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## WAIMAKARIRI YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

**RUATANIWHA CIVIC CENTRE, WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL, KAIAPOI  
7.00pm TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**

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### 1. Opening Karakia

**PRESENT:** Zack Lappin (Co-Chair), Simoné Bisschoff (Co-Chair), Lauren Tilley (Waimakariri District Council Community Team Youth Development Facilitator), Hannah Wells, Fiona Xu, Matilda Parish, Dylan LaValley, Esha-May McHugh, Aidan Haverkort, Thalia Rae, Rebecca Taiaroa (Minute Taker) & Jason Goldsworthy (Councillor).

**Attended via Microsoft Teams:** None

**APOLOGIES:** Dan Gordon (Mayor), Niki Mealings (Councillor), Charlotte Nihoniho, Oscar Bai, Renée Eleftheriou, Felicite Antoniuk-Newall, *running late:* Jason Goldsworthy (Councillor),

### 2. Whakatauki

### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025 [*with amendments*]

**Moved:** Simoné Bisschoff

**Seconded:** Dylan LaValley

### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Climate Action workshop – Questions sent out by Lauren, YC members to respond by the end of next week.
- NZTA (Waka Kotahi) submission on proposed road tolls on Woodend Bypass completed on behalf of the Waimakariri District Youth Council
- Vulnerable leadership session – not taken up.
- Community Services Award (Matilda attended and found it inspiring)
- No sign-ups from Youth Council members to Model EU

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### PROJECT GROUP REPORTS

#### 5. Dudley Park

- Funding approved from Sport Canterbury Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa

#### 6. Rātā Foundation application [*question asked: given that it is has been six months, should we look at another funding application?*] Answer: expectation is that we will have a response in the next few weeks.

## 7. Environment Group

- River clean-up held on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September (Ashley Rakahuri River Clean Up)
  - Initially thought there would not be much rubbish to collect. However, nearly a full skip of rubbish was collected over a two-hour period of clean-up.
  - 55 people turned up from all generations
  - Depressing seeing the rubbish but uplifting to see so many people turn up to the Ashley Rakahuri River Clean Up event.

## 8. WaiYouth

- Decided to not do Centre Stage as not sufficient interest expressed in the event with only eight people willing to audition. Instead, WaiYouth will look to hold a Halloween Movie night:
  - Look out for the poll on Instagram – vote for which PG rated movie to be shown.
  - \$1.00 popcorn and a coffee cart available,
  - Encourage Dress up
- Music night in Dudley Park – 1<sup>st</sup> week in December event (workshopping names presently for this event). It is anticipated that those who signed up for Centre Stage, will be offered to come along to this event.

## 9. REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION - COUNCILLORS

### a) Jason Goldsworthy – Councillor

- Given the local body elections underway, council is preparing recommendations for the council elect.
- Lots of council events over the preceding month, such as the Waimakariri District Community Service Awards, the Art Show and 2025 National Dog Show.
  - [2025 Waimakariri District Community Service Awards | Waimakariri District Council](#)
  - <https://www.thepress.co.nz/nz-news/360834937/700-dogs-one-crown-north-canterbury-hosts-its-hairiest-showdown>
- Council also preparing reports detailing council progress up to the present time.
- **Local Body Elections:**
  - Daily returns of the election – out of eligible voters as at 30<sup>th</sup> September – 17.65% across the whole district.
  - Councillor Goldsworthy set an action for the YC: given the very low voter turn-out in local body elections, to think about answering the question - Where is the disconnect/why the disconnect between the District and engaging as a voter in local body elections?
  - Policy NZ <https://policy.nz/2025> has really good information on what the candidates stand for, also Vote Local <https://www.votelocal.co.nz/information-for-voters/>

- Meet the candidates meetings must be initiated by external parties such as an individual who is not a candidate, or a community group, but not by any candidates.
- *[Question asked re: do we know the demographic data from the daily returns of the local body election].* Answer: the breakdown of further data is made available after the election.

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

- Woodend By-pass submission *[covered in matters arising from the previous meeting]*

#### **11. WYC Member Report**

##### **a) Zack**

- *[All items from Zack will come up in general business.]*

##### **b) Simoné**

- Dean from Civil Defence – e-mailed accidentally, but he would like to come to Youth Council to discuss what Civil Defence does.

##### **c) Lauren**

- Youth Action Plan in its draft phase, aiming to have this finished by end of October
  - A lot of interest in the data collected for the Youth Action Plan within the Council *[Presentation of the survey data will be presented by Lauren in General Business]*
- 'A day in the life' program: Looking at a program much like the one undertaken by the Gisborne Council.
  - The program looks at pairing a younger person (aiming at High School age and MTFJ) with a Council Staff member, who shadow the staff member for the day.
  - 30 positions at Council have already volunteered to participate
  - Date for the 'A day in the life' program not set as yet but will likely be second half of 2026.

#### **12. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- **End of Year Meeting Discussion:** Usually at the last meeting of the year, someone comes to speak to the Youth Council. Last time it was Lads without Labels. There is also dinner and usually a \$5.00 Secret Santa.

*[General discussion held, and the following was decided]*

- **Speaker:** Youth Council members to think about possible speakers. Zack knows a Paralympian who would like to speak with the Youth Council. Zack will ask him [Justin Muschamp, Wheelchair Rugby Sydney 2000 Paralympics <https://paralympics.org.nz/paralympian/justin-muschamp-128/> ]
  - **Secret Santa:** Very happy to have secret santa, \$5.00 limit and like the stealing theme from a previous event.
  - **Dinner:** Pizza in the Park? Inside/outside? Zack to send out a poll on what people would like to do for dinner.
- **Boccia Court Launch event**
    - Hosting a launch event Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November at Mainpower.
    - Zack and Martin have it covered with organising the launch event, but they will ask for help if required.
    - TVNZ will be covering the event.

- **Youth Action Plan Data Sharing**

*[Lauren presented a slide show with the results of the youth survey. Lauren will send out the slide presentation to the Youth Council].*

- **Aspiring Leaders Forum**

*[Zack presented a visual presentation of his report presented at the last Youth Council meeting from the Aspiring Leaders Forum]*

- **Youth Council Strategy Plan/work**

- Discussion held, and although a desire to set strategic plan now, it would make more sense to tie in the strategic plan with the Youth Action Plan and therefore need to wait until the plan is finalised.
  - In the meantime, Youth Council Planning Groups to think about goals they might want to focus on.
  - Also, an idea proposed to consider a three-year strategic plan, rather than a one-year plan.

## **ACTIONS:**

- **LAUREN**
  - Liaise with Dean from Civil Defence to arrange a time to come to the Youth Council
  - Send through presentation re: Survey Data that informs the draft Youth Action Plan

- **ALL**
  - Youth Council Planning Groups to think about goals they might want to focus on.
  - Think about speaker options for the end of year meeting.
- **ZACK**
  - send out poll on options for dinner for the end of year meeting.
  - Invite Justin Muschamp as a speaker for the end of year meeting.

**Closing Karakia:**

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Meeting closed at **8:42 pm**

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**Next meeting is on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October, at Ohoka Domain 7:00pm**

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Signed

Date