

# HURUNUI DISTRICT COUNCIL

## MINUTES



<b>Meeting</b>	Council
<b>Time and Date</b>	9.30am, 8 June 2017
<b>Venue</b>	Council Chambers, 66 Carters Road, Amberley.

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<b>Members Present</b>	Mayor Winton Dalley (Chairperson), Councillors Nicky Anderson, Marie Black, Vince Daly, Jason Fletcher, Fiona Harris, Julia McLean, Geoff Shier and Michael Ward.
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<b>In Attendance</b>	Hamish Dobbie (Chief Executive Officer), Judith Batchelor (Manager Regulatory Services), Jason Beck (Manager Support Services), David Edge (Manager Infrastructure Services – Assets), Dan Harris (Manager Infrastructure Services - Delivery), Audrey van der Monde (Manager Public Services) and Graham Sutherland (Council Secretary).
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<b>Apologies</b>	Councillor Dick Davison – leave of absence.
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<b>Affirmation</b>	Cr Harris read the affirmation as attached to the Council agenda.
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<b>Conflict of Interest Declarations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Councillors Jason Fletcher and Michael Ward noted that they would not take part in the decision making at this meeting, as they were not in attendance during the submissions hearings. They would be observing and listening but not voting.</li><li>• Mayor Winton Dalley and Cr Marie Black declared conflicts of interest with respect to the matter of the Council potentially purchasing shares in the Hurunui Water Project. They would participate in the discussion and voting on the matter of the overall Annual Plan, but not participate or vote on any matter relating to the Hurunui Water Project.</li></ul>
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<b>Recording Device</b>	A recording device was used for the purpose of the accuracy of the minutes.
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<b>Urgent Business</b>	Nil.
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<b>1. Annual Plan Submission Hearing Decisions</b>	<p>The Manager Public Services provided a report that outlined the decisions the Council made during the submission hearing meeting on 1 June 2017. The Annual Plan document and Fees and Charges for 2017/18 will be completed to reflect these decisions and reported to the Council for adoption at the 22 June 2017 Council meeting. She advised that the Manager Support Services had made the appropriate budget adjustments and circulated separately that information.</p>
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Mayor Dalley said the Council would take the information provided as read and said these decisions had been made by the Council at its meeting the previous week and this was an opportunity for councillors to work through any points of interest or clarification.

Cr Black commented that with respect to the decision about Wellbeing North Canterbury funding support, she was comfortable with the decision and the note about assistance already being provided by the Thermal Pools, but suggested it

might be appropriate to also note that the Council provides a councillor representative to sit on the Trust Board. She said this was a contribution in terms of governance and local connection to the Hurunui community and although not financial, this was a valuable contribution that involved a councillor's time and commitment. The Manager Public Services said this comment can be added to the written response to the submission and officers would think about how this might be reflected in public messaging.

Cr McLean sought and received reassurance that the funding approved for Compass FM Radio would be reviewed in the Long Term Plan process in 2018, as well as for Wellbeing North Canterbury and Neighbourhood Support.

The Manager Support Services discussed the budget adjustments circulated and explained the impact of each one. He said that external debt needed to increase by \$500,000 and that in turn has an impact on external interest, which meant the treasury surplus was reduced by \$13,925 as all of the treasury surplus is used to offset rates. He said this was essentially an increase in general rates and with the Balmoral water scheme increase also included, it meant that to keep at the rates increase limit of 6%, the Council would need to reduce the rates set for sewer by \$16,977, which is the balancing figure at the moment. This reduction in sewer rates equates to the percentage of depreciation being funded, and used to repay debt, reducing from 60% down to 58%, which was the result of the budget decisions.

The Manager Support Services said this flows through to the actual rates to strike and this was then shown on individual rates on the sample properties information provided. The Manager Support Services said the process from here was for the Council to adopt the final Annual Plan, which will be the full document with details of each activity and budget and the formal rates resolution that must be adopted before the end of June 2017.

Cr Harris sought clarification of the Waipara township targeted rate and the Manager Support Services said this was part of the Glenmark rates and was a Waipara line item for tree work, allowed for by an increase in the overall Glenmark rates. The Manager Support Services noted that this had not been correctly included in the revised budget documents circulated and it would need correcting.

In response to a question from Cr Daly, the Manager Support Services said civil defence was funded by general rates for the financial year but would be reviewed as part of the Long Term Plan discussions next year, along with earthquake recovery processes.

In response to a question from Cr Shier, the Manager Support Services said that the Council sets its rates requirement for the financial year and this is then calculated on the valuation of the district's assets in terms of rates per capital value of each property. He said the Council sets its rates before the end of June but would not know the final district valuation until 1 July, so there was always a timing mismatch to work through. He noted that any increase in capital value for an individual property would mean some people will have a higher increase in rates.

Cr Harris said that she always encouraged caution in the way the Council applies its lever of adjustments to depreciation when balancing the rates increases and asked how the level of depreciation had changed through the process. The Manager Support Services said initially the Council allowed for about 34% depreciation, so it

was sitting higher than originally planned, at 58% now. Cr Harris said this was a good result then, but as the Council was using that tool, she reiterated that it needed to be conscious of whether it was getting to the point of working against its overall objectives and going backwards. Mayor Dalley agreed that this is a key question and it was about how to stay within the 6% rates increase target, but still bring down debt and manage the impact on the community. He said he considered that the Council had managed it well.

Cr Anderson provided some clarification regarding the Amuri Irrigation Company submission about recreation facilities in Culverden. She said they were talking about facilities for Culverden township and bringing in other towns in the Amuri basin as well, but having it available for wider use too. The submission asked if the Council would consider setting a strategy for recreation facilities in the district. The Manager Public Services said the Council did not discuss the matter of whether there would be a district-wide sport facilities strategy, but noted the submission was referred to the Amuri Community Committee and if desired, then it can go on the Long Term Plan programme.

Mayor Dalley said his view was that there was a need for a district-wide strategy, as the Amberley Pool was an example of how that could have been considered in a wider, holistic context. He said often there are individual groups working in isolation, when they may benefit from an overall strategy to provide guidance. Cr Harris agreed but said a lot of sporting facilities come out of local need and while it might be valuable to have a strategy, it should not restrict local communities in moving forward to meet their own needs. Mayor Dalley said it would ideally be an enabling strategy. This was noted by officers for inclusion in the Long Term Plan discussions.

Cr Harris noted that the Council decision about the Rotherham Doctor's house included a requirement that there be an attempt to seek external funding. This was noted by officers.

THAT THE COUNCIL CONFIRMS THE DECISIONS MADE AT THE SUBMISSION HEARING ON 1 JUNE 2017 AS OUTLINED IN THE AGENDA REPORT AND SUBJECT TO CHANGES NOTED AT THE MEETING.

Harris/Shier

CARRIED

*(Crs Ward and Fletcher abstained.)*

*(Mayor Dalley and Cr Black abstained from voting on any matters relating to the Hurunui Water Project.)*

**Meeting  
Ended**

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The meeting ended at 10.07am.

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