MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL, FOR THE HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, RANGIORA SERVICE CENTRE, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA, ON THURSDAY, 7 MAY 2026, AT 1.00PM.

PRESENT:

Mayor D Gordon (Chairperson), Deputy Mayor P Redmond, Councillors T Bartle, B Cairns, W Doody, T Fulton, J Goldsworthy, B McLaren, N Mealings, S Powell, J Ward.

IN ATTENDANCE:

J Millward (Chief Executive), C Genet (General Manager Finance and Business Support), S Hart (General Manager Strategy, Engagement and Economic Development), G Cleary (General Manager Utilities and Roading), C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation), S Docherty (Strategy and Business Manager), H Street (Corporate Planner), M Pugh (Community Development Facilitator), K Rabe (Governance Advisor) and P O'Loughlin (Governance Officer).

The meeting was adjourned from 3.00pm for refreshments and reconvened at 3.20pm.
The meeting was adjourned from 4.39pm for refreshments and reconvened at 4.52pm.

1. APOLOGIES

None.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- Councillor Cairns declared a conflict of interest being a Committee Member of Food Secure North Canterbury.
- Councillor Powell declared she was the Chairperson of the Waimakariri Access Group.

3. HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

Submitter	Comments
Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board	Mayor Gordon welcomed Jackie Watson, Chairperson of the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board (the Board), to present the Board's submission to the 2026/27 Draft Annual Plan. J Watson thanked the Council and spoke to the key items in the submission, noting the following: • Changes to Local Government ▪ The Board supported the Council's position on the Resource Management Act (RMA) changes and the proposed rates-capping framework. ▪ Regarding infrastructure funding and the Finance Amendment Bill, the Board noted the importance of ensuring infrastructure was in place before growth occurred, wherever possible. ▪ The Board expressed concern about "unchecked growth" in the Waimakariri District and the impact it had on residents' daily lives and on the rural character that many people valued. While the Board supported development levies and the principle that growth should pay for growth, it questioned whether all growth was beneficial or whether it sometimes negatively affected residents' perceptions of the district.

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The Board strongly agreed with the Council’s assessment that central government should provide greater financial support to local authorities, including the return of GST on rates and fair contributions for services.

<u>Local Water Done Well</u>
The Board was impressed that 97% of respondents supported the Council’s approach, noting strong local endorsement.
The Board requested that the Council review its policy for properties not connected to reticulated water or wastewater systems. It recommended incentives, such as a 20% reduction in connection fees, to encourage rural properties to connect, improving environmental outcomes and distributing system costs more equitably over time.
<u>Rangiora Eastern Link</u>
The Board expressed some concern that the project had proceeded, noting that improvements in Southbrook could attract additional traffic. While the Western Bypass had been well received by those travelling from the south, the Board questioned whether enhancing the Eastern Link might undermine the Western Bypass's effectiveness.
The Board also raised concerns about the lack of progress on the Skew Bridge, noting that flashing signs had been stolen and no improvements had been made. The Board reiterated its desire to see the Skew Bridge project advanced.
<u>Capital Programme</u>
The Board supported the project criteria but acknowledged that not all projects were financially achievable due to resource constraints.
<u>Council’s Financial Position</u>
The Board commended the Council for a strong economic management position in challenging times and applauded the efforts of the Council in the return rate per dollar.

Mayor Gordon thanked J Watson and noted that a business case on the proposed Rangiora Eastern Link Road had been submitted to central government, and the Council awaited a decision regarding funding. He confirmed that the Board would be briefed once an outcome was known. In addition, Mayor Gordon confirmed that the Skew Bridge remained an agreed priority project.
Councillor Fulton asked how the Skew Bridge would serve as part of the link to the Western Bypass, particularly in relation to Flaxton Road and the surrounding Mandeville and Swannanoa areas. J Watson responded that the Skew Bridge formed part of the connection to the Western Bypass, with traffic signals on Island Road and Flaxton Road marking the beginning of the bypass to Rangiora. She noted that the Skew Bridge, in its current condition and location halfway along the route, created a bottleneck and required improvement to fulfil its intended purpose.
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<tr><td>Rangiora-Ashley Community Board</td><td>
Jim Gerard attended on behalf of the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board. He advised that the Board was very supportive of the Council’s Draft 2026/27 Annual Plan and endorsed the Council’s strategic priorities and key consultation areas. J Gerard highlighted the following:
<u>Changes to Local Government.</u>
The Board supported the Council’s position on the changes to Local Government announced to date. The Board supported the rationale for abolishing Regional Councils but expressed concern regarding the additional responsibilities this could place on Mayors. The Board noted that Mayors already carried substantial workloads and emphasised the importance of balancing local and regional interests.
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Submitter	Comments
	▪ J Gerard observed that the Board did not support any move that would see the Rangiora-Ashley community absorbed into Christchurch, as this would overshadow the local community. • <u>Rates capping</u>: ▪ The Board was not opposed to rates capping, provided that key issues that must be considered, such as natural disasters, major emergency events and growth were factored. • <u>The Infrastructure Funding and Finance Amendment Bill</u> ▪ The Board supported the intent of the Bill but shared the Council's concerns regarding the mechanisms proposed to achieve its objectives. • <u>Development Levies</u> ▪ The Board supported the principle that growth should fund growth. • <u>Waimakariri View</u> ▪ The Board endorsed the Council's summary and assessment of recent legislative changes and strongly supported the call for increased central government financial support. • <u>Local Water Done Well</u> ▪ The Board commended the Council for taking a leading role nationally. It further noted, however, that smaller rural water supplies would require careful assessment regarding their ability to manage increased monitoring and regulatory costs. • <u>Rangiora Eastern link</u> ▪ The Board acknowledged no support in going ahead until Central Government funding was available for this. There had been concern about the estimated cost increase from $37.9 million to $65 million. • <u>Rates</u> ▪ The Board wished to commend the Council for maintaining one of the lowest rates in New Zealand, and over the last two to three years, it had been fiscally responsible. • <u>Tolling of the Woodend Bypass</u> ▪ The Board had always supported the proposed Woodend Bypass and supported its project objectives; however, the Board believed that introducing tolling would have some adverse effects on the community, particularly from northeast Rangiora and north of the Ashley River, who use the Ravenswood access, which could see regular commuters paying at least $5 per day. Mayor Gordon thanked J Gerard for the Board's submission and advised that a briefing would be provided to the Community Boards regarding the proposed government changes. Councillor Mealings asked for the Board's view on what improved recycling and waste infrastructure might look like. J Gerard observed that the Council had performed well in this area; however, as environmental expectations evolved, recycling would become increasingly important. He emphasised the need for cost-efficient systems and wider rollout. Councillor Cairns enquired about noise from the road adjacent to the Loburn Sports Ground during the recent ANZAC service and whether the Board would support additional tree planting along the road edge. J Gerard noted that the Board would support planting trees, but also observed that many sports grounds near roads experienced similar noise issues.

Submitter	Comments
Oxford-Ohoka Community Board	Sarah Barkle, Chairperson of the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board (the Board), presented the Board's submission. She thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak and expressed confidence that the Council would continue to act in the district's best interests, noting that it was a challenging time to progress significant work. She highlighted the following: • Local Water Done Well ▪ S Barkle commended the Council's work in this area, stating that the Council's approach had been outstanding. She expressed pride in being part of the Council and acknowledged Mayor Gordon's efforts. The Board noted that private well owners should continue to be supported and educated, and that those with private wells needed to be aware of their responsibilities. It was important to take a long-term view to ensure private well owners remained compliant with their schemes. • Rangiora Eastern Link Road ▪ The Board felt it had not been provided with a clear understanding of the funding strategy for the proposed road. The Board's support for progress on the project would depend on co-funding. • Capital Programme ▪ Negotiating within this space was challenging due to the cost pressures and the scale of Council expenditure, and some industries faced higher inflationary impacts. The Board emphasised the importance of prioritisation, efficient strategic planning, and listening to local communities about which projects should take precedence. • Rates Figures ▪ It was noted that the rates presented in the consultation document seemed to cover a wide range of increases. Some properties in Oxford and Cust would experience higher differentials than residential properties, meaning that an average increase of 4% did not reflect the reality for all ratepayers. S Barkle highlighted that isolated communities might not have the financial capacity to absorb higher increases. ▪ Once the Local Water Done Well Governance Group was established, water rating should be considered holistically. As an essential service, funding for water and sewerage should be applied consistently across the district, regardless of location, to ensure affordability over time. In conclusion, S Barkle observed that the Board was very appreciative of the Council, its staff, and the strong relationships they maintained. She noted that the Council should be proud of the budgeted items that could not be avoided and acknowledged the Board's ability to contact staff when needed. Mayor Gordon thanked S Barkle for the submission and her generous remarks.

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<tr><td>Woodend-Sefton Community Board</td><td>The Chairperson of the Woodend-Sefton Community Board (the Board), Mark Paterson, attended via audiovisual link.

M Paterson noted that the Board had reviewed the Council's Draft 2026/27 Annual Plan and supported it, including the proposed rate increase and the intention to keep it under 5%. The Board looked forward to the continued progress of strategic work and expressed support for the Rangiora Eastern Link Road, provided it was co-funded by central government. He highlighted the need for a long-term plan to address the challenges with Pegasus Lake.

Mayor Gordon acknowledged the Board's concerns regarding Pegasus Lake and advised that a Council briefing on the lake was scheduled in June 2026, to which the Board would be invited.

Councillor Fulton sought the Board's view on whether growth was adequately paying for growth in the Woodend-Sefton area, and whether the Council could improve its approach, particularly in relation to rating. M Paterson responded that the Board was hopeful that the updated Woodend/Pegasus Area Strategy would address the anticipated significant future growth. He advised that he was unaware of any rating issues requiring further comment.

Mayor Gordon thanked M Paterson for presenting the Board submission.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Pegasus Residents Group Inc</td><td>The representative of the Pegasus Residents Group Inc (the Group), Miles Dalton, highlighted the following:
• The increased fuel costs were impacting the ability to provide security support in the area.
• Residents felt their concerns about the Pegasus Lake toxicity were not being addressed.
• The Group was pleased that One NZ had announced fibre installation for Pegasus, meaning connectivity was no longer an issue.
• A suggestion was raised to explore opening a road north from Waikuku to Pegasus, which could improve the financial viability of bus services.
• Key findings of the survey regarding the Woodend/Pegasus Area Strategy included:
  ▪ Pegasus Lake was the top priority for 48.5% of respondents, with concerns about water quality, usability, and a perceived lack of visible progress. The Group believed this was largely a communication issue.
  ▪ 40% of respondents expressed safety concerns and wanted visible enforcement and preventative action.
  ▪ 29.9% were concerned about the possibility of the Pegasus Golf Course being converted to housing, noting it was a key reason many purchased homes in Pegasus.
  ▪ Respondents highlighted the need for additional public transport access routes in case of disaster and supported sealing the two southern roads into Pegasus.
  ▪ There was an expectation that planning should anticipate future growth.
  ▪ 20.6% supported more local markets or events, though M Dalton stressed the Group was not seeking to run large-scale events.
  ▪ 12.4% of respondents indicated a desire for skate facilities.
  ▪ Respondents also valued the community environment, local facilities, walking areas, and wetlands.</td></tr>
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Submitter	Comments
	• The Group requested improved communication with clear direction and action for the community. In addition, it asked for equitable consideration for Waikuku, including assistance with security and support for monitoring around Ravenswood. Councillor McLaren passed on a suggestion to explore that may assist the group with costs associated with community security support. Mayor Gordon thanked M Dalton for his presentation, with no further questions.
Canterbury Museum Trust Board	Mayor Gordon invited the Canterbury Museum Trust Board (the Board) to present on its submission and welcomed Tom Thomson (Chairperson), David Ayers, Nigel Tecofsky, Sanye Te Aika, and Sarah Murray. Mayor Gordon acknowledged D Ayers as the Council's representative, recognised his many years of service, and noted his previous role as Chairperson of the Board. He also acknowledged T Thomson for his commendable leadership of the Canterbury Museum Redevelopment Project. T Thomson thanked the Council for its continued operational support and capital contributions. He then introduced the Board's current Acting Director, S Murray, to speak to the submission. S Murray thanked the Council for including the 4.2% Operational Levy in its draft Annual Plan 2026/2027. She highlighted the Museum's delivery of public experiences to more than 180,000 visitors annually, its Education Programmes, and its wide range of exhibitions. She advised that the Museum was requesting additional capital funding of $2.1 million, payable over four years, towards the fit-out of the redeveloped Museum, of which $77,152 would need to be included in the Council's draft Annual Plan 2026/2027. S Murray also acknowledged the Council's letter dated 24 April 2026 and the points raised, noting that a request had been made for a separate meeting to discuss these matters. She confirmed the Christchurch City Council's agreement to provide $1 million in capital funding in the first year of the Canterbury Museum redevelopment. N Tecofsky noted that securing the additional funding was essential before the building fit-out contract could proceed, as an additional $7.2 million in costs would be incurred if capital works were delayed by a further 12 months. A delay in securing capital funding had already added $5.1 million to project costs and moved the Museum's opening date to 2029. He noted that the overall project cost had reached $261.9 million, an increase from the previous year due to delays in receiving capital funding. The Board had secured $170 million in funding to date, sufficient to cover existing contracts. The remaining $32 million would be required from the four Councils, including $2.1 million requested from Waimakariri District Council, representing 3.6% based on a cash-flow. S Murray advised that the Board was aware of the cost pressures facing councils and had been actively pursuing cost-mitigation measures through alternative revenue streams. She noted that the Board was also developing an optimal charging model for Museum entry upon the facility's reopening. S Murray reported that current forecasts indicated approximately 800,000 visitors were expected in the first year of reopening, generating an estimated $83 million in economic benefit to the region.

Submitter	Comments
	In response, Mayor Gordon clarified that the Council had been awaiting confirmation of commitments from its partner councils before confirming its capital contribution to the Museum redevelopment. He emphasised that this approach had been necessary for prudent decision-making and was not intended to signal any lack of support for the Museum. Councillor McLaren asked, when the Museum reopened in 2029, how much of the projected $83 million generated in the first year would be returned to the Council. S Murray responded that she did not have that level of detail available at the meeting but would investigate the matter and provide an update to the Council in due course. Deputy Mayor Redmond questioned whether the Board had taken rates-capping constraints into account when calculating its financial projections. N Tecofsky replied that further work was required in the outer years of the forecast. He noted that the Board was committed to implementing an entry fee for the Museum upon reopening and would undertake research to understand the implications for prospective visitors. Deputy Mayor Redmond asked whether the Board was committed to not charging local residents for entry to the Museum. N Tecofsky noted that the Board was committed to this position. S Murray supported this, commenting that local residents already contributed through their rates, and confirmed that the Board was primarily considering charging international visitors. Responding to a question from Councillor Goldsworthy, S Murray confirmed that the Board was committed to exploring ways to reduce the impact of future requests from councils. Mayor Gordon expressed his appreciation to the Board for the work it had been undertaking and acknowledged the significant role the Canterbury Museum had long played within the wider community. T Thomson thanked the Council for its time and noted that Councillors were welcome to visit the Museum project at any stage. He added that the Museum upgrade remained under budget, despite some delays, and confirmed that the project was still on track to reopen in 2029.
Kaiapoi River Protection Society	Paul Williams and the other members of the Kaiapoi River Protection Society (the Society) were welcomed by Mayor Gordon. P Williams advised that the Society's submission related to the upcoming renewal of the Council's consent for the ocean outfall system, with particular emphasis on its serious concerns regarding the condition and operation of the Kaiapoi Wastewater Treatment Plant (KWWTP). He noted that a high-quality wastewater treatment system was an essential public health and environmental requirement. The Society considered the current KWWTP to fall short of the standard expected of a New Zealand community. P Williams expressed unease about the quality of wastewater discharged through the ocean outfall, citing visible sewage in the surf and dirty, sludgy water along Kaiapoi beach. The Society requested that the KWWTP undergo an immediate review, including an assessment of the feasibility of installing a sludge removal plant. Alternatively, they proposed reconfiguring the pond system to allow staged drainage of accumulated sludge, ensuring proper treatment prior to discharge, and preventing further build-up near the discharge area. P Williams tabled photos illustrating the Society's concerns.

Submitter	Comments
	In addition, P Williams expressed doubt about the accuracy of previous sludge surveys, reporting effects as minimal, and asked for independent verification. He noted the ecological impact on native bird species, including botulism among the birds, citing a previously reported figure of 5,000 bird deaths in a single year. P Williams observed that while recent numbers may be lower, it could indicate a decline in the bird population rather than an improvement in conditions. There was also the possibility that independent contractors might not always be able to retrieve deceased birds due to their locations in the ponds. Based on the Society's investigation, it also disagreed with the Council's listed cost of $30,000 for bird-deterrent systems. Former Fish and Game Councillor and founding member of the Silverstream Advisory Group, Gareth Free, supported the Society's submission and expressed his shared concerns regarding the Kaiapoi River and the KWWTP. He noted that, in his view, the plant was not functioning properly and was emitting toxins into the sea, which he believed would stratify at the flow level and move back up the Kaiapoi River. G Free further observed that the Central Government's introduction of mandatory water chlorination may have affected the bacterial breakdown processes that normally occur before wastewater reaches the KWWTP. He suggested that chlorination could be delaying the wastewater's transit time, resulting in its arriving at the plant with insufficient time for proper treatment and varying levels of sterilisation. Michael Bate spoke to the impacts on animal life, believing that these effects had not been properly reported. Deputy Mayor Redmond sought confirmation on when the photos were taken. P Williams confirmed that some of the photos were current and some were historical; the Society was unable to verify the age of the photos. Mayor Gordon reiterated that upgrades to wastewater infrastructure would not be deferred, particularly where the Council's engineers agreed with the concerns raised. He emphasised that wastewater treatment plants were critical infrastructure for the Waimakariri District and confirmed that the Council would review all issues presented, noting that some statements may not have been accurate. Mayor Gordon thanked the Society for attending.
Northern A&P Association	Mayor Gordon welcomed Duncan Lundy, Graham Reid, and Alistair Robertson representing the Northern A&P Association (the Association). D Lundy presented a proposal to develop designated roadside parking along Coldstream Road, adjacent to the Rangiora Showgrounds. He noted that the current roadside area was unformed and became muddy during the winter months, limiting its usability and contributing to undesirable vehicle behaviour. The Association believed that formalising the parking area would not only improve access to the MainPower Stadium and the Maria Andrews Sportsground but would also provide safer conditions for people walking to the MainPower Oval. D Lundy highlighted safety concerns for families with young children navigating the road in active traffic and expressed a desire to see safer, more functional conditions for users. He emphasised that the proposal would benefit the community, support local infrastructure, and reflect the importance of the recreational hub in Rangiora.

Submitter	Comments
	G Reid added that the area was poorly maintained from a roading perspective and that significantly better use of the Rangiora Showgrounds could be achieved if appropriate parking were developed. He noted that improved parking would enhance the area not only for sports teams operating there but also for Council use of the facility, emphasising that the benefits would extend beyond their own group. Mayor Gordon thanked the Association for its submission and advised that the development of parking at the Rangiora Showgrounds had been considered as part of the Council's 2026/27 Annual Plan process. He confirmed that this would be communicated to the Association once finalised. Responding to Councillor Cairns question, G Reid observed that the condition of Coldstream's roadside had improved noticeably, but only while the weather remained dry, and that the issues would likely return once conditions became wet again. Councillor Doody observed that the hedge significantly shaded the roadside parking area, which could affect the planned road works. She asked what the Association intended to do about the hedge. A Robertson explained that the hedge provided very good privacy and shelter for the showgrounds. Once the car park was formed with a hard surface, the shading from the hedge would not pose as much of an issue, apart from the possibility of water run-off. Mayor Gordon acknowledged the Association's representatives for attending and acknowledged the significant asset they managed on behalf of the community. The showgrounds were well used by the community, and appreciation was expressed for the Association's and its members' voluntary contributions.
Food Secure North Canterbury	Nicki Carter and Angela Clifford addressed the Council on Food Secure North Canterbury's (FSNC) Submission A Clifford drew attention to the importance of food security for local communities, noting a rapidly increasing demand for food support, with local food banks and social service providers experiencing unprecedented pressure and distributing record numbers of food parcels and meals. There was a need for a longer-term strategic response to address the systemic drivers of food insecurity in the region and to consider the roles the Council could play in developing a resilient and equitable local food system. A Clifford referred to the *Food Resilience Report* prepared by Nicole Davenport. In light of the report's findings, FSNC strongly urged the Council to act on the following key recommendations: • the establishment of a comprehensive Food Resilience Policy. • the development and implementation of edible-guided planting guidelines for food forests, community gardens, and green spaces. • the integration of local food production, processing, distribution, and retailing into the Economic Development Implementation Plan. • the ongoing protection of productive land to ensure the community's future food needs could be met. FSNC was willing to support the Council in progressing this work.

Submitter	Comments
	Councillor Fulton enquired how FSNC would address the challenge of landowners consistently shifting to the highest-value land use. Councillor Fulton asked how this cycle could be broken when landowners were not prepared to grow food, either for personal use or commercially, because higher-value uses such as housing development tended to prevail. In response, A Clifford advised that leadership was required at both regional and local levels to establish a strategic plan or shared vision for how communities were expected to feed themselves. It was suggested that this could include the Mayoral Forum recognising food as critical infrastructure alongside water and energy, as well as collaboration between councils to articulate the need to protect productive land. Councillor Doody inquired whether FSNC accepted home-prepared food produce, and N Carter confirmed that home produce was accepted through Food Banks. Mayor Gordon expressed the Council's appreciation for the work undertaken by the FSNC.
Kaiapoi Park Trust	Mayor Gordon welcomed Graeme McDonald and Murray Sutherland from the Kaiapoi Park Trust (KPT). He acknowledged the work being done by the KPT in maintaining the Kaiapoi Park grounds. G McDonald advised that the KPT managed the Kaiapoi Park, which was not a Council-owned facility; however, it was a community facility gifted to the people of Kaiapoi over 100 years ago. The facilities were used extensively by the Rugby Club, Cricket Club, Hockey Club, local schools, and for various community events. It also served as the designated Civil Defence centre for Kaikōura. He emphasised that the park remained open to anyone in the community and was regarded as a valuable and well-used asset. G McDonald reported that the primary concern was the deteriorated condition of the carpark. The surface had been patched repeatedly over many years and had now become unsafe. The KPT expressed that, in their view, the carpark had reached a point where remedial work was urgently required. The KPT had obtained a quote for a full asphalt resurfacing of the carpark. Although only one quote had been received, they had consulted widely and believed the quote to be reasonable and reflective of the work required to ensure a long-term solution. They noted that the proposed work would prevent the need for further repairs for many years. G McDonald noted that the KPT had approached the Rugby Club, the Cricket Club, and several Kaiapoi businesses for support. Through this fundraising effort, they had secured $60,000 toward the total project cost; however, the full cost of the work was estimated at just over $145,000. The KPT was therefore requesting that the Council consider providing a one-off grant of $85,000 to enable the project to proceed. M Sutherland confirmed that if the cost increased, they would not seek additional funding from Council and would instead undertake further fundraising to cover any shortfall. Mayor Gordon sought confirmation of the anticipated project costs. G McDonald advised that the KPT had the project requoted recently, and the expected cost was approximately $146, 665.92 including GST. Mayor Gordon requested the KPT to submit the updated quote to the Council for further consideration.

Submitter	Comments
	Deputy Mayor Redmond observed that the current carpark was chip seal. He questioned whether the KPT had considered re-doing the carpark in chip seal rather than asphalt, noting that chip seal was generally a cheaper option. G McDonald acknowledged that chip seal would be cheaper. However, the KPT had taken guidance from the contractor and was seeking a longer-term solution. The intention was to complete the work to a standard that would not require further resurfacing for many years. M Sutherland added that much of the existing material could be retained and used as a base for the asphalt, resulting in a stronger, more durable surface. Although asphalt was the more expensive option, it was chosen for its higher quality and longer lifespan, with an expected durability of approximately 15 to 20 years. Deputy Mayor Redmond questioned whether the KPT receives any other funding from the Council. G McDonald confirmed that the KTP received a Community Recreation Grant from the Council for the annual maintenance of the Kaiapoi Rugby Club grounds. Councillor Cairns noted the significant pressure on Council to provide facilities such as changing rooms, showers, and toilets for many sporting venues, and observed that these amenities at the Kaiapoi Park had been funded and developed independently by the KPT. He asked what level of investment the KPT and associated organisations had contributed to the development and improvement of the park's facilities. G McDonald explained that most of the work had been funded by the Kaiapoi Rugby Club. Councillor McLaren questioned if the quote for upgrading the carpark included all the drainage requirements. G McDonald advised that the carpark was already configured with drainage infrastructure, including channels directing runoff into the stormwater system. As part of the proposed upgrade, the existing drainage would be tidied and improved. The KTP had already liaised with Council staff regarding the replacement or reinstatement of the drain covers to ensure the system remained functional and presented to a high standard. Mayor Gordon thanked the KPT for the extensive fundraising that they had already undertaken and affirmed that the KPT would be advised after a decision had been made.
Matthew Wilkinson	Matthew Wilkinson spoke to his submission, noting that he was presenting an idea for a gravel trail linking Rangiora, Cust, and Oxford. The concept originated from his experiences cycling with his children. He commented that while they enjoyed exploring the area, the current roadside conditions involved rough terrain and long grass, which made cycling challenging, particularly when carrying a child. M Wilkinson advised that a dedicated cycleway appeared to be a practical solution. He highlighted that such a trail would help connect the community, create opportunities for informal interactions between neighbours, and provide families with a safe way to reach local parks and facilities without needing to drive on high-speed rural roads. M Wilkinson noted that much of the underlying corridor already existed, as the old railway line bordered large sections of Oxford Road. He suggested that, with scraping and compacted gravel, significant portions of the trail could be constructed at relatively low cost, making it a strong development opportunity.

Submitter	Comments
	M Wilkinson further observed that the route also held historical significance. It followed pathways associated with early Māori trails, the former Cust Grand Prix route (1930s–1960s), and traditional mahinga kai sites. He suggested that a trail following these corridors could serve as a “living museum,” celebrating local heritage and attracting visitors to North Canterbury, thereby supporting the local economy. In closing, M Wilkinson asked the Council to consider the proposal as part of the upcoming planning cycle. He believed that the district had a unique opportunity to use its history to strengthen community connections and improve safety for families. Responding to Councillor Cairns’ question, M Wilkinson responded that the idea of a Rangiora to Oxford trail had not yet been socialised with local businesses, accommodation providers, or other stakeholders to gauge their support, as the concept was still relatively new and that he was only beginning to share it with others. He noted that wider engagement would be an important next step as the idea developed. Councillor Fulton asked whether there was evidence that people were already using the informal track along the corridor, noting that sections appeared to have been mown or worn into a footpath, suggesting regular use. M Wilkinson confirmed that he had observed people walking on the grass berm. He noted that although this was anecdotal, there were clearly areas where foot traffic had created visible paths, indicating that the route was already being used informally by members of the public. Councillor Fulton further questioned what level of surface quality would be appropriate for the proposed trail, noting that options ranged from sealed paths to graded gravel or rough tracks. M Wilkinson responded that a simple hard-gravel surface would be sufficient. The trail did not need to be a high-grade or sealed pathway, but rather a stable surface capable of accommodating pedestrians, cyclists, and potentially mobility devices. He noted that such a surface would meet the community's needs while keeping the project achievable. Councillor Doody asked whether anyone had assessed the condition of the old railway formation, including the existing mounds and compacted areas, and whether the underlying structure remained suitable for use as part of a trail. M Wilkinson responded that he had not sought expert advice on the matter. In his view, if the formation had originally been constructed to support heavy rail traffic, it would likely be more than adequate for pedestrian and cycle use. He acknowledged that this was an assumption but believed that much of the original base remained in place. He noted that further technical assessment would be required as the proposal progressed. Councillor Doody also asked whether M Wilkinson had spoken with others in the community about the proposal or whether any notification had been placed on local community pages. M Wilkinson advised that he had not yet undertaken wider consultation. He had considered posting the idea on the Customer Community Facebook page; however, he had not done so at this stage. He noted that he regularly spoke with nearby neighbours, but aside from these informal conversations, he had not yet shared the proposal more broadly. Responding to a question from Councillor Mealings, M Wilkinson observed that the former railway line seemed to have followed the Oxford Road corridor directly through to Oxford for the most part. Although there were likely sections where the line deviated slightly from the roadside.

Submitter	Comments
	Mayor Gordon thanked M Wilkinson for his submission, noting that this was the first time many Councillors had heard the proposal and that it appeared to be an idea worthy of further exploration.
North Canterbury Province of Federated Farmers	Lionel Hume addressed the Council on behalf of the North Canterbury Province of Federated Farmers (Federated Farmers). L Hume urged the Council to keep expenditure and rates increases within reasonable bounds, noting that increases should ideally remain aligned with the rate of inflation. He observed that fees and charges had risen by an average of approximately 6%, which Federated Farmers noted was higher than the Consumer Price Index (CPI) of 3.1%. Federated Farmers was also concerned regarding the impact of capital value-based rating on the farming sector, noting that high capital values resulted in farmers carrying a disproportionately large share of the rates burden. L Hume suggested that the Council consider applying a differential to the general rate to address this imbalance. L Hume encouraged the Council to maximise the use of targeted rates, which they argued more directly linked costs to the individuals who benefited from specific services, rather than distributing costs across all properties. Federated Farmers acknowledged and appreciated Council's continued prioritisation of an efficient and well-maintained transport network and water supply, stating that this was essential both for individual residents and for the effective functioning of the district's economy. L Hume also expressed support for the Council's focus on community safety, noting that this was a core responsibility of local government. L Hume queried the size of the operational surpluses shown in the Council's draft Annual Plan 2026/27. Federated Farmers was questioning why such large surpluses were required. It was acknowledged that the Council needed to fund capital projects and may wish to reduce debt, but clarification was sought on the scale of the surpluses. They emphasised the importance of the Council maintaining sound financial management on behalf of ratepayers. Councillor Mealings queried the source of the 7.7% figure referenced in the Federated Farmers submission. She noted that the Council's proposed rate increase was 4.91%, down slightly from the previously projected 4.95%. L Hume confirmed that the proposed rate was calculated from the data provided in the Council's financial statements. J Millward observed that Federated Farmers' calculation seemed to be based on gross figures, whereas the Council's stated 4.91% increase was growth-adjusted. He added that the same approach applied to fees and charges, with approximately 2% growth deducted from the headline figure. Councillor Mealings noted that the rates movement for large farms in the Waimakariri District was projected to be between 1.7% and 2.4%, with an average increase of 2.4% for smaller farms. In fact, the district had one of the lowest non-residential rates in the country, reflecting the Council's ongoing attention to ensuring that farmers received a fair and reasonable rating position within a predominantly rural district. Councillor Mealings referred to the Federated Farmers' discussion document on the potential consolidation of district and city councils and where the Waimakariri District would sit within the Federated Farmers' proposal. L Hume explained that the Federated Farmers' position was focused on fairness rather than any personal view. He noted that many members perceived metropolitan Christchurch as dominating regional decision-making and expressed concern that the interests of surrounding rural areas were sometimes overshadowed.

Submitter	Comments
	Councillor Fulton sought clarification regarding Federated Farmers' analysis of the Council's expenditure and rating settings. He observed that Federated Farmers often applied principle-based approaches in policy submissions and asked whether the organisation had undertaken any detailed assessment of Waimakariri District Council's rural–urban rating differentials, past rating reviews, or historical settings. Councillor Fulton further asked whether Federated Farmers intended to contribute to the upcoming rating review hearings. L Hume responded that the organisation had not completed a detailed analysis of Waimakariri's specific rating structures. He acknowledged that Federated Farmers had engaged in rating discussions with the Council in the past, sometimes to the organisation's benefit and sometimes to its detriment. L Hume confirmed that Federated Farmers would be contributing to the forthcoming rating review process. Mayor Gordon observed that the Federated Farmers submission contained several inaccuracies and noted that the Council would welcome the opportunity to meet with the organisation's policy team to explain the district's rating system in more detail. He confirmed that for large farms, the projected rates movement of approximately 1.8% was well below inflation and commented that some elected members, including him, had personally borne political consequences during the previous rating review, when the Council moved from a land-value to a capital-value rating system. Mayor Gordon noted that it would be appreciated if Federated Farmers could acknowledge, at some stage, the efforts Council had made in this regard. Mayor Gordon emphasised that the Council worked hard to support its rural communities and that it was disappointing to see some of the assertions made in the submission. He reiterated that Council valued its relationship with Federated Farmers and wished to continue working collaboratively. Mayor Gordon, therefore, invited Federated Farmers to meet with Council staff and elected members so that their policy team could gain a clearer understanding of the district's rating framework and ensure that future submissions more accurately reflected Council's position.
Mark Maxwell	M Maxwell spoke to his submission, which focused on the proposed establishment of the North Canterbury Community Foundation, based on the philosophy that people "give where they live." He noted that there were eighteen community foundations nationwide, including the Top of the South Foundation; however, it did not cover Kaikōura. He had been involved with the Community Foundation movement since 2003 and had promoted the concept nationally. He was in the process of establishing his own charity to promote and support community foundations around the country. M Maxwell expressed concern that centralisation of community organisations removed decision-making from local communities and placed it in the hands of regional bodies. He believed the Council should consider supporting the establishment of a new North Canterbury Community Foundation that would include the Hurunui and Kaikōura Districts. M Maxwell requested that the Council consider leading the conversation and working with Hurunui and Kaikōura District Councils to establish a North Canterbury Community Foundation. Councillor McLaren asked whether Community Foundations of Aotearoa NZ should be approached as the first point of contact, rather than the Council. M Maxwell advised that he had spoken with the National Body; however, it was experiencing challenges in meeting operating costs and therefore preferred to follow a regional model.

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<tr><th>Submitter</th><th>Comments</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Councillor Doody sought clarification on the process for establishing a new community foundation. M Maxwell observed that it would be best to establish a project team to lead the foundation's formation. However, he emphasised that this should not be a Council-run project, although the Council should remain connected to the initiative and may wish to have representation on the Board of Trustees. He added that the project team would also need to identify suitable trustees to carry the work forward.

The Mayor thanked M Maxwell for his presentation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Olwen Glanville</td><td>Olwen Glanville opted not to attend.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Spokes Canterbury</td><td>Spokes Canterbury Submissions Co-ordinator, A Scott, addressed the Council on the Group’s submission (Trim Ref: 260511112848). She highlighted the following:

Economic benefits of encouraging increased cycling, particularly considering rising fuel costs.
The current cycle network gaps included the need for a separated cycleway between the Passchendaele Memorial Path and the Rangiora Town Centre; the installation of a Woodend–Kaiapoi cycleway, and the continued development of safe cycle connections to schools.
The Council should continue the promotion of Park and Ride facilities for cyclists at key bus stops.
Small changes that could make a significant difference, such as:

speed reductions, particularly in rural areas near schools.
improved bike-parking facilities.
better signage and wayfinding.
removal of “staples” in alleyways and application of reflector tape on bollards.
stronger enforcement of parking infringements.
provision of good-quality, wide footpaths for pedestrian safety and less-confident riders.

Deputy Mayor Redmond asked whether A Scott believed that speed limits should apply to shared pathways. A Scott agreed that user safety should be the priority and noted that some cyclists needed reminders to travel at appropriate speeds.

Councillor Cairns questioned whether Spokes Canterbury had identified key locations for bike parking. A Scott undertook to arrange for that information to be circulated. In relation to bike parking provision at Park and Ride facilities, A Scott advised that expensive cages were not necessary; an adequate number of simple staple-style stands would be sufficient to secure bicycles.

The Mayor thanked A Scott for her presentation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ohoka Domain Advisory Group</td><td>The representatives of the Ohoka Domain Advisory Group (the Group), Annie Bonifant and Ron Allison, read the Group’s submission, which included the following points:

The Group thanked the Council for previous funding, which had been used for additional planting, lodge maintenance, and the purchase of a storage shed.
The Group, made up of committed Committee members and Working-bee Volunteers, had received strong support from local residents.
They reported successful pest-control efforts, with significant numbers of rats, mice and weasels trapped.
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Submitter	Comments
	• They acknowledged the contributions of Councillor Mealings and Oxford-Ohoka Community Board member W Godfrey. • They Group was concerned about young people using e-bikes and e-motorbikes in the reserve and requested Council assistance to help mitigate this unwanted activity. • They advised that school pupils had contributed volunteer hours through the William Pike Challenge. • The Gate Keepers Lodge was an important feature of the reserve. The exterior had been renovated and painted, with maintenance undertaken to preserve the work. The interior of the Lodge had also been completed, including floor refinishing, painting and wallpapering. The shed had been purchased to store equipment previously kept inside the Lodge; following the restoration, a new storage solution had been required. • The Group requested the Council's assistance to fund security cameras to protect the asset and to support the replacement of bargeboards. In response to a request from Councillor McLaren for clarification on the funding sought, A Bonifant advised that the Council currently provided approximately $12,000 for plants and maintenance. She noted that the Group had requested that a portion of this grant, currently ring-fenced for plants and maintenance, be used instead to purchase a security camera and replace the bargeboards. Councillor Fulton asked about the long-term plan for the Lodge, including whether it might have a visitor plan. A Bonifant explained that it could potentially become a small museum with appropriate furniture, although this would be a later stage, as restoration work was still being finalised. She noted that open days could be an option and confirmed that the building was heritage-listed. Councillor Fulton noted that funding was available through the Heritage Fund. The Mayor thanked the Group for its work and achievements and commented that the reserve looked wonderful.
Sandra Stewart	S Stewart spoke to her submission and outlined the following points: • Requested a review of rates relating to water services, emphasising equity and fairness so that residents who did not receive services were not required to pay for them. • Supported rationalising water supply across all systems. • Recommended discounting sewer-connection charges for existing properties to reduce reliance on septic systems and mitigate ecological impacts within the Waimakariri District. • Noted that this approach would broaden the rating base, which would be beneficial for the district in the long term. • Expressed concern about the effects of dredging and reduced river flows, driven by upstream water takes, on the Kaiapoi River, noting that these factors were contributing to saline intrusion and negatively affecting local biodiversity. • Did not support the Rangiora Eastern Link and considered that the Skew Bridge should be prioritised instead. • Suggested that, if congestion remained an issue, the Council should consider tolling sections of congested roads.

Submitter	Comments
	In response to a question from Councillor Fulton, S Stewart advised that the current rating system combined targeted and general rates, which she considered confusing and inefficient. She recommended that the Council adopt a clear and consistent rating approach. S Stewart also noted that the existing system had evolved following amalgamation, resulting in some rural residents contributing to infrastructure costs despite limited access to services. The Mayor thanked S Stewart for her submission and acknowledged her long-standing commitment to water-related matters within the district.
Alcohol Healthwatch	A Galloway and J Lamm were scheduled to present via audiovisual link; however, due to technical difficulties, they agreed to rely on their written submission.
Gillian Giller	G Giller spoke to her submission, requesting that a Park Ranger be employed to undertake weed control and manage planted areas within Council parks and reserves, including Matawai Park. She noted that identifying and targeting invasive weed species required specialist skills and timely intervention, and that this approach would be more cost-effective in the long term. G Giller also requested that the Council initiate a Capital Works Programme to improve the Five Cross roads and Gressons Road/Rangiora–Woodend Road intersections. In addition, she sought the installation of right-turn bays as a safety measure for vehicles turning onto and off Rangiora–Woodend Road. In response to a request from Councillor Powell for clarification regarding the right-hand turn at Gressons Road, G Giller agreed that turning lanes were needed on both Rangiora–Woodend and Gressons Roads. She noted that large trucks often did not wait for an adequate gap in traffic and instead merged into the traffic stream when opportunities arose. G Giller also suggested that no-stopping restrictions be implemented to prevent vehicles from parking near the intersections, which she believed further increased the safety risk. Councillor Powell queried the volume of traffic turning into and out of Gressons Road. G Giller acknowledged that only a small number of vehicles used the intersection each day; however, she considered it unsafe, particularly when a vehicle was parked on the left-hand side of the road. The Mayor noted that the Five Cross roads was a complex matter and the Council was investigating to identify the best possible solution. He thanked G Giller for her submission and advised that her suggestions regarding a Park Ranger and Gressons Road would be considered further, although they were not current priorities.
Ross Williams	R Williams introduced himself, provided an overview of his background, and spoke to his submission, which included the following points: • He supported the proposed changes to Local Government, noting that reducing paperwork and red tape could help reduce rates. • He believed amalgamation would reduce duplication in both staff and tasks, although he expressed concern that smaller communities might not receive adequate funding under such a model. • He supported the Local Water Done Well approach, stating that it appeared logical. • He supported progressing the Rangiora Eastern Link, noting that delays would only increase costs.

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<tr><td></td><td>In response to a question from Councillor Fulton regarding the cause of increased salinity in the Kaiapoi River, R Williams, as a long-standing resident of Kaiapoi, suggested that the increase was a consequence of the earthquakes. He noted that all the willows along the riverbanks had died shortly after the earthquakes, which he believed contributed to the issue.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Martin Pinkham</td><td>M Pinkham spoke to his submission (Trim Ref 260511113189), which included the following points:
Support for a Northern Canterbury authority, amalgamating Christchurch, Selwyn, Hurunui, Kaikoura, and Waimakariri.
Support for a joint Council-controlled Organisation (CCO) and believed the submitters' evidence was ignored. Excellent example in Transwaste.
Believed that the Capital Works Programme and the Annual and Long-Term Plan processes were flawed.
Raised the following other matters:
Fuller Street clean-up of the road verge that links Kaiapoi Central to Kaiapoi West.
Mafeking Bridge widening.
Town Entry Signage.
Purchase of 65 Hilton Street.
The Mayor thanked M Pinkham for a very detailed submission.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Louise Johns</td><td>L Johns introduced herself and spoke to her submission, highlighting the following:
Requested that the Council maintain momentum and continue to build on its support for, and promotion of, the arts within the district.
Advised that local councils collectively invested between $500 to $600 million per annum in the arts sector, and that for every dollar invested, the return was approximately $3.50.
Expressed concern that no data was currently available on the Council's investment in the arts.
Noted that 62% of New Zealanders believed the arts should receive public funding, and 67% believed that arts facilities contributed to wellbeing and vibrancy within a community.
Suggested introducing an arts levy for all developers to support increased funding for the arts.
Proposed offering incentives such as reduced rent and short-term peppercorn leases for arts-related pop-ups.
Recommended upgrading and expanding advertising, promotional displays, and performance areas within Council-owned public buildings.
Requested that an Arts Advisory Team be established to report directly to the Council, rather than relying on a single facilitator within the Community Team.
Noted that Visit Waimakariri's mission statement should reflect the promotion of arts and culture, and that its social media presence should include a monthly update with current images showcasing arts activity in the district.
In response to a question from Councillor Fulton regarding Visit Waimakariri, L Johns advised that while the site was informative on food and beverage establishments, cycle trails, and similar content, it made no reference to the arts. She noted that the Waimakariri District had three art galleries and a thriving musical and thespian culture, yet these attractions received little or no promotion.</td></tr>
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Submitter	Comments
	L Johns added that each gallery hosted more than ten exhibitions per year, and that where arts content was included, it was often accompanied by outdated photographs. Councillor Cairns asked whether L Johns had used the Visit Waimakariri site, and she confirmed she had. Councillor Cairns observed that, based on L Johns' estimate, a $3,500 levy applied to 750 new builds per year could generate approximately $3 million for the arts programme. L Johns agreed this would be a good start but noted that, based on national investment levels, the Council should have been investing closer to $50 million. L Johns expanded on this point, noting that arts funding should not be limited to painting and sculpture, and should also support the film industry, architecture, and music. She also observed that significantly more public funding was directed toward gambling in New Zealand than toward the arts. The Mayor thanked L Johns for her presentation.
Oxford Gallery	N Nolet, Chairperson of the Oxford Gallery, spoke to the submission and highlighted the following: • Thanked the Council for its annual grant. • Advised that the Gallery was ready to launch a three-year strategic plan. The primary strategic focus of the plan was the wellbeing of young people in Oxford. • Advised that the Gallery intended to provide young people with hands-on arts opportunities, including singing and acting workshops, to support self-expression. The initiative would require administrative and financial support and would request a $5,000 grant to enable the programme to be established. • Described wellbeing as the absence of mental-health issues and noted that wellbeing fostered a sense of purpose and belonging, especially in areas such as Oxford, where young people were geographically and socially isolated due to the lack of public transport. • Acknowledged that schools provided arts education; however, the proposed programme would focus on young people under 24, noting that many teenagers left school at 16. • Advised that the proposal was intended as a three-year programme to build trust and enable longer-attending participants to support newer members. In response to a request from Councillor Cairns for a financial snapshot of current programmes, N Nolet advised that all funding was tied to specific programmes and that no funds were available to be reallocated to other areas of the Gallery's work. She noted that the previous Chairperson, a working artist, had contributed significant volunteer time preparing advertisements and grant applications. Councillor Fulton observed that the Oxford Community Trust appeared to be undertaking similar work with young people and asked whether the Trust's work would complement the Gallery's initiative. N Nolet responded that the Trust generally provided support when people were already in difficulty or in response to specific events. The Gallery's programme aimed to be proactive and support young people before issues escalated. She added that the organisations collaborated and that a dedicated administrator was needed to liaise effectively between groups. Councillor Fulton further asked what the "Pastoral Care" item in the Gallery's financials referred to. N Nolet explained that it related to supporting volunteers and enabled the Gallery to undertake outreach activities, such as providing art and creative workshops in rest homes.

Submitter	Comments
	Mayor Gordon confirmed that the current grant had recently been increased to cover insurance costs and that the total grant of $12,300 was intended to support operating expenses such as telephone, power, and general maintenance. N Nolet confirmed that the additional $5,000 requested would be a one-off grant. Deputy Mayor Redmond asked whether the Gallery had applied for Creative Communities funding. N Nolet replied that they applied to every available funding provider. The Mayor thanked N Nolet for her presentation.
Karyn Ward	K Ward spoke to her submission, requesting that the Council strengthen its emergency-management capability for the 2026/27 financial year in anticipation of the changes signalled by the Emergency Management (No. 2) Bill currently before the Select Committee. She raised the following points: • Needs included environmental considerations, equipment, communication formats, communication storage, mobility supports and regulated sensory conditions. • None of these needs were currently reflected or activated within emergency-management sectors, as they were often assumed to fall under the Health sector. • When the Council activated evacuation centres, community hubs, or welfare support, it should ensure that it did not unintentionally create environments that were unsafe or unusable for people who relied on continuity to remain stable, particularly in stressful or reduced-capacity situations. • Accessible communication required information to be available in formats such as plain language, ESRE, New Zealand Sign Language, audio formats, and dyslexia-friendly layouts. • Connection pathways were essential to ensure that supplies intended for vulnerable residents or visitors were genuinely accessible, with clear mechanisms to connect people with the supports designed for them—particularly those facing barriers that isolated them from seeking assistance. • Practical capability building was needed so responders could practise accessibility standards before an emergency occurred, rather than learning under pressure. Examples included transfer techniques for mobility-aid users into road vehicles or boats during flooding. • Facility suitability should be assessed to ensure that designated emergency facilities could realistically meet accessibility standards. • Partnerships should be strengthened with disability organisations, Māori partners, community groups, and employers of seasonal workers. • A pathway should be established to evaluate community-led preparedness innovations that address accessibility or community gaps. • None of these improvements were expensive; rather, they represented groundwork and preparedness to ensure that no resident was left behind during an emergency. The Mayor thanked K Ward for her clear and concise submission.
Waimakariri Access Group	Zak Lappin spoke to the Waimakariri Access Group's (Group) submission and raised the following points: • The Group represented people with disabilities across the Waimakariri District. • Pedestrian crossings required redevelopment and investment to ensure safety for all pedestrians.

Submitter	Comments
	• Accessibility needed to be considered in all Council planning and infrastructure decisions. An ageing population meant an increasing number of residents would have disabilities or access needs. • More accessible changing and toilet facilities were needed across the district; these should be operational outside business hours. • An increase in safe, practical mobility-parking spaces was requested across the district. • The Group sought Council support for the ongoing development of Parasport, which provided opportunities for disabled people to participate in mainstream sport. Funding assistance of $2,000 was requested for boccia ball sets for MainPower Stadium, which had the only boccia court in the country. • The Group supported improved consideration of disabled people in emergency planning and responses, as outlined in the previous submission by K Ward. Deputy Mayor Redmond asked where the boccia ball used for the Inclusive Sports Day had come from. Z Lappin advised that they were provided by Boxer New Zealand, the sport's national service provider. In response to a further question about storage, he confirmed that new balls would be kept at the stadium reception desk. Councillor Cairns questioned whether staff had contacted Z Lappin regarding mobility parking at Dudley Park. Z Lappin advised that the Greenspace Team had indicated the matter was a roading issue. The Mayor thanked Z Lappin for the submission.
Evan Clulee	Evan Clulee spoke to his submission and used photographs (Trim 260512113876) to illustrate the dangers wheelchair users face when crossing High Street, Rangiora. He requested that consideration be given to reducing the height of the planter boxes at pedestrian crossing entrances to 50 cm. E Clulee believed that this would make wheelchair users waiting to cross High Street more visible to motorists. Mayor Gordon acknowledged the concerns raised and noted that even able-bodied pedestrians were often not seen at the High Street crossings. He suggested that E Clulee meet with Deputy Mayor Redmond, Councillor Powell, and staff to discuss the matter further. Deputy Mayor Redmond asked whether removing the current plantings from the taller planter boxes would sufficiently improve visibility for motorists. E Clulee reiterated that the planter boxes were currently between 95 and 97 cm high and, even without plantings, would remain approximately 75 cm high, still above the recommended national standard. The Mayor thanked E Clulee for his submission.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 5.40PM.

CONFIRMED

Chairperson
Mayor Gordon

26 May 2026
Date