

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE FUNCTION ROOM, RANGIORA TOWN HALL 303 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2021 AND WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2021, COMMENCING AT 9AM EACH DAY.

PRESENT:

Mayor D Gordon (Chair), Deputy Mayor N Atkinson, Councillors K Barnett, A Blackie, R Brine, W Doody, N Mealings, P Redmond, S Stewart, J Ward and P Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE:

J Palmer (Chief Executive), J Millward (Manager, Finance & Business Support), G Cleary (Manager, Utilities & Roading), C Brown (Manager, Community & Recreation), S Markham (Manager, Strategy & Engagement), J McBride (Roading and Transport Manager), K Simpson (3 Waters Manager), K LaValley (Project Delivery Manager), C Roxburgh (Water Asset Manager), G Hutchison (Wastewater Asset Manager), K Waghorn (Solid Waste Manager), R Hawthorne (Property Manager), T Ellis (Development Planning Manager), D Roxborough (Implementation Project Manager – District Regeneration), M Greenwood (Aquatic Facilities Manager), G McLeod (Greenspace Manager – Community and Recreation), M Flanagan (Landscape Planner – District Regeneration), (T Sturley (Community Team Manager), M Bacon (Planning Manager), M Harris (Customer Services Manager), S Hart (Business and Centres Manager), A Gray (Communications and Engagement Manager), A Keiller (Information and Technology Services Manager), S Nichols (Governance Manager), H Street (Corporate Planner), A Smith (Governance Coordinator), T Kunkel (Governance Team Leader), and K Rabe (Governance Advisor).

Present in the Public Gallery

D Hamilton of Tuahiwi and D Hill from the North Canterbury News.

Day One – Tuesday 26 January

The meeting adjourned at 10.34pm and reconvened at 10.52am

The meeting adjourned at 12.44pm and reconvened at 1.20pm

The meeting adjourned at 3pm and reconvened at 3.15pm

The meeting adjourned at 6pm and reconvened at 9am on Wednesday 27 January 2021.

Day Two – Wednesday 27 January

The meeting adjourned at 10.42am and reconvened at 11.05am

The meeting adjourned at 12.40pm and reconvened at 1.10pm.

The meeting adjourned at 3.55pm and reconvened at 4.10pm.

The meeting concluded at 5.10pm this day.

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were recorded.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were raised.

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Moved Councillor Barnett Seconded Councillor Doody

(a) **THAT** the Council agrees to consider the additional report, as listed below, at this meeting:

- Rangiora Civic Precinct – Long Term Plan – C Brown (Manager Community and Recreation) and J Millward (Manager Finance and Business Support) – Agenda Item 4.20

CARRIED

3. OVERVIEW AND FINANCIAL STRATEGY

3.1 **Overview - J Palmer (Chief Executive) and J Millward (Manager Finance and Business Support)**

J Palmer provided introductory comments explaining the process of the meeting over the scheduled three days. He noted his apology to the meeting from 3pm on day one, with J Millward standing in during his absence. It was advised that a draft consultation document would be circulated to members in the coming days to gauge the flavour of the overall concept and design.

Mayor Gordon thanked staff for the work to date and was complimentary about the standard of information and level of service provided to Councillors.

J Millward presented his overview of the Long Term Plan (LTP). Refer to PowerPoint Trim 210218027752. Through a number of staff briefings during 2020 the Council had provided a clear and beneficial direction to staff. He spoke of the key documents included within the LTP documents including the inclusion of the Financial Strategy, Infrastructure Strategy, Activity Statements, Rates Impact Statement and schedules. Also sitting behind the main LTP document are Asset Management Plans, risk and assumption information and various policies. J Millward explained the Consultation Document (CD) as being a separate stand-alone document that is independently audited by Audit NZ. All the information will be on the website at the appropriate times. He explained how the LTP is produced and the information is based on the Council being a going concern, with water/sewer supply information included.

J Millward commented on growth assumptions on a medium to high projection based on a population of 78,400 in 2031 as the district is continuing to grow based on the Statistics NZ data. When population data is extrapolated from various census statistical data this equates to approximately 4,800 new dwellings over the next ten years. Further information is expected from Statistics NZ in the near future.

J Millward commented on the three main topics that will be consulted on being of a strategic focus; community facilities at Pegasus/Ravenswood, expansion and upgrade of the Trevor Inch Memorial Library (Rangiora) and thirdly the Civic Precinct and Rangiora Car Park Building. There are several matters from the last LTP that continue to have an impact being the kerbside collection and multi-use sports facility. He also commented on three waters matters.

Councillor Atkinson queried climate change and whether it should be a separate topic for inclusion as it will have an impact over the next ten years, acknowledging the unknown quantity of impact. J Palmer commented on the Covid-19 response, climate change and sustainability and the Governments water infrastructure review all being included within the LTP documents, enabling the community to see the Council comment recognising its watching brief and welcoming community views. It was advised that given the central government matters anticipated in the coming months, there is the potential of undertaking another LTP ahead of the scheduled three year period. J Millward spoke of identifying cost, issues and impacts on the ratepayer in relation to these matters, advising that it was difficult to determine realistic cost impacts at this point in time.

Councillor Barnett commented on fees and charges on the airfield which had yet to be consulted directly with users of the airfield, enquiring how that will be managed. J Palmer advised this can be commented on when considering the airfield budget later in the meeting and potential targeted consultation.

J Millward explained the impacts of rates in the first year of the budget. Based on the current budget before the Council for consideration today, rates in years one and two were currently at a 3.9% rate increase and then the next four consecutive years were at a 4.2% rate increase. He explained in a general sense how the overall rate projection occurs and the Berl information and inflation costs is incorporated. It was advised that the progressive earthquake funding continues until year nine. Over the last few years the rates increase average had been 4.3%. The budget report excludes the 'opt out' option for kerbside collection. Staff had been trying to keep the budget as close as practical to inflation rates in the outer years and anecdotal information indicated Waimakariri rates were the lowest in the country for the upcoming LTP.

Information was presented on proposed rates by area, both rural and urban. Many urban areas range between 3.7% and 4% rates increase.

J Millward commented on operating revenue and expenditure. Rates are generally inflation proofed with no major expenditure anticipated. He explained the \$9m difference in loan repayments and a presentation slide of expenditure by activity was commented on.

The capital expenditure programme was explained with four major projects in the outer years, otherwise the capital programme is consistent with previous information and the 2020-21 Annual Plan.

J Millward spoke of total debt, being consistent from the last LTP, commenting on the importance of keeping debt under the 180 ratio due to credit rating impacts. He reflected on the Council Standard and Poors rating and the expectation to maintain a AA stable rating.

J Millward commented on the policy for depreciation and how the depreciation is calculated, balancing the investment and renewals. For the first time in the last Annual Report, the Council had included the 100 year renewal programme, rather than the more common 30 year renewal programme. This better assists with loan funding and budgeting and is used across the Council as part of the Asset Management Plans (AMP's).

J Millward spoke of the cost drivers for 2020-21 rates and the flow on effect for the next few years with the capital expenditure programme, earthquake rate, multi-use stadium, shovel ready and stimulus funding all being contributors. He commented on minor adjustments undertaken with the Revenue and Financing Policy, which affected the Uniform Annual General Charge and the Recreation level of service.

Councillor Redmond enquired if the rate projections are based on extending loan terms. J Millward advised that all budget information included this in the current figures, however if the Council makes any changes to the budget proposed then the overall figures will be readjusted and it will be part of the conversation during the course of the meeting, with any changes from those adjustments being advised toward the end of the meeting.

Councillor Blackie spoke of the Ashburton region being an example of farmers income and a predicted 80% loss of income to the farming community, enquiring if that has been factored in. J Millward acknowledged Ashburton circumstances are different with a multi-million (\$55m) building and a higher rural income than Waimakariri. The Waimakariri budgets had not factored this in as the figures are based on the Local Government Cost Index and CPI. He acknowledged the effect of water and the National Policy on Freshwater will have an impact on farm valuations. Such impacts will roll through the district via the next valuation on property values and be reflected through the total valuation and progressively hit the district and impact incident of ratings. The Council will, at that time reflect on the Revenue Policy and rating setting and potentially levels of service. J Palmer acknowledged uncertainty on all districts and pressures related to how the Council will respond. There is a possibility that the impacts will affect the next valuation and some softening in farm values due to the uncertainty however at the current time it is too early for the Council to assess the impact across the district, however staff would remodel at the next LTP and valuation time. It was advised that all budget information the Councillors had were for WDC rates and have not factored Environment Canterbury rates, which are yet to be set. J Millward acknowledged this is the most uncertain LTP, with Covid-19, interest rate movements, the housing market, employment, and government changes, however staff believe this is a responsible budget in uncertain times.

Councillor Doody expressed concern on the earthquake loan being pushed out to year nine and the impact on the community. J Millward advised the loan would still be paid within 25years as originally promised. J Palmer advised the alternative is to accelerate the payment and ask for more rates sooner, however management believed the best option is to stretch the loan to assist the community. The Council is dealing with long term assets so the population will enjoy the benefits of the assets for many years.

PRO FORMA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Adopt** and confirm all budget resolutions as pro forma.

CARRIED

4. REPORTS

4.1 Proposed Change to Treasury Policy – Loan Repayment Provision Funded from Rates – J Millward (Manager Finance and Business Support)

J Millward spoke to the report, explaining the rationale for the recommendation. Intergenerational equity for asset life is a long term plan where the Council has considered extending rates and made improvements to assets, which are paid for over a long time frame, ie several generations who will all benefit from the assets. An example given to explain the process was home ownership being funded by loans over a long time such as a 25 year mortgage which may occur three or four times during the life of the house. A farmer has more disposable income to invest into land as another example, however it is the same philosophy that the Council use when considering loans. The remodelled budget has \$6.4million rates not collected and would be required for loan funding.

Overall it has minimal impact on interest and the Benchmark Policy as this process is in proportion to rate payers and the capital programme.

J Palmer explained it would see a slight reduction on the capital programme debt if the signalled 3 waters reforms occur. The Council can expect the Council assets go with the reforms, hence the Council is not rushing to repay loans as this would be the responsibility for a new infrastructure provider. At the time of such a move occurring, then the Council would reconsider the LTP.

Councillor Williams commented on current low interest rates, enquiring what happens if in 15 years the interest goes up to 20% and how would this affect the population then. J Millward explained the Treasury Policy and it keeping in line, along with the Council having hedging which assists with keeping rates low. Management expect interest rates to increase over time however keeping within the Council limits is the key.

Councillor Atkinson commented on the Local Government sector and the uncertainty of 3waters reform and debt levels. He questioned if management thought the Council has had sufficient discussions and whether the Council has enough information prior to the 3waters reform. J Palmer advised this budget can be made independently of any 3waters decisions. He stated that if this budget was not, in his opinion, the best or sustainable view for the Council, then he would duly advise of such however both he and J Millward had been working on the Financial Strategy for some 20 years. In the early days a conservative approach to debt and capital works had been taken, and the infrastructure programme is stable based on good engineering advice and confidence about the renewal programme, particularly post-earthquake so he was confident with the approach proposed and being reasonably sustained by this Council.

Councillor Mealings enquired if in the event the Council maintains long life assets and the interest rates go up, is the Council able to revert to a faster pay off rate. Staff advised that was the case.

Councillor Stewart sought an explanation why the situation cannot apply to the earthquake loan and the Stadium. J Millward explained that roading is different, and the Council could exclude culverts and bridges over a longer period. It could be modelled, as could some greenspace assets however the Council had already made the decision on the Stadium. Councillor Stewart enquired if the Council could alter the Stadium loan terms. J Millward advised it was the intention of management to come back to the Council in due course to review the situation.

Following a query from Councillor Mealings related to depreciation rates, J Millard explained depreciation costs.

Councillor Barnett enquired if management were confident in the asset base following the earthquakes. J Millward commented about building both asset and ratepayer bases to sustain the loan ratio, so yes management were confident in the asset base. It was explained that Waimakariri Council are a little different to most other councils in the respect that the depreciation funding is saved for 'a rainy day' which is considered prudent management.

Councillor Barnett enquired if management were confident that the LTP budget would not affect the Standard and Poors rating. J Millward advised that he had had a preliminary meeting with Standard and Poors recently and he does not anticipate any change, however he will be keeping the Council informed as feedback is received. J Millward advised that Standard and Poors are concerned with the high capital works, which has been explained and he is confident on maintaining the current AA stable

rating. The world economy is uncertain and worldwide is less positive than New Zealand.

Councillor Redmond enquired if rate projections apply to 3water assets only or factored in other assets. J Millward confirmed only 3waters assets at this stage. The roading assets are an extensive network and more modelling is required, along with greenspace assets.

In a supplementary question Councillor Redmond enquired, if recommendation (d) was approved, would it come to the Council on a case by case basis. Staff confirmed that was the case, but it would not be this year. Furthermore the Council could also assess land, however the Council would need to be careful on asset life hence modelling being required.

Moved: Councillor Atkinson Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201202163897.
- (b) **Approves** the repayment funding provision for loans raised for assets where the average weighted life of the assets is over 50 years to be increased from 25 years to a maximum of 50 years;
- (c) **Notes** that the change will be incorporated into the Treasury Policy and included into the draft 2021 – 2031 Long Term Plan to be consulted. The results of the consultation will be presented back to the Council for consideration, with adoption of the LTP to take effect from 1 July 2021;
- (d) **Notes** that this change has been applied to 3 Waters assets where the average weighted life of the assets is over 50 years. Debt relating to other Council activities will also be assessed over the next year to determine whether the policy can also be universally applied across these assets;
- (e) **Notes** the net effect on rates is to collect \$395,000 less in rates in year 1 (2021/22 of the Long Term Plan and the cumulative effect on debt is \$7.1m over the ten years of the Long Term Plan).

CARRIED

Against Councillor Williams

Councillor Atkinson spoke of assets lasting longer with quality products so it makes sense for the intergenerational formula to be used. He believed this is prudent management, explaining his questioning, and ensuring the Council has the information ahead of changes with 3waters management etc. Councillor Atkinson believed the Council was on the right side of the fence and going forward it will be very beneficial, stating he appreciated the complexities of modelling other assets, therefore was supportive of the motion.

Councillor Ward was supportive of the report proposal given that much of the infrastructure was new since the 2010 earthquake and assets are lasting longer, therefore it made sense to push out the rates to relieve people now and to spread costs over many years as people continue to use the assets.

Councillor Williams stated that while it looks 'rosy', the world is full of calamity. He reflected on growth, the uncertainty of climate change, Covid-19, and sewer upgrades (referencing the Ocean Outfall) and remarking how the last 20 years had been uncertain and therefore the Council needed to look after the future. Councillor Williams was of the view that if the Council/community want it now, then it should be paid for now.

Councillor Barnett congratulated staff on looking at ways to lower rates, and this is an option, noting this Council continues to review matters however its practices are in line with other councils. If the situation changes then the Council and review and change its policy. Councillor Barnett remarked that the Council needs to be positive for the future and considers it in good place and managed well, particularly since the earthquake. Councillor Barnett was both positive and supportive of the motion.

Councillor Stewart was enthusiastic on applying the practice on other assets, acknowledging the large loan for the stadium and earthquakes as long life assets. She commented on Plan Change 7 feedback due next week and the affect it will have on the farming community however this budget and financial practice puts money in the hands of people who need it and over the next ten years. Councillor Stewart believed this practice delivers funds back and is helping sectors of the community.

Councillor Redmond stated he was initially dubious as traditionally he was advised to pay debt quickly but he has since changed his mind based on the information supplied by staff, particularly in light of the uncertainty with 3waters assets and other assets being able to be looked at on a case by case basis. He considered this Council is out in front and therefore supportive of the motion.

Councillor Mealings remarked on the great tool to have which addresses intergenerational debt and she would like to see the Council apply the practice to many assets, however understood the need to be prudent. Councillor Mealings was supportive of the motion.

Mayor Gordon was supportive of prudent financial management which is hallmark of both J Palmer and J Millward he stated.

Councillor Atkinson, as a right of reply, reflected on the previous submissions on intergenerational payments and supportive of many of the comments made by colleagues.

The meeting adjourned at 10.34am and recommenced at 10.52am.

4.2 **Consider Runanga Request for Footpath and Lighting Improvements in Tuahiwi Township – J McBride - (Roading and Transport Manager) and G Cleary (Manager Utilities and Roading)**

J McBride outlined the report related to the Tuahiwi area involving road and lighting upgrades. Further discussions with MainPower and detailed design is yet to occur and then cost estimates can be better defined. J McBride explained the budget implications and where some funding could be sourced.

Mayor Gordon enquired how much was included in the walking/cycling budget. Staff advised the average was \$500,000 per year, but in the coming year staff were pausing this budget for one year. Staff will be seeking further advice from the Council for future project prioritisation from year two.

Mayor Gordon enquired if specific projects such as Tuahiwi are eligible for the 51% NZTA subsidy. Staff believe such as project would meet the intent for increased cycling in urban areas. Mayor Gordon enquired which year was this possible. J McBride advised consultation is yet to occur and staff would allow one financial year for design and consultation and the second year to build the asset.

Mayor Gordon advised the matter had been raised in Tuahiwi in recently, enquiring if there was any synergy in putting the path in now while roading works were undertaken, with potential cost benefits. G Cleary acknowledged it is possible and advised that for some stimulus projects this is occurring, however cautioned not all benefits are what you may expect. He explained that if there is dual works occurring at the exact location, the marginal savings could be achieved, however the Tuahiwi situation is different with work well advanced for the water pipe work due to the tight stimulus timeframe, therefore the path would be rushed, require variation with the contractor and compromise timing requirements against the current stimulus package. Staff confirmed the Council share of the Tuahiwi path project was approximately \$200,000 and strongly advised against undertaking the path at the current time for reasons outlined.

Councillor Ward enquired if the lighting budget been reduced overall which impacts on the ability to bring the Tuahiwi project forward. Staff confirmed that there is no current budget and that there are constraints across the district. There is a small provision for Rangiora and Kaiapoi town centre upgrades however the full extent of those projects is not yet confirmed.

Councillor Doody enquired if the Tuahiwi community are ok with getting the footpath work done when the work programme is planned longer term or do they want it now. G Cleary advised this matter has been raised for a number of years by the Tuahiwi community, who would like the path project done yesterday. Today was the biggest step forward at looking at the costs associated with the path project.

Councillor Stewart sought clarification on the walking and cycling network plan, and it progressing not as originally proposed, enquiring what the current timeframe was. J McBride referred to a Council briefing last year from D Young on the updated schedule and an indication that updated information would come back to the Council later in the year. Staff will follow up on update.

Councillor Redmond enquired how these proposals fit with equity and levels of service across the district. J McBride explained the programme for new footpaths in town areas, with Oxford as an example. The District Plan provides guidance if footpaths should be one or both sides of road. Staff acknowledged Tuahiwi village has got busier over the years and more through traffic occurs, and therefore staff understand the increased need in the area. The request for a gritted path is not unreasonable and it does connect the Urpa through to the school, however lighting does not meet current lighting standards.

Councillor Atkinson asked if this proposal is this based on amenity value and is there any funds in the (minor) safety budget that could be considered, acknowledging Tuahiwi residents are concerned with safety particularly around the school. J McBride advised the minor safety budget across all categories is \$500,000 and listed many projects that fit within that budget. Staff advised they could look over time to upgrade lights in \$30,000 instalments. The Tuahiwi streetlights are currently on power poles. MainPower may permit additional lights on the current poles however they likely to be reluctant, in which case the Council would need to plan cables etc. Councillor Atkinson reiterated his question as there

was a portion of safety budget that could be put towards this project. Staff explained NZTA safety budget criteria.

Councillor Barnett queried the budget allocation and NZTA funding which was explained by staff. She enquired if the project was able to be done cheaper with local contractor similar to the Woodend Path project. Staff indicated it was an option to be considered.

Councillor Barnett asked how many sites do not currently meet the current lighting standards. Staff advised there were many sites that did not meet the current standard, commenting on Oxford as an example with recent works of \$250,000 to upgrade. Councillor Barnett stated the Tuahiwi situation was a main street of a village, enquiring if there would be other villages in the district in a similar situation. Staff confirmed that would be the case, citing the beach settlements are yet to be upgraded.

In a secondary question Councillor Barnett enquired if the Council was of a mind to increase the budget, could the Council put funds in this years budget and staff supply additional information. Staff confirmed it was a decision of the Council to amend the proposed budgets.

Following a question from Mayor Gordon asking staff to clarify differences between standalone projects and NZTA funding, Mayor Gordon asked if the Council make additional budget today, would that attract a NZTA subsidy. Staff advised they would need to talk with NZTA and would consider it to sit within a low risk project.

Councillor Williams enquired if the 51% NZTA subsidy is unlimited. Staff explained the NZTA bid process which require detailed information on all projects, before NZTA give consideration to funding, with the projects then capped.

Councillor Williams asked if there is another subsidy for lighting upgrades. Staff advised there was not another subsidy available, unlike an 85% special subsidy that the Council had previously received on another project.

Councillor Ward, queried if it would make sense to undertake the lighting project when sewer work was being undertaken. Staff advised they had held discussions with MainPower and the lighting would need to occur first, once the lighting design was approved, however cautioned that MainPower approvals take time and that the sewer tender is about to be awarded.

Councillor Redmond enquired that if the work was brought forward what effect would occur on the rate increases. J Palmer responded that it would depend if the project was debt funded, however it would be marginal on rates over a period of time, with NZTA funding.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Atkinson

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201216172712;
- (b) **Approves** \$450,000 in the budget for a gritted path in Tuahiwi Township in year 2022/23.

- (c) **Requests** a report for street lighting upgrade within Tuahiwi Township in time for considering of the 2022/23 Annual Plan.
- (d) **Circulates** this report to the Utilities & Roading Committee and the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board for their information.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon reflected that the matters of footpath and lighting come up in conversation with the Runanga every year at the Annual Hui and other meetings, and it has been repeatedly conveyed that these are a priority for the community, as there are valid, ongoing concerns for connections with the school and safety. Mayor Gordon reflected on events when the current footpath was partnered with the Runanga several years ago, however that is unlikely to be the case now due to various factors. He believes the Council needs to work with the Marae trustees and he also hoped the project would receive NZTA funding. Mayor Gordon remarked he would like to see further work undertaken on the budget and these projects become a priority. The footpath concerns have been well documented and lobbied and now is the time for the Council to consider the matter, urging colleagues to support the motion.

Councillor Atkinson stated that to his knowledge there was no other village in the district that had houses, school, urpa, marae and other users for hui and tangi, as well as a sports ground beside the school. He believed this, by its very nature, is different to other situations within our district and it needs adequate lighting and footpath in his opinion and he considers it is overdue, in part based on the number of requests and length of time the community has been asking. Councillor Atkinson remarked that the timing right to look at seriously at the projects in Tuahiwi and get them underway enabling improved safety as the rat-run use continues to increase.

After clarifying the \$450,000 budget for the Tuahiwi projects was inclusive of NZTA funding, Councillor Brine reflected on his experience in the area in relation to speed and safety of school children. He was supportive of the improved timing for the work projects and budget.

Councillors Blackie and Doody were supportive of the motion which they both considered overdue and the right time.

Cr Barnett was supportive of the proposal, commenting on the walk/cycle path from Woodend to Kaiapoi. She remarked on the Tuahiwi village importance, culturally, and it did not have footpaths on both sides of the road, and considered there was a need to put matters right and move forward. Councillor Barnett hoped there was a strong case put to NZTA for the funding subsidy. She was also supportive of lighting improvements and would like to see done earlier than proposed, however understood the logistics, remarking that lighting was a safety issue.

Mayor Gordon acknowledged D Hamilton in the public gallery, who was a long-time advocate of improved footpaths and lighting in the village. He reflected on a meeting with kuamatua last year and a request for costings noting this motion is a start. Mayor Gordon hoped the project would attract a NZTA subsidy and he will assist lobbying for it to be included. Mayor Gordon reflected on Councillor Barnett's point about lighting and would welcome the project coming forward if possible. Mayor Gordon also reflected on Councillor Atkinson's comment, with the village having a school, urpa and marae – and it being a special place within the district.

4.3 **2021/22 Development Contribution Schedules for Consultation with Draft Long Term Plan – K LaValley (Project Delivery Manager)**

The report was taken as read.

Moved: Councillor Doody Seconded: Councillor Atkinson

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201218174244.
- (b) **Approves** the Draft 2021/22 Development Contributions Schedules as per Attachment i for consultation with the 2021-31 Long Term Plan (201218174263).
- (c) **Approves** the development contribution maps as per Attachment ii for consultation with the 2021-31 Long Term Plan (201218174271).
- (d) **Notes** that proposed updates to the Development Contribution Policy were presented in a separate report to Council 1 December 2020 (No. 201109150374[v2]).
- (e) **Notes** that the proposed policy updates do not affect the draft scheduled amounts.

CARRIED

MATTERS REFERRED FROM UTILITIES AND ROADING COMMITTEE

4.4 **Pegasus WTP Biological Filter Sand Replacement – C Roxburgh (Water Asset Manager) and G Boot (Senior Engineering Advisor)**

C Roxburgh noted that the new Manganese removal filter had been performing well since its installation, however, there was concern that there would be reduced flow during the peak summer season due to increased demand as Ravenswood continues to develop. Staff therefore recommended that the filter sand should be replaced with a coarser grain for optimal function. The costs would be covered through the development contributions from Ravenswood which would result in no rating impact.

Councillor Doody queried how the sand that contained manganese would be disposed of once removed. C Roxburgh noted that the manganese was not harmful, however further investigation would be undertaken on how best to repurpose the sand.

Moved: Councillor Barnett Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Allows** provision of \$120,000 in the Woodend-Pegasus component of the Draft 2021-31 Long Term Plan, in year three (2023/24) for a full sand replacement of both Pegasus filters with a coarser sand that is more optimal for biological filtration.

CARRIED

Councillor Barnett noted that this was a sensible option and Councillor Doody thanked C Roxburgh for the work done on improving the scheme.

4.5 **Significant and Engagement Policy Update – A Gray (Communications and Engagement Manager)**

A Gray presented this report, noting that there have been no major material updates to this Policy.

S Markham commented that it is a statutory requirement to have this Policy in place however the real value is the guidance that it provides across the organisation, as the Council engages with the community and groups going forward.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Atkinson

THAT the Council

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201027143311.
- (b) **Adopts** the Significance and Engagement Policy 2020.
- (c) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards

CARRIED

4.6 **Town Centre Strategies Implementation Budget Recommendations for the Long Term Plan – S Hart (Business and Centres Manager) on behalf of the Town Centre Strategies Implementation Working Group**

S Hart presented the report on behalf of the working group, explaining the purpose of the report. He provided background to work undertaken which focused on the Rangiora and Kaiapoi Town Centre improvements. It was advised Categories A and B had been included in the LTP, while Category C matters had been deferred from this LTP.

Councillor Ward reflected as group member, and was pleased staff listened to matters pertaining to capital expenditure, particularly with regard to parking issues and delaying the parking building to the outer years, whilst increasing parking options within the town.

Councillor Atkinson as working party member spoke on the importance of understanding where the funding sat within the overall budgets.

Councillor Barnett as member, highlighted the project review of the economic strategy and the need to have the business community on-board to enhance the business development and strategy which was due to be reviewed and now is time to progress the next phase.

S Markham commented on the span of wide ranging of activities, and the wider desire to have an overall project approach. J Palmer noted there is significant provision for a car park building, with discussions continuing with the property owner, and that if opportunities do crystallise with new information that would be brought back to the Council. He noted this will be a consultation aspect from the LTP and the option is to either undertake the car park building or not do it at all.

Councillor Williams raised a concern regarding land for retail development becoming less available, enquiring if staff had looked at the civic precinct at the back of the Council building to allow other council land to be available for business development. S Hart explained the group had considered six scenarios and concluded not to propose to purchase all of Durham Street land. When considering the precinct area it become evident it would not provide enough carpark for the precinct itself to make it viable so it was discounted.

Mayor Gordon queried the Williams Street Bridge painting costs and the other options that the Council had previously asked to be considered. Staff acknowledged the budget may be tight as various options were considered including work on balustrades and lighting upgrades, with the matter currently with consultants for costings. Mayor Gordon stated the matter needs to come to the Council and would like to see information via a briefing before it goes to the Kaiapoi Tuahiwi Community Board, and before the budget considerations. S Markham confirmed the information will be available ahead of the May deliberation meeting.

Cr Atkinson sought clarification of the \$130,000 budget for painting the bridge. Staff would come back to the Council with information at an April briefing, before attending the Kaiapoi Tuahiwi Community Board in late April.

Moved: Councillor Atkinson Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201201163259.
- (b) **Notes** the role that the Districts Town Centres play in the economic wellbeing of the District, and as a hub for commercial and community activity.
- (c) **Notes** the background information contained within this report relating to the two Town Centre Strategies, and the work of the Town Centre Strategies Implementation Working Group.
- (d) **Notes** the significance of future Rangiora Town Centre parking provision projects in relation to the funding recommendations made by the Town Centres Implementation Working Group.
- (e) **Supports** the Town Centre Strategies Implementation Working Group's recommendations for the inclusion of Category A and B projects into the Long Term Plan, as shown in section 4.13 of this report 201201163259.
- (f) **Notes** that projects in Categories A and B, as per section 4.13 of this report, have been included into the respective Unit budgets, but Category C projects are not currently included.
- (g) **Considers** the further inclusion of Category C projects, as shown in section 4.13 of this report, into the Long Term Plan.
- (h) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Councillor Atkinson acknowledged the improvements to town parking achieved during this project and looked forward to the Williams Street bridge information coming back to the Council in April.

Councillor Ward was supportive of the work and the working party, noting there was more work to be undertaken, and commenting on the importance of having a strategy.

Mayor Gordon was supportive of the motion and commented on the importance of understanding the different components of the strategy.

4.7 **COVID-19 Recovery Programme Update – S Hart (Recovery Manager)**

S Hart presented this report, accompanied with S Markham. The 27 recovery actions were listed in the report, noting some progress against these actions, and comments as to whether each one of these 27 actions should be continued or discontinued. Staff suggested that eight of these projects be put on hold or discontinued. S Hart commented on the positive work of the Community Team, with the recommendations to continue this work. There has been a successful application in seeking government funding up to \$700,000. There is also a funding application in with the Department of Internal Affairs for \$100,000. This funding could be used for some project management potentially required for the Kaiapoi Community Hub and also some recovery funding required for the aquatic facilities operations. Matters would be referred back to the Council before any funding was drawn down on, which will be once results of the funding applications are known.

Councillor Blackie noted that \$700,000 of the \$2.1m fund had been utilised and that social agencies were advising (through media reports) that they had no remaining funding available. J Palmer advised that the \$2.1m budget was the figure anticipated to cover Covid-19 events, funding shortfalls, and other Council operations not being able to run at full capacity. To date, not as much of this funding has been needed since the budget was first developed. There is a risk that the situation may change between now and the budget deliberation meeting scheduled in late-May.

The Economic Recovery Advisory Group had met periodically and the group had not identified any areas of direct need. Mayor Gordon commented that working with the welfare groups in the district, and supporting people when staff are aware of need, is very beneficial.

On another matter S Markham advised that this Group will be meeting again in March, and this may become a reference group in future for refreshing the Economic Development Strategy.

Moved: Councillor Atkinson Seconded: Councillor Barnett

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201201163205.
- (b) **Notes** the economic overview and outlook summarised in this report is comparatively positive for the District which is tracking well, all things considered, but that the economic situation is characterised by a high level of uncertainty warranting ongoing close monitoring.
- (c) **Notes** the ongoing and evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic recovery environment is means recovery planning continues to evolve as required. Further reports and updates will be brought to Council as required, and might include further requests for funding from the approved COVID-19 Recovery Budget to ensure ongoing recovery activities that cannot be funded by other means are supported appropriately.
- (d) **Notes** several priority projects as set out in para 4.13 have emerged as being central to ensuring the social recovery and on-going resilience of the community is maintained going forward.

- (e) **Notes** that to date Community Development staff have acquired over \$700,000 in central government seed funding to progress these projects and a comprehensive funding strategy developed to ensure project completion and sustainability.
- (f) **Notes** that short term funding has been acquired to resource the facilitation of these projects and staff have applied to the Department of Internal Affairs COVID Community Fund for \$104,000 in medium term funding for further such facilitation.
- (g) **Notes** that should this application is unsuccessful, alternative funding streams will be explored. In the event that external funding avenues are exhausted it is proposed that from the Council's COVID Recovery Fund up to \$100,000, including overheads and ongoing employment costs be allocated to social recovery project facilitation until June 2022.
- (h) **Notes** that of the total COVID-19 loan, we have only drawn down \$700,000 of the \$2,100,000 anticipated.
- (i) **Notes** that a further provision of \$300,000 has been made, to be loan funded, to cover the potential funding requirement in Recommendation (g), a further \$100,000 of funding for potential project management resourcing (as per section 4.19 of this report), and also any impacts on Aquatic Facilities operations. Any drawdown of these provisions would subject to Council approval.
- (j) **Supports** recommendations for each of the 27 projects as shown in the heading of each project, in section 4.22 of report 2010201163205.
- (k) **Circulates** this report to the Economic Recovery Advisory Group, Social Services Waimakariri and the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Councillor Barnett noted the sources of funding that are available and the local networks in place who can source these funds. Congratulations were extended to the Council's Community Team who are leaders in this field supporting social support groups.

Councillor Doody also noted that there are a lot of people in the Waimakariri community who also step up and help in situations when needed.

4.8 **Economic Development Budget Reduction – S Markham (Manager Strategy and Engagement)**

S Markham presented this report, in relation to the budget for economic development. The Board of Enterprise North Canterbury (ENC) have indicated that they are not in support of this proposal and their comments are included in the report. Options in the recommendation were highlighted. From the economic development agencies viewpoint, this is not the right time to reduce the budget.

Following a question from Councillor Barnett, it was advised that there is not a separate line item for the visitor strategy.

Councillor Stewart noted that showing in the ENC financial records in June 2020 there was a \$400,000 in short term investments and not all of the Council grant given last year was spent, enquiring why the grant was not fully utilised. S Markham noted that due to COVID-19 and lockdown, many events last year were not held, so there was an element of event funding that had built up. Operationally, at any one time in normal circumstances, ENC has a portion of unspent event funding.

Councillor Williams asked whether the Council should wait until there is a need/demand for funding before granting additional monies to ENC. S Markham advised the contract with the Council, is due for renewal and believes the ENC Board would be concerned about the cash reserves, if this contract was not renewed which may result in redundancies.

Mayor Gordon sought information from the Promotion Groups in Kaiapoi, Rangiora and Oxford if the grants for the Christmas Parades are sufficient (taking into account traffic management costs) and to come back to the Council with this information prior to the May deliberation meeting. Staff noted the request.

Moved: Councillor Redmond

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201203164109.
- (b) **Notes** that outer year budgets include provision for inflation as requested by ENC.
- (c) **Includes** \$30,000 per annum in the district promotions budget as per existing funding arrangements.

CARRIED

Against Councillors Stewart and Williams

Councillor Redmond believed that with an unknown future with Covid-19, there is an important role for ENC and the work of ENC should be encouraged, not discouraged.

Councillor Ward supported not reducing the budget, reflecting on the importance to continue the funding at the current rate, noting that this funding goes towards paying ENC staff, and any reduction would jeopardise staff positions. The economic value of this group and what they put into the district cannot be under estimated. In Councillor Ward's opinion the district needs ENC and their expertise more than ever. Any funds put aside could be needed in the future.

Councillor Atkinson supported this recommendation, noting that if ENC had no cash reserves, there would be questions on viability over the next two years. Events coming up will be well supported and there will be more and more people wanting to run events in the near future.

Mayor Gordon noted that this is an important fund and there are a number of new events coming to the district, including national events. He considered it to be prudent of the Board to have a cash reserve, and the General Manager can explain this when they come to speak to the Council in March. ENC provided significant support to businesses during the Covid-19 lockdown situation. Mayor Gordon did not support a reduction of the Covid-19 budget as he considers this organisation is needed and it is important that it is funded properly.

Councillor Stewart stated she would not be supporting the motion, as she believes ENC is cash rich, noting the \$400,000 is earning interest on investment. In addition to the unspent grant of \$86,000 from 2020. Councillor Stewart does not dispute that economic development is not a benefit to the Council, however as a Council Controlled Organisation there are additional costs, administration and accounting services. Councillor Stewart noted she would be remiss in not identifying this position of ENC however did not want this confused with the function that ENC carry out. Councillor Stewart believes ENC should be using funds they have held, as all Council departments have been asked to reduce budgets.

Councillor Williams, stated that although he is a supporter of the work of ENC, he does not believe it is justice to the ratepayers by granting this money, and questioned the need for it now. He stated if he could be shown that ENC need this money now, he would support it, but suggested that this be held over until the need can be shown.

J Millward noted that ENC rely on the Council for funding and that the Council needs to consider what the level of performance is that it wants for the coming years.

Councillor Barnett noted that this is a draft budget that the Council is debating today. Any reduction of funding could affect someone's wages. In business, if there is a threat, there needs to be further promotion, and she believed this is not the right time to be cutting funding. The district promotion budget is low, compared to other Councils, however the Council relies on ENC to get funding for this work. ENC provide economic activity and Councillor Barnett is 100% supportive of keeping the status quo. The ENC budget can be reviewed when ENC next come to speak to the Council she remarked.

Councillor Doody noted the North Canterbury Business Awards function which was cancelled in 2020 was a significant loss.

In his right of reply, Councillor Redmond stated ENC is an organisation that delivers.

4.9 **Proposed Changes to Rates Remission Policy – M Harris (Customer Service Manager)**

M Harris noted that this was discussed at a September Council briefing, highlighting the recommendation (b) reducing the interval of installment penalty remissions from four years to two years.

There were no questions.

Moved: Councillor Atkinson

Seconded: Councillor Doody

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201126160824.
- (b) **Approves** a change to the policy for Remission of Rates Penalty Charges that reduces the interval for instalment penalty remissions from four years to two from 1 July 2021.
- (c) **Approves** a change to the policy for Remission on Dwellings in Commercial Zones to limit the remission to owner occupied dwellings and to exclude rented dwellings and purpose built CBD residential accommodation to take effect from 1 July 2021.

CARRIED

4.10 **Collection of Ashley Water Rates - M Harris (Customer Services Manager)**

M Harris presented this report noting that the collection of Ashley Water Rates has been undertaken by Hurunui District Council since local government amalgamation in 1989. This matter has been discussed for some time and this proposal would provide a more streamlined administration process. A draft Memorandum of Understanding has been drawn up.

Councillor Redmond asked about how the information will be made available to the property owners. M Harris advised this would be included in the rates demand as a separate line item, however there will still need to be communication with Hurunui when property ownership changes or from Hurunui District Council (HDC) to this Council, if there are changes in water unit information. If there is an increase in Hurunui District Council water rates, M Harris advised it is similar to the situation with collection of ECan rates; HDC will need to consult with our ratepayers if there is to be an increase.

J Millward noted there needs to be agreement of both Councils and that the full costs be disclosed in both Council's Annual Plans.

Councillor Atkinson enquired what communications will be in place that there is a change planned. M Harris advised that once both Council's have agreed to this change, it needs to be advised that if there any issues with the scheme, this is still the responsibility of the Hurunui District Council. It was suggested that this needs to be clear to ratepayers.

Moved: Councillor Williams

Seconded: Councillor Redmond

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201125159668.
- (b) **Approves** the Council taking over collection of the Ashley water rates from 1 July 2021 from properties in the Waimakariri District that are connected to the supply on the Terms and Conditions set out in the draft Memorandum of Understanding.
- (c) **Authorises** the Chief Executive to finalise and sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Hurunui District Council.

CARRIED

Councillors suggested that there needs to be clear communication with the ratepayers about this change. Mayor Gordon noted that Hurunui District Council have a significant investment through the Shovel Ready funding in upgrading the Ashley Water Scheme.

4.11 **Stadium Management Financial Assistance – C Brown (Manager Community and Recreation)**

C Brown provided a brief overview of the report requesting financial assistance to the North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust (the Trust), which would enable the Trust to hire a Facility Manger for the Stadium Waimakariri.

Councillor Redmond clarified if the preferred option was for rent relief rather than a grant to assist the Trust. C Brown confirmed that both options

had been discussed and the Trust seemed comfortable with the rent reduction option.

Councillor Williams noted that the Trust had indicated that they would be fundraising as well as selling assets and enquired why the Trust was now requesting further assistance from the Council. C Brown responded that the Trust was in the process of fundraising, and there was an interested party in purchasing their property, however if the sale fell through, the Trust intended to put the property on the open market. The money received from the fundraising and the sale of property would go towards fit-out of the building and start-up costs.

Councillor Atkinson queried why this shortfall had not been identified earlier and staff confirmed that this was an oversight. The Trust wished to hire a Stadium Manager before the stadium was completed to co-ordinate early bookings and scheduling prior to the opening of the stadium. Staff also assured the Council that the Trust was experienced in this type of management and they had full confidence in the success of the Stadium being run efficiently and effectively.

Moved: Councillor Doody

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 201222176492.
- (b) **Approves** the annual rental for the Stadium, payable by the North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust, for 2021/22 being \$43,532 plus GST, which is a reduction of \$60,000 over the amount in the Heads of Agreement agreed by Council in 2019.
- (c) **Notes** that current projections suggest there will not be sufficient contingency in the project budget to cover the \$60,000 requested.

CARRIED

Against: Councillor Stewart

Councillor Doody stated that it was important to support the Trust to get the Stadium up and running. She believed that the Trust was a professional, proactive organisation and they would run a top notch facility. She noted that the uptake on bookings had been positive.

Councillor Ward also supported the recommendation and stated that she felt the Trust was highly competent in their dealings and that the Stadium would be run successfully.

Mayor Gordon, Councillors Williams and Barnett were all in support of the recommendation and complimented the Trust on the work that had been done to date.

4.12 **Library Long Term Plan Overview – P Eskett (District Libraries Manager)**

P Eskett provided a brief overview of the reasons for requesting further budget for the Libraries. She held the belief that children under 18 should not be penalised for historic fines and that in today's environment the library was crucial for learning. She encouraged the Council to consider waiving all historic fines and to set an amnesty in place as had been done in Selwyn and overseas with good results.

Councillor Williams enquired about the costs of waiving all historic fines. P Eskett noted that in regards to children it was approximately \$5,000 and

adults about \$20,000. She also noted that if a parent had an outstanding fine it often meant that the children also did not have access to the library due to the outstanding fine. She clarified that lost books would not be included in the proposed scheme.

Councillor Atkinson enquired if it would not be reasonable to assume that if late returns were not penalised that the public would not bother to return the book in a timely manner. P Eskett stated that this had not happened in other libraries which had adopted this policy and that the public were inherently honest regarding library books.

Moved: Councillor Ward

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Council

- (a) **Receives** report No. 210112003161.
- (b) **Approves** as part of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan the addition of \$110,000 for the replacement of self-service kiosk at all three libraries as a capital replacement.
- (c) **Approves** as part of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan the removal fines for children under the age of 18 years at a predicted revenue loss of \$4700 per annum.
- (d) **Approves** as part of the Long Term Plan the provision of \$80,000 for stage two and three of the Rangiora Library shelving replacement.
- (e) **Notes** that \$35,000 of this expenditure proposed for the shelf replacement would be offset by income received as part of the New Zealand Library Partnership Programme.
- (f) **Approves** as part of the Long Term Plan the provision of \$36,500 of capital funding for the purchase of Smart Shelves.
- (g) **Approves** as part of the Long Term Plan modifications to the returns area of the Rangiora Library noting that the cost of \$20,000 to do this will be offset by income from the New Zealand Library Partnership Programme.

CARRIED

Councillor Ward supported the recommendation saying that improving the ability to move shelving would assist with making the library more user friendly and assisted with making the libraries more of a community hub.

Councillor Blackie agreed with Councillor Ward and was in support of waiving all fines for children, he however was not supportive of a more automated environment, as this reduced face to face time between customers and staff.

Councillor Mealings was in support of fines being waived for all children under 18 and was also supportive of further investigation into the waiver of historic fines and an amnesty scheme being initiated.

Councillor Brine noted his interest in the idea and requested that a comprehensive paper on various options available and how this would be advertised and managed to be brought to the Council before any decision was made.

Amendment that a further recommendation (h) be added:

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Barnett

- (h) **That** a comprehensive options report is brought to the Council's March 2021 meeting on the waiving of all historic fines and the details of a possible amnesty on lost books.

CARRIED

MATTERS REFERRED FROM COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING OF 15 DECEMBER 2020

4.13 Report on the update to the Sports Facilities Plan for the 2021/2031 Long Term Plan – G MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager)

G MacLeod advised that the updated Sports Facilities Plan built on the previous Sports Facilities Plan. Due to the previous capital investment the community was well served with community facilities, in the short term, and this would translate to a saving in the first three years of the 2021-2031 LTP. He highlighted some of the capital projects that would be undertaken, such as the artificial turf surface replacement at Kendall Park and various drainage solutions.

Moved: Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Doody

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** the updated Sports Facilities Plan prepared by RSL.
- (b) **Notes** that the current existing Long Term Plan has identified approximately \$400,000 every second year for the provision and upgrade of sports facilities.
- (c) **Approves** as part of the Long Term Plan a change to the current budget of \$400,000 every second year to the following:

Year	2022/3	2023/4	2024/25	2026/27	2028/29	2030/31
Budget	\$265,000		\$440,000	\$400,000	\$750,000	\$750,000

- (d) **Notes** the split of the proposed funding identified below:

Project	2021-23	2024-26	2027-32
Coldstream Road Sports Facility Capital Enhancement	\$100,000	\$40,000	
Loburn Domain Irrigation	\$75,000		
Southbrook Park Field Upgrade	\$30,000 (looking to get external funding for this)	\$100,000	\$100,000
Maria Andrews irrigation investigation and field upgrade	\$5,000	\$100,000	

Kaiapoi Park Field Upgrade		\$100,000	
Kendal Park Drainage	\$5,000	\$100,000	
Dudley Park Drainage			\$100,000
Mandeville Domain Lights and Drainage Upgrade	\$50,000		\$100,000
Pearson Park Drainage Upgrade			\$100,000
Artificial turfs (Coldstream and Kendall)			\$1,500,000 (notes that a significant portion of this is offset through cost recovery).
Total	\$265,000	\$440,000	\$1,900,000

CARRIED

4.14 **Community Facilities Renewal Works Programme Long Term Plan 2021/2031 – G MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager) and S Kong (Community Facilities Coordinator)**

G MacLeod advised that staff had been completing more detailed asset condition assessments of facilities and were proposing a more active Asset Management Plan to ensure that facilities retain their standards over time. Lessons learned for recent renewal work had indicated that the community facilities have some underlining issues which need to be the addressed. He noted that while the maintenance budgets were appropriately set to sustain facility operations, larger cost renewals such as roof replacements, HVAC replacements, lighting upgrades, etc. exceed the existing renewal budgets, hence the need to request additional funds.

Councillor Barnett asked how the budget for the renewal of the outdoor areas at community facilities would be tied into the Facilities Renewal Budget. G MacLeod advised that a holistic approach would be followed in the management of community facilities, which would include the renewal and maintenance of both inside and outside the community facility areas.

Councillor Barnett further enquired if the Facilities Renewal Budget would be sufficient to ensure the renewal and maintenance of community facility areas. C Brown explained how the Community and Greenspace Budgets were structured and confirmed that sufficient provision had been included in the overall budget

Mayor Gordon sought clarity on when the renewal of the Cust Community Centre would be completed. G MacLeod advised that the remaining projects at the Centre could be completed in the 2021/22 financial year.

Councillor Redmond noted that provision had been made for refurbishment at the Sefton Domain Pavilion, which may not remain a community facility in the long-term. He questioned the reason for funds to be spent on the facility. G MacLeod acknowledged that the future of the Sefton Domain Pavilion had not been finalised and no work would be done on the Pavilion until clarity had been obtained. However, the Pavilion was currently still a community facility and budgetary provision therefore had to be made for the maintenance of the facility. C Brown explained that the work to be done on the Pavilion was scheduled for years four to six of the LTP. By then the Council should have clarity on the proposed future of the Sefton Domain Pavilion.

Councillor Barnett expressed a concern that the work on the carpark at the Cust Community Centre was being proposed for year 11 of the LTP. C Brown advised that this was the proposed development of a new carpark at the tennis courts. R O'Loughlin confirmed that the upgrade of the roads and current carpark area was currently being tendered.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Doody

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Approves** the inclusion of a budget for the Community Facilities Renewal Work Program of \$3,000,000 over 10 years from the Facilities Depreciation Fund.
- (b) **Notes** that the previous funding for community facilities renewals was set at \$50,000 per annum.
- (c) **Notes** staff propose the \$3,000,000 to be spread over the 10 years as shown below:

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
\$000's	\$150	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$350	\$350	\$350

CARRIED

Councillor Barnett expressed her support for a more active asset management plan for community facilities. After the earthquakes community facilities needed a lot of work, and in hindsight some issues had been missed. The Facilities Renewal Works Programme would ensure the proper maintenance of facilities, thereby prolonging the life of the facilities. She expressed a concern that the community facilities were being developed without sufficient parking. Any renewal plans and budgets should therefore include the renewal of the outdoor areas at facilities to ensure optimal use.

Mayor Gordon stressed the importance of the renewal work at the Cust Community Centre being completed during the 2021/22 financial year.

4.15 **Report on the Pegasus Ravenswood Community Facilities Needs and Options Report for the 2021/2031 Long Term Plan – G MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager)**

G MacLeod noted that the Community Facilities Needs and Options Report carried out by RSL Consultants had found that there was a need for the development of a community facility in the Pegasus area. Provision had therefore been made in the LTP for the development of a purpose-built facility within the Pegasus' central commercial area near the lake. It was proposed that the community facility be constructed in years two and three of the LTP, with the land purchase proposed in year one. The development of a purpose-built facility was supported by the Pegasus Residents Group and the Woodend-Sefton Community Board.

With regards to Ravenswood, staff believed that there would be a need for a community facility in the future, therefore recommended the purchasing of land in the area to be considered to enable the Council to meet future needs.

C Brown provided comment on recommendations (a) and (b) and the land available for this community facility and associated costs of the building. Conversations have been held with the real estate agent regarding sale of the existing building. The value of this building had not been identified with discussions, however it was estimated to be in excess of \$5m.

Councillor Barnett spoke on the long term population projection for Pegasus and Ravenswood enquiring why not build a larger facility in Ravenswood to accommodate a larger population, now that the land is available? C Brown noted that as part of the consultation by RSL Consultants for the Community Facilities Needs and Options Report, residents of Pegasus were spoken to and demographics taken into account. With the limited community in Ravenswood currently there were no community groups to speak with. Following this, it was considered that the sensible place to put a facility is in Ravenswood and for this to be a 750sq metre facility. It was pointed out that the residents of Pegasus are asking for their own community facility, even if smaller, for a meeting and gathering space. Councillor Barnett asked if the gap in lack of community facilities on the eastern side of the district has been filled. C Brown remarked staff believe there will be sufficient community space.

It was agreed that the recommendations would be taken separately.

Moved: Mayor Gordon Seconded: Councillor Brine

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Includes** up to \$1,800,000 for land purchase in year 2021/2022 at Pegasus for a community centre.
CARRIED
- (b) **Notes** that the skate project for Pegasus should be considered for placement next to the future community facility if land is purchased.
CARRIED
- (c) **Includes** a budget for the building of a community centre in Pegasus of \$500,000 in year 2023/24 and \$2,200,000 in year 2024/2025.
CARRIED
- (d) **Includes** \$4,300,000 for land purchase in year 2021/2022 at Ravenswood for a community facility.
CARRIED
Against Councillor Williams
- (e) **Includes** the \$4,800,000 in year 2027/2028 to 2029/2030 to focus on Ravenswood for the purpose of building a community facility. Noting this was originally to cover Pegasus as well.
CARRIED
Against Councillors Barnett and Williams
- (f) **Notes** that staff will circulate the report to the Woodend Sefton Community Board.
CARRIED

Mayor Gordon believed a land purchase should be set aside for future options for a community facility. This does not preclude securing the current building, though the Pegasus community has always had the wish to have a facility of their own. This recommendation includes sufficient budget for future options for Ravenswood.

Councillor Barnett agreed that there needs to be community facilities to accommodate a group of 300 to 500 people. There is no doubt that Pegasus needs a community centre, and supports having a large facility for this large community. Councillor Barnett was comfortable with leaving the budget in, but it needed to be indicated to the public that there is a lot to be considered before budgets are confirmed. There still needs to be open discussions with those who will use these facilities, which is potentially the broader area.

4.16 **Sefton Community Hall Committee proposed grant in Long Term Plan and proposed move to Sefton Domain – G MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager)**

G MacLeod spoke to this report and provided background information on the Sefton Hall, where it is currently located and the proposal of the Sefton Community Hall Committee to relocate the hall to the Sefton Domain. A grant of \$200,000 was included in the LTP budget to assist the Committee progress for design work and building of a new community hall in the Sefton Domain.

Moved: Councillor Redmond Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Includes** a grant of \$200,000.00 in the 2023/2024 year of the Long Term Plan for the Sefton Community Hall Committee as a contribution towards the cost of a new Community hall proposed to be located on the Sefton Domain.
- (b) **Notes** that at this stage no formal decision has been made by Council or the Community Board regarding the use of the Sefton Domain for the Sefton Community Hall.
- (c) **Notes** that the Sefton Hall Committee has undertaken significant engagement with the community in the preparation of a feasibility study and as a result have made a decision to move to Sefton Domain however staff will be required to engage with the Domain Users and wider community before presenting a report to the Woodend Sefton Community Board for consideration.

CARRIED

Councillor Redmond noted the Sefton Hall Committee have been working for a number of years on this proposal and the sale of the existing premises and the former Sefton Library site will help boost the funds. The community in Sefton would have a good facility if it comes to fruition he stated.

Mayor Gordon noted that the Sefton Hall Committee have undertaken a feasibility study on this project and this community deserves the support of the Council.

4.17 **Kaiapoi Community Hub – Project Budget for 2021-2031 Long Term Plan - M Flanagan – (Landscape Planner, District Regeneration) and R Thornton (Community Development Facilitator)**

M Flanagan provided a summary on the community responses to consultation that had been undertaken to date, noting that there will be further consultation to be undertaken should the project proceed to the next stage.

Councillor Redmond noted the concerns raised by residents during the consultation to date enquiring as to how these would be responded to. M Flanagan advised there would be a concept plan on where any buildings will go, with a wide buffer between residential properties and the community

hub activities. Onsite parking would be in place to keep traffic away from residential streets. Staff consider that all issues raised can be resolved.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Atkinson

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Includes** \$435,000 in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan in the 2021-2022 year for the establishment of the Kaiapoi Community Hub.
- (b) **Notes** that the \$435,000 funding has been included in the draft Long Term Plan budgets.
- (c) **Notes** that the \$435,000 funding sought would have a \$1.53 and 0.05% rating impact per property.
- (d) **Notes** that should the inclusion of the funding be approved this would be split between the Earthquake Recovery Loan and the Recreation Loan.
- (e) **Notes** that initial consultation with the adjacent residential neighbourhood is currently underway and a verbal update on the outcomes of the consultation process will be provided when this report is considered.

CARRIED

Staff were thanked for the consultation undertaken to date and work with the community and groups.

4.18 **Aquatic Facilities Strategy and Long Term Plan Preparations – M Greenwood (Aquatic Facilities Manager)**

M Greenwood explained that the Council's Aquatics Facilities Strategy 2021-2031 identified that there might be a need for the development of an additional swimming pool in the Pegasus/Ravenswood area in the future. Therefore the inclusion of \$2.5 million in the LTP for the purchase of land, in the north eastern part of the District in the 2024/25 financial year was sought. The strategy also recommended the expansion of the Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre within the next four to seven years. However, taking into consideration the Council's financial context and its commitment to other projects, as well as the Kaiapoi community's ability to currently afford such development, it was agreed that the proposed expansion be delayed until after 2031. It was nonetheless recommended that \$50,000 be included in the LTP to fund the investigation of options for the expansion of the Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre during the 2029/30 financial year.

M Greenwood advised that to maintain the Council's current levels of service it was important that staff took a proactive approach to ongoing equipment maintenance and capital replacement. The Council was therefore requested to support the Aquatics Team's approach to capital asset renewals which would require a further \$1.66 million over a 10-year period, which would be loan funded.

Councillor Doody enquired if it was envisaged that the community would contribute to the development of the proposed swimming pool in the north-eastern part of the District by fundraising. She also asked if it would be an indoor pool or an open pool. M Greenwood advised that as it was proposed to develop the swimming pool after 2031, many factors may change and the development details of the swimming pool had therefore not been finalised.

Councillor Barnett questioned the reason for recommending the development of a new swimming pool in the future, rather than upgrading the Council's existing aquatic facilities to benefit the communities now, given that the

Waimakariri District was well supplied with swimming pools when compared with other districts. M Greenwood commented on the recommendation when taking into consideration the current economic climate and the communities ability to currently afford such upgrades.

C Brown clarified that the proposed land purchase was considered an investment to allow for the future growth of the Council's Aquatics Facilities. It was estimated that the cost of expanding Dudley and Kaiapoi Aquatic Centres would be between \$10 million to \$20 million. The \$2.5 million would therefore not be sufficient.

Subsequently, Councillor Barnett questioned if the \$2.5 million could not be used to cover the Council swimming pool in Oxford. C Brown noted that the covering of the Oxford swimming pool had not been identified as a need by key community stakeholders in the Council's Aquatics Facilities Strategy 2021-2031.

Councillor Barnett noted that the strategy mentioned that three new aquatic facilities were currently being developed in Christchurch and questioned if these new Christchurch facilities would not address any future needs Waimakariri residents may have, given people were known to travel for leisure activities. M Greenwood advised that it was not anticipated that the new facilities would have a large impact on the Aquatics Facilities Strategy 2021-2031 as they were some distance from the Waimakariri District's borders. However, the actual impact could only be determined once the facilities were in operation.

Councillor Atkinson sought clarity on the proposed amount to be spent on the purchase of land for community facilities in the north-eastern part of the District. C Brown confirmed that the LTP made provision for the inclusion of up to \$3.6 million for the purchase of land for community centres in Pegasus and Ravenswood and \$2.5 million for land for a swimming pool.

In response to questions, M Greenwood noted that the average travelling time for Christchurch residents to an aquatic facility in their area was approximately 10 minutes, which was similar to the current situation in the Waimakariri District.

Councillor Ward questioned the impact that the proposed development of the WHoW Aquatic Sports Park in Kaiapoi may have on the future use of the Council's aquatic facilities. C Brown explained that the activities that would be offered at the proposed sports park would differ from those being on offer at the Council's aquatics facilities. The WHoW development has however been taken into consideration in the development of the Council's Aquatics Facilities Strategy, hence the delay in the proposed expansion of the Dudley and Kaiapoi Aquatic Centres and the development of the swimming pool in the north-eastern part of the District until such time as the impact of the WHoW development could be better measured.

With regard to the development of the new swimming pool, Councillor Redmond enquired if the option of working with the Ministry of Education or local schools had been explored in a bid to reduce development and maintenance costs. M Greenwood advised that the abovementioned option had not been considered as schools seemed to be struggling with the ongoing maintenance of their existing pools.

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Includes** \$2.5 million in the Long Term Plan for land purchase in the 24/25 year for the future development of a Swimming Pool in the North East of the District.
- (b) **Includes** \$50,000 in the 29/30 year of Councils Long Term Plan to fund the investigation into options for the expansion of Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre.
- (c) **Supports** the Aquatics approach to capital asset renewals requiring a further \$1.66 million over the 10-year Long Term Plan period, which will be loan funded.
- (d) **Notes** that the District Aquatic Strategy as prepared by RSL Consultancy evidences the community need for the investigation and delivery of a new facility in the District's North East however, as identified in issue 4.1 staff recommend that this work be pushed out beyond the current Long Term Plan period to 2035-2040.
- (e) **Notes** that the District Aquatic Strategy identifies the community need for the redevelopment of the Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre however, as identified in issue 4.1 staff recommend that this work be pushed out beyond the current Long Term Plan period to 2030-2035.
- (f) **Notes** that the District Aquatic Strategy identifies the community need for further investigation into the redevelopment Dudley Park Aquatic Centre however, as identified in issue 4.1 staff recommend that this work is pushed out beyond the current Long Term Plan period to 2040-2045.
- (g) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

Councillor Brine stated that it was important to indicate to communities that the Council was planning on meeting their future needs. The Council needed to acknowledge the anticipated continuous growth in the Ravenswood and Pegasus areas by purchasing land in these areas for the future development of community facilities. Previous experience, in other parts of the district, had shown that the Council was justified to land bank for future development. He therefore supported the proposed purchase of land in the north-east part of the District, while land was still affordable.

Councillor Doody concurred that it was vital to plan for the needs of future generations. The north-east part of the District was an especially fast growing area in which land banking for future development of community facilities was a necessity, in her opinion.

Councillor Barnett agreed that the north-east part of the district was a fast growing area that needed additional community facilities, such as meeting spaces. However, she did not believe that the Waimakariri District needed an additional swimming pool. Chiefly due to the district being over supplied with aquatics facilities that needed constant maintenance. She supported the upgrading of the Council's current community facilities, but not the development of a new swimming pool.

Councillor Atkinson also believed the Woodend and Pegasus communities needed additional community facilities, noting the Ravenswood community may also request a community facility in the near future. He however did not support the development of a swimming pool in this area, as residents were within an acceptable 10 minutes' drive to Council Aquatics Facilities. Councillor Atkinson proposed an amendment:

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Atkinson

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Council

- (a) **Includes** \$2.5 million in the Long Term Plan for land purchase in the 24/25 year for the future development of a community facility in the North East of the District.

LOST

DIVISION

For: N Atkinson, N Mealings, R Brine, A Blackie and W Doody.

Against: S Stewart, P Williams, P Redmond, K Barnett, J Ward and D Gordon.
5:6 Lost

Councillor Mealings sought clarity on what the impact would be on the proposed rates increase if the proposed land purchase (\$2.5 million) should be brought forward to the 2021/22 financial year to coincide with other proposed land purchases for community facilities. J Palmer stated that the impact on the rates increase would be minimal and the Council would still receive development contributions.

Councillor Brine supported the proposed amendment and noted that the land would only be purchased in the 2024/25 financial year, she believed that the Council would have drafted a Development Strategy for the north-eastern area of the district by then.

Councillor Barnett also supported the proposed amendment. She stated that it was important that the Pegasus/Ravenswood Development Strategy needed to be reviewed now that the work on the District Plan had nearly been completed. It was key that the Council acknowledged the growth in these areas and signal to the communities that their future needs would be met.

Councillor Redmond noted that the Council was currently considering long term planning as related to the Council's Aquatics Facilities Strategy 2021-2031. The strategy only made provision for aquatics facilities and he therefore did not believe that the proposed amendment could facilitate the development of any community facilities other than swimming pools.

Councillor Williams agreed with Councillor Redmond and stated that any additional funding for community facilities should be debated as part of the Greenspace and Community Facilities budget.

Mayor Gordon advised that he also did not support the development of a swimming pool in this area. He would rather see the expansion or upgrading of the Council's current aquatics facilities. He did however agree that more community facilities were needed in this area.

The amended motion was lost, and the original motion therefore become the substantive motion. The Council agreed to consider recommendation (a) separately.

THAT the Council

- (a) **Includes** \$2.5 million in the Long Term Plan for land purchase in the 24/25 year for the future development of a Swimming Pool in the North East of the District.

LOST

DIVISION

For: R Brine and W Doody.

Against: N Atkinson, N Mealings, S Stewart, P Williams, P Redmond, A Blackie, K Barnett, J Ward and D Gordon.

2:9 Lost

- (b) **Includes** \$50,000 in the 29/30 year of Councils Long Term Plan to fund the investigation into options for the expansion of Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre.
- (c) **Supports** the Aquatics approach to capital asset renewals requiring a further \$1.66 million over the 10-year Long Term Plan period, which will be loan funded.
- (d) **Notes** that the District Aquatic Strategy as prepared by RSL Consultancy evidences the community need for the investigation and delivery of a new facility in the District's North East however, as identified in issue 4.1 staff recommend that this work be pushed out beyond the current Long Term Plan period to 2035-2040.
- (e) **Notes** that the District Aquatic Strategy identifies the community need for the redevelopment of the Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre however, as identified in issue 4.1 staff recommend that this work be pushed out beyond the current Long Term Plan period to 2030-2035.
- (f) **Notes** that the District Aquatic Strategy identifies the community need for further investigation into the redevelopment Dudley Park Aquatic Centre however, as identified in issue 4.1 staff recommend that this work is pushed out beyond the current Long Term Plan period to 2040-2045.
- (g) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

14.19 MATTER REFERRED FROM KAIAPOI-TUAHIWI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING OF 14 DECEMBER 2020

Askeaton Reserve Boat Ramp and Coastguard Car and Boat Trailer Parking Options – D Roxborough (Implementation Manager – District Regeneration) and G MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager)

D Roxborough and C Brown spoke to this report, commenting on the high level concepts for repairs and upgrade works for the Askeaton boat ramp area and boat-trailer parking options for the Coastguard boat ramp area. The report requests funding be included in the LTP for these two items of work. Currently the facilities at the Askeaton Reserve are dilapidated and retaining the existing \$61,320 budget would allow for an interim fix for the Askeaton Reserve Boat Ramp which should last five years. It was noted that staff propose to develop a "River Use Plan" to consider the future of the Askeaton boat launching facilities and access to the river.

Councillor Barnett sought clarification on where the funding was coming from for these two projects. D Roxburgh confirmed that the car and boat trailer parking at the Coastguard site is a Regeneration Project funded from the Earthquake Recovery Loan. The Askeaton Boat Ramp is a Greenspace activity budget.

Councillor Barnett questioned having an amount added to the Earthquake Loan, and why the budget was not coming from the Greenspace area, for all this work. It was confirmed that the Askeaton Boat Ramp work was always proposed to come from the Earthquake Recovery Loan, and noted that funding from either of these sources, would have the same rating effect on ratepayers.

Councillor Doody asked if there was future development at the Askeaton area and would this come from the Earthquake Recovery Loan budget. It was confirmed that the interim work planned for Askeaton would come from this existing Earthquake Recovery Loan budget, however any future work would come from the Recreation budget.

Moved: Councillor Atkinson

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Includes** \$285,000 budget in the District Regeneration Activity for the 2023/24 year within the 2021/31 Long Term Plan for development of a gravel surfaced car and boat trailer parking area adjacent to the Coastguard building to serve the Kaiapoi Marine precinct, based on a nominal provision of 15 parking spaces (option 1 in this report); and that this is included within the draft LTP budget and had a rating impact of \$1.00 (inc GST) or 0.03% per property.
- (b) **Retains** the existing \$61,320 budget in the Recreation Activity budget in the 2021/22 year, for the purposes of undertaking minor repairs to the Askeaton reserve boat launching facility manoeuvring area (option 1 in this report); and that this is included within the draft LTP budget and had a rating impact of \$0.22 inc GST or 0.01% per property.
- (c) **Notes** that the car and boat trailer parking project was identified in the Kaiapoi Regeneration Areas Reserves Master Plan and previously budgeted for \$153,450 in previous Long Term Plans based on initial high level budgeting estimates.
- (d) **Notes** that future works could also include consideration of the addition of security access gate and public toilets to Askeaton reserve, and further increases to levels of service of the proposed new Coastguard boat ramp trailer parking area.
- (e) **Notes** that staff propose to develop in future a 'River use plan' to consider longer term options relating to the future retention or decommissioning of the Askeaton boat launching facilities, and will workshop this with Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board.

CARRIED

Councillor Atkinson believed there needs to be some funds spent on Askeaton for short term improvements so this boat ramp can be used. The coastguard ramp is also available to be used, but there is not a lot of parking available in this area. Councillor Atkinson commented on the possibility of the NZ Motorhome Association setting up a facility in Kaiapoi.

Councillor Mealings noted that there is still a lot of use of the Askeaton boat ramp but it does need the improvements therefore supported the motion.

Councillor Barnett expressed concern about funding going into an area that has an unknown future and suggested that if Askeaton was closed, people would then use the Coastguard Boat ramp. Regarding budgets, she would like to see the Earthquake Loan closed. Councillor Barnett was happy to support this motion, but not to keep topping up the Earthquake Loan budget.

Councillor Redmond supported the improvement work required for Askeaton and believes this has a role in the town for boat launching. The launching of boats at the Coastguard facility is not an easy exercise.

In reply, Councillor Atkinson noted that the Askeaton work is not a new project in the Earthquake Recovery loan noting that it is a lot easier to launch boats at the Askeaton site.

4.20 Rangiora Civic Precinct – Long Term Plan – J Millward (Manager Finance and Business Support) and C Brown (Manager Community and Recreation)

J Millward and P Eskett provided an overview, explaining the efficiencies to be gained by linking the civic precinct build and the library expansion.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 210119006610.
- (b) **Agrees** to following provisions are made in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan
 - i. Office Accommodation remains scheduled for FY2028 (\$18 million in 2020 dollars and unadjusted for inflation).
 - ii. Rangiora Library Extension deferred from FY2024 to FY2028 (\$7 million in 2020 dollars and unadjusted for inflation unadjusted for inflation).

CARRIED

Against (b)ii. Councillor Barnett

Mayor Gordon encouraged caution and fiscal prudence when making a decision on this matter due to the many uncertainties that the Council might be facing in the near future. He noted that significant cost would be saved by joining the two projects and delaying the project until later in the LTP. He also noted that if the situation changed at any time, the Council could rethink its decision and bring the project forward if required.

Councillor Barnett stated that she was not in favour of linking the two projects and that the Library expansion, in her opinion, was urgent and had been delayed for too long. She noted that the community would not object to the library expansion but would not condone the civic precinct build at this time.

Councillor Ward in principal agreed with Councillor Barnett, but also noted that she would reluctantly support the recommendation at this time. She however believed that the money currently being spent on renting office space for staff could be used more effectively to help finance the project.

Councillor Atkinson noted that budgets and timing of projects were a balancing act, but he was of the opinion that this was not the time to take on a large capital project such as the library extension. He therefore urged that the project not be rushed.

Councillor Redmond agreed with Councillor Atkinson and believed the time was not right and it would be prudent to delay.

Councillor Barnett noted that the library was not only about books but was a community hub for people of all ages, to meet, to support each other, to research, to find jobs using library resources and for learning.

Councillor Doody concurred with Councillor Barnett stating that the rebuild of the Oxford Library had made a huge difference to the wellbeing of the Oxford community.

Mayor Gordon stated that the community views, through public consultation on the draft LTP, would be the deciding factor and the Council could then review its position.

5. BUDGETS

5.1 Roading

J McBride advised information aligned with the December Council briefing. One main change was the renewals for bridge maintenance over the first three years as staff address identified issues with structures. Improvements include a focus on key transport corridors and known safety issues. Skew Bridge is included in the Regional Transport Plan however the Council is unlikely to receive funding due to low crash rate number and competing with higher crash rates projects in the district as it process looks at history rather than predicted, however staff would be submitting a stronger business case to NZTA for next year. Skew Bridge remains in the LTP with design in year 8, and construction in years 9 and 10. Staff also suggested \$100,000 be brought forward for design and consenting to begin on the Rangiora arterial road.

Councillor Atkinson, sought clarity on Skew Bridge costs. Staff advised the project is estimated to cost \$11m (but sits accumulated at \$13m inflation adjusted), plus \$330,000 for active warning signs being a safety improvement for interim improvement until the bridge renewed. Staff also spoke of the differences in warning safety signs and the various costs.

Councillor Stewart queried the structures component of renewal referencing the Dudley Creek balustrades. Staff understood this was a drainage asset and staff would recheck the maintenance allocated.

Councillor Stewart queried professional fees related to remetalling, drainage, chip sealing when in-house staff were qualified to undertake this work. Staff explained the differences between work undertaken by staff and the professional fees for roading activity which enabled projects to be eligible for NZTA funding for projects.

Councillor Stewart enquired about the Skew Bridge BCR rating. Staff advised the bridge is rated at 0.54 which is currently based on known crash history. NZTA assess for ratings over 1.0 and more weighting for serious/fatal injuries.

Councillor Stewart queried the bridge balustrade over the Kakauni stream with staff advising they would come back with additional information.

Councillor Ward suggested would it be good for Skew Bridge to be included in the walking/cycling routes. Staff spoke of safety and the work a consultant was currently undertaking on a business case.

Councillor Ward queried the Southbrook improvements (\$5m), enquiring if it would be possible to put \$4m to the Eastern Rangiora project, to attract NZTA funding. Staff commented on the proposed \$2m intersection at Coronation Street with \$2m in 10years and \$2m outside 10years to review the Southbrook Road area and capacity, and it may include widening the bridge at Pack n Save. It was advised the Eastern Arterial, involving 2.6km and three3 bridges, had an estimate of \$21m and would not attract NZTA funding. The Kaiapoi arterial was fully funded by the Council as it is driven by growth.

Councillor Blackie queried if bridge maintenance was enough, particularly for the Waimakariri Bridge. Staff explained the budget allocations.

Mayor Gordon queried what year the Torlesse Street improvements were programmed. Staff advised it was included in year 1 of the LTP for design and construction in year 2022/23. Southbrook improvements were broadly in 2026-27 with the Mayor querying if this project should be brought forward. Staff advised the investigation work could be brought forward. The Mayor requested staff to reflect on the improvements proposed as Rangiora-Ashley Community Board were likely to submit during the LTP.

Councillor Barnett queried footpaths, and if any conversations had occurred with NZTA about better quality footpaths, as she was mindful of the growing elderly population and the need for improved safety. Staff advised NZTA only fund very poor paths and there is a condition rating, balanced against over investing and the need/risk of NZTA not funding. The previous year had seen a push of upgrading and there is now less poor and very poor rated paths at C+, which staff were comfortable with.

Councillor Barnett commented on park and ride in Ravenswood/Pegasus and given people drive to locations, there was the possibility of Hurunui residents utilising the service and queried whether there should be a conversation with Hurunui Council about equity. Staff commented on the commercial area and feedback for park and ride, the use of bike cages, and capturing local interest. The Hurunui usage had not been researched or discussed. G Cleary commented on the current service/uptake in Kaiapoi and Rangiora and the increasing population of Pegasus/Ravenswood becoming the third large town, which is what the service is currently geared to service. There is no harm in Hurunui residents using the service and over time additional service options may come into play.

Councillor Williams sought clarification on the Park and Ride budgets. Staff advised \$2m had been kept in Kaiapoi and Rangiora acknowledging the need then additional sites may need extending and split over years 4 and . There is allowance for Ravenswood in year 9.

Councillor Doody queried who paid for the Old Gorge Bridge maintenance. Staff held discussions with Selwyn District Council and approximately eight years ago the timber deck was replaced and the structure considered sound. It was acknowledged the chip seal looked shabby currently and is due for reseal with Selwyn Council looking at resealing the bridge in the next one to two years.

Councillor Mealings queried sustainability projects at \$21,000 and reallocation, with staff advising they would come back to the Council with further information.

Councillor Stewart enquired if there was any statistics on usage of the new cycle path over the Waimakariri Bridge. Staff advised counters would be installed in the coming weeks, however there was a visible increase in cycles in the area and it also complimented the bus patronage.

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Approves** the draft Rooding budget for the Long Term Plan 2021/22 – 2030/31 Long Term Plan.
- (b) **Notes** that Greater Christchurch Partnership commitments relating to the PT Futures Business Cases and the Travel Demand Management Business Case are included within the proposed budgets.
- (c) **Notes** that the Council will continue to be updated as further information becomes available on the Greater Christchurch Partnership projects and future maintenance requirements for the Old Waimakariri Bridge.

CARRIED

Councillor Ward reflected on what had been achieved in the last six months and was impressed.

Councillor Barnett commented on being impressed with work undertaken particularly on paths. She reflected on NZTA and its priorities in the North Island. It was suggested that when the Council consider the strategic budget, the Council priorities are considered first and then what WDC can receive in NZTA funding and perhaps a more aggressive approach and challenge to the funding allocations, although WDC need to understand the restrictions.

Meeting adjourned at 12.44pm and resumed at 1.15pm.

5.2 **Solid Waste**

K Waghorn, tabled the proposed charges for the Kerbside Collection Account (Trim Ref: 210126012244) and an updated fees and charges schedule (Trim Ref: 210126012294).

In response to the query regarding the adequacy of the Southbrook Refuse Station, K Waghorn explained that the Project Delivery Unit was currently working on a proposed site development plan for the station which would include expansion of the facility due to the growth within the Rangiora area. An education area would also be included to future proof the station. A report, with further details on this matter would be presented to the Council at the appropriate time.

Mayor Gordon enquired if a budget had been set aside for maintenance and keeping the station looking neat and tidy. K Waghorn confirmed that there was a maintenance budget for the site which was accessed by the Contractor as required, however staff would follow up on whether the Contractor had accessed the budget recently.

The success of auditing the recycling bins and the effectiveness of the programme in the areas that had been targeted was acknowledged. However there was concern that the current budget would be insufficient to cover the whole of the District especially once the rural areas came on line. K Waghorn indicated that there was sufficient budget until the end of 2021 and, if required, a further budget for 2022 would be requested through the Annual Plan process.

There was a query regarding the possibility of ratepayers who did not adhere to the recycling guidelines repeatedly being charged extra for their recycling service. K Waghorn stated this would not be possible however services would be suspended to those residents who continually had contaminated bins with the bins being removed.

Councillors requested that a site visit be arranged to the Southbrook and Oxford refuse stations in the near future.

There were several acknowledgments of the service and helpfulness staff provided at the Eco Store.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021-2031.
- (b) **Notes** that any new levels of service/performance measures are to be provided within a separate report provided to the Council.

CARRIED

5.3 Water

C Roxburgh highlighted key points including the rating impact, growth prediction and how that would affect planning and budgeting, changes in standards of drinking water, resilience of wells in the area, Poyntzs Road scheme and the affects to Summerhill and West Eyreton schemes a well as the overall capital expenditure over the next 10 years.

Councillor Stewart queried the reason for work being done from Tuesday to Thursday but not Friday's. C Roxburgh advised that this was a two day job which would mean that if they started the job on a Friday they would only complete it by Sunday which was why the work was generally scheduled for midweek. However he noted that work had, on occasion, been carried out over weekends.

Concern was raised that the costs for water sampling in Kaiapoi had increased by 13%, and a query raised as to why sampling at Rangiora had not also shown an increase. C Roxburgh stated that there was an increase in the sampling at Rangiora however the charges were not shown in detail as they had been with Kaiapoi. Councillor Atkinson requested further information regarding this increase and why it is only showing in the Kaiapoi area and not others.

Councillor Williams enquired if the cost for the fluoridation of the water supply had been taken into account, and was told that this had not been included in the budget as the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Bill had yet to be passed by Central Government. Staff envisaged that this cost would be presented to a later Long Term Plan cycle once the Bill was enacted.

Councillor Barnett noted that Garrymere Water Scheme showed an unplanned cost and enquired what that was for and also if the Advisory Group had been made aware of the cost. C Roxburgh advised that a well pump had failed and had to be replaced. It was confirmed that the Advisory Group had been advised of the situation.

Councillor Barnett also queried the inconsistency in the Summerhill and West Eyreton budget line items. C Roxburgh assured the Council that similar maintenance commitments and replacements were done across all the schemes however the cost codes had been set up slightly differently which was why the budget lines were different in the reports.

Mayor Gordon thanked staff for their work during the year and noted that he had received positive feedback from the community.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021-2031.
- (b) **Approves** the revised mandatory performance measure targets for water supply, as detailed below, for inclusion in the 2021-31 Draft Long Term Plan:

Level of Service	Performance Measure	2021 Target
<p>Safety of Drinking Water All public water supplies comply with the Drinking Water Standards of New Zealand</p>	<p>The extent to which drinking water complies with the drinking water standards for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bacterial compliance b) Protozoal compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 100% of people on a public supply receive water from a compliant scheme. b) 100% of people on a public supply receive water from a compliant scheme.
<p>Maintenance of the Reticulation Network All public supplies are actively maintained to minimise the loss of water leakage</p>	<p>The percentage of real water loss from the networked reticulation system</p>	<p>Less than 22%</p>
<p>All public water supplies are managed to an appropriate quality of service</p>	<p>The total number of complaints received by the local authority about any of the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) drinking water clarity (b) drinking water taste (c) drinking water odour (d) drinking water pressure or flow (e) continuity of supply, and (f) Council's response to any of these issues <p>Expressed per 1000 connections to the networked reticulation system</p>	<p>Aggregate of a) to f) to be < 5 per 1000 connections</p>

- (c) **Approves** the revised non-mandatory performance measures and targets for water supply, as detailed below, for inclusion in the 2021-31 Draft Long Term Plan:

Level of Service	Performance Measure (2021)	Target
Consent Breach – Action Required	Percentage of the total number of water take consent conditions that have breaches that result in an Environment Canterbury report identifying compliance issues that require action.	Nil 0%
DWSNZ - Aesthetic Compliance	Water is supplied that is within the guideline range in the DWSNZ for aesthetic parameters, with the exception of pH.	Complies 95% of samples comply
DWSNZ - Protozoa Compliance	Water supply delivers water that achieves a standard compliant with the protozoal requirements of DWSNZ	Complies
DWSNZ - Radiological Compliance	Water supply delivers water that achieves a standard compliant with the radiological requirements of DWSNZ	Complies
DWSNZ - Chemical Compliance	Water supply delivers water that achieves a standard compliant with the chemical requirements of DWSNZ	Complies
DWSNZ – Sampling Non-compliance DWSNZ - Bacterial Compliance	Water supply delivers water that achieves a standard compliant with the bacterial requirements of DWSNZ	Complies
Flow - Allocated Units	Percentage of properties where flow received is consistent with allocated units at the point of supply in Restricted or Semi Restricted schemes, (excluding outages) as demonstrated by restrictor checks completed at not more than 5 yearly intervals	100% of restrictors tested, at no more than 5 yearly intervals, achieve allocated flow
Losses	Water losses as determined by the Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) based on an annual assessment	< 240L/conn/day Scheme Level: ILI >= "B" or an economic assessment carried out and recommended measures implemented District Level: ILI >= "B"
Pressure - Boundary - Restricted	Water pressure at the point of supply of Restricted or Semi Restricted schemes, excluding outages, as demonstrated by a reticulation model or reactive audits.	>150kPa for all connections 100% of the time at peak demand

CARRIED

5.4 Wastewater

Staff provided a brief overview of the information.

Councillor Williams enquired if staff had considered budgeting towards investigation into better treatment works, or work to be done on improvements and upgrading of the ocean outfall in the next ten to fifteen years. He expressed concern about the Council not being proactive if it was going to wait until the consent had expired before investigating other options. Staff noted that pre-feasibility work would commence shortly to scope out budgets and would be ready to present to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

Councillor Stewart requested further information regarding the Trade Waste Fees and was informed that sampling was done monthly on the three sites in Kaiapoi and that no increase would take effect until the current contracts had expired.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021-2031.
- (b) **Approves** the revised mandatory performance measure targets for wastewater, as detailed below, for inclusion in the 2021-31 Draft Long Term Plan:

Level of Service	Performance Measure (2021)	2021 Target
Customer Satisfaction The wastewater system is managed to an appropriate quality of service	Number of complaints received about any of the following: a) Sewerage odour b) Sewerage system faults c) Sewerage system blockages, and d) Response to issues with the sewerage system Expressed per 1000 connections to the sewerage system	Aggregate of a) to d) to be < 5 per 1000 connections

- (c) **Approves** the revised non-mandatory performance measures and targets for wastewater, as detailed below, for inclusion in the 2021-31 Draft Long Term Plan:

Level of Service	Performance Measure (2021)	Target
Consent Breach - Action required	Percentage of the total number of wastewater consent conditions that have breaches that result in an Environment Canterbury report identifying compliance issues that require action.	0%
Overflows - Private Property	Number of recorded overflows on private property found to be the result of (a) blockage in the main caused by insufficient maintenance or asset failure (b) Insufficient capacity in the reticulation system for any rainfall up to	Nil/yr

Level of Service	Performance Measure (2021)	Target
	a 1 in 2 year event, for areas designed prior to 1999. (c) Insufficient capacity in the reticulation system for any rainfall up to a 1 in 5 year event for areas designed after 1999.	

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon thanked staff for all the work undertaken, especially with the recent consultations on the upgrades at Tuahiwi.

5.5 Drainage

Staff provided an overview of the budgets. In response to the proposed reduction of \$8,000 in the Oxford Urban Maintenance Budget, staff noted that this was removed to assist with general savings as requested by the Council. However agreed that this amount could remain to assist with any maintenance costs in future years.

Councillor Redmond noted that the current budget showed that repair work was scheduled for 2020/21 to Kiln Place in Kaiapoi. This area had suffered flooding in previous heavy weather events. Councillor Redmond questioned whether this should rather be moved out to year five of the LTP. Staff noted that the budget for 2020/21 was for phase one, which was to increase the inlet capacity, would continue as scheduled. Further investigation for a more strategic fix would be required for phase two of the project hence the budget being pushed out.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Approves** the draft Drainage budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
- (b) **Approves** the revised non-mandatory performance measures and targets for drainage, as detailed below, for inclusion in the 2021-31 Draft Long Term Plan:

Level of Service	Performance Measure (2021)	Target
Flooding - Nuisance or Carriageway	<u>For urban areas:</u> For properties or carriageways within urban drainage schemes, the percentage of complaints, about nuisance flooding caused by lack of capacity, that are investigated and where justified measures implemented to improve the situation. Applies to rain events with an Average Recurrence Interval of 5 years or less.	100%
	<u>For rural areas:</u> For properties or carriageways within rural drainage schemes, the percentage of complaints, about nuisance flooding caused by lack of capacity, that are investigated and where justified measures implemented to improve the	

Level of Service	Performance Measure (2021)	Target
	situation. Applies to rain events less than a mean annual flood.	
Flooding - CBD Nuisance or Carriageway	For properties or road carriageways in the CDB area, the percentage of complaints, about nuisance flooding caused by lack of capacity, that are investigated and measures implemented to improve the situation. Applies to rain events with an Average Recurrence Interval of 10 years or less.	100%
Complaints - Aesthetics - Drain Clearance	Number of complaints, post cleaning, resulting from unsatisfactory drain cleaning operations or service	Nil/yr
System Adequacy The stormwater system is adequately sized and maintained. Rural drainage areas are adequately maintained.	Rural Drainage Areas: The percentage of service requests for drain cleaning that are responded to within 5 working days.	95%
Customer Satisfaction The stormwater system is managed to an appropriate quality of service.	Service Requests: The percentage of service requests relating to any drainage enquiries that are responded to within 5 working days.	95%

CARRIED

5.6 Stockwater Activity

Staff provided a brief overview of the budget.

Councillor Stewart noted that Waimakariri Irrigation Limited was contracted to manage the Council's stockwater system and felt that this should be reflected in the LTP document and made publically known.

Councillor Redmond noted maintenance costs for the stockwater race were usually maintained by property owners under the guidance of Council staff. Staff acknowledged that some owners had agreed to do basic maintenance but with the more stringent health and safety and traffic management requirements it was considered to be unsafe for the majority of owners to work on the stockwater races outside their properties.

In response to a query regarding monitoring of stockwater races, staff stated that the overall length of the races were monitored to ascertain if any changes to the stockwater would impact on the recharging of aquifers.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
- (b) **Approves** the revised non-mandatory performance measures and targets for stockwater, as detailed below, for inclusion in the 2021-31 Draft Long Term Plan:

Level of Service	Performance Measure (2021)	Target
System Reliability The stockwater race system is managed to an appropriate standard.	The percentage of service requests responded to within 48 hours.	95%

CARRIED

5.7 **Utilities and Roading Overheads**

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

(a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

5.8 **Project Delivery Unit**

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

(a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

5.9 **Strategy Projects**

S Markham, G Meadows, A Gray and S Hart presented the budget. S Markham advised that the budget is predominantly status quo with existing staffing numbers.

G Meadows highlighted some issues and risks for 2021 involving a central government reform agenda that will keep the Council busy to respond to central Government initiatives including two pieces of legislation highlighted to replace the Resource Management Act, which may not involve public consultation. There is also a busy regional council programme, with the intention of a revision of the Regional Policy Statement and Coastal Plan. ECan have budget to undertake these reviews and reforms and the Council will need to respond to these. It was advised a new Chair has been appointed to the Productivity Commission, who is familiar with Local Government and G Meadows anticipates more activity from the Productivity Commission. S Markham added the 3 Waters Reform process will be progressing in 2021, with identification of what the entities will be indicated for March/April. There will be a Bill to amend the Local Government Act to the Select Committee relating to changes to consulting on this. An emerging agenda on the future of Local Government will create a work stream. S Markham concluded that this is an opportunity to highlight what issues will be affecting local government in 2020-21 and 2021-22. It is also a time for the Council to be looking at what is in the best interests of the residents of Waimakariri, noting that at times there may not be the opportunity for the Council to garner community views of this.

Councillor Williams asked about the increase in costs and what this related to. S Markham said core costs are staff related, however there is no changes to the staff numbers. The increase in the budget is work relating to the Town Centres programme.

Councillor Williams asked about increase in accommodation costs, being advised this related to the Property budget and could be questioned during presentation of that budget.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft Strategy Projects budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

5.10 **Communications and Engagement**

A Gray advised there are no further additions to the budget from the previous years signal. S Markham noted that in the last two years there have been changes to the Communications and Engagement team, including in-house delivery of graphic design. The current major project of the rework of the existing website, which will allow for clearer delineation between different users. Further information will come back to the Council through the year on the upgrade of the website.

Councillor Stewart asked what has been saved with bringing graphic design work in-house. It was advised that the spending with Beck and Caul was approximately \$117,000 per year. Internal staff have been getting through about three times the amount of work at significantly lower cost with this function in-house.

Councillor Doody asked if the staff from the Communications and Engagement team could be brought to a Council briefing for an introduction and it was advised this would happen at a Council briefing in April.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

5.11 **Customer Service**

M Harris presented the budget, noting the increase from income for the coming year, including the collection of ECan rates, and appropriate adjustments had been made. The major concern to be addressed in this budget is the addition of another staff member in the Call Centre team based in Rangiora. This team is under pressure, with an increased use of casual staff in this area. A new staff member is needed to cover any possible burn out of current staff.

Following a question from Councillor Doody, it was advised that the proposed new staff member would commence in July/August 2021. M Harris also mentioned that a more efficient telephone system was proposed in the coming months.

S Markham added his commendation of the Customer Services team during the Covid-19 lockdown, operating shifts to provide an ongoing level of service during this difficult time.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

(a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

(b) **Approves** the proposed changes to LIM fees to take effect from 1 July 2021:

Residential (electronic)	\$195.00
Residential (hard copy)	\$242.00
Commercial (electronic) up to 4 hours processing	\$288.00
Commercial (hard Copy) up to 4 hours processing	\$324.00
Hourly rate (commercial more than 4 hours)	\$63.00

(c) **Approves** the engagement of a new staff member in the Rangiora Contact Team as an entry level cadet role to work primarily with the phones team and be trained in all aspects of Council customer service

CARRIED

5.12 **Development Planning Unit**

T Ellis noted that this budget relates primarily to the District Plan Review. He acknowledged there is some uncertainty around accommodation costs and also with the Greater Christchurch project work for 2021/22.

S Markham noted that there is a significant amount of work is required for a District Plan Review; currently approximately half of the original budget has been spent. This Review needs to continue, as the current operative plan was put in place in the late 1990s and it is time for it to be updated.

Councillor Doody questioned the capacity of staff to handle the workload in addition to the District Plan Review. Once other Regional processes are being reviewed, T Ellis advised that the Council needs to be involved with these, and noted that the team is currently under resourced. It was advised that there will be a further update provided during May LTP deliberation meeting process.

With an ambitious programme of government reform coming up, the Council will be kept well briefed on any significant changes that need to be made, S Markham advised.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

(a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

5.13 **Economic Development**

This is a status quo budget, retaining the capacity grant to Enterprise North Canterbury and reference was made of agenda item 4.8 for additional information.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021- 2031.
CARRIED

5.14 **Libraries and Local Museums**

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
CARRIED

5.15 **Aquatic Facilities**

M Greenwood advised that while an annual fees and charges increase had been applied to address ever-increasing costs the overall effect on the budget was expected to be negligible when considering the ongoing and future impact from Covid-19. A percentage increase of 2% had been applied to all charges, to ensure that any price increases remained incremental to lessen the overall impact to facility users. He further advised that the as part of the Council's 2020/21 Annual Plan all training budgets were reduced to mitigate against the impact of Covid-19. In effect the aquatic training had not increased and remained the same as pre Covid-19 levels.

Councillor Williams questioned the increase in the cost of plant failure. M Greenwood explained that staff undertook a comprehensive audit of facility plant down to a component level. Hence, the overall increase of \$1,982,000 spread over the 10 year period. Undertaking this work should ensure that the Council was properly accounting for future plant replacements to minimise downtime and impacts to levels of service.

Councillor Williams sought clarity on the reasons why the plants did not seem to meet their life expectancy. C Brown stated that the Council previously used to determent the life expectancy of a larger plant as a whole. This had proven not to be the most effective method, as the various components of the larger system had shorter life expectancies. There was therefore a need for an increased Capital Replacements budget spread across the LTP period to make provision for the replacement of components of the larger systems.

Councillor Barnett expressed a concern regarding the 25 percent increase in the Parent and Pre-schooler rate. She asked if this could be staggered over a few years, as this was likely to reduce usage by this vulnerable group who were often living on one income. M Greenwood confirmed that the proposed increase could be smooth out over consecutive years.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 – 2031 excluding the \$2.5 million proposed for land purchase in the 24/25 year for the future development of a Swimming Pool in the North East of the District.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon expressed his appreciation for the work the Aquatic Facilities team had been doing and for their outstanding service to the community. He thanked the Aquatic staff for their willingness to assist at

supermarkets, Resource Recovery centres, libraries etc. during the Covid-19 lockdown.

5.16 **Community Team**

C Brown highlighted that the income listed were estimates for required external funding, based on anticipated community needs and initiatives for the 2020/21 financial year. The changes in direct expenditure related to the externally sourced grant funding, for project delivery, where funding might have been sourced in March 2020 and carried over for use on projects in the 2021 financial year.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

(a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon commended the Community Team on the excellent work being done in meeting the needs of the community, especially with the recovery from Covid-19.

5.17 **Greenspace and Community Facilities**

G MacLeod noted that the Airfield Landing Fees were intended to be incrementally spread over two years. This has previously been consulted on and endorsed by the Council. It was noted that in the budget there is \$30,000 designated for the airfield master plan following the designation. Airfield assets are currently included in the Greenspace Asset Plans.

Councillor Barnett noted that fees were consulted on 18 months ago and believed that the information should be communicated to the general community. G MacLeod advised that the Airfield Advisory Group works with communicating directly with users of the airfield.

Councillor Ward asked if there is provision for security cameras at the airfield. G MacLeod advised that there has been a quote obtained by the Advisory Group, however this was outside the available budget. Councillor Ward believed this needed to be included in the budget.

There was discussion on the Southbrook Park Sports Club, and concerns were raised about keeping this facility viable, particularly with the Council being asked for \$24,000 to assist with Club operational expenses. G McLeod noted that it was a difficult time for the Club during Covid-19 lockdown and the Club is under a number of pressures. Staff are working with the Club to assess cost effective ways to keep it operating.

Mayor Gordon asked a question regarding insurance of the building, and if the requested \$24,000 would be predominantly for insurance cover. Staff advised they would follow this up with the insurance broker.

Councillor Ward asked if there was any way that the Council could support the Club in securing funding. G MacLeod commented this is being followed up with a feasibility study. C Brown noted that some funding agencies would not support applications for capital works. Mayor Gordon suggested that there could potentially be a staff submission as part of the LTP for funding a feasibility study.

Councillor Doody asked what would be the time required for a feasibility study. C Brown advised this study would be focusing primarily on the assets and could be completed in three to four months.

G MacLeod highlighted the following budget lines:

- Kaiapoi River; continued work and levels of service for the users of the river; future dredging will be required.
- Arohata Te Awa group are acquiring funding for enhancing the waterways.
- Roads and carpark upgrade programme; Cust Community Centre and the ongoing programme to improve all carparks and entrances.
- Inclusion of Heritage items in the Kaiapoi Town area.

Councillor Atkinson queried the reference to “accessibility to playgrounds”. Staff confirmed it means increasing the usability of playgrounds to a wider range of people, which may mean additional pathways.

Councillor Blackie queried \$30,000 set aside for survey work on the Kaiapoi River, noting that the Coastguard could do this work at no cost to the Council. Staff responded that although the Coastguard could do the depth measurements, C Brown did not believe the Coastguard would be able to provide the required information on paper, however this is something that could be followed up on.

Kaiapoi stopbank walkway; it was noted the budget dates should be 2029-30.

Councillor Doody asked about tree maintenance work, and it was confirmed that there was no change to the figures, and it is still included in the budget line items.

Mayor Gordon asked about Dog Park for Oxford. Staff advised this project has not been included in the budget, which would require a budget of \$95,000. The Oxford-Ohoka Community Board will be submitting and seeking budget provision for a dog exercise area in Oxford during the LTP submission process.

Councillor Redmond asked what Kaiapoi Riverbank War Memorial work is still to be completed. Staff advised \$135,000 (originally Earthquake Appeal Trust Funding), to develop and upgrade the last side of the bridge is included in the budget.

Councillor Barnett asked about Millton Reserve Toilets, and whether the funding could be brought forward from 2024/25. G MacLeod advised this could be brought forward to 2023/24, with all Councillors agreeing to this budget change.

The –

Staff noted that there has been a significant effort from a local group to enable the installation of a Loburn War Memorial. It was noted that this matter has been discussed at the December 2020 Community and Recreation Committee meeting. Mayor Gordon responded that \$30,000 would enable the project to be completed and this budget has come about as a directive from the Community and Recreation Committee.

Councillor Redmond asked about a grant of \$4,000 being removed from the budget for Life Education Trust. Staff advised the budget item was removed as a result of staff being asked to reduce budgets. Staff also advised the grant to Keep NZ Beautiful subscription to the national organisation has also been removed, however a grant was retained to the local Keep Rangiora Beautiful group and the Council will continue to fund this group. Councillor Redmond remarked he would like to see the \$3,760 to be continued to the Life Education Trust. (no budget change was made at this point in the meeting).

Councillor Williams asked about the Rangiora tennis clubs and funding that they received from the sale of properties, querying if it was still necessary to grant these funds to the clubs. C Brown responded that there has been a Heads of Agreement signed by both parties, noting the items that the Council said it would specifically provide.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
- (b) **Approves** the increase to Airfield Fees and Charges as per report 190513067253.
- (c) **Approves** the increase to Cemetery Fees from 1 July 2021.

CARRIED

5.18 **Earthquake Recovery 3 Waters, Roothing and Community Facilities**

D Roxburgh advised a number of the projects are almost complete utilising existing budgets. Two new items in the budget were highlighted; being the non-slip treatment to the Riverview Terraces and the decommissioning of the ponds on Corcoran Terrace that were used for the dredging.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 – 2031.

CARRIED

5.19 **District Regeneration**

Staff advised there were no significant changes to this budget.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
- (b) **Notes** that new levels of service / performance measures are provided within separate reports provided to the Council 201130162568[v2] and 201130162088[v2].

CARRIED

5.20 **Planning and Regulation Management Overhead**

M Bacon commented that this is a status quo budget.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

5.21 **Planning Unit**

M Bacon noted slight changes to fees and charges however that this is very much status quo budget for the next two to three years. There has been a steady increase in resource consents.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
- (b) **Approves** the proposed fee and charges changes.

CARRIED

5.22 **Building Unit Activity**

W Taylor noted the change in fees for installing heating units and this goes from \$390 to \$480. Councillors had no objections to this cost being spread over two years.

Three line item increases were noted; firstly the 100% increase in the changes to the software for GoGet; secondly increase in training costs for Regulation 18 with an additional \$27,000 noted and thirdly the internal transfers for IT support costs has increased by \$48,000.

Councillor Ward noted increases in expected building new dwellings over the next few years, and suggested this may be under estimated in future years. W Taylor responded that for the LTP, growth in the number of households is based on projected statistics. The Council is always a bit above the assumptions, noting that new lots created

and new house builds do not tend to correlate 100% and there needs to be some estimation of figures. J Palmer noted for the LTP the growth is based on estimated population in 10 years to be 78,000. There is arrangements in place in the Building Unit, to cover periods where there are large variations in projected workload, with the use of consultants and contractors.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
CARRIED

5.23 **Environmental Services Unit**

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
CARRIED

5.24 **Civil Defence Emergency Management**

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft CDEM budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
CARRIED

5.25 **Finance and AIM (Asset Information Management)**

P Christensen noted this budget has been prepared on a business as usual basis with no significant changes.

Councillor Ward and the Mayor extended congratulations on the work that has been undertaken by the Finance team and keeping the Council well advised on matters.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
CARRIED

5.26 **Canterbury Museum**

J Millward presented this report.

Staff responded to a query from Councillor Redmond regarding whether any legal opinion on the Museum Boards ability to raise a loan for the operating levy had been received.

Councillor Williams noted the 10% annual increases for several consecutive years and J Millward noted this relates to the \$195m Museum development. It is the intention to levy for the additional depreciation.

Councillor Williams asked whether this matter should be consulted on with ratepayers to gauge support. J Millward advised this could be undertaken, if it was the decision of the Council. Mayor Gordon stated he would not support going through a consultation process at this time, and believed that the Council should carry on as currently budgeted.

If the Council voted against this going through the budget, J Millward advised there would also need to be rejection by both Hurunui and Selwyn District Councils, which is unlikely to have a successful result.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
- (b) **Agrees** to the Canterbury Museum Annual Plan 2021/22 being referred to the contributing local authorities for a period of six weeks from Friday 12 March 2021 concluding on Friday 23 April 2021.

CARRIED

5.27 **Information and Technology Support**

A Keiller presented an overview of the IT projects currently occurring, and proposed for the coming years. These aspects involved Data Centre Services (LaaS), Microsoft Software (Teams), scanning software, staffing primarily involving security services as well as outlining projects that realigned with timing over the LTP years, whilst staying within the same financial envelope. Key projects for the upcoming year include E-Services, Internet, Digital Signing, Asset management, CiAnywhere (T1), Office 365, CCTV software and non-financial performance KPI measures. Cloud services and cyber security were outlined as to the impact on the IT Support unit.

Councillor Barnett enquired about benefit to customer services and the public and in what years. Staff explained direct and indirect improvements to both staff reporting and community benefits. The website was also being redesigned to be more user friendly for the community to liaise with the Council.

Councillor Barnett enquired about the ability to log in as a resident, and how it is being promoted and operated enabling full interaction on-line. A Keiller acknowledged customers becoming more familiar with on-line services and a review of what services are provided would be occurring in the coming months.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 – 2031.

CARRIED

5.28 Water Unit

J Millward presented this budget, explaining that the Water Unit is an internal service unit. Approximately 70% of the budget is operational, responding to service requests and 30% capital works. The position of Water Unit Manager is currently being advertised. It is planned to have a portacom installed at the Water Unit facility in Southbrook to allow for training space. In the next year staff are proposing to engage two apprentices, which will make good use of a training room.

Councillor Atkinson asked about vehicle changes which are highlighted in the budget, J Millward responded that these are replacement vehicles, but there is no specific reason that they are highlighted. Some vehicles purchased are second hand and the market is considered at the time.

Councillor Williams questioned the budget figure of \$6,000 for traffic management materials. J Millward commented this would relate to wear and tear and replacement of items over the year.

Councillor Blackie queried the stocktaking figure increase from \$36,000 to \$45,000. J Millward advised there would be four stocktakes undertaken per year which will relate to an increase in staff time for these. Value of stock is between \$95,000 and \$165,000. This budget figure includes management of stock and turnover.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 – 2031.

CARRIED

5.29 Property, Housing for the Elderly

R Hawthorne commented on key aspects of the budget, including the rent review being deferred for one year due to government/legislative changes. He explained how rents are amended in July rather than the current November as it better aligns with government subsidies such as power and how there is a stepped increase to preserve the financial position.

Office accommodation at Durham House has lease terms potentially extended in 2028/29. He commented on some uncertainty due to office space and the three waters review, library extension and public amenity and car park space in the outer years and the steering group will continue to work through matters.

The South Kaiapoi Mixed Use Business Area had various proposals to come before the Council over the coming months.

J Millward commented on increasing elderly person housing rents and the three month notice period that coincides with the LTP consultation.

Councillor Atkinson enquired about maintenance budgets. Staff clarified matters.

Mayor Gordon asked about social housing. Staff outlined the report timeline to Council within the next six months, with the Mayor urging the matter be brought forward urgently. General discussion occurred

regarding differences with social housing and elderly housing (which the WDC operate). J Palmer commented on the matter being discussed through the Greater Christchurch Partnership; both social and affordable housing and a Council role, acknowledging there is a challenge to Selwyn and WDC from Christchurch City which is a future debate.

Councillor Barnett queried the pensioner housing budget closing balance. J Millward explained the operating surplus line and the continuing trend into the positive and the alternatives to consider.

Councillor Barnett enquired, with new land/recreation requirements if the Council was meeting the requirements. R Hawthorne confirmed that was the case with standards such as installation and asbestos management and refurbishment progressively occurring to the healthy homes standards, noting that some aspects are legislative and other aspects are aspirational. Refurbishment is spread over time as units become vacant.

Councillor Redmond queried the inability to have rent increase for elderly and the knock on effect in year 2030. R Hawthorne explained the annual incremental changes and increases, including impacts on tenants in relation to the government accommodation supplement. Before any adjustments occur staff hold special meetings with the residents and WINZ agency to help support the residents to understand any change.

Councillor Atkinson commented on his experience with Snap Send Solve regarding maintenance issues at two complexes and the results, which were disappointing. Staff would follow up on matters raised.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

(a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

5.30 **Governance Activity**

S Nichols presented this budget, which relates to the servicing of meetings and support of elected members. It was noted that there has been an increase in the number of committees meeting regularly. The work of the Creative Administration team (formerly the Typing team) was also highlighted, which is included in this budget activity.

Some funding has been reallocated in the budget, however the overall amount remained unchanged from what had been signalled in the Annual Plan. There had been an increase in the number of committees and working groups in the 2019-2022 electoral term, compared with previous terms, of approximately one third. It was noted that the Utilities and Roading Committee will be meeting monthly in 2021 due to the information flow required in relation to water reforms, and from mid-year, the District Planning and Regulation Committee will reduce meetings as the District Plan process commands Council and staff time and attention.

The costs of civic events (Citizenship ceremonies, Community Service Awards) were mentioned and it was advised that these will

have split line items when the budget is finalised. although the overall total will remain the same.

Councillor Redmond asked about the catering figure included in the budget. It was confirmed that the catering figure had been reduced, and this is a lean figure, to provide catering for Council meetings when required (i.e. full day Council meetings, and for visiting Councillors from other authorities). Mayor Gordon noted that this Council is not extravagant on catering.

Councillor Barnett noted the total direct expenditure which is \$86,000 over forecast and questioned how this could be explained in commentary. J Millward noted this is less than inflation and this is a true reflection on cost. It was not considered in the commentary as it is not deemed to be a significant amount.

Councillor Barnett queried the training budget, which showed an increase from previous years. Staff would recheck the value and advise the Council, however it was likely to be a reflection on the true costs associated with the teams. Councillor Barnett suggested the commentary reflect clearer information relating to any changes in budgets.

Councillor Doody asked about honorarium. S Nichols advised this related to elected members remuneration and is be forecast, as it is not known until May/June of any changes from the Remuneration Authority. The Council use Berl information plus 3% increase in calculating these figures. This budget related to all 35 elected members overall; Mayor, Councillors and Community Board members.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.
CARRIED

5.31 **District Management**

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

- (a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Long Term Plan 2021 - 2031.
CARRIED

5.32 **Organisational Development and Human Resources**

J Palmer commented on the significant increase of work for the HR Manager, the team restructure and dealing with the challenges of the organisation and work involved, including preparing to help the organisation though changes that will come as a result of any 3waters changes.

Following a question from members, the Employment Services role was explained and how they provide support to staff and elected members through difficult situations.

Councillor Williams queried the increase of legal fees. J Palmer reflected a number of issues before the Council, such as employment law field and its complexities involved. The Council received solid service and advice and the work volume reflected the level of business and size of the organisation.

Moved: Councillor Mealings

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council

(a) **Approves** the draft budget for the Ten Year Plan 2021 - 2031.

CARRIED

6. **BUDGET SUMMARY**

Jim Palmer and Jeff Millward provided a summary of the budget, advising that by taking into account the changes the Council had made during the meeting process the rats were now as follows:

- Year 1 – 3.95% (previously 3.90%)
- Year 2 – 4.15% (previously 4.1%)
- Later years – 4.2% (remains unchanged)

7. **CONFIRM RECOMMENDATIONS**

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Doody

THAT the Council

(a) **Adopt** and confirm all budget resolutions as pro forma.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon appreciated the work undertaken to date and the support provided by staff, including the ability to submit questions ahead of time and the early delivery of the agenda, enabling a longer read time. He stated that he believes the Council has landed in a responsible position to present a draft budget to the community. Mayor Gordon thanked Councillors for their involvement in the process, acknowledging the time and considerations involved. The next stage is the consultation with the community and councillors being involved in that process through March and early April.

Councillor Doody thanked staff for all the briefings last year which provided a sound understanding what the Council has worked through during the past couple of days, as it made the experience more understandable and enjoyable.

Councillor Atkinson reiterated comments and thanked the Mayor for his chairmanship and colleagues for cool heads through the process.

Councillor Barnett appreciated the system with pre-questions and that had assisted through the meeting process. She reflected particularly on the drainage budgets in a positive light and the comprehensive nature of them. Councillor Barnett believed the Council was heading in the right direction.

Councillor Mealings stated that as a participant in her first LTP, she had enjoyed the process.

Mayor Gordon acknowledged this was J Palmer's last LTP, commenting on his prudent and responsible management in challenging times. On behalf of the Council Mayor Gordon thanked J Palmer for his leadership through the process. J Palmer thanked the Council, acknowledging the hard journey over the past months, including workshops to help shape the direction and staff then delivering

on requests. He reflected that the goal was to deliver a sound LTP as a solid base for the next phase, and he believes that has been achieved.


8. NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of the Council is scheduled for 1pm on Tuesday 2 February 2021 in the Function Room, Rangiora Town Hall.

The Council will meet again on Tuesday 23 February at 10am to approve the draft Long Term Plan for consultation.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.10pm on Wednesday 27 January 2021.

CONFIRMED



Mayor D Gordon
Chairperson

23 February 2021
Date