



**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Marlborough District Council
held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on THURSDAY 15 DECEMBER 2022 commencing at 9.00 am**

Present

The Mayor N P Taylor (in the Chair), Cllrs S R W Adams, J A Arbuckle, S J Arbuckle, A R Burgess, J D N Croad, D A Dalliessi, B G Dawson, B A Fauls, M R K Flight, G A Hope, R J Innes, B J Minehan and J C Rosene.

Present via Teams

Clr T P Sowman.

In Attendance

Mr M S Wheeler (Chief Executive), Mr A J Lyall (Property and Community Facilities Manager), Mr D G Heiford (Manager, Economic, Community and Support Services Department) and Mr M J Porter (Democratic Services Manager).

Karakia

The meeting opened with a karakia.

Apologies

No apologies received.

Cncl-1222-204 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.

A number of declarations were noted in the agenda:

- The various interests as declared under Minute Nos. Cncl-1022-131;
- The interests as declared under Minute No. A&S-1122-157 (Minute No. A&S-1122-160) and Minute No. A&S-1122-160;
- The interests as declared under Minute No. EFC-1222-189 (Minute Nos. EFC-1222-191, EFC-1222-193 and EFC-1222-198); and
- The interests as declared under Minute No. Grnt-1222-170.

Cncl-1222-205 Confirmation of Minutes -

Clr Hope advised that per Minute No. Cncl-1022-144, the Marlborough Research Centre Board is now known as the Marlborough Research Centre Advisory Committee. Staff are to amend the minute accordingly.

The Mayor/Clr Hope:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 October 2022 (Minute Nos. Cncl-1022-129 to Cncl-1022-152) be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

Cncl-1222-206 Confirmation of Minutes -

The Mayor/Clr J Arbuckle:

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 11 November 2022 (Minute Nos. Cncl-1122-153 to Cncl-1122-156) be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

Committee Reports

Cncl-1222-207 Assets & Services Committee

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Cllrs Croad/Rosene:

That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. A&S-1122-157 to A&S-1122-167 be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

Cncl-1222-208 Proposed Mountain Bike Skills Areas and New Tracks – Wither Hills Farm Park R510-014-024-07

Members noted that this issue had been discussed at the Assets & Services Committee meeting on 17 November 2022 (Minute No. A&S-1122-161) and that the issue was to lie on the table until this meeting.

Mr Lyall reported on a supplementary paper (filed in CM – Record No. 22259304) that had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Mr Lyall advised that a workshop and site visit were held on Monday 28 November 2022. Two representatives of the Marlborough Mountain Bike Club (MMBC) attended the site visit along with the Wither Hills Farm Park Manager. Details of the workshop discussion and site visit were covered in the supplementary paper. Mr Lyall advised that areas for consideration were soil erosion management; Farm management practices; dedicated walking area; cross-over/conflict between bikers and walkers; and parking on surrounding streets (details covered in the supplementary paper).

Members discussed the issue and a number of questions posed were answered by staff in attendance.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Hope:

That Council approve an event hub and skills area for mountain biking adjacent to the Gentle Annie and Rotary Lookout tracks within the Wither Hills Farm Park and to extend the current Mountain Bike Park area on the Wither Hills to include this proposal subject to the following:

- 1. That the Marlborough Mountain Bike Club Incorporated obtain all necessary resource consents for the proposed mountain bike cross-country track and additional skills areas.**
- 2. That the Marlborough Mountain Bike Club Incorporated provide Council with a copy of their funding plan to carry out the construction of the cross-country track and additional skills areas.**

Carried

Cncl-1222-209 Environment & Planning Committee

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Cllrs Hope/Faulls:

That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. E&P-1122-171 to E&P-1122-188 be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

Cncl-1222-210 Economic, Finance & Community Committee

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Cllrs J Arbuckle/Dawson:

That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. EFC-1222-189 to EFC-1222-203 be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

Cncl-1222-211 Grants Sub-committee

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The notes at the end of Minute No. Grnt-1122-170 (Council Community Grants Allocation) were discussed. Staff are to reword note 3.

Cllrs Sowman/S Arbuckle:

That the Sub-committee report contained within Minute Nos. Grnt-1122-168 to Grnt-1122-170 be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

NB: Cllrs Flight, Hope and Innes abstained from voting on this issue

Cncl-1222-212 Elected Members' Allowances and Reimbursement Policy

H500-009-002-22

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to seek Council's adoption of an *Elected Members' Allowance and Reimbursement Policy* (Policy) for the 2022 to 2025 triennium.

Staff reported that Council need to consider whether to include the various allowances as identified by the Remuneration Authority in its *Elected Members' Allowance and Reimbursement Policy* for the 2022 to 2025 triennium. The 2019-2022 Policy document was attached to the agenda. This included some allowances as identified by the Remuneration Authority (does not include the Travel-Time Allowance), along with Council's specific policy components from previous terms of Council. The paper covered all allowances in detail.

Members discussed whether to include the Travel-Time Allowance or not. As previous Councils had not included this allowance and there was no background data, when asked the cost of including this allowance, staff could not answer. It was agreed to ask staff to prepare a paper on this allowance for the budget meeting in early March.

Cllrs Dawson/Croad:

1. **That the following Elected Members' Allowances and Reimbursement Policy be adopted for the 2022-25 triennium:**
 - **That Council reimburse elected members on an actual and reasonable basis for expenses incurred whilst on or attending to Council business (e.g. taxi fares, hotel expenses etc when travelling).**
 - **That Council reimburse elected members for mileage incurred whilst on or attending to Council business (at the rate as defined by the Remuneration Authority's Local Government Elected Members Determination in force at the time) (NB: Elected Members representing the Blenheim Ward or those representing the Marlborough Māori, Wairau-Awatere or Marlborough Sounds Wards that reside permanently in the Blenheim Ward area, are not eligible for the vehicle mileage allowance for "day-to-day" travel to the District Administration Building in Blenheim).**
 - **That Council provides parking for elected members' use in Council's Alfred Street Carpark whilst on official Council business only.**
 - **That Council provide elected members with an iPad or similar device and a Council email address.**
 - **That Council reimburse elected members for home internet connections to their place of residence to a maximum of \$800 per annum.**
 - **That Council reimburse eligible elected members for childcare while engaged on council business up to a sum of \$6,000 per annum for each child under 14 years of age.**
2. **That staff prepare a paper on the Travel-Time Allowance for the Council Meeting (budget meeting) on 2 March 2023.**

Carried

Cncl-1222-213 2023 Council Meeting Schedule

D050-001-01

Attached to the Agenda for consideration was the draft schedule of meetings for 2023. Changes to the sequence of Committee meetings, and days of those meetings, was made in conjunction with the Chairs of Committees.

Clr Croad/The Mayor:

That the meeting schedule for 2023 be approved.

Carried

Cncl-1222-214 Decision to Conduct Business with the Public Excluded

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Croad:

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

- Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes
- Committee Reports (Public Excluded Sections)
- Staffing Proposal

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

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
Minutes and Committee Reports	As set out in the Minutes	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
Staffing Proposal	In order to protect the privacy of natural persons, as provided for under Section 7(2)(a).	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Carried

The meeting closed at 10.51 am.

Confirmed this 2nd day of March 2023

N P TAYLOR
MAYOR

Record No. 2331580