



**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Marlborough District Council
held in the Marlborough Events Centre, 42A Alfred Street, Blenheim
on FRIDAY 21 MAY 2021 commencing at 9.00 am**

Present

The Mayor J C Leggett (in the Chair), Clrs J L Andrews, J A Arbuckle, C J Brooks, B G Dawson, B A Faulls, M J Fitzpatrick, G A Hope, F D Maher, M A Peters, T P Sowman and N P Taylor.

Present via Zoom

Clr D D Oddie.

In Attendance

Messrs M S Wheeler (Chief Executive), D G Heiford (Manager Economic, Community & Support Services) and M J Porter (Democratic Services Manager).

Karakia

The meeting opened with a karakia.

Apology

Clrs Taylor/Arbuckle:

That the apology for absence from Clr J D N Croad be received and sustained.

Carried

Cncl-0521-370 Declaration of Interests -

Members were reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

**Cncl-0521-371 Establishment of a Māori Ward for the 2022
Local Government Elections** -

Members noted the purpose of the report was to consider the establishment of a Māori Ward in Marlborough under the provisions of the Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Act 2021 (the Māori Wards Act), which came into force on 02 March 2021.

Staff reported that under the provisions of the Māori Wards Act, Council is able to reconsider whether to establish a Māori Ward for the 2022 local government election, as long as any decision is made by 21 May 2021. When this matter was last considered in 2020, Council chose not to establish a Māori ward. At that time there was little interest expressed by the community and the process required to introduce a Māori ward was difficult and in other areas divisive.

Members were all given the opportunity to speak to this issue.

The Mayor/Clr Taylor:

- 1. That Council establishes a Māori Ward in Marlborough for the 2022 local government election; and**
- 2. notes that a Māori ward must exist as an “at large” position for Marlborough.**
- 3. That the analysis and options for the 2021 Representation Review include the Maori Ward and looks at options for the balance of the electoral area.**

Carried

NB: Clr Arbuckle voted against the above motion.

The meeting closed at 9.38 am.

Confirmed this day of 2021

J C LEGGETT
MAYOR

Record No. 21118417