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## WAIMAKARIRI YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL, RANGIORA**  
**7.00pm TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2025**

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### 1. Opening Karakia

2. **PRESENT:** Lauren Tilley (WDC), Simoné Bisschoff (Co-Chair), Zack Lappin (Co-Chair), Aidan Haverkort, Fiona Xu, Niki Mealings (Councillor), Thalia Rae, Dylan LaValley, Matilda Parish, Jason Goldsworthy (Councillor), Charlotte Nihoniho, Esha-May McHugh, Renée Eleftheriou

**APOLOGIES:** Dan Gordon (Mayor), Felicite Antoniuk-Newall

### 3. Whakatauki

### 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**Moved:** Zack **Seconded:** Aidan – Carried

### 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Driver Licence Consultation – will workshop tonight for submission
- Simoné met with Niki on Transport Project
- Adding members to the messenger group – see Zack after the meeting tonight

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### 6. REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION - COUNCILLORS

#### a) Niki Mealings

- Big council meeting today which is held once a month covering a large amount, about 570 pages of information
- Last week adopted the Annual Plan
- Report received on the weather storm event. Drainage staff had been around and pre-emptively cleared drains and deployed sucker trucks to ensure all drainage was as good as it could be prior to the large rains. 150 Service requests were received and will keep the council team busy.
- Zack mentioned that he worked with Lauren to share the Emergency Operation Centre messaging for the rain event to get this to youth
- Dean from Civil Defence & possible training for the Youth Council members
- The Greater Christchurch Transport partnership: discussed the draft Canterbury regional passenger transport plan.
- Also discussed the MRT, which I think that's really a moving feast, it'll be interesting because CCP has analysed things ad nauseam and are awaiting an

outcome. Ensure you give you feedback whenever you have the opportunity to do so. Discussion about Rail and that it is not ideal at the moment and needs research for consideration.

- Community Wellbeing North Canterbury Trust, the largest provider of mental health services in North Canterbury & Niki is a trustee. 2 major things: they run Karanaga Mai Parents' College, and Kaiapoi Food bank. The largest in North Canterbury, with unprecedented demand for food parcel. June, food drive with support from Ray White. Niki will email information to group to circulate.
- Youth Week was cool, and music event was great. Will ensure schedule around Rock Quest next time due to clash.
- Planting at Kaiapoi lagoon off Lees Road with student volunteer army
- Went spotlighting for mudfish.

## **PROJECT GROUP REPORTS**

### **7. Dudley Park - Zack**

- Rata Foundation have moved application for review in September
- Lauren will send letter out tomorrow
- Plan for activation events: Karaoke & Skate Jam, Dudley Park week in Summer (after exams)

### **8. Enviro - Dylan**

- Setting a general plan for the year
- Discussed possible events to run: Planting days at Silverstream in July, individual projects with the Ashley-Rakahuri group through September to February.
- How to support and promote "Repurpose Pals" by Lesley Ottey
- River Clean Up in late September. Zack has the rucksacks in storage

### **9. WaiYouth - Thalia**

- A lot of ideas for potential events, and what worked in the past. Discussed the all-night party, but it is not realistic to run.
- Centre Stage and music night shows that these are popular
- 6 different life skills classes: gardening, cooking, job interviews, resumes, sewing
- Plus Driving licencing support with things such as Road Code presentation or practice tests etc.
- Helping to organise events for youth week.
- Charity event to raise funds for Youth line.
- Wai youth hoodie and t shirts – Thalia has these in storage and will bring for next meeting.
- Halloween market in Victoria Park (for those that are too old for trick or treat) where people can get dressed up and come along, possible with Light festival.
- Don't have to be part of youth council to be party of Wai Youth, so you can suggest to others to join.

## **10. Consultations Open - Zack**

- Regulatory Services Bill consultation. Zack received request that Youth Council discuss and make a submission which closes 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Discussion held and given the tight deadline and lack of knowledge around the bill, it was decided the group would not make a submission. Lauren will send information for individuals to make a submission if they want to.

## **11. WYC Member Report**

### **a) Zack**

- NC Inclusive Sports Festival, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July, need volunteers to help between 10am to 1pm. With Radio Spot on Compass FM. To see if Aidan could do this.

### **b) Simoné**

- Public Transport Project:
  - A project to look at how public transport could be improved. Acknowledged that it wouldn't have as much impact as hoped, which is OK, as contribution and even if a change in a small way that is good.
  - Working with ECan on some of the programs and promoting these and they are looking to change a couple of routes & adding others.
  - WYC previously proposed to greater Christchurch partnership years ago.
  - Simoné promoted the wider lens and wider needs of North Canterbury as growing significantly & over years to come.
  - Improving or increasing the bus routes and public system and public transport systems in northern Canterbury might be a really good idea to look at. While we're still like on a smallish scale. Working towards that.
  - Hopefully a meeting next week to go over suggestions.
- Suggestion for a Year 12 Scholarship & Applications Project:
  - To review Scholarships and applications as everything starts happening soon including university applications. Project aim in promoting the different scholarships or methods for getting scholarships. Especially at Ara that there are a lot of unused scholarships.
  - Clarification on Students loads, StudyLink and halls of residence applications etc. Possible run with a "Op Shop Hop" event promoting scholarship information. Would need research and possible support from high schools and guidance counsellors. Kaiapoi High School.
  - Niki recommended the Citizens Advice Youth page: <https://youth.cab.org.nz/> and the Government Careers Page: <https://www.careers.govt.nz/>

### **c) Lauren**

- 'Ask me anything' for local youth to submit questions for Youth Council to answer. Volunteers: Zack, Lauren, Simoné – any others?
- Youth week went well, thanks to help from Aidan. Good attendance at both events, skate jam had about 60 attend. High school music night, similar number.

- Council Youth Action Plan: early engagement period is now open, to July 13<sup>th</sup>, and seeking feedback from 12- to 24-year-olds. Should be organised through high schools. Prizes available. Zack to talk to Youth Association at Canterbury University.
- North Canterbury Youth Futures Expo: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2025 between 4pm to 8pm. Let Lauren know if you would like to be a volunteer.
- Aspiring Leaders Conference – email sent out – Ruby Wilson (previous co-chair) recommended Youth Council send someone to that and that person can come back and report to Youth Council. There are funds allocated for costs for someone to attend this. Lauren has asked for nominations/volunteers. Zack interested and decision was moved.
- Festival of the Future was a jam-packed 3-days of workshops, panel, guest speakers and activities for connecting with other youth groups.
- Youth Week wrap up – already discussed. Photos and videos to be updated.

## **12. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Working Group: Driver Licencing Changes Consultation**

Workshop and prepare submission for it to be reviewed by the Strategy & Business Unit. Details discussed in groups and submission will be finalised online by Zack and Lauren.

## **13. Closing Karakai - All**

### **ACTIONS:**

- **LAUREN:** Resend email with introductory blurb and photo consent
- **NIKI:** To circulate Food Bank Drive information
- **THALIA:** bring WaiYouth items for next meeting
- **ZACK:** Youth Action Plan Consultation provide information for UC Youth Association

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Meeting closed at **8.51pm.**

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**Next meeting is on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 7.00pm: Location: Woodend Community Centre**

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Signed

Date