

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA, ON TUESDAY, 26 AUGUST 2025, AT 1PM

PRESENT:

Councillors B Cairns (Chairperson), A Blackie, R Brine (left 2:43pm), N Mealings, P Redmond and Mayor D Gordon (left 2:43pm).

IN ATTENDANCE:

Deputy Mayor Atkinson (left 2:43pm) and Councillor Fulton.

J Millward (Chief Executive), C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation), T Sturley (Community Team Manager), G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager), M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager), S Docherty (Corporate Planning Team Leader), K Steel (Ecologist – Protected Areas), J Lancaster (Libraries Team Leader – Operations), M Kwant (Senior Ranger (Biodiversity), L Mealings (Graduate Policy Analyst) and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

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 15 July 2025

Moved: Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Redmond

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 15 July 2025 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

3.2 Matters arising (From Minutes)

There were no matters arising.

3.3 Notes of the Workshop of the Community and Recreation Committee held on 15 July 2025

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Redmond

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** the circulated Notes of the Workshop of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 15 July 2025.

CARRIED

4 **DEPUTATIONS**

4.1 **Kaiapoi Food Forest Trust Annual Report 2024/25 – Glenn Foley and Gordyn Hamblyn**

G Hamblyn advised that he was the ex-chairperson of the Kaiapoi Food Forest Trust (the Trust), and G Foley was the current Chairperson. He acknowledged the generosity the Council had shown to the people of Kaiapoi by making this land available for a food forest. That generosity had been multiplied many times by gifts from the community, making it even more productive. In the last year, the Trust had significant contributions from the Order of St Lazarus and Pernod Ricard New Zealand from the Food Resilience Network in Christchurch. Currently, the Trust had many plants waiting to be planted. Most people thought that a food forest only nourished people's bodies, which it did; however, it also provided food for the mind and soul. He emphasised the importance of assisting people with food security, given the increasing prices of food and challenging economic times.

G Foley noted that the Trust were in the process of designing and constructing the Education Centre. However, they had to put a hold on the project due to the challenging environment of securing funding and to ensure it was fully utilised if it were built. Every year, the Food Forest property got greener and greener. Currently, the Trust had many plants waiting to be planted.

Councillor Cairns congratulated the Trust on the food and environment they were producing. Effectively, they were creating an exemplar for the rest of the community. Food forests were being developed around the district, and people would not want them if it were not for the Kaiapoi Food Forest.

Councillor Mealings noted she had been a fan of this since the inception of the Kaiapoi Food Forest. She had family that was relocated from the Red-zoned area after the earthquakes, and knowing the pain that caused. The Food Forest was created in an area that represented much sorrow for the people who lost their homes in the earthquake. She was pleased that good things were able to be salvaged and brought to this place. Councillor Mealings was thankful for the foresight and vision of members of the community who created the Food Forest. She thanked the Trust for their work and appreciated that the gospel of food forests had been spread across the district.

Mayor Gordon endorsed the remarks of colleagues. He enjoyed visiting the Kaiapoi Food Forest. He commended Councillor Cairns, who had been a great supporter and initiator of food forests around our communities and further afield. He thanked the Trust for keeping the Council updated on what they were doing. Mayor Gordon agreed that the Kaiapoi Food Forest was an example of how a food forest could and should operate.

Councillor Redmond noted that around eight years ago, when he was first elected, he thought the primary function of the Kaiapoi Food Forest was in education. However, the food forest's role in connecting people and enhancing wellbeing had been raised. He wondered whether that was one of the primary outcomes of the food forest and asked how the Trust prioritised the primary outcomes. G Hamblyn noted the Food Forest had a dual outcome of providing food and also feeding people's souls. Currently, the Trust was not involved as much with educating as they would like, but they were feeding people's souls.

5 **REPORTS**

5.1 **Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Update August 2025** – S Docherty (Corporate Planning Team Leader), M Kwant (Senior Ranger (Biodiversity)) and L Mealings (Graduate Policy Analyst)

L Mealings provided an update following the adoption of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2024 (the Bylaw). Following the adoption of the Bylaw, staff identified two minor issues that could be resolved with the following minor amendments to the Bylaw:

- During the development of the Aircraft User Agreement, members of the Canterbury Recreational Aircraft Club identified that the wording in the Bylaw did not clearly identify that the activity was only restricted in the Ashley Rakahuri Estuary.
- Currently, the Dog Control Act 1996 was identified in the preamble to the Bylaw; however was not included in the Bylaw clause that indicated the legislation that enabled the Bylaw.

Councillor Redmond noted that at the time of the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw review, the Hearing Panel had requested staff to engage with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) about the airspace above the Ashley Rakahuri Estuary. He queried if those talks were ongoing. M Kwant was unsure if staff had those discussions with the CAA as of yet; however, he would follow up.

Responding to Councillor Blackie's question, M Kwant noted the Fenton Reserve was a loosely held term for an area set aside for occupation and access to mahinga kai, and some of these were in or close to the estuary. He confirmed that the same legislation would apply to the Fenton Reserve.

Councillor Brine noted that the aircraft landing from the south would fly over the Ashley Rakahuri River mouth. He queried whether there was a height requirement. M Kwant advised that aircraft had to fly at 500 feet unless they were landing or taking off. He noted that there would be birds flying in that zone as well. However, the aircraft mentioned were light aircraft, which flew at relatively low speeds.

Councillor Brine noted that the report mentioned fines and legislation. He enquired if these would be instant fines or whether they would need to be issued by the court. M Kwant explained that the Council did not have the authority to issue fines under the Bylaw; hence, the only avenue would be to go through the court.

Councillor Cairns sought clarification on the issuing of permits for freedom camping and braziers associated with the activities of customary fishing and whitebaiting. M Kwant noted that these activities were in breach of the current Bylaw. In the past, staff had advised people they were in breach, but no further action was taken, as long as people were still meeting the objectives of the Bylaw. The intention was to get people off the beach and into the campground.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250806144978.
- (b) **Approves** the Ashley Rakahuri Estuary Aircraft User Agreement (Trim 250409062043)
- (c) **Notes** minor changes to the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw will be reported to the Council for decision on 2 September 2025, including:
 - (i) clarification of the Bylaw area associated with the Ashley Rakahuri Estuary Aircraft User Agreement.
 - (ii) reference to the Dog Control Act 1996 in clause 1.1 (Legislation by which the bylaw is made).
- (d) **Notes** that the Council adopted the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Implementation Plan on 6 May 2025.
- (e) **Notes** staff are working with mana whenua and agency partners to ensure that the objectives of the Bylaw are being upheld during the customary fishing and whitebait fishing seasons.

- (f) **Circulates** this report to Community Boards for information.

CARRIED

Councillor Blackie thanked staff for their work over the last 18 months. He believed that the Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw 2025 was an excellent result. Councillor Blackie noted that the Council had made considerable progress in the last five years.

Councillor Mealings supported the motion, noting that staff had done a good job of balancing the concerns of the various users.

Councillor Brine also supported the motion; however, he still had concerns regarding the enforcement of the restriction on dogs in the Ashley Rakahuri Estuary.

5.2 **Applications to the Biodiversity Fund Autumn 2025** – K Steel (Ecologist – Protected Areas)

K Steel spoke to the report, noting that the Biodiversity Contestable Fund provided support to landowners or groups for projects undertaken to protect and enhance indigenous biodiversity in the Waimakariri District. The Council received 13 applications seeking a total of \$36,639. Eight of these applications aligned with the assessment criteria. However, five of the applications, although aligning with the fund criteria, had been identified as projects that could be provided for more appropriately through other mechanisms.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250729138411.
- (b) **Approves** the allocation of \$1,500 from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund to Bruce and Fiona Clark for native planting.
- (c) **Approves** the allocation of \$1,530 from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund to Jeremy and Andrea Stevens for native planting.
- (d) **Approves** the allocation of \$1,490 from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund to Tim McMorran for native planting.
- (e) **Approves** the allocation of \$2,000 from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund to James Stephens for weed control.
- (f) **Approves** the allocation of \$2,000 from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund to Chris Barber for weed control.
- (g) **Approves** the allocation of \$4,787.40 from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund to Pamu for weed control.
- (h) **Approves** the allocation of \$6,272 from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund to Nicky Auld for wetland enhancement.
- (i) **Approves** the allocation of \$1,315 from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund to John Wakeman for wetland enhancement.
- (j) **Declines** funding from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund for Richard and Rachel Lange to undertake earthworks and planting, and notes that Council staff will work with Richard and Rachel Lange to undertake an ecology survey and restoration plan.

- (k) **Declines** funding from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund for Rachelle Winter to undertake an ecology survey and restoration plan, and notes that Council staff will undertake an ecology survey and restoration plan for Rachelle Winter as BAU.
- (l) **Declines** funding from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund for Anthony and Julia Holcroft to buy eco-sourced manuka, and notes that the Council will provide the plants directly to Anthony and Julia Holcroft from a donation by the Motukarara Department of Conservation Nursery.
- (m) **Declines** funding from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund for traps for Michelle and Wayne Flintoft towards predator traps and notes that the Council will fund this through a Lotteries Foundation Grant for this purpose.
- (n) **Declines** funding from the Biodiversity Contestable Fund for weed control in the fen and swale areas at Silverstream, and notes that the Council will fund this from the Silverstream Reserve Maintenance budget.
- (o) **Notes** that \$39,354 remained in the Biodiversity Contestable Fund for allocation in the spring funding round.
- (p) **Notes** that all application forms and supporting information are available on request.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon supported the motion and thanked staff for the work undertaken in preparing this report.

Councillor Cairns also supported the motion; he was pleased that staff had included the reasons for declining the application and the alternative options provided.

Councillor Mealings agreed with the previous speakers. She was pleased that the staff had identified other mechanisms to fund some projects

5.3 **Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs Contract Update** – T Sturley (Community Team Manager)

T Sturley spoke to the report, noting it detailed the successes of the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs Programme (MTJP) over the last 12 months. It highlighted the proposed significant changes to the local contract, including new operational requirements, in terms of the Ministry of Social Development (MSD). It provided an overview of the central government-led reprioritisation of local and national youth employment needs, particularly related to a significant reduction in support for 16 to 17-year-old young people not currently in education, employment or training (NEET). She advised that the proposed changes to the local contract would result in considerably more administration.

T Sturley noted that the report discussed the challenges faced by communities with significant numbers of NEET young people and how these young people could utilise the 18-month to two-year gap to upskill. She reported on the Work Readiness Programme that the MTJP Facilitator was developing. Driver licensing in particular was a significant barrier for young people in the district to gaining employment. Also, things such as forklift licenses, counselling, and CV writing were necessary for someone to be ready to take a job when it was offered. Despite all the challenges, staff had more than doubled the contracted outcomes.

The MTJP Facilitator, L Blair, provided the Committee with an overview presentation of the success of the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs Programme.

Councillor Fulton noted that, by definition, this was a Job Generation Programme; however, it was also part of the Community Team's Social Programme. Hence, there was a social benefit, which drove economic growth. He questioned whether this could be highlighted to the Central Government. T Sturley noted that the MTJP recently celebrated 25 years as a viable programme in New Zealand; The MSD funded the programme through a partnership with Local Government New Zealand. In terms of Central Government support, the programme was in a strong position.

Councillor Fulton enquired whether there was a risk of the Central Government withdrawing the funding from the MTJP, because of its success in the Waimakariri District. T Sturley thought that because the programme was embedded in the MSD, it was unlikely to happen.

Councillor Cairns noted the MSD's statistics claimed that if people were unemployed or on the benefit at 21 years old, they were more than likely to be on the benefit for 20 more years. T Sturley stated that there was significant evidence that if someone remained unemployed in their youth, the likelihood of them being on a benefit down the track was higher. Additionally, if they did secure employment, it was often in lower-paid positions where they could not reach their full potential.

Councillor Redmond noted the example of someone being employed at Te Kōhaka Tūhaitara Trust. He asked what the source of that referral was. L Blair pointed out that they were already on the books from 2023; they had disengaged and came back.

Councillor Blackie noted three young people were sent to the Te Kōhaka Tūhaitara Trust, one of whom had followed through. He enquired what happened to the other two young people. L Blair advised that one had returned to school and the other had moved out of the Waimakariri District.

Councillor Cairns asked if it was part of the process to collect stories and get feedback from the young people after they had been in employment for a while. L Blair noted that she gathered the story as they went along, and once they were in employment, she kept in touch with them to see how they were going.

Councillor Cairns questioned how many young people in the MSD files were looking for work. T Sturley noted that at the time the contract was awarded, there were 381 in the Waimakariri District; it is now 411.

Councillor Cairns asked if staff had connected with Enterprise North Canterbury in a bid to secure possible jobs. L Blair noted that she had not spoken with them yet, but did speak with other local businesses.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250814150285.
- (b) **Notes** that the Waimakariri Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) programme has achieved more than double its contracted outcomes for 2024/25, with 34 employment placement outcomes for the original contract of only 14, with those placements in a variety of local sectors.
- (c) **Notes** that staff have worked with people leaders across the Council to secure three additional placements within Council Units or with businesses associated with the Council.

- (d) **Notes** that over the 2024/25 contract year, in addition to contracted placements, the Waimakariri MTFJ coordinator has helped a total of 93 local unemployed youth into some form of work, work experience or work-readiness training.
- (e) **Notes** that in February, with the Waimakariri District's proven track record, we were awarded an additional \$15,000 over the contracted funding, to enable the filling of three additional placements, with the requirement that these be within council teams or council-related business. This target was achieved.
- (f) **Notes** that with the success of the local programme and our district's high number of young people on Ministry of Social Development's Job Seeker list, Waimakariri District Council's MTFJ Programme is in the fortunate position to have kept the contract for the 2025/26 year, with Ministry of Social Development (MSD) signalling that this funding will likely continue through 2026/27.
- (g) **Notes** the reprioritisation, with preference given to clients aged over 18 and on the MSD Job Seeker benefit, and a resulting gap in service provision for local young people aged 16 to 17 years and not in education employment or training, (NEETs)
- (h) **Notes** a new requirement that 80% of referrals must now come directly via MSD, with the remaining 20% either NEET youth or older people facing significant barriers to employment.
- (i) **Notes** more rigid requirements for clients to meet MSD obligations, with an associated increase in administrative requirements for staff.
- (j) **Notes** that staff are working, supported by the mayor, to mitigate the effect of a reduction of service provision for local NEET young people.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon acknowledged that achieving this contract was no mean feat. It was a badge of honour for councils to achieve a Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs status. He thanked the staff for making this possible. The MTFJ team may be ambitious in what they sought, but it was a well-established programme across the country. He acknowledged the work being done by L Blair, who has continued where E Trevathan left off and has grown the programme further. The apprenticeships that had been brought about not only through Council-related contracts but also within the organisation were inspiring to see people get on the ladder. The programme was funded externally and required no funding from the Council. The Driver Licensing Programme was one he was particularly supportive of; many young people did not have licenses, and the success stories from them getting their license were immense.

Councillor Blackie commented that, having been involved with boots on the ground, he knew how well the MTFJ worked and congratulated staff.

Deputy Mayor Atkinson noted that he was fortunate to have borne the fruits of the MTFJ in two different organisations for which he was a Trustee. He implored people to support the programme right the way through because, unfortunately, funding for interns and apprenticeships was disappearing from the private sector.

Councillor Cairns was overwhelmed when he attended the MSD presentation, where they talked about the youth of today being unemployed and that the potential existed that they could be on social benefits for many years. He had been blessed to visit Comcol and see the work they were doing with young people. He also attended NOAIA, where they were starting a food forest. He believed we were blessed, wonderful people living in the district.

Councillor Mealings noted this was a guardrail programme and if the Council reached young people early enough, then staff could help them to attain who they were meant to be. She commended staff on the work they had done; they had more than doubled their contracted expectations.

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

M Greenwood took the report as read, noting that they had a strong start to the year, with attendance numbers in July 2025 rising by 4.8%. He provided a breakdown of the Customer Satisfaction Survey results over the last five-year period. The survey indicated that the Aquatic Facilities consistently achieve above the 90% target. There was some plateauing, and there were limitations as discussed previously around space at peak times and other issues highlighted in the Aquatic Strategy. He noted that staff had been working with the New Zealand Police regarding some undesirable activity at the pools.

Councillor Redmond questioned what steps were taken to ensure staff safety from inappropriate and concerning customer behaviour. M Greenwood explained that staff were provided with training on de-escalating conflict situations. They could also call on the support of the facilities' Management Team, who were there for key hours of the day. However, there were times when the best course of action was a call to the New Zealand Police. Following the situation, there was ongoing support from RAISE and the Council's Health and Safety Team, who helped afterwards.

Councillor Fulton reported that he had noticed that at a Christchurch Aquatic facility recently, they had security teams. He queried if that were something the Council needed to consider. M Greenwood noted it was not something the Council had done previously.

Councillor Cairns noted that in terms of adult learning to swim, the Waimakariri District seemed to be on a level playing field with other providers. He enquired if there was the capacity to expand the Adult Learning Swim Programmes. M Greenwood advised that adult lessons were a demand-based programme, whereas the lessons for children ran a term-based programme.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Brine

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250811147785.
- (b) **Notes** a strong start to the financial year with attendance of 21,500 customers for the month of July 2025. This is up 1,000 (or 4.8%) customers in comparison to July 2024.
- (c) **Notes** the consistent achievement of positive customer satisfaction results averaging 94% in the last 5 years of Aquatics' general customer surveys.
- (d) **Notes** that Aquatics staff are working closely with Police and neighbouring councils to ensure the safety of our customers remains a key priority.
- (e) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

5.5 **Libraries Update to August 2025** – L Sole (District Libraries Manager)

J Lancaster took the report as read and noted that the Council had recently received some data from the Public Libraries of New Zealand Survey. The Council achieved notable increases in several areas, including active library members, active borrowers, individual event programs, and in-person visits. The libraries recently celebrated the launch of Fuego Volume Three on National Poetry Day. They also celebrated the opening of the Maths Art Exhibition at the Kaiapoi Library.

C Brown noted L Sole had been nominated and was successful in obtaining the role of Public Libraries New Zealand Executive Committee as regional representative for the upper South Island.

Deputy Mayor Atkinson asked if there was any analysis done on the increase in in-person visits, whether that was economy-based or economic times-based. J Lancaster explained that staff had not done any specific analysis on that. However, it was something that staff had considered; they sensed that the library was one of the last places where people could visit for free, and the libraries offered a wide range of opportunities.

Councillor Fulton queried about accessibility to free resources and whether staff had a position on protecting the Council's collection of newspapers and magazines. J Lancaster noted that, unfortunately, staff had no control over titles disappearing. There was still a budget for newspapers and magazines, and these resources were well used within the libraries.

Moved: Councillor Cairns

Seconded: Mayor Gordon

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 250703121283
- (b) **Notes** the community benefits of the below initiatives, particularly the increase of 954 individual library memberships and 677 active borrowers in 2024/2025, which reflects growing community demand for library resources, spaces, and services in the District.
- (c) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Councillor Cairns commented that he had always supported the work that library staff did. He reiterated that libraries were not just about books; it was a place where people could feel safe. He congratulated staff, in particular J Clements, for Fuego Volume Three. He noted that the Maths Art Exhibition in Kaiapoi was extraordinary, and 20,000 people visited the libraries during the last school holidays.

Mayor Gordon endorsed Councillor Cairns' remarks. He commented that it was always a pleasure to attend the events hosted by the libraries. He commended J Clements for the work he did with young poets, particularly in a time when the use of AI was growing. The 500,000 people who visited the library each year demonstrated the value of that resource.

Deputy Mayor Atkinson would like to see an analysis conducted on the reasons for the increase in library visitors.

There was a lot touted about zero rates and ensuring the Council was cutting back; it concerned him that the first cabs off the rank would most likely be libraries and aquatic facilities. If some analysis showed the hard times were when numbers were rising, it would help support the argument as to why the services should not be cut.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

7 PORTFOLIO UPDATES

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

- Te Kōhaka Tūhaitara Trust– Staff was working with Ngai Tahu and the Council to divest themselves of forestry that the Trust did not want to be in anymore.
- The Huria Planting Day on 23 August 2025, had a slightly disappointing turnout. They were going to do some thinking about how advertise the planting days better.

- Birdie Day welcome the birds back function at the Waikuku Reserve, it was a Council Greenspace Team sponsored event.

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

- The Dudley Aquatic Facility's exhaust needed fan replacement; it had deteriorated due to exposure to damp. That would require a temporary shutdown of the heating plant.
- The Aquatic Facilities summer recruitment for staff was underway for the pools.
- The Kane Shield was held on 18 August 2025, the evening was filled with energy, camaraderie and a genuine celebration of community spirit.
- The Council's collaboration with Christchurch City Council was working well, sharing information and enhancing customer and staff security. Selwyn District Council was exploring rostering and payroll solutions through Datacom. The Council maintained a close working relationship with Hurunui District Council, with Hanmer Springs continuing to participate in a training assessor exchange programme, providing valuable staff experience and supporting new adult educators.
- About grants, the Council was able to secure \$6,000 in funding to assist with the assessment of Rangiora Bowels.
- The Council had been working on plans for the facilities at Norman Kirk Park. Unfortunately, the league decided to hold a meeting, to which the Council was not invited, and they would be investing their money at Murphey Park.
- Concept plans for the Mandeville Sports Club were being worked through and would be submitted to the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board for consideration in the new term.
- Staff were working with Canterbury and Country Cricket to develop a Memorandum of Understanding for the proposed East Belt development. The Council had set aside \$500,000, subject to their putting in \$500,000; the Council's \$500,000 had been pushed out a further three years, and there was some more work to be done with cricket.
- The Council had identified that outdoor courts were still going to be the most cost-effective option for netball. North Canterbury Netball would like to move closer to MainPower Stadium. There was the potential of them working with tennis.
- The proposed development of the Pegasus Community Centre was progressing well; it was anticipated that a report would be submitted to the Council's 30 September 2025 meeting, hopefully with tenders.
- Staff were monitoring the Capital Delivery Programme for a large number of Greenspace Renewal Projects.

7.3 Community Development and Wellbeing – Councillor Brent Cairns.

- Welcoming Community events, Newcomer Safety Expo would be held on 12 September 2025, and Hanami blossom gathering at the Kaiapoi Food Forest when the cherry blossom arrives.
- Kaiapoi Menzshed were holding a teddy bear hunt to raise funds for their relocation.
- Visited Comcol, who had started a food forest, and new food forests to be established at NOAIA Trust, ARC Rangiora, the Northbrook Reserve, and Ohoka School
- Youth Futures was well attended; however, there were not many students from Kaiapoi.
- Shona Powell was re-elected as Chairperson at the Waimakariri Access Group Annual General Meeting.
- Hikurangi events had some rather small numbers in attendance.

- Experience Oxford held a very successful garage sale event
- Older Persons Expo would be hosted on 8 October 2025 at the Rangiora RSA
- Rangiora Museum would hold its monthly talk on 28 August 2025.
- Kaiapoi Museum would be celebrating its 10th anniversary at the Kaiapoi Library on 6 September 2025.
- Rangiora Promotions would host their 80s quiz night on 20 September 2025 at the Rangiora RSA.
- Kaiapoi Promotions to hold their meet the candidates evening on 10 September 2025.

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

- Noted the successful Fuego Volume Three poetry event.
- Mel Eaton had opened a new Gallery on High Street, Rangiora. Grant Davie had a superb display of photos.
- The Oxford Gallery, in collaboration with the Oxford Museum, held a successful event.
- Creative communities would meet on 29 August and had \$30,000 to allocate.

8 **QUESTIONS**

Nil.

9 **URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee would be held on Tuesday 16 September 2025 at 1pm.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 2:58PM.

CONFIRMED



Chairperson

16 September 2025

Date