

**MINUTES OF CARTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE CARTERTON EVENTS CENTRE, 50 HOLLOWAY ST, CARTERTON
ON WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2025 AT 1:00 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Steve Cretney, Deputy Mayor Grace Ayling, Cr Brian Deller, Cr Steve Laurence, Cr Lou Newman, Cr Jane Burns, Cr Simon Casey

IN ATTENDANCE: Staff
Geoff Hamilton (Chief Executive), Geri Brooking (Group Manager People and Corporate), Marc Ferguson (Chief Financial Officer), Solitaire Robertson (Group Manager Planning and Regulatory), Glenda Seville (Group Manager Community and Facilities), Lawrence Stephenson (Group Manager Infrastructure), Marcus Anselm (Communications and Engagement Manager), Robyn Blue (Democratic Services Officer)

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

The meeting opened with a karakia by all members.

2 APOLOGIES

MOVED

That apologies be received from Cr Rachel Round, Cr Steve Gallon, and Joel Ngātuere (Ngāti Kahukuraāwhitia).

Cr L Newman / Deputy Mayor G Ayling

CARRIED

3 CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARATION

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4 PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

5 DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC FORUM

Not applicable.

6 YOUTH COUNCIL VIEWS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Josephine Kumeroa, Chair of the Youth Council welcomed the new councillors.

The group were excited to note that Lonely Planet considered star-gazing, and wine and food in Wairarapa to be one of the top 25 experiences. These areas would offer employment opportunities for youth.

7 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 29 OCTOBER 2025

MOVED

1. That the minutes of the Inaugural Council Meeting held on 29 October 2025 are true and correct.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr J Burns

CARRIED

7.2 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 2025

MOVED

1. That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 October 2025 are true and correct.

Cr B Deller / Cr S Laurence

CARRIED

8 REPORTS

8.1 CORRESPONDENCE

1. PURPOSE

To note relevant correspondence received by Council.

NOTED

- Following the recent announcement by Government, no firm decisions have been made on the proposal to develop a new body to take on the responsibilities and decision-making powers of GWRC regional councillors. This would include the areas of environmental management, transport planning and civil defence. Written feedback on the proposal is to be provided by 20 February 2026.
- It was discussed at a recent forum that in addition to Wairarapa councils, the Wellington Councils (at a minimum Wellington, Porirua and Kāpiti) are considering progressing a Unitary Authority. More detail is needed before decisions can be made.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Notes** the correspondence received.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr L Newman

CARRIED

8.2 JOINT WAIRARAPA COUNCIL LETTERS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION AND THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1. PURPOSE

This report seeks Council agreement to write to the Government to indicate an interest in the amalgamation of councils in Wairarapa and to seek further information on process and timeline in light of the Government's draft proposals on Simplifying Local Government.

NOTED

- The current legislation is not helpful to fast-track amalgamations of local authorities. It was noted that specific legislation was enacted to enable amalgamation of the Auckland councils, and this may be needed for Wairarapa and other councils considering this.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr B Deller

CARRIED

- 2a. **Agrees** to write a joint letter from the three Wairarapa Mayors to the Minister for Local Government and the Local Government Commission indicating our interest in amalgamation of councils in Wairarapa, and
- 2b. **Requests that** a copy of the letter is sent to the four resident Wairarapa MPs.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr L Newman

CARRIED

2. **Agrees** to seek further information on the process and timelines and Government funding available to progress an amalgamation path for the Wairarapa Councils, as set out in the draft letter in Attachment 1.

Cr B Deller / Cr J Burns

CARRIED

4. **Delegates** authority to the Mayor to make changes to the draft letter in conjunction with the other Wairarapa Mayors.

Deputy Mayor G Ayling / Cre S Laurence

CARRIED

8.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT**1. PURPOSE**

For the Council to be informed on planned Council operational activities, major projects, and other matters of importance and interest.

NOTED

- A workshop will be held in the New Year to discuss management of ongoing vandalism of council public toilets.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr S Casey

CARRIED**8.4 DESTINATION WAIRARAPA QUARTERLY REPORT****1. PURPOSE**

For the council to receive a report of activities for the quarter ending September 2025.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Cr S Casey / Cr B Deller

CARRIED**8.5 WELLINGTON NZ QUARTERLY REPORT****1. PURPOSE**

For Council to receive a report of activities for the quarter 30 September 2025 on the delivery of the Wairarapa Economic Development Strategy.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Cr S Casey / Cr L Newman

CARRIED

8.6 CDC RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL CONSULTATIONS POLICY**1. PURPOSE**

For Council to adopt an External Consultations Policy to guide Elected Members and staff when responding to external consultations.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Adopts** the External Consultations Policy.
3. **Notes** that prior to public release of the policy minor editing and changes in formatting may occur, if required.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr J Burns

CARRIED

- 4 **Requests** that the External Communications Policy is reviewed by Council in one year.

Deputy Mayor G Ayling / Cr B Deller

CARRIED**MOVED**

That Council adjourns at 3 pm and reconvenes at 3.05 pm.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr L Newman

CARRIED**8.7 REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF CARTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL'S PRACTICES IN RELATION TO THE CONTROL OF DOGS FOR THE YEAR 1 JULY 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025.****1. PURPOSE**

For the Council to receive the report outlining the dog control activities and practices related to the Carterton District Council Dog Control for the year ending 30 June 2025.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Adopts** the report on Council's administration of Dog Control practices as set out in section 5 for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 under section 10A Dog Control Act 1996.

Deputy Mayor G Ayling / Cr L Newman

CARRIED

8.8 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2025**1. PURPOSE**

To present the financial results to Council for the period ending 30 September 2025.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr L Newman

CARRIED**8.9 MEETING SCHEDULE 2026****1. PURPOSE**

For the Council to approve the schedule of Council and Committee meetings for the period January to December 2026.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Adopts** the schedule of meetings for January to December 2026 as outlined in Attachment 1.
3. **Notes** that meeting dates and/or times may be changed by agreement with the Chair and the Chief Executive and will be advertised as required by the Act.

Cr B Deller / Cr S Casey

CARRIED**8.10 RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2026****1. PURPOSE**

For the Council to confirm the 2026 Annual Workplan.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Approves** the Risk & Assurance Committee Workplan for 2026.

Mayor S Cretney / Deputy Mayor G Ayling

CARRIED

8.11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT REQUESTS

1. PURPOSE

To inform the Council of the number of requests under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987 (the Act) 1 September 2025 to 2 December 2025.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Cr B Deller / Cr J Burns

CARRIED

8.12 SERVICE REQUESTS AND COMPLAINTS

1. PURPOSE

For the Council to be informed on Service Requests and Complaints received 1 September 2025 to 2 December 2025.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr L Newman

CARRIED

9 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

MOVED

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter 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 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 for the passing of this resolution |
|--|---|--|
| 9.1 - Conditions for re-appointment of the Independent Advisor for the CE Employment Review Committee | s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to 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 | s48(1)(a)(i) - 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 would exist under section 6 or section 7 |
| 9.2 - Property Review | s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities | s48(1)(a)(i) - 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 would exist under section 6 or section 7 |
| 9.3 - Appointment of the Chair of the Risk and Assurance Committee | s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons | s48(1)(a)(i) - 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 would exist under section 6 or section 7 |

Mayor S Cretney / Deputy Mayor G Ayling

CARRIED

MOVED

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

Cr S Laurence / Cr L Newman

10 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

The meeting closed with a karakia by all members.

The Meeting closed at 4.45 pm

Minutes confirmed:

Date:

DRAFT