

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA, ON TUESDAY 15 JULY 2025 AT 1 PM

PRESENT

Councillors B Cairns (Chairperson), R Brine (left 1:50pm), N Mealings, P Redmond (left 3:10pm), and Mayor D Gordon (arrived 1:19pm, left 2:34pm).

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor T Fulton.

J Millward (Chief Executive), C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation), G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager), T Sturley (Community Team Manager), L Sole (District Libraries Manager), M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager), J Borland (Team Leader Greenspace Strategy and Partnerships), B Dollery (Biodiversity Team Leader), L Mealings (Graduate Policy Analyst), L Tilley (Youth Development Facilitator) and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

1 APOLOGIES

Moved: Councillor Cairns

Seconded: Councillor Redmond

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** and sustains an apology for absence from Councillor Blackie and Councillor Brine for early departure at 1:50pm.

CARRIED

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts declared.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee held on 20 May 2025

Moved: Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 20 May 2025 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

3.2 Matters arising (From Minutes)

There were no matters arising.

4 DEPUTATIONS

4.1 Kaipoi Food Forest Trust Annual Report 2024/25 - Gordyn Hamblyn

G Hamblyn was not present.

5 REPORTS

5.1 Community Development Strategy 2025-2035 – T Sturley (Community Team Manager)

T Sturley spoke to the report, noting that approval was being sought to recommend to the Council the adoption of the Waimakariri Community Development Strategy 2025-2035 (the Strategy) as a framework for community development across the Waimakariri District. She highlighted that the community stakeholder engagement for developing the strategy was extensive, encompassing 19 networks and various sectors of the community. Community consultation had been via the Council's 'Let's Talk' function and directly via the various networks facilitated by the Community Team. Subsequently, the draft Strategy document had also been made available for community consultation; however, the response rate had been low. Staff received only one comprehensive response from Health New Zealand, which was in favour of the activities outlined in the strategy, along with a few recommendations for implementation.

Councillor Redmond questioned how the proposed removal of the four Local Government wellbeing factors from the Local Government Act 2002 would affect the Strategy. T Sturley did not believe that it would, as the community developed the Strategy in response to community-identified priorities, which had naturally been grouped into goals that aligned with wellbeing phrases.

Councillor Mealings asked, given the strong stakeholder engagement, whether staff would regard the pre-engagement work with stakeholders as an informed part of the strategy development consultation. T Sturley noted that staff had encouraged input throughout their networks and provided paper copies to forums such as Social Services Waimakariri, the Waimakariri Health Advisory Group and other networks they facilitated.

Councillor Mealings enquired whether the Council's community outcomes aligned with the four wellbeing outcomes outlined in the Local Government Act 2002, or if they reflected how the Council structured its community outcomes. T Sturley noted that the intention of the Strategy was to provide a framework for a resilient, connected community, and that it included wellbeing elements. The Strategy focused on ensuring that people were empowered to achieve their full potential, that they were connected, and that they had access to the services, supports, and opportunities that would help them become well-functioning members of the community.

Councillor Fulton asked if there was a hierarchy to the community's well-being and needs. T Sturley noted staff looked at it in line with the social determinants of health and wellbeing. They were interested in whether people had access to education, employment, and housing, and whether poverty was a significant issue. That was the Council's translation of wellbeing.

Councillor Cairns noted that the Government consistently emphasised the importance of councils focusing on core services, which they viewed as roads, pipes, and water. The Council did not sell the services provided by its Community Team. T Sturley thought that the Council could potentially do better selling those services, but the work of community development was to be celebrated because it celebrated the community.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Cairns

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250703121101.

AND

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee recommends:

THAT the Council:

- (b) **Approves** the Whakawhānake Hapori o Waimakariri – Waimakariri Community Development Strategy, 2025 – 2035, to be adopted as the framework for community-led development in the Waimakariri District, over the coming 10-year period.
- (c) **Notes** the many successful community development initiatives developed over the past 20 years that have led to the Waimakariri District being recognised for its effectiveness in developing collaborative responses to community-identified issues and opportunities.
- (d) **Notes** the broad evidence base that has informed the development of this strategy.
- (e) **Notes** the extensive engagement across the social, health, education, community and business sectors to ensure the identification of key priorities to be addressed in this strategy and its subsequent implementation.
- (f) **Notes** that, following on from the community engagement, community consultation has been carried out via Council's 'Let's Talk' function and directly via the various networks facilitated by the Community Team. The aim of this consultation was to gather feedback that might lead to changes in the draft document and/or inform its implementation.
- (g) **Notes** the attached comprehensive response from Health New Zealand (Te Whatu Ora) and that recommendations for the implementation of the strategy have been noted and applied to the implementation plan.
- (h) **Notes** that, given its strong evidence base and the broad stakeholder involvement in informing and developing the strategy, community consultation responses to draft document were unanimously in support of Whakawhānake Hapori o Waimakariri – Waimakariri Community Development Strategy, 2025 – 2035, for adoption as the framework for community-led development in the Waimakariri District over the coming 10-year period.

CARRIED

Councillor Mealings commended the Community Team for the development of the Strategy. She noted that based on the broad stakeholder involvement in formulating the Strategy and the extensive community consultation, it seemed that the draft Strategy was generally supported. Councillor Mealings, therefore, supported the motion.

Councillor Cairns also supported the motion and thanked the Community Team for the extraordinary work they were doing with community organisations such as the Community Hub and the Men's Shed.

5.2 **Applications to the Biodiversity Contestable Fund – Waimakariri Natural Environment Strategy Implementation Fund for Organisations – B Dollery (Biodiversity Team Leader)**

B Dollery spoke to the report, noting that approval was being sought for the granting of applications to the Biodiversity Contestable Fund – Waimakariri Natural Environment Strategy Implementation Fund for community organisations. This was the first time the contestable fund had been made available to community groups. A total of \$10,000 was available annually, and applicants were required to complete an application form to demonstrate how their need/project aligned with the criteria. Four applications had been received.

Councillor Fulton noted that some of the applicants had applied to various organisations for funding for the same project. B Dollery advised that staff was aware that organisations applied for other streams from other bodies, such as Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri Biodiversity Trust. Organisations were required to declare other sources of funding as part of their application. The issue with some of these projects was that they were not a 'one-stop shop', so there may be a need to fund maintenance, data gathering, and other related expenses to complete the projects.

Councillor Mealings questioned whether the area the Kaiapoi East Residents Association (KERA) wanted to plant between Moore Street and Feldwick Drive in Kaiapoi was subject to a Memorandum of Understanding for the development of the proposed Aquasports Park. B Dollery noted that a few years ago, the Council collaborated with KERA to establish a 50-metre buffer zone between the residential area and any future development on the adjacent regeneration land.

Councillor Cairns queried whether staff had done due diligence in terms of who KERA was representing and if they were involving local residents who bounded the area being planted. B Dollery confirmed that local residents were involved, noting that she had been in correspondence with two members of KERA regarding planting this year and they have confirmed the planting requirements of the neighbouring property owners. They had also been encouraging the local schools to ascertain if they would be interested in assisting with the planting.

Moved: Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Redmond

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250619111441.
- (b) **Approves** the allocation of \$3,152.50 to the Ashley Rakahuri Rivercare Group.
- (c) **Approves** the allocation of \$525 to Hunter's Stream Catchment Group.
- (d) **Approves** the allocation of \$2,750 to the Kaiapoi East Residents Association.
- (e) **Approves** the allocation of \$2,925 to Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara.
- (f) **Notes** that successful applications will be subject to an Accountability Agreement between the applicant and the Council.

CARRIED

Councillor Brine supported the motion and commented that it was a detailed report with good questions.

Councillor Redmond supported the approval of the funding allocations, as accountability procedures were in place to ensure the funds were utilised for their intended purpose. The applicants were all well-established and well-known.

Councillor Mealings was pleased to see the uptake of the Biodiversity Contestable Fund, as the Council's Natural Environment Strategy intended. She believed that the funding would be put to good use and, therefore, supported the motion.

Councillor Fulton noted it would be educational to undertake a field trip to see the fruits of the organisation's labour, particularly on Hunter Stream.

Councillor Cairns supported the motion, commending the work of the applicants and other organisations planting trees in reserves and other urban areas. He hoped that the Biodiversity Contestable Fund would kickstart and support the growth of more forests, thereby putting green in the community.

5.3 Libraries Update to 3 July 2025 – L Sole (District Libraries Manager)

L Sole acknowledged the passing of Neill Price, who was a well-known Justice of the Peace at the Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre. N Price was recognised with a Mayoral Award in 2024 for his many years of community service to Fire and Emergency New Zealand, the Kaiapoi Borough Council, and the Waimakariri District Council. He also served as the president of the Kaiapoi and Canterbury District RSA and received a Queen's Service Medal for his services to the community.

L Sole advised that the July School Holiday Programming had been very popular, with 20,000 visits over the two weeks. There were a few days when attendance records were broken at Kaiapoi. Libraries collaborated with the Canterbury Museum, with over 400 children in attendance. There had also been ongoing increases in attendance at Rangiora Library, which had translated to increases in lending. Libraries reported nationally on all their statistics, and there had been a 6% increase in books checked out at the Rangiora Library.

L Sole noted the partnership with the University of Canterbury and the PACE Internship Programme. Waimakariri Libraries partnered with the University of Canterbury to host student interns. One Intern was working in the local history space, with an archives and archaeology background. The Libraries had adopted several initiatives in the community health space, maintaining a long-standing relationship with Dementia Canterbury, Melanoma New Zealand, and the Cancer Society, among others, who utilised the library spaces. The programmes were mostly at capacity, and staff were exploring other options for bringing them to Oxford and how they could be expanded.

Councillor Fulton questioned the roles and responsibilities of library staff in caring for vulnerable people. L Sole noted there were clear boundaries that limited the care staff could provide. Staff supported their communities to the best of their ability, but they did not have a duty of care like a health provider would. However, there were instances where they reached out for support to the Community Team and their networks, in the hope that community members would take advantage of the available support.

Councillor Mealings noted the discrepancy between the budgeted and actual revenue; the actual amount was \$105,000, versus a budget of \$899,000. She asked what non-rate revenue the Libraries would be forecasting. L Sole explained that the \$899,000 included Development Contributions of \$820,000 for the budgeted addition to the Rangiora Library, and there was also Better of Funding. He thought going forward, those would be separated to make it easier to understand.

Councillor Cairns sought clarity regarding the 'careful consideration' of the use of the Kaiapoi Library. L. Sole noted that it was being strategic about the events and programmes hosted at Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre and prioritising those that would resonate with the community. The Libraries had a strategic framework that aligned with the Council's Community Development Strategy outcomes. Programs and initiatives to be hosted at the Civic Centre were weighed to determine what would elicit the best community development outcomes. Informal events still had a learning component to them; often, it was generational, with a grandparent bringing their grandchild, and there were many positive social and economic outcomes.

Councillor Cairns asked if the Libraries were continuing the Digi-Coach initiative. L. Sole noted that, building on the success of the nationwide Digi-Coach pilot, the Libraries would be partnering with TechMate to expand the digital support it offers the community, albeit at slightly reduced hours, but it would be entirely externally funded.

Councillor Cairns queried if the Fossil Fun event would also be hosted in Rangiora and Oxford. L. Sole noted that the event was hosted in partnership with Canterbury Museum as part of the July School Holiday Programming at the Kaiapoi and Rangiora Libraries.

Councillor Cairns inquired if the Suitcase Full of Memories collection used any of the displays from the Rangiora Museum, and L. Sole replied that they did not, because it was a borrowable collection.

Councillor Cairns questioned the success in extending the Kaiapoi Library's hours over the weekend to accommodate the people visiting the Kaiapoi Art Expo and Blackwells event. L. Sole noted that it was deemed successful, as attendance was quite high. There was a demand in the community for libraries to be responsive to local events.

Councillor Fulton asked whether there was a policy for displaying items in the Waimakariri Libraries. L. Sole noted that it would depend on the item and whether it was deemed appropriate and considered important to the community, but the Libraries were not a collection entity. If an item were deemed appropriate, the Council would consider a Loan Agreement.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Cairns

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250703121283.
- (b) **Notes** the community benefits of the below initiatives, particularly the continuation of in-demand digital support for older residents, the success of July school holiday programmes, and the addition of further support initiatives in partnership with community health providers.
- (c) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon thanked L. Sole for his words about the passing of N Price. He supported the motion and thanked staff for ensuring libraries were welcoming and safe environments. He received only good comments about the Waimakariri Libraries' collection and how people liked the new layout of the Rangiora Library. The Libraries played a broad role in the community, and he attended a number of concerts in the Chamber Gallery, where several people commented on how wonderful it was. The fact that there were art exhibition spaces in Rangiora and Kaiapoi made Waimakariri Libraries unique. Mayor Gordon appreciated how flexible the staff were to enable those places to be used by the community.

Councillor Cairns agreed that N Price was a special person in the community and would be sadly missed. He noted that the work the staff did at the Libraries was extraordinary. His wife took their grandchildren to the Rangiora Library to hear everything about pirates, and they were enthralled. Staff skills made the Libraries a special space for people to visit, as evidenced by the increase in visitor numbers from 16,000 to 20,000, which was wonderful.

5.4 **Aquatics July Report – M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager)**

M Greenwood took the report as read and highlighted the results of the General Customer Satisfaction Survey completed in June 2025. Aquatics achieved a 99% satisfaction rate for programmes and staff engagement, which spoke volumes about how hard the staff worked to engage with customers and ensure their visit was comfortable. Their overall satisfaction was 94%, down by 1% from the previous survey; however, considering the challenges and ongoing work, it was still a strong result.

Councillor Cairns noted the number of people visiting the Aquatic facilities seemed to be very consistent. He asked if that was an indication that the Council needed to market these facilities more. M Greenwood noted that there were quieter times, and staff worked hard to try to attract people to those quieter periods. The Council ran an early bird special at the Kaiapoi Aquatic facilities for the seniors who came earlier, which was traditionally a quiet time. At the peak times, the Aquatic facilities were largely running at capacity, which aligned with the District's Aquatics Strategy.

Councillor Cairns further enquired whether the Aquatic facilities would cope if more programmes were added. J Millward noted that the Aquatic facilities ran several programmes, and trying to get into the Learn to Swim Programme, for example, was difficult.

Councillor Cairns questioned whether it was time to consider developing another Aquatic facility to facilitate more programmes. M Greenwood noted that this may be the case; however, there were other community needs to consider, such as access to hydrotherapy pools for more senior community members.

Councillor Redmond inquired about the steps staff were taking to address the negative comments in the General Customer Satisfaction Survey regarding lane usage. M Greenwood explained that a number of the comments pertained to incidents between members of the public. Staff would work at reinforcing etiquette during lane swimming and addressing expectations in a shared space. Staff were in the process of upgrading the signage at the Aquatic facilities, and they would provide ongoing education to customers.

Councillor Mealings noted the Aquatic facilities seemed to be well utilised, she asked if there was any excess capacity. M Greenwood stated that there were periods of excess capacity, but the challenge was aligning customers' availability with facility availability. Quite often, when customers reached out to advise that they wanted to swim at a particular time, there were only two lanes available because of the Learn to Swim Programme. He pointed out that the Aquatic facilities were open 15 hours a day, from 6 am to 9 pm. The challenge they encountered was that the peak times were extremely crowded.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250707123200.
- (b) **Notes** that attendance across all types remains consistent with the previous year with just under 273,000 annual visitors.

- (c) **Notes** an overall customer satisfaction result of 94% was achieved in our General Customer Survey completed in June.
- (d) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon supported the motion, thanking the staff for their work. He recently raised some feedback from a dissatisfied community member with Aquatic staff, who indicated that she was pleased with how her concerns had been addressed. Councillors have raised the possibility of an additional Aquatic facility; however, developing such facilities was a huge undertaking. The need for additional resources at the existing facilities, such as hydro slides, was regularly raised; however, upon examining the facilities across the Waimakariri District, we were very fortunate. In time, another facility may be needed as the community continues to grow.

Councillor Mealings observed that the Aquatic facilities' visitor numbers were very stable, with facilities usually running close to capacity, yet staff still managed to have a 94% satisfaction ratio. The fact that they managed to get 15% of customers to complete the Customer Satisfaction Survey was quite a feat. She knew the team would continue to strive for increased customer satisfaction.

Councillor Cairns agreed with previous comments. Pre-paid attendance resulted in over 3,000 more visits than last year, indicating that it paid to listen to customers.

5.5 **Youth Action Plan Early Engagement Update – L Mealings (Graduate Policy Analyst), K Nutbrown (Senior Communications and Engagement Advisor) and L Tilley (Youth Development Facilitator)**

L Mealings spoke to the report, noting the purpose was to provide the Committee with an update on the early engagement process associated with the Waimakariri Youth Action Plan (the Plan).

L Tilley provided the Committee with a refresher on why staff were reviewing the Plan. The main focus of the engagement was to engage with young people where they were, rather than trying to get them to come to the Council. Staff achieved this by launching the early engagement during youth week, as young people would already be attending those events. Additionally, by engaging with schools that agreed to disseminate the information to their entire student population, including Kaiapoi High, Rangiora High, and Oxford Area Schools, as well as several primary schools. Staff presented to a Comcol class and also connected with Lincoln University and Ara. Engaging with schools paid off, as 968 respondents found out through their schools. Initially, to make the survey more inclusive, staff conducted a focus group with the Lighthouse Project. Staff also attended the Rainbow Community meetup and met with the Mahi Matatoa Homeschool Network.

Mealings reported that between 18 May 2025 and 13 July 2025, the early engagement survey received 1,092 responses from individuals aged 12 to 24 years. This accounted for 11.63% of the youth population in the Waimakariri District, with the addition of some of those workshop participants, staff were able to engage with 1,112 young people in the district. At the end of the survey, staff also provided an option for respondents to indicate whether they would like to be kept updated on the progress of the Youth Action Plan. The total number of respondents who chose this option was 237. Staff did not yet have an in-depth understanding of what the respondents had said, instead, staff had provided an overview of how the engagement went and who they had heard from.

Councillor Fulton asked what staff thought of the public opinion that the youth were not the most popular age group. L Tilley believed it was a fair assessment that young people seemed to be loitering around town and were often assumed to be a bit bothersome or up to no good, which was frequently a false assumption. She thought taking the time to value their voices told young people that the Council did care and wanted to make the district a better place for them.

Councillor Redmond noticed that 90% of respondents were in schools and questioned how staff engaged with young people aged 18 to 24 years old. L Tilley noted that staff knew going into this project that this would be the demographic they would struggle to engage. Posters were displayed in areas frequented by the target age group, including stores and local university campuses, as well as on social media. Although it seemed like a small amount, they still received around 75 responses from 18 to 24-year-olds and could therefore still extract data. The number of respondents was in line with what other councils had achieved when trying to engage with that age group.

Responding to Councillor Cairns' question, L. Tilley observed that staff worked with the Youth Action Plan Advisory Group to establish where young people congregated and how they could be reached, while minimising the effort required for young people to contribute. She believed that adopting a similar approach to community engagement would be beneficial.

Councillor Fulton inquired whether this survey would inform the Council on youth employment issues. Mealings, noted as a Generation Z herself, felt well-equipped to process the data and pull out the relevant parts. One of the sections in the survey was on employment, so respondents were asked if they had tried to find a job in the district, how they had found the experience, and the types of jobs they were interested in.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Redmond

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250611105654.
- (b) **Notes** the survey questions used to engage with local young people as part of the early engagement period (TRIM 250618110933).
- (c) **Notes** that work is now underway to analyse the results of the Youth Action Plan early engagement survey, and that this information will be used to develop a draft Youth Action Plan for consultation at a later date.
- (d) **Notes** that the key findings and themes of the early engagement survey will be reported to the Community and Recreation Committee at the September meeting.
- (e) **Circulates** this report to Community Boards for information.

CARRIED

Councillor Mealings commented that staff had done an exceptional job with this engagement. They had well-thought-out questions, they engaged their target market where they were, they had meaningful incentives that supported local businesses, and they managed to capture an important voice that would help inform work for years to come. She believed that this pre-engagement was the most crucial part of drafting the Youth Action Plan.

Councillor Redmond thought the survey was excellent; however, he questioned the definition of youth, acknowledging that the national definition constrained staff, but it seemed that 18 to 24-year-olds were different from 13 to 17-year-olds. He commented that it was a good report, and staff were doing good work.

Mayor Gordon thought that the communications and engagement were superb and believed that this was the second most successful engagement the Council had ever done. He noted that several staff members attended the engagement events he had attended and thanked staff for their commitment. He noted he had pushed for a Youth Action Plan because there was a real gap.

Councillor Cairns agreed with Mayor Gordon that staff had been very adaptable to ensure the success of the engagement. He looked forward to seeing the survey's final findings.

In her right of reply, Councillor Mealings noted that the definition of youth also encompassed the age range of the Youth Council, which made for some interesting conversations. She commended the fact that staff had done such a good job in capturing the views of urban and rural residents, as well as young people of varying abilities and demographics across the district.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

7 PORTFOLIO UPDATES

7.1 Greenspace (Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds) – Councillor Al Blackie.

Councillor Blackie was not present to provide an update.

7.2 Community Facilities (including Aquatic Centres, Multi-use Sports Stadium, Libraries/Service Centres, Town Halls and Museums) – Councillor Robbie Brine.

Councillor Brine was not present to provide an update.

7.3 Community Development and Wellbeing – Councillor Brent Cairns.

- Kaiapoi Community Hub
 - Sutton Tools had provided the Kaiapoi Menzshed (the Group) with a date that they wish to move to the Kaiapoi Community Hub. The Council's Community Development Team had been doing a wonderful job in assisting the Group with funding applications and any help they could provide to facilitate the relocation. The Group had employed a person to assist with administration, funding applications, and fundraising. The Group had a shortfall of funds, and many members had dipped into their own pockets to top up the funds. During the next school holidays, the Group would be hosting a Teddy Bear Hunt fundraiser, with the assistance of RePurpose Pals. The Group was undertaking multiple community projects, such as installing seating/shelter in the dog park at Gladstone Park.
- Food Security
 - Food Secure North Canterbury (the Group) was holding their quarterly forum at 5pm on 5 August 2025 at the Amberley Bowling Club. The Group was creating a map of local North Canterbury food growers and producers from a food secure perspective, which could be used in a time of emergency and would be the first mapping project of this type nationwide. The Group was also creating a series of simple cooking programs with Jo Seagar, assisting people in using basic ingredients to prepare healthy meals. The Group had secured funding to support the buying of trees for community food forests.

- The list of requests for food forests included the potential food forests in Northbrook Reserve, Pines Kairaki Beach, Oxford, Noaia Education Facility, The ARC women-only housing project food forest, Leithfield, and Pegasus/Woodend.
- Open Farm tours had ceased trading, which facilitated farm tours, and the likes of the Kaiapoi Food Forest had 291 people for a visit because of this business.
- Kaiapoi North School welcomed 14 new entrants yesterday, with the school's roll at over 500. St Patrick's School was just under their maximum number of students, which was regulated by 1970 legislation. They were using every room/building to accommodate the number of students. The principals he spoke to voiced concerns about the Ministry of Education not taking into account the growth in the Waimakariri District.
- Kaiapoi Art Expo and Blackwells Winter Festival had Kaiapoi buzzing over the weekend, and it was splendid to see the Kaiapoi Library open to take advantage of the influx of people in the town centre. The previous week, Waimak United hosted its 14th Women's Tournament, which drew 779 players, along with their families, to the Waimakariri District. Again, this saw the local businesses benefitting.
- Last week, the Enterprise North Canterbury Funding Committee met to consider submissions from Blackwells, Oxman Race, Experience Oxford, Down by the River, and Woodend Beach. The Down by the River Jazz Event would be district-wide from Oxford to Kaiapoi over a number of days, 17 to 19 October 2025, involving many groups and businesses
- The Waimakariri Access Group was advised about a potential bylaw to be considered by the Council in 2026 regarding obstructions on footpaths, i.e. signage and bollards. This would include sign bases that were left over night, whilst the sign was removed, the base remains and becomes a hazard.

7.4 **Waimakariri Arts and Culture – Councillor Al Blackie.**

Councillor Blackie was not present to provide an update.

8 **QUESTIONS**

Nil.

9 **URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

10 **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee would be held on Tuesday 26 August 2025 at 1pm.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 2:37PM.

Workshop

- *Greenspace Planning Approach – Refer to Trim 250728137713.*

CONFIRMED

Chairperson

Date

UNCONFIRMED