

**MINUTES OF CARTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE CARTERTON EVENTS CENTRE, 50 HOLLOWAY ST, CARTERTON
ON WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2026 AT 4:45 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Steve Cretney, Deputy Mayor Grace Ayling, Cr Brian Deller, Cr Steve Laurence, Cr Lou Newman, Cr Steve Gallon, Cr Rachel Round, 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), Sara Renall (Senior Communications and Engagement Advisor) via videoconference, Robyn Blue (Democratic Services Officer)

Youth Council

Josephine Kumeroa, Duncan Allen-Alloway, Latoria Reiri, Rory Pike, Brooke Ah-Wong

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

The meeting opened with a karakia by all members.

2 APOLOGIES

NOTED

- An apology was received from Joel Ngātuere.

3 CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARATION

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4 PUBLIC FORUM

Jason Markham provided an update on the Carterton Indoor Pool redevelopment, the evolution of design options, and the challenges of rising costs and securing sufficient financial support.

5 DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC FORUM

The Council acknowledged the Nuku Ora Regional Spaces and Places Strategy which plans to assess future sporting and aquatic needs across the Wairarapa region. The strategy may influence decisions on whether to pursue a Carterton-specific pool or a regional aquatic centre.

A workshop will be held for Council to have an up-to-date briefing on the project.

6 YOUTH COUNCIL VIEWS ON AGENDA ITEMS

NOTED

- At their recent Youth Council meeting members discussed the draft Annual Plan 26/27 (a report on the Agenda of this meeting). In their view, the Plan is well-presented. Specific feedback was provided that consideration could be given to improving linkages of the Annual Plan 26/27 to the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034.
- The Mayor acknowledged the Youth Council's input and the importance of accommodating youth schedules and perspectives in Council meetings and planning processes.

7 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18 FEBRUARY 2026

MOVED

1. That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 February 2026 are true and correct.

Deputy Mayor G Ayling / Cr S Laurence

CARRIED

8 REPORTS

8.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

1. PURPOSE

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

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr L Newman

CARRIED

8.2 ADOPTION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN.

1. PURPOSE

For Council to approve the Terms of Reference for the Economic Development Committee and the Draft Economic Development Action plan 2026 – 2027 as the basis for the initial delivery and stakeholder engagement.

NOTED

- Expressions of interest will be sought for the community members on the group.
- A key aspect of the group will be working with the other Wairarapa councils and partners to achieve goals.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr S Gallon

CARRIED

2. **Adopts** the Draft Terms of Reference for the Economic Development Committee, noting that the new Economic Development Committee will finalise these when they meet.

Deputy Mayor Ayling / Cr B Deller

CARRIED

3. **Approves** the Draft Economic Development Action Plan as a starting point for the next 12-month work programme.

Cr S Casey / Cr L Newman

CARRIED

4. **Agreed** by consensus to use the First Past the Post system of voting for identifying the Chair of the Economic Development Committee.
5. **Nominates** Cr Simon Casey as the Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

Cr S Casey / Cr S Gallon

MOTION FAILED

6. **Nominates** Cr L Newman as the Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

Deputy Mayor G Ayling / Cr R Round

CARRIED

For – Cr L Newman, Deputy Mayor G Ayling, Cr B Deller, Cr R Round, Cr S Gallon (5)
Against – Mayor S Cretney, Cr J Burns, Cr S Laurence (3)
Abstain – Cr S Casey (1)

7. **Nominates** Cr S Laurence as the Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

Cr L Newman / Cr J Burns

MOTION FAILED

8. **Agrees** that Cr L Newman, Cr S Laurence and Cr S Casey are the elected member representatives on the Economic Development Committee.

Cr L Newman / Cr S Gallon

CARRIED

9. **Delegates authority** to the Economic Development Committee to spend a budget of up to \$30,000 for the year ending 30 June 2027.

Cr L Newman / Mayor S Cretney

CARRIED

8.3 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027

1. PURPOSE

To provide the Council with the first draft of the Annual Plan 2026/27 for review and discussion (**Attachment 1**).

NOTED

- Over the next year, Council officers will investigate potential areas of budget improvement in the LTP 2027-37.

MOVED

That the Committee:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Notes** the *Draft* Annual Plan 2026/27 is forecasting an average rate increase of 3.9%.
3. **Notes** the Final Annual Plan 2026/27 is expected to be presented to Council for consideration on 13 May 2026.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr S Gallon

CARRIED

8.4 WAIRARAPA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY STRATEGY 2025-2030

1. PURPOSE

For the Council to adopt the Wairarapa Emergency Management (EM) Capability Strategy 2025-2030.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Adopts** the Wairarapa Emergency Management Capability Strategy 2025-2030.
3. **Notes** that South Wairarapa and Masterton District Councils will consider the adoption of the Strategy at their next Ordinary Council Meetings.

Mayor S Cretney / Cr J Burns

CARRIED

8.5 INTRODUCTION OF THE 2027-2037 LONG-TERM PLAN PROJECT

1. PURPOSE

To introduce the project plan for the development of the Long-Term Plan 2027-37 (LTP) to the Council.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Endorses** the project plan for the development of the Long-Term Plan 2027-2037.

Cr L Newman / Cr B Deller

CARRIED

8.6 DELEGATION TO CARTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE STAKEHOLDER FORUM OF THE WAIRARAPA-TARARUA WATER SERVICES ORGANISATION

1. PURPOSE

This paper seeks Council's decision on delegated authority for Carterton District Council's appointment on the Stakeholder Forum for the new Wairarapa - Tararua Water Services Organisation (WSO).

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Notes** that Carterton District Council agreed by an email vote on 3 March 2026 to extend the delegated authority to the CDC representative on the Stakeholder Forum of the Wairarapa – Tararua Water Services Organisation, or the alternative representative if required, to:
 - (a) Approve director recruitment, appointment and removal (if required); and
 - (b) Approve the remuneration of the directors of the Company.

Mayor S Cretney / Deputy Mayor G Ayling

CARRIED

8.7 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) 2 February 2026 to 17 March 2026.

MOVED

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.

Cr B Deller / Cr J Burns

CARRIED

8.8 SERVICE REQUESTS AND COMPLAINTS

1. PURPOSE

For the Council to be informed on Service Requests and Complaints received 2 February 2026 to 24 March 2026.

MOVED

That the Council:

- 1. **Receives** the report.

Cr L Newman / Cr S Casey

CARRIED

9 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Nil

10 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

The meeting closed with a karakia by all members.

The Meeting closed at 7.06 pm

Minutes confirmed:

Date: