

MINUTES	MEETING	TIME
<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>THURSDAY 19 MARCH 2020</b>	<b>8:31 AM</b>

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Thursday 19 March 2020, commencing at 8:31am in the Manawatū District Council Chambers, 135 Manchester Street, Feilding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Helen Worboys (Chairperson)  
 Cr Steve Bielski  
 Cr Stuart Campbell  
 Cr Shane Casey  
 Cr Michael Ford  
 Cr Heather Gee-Taylor  
 Cr Grant Hadfield  
 Cr Hilary Humphrey  
 Cr Phil Marsh  
 Cr Andrew Quarrie  
 Cr Alison Short

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Richard Templer (Chief Executive)  
 Shayne Harris (General Manager – Corporate and Regulatory)  
 Hamish Waugh (General Manager - Infrastructure)  
 Brent Limmer (General Manager – Community and Strategy)  
 Frances Smorti (General Manager – People and Culture)  
 Rebecca Bell (Strategy Manager)  
 Lisa Thomas (Senior Policy Adviser)  
 Michael Hawker (Project Delivery Manager)  
 Paul Stein (Communications Manager)  
 Janine Hawthorn (Community Development Adviser)  
 Mathew Bayliss (Community Facilities Manager)  
 Kirsten Pike (Parks and Property Officer – Legal and Planning)  
 Carl Johnstone (Parks and Property Team Leader)  
 Stacey Bell (Economist)  
 Allie Dunn (Governance Team Leader)  
 Steph Skinner (Governance Officer)

**MDC 20/165 MEETING OPENING**

Norm Lind, of the Feilding Bible Chapel, opened the meeting in prayer.

**MDC 20/166 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**MDC 20/167 REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**RESOLVED**

**That the request from Her Worship the Mayor for leave of absence from 31 March 2020 to 20 April 2020 and Councillor Steve Bielski for leave of absence from 3 to 15 April 2020 be approved.**

**Moved by: Her Worship the Mayor**

**Seconded by: Councillor Heather Gee-Taylor**

**CARRIED**

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#### MDC 20/168 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

##### RESOLVED

**That the minutes of the Council meeting held 5 March 2020 be adopted as a true and correct record.**

**Moved by: Councillor Phil Marsh**

**Seconded by: Councillor Grant Hadfield**

##### CARRIED

#### MDC 20/169 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### MDC 20/170 PUBLIC FORUM - PALMERSTON NORTH SURF LIFESAVING CLUB

Alec Mackay, Chairperson of the Palmerston North Surf Lifesaving Club Inc, gave a presentation outlining their organisation's role, providing a volunteer rescue service at Himatangi Beach since 1947. He noted the rescue service was supported by funding from Manawātū District Council and Palmerston North City Council. He spoke about the initiative from Palmerston North Intermediate School that offered surf-lifesaving as a sport through the school, and that the club was considering approaching other intermediate schools in the region to ask if they were prepared to offer this programme through the school network as well. He spoke about an initiative with Rongotea Lions running a programme through local school pools. He outlined the fundraising initiatives that had taken place and the annual budget required for delivery of the volunteer service.

#### MDC 20/171 PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations scheduled for this meeting.

#### MDC 20/172 NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business notified for consideration.

#### MDC 20/173 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from committees for consideration.

#### MDC 20/174 MINUTES OTHER COMMITTEES – FOR INFORMATION

The draft minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held 27 February 2020 were circulated for information.

#### MDC 20/175 HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS ON THE COMMUNITY TENNIS COURTS

Report of the General Manager – Community and Strategy dated 1 March 2020 providing the Council with a copy of the submissions received in relation to the proposal to sell the community tennis courts at 145 South Street, Feilding.

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Mr Mike Atkins, President of the Feilding Tennis Club, noted the increase in the number of junior members in their club. He noted the public tennis courts were well used at this time of the year and commented that there was some public use of those courts by families in the evenings.

In response to a question regarding whether a multi-use or shared use by other sports for the public courts would be workable he noted that from the club's point of view this could be workable. There could also be some confusion about the status of the public courts from the lack of visibility due to the wall between the footpath and the courts. There was a suggestion for better visibility and signage of the public courts.

In response to question about whether the club could be interested in possibilities such as leasing, rent, purchase, Mr Atkins advised the club would have been interested in purchasing the courts so they would have full control of its usage, however they did not have funding to do so, therefore the costs would fall on their members. The money the club had in reserve was for the purpose of resurfacing the club's courts, which had a life left of two to three years.

Brad Cassidy of Sport Manawatū spoke regarding the letter of support provided by Sport Manawatū. He noted the continued changing environment for sports and the growth of tennis as a sport across the region in general. He felt that we needed to be conscious of the type of facilities provided to support the community to be active. The public facility provided the flexibility for families to play tennis for a short period then let their children play on their bicycles on the court area. He felt that making the courts flexible for other sports would be beneficial.

Her Worship the Mayor noted the other submissions received and the summary of submissions provided by officers.

**RESOLVED**

**That the Council receives the report on the Hearing of Submissions on the Community Tennis Courts at 145 South Street, Feilding, and hears from those submitters who have indicated that they wish to be heard.**

**Moved by: Councillor Shane Casey**

**Seconded by: Councillor Michael Ford**

**CARRIED**

**MDC 20/176 QUARTERLY ECONOMIC UPDATE – DECEMBER 2019**

As an introduction to the quarterly economic update, General Manager – Community and Strategy Brent Limmer gave an update on COVID-19 in his capacity of Incident Controller for any emergency response. He noted the level of cases globally, the number of deaths and number of people that had recovered. He advised there had been no change overnight in the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within New Zealand. He advised that at present 501 cases were under active investigation, 3,800 people registered as self-isolating, and 8,000 people had registered that they had completed self-isolation.

*Councillor Michael Ford left the meeting at 9.17am and returned at 9.19am.*

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He spoke about expectations that the number of cases would increase from people that had returned from overseas prior to the Government imposing the 14-day self-isolation requirement. He spoke about the Council's pandemic response plan and the different levels contained within that plan. He advised that we were currently at the first level, which involved monitoring. He noted that the Council was providing information to people and undertaking additional cleaning at Council facilities. He advised that there was a small number of Council staff currently in self-isolation, having recently returned from overseas, and one that had a cold. These officers were working from home. He advised that the Council had activated its Incident Management Structure, but not activated its Emergency Operation Centre. The Civil Defence Structure had been activated with the Emergency Coordination Centre and as part of that Council was receiving regular consultation and updates from the Ministry of Health, who were the lead agency in the response, along with the District Health Board. He spoke about the number of initiatives activated in the last few days, such as a website that aggregated information [www.covid19.govt.nz](http://www.covid19.govt.nz), however the main source of information would be the Ministry of Health website [www.moh.govt.nz](http://www.moh.govt.nz). He noted the level of panic buying by the community and spoke about how it was normal for people to panic and not listen to expert advice. However he stressed it was important not to put much weight on comments in social media and to stick to factual and official information provided through the Ministry of Health and the Government.

He advised that the Council would continue to monitor and take precautionary action with our staff. He noted that updates from the National Crisis Management Centre were being provided and could be circulated to the Mayor and Councillors, and the Council would continue to keep people advised through internal and external communications. He noted that the Ministry of Health would be providing additional testing centres and information would come out about this from the District Health Boards.

Questions were asked regarding the potential impact on the Council through staff being away on sick leave, and also the impact should the Council be required to close to the public. In response the Chief Executive noted that if the district got to the stage of community transmission of COVID-19, then Council would most likely close to the public. However essential services would still be provided, for example wastewater treatment, provision of drinking water. For the process of governance it continued to be business as usual, and noted restrictions on decision-making should Council not be able to convene decision-making meetings under current legislative provisions. The Chief Executive also outlined measures being taken for the mental wellbeing of staff.

The Council then considered the report of the General Manager – Community and Strategy dated 24 February 2020 providing an overview of the current state and structure of the Manawatū District economy to December 2019. Economist Stacey Bell gave a presentation that expanded on key messages within the report and provided information about the human and economic effects from COVID-19.

*Councillor Hilary Humphrey left the meeting at 10.25am and returned at 10.28am.*

**RESOLVED**

**That the Council receives the Manawatū District Quarterly Economic Update report dated 19 March 2020.**

**Moved by: Councillor Michael Ford**

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**Seconded by: Councillor Phil Marsh**

**CARRIED**

**MDC 20/177 MINUTES FROM COMMUNITY COMMITTEES AND MANAWATŪ YOUTH AMBASSADORS**

Report of the General Manager – Community and Strategy dated 10 March 2020 presenting minutes from recent meetings of Community Committees and the Manawatū Youth Ambassadors for information. Questions were asked about the proposed change for the Manawatū Youth Ambassadors to a Youth Council and whether there was a need for a Council resolution on this matter. It was noted that at this stage it was a change of name, with the future discussion of how they would operate to be held. Any future changes that required a decision of Council would be brought to Council.

**RESOLVED**

**That the Council receives the minutes of the Community Committees and the Manawatū Youth Ambassadors meetings.**

**Moved by: Councillor Michael Ford**

**Seconded by: Councillor Phil Marsh**

**CARRIED**

**MDC 20/178 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS**

There were no late items notified for consideration.

**MDC 20/179 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**

**RESOLVED**

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

- a) Confirmation of minutes
- b) Proposal to sell 139 South Street Feilding
- c) Proposal to sell Community Tennis Courts at 145 South Street Feilding
- d) Feilding Civic Centre – Revised Procurement

**That 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:**

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Grounds under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
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- a) Confirmation of minutes re Library Analysis and Options of Section 7(2)(b)(ii) - protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; and Section 7(2)(h) - enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. Section 48(1)(a) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings would be likely to result in a disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding that information would exist, under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
- b) Proposal to sell 139 South Street Feilding Section 7(2)(h) - enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; and Section 7(2)(i) - enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations). As above
- c) Proposal to sell Community Tennis Courts at 145 South Street Feilding As above As above
- d) Feilding Civic Centre Revised Procurement Section 7(2)(h) - enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; and Section 7(2)(j) - prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage As above

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

Moved by: Her Worship the Mayor

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**Seconded by: Councillor Michael Ford**

**CARRIED**

*The meeting went into public excluded session at 10.30am. For items MDC 20/180 to MDC 20/186 refer to public excluded proceedings. The meeting returned to open session at 12.06pm.*

#### MDC 20/187 RESOLUTIONS CONFIRMED IN OPEN SESSION

The following public excluded resolutions were confirmed in open session:

MDC 20/183 PROPOSAL TO SELL COMMUNITY TENNIS COURTS AT 145 SOUTH STREET FEILDING

#### **RESOLVED**

- 1. That the Council declines to formally declare the land at 145 South Street, Feilding (legally described as Lot 3 on Deposited Plan 54542, comprised in Record of Title WN24B/790), surplus to requirements.**
- 2. That the Council notes that the proceeds from the sale of 'property, plant and equipment' as detailed in the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan will not be achieved.**
- 3. That the Council directs Officers to investigate shared use / multi-sport facility options for 145 South Street in further detail, and to present their findings at a future Council Workshop for consideration.**

MDC 20/135 LIBRARY ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the Council declines to proceed with the analysis of the existing library and Feilding Hotel and commences the strengthening and redevelopment of the existing library in the 2020/21 financial year.**

#### MDC 20/188 MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 12.07pm