

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
ECONOMIC, FINANCE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
held in the Council Chambers and via Teams, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2023 commencing at 9.00 am**

Present

Clrs J D N Croad (Chairperson), S R W Adams (Deputy), S J Arbuckle (from 9.15am), A R Burgess, D A Dalliessi, B G Dawson, B A Faulls, B J Minehan, T P Sowman and Mayor Nadine Taylor

Present via Teams

Clr J A Arbuckle and R J Innes

In Attendance

Messrs G K Blake (Chief Financial Officer) and N Chauval (Committee Secretary)

In Attendance via Teams

D G Heiford (Manager, Economic, Community & Support Services),

Apologies

Clr Croad/The Mayor:

That the apology for absence from Clrs M R K Flight, G A Hope and J C Rosene be received and sustained.

Carried

EFC-1123-182 Declaration of Interests -

No interests with items on the agenda were declared.

ATTENDANCE: Mr Warren McNabb, Chair, Port Marlborough NZ Ltd; Mr Rhys Welbourne, Chief Executive, Port Marlborough NZ Ltd; Mr Matt Kerr, Chair, MDC Holdings Limited and Marlborough Airport Ltd and Mr Adrian Ferris, Council's Corporate Accountant were present for the following item.

**EFC-1123-183 MDC Holdings Limited and Group Annual
Reports for the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

S400-004-002-23

Messrs Welbourne and McNabb presented Port Marlborough New Zealand Limited's Annual Report 2023 with a powerpoint presentation (presentation filed in CM Record No. 23254359)

Messrs Kerr and Ferris presented Marlborough Airport Limited's Annual Report 2023 with a powerpoint presentation (presentation filed in CM Record No. 23254361).

The Marlborough District Council Holdings Limited's Annual Report 2023 was received.

Members noted that the Annual Reports were available on each respective website and that links were included in the agenda item.

Members asked a number of questions at the meeting and had the common view that the results were very satisfactory noting that 2024 will be a mix of challenges and opportunities.

Cllrs Croad/Sowman:

That the Annual Reports of MDC Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Messrs Kevin Moseley, Chairman; Anton James, CA Trustee; and Joseph Casalme, CEO Marlborough Civic Theatre Trust were present for the following item.

EFC-1123-184 Marlborough Civic Theatre Trust A200-002-09

Messrs Mosely, James and Casalme reported on the Marlborough Civic Theatre Trust's operations and financial results for the year ended 30 June 2023. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 23254357).

Members asked a number of questions at the meeting and were supportive of the Trust's focus on improving its systems and resilience to assist them with the challenges posted by the recession and rising cost pressures.

Cllrs Croad/Dalliessi:

That the information be received.

Carried

NB: The order of the agenda was altered at this point and the following Item 8 was heard ahead of Item 5.

ATTENDANCE: Mr Bernie Rowe Chairman, Clive Jones (Trustee) and John Patterson MRC Associate were present for the following item.

**EFC-1123-185 Marlborough Research Centre Trust Annual
Report 2022-23 E100-009-01**

Messrs Rowe and Patterson presented the Marlborough Research Centre Trust's Annual Report 2022/23 and the Financial Overview and Highlights for 2022/23. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 23254353). Members acknowledged the presence of Susan Foster (MRC Office and Accounts Manager) in the public gallery.

Members noted that the Annual Report 2022/23 had been circulated separately to the agenda (filed in CM Record No. 23247874) and that the Financial Overview and Highlight's 2022/2023 report formed part of the agenda.

Mr Patterson responded to a number of questions from members.

Cllr Croad/The Mayor:

That the Marlborough Research Centre Annual Report 2022/23 and Financial Overview and Highlights Report for 2022/23 be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 11.19 am and resumed at 11.30 am

ATTENDANCE: Ms Dorien Vermaas, Council's Economic Development Portfolio Manager, was present for the following three items.

EFC-1123-186 Economic Development Update

E100-010-01

Ms Vermaas advised that the purpose of the report was to provide members with an update on the activities and achievements of Annual KPI's of the Economic Development Team since the last meeting.

Members noted the information contained in the report.

Cllrs Dawson/Dalliessi:
That the information be received.

Carried

EFC-1123-187 Collaboration, Innovation and Transformation (CIT) Programme

E100-010-03-01

Ms Vermaas noted that the purpose of the report was to advise the Committee of the name change of the 'Smart+Connected' programme to 'Collaboration, Innovation and Transformation' and to seek approval for an amendment to the programme to enable funding to be provided to support projects prioritised by the groups,. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 23254355).

Members were advised that the proposed amendment would not change the fundamentals of the programme as they were key elements to its success. The changes would make the programme more contemporary, relevant and agile and would be achieved within the existing budget.

For members' information the Smart+Connected Version 2.0 was attached to the agenda item and detailed the process to consider proposals from groups, decision making and procurement.

It was raised whether there was opportunity for the agriculture sector to be considered as a new group as there is a lot of innovation and environmental best practice happening in that sector. Ms Vermaas reported that the start-up of new groups would be a possibility.

Ms Vermaas advised that she had been approached by various groups regarding the participation of councillors at their respective meetings. Councillors were asked to consider whether that would something they would be interested and if so to contact Ms Vermaas.

It was noted that all Smart+Connected groups will be meeting on Tuesday 5 December and members were welcome to attend.

Cllrs Croad/Dalliessi:
That Council approves the proposed programme amendment to enable funding to be provided to support projects prioritised by the groups within existing budgets.

Carried

EFC-1123-188 Screen Marlborough 2022-23 Report and 2023-34 Plan

E100-000-01

Members received the performance review for 2022-2023 on Screen Marlborough office and Screen Sector development in the region and the 2023-24 Annual Plan for Screen Marlborough. To highlight the reports a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 23254354).

Members noted that the Screen Marlborough Activity and Annual Plan, containing details of KPI's and measured successes, were attached to the agenda item.

The Mayor/Clr S Arbuckle:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Jodie Griffiths, Council's Community Partnerships Advisor and Heather Barnes, Welcoming Communities Co-ordinator were present for the following item.

EFC-1123-189 Welcoming Communities C150-002-028-01

Ms Griffiths reported that the purpose of the report was to provide the Committee with an update on the Welcoming Communities programme for Marlborough.

It was noted that Marlborough was accepted into the Welcoming Communities programme offered by Immigration NZ on 1 July 2022, with work commencing in October following the appointment of the programme coordinator, Heather Barnes. The programme is supported by an Advisory Group and Councillor Dalliessi is council's representative on the governance group.

Members were advised that the programme to date has completed many of the objectives set by Immigration NZ as well as opportunities presented by the community. A hugely successful Welcoming Week was held during 2 – 10 September. 20 events were coordinated to celebrate the week and the diversity in Marlborough's community and connected newcomers to local programmes/services.

Ms Barnes advised that a stocktake/survey was undertaken on what is already happening here in Marlborough. Over 450 people completed the survey. Ms Barnes highlighted the connection that has occurred with Marlborough Business Trust and newcomers to Marlborough.

The Mayor thanked Ms Barnes and the team for getting Council to the accredited stage and the numerous areas being covered as well as the visible benefits to the Marlborough Community.

Clr Dalliessi/The Mayor:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Mr Mike Porter, Council's Democratic Services Manager, was present for the following item.

EFC-1123-190 Temporary Alcohol Ban – Renwick L150-019-15

Members considered and were supportive of the report to resolve that a Temporary Alcohol Ban on High Street, Renwick and the associated side streets of Inkerman, Uxbridge and Alma Streets be in place for the 24 hours from 6.00 am on Saturday 10 February 2024 to 6.00 am on Sunday 11 February 2024 for the Marlborough Wine and Food Festival and the associated event at the Woodbourne Tavern.

Clr Adams/The Mayor:
That Council resolve and publicly notify that a Temporary Alcohol Ban will be in place for the 24 hours from 6.00 am on Saturday 10 February 2024 to 6.00 am on Sunday 11 February 2024 for High Street, Renwick and associated side streets of Inkerman, Uxbridge and Alma Streets as depicted in the plan attached as Attachment 1.

Carried

EFC-1123-191 Commercial Events Fund Sub-Committee E100-002-006-28

The Minutes of the Commercial Events Fund Sub-Committee meeting held on 25 October 2023 and 2 November 2023 were attached for ratification by the Committee.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Innes:

That the Minutes of the Commercial Events Fund meeting held on 25 October 2023 and 2 November 2023 be ratified.

Carried

EFC-1123-192 Housing for Seniors Sub-Committee

D050-001-H01, C600-004-002-01

The Minutes of the Housing for Seniors Sub-Committee meeting held on 2 November 2023 were attached for ratification by the Committee.

Cllrs Croad/Dalliessi:

That the Minutes of the Housing for Seniors Sub-Committee meeting held on 2 November 2023 be ratified.

Carried

EFC-1123-193 Small Townships Programme Sub-Committee

D050-001-S03

The Minutes of the Small Townships Programme Sub-Committee meeting held on 19 October 2023 were attached for ratification by the Committee.

Cllrs Faulls/Minehan:

That the Minutes of the Small Townships Programme Sub-Committee meeting held on 19 October 2023 be ratified.

Carried

EFC-1123-194 Sister City Sub-Committee

D050-001-S02

The Minutes of the Sister City Sub-Committee meeting held on 11 August 2023 were attached for ratification by the Committee.

Cllrs S Arbuckle/Dalliessi:

That the Minutes of the Sister City Sub-Committee meeting held on 11 August 2023 be ratified.

Carried

EFC-1123-195 CBD and Parking Sub-Committee

D050-001-P01

The Minutes of the CBD and Parking Sub-Committee meeting held on 6 October 2023 were attached for ratification by the Committee.

Cllrs Dawson/Croad:

That the Minutes of the CBD and Parking Sub-Committee meeting held on 6 October 2023 be ratified.

Carried

EFC-1123-196 Long Term Plan Working Group

D050-001-L21

The Minutes of the Long Term Plan Working Group meeting held on 8 September 2023 and 17 October 2023 were attached for ratification by the Committee.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Dawson:

That the Minutes of the Long Term Plan Working Group meeting held on 8 September 2023 and 17 October 2023 be ratified.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Tessa Davies, Council's Financial Accountant, was present for the following item.

**EFC-1123-197 Financial Report for Council – Period Ended
30 September 2023 F275-001-01**

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to present the Financial Report for Council for the period ending 30 September 2023.

It was reported that the major variances between actual and budget were; lower than anticipated roading reinstatement expenditure and subsidy for the impacts of the August 2022 flood event. In the 2023/24 year \$4.2M has been spent on the July 2021 and August 2022 events; Grants received for the College Park Hockey Turf relocation; Grants received for the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme; Lower than anticipated expenditure on Flood Protection and Control Works Flood damage; Interest expenses are lower than anticipated due to the savings, deferrals and delays in past capital expenditure programmes resulting in less external borrowings.

Comments were provided in the report on variances greater than \$100,000.

Cllrs Croad/Dawson:

That Council receive the Financial Report for the period ending 30 September 2023.

Carried

**EFC-1123-198 Debtors Overdue Reports as at 31 October 2023
F270-36-21**

Mr Blake presented the Debtors Overdue Reports as at 31 October 2023 to members.

Members were advised that the annual resource consent administration fees were charged in July 2023 totalling ~\$1.3M with 88% having been paid to date.

The 90 Days balance includes several Development Contribution invoices that will be paid once the building project is near completion. It also includes invoices for the annual resource consent administration fees that have not been paid. Invoice copies have been emailed requesting payment.

The Property Leases and Licences Debtors Report as at 31 October 2023 was noted.

Cllrs Croad/Adams:

That the information be received.

Carried

EFC-1123-199 Rates Report as at 31 October 2023 F270-36-21

Mr Blake presented the Rates and Water Billing Debtors reports as at 31 October 2023.

Members were advised that as at 31 October 2023 29.03% rates had been collected which is comparable to last year's collection rate for the same period of 29.09%.

It was noted that following the 2021 and 2022 Weather Events Council had agreed to extend the rates relief to red (100% relief) and yellow (50% relief) stickered properties, details of amounts were contained in the agenda item.

The Water Billing report for 90 Days balance included a number of credit balances and overdue June 2023 invoices, invoices requesting prompt payment have been sent. A number of Renwick and Havelock water invoices are to be reassessed by the water team due to large water leaks.

It was noted that the Rates team continue to work with ratepayers to provide mutually agreeable repayment plans to assist ratepayers to clear their arrears and ongoing rates.

Cllrs S Arbuckle/Dawson:
That the information be received.

Carried

EFC-1123-200 Information Package -

The Mayor/Cllr Minehan:
That the Economic, Finance & Community Information Package dated 28 November 2023 be received and noted.

Carried

EFC-1123-201 Decision to Conduct Business with the Public Excluded -

Cllrs Croad/Adams:
That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- **Sub-Committee Minutes (Public Excluded Sections)**

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
Sub-Committee Minutes	As set out in the Minutes and Reports	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 12.42 pm.

Record No: 23255505

Attachment 1

