were more vulnerable.

T Pirie reported that the Trust formally started in July 2012, however, in reality, it was born after the 2010 earthquakes. The mission of the Trust was to

restore hope in families and individuals, and there were no barriers to people wishing to access their services. At the Trust, they believed in wrap-around services that included the physical, the emotional, the spiritual and the family. They did this by educating, upskilling, and empowering. In addition, they provided support and advocacy when and where needed depending on the people's circumstances and what the Trust could offer.

T Pirie advised that the Trust provided professional counselling and ran a community garden, a food bank, and an affordable Opshop. The community garden was open five days a week, and there was a room where people in need could take food, clothing, bedding etc. There was always a Friday barbeque at the community garden, which allowed people to meet each other. The community garden had about 115 regular patrons, and 70% of these individuals had physical or mental health issues. In March 2022, 665 people benefitted from 337 parcels provided by the Food Bank.

T Pirie explained that the Trust also ran other groups, such as a men's breakfast and a painting crew funded through Creative Communities. They also hosted Community Kai, which was a community meal for about 70 people that had to be stopped due to Covid-19. In addition, the Trust visited the Lehmans Road Campground twice a week and distributed food. Until recently, there were 26 families or individuals they supported, which had now increased to about 48 people. The Trust also ran a Fruit and Vege Co-operative providing fruit and vegetables for \$15. They also had a foot clinic every six weeks where people could get their toenails cut when they could not do it themselves.

In conclusion, T Pirie noted that the Trust had 170 volunteers who worked 13,740 hours and 6,300 people attended the Trust's activities last year. She further indicated that February 2022 had been a quiet month because people were isolating due to Covid. However, activities had slowly picked up through March, and the Trust had been very busy during April. She found this quite concerning because there seemed to be a greater need in the community than last year.

Councillor Doody sought clarity on the Lighthouse Programme. T Pirie explained that the programme was aimed at children with behaviour issues. The children were given the opportunity to assist in the community garden and were provided counselling, guidance and empowerment along the way.

Councillor Doody further asked if the people that came to the Trust for assistance became members of the Rangiora Baptist Church. T Pirie responded that the church was separate from the activities of the Trust.

Mayor Gordon commended the Trust for the amazing work they were doing. The Trust was highly valued in the community, and he had referred many people in need to the Trust. The Trust had always been very adaptive to supporting them and finding solutions, housing and food. He believed that the faith-based values they instilled were important, and some came to the Trust because of these values. He did not consider faith-based values as a barrier in his dealings with the church.

Councillor Mealings thanked T Pirie for the work being done by the Trust and for coming and presenting to the Committee.

## 5.2 **Age-Friendly Waimakariri Advisory Group** (the Group)

J Gumbrell acknowledged the help and support the Group had enjoyed from the Council over the past three years and the valued mahi that M Burton had provided to the Group. She extended their appreciation for the contribution and wisdom of Councillor Doody, who was a member of the Group. She noted that they were seeking approval to continue the Council and the Group's work, as there was more to be done to improve our community to enable older

people to stay connected, healthy, active and respected. They were also seeking approval for some changes and refinements in the Group's role as a result of the review they carried out in late 2021, called 'Looking to the Future'. They were confident these changes would make the Group more effective.

J Gumbrell provided the Committee with a brief overview of the Group. She explained that the Council initiated the development of an Age-Friendly Plan in 2018. The Committee received annual reports on progress against the objectives set in the Plan. Because of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Group narrowed its focus from eight to four areas: community support, health services, respect and social inclusion, communication and social participation. The current Age-friendly Plan had a three-year time frame 2019-2021. She highlighted the future roles that the Group had clarified as part of its review:

- advising on planning,
- Monitoring
- Support and Endorsing
- Advocacy and Accountability
- Networking

The Group had proposed a work programme to give effects to these roles, which specified outcomes that specified what success would look like for each age-friendly team. The work programme also signalled whom the Group would partner or work with to collect data and information to assist future planning. In addition, the Group would initiate ongoing consultation with older people in the organisations that worked with and for them across the district to inform planning and support for the mahi with the Council staff to ensure the delivery of age-friendly outcomes.

Councillor Mealings thanked J Gumbrell for her presentation and the work of the Group.

## **6 REPORTS**

### **6.1 Age-Friendly Plan Progress Report – T Sturley (Community Team Manager) and M Burton (Age-Friendly Community Facilitator)**

T Sturley presented the final review of the Age-friendly Waimakariri Plan, which the Council approved in December 2019. It included recommendations from the Age-friendly Advisory Group to ensure the sustainability of the Group, which the Community Team could comfortably support. She highlighted the evidence-based approach to the development and delivery of the Plan, which was very broad-reaching and had been an excellent mechanism for making the Council and the community think more clearly about the implications of our ageing population. The Age-friendly Waimakariri Plan had been adopted by the Office for Seniors as an exemplar for other communities seeking age-friendly status which was to be commended.

T Sturley thanked M Burton for her thorough and professional approach in researching and developing the Plan and ensuring its delivery. She also acknowledged the work that M Burton had done in picking up the Accessibility Strategy and supporting the Waimakariri Access Group to increase its capability, capacity and reach across the community and starting to facilitate a review of that strategy.

Moved: Councillor Doody

Seconded: Mayor Gordon

**THAT** the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 220513077076.
- (b) **Notes** the role of the Age-friendly Facilitator and Advisory Group in overseeing, facilitating and supporting the delivery of the Age-friendly Plan, via the various networks and service providers across the District, and the various teams within the Council.
- (c) **Notes** the proactive role of the Age-friendly Advisory Group in identifying initiatives that facilitate positive outcomes for local senior adults.
- (d) **Notes** the role of the Age-friendly Advisory Group and its partners in the ongoing COVID-19 response and social recovery planning.
- (e) **Notes** the significant work undertaken by the Age-friendly Facilitator to ensure delivery of the Plan and champion the needs and aspirations of local older people.
- (f) **Notes** that, while the Age-friendly facilitator fixed-term contract expired at the end of June 2022, community development support for the Advisory Group could be maintained as part of business as usual under the Community Team's Inclusion and Connection Portfolio.
- (g) **Notes** the aspirations of the Age-friendly Advisory Group to continue working collaboratively with the Council, to represent the collective voices of senior adults in the District.
- (h) **Approves** the continuation of the Age-friendly Advisory Group, with appropriate Community Development staff support provided, as part of business as usual, under the Community Team's Connection and Inclusion Portfolio.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Doody thanked J Gumbrell and J Mather for their presentation and thanked M Burton for all her work in getting the Age-friendly Plan up and running. Councillor Doody commended the other members of the Group for the work being done.

Mayor Gordon supported the motion and acknowledged the work being done by J Gumbrell. He noted that he enjoyed J Gumbrell's regular columns in the newspaper that were a source of keeping the issues she raised at the forefront of people's minds. He believed that J Gumbrell and M Burton's most outstanding was the integration of the age-friendly into the Council's business as usual. He acknowledged the great work done by M Burton for many years, noting that the community was hugely indebted to her for her work. She showed great aroha for our community, and it showed through.

Councillor Redmond thanked the Age-friendly Advisory Group for the work they were doing, he thought the work was essential. He noted that in the next 26-years, 30% of the district's population would be over 65, so it was important to look after people in that age group. He also recognised M Burton's assistance with all the projects she had been involved in.

Councillor Mealings thanked the Age-friendly Advisory Group and noted that M Burton had been a champion of the people, and she would be missed.

In her right of reply, Councillor Doody thanked M Burton for her work and noted it had been lovely working with her and the Age-friendly team. She appreciated the effort and dedication she put into the Age-friendly Plan.

6.2 **2021 Beach User Survey – Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw – G Maxwell (Policy Technician)**

G Maxwell took the report as read, advising that the 2021 Beach User Survey surveyed approximately 300 randomly selected beach users to measure the respondent's awareness of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw, 2016. This document was a factual representation of the views of those surveyed on the beach between November 2021 and February 2022. The survey was one data source that would be interpreted and collated with other sources to inform the Pegasus Bay Bylaw Review, which the Council was undertaking.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Doody

**THAT** the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 220321040969.
- (b) **Receives** the results of the 2021 Beach User Survey (TRIM No: 220303030303).
- (c) **Notes** that there has been significant improvement in the public response between the two surveys and we are about to embark in the bylaw review and its effectiveness where this data will be used.
- (d) **Circulates** the 2021 Beach User Survey and 2021 Beach User Survey Infographic, to the Kaiapoi-Tuahivi and Woodend-Sefton Community Boards, and the Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group for their information.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Blackie thanked staff for the report. He noted that the awareness of the Bylaw seemed to be increasing. Accessibility, safety and uncrowdedness were the three main factors that attracted people to the district's beaches, and mainly walkers and water sport enthusiasts were the main participants.

Councillor Doody appreciated what staff had done, it was a very important Bylaw and was interesting to see people's thoughts on this matter.

Mayor Gordon commented that he was on the first hearings for this Bylaw and was pleased with its implementation and progress, as it had not been an easy process in the early days. He commended the excellent work done by staff, especially the work being done by the Rangers. He thanked Councillor Blackie for his work on this.

6.3 **Library Update to 6 May 2022 – P Eskett (District Libraries Manager)**

P Eskett provided the Committee with an update on the usage and activities of the district's libraries. She explained that since the pandemic, Borrow Box was the largest digital platform that libraries subscribed to, and their growth had been phenomenal in many public libraries worldwide. The libraries had recently gained access to a world language collection and had been able to enhance their digital collection significantly by adding over 800 titles in six different languages. They had also purchased a small collection of language learning materials, and plans were underway to promote this collection to borrowers for whom English was not their first language. Staff had also reached out to the G.L.O.W Group (Global Locals of Waimakariri) to advise them of the new collection and would welcome them to Rangiora Library soon for a morning tea, question and answer and to showcase the language collections.

P Eskett noted that Storywalks® was a new initiative for Waimakariri and was a partnership between the Greenspace and Libraries Teams. Libraries throughout Aotearoa had been creating Storywalks® with great success. Examples included Gore District Libraries, Hastings District Libraries, and Napier Libraries. With the assistance of a very willing Greenspace Team, Storywalks® would be live at the Northbrook Wetlands next month. The wetlands had been chosen because they offered an inclusive track that had wheelchair access as well as suitable for buggies and prams for whanau and tamariki who may be on bikes. The abundance of wildlife and native trees tied in beautifully with the story of the 2016 award-winning book, 'Little Kiwi's Matariki', which the Council would be using. The project would be launched during Matariki, and boards would be installed along the walkway with icons and language depicting the story.

P Eskett updated the Committee on the Rangatahi Engagement role, which the Committee gave permission for in 2021, and the Council subsequently appointed R Morland in February 2022. She spent the first few months understanding the culture of libraries, establishing and beginning mahi on her core goals for the role, which included lifting the numbers of Rangatahi using the library spaces, building the confidence of the Libraries Team regarding behaviour management and strategies, and building relationships with the local Rūnanga and Rangatahi focused groups. In addition, Eskett elaborated on the work being done by the Rangatahi Engagement Co-ordinator.

Moved: Councillor Doody

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

**THAT** the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 220511075545.
- (b) **Notes** the customer service improvements, community feedback, events, and use of New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme funding to contribute positively to community outcomes by Waimakariri Libraries, from 3 March to 6 May 2022.
- (c) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Doody thanked P Eskett for her comprehensive report, noting that she was very interested in the Storywalks® at the Northbrook Wetlands as she believed it was a wonderful initiative.

Councillor Redmond thanked P Eskett for her support of Creative Communities New Zealand.

Councillor Mealings also thanked P Eskett for her report, she noted that she was continually inspired by the initiatives the Libraries Team employed to get people into the libraries. She could not wait to look at the Storywalks® and loved the idea of being a tourist in your own town.

#### 6.4 **Aquatics March Update – Matthew Greenwood (Aquatics Manager)**

M Greenwood spoke to the report noting the purpose was to update the Committee on aquatics year to date progress across a number of their key performance areas. He took the report as read, however, acknowledged the hard work of the Aquatics Team, who had kept the facilities operating with only minor impacts to operating hours over the last few challenging months. He advised that recruitment continued to progress well, and the Kaiapoi Aquatic Facility would be returning to full weekend hours this week.

Councillor Redmond questioned if staff recruitment had been successful and, if so, how many new staff had been employed. M Greenwood reported that this was the third recruitment drive they had done since December 2021. In the most recent drive, they had appointed six lifeguards. Staff were also looking at the possible employment of three learn to swim tutors, some casual customer services staff and lifeguard supervisors. Unfortunately, since the last recruitment process, there had been a couple more resignations, so staffing remained challenging.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Redmond

**THAT** the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 220509072485.
- (b) **Notes** Aquatic Facilities progress against key performance indicators including Financial Results, Water Quality and Customer Satisfaction.
- (c) **Notes** the impact of Covid on facility attendance across the Council's network.
- (d) **Notes** the efforts taken to maintain service levels with the ongoing impacts of Covid isolation and staffing limitations.

**CARRIED**

Mayor Gordon thanked M Greenwood, on behalf of the community, for his leadership in this incredibly difficult time. He commended the Aquatic Facilities Team for the outstanding work they had been doing to keep the pools open to the public.

Councillor Doody concurred with the Mayor and expressed her for the work done by M Greenwood and his team.

Councillor Mealings commented that M Greenwood had done an exceptional job under extraordinary circumstances, and the Council appreciated his optimism and determination to keep the Aquatic Facilities open to the public.

## **7 PORTFOLIO UPDATES**

### **7.1 Greenspace (Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds) – Councillor Robbie Brine.**

- Organised a meeting for staff with Future Post, which was an exciting opportunity to look at posts manufactured from various plastics. Staff were following this up to ascertain if the Council could utilise these posts for an upcoming project.
- Winter sports had started and seemed to be going well with no restriction under the Covid orange traffic light setting.
- The Welcome Market had reached out to the Council's Greenspace Team to enquire if there was a possible public option for them to operate a market, this was the early stages of a conversation.
- Staff were looking at timelines for the next 18 months as the main Parks and Reserves Contract was due for retender. The key aspects of this process would be worked through to understand what was needed to ensure the continuity of service through to the end of the contract period.
- Several planting days had been scheduled to plan the 25,000 plants that needed to be planted this season.
- The Victoria Park toilets were again vandalised.
- The Rangiora Airfield was an area of focus, and there were several important meetings coming up.

- The Operations Team had been functioning in the absence of a team leader, however, this role would be advertised in the coming weeks.

Councillor Mealings sought clarity on the proposed location of the Welcome Market. C Brown noted that G MacLeod was meeting with the market representatives, they used to be located the Rangiora Showgrounds, however, for various reasons this location was no longer suitable. Staff would therefore work with them to ascertain if they could be accommodated on Council land. The Market operated on Thursdays from 2pm till late, which was not ideal due to the lack of car parks in central Rangiora, which was where they wanted to be located.

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

- She thanked all the staff, noting that she appreciated being able to talk with them face to face.
- Mainpower Stadium – She appreciated the Council’s Community Facilities Team Leader’s, A Coker, assistance. There had been problems with rain coming into the stadium, which A Coker was dealing with. Another issue that he was hoping to fix was the condensation after having a sports evening that quite a number of people attended. They had also had trouble with sunstrike.
- It was wonderful to see the Stadium growing with the number of people wanting to use the facility. The Stadium would be hosting the New Zealand Under 19 Basketball Tournament, which would be televised live to a number of other countries.
- The hockey turf – They had to do a deep clean due to the build-up of dirt on the surface, and the premier teams had stopped playing there because they were slipping on it too much.
- The Kaiapoi Museum held its Annual General Meeting, and they had a great team that worked very hard.
- The Aquatic Facilities would be returning to full capacity this weekend.

Mayor Gordon reported that the Stadium won gold at the New Zealand Commercial Project Awards. He acknowledged the team involved and the Sport and Recreation Trust, Council and Councillor Doody as Chair of the project.

**7.3 Community Development and Wellbeing – Councillor Wendy Doody.**

- Oxford Promotions Action Committee were running a weeklong Lights Festival and Matariki event.

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

- Waimakariri Public Arts Trust had various projects in the pipeline.
- Kaiapoi Art Expo would again be held in July 2022.
- The Council’s Greenspace Team were working on a Public Arts Strategy to guide art installation in public spaces The Council’s Community Team was also working on an overarching strategy for the Arts and Culture Portfolio.

**8 QUESTIONS**

Nil.



**9 URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

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

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Doody

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

**CARRIED**

The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public was 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, were 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
10.1 to 10.2	Report from MTO	Report for Information	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution was 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 were as follows:

Item N°	Reason for protection of interests	Ref NZS 9202:2003 Appendix A
10.1 to 10.2	Protection of privacy of natural persons To carry out commercial activities without prejudice	A2(a) A2(b)ii

**CLOSED MEETING**

The public excluded portion of the meeting commenced at 4.45pm until 4.50pm.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Doody

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

**CARRIED**

**OPEN MEETING**

**11 NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled ordinary meeting of the Council would occur at 1pm on Tuesday 19 July 2022.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 4.54pm.

CONFIRMED

*Mel Mealing*

Chairperson

19 July 2022

Date