

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Marlborough District Council
held in the Council Chambers and via Teams, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on MONDAY 12 JUNE 2023 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 (from 2.00 pm), J D N Croad, B G Dawson, B A Faulls, M R K Flight, G A Hope, B J Minehan, J C Rosene and T P Sowman.

Present via Teams

Cllrs A R Burgess (from 9.36 am to 10.24 am) and D A Dalliessi.

In Attendance

Mr M S Wheeler (Chief Executive); Mr M F Fletcher (Chief Financial Officer), Mr A J Lyall (Property & Community Facilities Manager), Mr D G Heiford (Manager Economic, Community & Support Services), Mrs C L Lake (Financial Services Manager), Mr D A Craig (Management Accountant – Operations), Mr M J Porter (Democratic Services Manager) and Ms N J Chauval (Support Services Administrator).

Karakia

The meeting opened with a karakia.

Apologies

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Dawson:

That the apology for absence from Cllr R J Innes and the apology for lateness from Cllr A R Burgess be received and sustained.

Carried

The Mayor introduced the purpose of the meeting. It was noted that additional information had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Cncl-0623-373 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 interest as declared by Mayor Taylor under submission 6176 (*Brian Nicolas [Marlborough District Brass Band Inc]*);
- The interest as declared by Cllr Arbuckle under submission 6210 (*Simon Lamb [Marlborough Farmers Market]*); and
- The interests as declared by Cllrs Faulls and S Arbuckle in regard to their association with Destination Marlborough as accommodation owners.

Cncl-0623-374 Total Mobility Scheme Funding Increase

F230-A22-09-03

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to seek approval for additional funding for the operation of the Total Mobility Scheme.

Mr Craig reported that public transport usage and total mobility travel were both impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the highest COVID-19 alert levels, only essential travel was permitted. Following the lifting

of those restrictions, the Government introduced (and funded) a half price fare scheme for the public transport sector, which included total mobility, to encourage a return to public transport use. The Government has recently announced that the temporary half price fares for total mobility users have been made permanent. The Crown will continue to fund 50% of the *user's share* of the fare. The extra discount has caused an upsurge in total mobility usage. Additional funding is required to meet Council's share of increased travel costs.

A presentation on Reserve Balances and Levels of Service Increases was given at the meeting (filed in CM: Record No. 22118028). Members discussed both topics noting the Reserve balances. Members expressly discussed the Picton Foreshore Maintenance and following this discussion an amended resolution to that included in the agenda was put to the vote.

Clrs Rosene/Croad:

That Council approve additional net annual funding of \$28,000 for operation of the Total Mobility Scheme, from general rates, and that application be made to Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency for an increase in the standard total mobility fare allocation (funded at 60 percent) of \$70,000.

Carried

Cncl-0623-375 Consultation Summary

F230-A22-09-03

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide Councillors with a summary of the consultation process.

Mr Fletcher advised that this year's consultation process yielded 77 submissions. This number is slightly up on last year's 75. This response rate most likely reflects that the direction taken by Council over recent years means that ratepayers are generally happy with the suggested levels of service increases. This is reinforced by the responses to the questions posed in the Consultation Document whereby far the biggest number of responses were "NA", followed by "yes". In Total, there were only two "No" responses, one each for both "Catchment Care Options" and "Balancing Rates by increasing Fees". A handout on Corporate Reserve Movements - 2023-24 Draft LTP was handed to members at the meeting.

Clrs J Arbuckle/Dawson:

That Council agrees to confirm the decisions it made as part of the 2 March 2023 Budget Meeting regarding increased levels of service.

Carried

Cncl-0622-376 Deliberation on Submissions on the 2023-234 Annual Plan Consultation Document

F230-A23-09-03

Listed below are decisions on all issues raised in the submission process under headings of the relevant submitter (and numbered as per the submission order as attached to the Order Paper for the Council meeting of 6 and 7 June 2023). Where funding has been allocated, the source of the funding has also been identified. Individual replies will be made to each submitter.

6239 *Samantha Forrest (Marlborough Stadium Trust)*

Clrs J Arbuckle/Croad:

- 1. That the funding request from Samantha Forrest (Marlborough Stadium Trust) for an annual CPI adjustment be approved with \$31,462.50 (50% of the requested amount) from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve for the 2023-24 financial year only;**
- 2. That the Marlborough Stadium Trust's Asset Management Plan be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for reviewing;**
- 3. That Council considers the Marlborough Stadium Trust should review its fees.**
- 4. That the issue of CPI adjustments for all ongoing grants be referred to the LTP Working Group for policy development.**

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Clr Burgess joined the meeting at 9.36am during the above discussion

6240 Shana Pinker (Marlborough Netball Centre)

Cirs Croad/Hope:

That the submission from Shana Pinker (Marlborough Netball Centre) be referred to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process.

Carried

6220 Brian McNamara (Abbeyfield Marlborough)

Cirs Hope/Dalliessi:

That further investigation be undertaken by staff in relation to the submission from Brian McNamara (Abbeyfield Marlborough) for land options of around 5,000m² including reserve, revocation and consultation processes, and that this be referred through the Assets & Services Committee for consideration.

Carried

6247 Hularii Mckenzie

The Mayor undertook to follow-up with KiwiRail and Port Marlborough regarding what specialist change facilities are being included in the new development.

The Mayor/Cir Hope:

That Mr McKenzie be thanked for his submission and advised that a review of Council's Specialist Change Facilities Policy is due later this year.

Carried

6225 Jeanine Sadd (Crossroads Charitable Trust)

Cirs J Arbuckle/Minehan:

- 1. That the funding request from Jeanine Sadd (Crossroads Charitable Trust) be declined, however the submitter is to be advised that an avenue for funding for their request is Council's Community Grants (open mid-August 2023).**
- 2. That the submitter be advised that the issue of CPI adjustments for all ongoing grants are to be referred to the LTP Working Group for policy development.**

Carried

6241 Evelyn Duncan (Tua Marina-Waikakaho Residents and Ratepayers Association)

The Mayor/Cir Croad:

That the submission from Evelyn Duncan (Tua Marina-Waikakaho Residents and Ratepayers Association) for the upgrading of the Tuamarina Memorial Hall be referred to the Assets & Services Committee as part of a further consideration of all community hall facilities.

Carried

6233 William Harris (Marlborough A&P Association)

Cirs Croad/Flight:

That the funding request from William Harris (Marlborough A&P Association) for the replacement of the stable gates at A&P Park be declined.

Carried

6199 Chris Marshall (Endeavour Park Pavilion Society trading as Port Marlborough Pavilion)

The Mayor/Cir Adams:

That the submission from Chris Marshall (Endeavour Park Pavilion Society trading as Port Marlborough Pavilion) be referred to the Long Term Plan Working Group for further consideration.

Carried

6254 Melanie Cherry (Pelorus Rugby Football Club Inc)

Cirs J Arbuckle/Fauls:

That the submission from Melanie Cherry (Pelorus Rugby Football Club Inc) for the upgrading of the Havelock Domain facilities be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration.

Carried

6193 Jason Mackie (Waitaria Bay Settlers Hall)

Clrs Faulls/Sowman:

That the submission from Jason Mackie (Waitaria Bay Settlers Hall) for the replacement of the Waitaria Bay Settlers Hall roof be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration of all community hall facilities.

Carried

6230 Kate Horrey (Wairau Valley Community Hall Board)

Clrs Croad/Hope:

That the submission from Kate Horrey (Wairau Valley Community Hall Board) for the resurfacing of parking areas around the Wantwood Community Room and Wairau Valley Community Hall be referred to the Assets & Services Committee as part of a further consideration of all community hall facilities.

Carried

6238 Stephen Hall (Picton Maritime Festival Trust)

Clrs J Arbuckle/Dawson:

1. **That the funding request from Stephen Hall (Picton Maritime Festival Trust) be declined.**
2. **That the submitter be advised that the issue of CPI adjustments for all ongoing grants are to be referred to the LTP Working Group for policy development**

Carried

6216 Brian Henstock (Marlborough Community Vehicle Trust)

The Mayor/Clr Hope:

That Brian Henstock (Marlborough Community Vehicle Trust) be thanked for their submission noting that the Mayor will take up their submission with the local MP and Te Whatu Ora.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 10.32 am and resumed at 10.50 am

6260 Helen Reynolds (Top of the South Neighbourhood Support Charitable Trust)

Clrs J Arbuckle/Minehan:

That the funding request from Helen Reynolds (Top of the South Neighbourhood Support Charitable Trust) be declined, however the submitter is to be advised that an avenue for funding for their request is Council's Community Grants (open mid-August 2023).

Carried

6214 Simon Feltham (NZ Police)

It was noted that Parliament are discussing, at Select Committee stage, amending the law to repeal the ability to appeal LAPs. This report back is due later in June 2023.

Clrs Adams/Faulls:

That the submission from Simon Feltham (NZ Police) for the development of a community Local Alcohol Policy be referred to the Economic, Finance and Community for consideration of the process and funding the project.

Carried

6270 Heather Turnbull (Awatere Valley Trust)

Clrs Croad/Hope:

That the submission from Heather Turnbull (Awatere Valley Trust) be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration.

Carried

6261 Bradley Roberts (Riverlands School)

Staff are to send a copy of/link to the Speed Management Plan consultation documentation.

Clrs Croad/Rosene:

That the submission from Bradley Roberts (Riverlands School) be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration during the Speed Management Plan consultation.

Carried

6178 *Kevin Wilson (Thursday Recreation Mountain Bikers)*

Cirs Croad/Hope:

That the funding request from Kevin Wilson (Thursday Recreation Mountain Bikers) for bike cattle stops be referred to the 2023-24 Land Subdivision Account process for funding consideration.

Carried

6242 *Fraser Brown (Marlborough Mountain Bike Club)*

Staff are to continue to work with the submitter.

Cirs Croad/Minehan:

That the submission from Fraser Brown (Marlborough Mountain Bike Club) be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration taking into account the Wither Hills Farm Park Management Plan.

Carried

6252 *Nigel Muir (The Whale Trail)*

The Mayor/Cir Rosene:

1. **That the submission from Nigel Muir (The Whale Trail) (except for The Elevation section) be referred to the Assets & Services Committee, noting that the Mayor will continue to take the lead in advocating for The Whale Trail.**
2. **That the submission from Nigel Muir (The Whale Trail) regarding The Elevation section be referred to the Regional Transport Committee.**

Carried

6264 *Nigel Muir (Wild Waikawa)*

The submitter invited Council to visit their property, this will be arranged by staff.

Cirs Adams/Croad:

That Nigel Muir (Wild Waikawa) be thanked for their submission and congratulated on the enthusiasm shown for the Environment. Staff will be in contact with the submitter to arrange visit to their property in Spring 2023.

Carried

NB: Cir Dalliesi abstained from voting on the above motion

6256 *Bruce Richards*

The Mayor/Cir Rosene:

That Bruce Richards be thanked for his submission and that Council will be referring a copy of his submission to the local MP.

Carried

6245 *John Kershaw*

Cirs J Arbuckle/Croad:

1. **That John Kershaw be thanked for his submission and advised that his submission will be referred to relevant staff.**
2. **That John Kershaw's submission on the vehicle fleet is to be referred to the Economic, Finance and Community Committee for further consideration.**
3. **That John Kershaw's submission on bollards is to be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for consideration.**
4. **That John Kershaw be invited to the next meeting of the Road Safety Action Planning Group.**

Carried

6258 Jane Buckman

The Mayor/Clr J Arbuckle:

1. That Jane Buckman be thanked for her submission and advised that her submission will be referred to relevant staff.
2. That Jane Buckman's submission on the vehicle fleet is to be referred to the Economic, Finance and Community Committee for further consideration.
3. That in relation to Jane Buckman's comment on pedestrian access to the Boathouse Theatre the following is the decision in regard to the submission from Peter Morice (Marlborough Repertory Society):

That the submission from Peter Morice (Marlborough Repertory Society) regarding pedestrian access issues be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration and possible funding consideration from the Land Subdivision Account.

Carried

6143 David Dew (Blenheim Club)

Clrs Croad/J Arbuckle:

That the funding request from David Dew (Blenheim Club) be declined at this time, however the submitter is to be advised that this issue will be discussed during the Heritage Strategy development process.

Carried

6221 Rick Wilson (Millennium Public Art Gallery)

Members acknowledged the situation the Millennium Public Art Gallery was in, however decided it was too early to make a final call on staffing levels etc until six to nine months' time. Discussions with the Art Gallery will be ongoing.

Clrs J Arbuckle/Hope:

1. That the funding request from Rick Wilson (Millennium Public Art Gallery) for an increase in their annual operating and staffing grant be approved by increasing the funding by \$100,000 per annum (to be funded from general rates), taking the total operating grant to \$260,500; noting that no CPI adjustment will be made at this stage.
2. That the funding request be also referred to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process for further consideration for future years.
3. That the submitter be advised that the issue of CPI adjustments for all ongoing grants are to be referred to the LTP Working Group for policy development.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 12.09 pm and resumed at 1.03 pm

6255 Paul Davidson

Clr Croad/The Mayor:

1. That Paul Davidson be thanked for his submission.
2. That in principle the submission from Paul Davidson is declined. It should be noted that Council commenced a review of the functionality of the Marlborough Heritage Trust (MHT) in March 2021. The outcome of the review that was agreed with the MHT was that the level of expertise and investment required for the Museum, Archives, Brayshaw Heritage Park and the wider heritage community could not be achieved with a volunteer trust and the current level of funding. The MHT have met the minimum requirements of their Trust Deed for winding up resolutions. Council agreed to take over the operation of the Trust and the facilities within current Council funding levels with the proposal to have a strategic development and funding plan presented to the 2024/34 LTP. Council has also requested a review and renewal of the Marlborough Heritage Strategy as part of this plan. The MHS Chairperson and Committee were made aware of the winding up of the Trust due to the need to transfer the collection loan and management agreement to Council.
3. The submission on the Heritage Education Programme is noted. The Mayor is to pursue at a political level the funding for a Heritage Education Facilitator based in Marlborough.

Carried

6263 *Paul Davidson*

Cirs J Arbuckle/Sowman:

That Paul Davidson be thanked for his submission and that he be advised that this issue will be discussed during the Heritage Strategy development process.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The Mayor declared an interest in the following submission and Clr Croad assumed the chair.

6176 *Brian Nicholas (Marlborough District Brass Band Inc)*

Cirs J Arbuckle/Dalliessi:

- 1. That the funding request from Brian Nicholas (Marlborough District Brass Band Inc) be declined.**
- 2. That the submitter be advised that the issue of CPI adjustments for all ongoing grants are to be referred to the LTP Working Group for policy development.**

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The Mayor assumed the Chair.

6229 *Clara Watt*

Cirs J Arbuckle/Fauls:

- 1. That Clara Watt be thanked for her and Dylan Martin's very good submission and presentation to Council.**
- 2. That the submission from Clara Watt for the reinstatement of the recycling station in Renwick be declined due to the cost of reinstatement and the introduction of a wheelie bin system on 1 July 2024.**

Carried

6235 *Ailie Suzuki (Envirohub Marlborough)*

The Mayor/Clr Croad:

- 1. That the funding request from Ailie Suzuki (Envirohub Marlborough) be declined; however the Group are to be commended for what they are achieving in the environmental space.**
- 2. That the submission from Ailie Suzuki (Envirohub Marlborough) on Waste Minimalisation be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration.**

Carried

6234 *Catherine van der Meulen (Entrepreneurial Women with Purpose)*

Cirs Dawson/Fauls:

That Catherine van der Meulen (Entrepreneurial Women with Purpose) be thanked for her submission noting that:

- Council's Cycling and Walking Strategy 2019-29 is available on Councils' website which shows current and planned cycleways for Blenheim, Picton, and the Wairau Plains. As budgets allow, staff are working to expand the cycle network based on these maps.**
- Council is aware of various alternative stormwater systems but has no funding allocation to incentivise these at present.**
- The Government waste strategy released on 29 March 2023 has signalled to Council that an organics solution for the district must be in place by 2030. This signal will be confirmed through appropriate legislative changes. As the majority of organic input into the landfill is from the primary industry sector a commercial processing facility will require establishment. Pilot trials of potential commercial organic processing solutions are underway and Council expects to receive an update on their progress by the end of 2023. At this time Council's position is to await the outcome of these commercial trials before advancing any standalone solution for domestic organics. Residents and businesses can procure composting bins from the market. However, these bins have had mixed outcomes for users.**

Carried

6266 *Graham Gosling (Picton Business Group)*

Clrs Croad/Fauls:

That the submission from Graham Gosling (Picton Business Group) be referred to staff to monitor and update the submitter on project plans, timelines etc; and then report back to the Assets & Services Committee.

Carried

6251 *John Hickman (Flaxbourne Settlers Association)*

Clrs Hope/Croad:

That the funding request from John Hickman (Flaxbourne Settlers Association) be declined at this time; however the submission is to be referred to the Assets & Services Committee and to the Small Townships Programme for further consideration.

Carried

6269 *Debs Martin (Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance/The Nature Conservancy)*

A motion was withdrawn prior to voting. Following further discussion the following motion was put to the meeting.

Clrs Hope/Fauls:

1. That the funding request from Debs Martin (Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance/The Nature Conservancy) of \$40,000 in the 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years be approved with funding from carry forwards.
2. That the submission from Debs Martin (Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance/The Nature Conservancy) be referred to the Environment & Planning Committee for further consideration.

Carried

6268 *Scott Burnett (Forest & Bird)*

The Mayor/Clr Rosene:

That Scott Burnett (Forest & Bird) be thanked for their submission noting that:

- Council is a signatory to the Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance. Funding of \$20,000 per annum is provided to the Alliance for management services and coordination. Council has agreed at deliberation meeting to fund this further from carry forwards. Council is already supporting strategic conservation projects in the region through grants and contributions to particular community programmes and Trusts. Council is working with DOC on the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy Te Mana o te Taiao. The outputs from this Strategy are under review.
- Plague Skink distribution: The matter has been raised directly by Marlborough Forest & Bird Branch by Council staff and has been responded to on a technical level. In summary, this outlined the fact that the new freight hub will not add a substantial increase into what is already a high level movement risk environment. This technical feedback was based on a) the long established presence of plague skinks occurring in the vicinity of the new freight hub (including within the pre-existing industrial hubs of Riverlands Industrial Estate and Cloudy Bay Business Park), b) a substantial number of unmanaged pathways associated with freight movements from the North Island, and c) likely unfavourable habitat associated with a high use freight hub.
- Cat Control: This is to be discussed at the Animal Control Sub-Committee.

Carried

6267 *Evan White (Federated Farmers of New Zealand)*

Clrs Croad/Minehan:

That Evan White (Federated Farmers of New Zealand) be thanked for their submission noting that:

- **UAGC:** At the budget meeting, Council were advised that a rates increase of 5.7% rates was forecast in the Long Term Plan (LTP) for 2023-24. Council also advised that the 2023-24 rates increase forecast in LTP was determined in a totally different economic environment. When preparing the 2021-31 LTP the forecast CPI increase was 1.2% for 2022, 1.4% for 2023 and 1.8% for 2024. This compares with the current and forecast CPI increases 7.3%, 6.4% and 3.5% for the same periods. Council's UAGE represents 26.94% (26.26%) of this year's draft budget. It is important to keep a small margin to the 30% to avoid the risk of a statutory breach.
- **Flood Protection:** Gravel extraction and channel maintenance are some of a suite of tools that the rivers team have to help mitigate the effects of flood and climate change. The Rivers team

is working closely with Council's Environmental Science team to ensure that the flood protection works that are carried out while protecting the community are also in line with the guidance and rules set in the MEP.

- **Roads:** Rates in relation to roading are normally part of general rates as the road network is a network that everyone uses. Exceptions include the Sounds which currently has a targeted rate for seal extensions. Comment from Marlborough Roads: Councils current policy is to only seal roads where it can be justified by reduction in maintenance costs or to improve safety. This is generally restricted to steep inclines that are prone to corrugations and potholing. The cost of all other seal extensions are met by the area that benefits from the improved amenity value of sealing. The long term maintenance costs of a sealed road are considerably higher than an unsealed road.
- **Sewerage:** Urban water and wastewater supplies are already targeted rated to the urban communities they serve.
- **Resource Consent processing fees:** The 13.5% increase in fees and charges will allow the Resource Consent Team to continue to meet statutory and customer demands and maintain the current levels of service while maintaining the 60:40 ratio between user and rate payer funding of the activity. The sole purpose of the charges is to recover the reasonable and actual costs incurred by Council in the processing of resource consent applications. The base charges quoted in the submission such as the non-notified resource consent fee are lodgement fees only with the applicant being charged at the completion of the process the actual cost of processing the application. Applicants then receiving an invoice if costs exceed the base fee or a refund if the costs are less than the base fee. The increased base fee reflects the increase in the hourly rate for officers, charges are calculated on actual time spent in the processing of an application.

Carried

6265 *Chris Davies*

The Mayor/Clr Dawson:

That Chris Davies be thanked for his submission.

Carried

6218 *Zoe Aitchison (Picton Dawn Chorus)*

Clrs Hope/S Arbuckle:

That the funding request from Zoe Aitchison (Picton Dawn Chorus) for enhancement of the Picton area by planting be approved by way of a one-off \$5,000 (to be funded from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve) in the 2023-24 financial year.

Carried

6211 *Michelle Madsen (Marlborough Four Paws)*

Clr Dalliessi is to discuss with Dr McNeil the issue of stray cats at the transfer station.

Clrs Faulls/Sowman:

That the submission from Michelle Madsen (Marlborough Four Paws) be referred to the Animal Control Sub-Committee for further consideration.

Carried

6244 *Peter Chapman*

Clrs J Arbuckle/Dawson:

That the submission from Peter Chapman be received.

Carried

6215 *Tim Newsham (Spring Creek Residents and Ratepayers Association Inc)*

The Mayor undertook to send Tim Newsham information on projects and why they had not been completed etc.

Clrs Faulls/Minehan:

1. **That the funding request from Tim Newsham (Spring Creek Residents and Ratepayers Association Inc) for replacing windows in the Spring Creek Hall be approved by way of an one-off \$5,000 (to be funded from the Halls Capital budget) in the 2023-24 financial year.**
2. **That the submission from Tim Newsham (Spring Creek Residents and Ratepayers Association Inc) for plantings be referred to the Small Townships Programme.**

3. That Tim Newsham be thanked for all his efforts in the Spring Creek community over many years.

Carried

6219 *Tim Newsham (Marlborough Environment Centre Inc)*

The Mayor/Clr J Arbuckle:

That Tim Newsham (Marlborough Environment Centre Inc) be thanked for their submission noting that in relation to the Wairau River Recreational Reserve that when the consultant which was approved by Mana Whenua Iwi met with them, Iwi were not resourced sufficiently at that point to enter a co design/consultation process for this project. Since this time, David Aires left Council and the in house knowledge to drive this project left with him. The feedback from Iwi was that a more robust consultation and co design process was required which would need a full time resource. Application was made in mid-2022 for better off funding for \$100,000 to help fund this project. A significant staff restructure of the Rivers Team took place in late 2022, and the new Rivers and Drainage Engineering Manager has this project as a project to start work on in the second half of 2023, as it is connected to matters such as rubbish dumping, illegal wood harvesting etc in the River Reserve.

Carried

6210 *Simon Lamb (Marlborough Farmers Market)*

Clr Croad/The Mayor:

That Simon Lamb (Marlborough Farmers Market) be thanked for their submission noting that:

- 1: Council has provided permission for a pedestrian gate to be installed on Alabama Road for Pedestrian access.
- 2: A&P Association and Marlborough Farmers Market are in discussions around loading dock and storage.
- 3&5: Council is awaiting the outcome of the User Review that is being undertaken by Visitor Solutions for the Open Space section. Discussions will then continue.
- 4: Discussions ongoing between Marlborough Farmers Market and A&P Association.
- 6: This work is underway.
- 7: Marlborough Farmers Market have two leases, one for land with Council and one for the Sheep Pavilion with A&P Association - discussions are ongoing.
- The proposal for more twilight markets is a positive move.

Carried

NB: Clr J Arbuckle declared an interest in the above and did not take part in discussions nor vote on this issue.

6217 *Lee Harper (The Omaka Observatory Charity Trust)*

Clrs Rosene/Flight:

That Lee Harper (The Omaka Observatory Charity Trust) be thanked for their submission noting that to achieve a dark sky initiative, a regulatory approach would require a plan change to the proposed Marlborough Environment Plan. Council's Economic and Community Development teams are happy to investigate this project further with the submitters. Staff will be in contact with the submitter to arrange a visit as offered at the hearing.

Carried

6237 *Nicola Kitson*

Clrs Croad/Dawson:

That the submission from Nicola Kitson regarding Manor Place Reserve is to be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration.

Carried

6253 *Yvonne Wratt (Grovetown Residents Association)*

Clrs J Arbuckle/Hope:

That Yvonne Wratt (Grovetown Residents Association) be thanked for her submission, noting that:

- Information on the Grovetown land Council purchased: The site was purchased for a pump station. Subsequently the design was amended, and the pump station was not required immediately. However, it may be required in future to deal with growth so has been kept. It cost \$28,000 plus survey and subdivision costs – a small component of the scheme's cost.

- **Grovetown Sewerage Loan Rate:** The proposed Grovetown Sewerage Loan Rate is \$99,933 GST Incl. The Combined Sewerage Rate is proposed at \$10,781,111 GST Incl. Therefore, the increase would be 0.927%.

Carried

6206 *Ed Shuttleworth (Tasman Regional Sports Trust)*

Clr Rosene requested that the Youth Council be thanked for providing comment on this and other submissions.

Clrs Dawson/Rosene:

That Ed Shuttleworth (Tasman Regional Sports Trust) be thanked for their submission.

Carried

6212 *Kelvin Watt (Graeme Dingle Foundation Marlborough)*

Clrs J Arbuckle/Flight:

1. **That the funding request from Kelvin Watt (Graeme Dingle Foundation Marlborough) to facilitate greater numbers of young people to access the broader programme offerings be declined.**
2. **That the Graeme Dingle Foundation Marlborough be commended on the great work they do for the youth of Marlborough.**

Carried

6222 *Meg Martin (Volunteer Marlborough Charitable Trust)*

Clrs J Arbuckle/Burgess:

That the funding request from Meg Martin (Volunteer Marlborough Charitable Trust) be declined, however the submitter is to be advised that an avenue for funding for their request is Council's Community Grants (open mid-August 2023).

Carried

6246 *Andrew Caddie (KCSRA (Kenepuru & Central Sounds Residents Assn Inc))*

The Mayor/Clr Rosene:

That Andrew Caddie (KCSRA (Kenepuru & Central Sounds Residents Assn Inc)) be thanked for their submission noting that Steve Murrin has been seconded to MDC to perform the in house roading engineer role for the roading recovery. MDC has requested to Waka Kotahi that this secondment continue for a further 12 months to 30 June 2024. In relation to the Climate Change questions about coastal inundation, MDC has engaged NIWA to prepare an inundation report for Marlborough using the recently completed LIDAR work that has been carried out. This work is already committed and being funded from existing Climate Change budgets. We hope to have a finalised report on this matter in late 2023 which can be shared with the public and then an action plan based on the findings can be developed.

Carried

6250 *Emily Hargreaves (Te Pukenga/NMIT)*

Clrs Adams/S Arbuckle:

That the submission from Emily Hargreaves (Te Pukenga/NMIT) be declined, noting that Council considers this to be a project for Te Pukenga/NMIT to consider on their land.

Carried

6232 *Marsha Woodbury (Woodbury Family Trust)*

Clr J Arbuckle/The Mayor:

That Marsha Woodbury (Woodbury Family Trust) be thanked for her submission.

Carried

6200 *Doug Saunders-Loder (New Zealand Federation of Commercial Fishermen)*

The Mayor/Clr Faulls:

That Doug Saunders-Loder (New Zealand Federation of Commercial Fishermen) be thanked for their submission noting that Council agrees with the mountains to sea approach to the management of the coastal environment as evidenced in the work of the Te Hoiere Project.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 3.00 pm and resumed at 3.17 pm

6184 *Glenda Robb*

Clrs Adams/Fauls:

That Glenda Robb be thanked for her submission, noting that:

- **The Renwick Cycle Way required land access agreements across private land prior to construction getting underway. The expected completion of the link from Renwick Township to Jacksons Road is Spring 2023. Central government transport policy is focussed on reducing emissions and getting New Zealanders more active in terms of their transport.**
- **Mounds/Rocks on SH6 near the Rapaura Road Intersection: The greenspace/open space area is maintained by a Council contractor. While the area around the roundabout was sold to Waka Kotahi to enable the build, the rest of the land remains in Council ownership.**
- **The issue of signage for the toilet facilities at the Dog Park in Renwick will be referred to the Animal Control Sub-Committee for further consideration.**
- **Non implementation of the NPS for Freshwater and its attendant Regulations is not an option given that this is an express direction from the Government. There is considerable work to be undertaken to achieve compliance. The programme that is put forward and resources sought are the absolute minimum estimated to make some meaningful progress towards compliance. The submitters submission is a vote in opposition to the implementation of Government direction which in all reality ought more appropriately be taken up with Central Government**
- **Dog activities are governed by the Dog Control Act 1996, Dog Control Bylaw 2021 and Dog Control Policy 2021. The Bylaw and Policy were reviewed in 2021 where the public made submissions on what areas they wished dogs to be on leash, off leash and prohibited. At the conclusion of the consultation the full Council approved the designated areas. There was overwhelming support to allow dogs in the CBD on leash and since that time no issues have been reported. Harling Park was designated an off lead area. The introduction of dog parks is as a result of the submissions and approaches by the community over the years wanting areas where dogs can exercise in a restricted area without worry of dogs running away.**
- **Biosecurity: Council increased investment in the Chilean Needle Grass Management programme in 2018. There are existing legal obligations on landowners within infested areas to clean vehicles and equipment within property boundary limits. Fennel is a very prevalent weed species that primarily occupies waste land areas. Intervention would be subject to cost benefit tests under the Biosecurity Act. It is recommended that these matters are submitted on during the review process of the RPMP in 2027.**
- **Resource Consents: The proposed increase in fees and charges will allow the Resource Consent Team to continue to meet statutory and customer demands and maintain the current levels of service while maintaining the 60:40 ratio between user and rate payer funding of the activity. The sole purpose of the charges is to recover the reasonable and actual costs incurred by Council in the processing of resource consent applications. The base charges quoted in the submission such as the non-notified resource consent fee are lodgement fees only with the applicant being charged at the completion of the process the actual cost of processing the application. Applicants then receiving an invoice if costs exceed the base fee or a refund if the costs are less than the base fee. The increased base fee reflects the increase in the hourly rate for officers, charges are calculated on actual time spent in the processing of an application.**
- **Monitoring Fees: The proposed increase in fees and charges will allow the Compliance Team to continue to meet statutory and customer demands and maintain the current levels of service while working towards the 60:40 ratio between user and rate payer funding of the activity. The sole purpose of the charges is to recover the reasonable and actual costs incurred by Council in the monitoring of resource consents.**

Carried

6185 *Chris Beech*

Clrs Croad/Hope:

That Chris Beech be thanked for her submission, noting that:

- **Create cycle lane on New Renwick Road between Paynters Road and Burleigh: There is no funding within current budgets. This is not a case of simply widening the road shoulder to accommodate a cycleway, as new drainage channels will need to be constructed as part of the construction. Also to fit a cycleway, powerlines would need to be moved along New Renwick Road. The estimated cost for all of this in the current construction climate is \$1,100,000; \$600,000 for building a cycleway and \$500,000 for powerlines to be moved. Waka Kotahi's focus**

of funding for cycleways is in the urban environment, so funding from Waka Kotahi is very unlikely for this rural cycleway which Council would have to 100% fund.

- Toilet at Redwood Street Wither Hills carpark: Based on user demand and visitor numbers to the Wither Hills Farm Park, staff will propose a new toilet facility at Redwood Street Carpark - Wither Hills in a report to the Assets & Services Committee this calendar year. Staff propose the facility be built in the 2025-26 financial year. Facility is costed at approximately \$170,000.
- Investment in re-vitalising streets in the CBD: The BBA have invested in a number of painted murals within Blenheim's CBD.

Carried

6192 Sandra Currie

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Sowman:

That Sandra Currie be thanked for her submission, noting that the initial year of a food business costs more due to the initial application fee reflecting the work that goes into setting up the business in both the MPI system and MDC databases as well as assisting the food business get underway with their Food Control Plan. There is an additional site charge as further sites need to be set up again in both MPI systems and the MDC database and additional certificates issued. Renewal charges are lower as this is a reflection that the business is already set up electronically and just needs to be updated. The hourly charge has been calculated by MDC's Financial team as a true reflection of the cost of operating the activity. All Environmental Health Fees reflect the time undertaken to complete each task. Verification fees are time based and a reflection of the time required to set up the verification, undertake it, write and provide a report and update MDC and MPI databases. All registered sites require an on-site visit to check compliance. A business that performs well will have a reduced verification frequency and may not be verified more than once every 18 months. The travel charge is a reflection on the cost of the Officer and vehicle travelling to the food business. These have been calculated to take into account when it is likely that multiple verifications can be undertaken so the cost can be shared. They are a standard fee to provide certainty to the food business as to what the travel charge will be. Environmental Health does allow time payment of verification costs to assist food businesses financially.

Carried

6194 Philip Sim

The Mayor/Cllr Minehan:

That Philip Sim be thanked for his submission on native plantings in Victoria Domain, noting that his submission will be passed on to Picton Dawn Chorus who have received some funding from Council to do such plantings.

Carried

6195 Philip Sim

The Mayor/Cllr Flight:

That Philip Sim be thanked for his submission on memorial seating in Victoria Domain, noting that an avenue for funding for his request is Council's Community Grants (open mid-August 2023). In regard to his submission regarding a carved pātaka in the Community Garden area it is suggested that he contact Envirohub Marlborough based in Picton to further this idea.

Carried

6196 Steve Hut

Rivers and Open Spaces staff are to provide an update to the Assets & Services Committee on rabbits in the Taylor River Reserve, noting numbers, controls etc.

Cllrs Adams/Croad:

That Steve Hut be thanked for his submission, noting that:

- Taylor River Reserve: Dog stations are at each main entrance to the Taylor River system. On average there is a rubbish or dog bag bin every 600m. The longest distance between a dog station is 1200m. There are seven dog stations and a further three rubbish bins on the 3.5km stretch of the Taylor River from Riverside Quay to Burleigh Bridge. At each major entrance there are way finding maps and signs providing direction to visitor and locals to toilets, town etc. On average from Riverside Quay to Monro Street entrance there is a bridge to cross the Taylor river every 500m. From Monro Street to Burleigh Bridge, a distance of 1500m, there are no crossing points. Staff will review the track markers and update as necessary.

- **Athletic Park:** Council does not believe, at this stage, that extra funding is required for Athletic Park maintenance.
- **Rabbits:** Numerous control measures are practiced to control rabbits in the Taylor River Reserve, the most recent being the release of the K5 virus.
- **Flood Inundation Maps:** Flood hazard maps are available on Council's website.
- **Emergency Management:** In 2022 Marlborough District Council funded a full time Community Resilience Advisor role within the Marlborough Civil Defence and Emergency Management (CDEM) team. Marlborough CDEM has also successfully attained funding in 2022-23 from the National Emergency Management Agency to complete a Marlborough community resilience study. The project will identify significant hazards and the communities that are most exposed and vulnerable to them. This will be completed by September 2023. The outcome will enable Marlborough CDEM to develop a 5-year Strategic Resilience Plan that will identify key areas of work to improve the resilience of communities within Marlborough. The plan will align with the National Disaster Resilience Strategy. In the 2023-24 financial year Council will also be funding a complete review of the Marlborough CDEM Group Plan which has a 5-year lifespan. This plan is the guiding document for the next 5 years and will include a significant focus on hazard identification and community resilience. Evacuation sites such as Marae/Schools are already identified in the CDEM Flood Response Plan.

Carried

6198 *David Grigg*

Clrs Croad/J Arbuckle:

That the submission from David Grigg regarding being added to the kerbside waste/recycling collection be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for a proposed consultation process with the communities of Marlborough Ridge and Rapaura.

Carried

6201 *Kura Stafford (Te Taiuhu Iwi Implementing Te Mana o Te Wai Project)*

The Mayor/Clr J Arbuckle:

That the funding request from Kura Stafford (Te Taiuhu Iwi Implementing Te Mana o Te Wai Project) be approved by way of funding an additional \$10,000 from existing budgets (bringing the total to \$40,000); with the submission being referred to staff for reporting to the Environment & Planning Committee.

Carried

6203 *Philip Sim*

Clr Faulls/The Mayor:

That Philip Sim be thanked for his submission on Animal Control, noting that this issue will be discussed at the Animal Control Sub-Committee.

Carried

6205 *Dennis McAulay (Wairau Valley Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc)*

Staff are to update the submitter on the Morse Street Bridge.

The Mayor/Clr Hope:

That Dennis McAulay (Wairau Valley Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc) be thanked for their submission, noting that:

- Staff will update the submitter on the Morse Street Bridge.
- **Flood Protection:** When the resource Consent Team receive new resource consent applications for vineyard developments a hydrological assessment is undertaken to avoid downstream effects.
- **River Rates Options:** Wairau Valley township and surrounds are currently Class D or no direct specified service in the current Wairau Scheme rating. A small amount of money is budgeted to deal with minor watercourse issues west of the Waihopai (circa \$6,000 pa for everything west of the Waihopai). Council have used this and more to undertake some Walkers Creek maintenance and patch Andersons Floodway. To get Andersons Floodway back up to scratch Council needs:
 - **Capital rebuild budget.** The current estimate for repair of Andersons Floodway to rebuild to robust and long term stable standard is in the order of \$2 million. The current river rating for Wairau Valley Township is very low, circa \$6,000 pa, so there is no funding

available currently for a repair such as this. Council has applied to central government for funding of this project and we are currently awaiting a decision on this application.

- Agreement from the benefitting landowners to pay an appropriate serviced rate plus any residual loan (this will be included in the Wairau River Rating Review work).
- Detailed design, landowner agreement and any consenting requirements. The current Andersons Floodway was built with no easements in place, ie Council only have the goodwill of the landowners the floodway passes through to allow access for works.
- Construction. Patch repairs were completed on Andersons Floodway post the August 2022 event, to maintain it so it can cope in a normal flood event.
- River Rating Review - Council are planning to go out to communities in late 2023 with consultation on the current and what increased levels of service for the Wairau River Scheme would look like. Council are currently checking of revised rating model boundaries which would then flow through to any proposed rating increases.

Carried

6209 *Chris Corbyn*

Cirs J Arbuckle/Flight:

That Chris Corbyn be thanked for his submission on funding to extend the mower contract on the upper Taylor River Reserve, noting that Council have approved budget to maintain the disc golf area and can use other R&M from the Parks budget should that be required. This is a new asset to Council's recreational activities and staff are monitoring the state of the grounds. Should there be a higher Level of Service required, staff will seek an increase in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

Carried

6223 *Valerie Seatter (Havelock Community Association)*

Cirs Croad/Fauls:

That Valerie Seatter (Havelock Community Association) be thanked for their submission, noting that:

- The submission on an improved playground at Memorial Park is to be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration and prioritisation.
- Sewerage system: Staff are working with consultants on the new discharge consent application due later in 2023. A site for the new treatment plant has been secured and designs for the new treatment plant are at an early stage currently.
- Community Facilities: The HCA are recognised as a very active and positive community group in Havelock. The group seems to have been at the front of several major improvements over the years in terms of socialising with the community - these projects are seen as supporting recreational activities in the community including the Havelock Motuweka Pathway and the Neil St Upgrade project.
- Seniors Housing: In the past capital funding for pensioner/senior housing was provided by Central Government. The current Government's funding model is an operating funding model and not a capital funding model. To access operational funding, entities must be Community Housing Providers (CHP's). Council is not eligible to become a CHPs. Council is not aware of any demand for Senior Housing in Havelock.

Carried

6226 *Philip Sim*

Clr J Arbuckle/The Mayor:

That Philip Sim be thanked for his submission on a land purchase, noting that the land is in private ownership. An application for a 66 lot residential subdivision was lodged in November 2022 under Resource Consent U220886.

Carried

6227 *Richard Potez (The Blenheim Club)*

The Mayor/Clr Hope:

That the funding request from Richard Potez (The Blenheim Club) be declined at this time, however the submitter is to be advised that this issue will be discussed during the Heritage Strategy development process.

Carried

6228 *Lynda Aitchison*

The Mayor/Clr Adams:

That Lynda Aitchison be thanked for her submission on Picton Foreshore land, noting that the area is owned by Port Marlborough NZ Limited. They will be using it for the current iReX project in the short/medium term. Once this is finished, they intend to seek community input for its future use. Council has paused its future development investigations in Picton until the iReX planning, design and consequences are fully understood and staff resources and project funding sources allow.

Carried

6231 *Susan Foster (Canvastown Community Association)*

Cirs J Arbuckle/Adams:

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Carried

6243 *Melva Robb*

The Mayor/Clr Dawson:

That Melva Robb be thanked for her submission, noting that:

- **Biosecurity:** Any background risk of erosion associated with the removal of the wilding pines will depend on the underlying land cover. In most cases, the removal of the wilding pine infestation is of greater long term benefit to the surrounding ecosystem. Unfortunately, many other factors may influence erosion risk, including the integrity of the soil substrate, and ecosystem which is commonly affected by severe ungulate browse. As a result, programmes such as those overseen by community Trusts are moving toward total ecosystem restoration as opposed to single target programmes. Fennel – this weed is widely established predominantly on roadsides and other highly disturbed areas. This is not a feasible target (cost benefit) for a species-led biosecurity intervention.
- **Sculpture:** The new sculpture will not be moving.
- **Flood Protection:** In relation to the flooding in the Taylor River a number of articles have been published about this in local news media. Weed growth was very high this autumn season and the MEP prevents weed cutting from February to April when the flooding occurred. As soon as we were in May, the weed boat was out cutting the weed to reduce river levels. In relation to trees in the river, these are removed post a flood event by Waka Kotahi for the State Highway bridges and by Kiwirail for the rail bridge over the Wairau River. Gravel extraction is carried out on a regular basis in conjunction with analysis of river bed levels. If too much is removed, this places a risk on the security of stop banks, and ecological considerations needs to be taken into accounts as well.
- **Mounds/Rocks on SH6 near the Rapaura Road Intersection:** The greenspace/open space area is maintained by a Council contractor. While the area around the roundabout was sold to Waka Kotahi to enable the build, the rest of the land remains in Council ownership.
- **The issue of signage for the toilet facilities at the Dog Park in Renwick** will be referred to the Animal Control Sub-Committee for further consideration.

Carried

6248 *Rana Moanaroa (Legion Legacy Charitable Trust)*

Cirs J Arbuckle/Dalliessi:

That the funding request from Rana Moanaroa (Legion Legacy Charitable Trust) be declined, however the submitter is to be advised that an avenue for funding for their request is Council's Community Grants (open mid-August 2023).

Carried

6257 *Robin Dunn*

The Mayor/Clr Dawson:

That Robin Dunn be thanked for his submission, noting that:

- **Public Transport:** Council's budgets for public transport in Picton are for the public bus services as opposed to supporting a private operator.
- **Support Kevin Wilson's submission:** The result of Mr Wilson's submission is "That the funding request from Kevin Wilson (Thursday Recreation Mountain Bikers) for bike cattle stops be referred to the 2023-24 Land Subdivision Account process for funding consideration."

- **Create cycle lane on New Renwick Road between Paynters Road and Burleigh:** There is no funding within current budgets. This is not a case of simply widening the road shoulder to accommodate a cycleway, as new drainage channels will need to be constructed as part of the construction. Also to fit a cycleway, powerlines would need to be moved along New Renwick Road. The estimated cost for all of this in the current construction climate is \$1,100,000; \$600,000 for building a cycleway and \$500,000 for powerlines to be moved. Waka Kotahi's focus of funding for cycleways is in the urban environment, so funding from Waka Kotahi is very unlikely for this rural cycleway which Council would have to 100% fund.
- **Alabama Road/Riverlands Hall:** There is a large open drain that would need to be piped, but the environmental science team advise that this drain, as it has permanent water flowing in it, has ecological value. If the drain can't be piped, then land would have to be purchased from adjoining landowners along this path. From a purely construction point of view the estimated cost to seal a path would be \$800,000 which is not included in existing budget. Funding from Waka Kotahi is very unlikely for this rural cycleway which Council would have to 100% fund. The Town Branch Drain stormwater project design includes a cycleway once land purchase can be achieved with adjoining landowners, which could provide the cycle path to the Riverlands School.

Carried

6262 *Peter Morice (Marlborough Repertory Society)*

Clrs Croad/Hope:

That the submission from Peter Morice (Marlborough Repertory Society) regarding pedestrian access issues be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration and possible funding consideration from the Land Subdivision Account.

Carried

6271 *Staff Submission*

Clrs Fauls/Minehan:

That Council agree to the remission of the Kenepuru Road Rate in the 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years at a cost of \$35,497 and \$17,749 respectively.

Carried

6273 *Pam Benseman (Renwick Sports & Events Centre)*

Clrs J Arbuckle/Flight:

That the submission from Pam Benseman (Renwick Sports & Events Centre) be referred to the Assets & Services Committee for further consideration.

Carried

Members discussed some further savings proposed by staff. Three options were proposed:

- Reduce Stuff advertisements \$7,250
- Reduce Smart+Connected costs \$25,000
- Reduce Yellow / White Pages Advertising \$3,300

Clr Croad moved (with Clr Rosene seconding) a motion to accept all three savings offered. Clr Arbuckle moved an amendment (with Clr Dawson seconding) to accept two of the savings (excluding the Yellow / White Pages).

The amendment was put to the vote and was carried therefore becoming the substantive motion.

Clrs J Arbuckle/Dawson:

That the following savings as proposed by staff be included in the 2023-24 Annual Plan:

- Reduce Stuff advertisements \$7,250
- Reduce Smart+Connected costs \$25,000

Carried

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Croad:

That the 2023-24 Annual Plan be amended as appropriate to incorporate the decisions made by Council on submissions, and that the revised budgets and resultant rates and charges be adopted for inclusion in the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

Carried

Staff reported that following the above decisions Council is proposing a 7.97% (approximately) rates increase.

The meeting closed at 4.12 pm.

Confirmed this 29th day of June 2023

N P TAYLOR
MAYOR

Record No. 23126914