
Council Minute

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 5 June 2024, commencing at 1pm in the Hine Paaka Council Chamber, Te Whare Whakatere, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

Present

His Worship the Mayor, Neil Brown; Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan and Councillors Leen Braam, Carolyn Cameron, Russell Ellis, Phill Hooper, Lynette Lovett, Tony Todd and Richard Wilson.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Jane Donaldson (GM Strategy & Compliance), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Sarah Mosley (GM People & Facilities) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Mark Chamberlain (Roading Manager), Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Femke van der Valk (Corporate Planner), Ian Hyde (Planning Manager), Simon Worthington (Economic Development Manager) and Erin Register (Finance Manager).

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

Presentation

- Ashburton Police 2.28pm – 2.47pm

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 15/05/24

Record Cr Braam as present.

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 15 May 2024, as amended, be taken as read and confirmed.

Hooper/Wilson

Carried

5 Audit & Risk Committee – 8/05/24

That Council receives the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on Wednesday 8 May 2024.

Cameron/Ellis

Carried

- Bancorp Treasury Report**

That Council receives the Bancorp Treasury report for the March 2024 quarter.

McMillan/Ellis

Carried

- **Biennial Building Consent Authority Accreditation**

1. **That** Council receives the Building Consent Authority Audit report.
2. **That** Council be notified when the non-compliances are cleared by IANZ and Council's accreditation is renewed.

Cameron/Wilson

Carried

6 **Biodiversity Advisory Group – 13/05/24**

That Council receives the minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group meeting held on 13 May 2024.

Wilson/Lovett

Carried

- **Biodiversity Advisory Group membership**

That Council invites the Upper Rangitata Gorge Landcare Group and the Methven Lions Birdsong Initiative to each nominate a representative to join the Biodiversity Advisory Group.

Braam/Wilson

Carried

7 **Ashburton Public Transport Research Report**

Council agreed it would be useful to invite the researchers to a workshop to provide better understanding of the data and allow time to decide the next steps. At the Roding Manager's suggestion, transport planners will be included.

1. **That** Council receives "The viability of and demand for a public transport pilot for the township of Ashburton".

McMillan/Cameron

Carried

8 **Eastfields Investments – Development Contribution Capacity Credits**

That Council approves a 5 year extension for the capacity credits, being 13 HUEs applicable to the Eastfield Investments site, until 21 August 2029.

Cameron/Todd

Carried

9 **Representation Review Initial Proposal**

1. **That** Council receives the report.
2. **That** Council receives the community feedback from the 'Vocal about Local' early engagement held from 22 November to 17 December 2023 (See Appendix 4).
3. **That** Council resolves the following as the Initial Proposal for the representation arrangements for the next triennial election of the Ashburton District Council and Methven Community Board, to be held on 11 October 2025:

- a. The Council is made up of 9 members elected from the three wards, plus the Mayor

- b. The three wards will reflect the following identified communities of interest:

Ashburton Ward – the areas around and including Ashburton town and the area of Lake Hood which are serviced or have the potential to be serviced in the medium future.

Western Ward – the inland portion of the rural area of Ashburton District.

Eastern Ward – the seaward portion of the rural area of Ashburton District.

The boundaries for the Ashburton Ward and Eastern Ward is proposed to be altered, to remove an area from the Eastern Ward and include it in the Ashburton Ward. The development around Trevors Road will be included in the Ashburton Ward because it is believed that residents in this area have a stronger community of interest with the Ashburton Ward than the Eastern Ward, and therefore should be voting for Ashburton Ward representation. The properties in this area are also receiving similar services and being rated in a similar way to properties in the Ashburton Ward.

c. The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Ward	Population	Members	Ratio
Ashburton Ward	21,220	5	4,244
Eastern Ward	7,640	2	3,820
Western Ward	7,860	2	3,930
Total	36,720	9	4,080

d. There will be one Community Board. The Community Board will be the Methven Community Board and will be representative of the services delivered to residential and commercial areas of Methven.

The Methven community will elect four members and have two appointed members. The Council's appointed members will be the two Western Ward councillors. The number of elected members on the Methven Community Board is proposed to be reduced from five to four. A total membership of six (including two appointed members) is considered to be fair and effective representation for a community of this size, and will promote contested elections.

The boundary for the Methven Community Board is proposed to be extended to include properties on the periphery of the current Methven Community Board Boundary. These properties are considered to be part of the Board's community of interest and receive a benefit from the Community Board. Therefore, electors within the area should have the right to be represented by the Board and vote for their membership.

Braam/Wilson

Carried

10 LGNZ Remit – Driver Licensing Scheme

- 1. That** Council approves the proposed remit to the LGNZ 2024 conference on issues with wait times in the graduated drivers licensing scheme.
- 2. That** Council approaches Canterbury Councils to support the proposed remit via the Canterbury Mayoral Forum.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

11 Economic Development – Six Month Report

That Council receives the Economic Development Strategy six monthly progress report.

Cameron/Todd

Carried

12 Road Naming – Wilson Smithfield Ltd

That the roads to vest in Council as part of Subdivision SUB23/0050, known as Wilsons Smithfield Limited and accessed from Smithfield Road, be named Morrison Avenue, Potters Place, Lodge Lane.

Ellis/Lovett

Carried

13 Financial Variance Report

Further explanations have been sought on –

- Rakaia wastewater capex (overspend)
- Cost of STMS training
- Commercial property income amount of \$17M

That Council receives the April 2024 financial variance report.

Todd/Braam

Carried

Ashburton Police – 2.28pm-2.47pm

The Mayor welcomed Area Commander Vicky Walker and Senior Sergeant Janine Bowden who provided an overview of the Ashburton Police areas of focus in the community.

Welcome to Staff

Katie Perry, People & Capability Manager, introduced new staff – Rachel Hickling (Planner), Mark Cui (Building Official) and Lou Dunstan (Policy Advisor).

Council also acknowledged the long service of Anna Mattson, Youth Librarian (20 years).

Business transacted with the public excluded – 2.50pm

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

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
15	Council – 1/05/24	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
16	Methven Community Board	Sections 7(2)(a) & (h)	Protection of privacy of natural persons Commercial activities
17	Council Shareholding	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
18	Community Grants (Round 1)	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
19	Appointment of DLC Commissioner	Protection of privacy of natural persons	Protection of privacy of natural persons

Mayor/Hooper

Carried

Council adjourned for afternoon tea from 2.50pm to 3.18pm.

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **District Licensing Committee – Appointment of a Commissioner**

That Council recommends to the Chief Executive that Tracy McIlraith be appointed as a commissioner of the District Licensing Committee for a period of four years and six months.

Todd/Cameron

Carried

- **Community Grants & Funding 2024/25**

1. That Council allocates **\$287,758** in community grants and funding 2024/25 as per the following categories:

- 1.1 Arts & Culture – Community Libraries Grant - \$15,500
- 1.2 Community Development – Agency Grant - \$77,750
- 1.3 Community Development – Community Projects Grant - \$25,347
- 1.4 Economic Development – Community Events Grant - \$20,780
- 1.5 Natural & Built Environment – Biodiversity Grant - \$25,105
- 1.6 Natural & Built Environment – Community Infrastructure Grant - \$62,400
- 1.7 Natural & Built Environment – Heritage - \$47,676
- 1.8 Sport & Recreation – School Holiday Programme Grant - \$5,200
- 1.9 School Prize-giving - \$1,000
- 2.0 Discretionary Fund - \$2,000
- 2.1 Community Trail Maintenance Fund - \$5,000

2. That Council allocates **\$20,300** for the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund for 2023/24.

Ellis/Hooper

Carried

The meeting concluded at 3.36pm.

[Confirmed by Council on 26 June 2024]

MAYOR