

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA, ON TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2026, COMMENCING AT 9AM.

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

J Millward (Chief Executive), C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation), K LaValley (General Manager Planning Regulation and Environment), G Cleary (General Manager Utilities and Roding), C Genet (General Manager Finance and Business Support), S Hart (General Manager Strategy, Engagement and Economic Development), J McBride (Roding and Transport Manager), G MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager), K Simpson (3 Waters Manager), C Roxburgh (Project Delivery Manager), K Howat (Parks and Facilities Team Leader), T Kunkel (Governance Team Leader), J Thorne (Strategic Asset Management Advisor), and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

There were 28 members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES

Nil.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mayor Gordon acknowledged the passing of Rangiora resident Mr Graeme Matheson, who was a long-standing member of the RSA and a founding member of the Waimakariri Passchendaele Advisory Group.

The Council observed a moment's silence.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of a meeting of the Waimakariri District Council held on Tuesday, 3 March 2026

Moved: Deputy Mayor Redmond

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Confirms**, as a true and correct record, the circulated Minutes of the Waimakariri District Council meeting held on Tuesday, 3 March 2026.

CARRIED

4.2 Matters Arising from Minutes

Nil.

5. **DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

5.1 **Flooding concerns in Ohoka and Mandeville** - Des Winter and Gary Boakes

D Winter noted that a report was being presented to the Council seeking approval for works at Millfield subdivision, Ohoka, intended to improve the speed at which water was dispersed. He expressed concern that the proposed works would cause water to reach the lower end of Ohoka faster. He acknowledged that the Council planned to invest in improvements to the Ohoka Stream; however, flooding primarily occurred during periods of heavy rainfall when the Cust Main Drain was in flood. Under these conditions, the Ohoka Stream ceased to flow, and water backed up as far as Christmas Road, Ohoka. Several properties on Christmas Road had experienced flooding with water flowing through houses and sheds. D Winter's driveway had also flooded with water at a depth of approximately 600mm, flowing over his property. D Winter emphasised that residents did not want more water flowing rapidly and believed that the increased flow from Millfield, along with other proposed development, exacerbate existing problems. In his view, the Council should consider diverting water toward the Eyre River and ultimately into the Waimakariri River.

G Boakes stated that if further development was anticipated in the northern part of the Waimakariri District, the Council needed to carefully assess water management, as flows were already reaching Ohoka and Silverstream faster. He expressed concern that Kaiapoi could face significant flooding if development continued without ensuring that excess water could be directed into the Waimakariri River. G Boakes believed that diverting water to the river, rather than through the township, was the safest approach.

Mayor Gordon advised that the work referred to Stage Two of the Mandeville Resurgence Project and noted that substantial further work was required before any decisions could be advanced. Councillors had asked staff to assess potential downstream effects and to confirm whether these had been adequately considered.

Councillor Fulton asked for an assessment of the additional works programme. D Winter responded that the works would assist with water removal to a certain extent; however, when the Cust Main Drain was in flood, water could not exit the Ohoka Stream, resulting in significant backflow.

Mayor Gordon requested a report on Silverstream and the works requested.

5.2 **Council Debt** - Dennis McLaughlan

D McLaughlan advised that he had recently come into possession of overseas-based assets which, if liquidated, would provide sufficient funds to pay all outstanding rates owed by himself, his supporters and it could also extinguish the Council's debt incurred via the Local Government Finance Agency (LGFA). He advised that open dialogue would be required to determine how such a process might occur, ensuring that individuals did not subsequently fall back into debt. He emphasised the need for discussion to ensure that, once the debt was cleared, no further financial burden would be placed on the district's population.

D McLaughlan further noted that such negotiations could not occur under what he described as the "communist standing orders criteria." He stated that he would not agree to sign a standing orders contract that, in his view, restricted his ability to negotiate the proposed arrangement. If the Council did not accept his proposal, he indicated that he would present it to another local authority.

Mayor Gordon asked for clarification of D McLaughlan's overseas-based assets. D McLaughlan explained that he was not currently in possession of the assets but would be soon, and that, if liquidated, they would provide him with sufficient funds to extinguish the LGFA debt.

6. **ADJOURNED BUSINESS**

Nil.

7. WATER SERVICES RELATED REPORTS

7.1 ODP160 – 368 Mill Road – Stormwater Management Area – K Simpson (3 Waters Manager), C Roxburgh (Project Delivery Manager) and J McSloy (Development Manager)

C Roxburgh provided an update to the Council on the status of the Mill Road Stormwater Management Area (SMA) project and outlined options for the project's next steps. He noted that the Council had allocated funding for the construction of an SMA to service Outline Development Plan (ODP) 160. However, progress had been delayed due to Environment Canterbury consents being affected by legal action. Although the consenting issues had now been resolved, development in the area had largely stalled due to other legal matters. Several residents had approached the Council requesting that the Mill Road SMA project be cancelled. Among the landowners who submitted feedback, the majority supported cancellation of the project, while one landowner expressed a preference for it to proceed. A number of landowners did not respond. C Roxburgh then summarised the stormwater management options for the area as outlined in the report.

Councillor Fulton questioned why, if the Council chose to defer the project, staff believed that it would need to signal an intent to proceed at a later date, and C Roxburgh confirmed that this was not necessary.

Councillor Mealings asked whether a smaller SMA may be required and whether the existing consent would cover such an option. C Roxburgh explained that if the status quo remained, there would be no on-site attenuation, resulting in increased runoff. If the Council chose not to construct the SMA, some form of stormwater conveyance would still be required. While residents would experience attenuate flows to pre-development levels, the land's natural slope meant that small swales would still be necessary.

Moved: Councillor Fulton

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 251112215595.
- (b) **Notes** that there are a number of barriers to development within the Outline Development Plan (ODP) 160, the majority of which are not related to stormwater servicing, due to a combination of access, servicing and legal issues between landowners, that can only be resolved between landowners.
- (c) **Notes** that consideration has been given to whether the Mill Road SMA project should proceed, or be cancelled; however, it has been concluded that neither should take place at this time because:
 - investing now risks the Council never recovering the full cost and unnecessarily accumulating interest due to the number of other barriers to development within the area, and
 - it cannot be cancelled now because there is no viable planning mechanism to amend the ODP, and it is not recommended to cancel the project while the ODP still requires the SMA.
- (d) **Notes** that the majority of landowners from within the catchment who submitted a response to Council indicated a preference to cancel the project. However, not all landowners responded.
- (e) **Approves** the deferral of the Mill Road SMA construction budget by three years to 2029/30, given the uncertainty identified with both options considered.

CARRIED

Councillor Fulton expressed concern about signalling an intent to proceed without first understanding the full parameters of such a decision. He acknowledged the survey findings and recognised that residents had clearly articulated their position. He also noted ongoing concerns regarding the effectiveness of the SMA and centralised stormwater management systems more generally. Given the current state of the ODP and the constraints placed on the Council, he considered it prudent not to advance an SMA at this time.

Deputy Mayor Redmond noted that he would like to see a further report outlining both options once additional pathways have been identified. He considered the motion to be sound and indicated his support.

Mayor Gordon also supported the motion, noting that it was appropriate for the Council to keep its options open and defer construction. He observed that the development area was complex for a variety of reasons and acknowledged the goodwill of residents who wished to see the area's potential realised. Mayor Gordon highlighted that the proposal had undergone extensive community consultation through the private plan change process, the Waimakariri District Plan, and other mechanisms. He commented that this form of development aligned with the type of growth he wished to see in Ohoka, in contrast to other proposed developments, which he believed would significantly alter the area's character. Mayor Gordon emphasised that deferral allowed the Council to maintain flexibility without expressing a preference on whether an SMA was ultimately appropriate.

Councillor Mealings noted that the ODP160 had always been complex and challenging. She recalled attending the 2012 hearing, where significant contention arose because many landowners first learned of their inclusion in the plan change through a newspaper notice. Coordinating the interests of multiple landowners had been challenging. Still, in this instance, the majority had collaborated to determine a collective position. Councillor Mealings observed that several matters remained unresolved and that legislative changes over time meant the Council could not simply remove the SMA from the ODP, even if it wished to do so. She concluded that the Council did not yet have sufficient information to make an informed decision on how to proceed.

In his right of reply, Councillor Fulton welcomed the recognition of the broader development context in the area. He noted that rural and peri-urban land supported a wide range of living environments and that development in such areas was often highly contested. In his view, if Ohoka was to grow, it needed to do so in a managed and considered manner. He supported deferral and emphasised the importance of continued engagement with Ohoka residents to ensure the Council remained well-informed about the effectiveness and appropriateness of a stormwater management area.

Report 8.3 "Rangiora Croquet Loan Repayment Options" was taken at this time. The agenda order was retained in the Minutes to mitigate confusion.

7.2 Water Services Rating Structure Review – K Simpson (3 Waters Manager) and J Thorne (Strategic Asset Management Advisor)

J Thorne presented the report, noting that it highlighted issues relating to how the Council structures and allocates rates for certain activities. The report addressed challenges identified by staff with current rating approaches. He explained that, regarding Water Services, previous investigations had produced assessments and recommendations to change rating structures; however, for various reasons, consultation and implementation of those changes had not occurred. The scope of the current rating review, therefore, included all Water Services, the Pegasus Service Rate for street trees, and the Solid Waste Rates for kerbside collection and bins.

C Genet advised that the rating review concerned the fair and reasonable allocation of rates and their distribution. He noted that there were numerous possible approaches, each producing different outcomes. Given that rates were the Council's largest revenue stream, it was essential that any review be undertaken with careful consideration of legal requirements. C Genet added that the review would be assessed alongside the Council's key financial policies to ensure alignment.

G Cleary observed that the Council had examined the Water Services rating several years earlier. He noted that the matter was complex and required substantial work. G Cleary considered the current review timely, as the Council was facing emerging issues that required reconsideration of how water services were rated.

Councillor Fulton asked whether, given the breadth of the rating review and the role of the Working Group in determining its scope, it would be beneficial to have a dedicated Water Services Working Group operating concurrently with the broader financial review covering kerbside collection and other matters. G Cleary responded that staff anticipated a single working group would oversee the review, with specific focus areas addressed as required.

Councillor Fulton sought clarification on whether the Rating Review constituted a structural review of the Council's rating system. J Millward advised that the review related to the methodology by which the Council applied its rating. He noted that, in some instances, the matter may be brought before the full Council for a workshop.

Deputy Mayor Redmond observed that the quorum requirement for the proposed Rating Review Working Party was four members and queried whether staff had considered specifying that at least two elected members be included within that quorum. J Thorne acknowledged the suggestion, noting that it was a constructive proposal and could be incorporated into the terms of reference.

Moved: Councillor Ward

Seconded: Councillor Bartle

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260316077367.
- (b) **Approves** the formation of a Rating Review Working Party to consider options for rating areas within the Revenue and Financing review and for Water Services activities to identify recommended options to consult the community on.
- (c) **Appoints** the following Councillors and Staff to the Rating Review Working Party:
 - Members
 - Drainage and Stockwater and 3 Waters Portfolio Holder (Chairperson)
 - Solid Waste Portfolio Holder; District Planning Portfolio Holder; Climate Change and Sustainability Portfolio Holder
 - Greenspace (Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds) Portfolio Holder
 - Audit, Risk, Annual/Long Term Plans Portfolio Holder
 - General Manager of Finance and Business Support
 - General Manager Utilities and Roading
 - *Ex officio* – Mayor
 - *Ex officio* – Chief Executive
 - Staff Support
 - Finance Manager
 - Rating Representative
 - 3 Waters Manager
 - Strategic Asset Management Advisor (Project Lead)
- (d) **Adopts** the Rating Review Working Party's Terms of Reference (Trim 260317077906).
- (e) **Requests** that the Rating Review Working Party report back to Council in July/August 2026, recommending the proposed approach for rating services under the review to allow for stakeholder engagement prior to inclusion in the draft 2027/37 Long Term Plan and subsequent full public consultation.
- (f) **Notes** the following indicative programme of key dates:

Period	Action
April 2026	Report to Council to confirm the establishment of the working party and terms of reference
April/May 2026	Council workshop on areas within the Revenue and Financing Review (Pegasus trees and commercial recycling), conducted by the General Manager of Finance and Business Support
May – July 2026	Monthly working party meetings for assessment of rating options and development of preferred options
July/August 2026	Report to Council seeking approval to engage stakeholder discussion on the preferred option

Period	Action
September 2026	Stakeholder engagement (<i>this would be a targeted pre-LTP consultation exercise with Community Boards to get preliminary feedback prior to subsequent full public consultation through the LTP consultation process</i>)
October 2026	Final working party meeting to refine recommended options based on stakeholder engagement
November 2026	Report to Council from the Working Party recommending the proposed rating structure for inclusion in the draft 2027/37 Long Term Plan and Water Services Strategy.
February 2027	Council adopts draft 2027/37 draft LTP and Water Services Strategy budgets for consultation.
March-May 2027	Consultation on proposed rating structure as part of the draft 2027/34 LTP and Water Services Strategy
July 2027	Implementation with 2027/37 LTP and Water Services Strategy
<i>Note</i>	<i>Council workshops and updates will be conducted at critical milestones. Councillors may attend working group meetings if they wish.</i>

(g) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Councillor Ward observed that rating had been an ongoing concern for several years. She considered it timely to engage in a constructive discussion on what arrangements would best serve the Council now that the *Local Water Done Well* Framework had been finalised and Government regulations were clearer. Councillor Ward acknowledged the complexity of the issue and noted that it would not be straightforward.

Councillor Bartle supported the motion, remarking that the matter had been discussed for a considerable period and was long overdue for progress.

Councillor Fulton recalled that the Council had considered a rating review during the previous triennium, under the previous Government, when significant and complex changes to water services and rural drainage were anticipated. He noted that the current environment was different, though still evolving rapidly. Councillor Fulton believed there would be no better time to undertake the review and expressed his interest in examining the findings.

Mayor Gordon expressed his support for the motion. He noted that a possible rates review had come before the Council on several occasions and acknowledged both current and former staff who had contributed to the work. He recognised that there had been valid reasons for pausing progress at various points, including the scale of differences between proposals and the political timing. Mayor Gordon observed that recent changes in water services and community feedback, particularly from areas not currently rated but seeking services, made it timely to address the matter comprehensively. He expressed his appreciation for Councillor Fulton's agreement to chair the Rating Review Working Party and noted that challenging discussions lay ahead.

Councillor Cairns acknowledged that significant challenges were anticipated. He referred to previous discussions regarding Pegasus trees and noted that he had been engaged in robust conversations concerning multi-tenanted commercial premises.

Councillor Mealings stated that she was pleased to see the matter before the Council. She noted numerous issues requiring resolution and a complex environment; however, she looked forward to the work progressing.

Councillor Doody expressed her appreciation for being able to attend and listen to views, noting the importance of all members gaining a clear understanding of the Council's intended direction.

8. REPORTS

At the commencement of the meeting, Mayor Gordon advised members that Item 8.4 – Keep Rangiora Beautiful Distribution of Funds and to Dissolve had been withdrawn from the agenda, as a deputation would be heard from Keep Rangiora Beautiful at the Council meeting scheduled for 5 May 2026.

8.1 Homelessness in Waimakariri District – Background, Context and Current Work Streams – J Millward (Chief Executive) and S Hart (General Manager Strategy, Engagement and Economic Development)

S Hart spoke to the report, noting that it provided context and background of homelessness in the Waimakariri District. It highlighted all the relevant Council programmes underway dealing with homelessness. He noted that homelessness was a very complex social and economic issue, and addressing it required a multi-agency approach; generally, the multiple agencies involved, led by the Central Government, were supported by the non-profit social service sector and Local Government.

Councillor Fulton asked about the applicability of a Move-on Order issued by an authorised officer requiring an individual to leave public spaces and/or reserves and not return for a defined period. S Hart advised that the Council did not have the authority to issue a Move-on order. Only the New Zealand Police would be able to issue such orders.

Councillor Goldsworthy queried whether the proposed Move-on Order could potentially apply to protests. S Hart did not believe that was the intention of the orders as there are other legislation that enables people's right to voice their views.

Councillor Ward questioned the number of people who refused the Council's assistance. S Hart did not have a specific number. However, he noted that it did occur; there were various reasons for people living rough. Some did have a residence to return to however chose to be on the street to solicit money and other goods; some were genuinely without fixed or adequate housing.

Councillor Cairns noted that the 2023 census reported housing deprivation at 2.3%. He asked if staff believed that was a fair reflection. S Hart noted that several factors, including overcrowding, stress, and the need for more social housing providers, caused housing deprivation. He agreed that there was housing stress and suggested that the 2023 census data may be outdated.

Councillor Cairns also asked whether amending the Commercial Charity Bylaw 2017 would address the issue of homelessness. S Hart stated that the Bylaw would not solve homelessness; however, there were several challenges associated with homelessness that staff could enforce under the Bylaw, such as litter and egress issues around public areas. Staff were looking at the Commercial Charities Bylaw as a vehicle to potentially include information on begging. That would enable the Council to impose some restrictions on those who wished to ask for money on the street, including existing recognised national charities, which currently obtain a permit from the Council.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Redmond

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260312074551.
- (b) **Notes** that issues associated with homelessness are complex and require a sustainable multi-agency approach.
- (c) **Notes** that current legislative, funding, and resourcing provisions indicate that addressing homelessness in New Zealand is primarily a Central Government-led responsibility, supported by Local Government and non-government organisations. The Council should continue to monitor the impacts of legislative changes to identify any implications for public spaces, services and communities within the District.

- (d) **Notes** that current New Zealand Police powers to address homelessness are limited: officers often cannot act until behaviour escalates to an offence, allowing ongoing disruption in city and town centres. Amendments to the Summary Offences Act – “Move-on” Orders (2026) – announced on 22 February 2026, propose to provide Police with an ability to address specific behaviours that create nuisance, intimidation, or safety issues for the public while also providing a referral pathway to support agencies.
- (e) **Approves** staff to continue working collaboratively with government agencies such as the New Zealand Police, the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), Work and Income and community partners to support a coordinated approach that identifies at-risk individuals, provides them with appropriate support and improves outcomes for people experiencing homelessness and for the wider community.
- (f) **Approves** staff to undertake a feasibility study of bylaws that could also look at amending the Commercial Charity Bylaw 2017 to potentially increase restrictions associated with solicitation and street collections in response to concerns associated with begging. This investigation will also examine other councils’ bylaws, such as those of Nelson and Horowhenua, and assess their effectiveness.
- (g) **Authorises** the Mayor on behalf of the Council to write to Justice Minister Paul Goldsmith, Police Minister Mark Mitchell, as well as local MP Matt Doocey, expressing its in-principle support for legislative tools such as Move on Orders, as well as the Council’s willingness to work collectively on short and long-term solutions to homelessness issues within the Waimakariri District.
- (h) **Notes** the Mayor has been invited to an online forum to discuss the potential establishment of a Mayoral taskforce for homelessness and housing.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon noted that a wide range of statements had been circulating in the community, reflecting various concerns and acknowledging the significant amount of work underway to address homelessness-related challenges. He emphasised the importance of a comprehensive report that clearly outlined the Council’s response to homelessness and clarified the actions it could take. Mayor Gordon acknowledged staff for their efforts in preparing the response and expressed appreciation to Councillor Cairns and Deputy Mayor Redmond for their contributions leading up to the report’s development.

Mayor Gordon observed that the issue seemed to comprise of three distinct elements. The first concerned individuals with genuine needs who were willing to work towards a permanent housing solution. He acknowledged the efforts of social service providers and the extensive collaborative work occurring to support such individuals. Mayor Gordon noted that a separate issue was begging by individuals in town centres. He advised that other Mayors had suggested a bylaw might be worth investigating, while acknowledging it would not be the only solution.

Deputy Mayor Redmond commended the high quality of the report, noting the complexity of homelessness and the lack of a single, simple remedy. He emphasised the need for the Council to work alongside Central Government and relevant agencies to develop practical solutions, maintain public confidence, and create meaningful pathways of support for people experiencing homelessness. Deputy Mayor Redmond commented that any new legislation would need to strike a careful balance: the Government must ensure that the New Zealand Police have appropriate tools to protect public spaces, businesses, and families, while also recognising that enforcement alone did not address the underlying causes of homelessness. He stressed the importance of strengthening collaborative relationships with partner agencies to improve local coordination and outcomes. Deputy Mayor Redmond concluded by noting that homelessness was not unique to the Waimakariri District. It is a national issue and the Council remained committed to contributing locally while advocating for the leadership, investment, and policy settings required at the national level.

Councillor Powell expressed her support for the motion and endorsed the work undertaken by staff, both in preparing the report and in their longstanding efforts to support people experiencing homelessness. She noted that the report was valuable in clearly distinguishing the three primary categories of homelessness, each requiring different responses depending on an individual's circumstances and willingness to accept assistance. Councillor Powell emphasised the complexity of the issues involved and the need for a sustained, multi-agency approach. She also referred to her attendance at the Homelessness Forum, noting the strong collaboration among agencies seeking practical, coordinated solutions. While begging was the most visible aspect of homelessness, she highlighted that many individuals experiencing homelessness within the district were not visible to the public.

Councillor Goldsworthy indicated his support for the motion, observing that the Council was, in many respects, addressing the symptoms rather than the underlying causes of homelessness. He acknowledged that the Council had a role to play, although he remained uncertain about its precise nature. He recognised the value of expanding the tools available to address the different challenges associated with homelessness; however, he cautioned against considering bylaws that the Council might not be prepared or able to enforce.

Councillor Cairns commented that it was regrettable that the Council needed to focus on such matters. He identified the root cause as the lack of affordable housing, noting that on his own street, there were eleven individuals living in vehicles, with whom he regularly spoke. He emphasised the complexity of their circumstances. As a Councillor, he acknowledged the exceptional work undertaken by staff in responding to these challenges.

Councillor Fulton observed that a core function of the Council was to determine the fairest and most equitable use of public space. In his view, access to public space was not an unrestricted right. The Bill of Rights and various legislative frameworks developed over time permitted individuals to occupy public space only to the extent that such occupation did not impede others' ability to use and enjoy that space.

Councillor Mealings noted that the issue involved numerous interconnected factors and required a multi-agency, multi-faceted response. She emphasised that the report did not propose a bylaw but rather sought to examine the feasibility of such a tool and its potential effectiveness. Ultimately, direction from the Central Government would be necessary. Councillor Mealings highlighted the report's clear demonstration of the critical importance of the Community Team, whose work was essential to supporting residents' wellbeing across the district.

In his right of reply, Mayor Gordon identified three key points: the importance of ongoing multi-agency collaboration; the need to assess the feasibility of a bylaw as a potential tool; and, in principle, support for Move-on Order legislation. He expressed disappointment at some of the public commentary suggesting that the issue was solely the Council's responsibility, noting that the report made it clear this was not the case. While the Council had a role to play, the issues were highly complex and often involved multiple contributing factors. A bylaw could be one tool available to the Council, but its effectiveness would depend on enforceability. Mayor Gordon reiterated the significant work undertaken by the Community Team and the various support agencies involved.

The meeting adjourned for a refreshment break from 11.11am to 11.31am.

8.2 **Minor Amendments to Variable Speed Limit Zones** – J McBride (Roading and Transport Manager) and P Daly (Road Safety Coordinator, Journey Planner)

J McBride spoke to the report, noting that it sought approval for the following minor changes to the School Variable-Speed Zones that the Council had previously approved:

- Five (5) relate to errors in the stated location in the original report to the Community Boards, which have subsequently been identified and were updated within this report.
- Five (5) were identified following on-site reviews, which confirmed the signs could not be physically located within 20m of the previously approved zone (as was required to ensure the signs were legally enforceable due to various factors).

- Two (2) had been reassessed and needed to be relocated to better align with the current speed zones or speed limit change locations.

J McBride reported that the Council had received confirmation in February 2026 that co-funding from the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) had been approved at the standard Funding Assistance Rate (FAR) of 51%. A tender had been awarded for the installation of the electronic signs. The static signs were being procured through the Road Maintenance Contract.

Councillor McLaren asked whether the Skew Bridge variable-speed signs could be repurposed. J McBride noted that they could not, unfortunately; the Skewbridge signage had again been vandalised.

Mayor Gordon queried whether the Council's insurance covered the replacement of the sign at Skew Bridge. J McBride advised that the Council did not insure its roading assets, noting that the NZTA subsidy effectively served as insurance for those assets.

Deputy Mayor Redmond sought clarification on the requested variation to the zone extent for the signage at Kaiapoi North School. J McBride explained that there had been an error in the original Approved Zone/ Amended Zone Extent (RP). Upon review of the sign's locations, staff determined that it was positioned a considerable distance from the school along Allison Crescent, where there was insufficient space to install the sign as intended.

Moved: Councillor Powell

Seconded: Councillor Doody

THAT the Council:

(a) **Receives** Report No. 260312075090.

(b) **Approves** the following amendments to the School Variable Speed Zones:

School	Updated Location Details	Approved Variable Speed	Reason for Change
Kaiapoi North School	<u>Coups Terrace</u> 46 metres into Coups Terrace from Williams Street Coups Terrace RP 0.000 to RP 0.063	30km/h	To move away from the intersection and utilise the existing pole /socket.
	<u>Allison Crescent</u> From 20 metres south of Forest Lane to 363 metres south of Magnolia Boulevard Allison Crescent RP 0.556 to RP 0.359		Conflict with driveways and street trees.
Oxford Area School	Bay Road From 37m south of Bush Road to 20m north of Dohrmans Road. (RP 0.780 to RP 0.200)	30km/h	Conflict with existing trees. Move to a visible location.
Pegasus Bay School	<u>Mary Ellen Street</u> Solander Road to 20 metres east of Solander Road (Intersection of Solander Dr to RP 0.459)	30km/h	Location incorrectly recorded. Updated.
	<u>Pegasus Boulevard</u> 80 metres west of Solander Road to 35 metres east of Solander Road (RP 1.755 to RP 1.923)		Moved away from the intersection. Location prior to the parking bay.
Rangiora High School	<u>Wales Street</u> From East Belt to 25 metres west of Edward Street. (Wales Street RP 0.001 to RP 0.284)	30km/h	Incorrect location in the previous report.

School	Updated Location Details	Approved Variable Speed	Reason for Change
Ashley Rakahuri School	<u>Fawcetts Road/ Upper Sefton Road</u> (Fawcetts Road RP 0.899 to Upper Sefton Road RP 0.072)	60 km/h Fawcetts Road 30km/h on other roads	Aligns with the current variable speed zone.
	<u>Boundary Road</u> 20 metres north of Fawcetts Road to 142 metres north of Fawcetts Road (RP 0.228 to RP 0.098)		Needs to be within the 80km/h zone.
	<u>High Street</u> 35 metres south of Fawcetts Road to 20 metres north of Canterbury Street, (RP 0.370 to RP 0.256)		Boundary between speed limits too close to intersection. Overall zone not changed.
St Joseph's School, Rangiora	<u>Percival Street</u> 55 metres south of George Street to 110 metres north of Scott Street (RP 1.284 to RP 1.013)	30km/h	Error in the original report.
View Hill School	<u>Island Road</u> 270m to the west and 270m to the east of the school gate. (RP 4.789 to RP 5.173)	30km/h	Error in road name in the original report
Loburn School	<u>Hodgsons Road</u> 375 metres west of Loburn Whiterock Road to 920 metres west of Loburn Whiterock Road. (RP 1.085 to RP 0.402)	30km/h	Error in report. Electronic signs to be installed on Hodgsons Road .

- (c) **Notes** that changes are considered to be minor in nature; however, they are required to ensure that the variable speed zones comply with the requirements of the Land Transport Setting of Speed Limit Rule 2024.
- (d) **Notes** that New Zealand Transport Agency co-funding for the installation of the variable speed signs has been approved, with a Funding Assistance Rate (FAR) of 51%, which is our standard rate.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Redmond commented that the proposed changes addressed several inaccuracies and would ensure the signage locations were recorded more precisely. He, therefore, supported the motion.

Councillor Cairns thanked staff for the report and for the work undertaken in its preparation, noting that the motion was sensible.

Mayor Gordon also expressed his appreciation to staff for their efforts. He noted that the changes would make a meaningful difference for schools and was pleased that the NZTA subsidy was available to support the work.

8.3 Rangiora Croquet Loan Repayment Options – G MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager)

G MacLeod took the report as read. He noted that the Rangiora Croquet Club (the Club) had made significant progress in growing its membership and had invested considerable resources in improving its operations, which had, in turn, enhanced the profile of the Millton Memorial Reserve.

Deputy Mayor Redmond questioned whether the Club had made any repayments since the loan was granted. G MacLeod confirmed that no repayments had been made. The Council had granted several deferrals (2016, 2019, and a further COVID-related reprieve), due primarily to the Club's focus on establishing national-standard croquet lawns and maintaining financial sustainability during periods of growth and disruption.

Deputy Mayor Redmond enquired what the purpose of the loan had been. G MacLeod explained that it was a cost-sharing contribution toward the construction of the Club building.

In a supplementary question Deputy Mayor Redmond further enquired whether the Council provided the Club with an annual grant. G MacLeod confirmed that the Club did not receive any grant funding from the Council.

Mayor Gordon asked what funds the Club had raised for the development of the croquet lawns and associated improvements. G MacLeod advised that the Club had invested more than \$100,000 into the greens, in addition to a substantial number of volunteer hours dedicated to their maintenance.

Mayor Gordon noted that a request had been made to consider normalising the surface for car parking and asked whether staff had investigated this. G MacLeod advised that this work had not yet progressed.

Councillor Fulton questioned the nature of the original concept plan for the Club and the history of its engagement with staff. G MacLeod explained that the facility's development to a national standard was the result of the expertise the Club brought to maintaining the croquet lawns and the diligence with which they cared for the asset. He noted that the project had not originally been intended to create a national-level facility; rather, the initial objective was to ensure the Club had an appropriate location from which to operate and the capacity to grow its membership.

Councillor Cairns observed that the Club's annual financial position was modest, with income of less than \$15,000 per year, while expenditure on plant, mowers, and greens maintenance amounted to approximately \$10,000. Affiliation fees were just under \$5,000. He noted that the Club was contributing a significant amount towards the management of what was, in effect, a Council asset. G MacLeod clarified that the Council's level of service did not include ownership or maintenance of croquet lawns; the Club held a ground lease, and if the Club were not present, the Council would not necessarily provide a croquet facility at that location.

Councillor Cairns further queried whether, based on a membership of 65, an additional \$50 per member would be a manageable contribution. G MacLeod advised that staff had been discussing options to reduce the loan to a more manageable level. He noted that the Club preferred that the loan be converted into a grant.

Moved: Councillor Ward

Seconded: Councillor Doody

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260203019437.
- (b) **Requests** a report looking into the options of waiving the loan repayment options.

CARRIED

Councillor Ward commented that the Club, through its volunteer commitment and longstanding pride in its facilities, had achieved a great deal over many years without receiving the level of Council support that many other sporting clubs enjoyed. She considered the requested amount modest and emphasised the facility's importance to residents' health and safety. Councillor Ward noted the Club's significant pride in its asset and expressed the view that the Council should forgive the full amount and convert it into a grant.

Councillor Doody observed the substantial work the Club had undertaken to enhance the premises and acknowledged the effort invested in maintaining and beautifying the site. She commended the Club for its dedication and stated that it would be appropriate for the Council to provide support; therefore, she supported the motion.

Councillor Cairns indicated his support for the motion. He noted that the matter ultimately concerned service levels: the Council did not provide this level of service itself; the Club delivered it. Councillor Cairns observed that if the Council were required to provide such a service directly, it would not be financially feasible.

Councillor Fulton also supported the motion. He noted that one consideration for the future was whether the Council should apply grants more broadly, and whether a combination of grants and loans might be appropriate.

Mayor Gordon expressed his support for the motion. He noted he had attended numerous meetings with the Club over time and was pleased that the matter was now concluding. Mayor Gordon stated that he did not wish to see the Club burdened by a loan it could not reasonably service. He acknowledged the significant work undertaken to develop and maintain the grounds and observed that croquet was a growing sport that contributed positively to the health and wellbeing of residents.

Deputy Mayor Redmond also supported the motion. He anticipated that the forthcoming report would outline a range of options, including full remission of the loan. He indicated that his personal preference would be for the loan to be reduced or repaid over time through annual Council grants, which would avoid establishing an undesirable precedent or any perception of undue influence, while still recognising the substantial work the Club had undertaken in developing its greens.

In her right of reply, Councillor Ward thanked members for their support. She stated that she did not believe time and resources should be spent on prolonging a matter whose conclusion was, in her view, inevitable.

8.4 **Keep Rangiora Beautiful Distribution of Funds and to Dissolve** – Grant MacLeod (Community Greenspace Manager)

Item 8.4 was withdrawn from the agenda and is rescheduled for consideration at the 5 May 2026 Council meeting, along with a deputation from Keep Rangiora Beautiful.

8.5 **Fee Waiver Terms of Reference and Grants Scheme Update** – K Howat (Parks and Facilities Team Leader)

K Howat spoke to the report, noting that the Council was being requested to consider the revision of the Fee Waiver Subcommittee's Terms of Reference. He advised that the revised Terms of Reference included four minor amendments. The key amendment pertained to clarifying reporting requirements, confirming that Building and Resource Consent fee waiver applications must be presented to the Subcommittee via a formal Council report prepared by staff, including an assessment against the criteria and financial considerations.

Moved: Councillor Doody

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Redmond

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260309072023.
- (b) **Approves** the revised Terms of Reference for the Fee Waivers Subcommittee (Trim 260311073809).
- (c) **Notes** that only minor updates have been made to ensure the Fee Waivers Subcommittee is appropriately constituted to continue carrying out its previously delegated responsibilities.
- (d) **Notes** that fee waivers for facility hire costs totalling \$8,439.98 were approved for 12 community groups. That consent grant funding totalling \$8,000 was approved for two community groups for the period 1 July to 31 December 2025.
- (e) **Notes** that the annual budget for Fee Waiver is \$39,710 and that there is currently \$23,270 remaining for the second half of the financial year.
- (f) **Circulates** the report to the Community Boards for information.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Redmond commented that he had served on the Subcommittee since its establishment. Matters for Subcommittee consideration had grown to include Building and Resource Consent matters, so it was appropriate that they received a report when dealing with those matters. He thanked the staff for updating the terms of reference.

8.6 **Storm-Related Tree Damage Response** – K Howat (Parks and Facilities Team Leader)

K Howat spoke to the report, informing the Council of the additional expenditure incurred as a result of storm-related tree damage from the October and November 2025 wind events, and highlighted the associated risks to the Waimakariri District's tree stock.

Councillor Goldsworthy asked whether the Council currently assessed the risk factors associated with wind events. K Howat advised that the existing maintenance programme operated on a seven-year cycle for rural trees and a four-year cycle for urban trees. He noted that the recent appointment of a Tree Asset Officer, who was an experienced arborist, would increase the Council's capacity to undertake mitigation work. Where staff identified areas of concern, contractors were requested to carry out an assessment.

Responding to a further question from Councillor Goldsworthy, K Howat confirmed that no trees had been identified as areas of concern. He noted that approximately 95% of storm-related damage involved fallen limbs rather than wind-thrown trees.

Councillor McLaren enquired whether the current budget was sufficient to anticipate and respond to inevitable future events, and G MacLeod advised that staff were actively working on this matter.

Moved: Councillor Ward

Seconded: Councillor McLaren

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260305070118.
- (b) **Notes** the total unbudgeted expenditure of \$102,759.08 was required to respond to the storm-related tree damage.
- (c) **Notes** that this will result in a forecast overspend in the 2025/26 Street, Reserve and Cemetery Tree Maintenance operations budget.
- (d) **Notes** that staff will review the current maintenance frequencies contained within the Street, Reserve and Cemetery Tree maintenance contract to ensure that current levels of service accurately reflect changes in impacts of weather events and report this back to the Community and Recreation Committee prior to the Long-Term Plan.
- (e) **Circulates** this report to Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

Councillor Ward commented that the Waimakariri District had experienced severe wind events throughout 2025. She emphasised the importance of maintaining the Council's tree assets and ensuring ongoing upkeep. Councillor Ward congratulated staff on the appointment of a dedicated Tree Asset Officer to support this work.

Councillor McLaren thanked staff for bringing the matter to the Council's attention and expressed his support for the motion.

Councillor Mealings also supported the motion, noting that it was positive to see steps being taken to improve the care and management of the district's trees.

8.7 **Council Submissions to Central Government for the Local Government Consultation Period, February 2026** – D Caird (Senior Policy Analyst)

S Hart spoke to the report, noting that it sought endorsement of submissions made by Council staff to meet the consultation timeframes, but which could not be received at a formal Council meeting prior to the submission date. Staff created a working group across the Council to address the submissions due to the significant complexity and interdependencies among those proposals.

Moved: Councillor Ward

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260303068734.
- (b) **Endorses** the submissions as listed in the table below.

Submission name	Date draft shared with Council	Date submitted
Council response to the Department of Internal Affairs Proposed Rates Target Model	29/01/2026	4/02/2026
Council response to the Emergency Management Bill (no 2)	29/01/2026	15/02/2026
Council response to the Planning Bill	2/02/2026	13/02/2026
Council response to the Natural Environment Bill	2/02/2026	13/02/2026
Council response to the Infrastructure Funding and Finance Amendment Bill	12/02/2026	20/02/2026
Council response to the Development Levies Proposal	12/02/2026	20/02/2026
Council response to the Simplifying Local Government Proposal	5/02/2026	20/02/2026

- (c) **Notes** all submissions were shared with Elected Members in draft form prior to final review and signature by the Mayor and Chief Executive.
- (d) **Notes** that final review and signing of submissions on behalf of the Council was delegated to the Mayor and the Chief Executive at the 6 May 2025 Council Meeting.
- (e) **Notes** the following submissions are before the Select Committee, and it is anticipated these Bills will be enacted before the general election:
- Council response to the Emergency Management Bill (no 2) (Trim 260126012458).
 - Council response to the Planning Bill (Trim 260126012223).
 - Council response to the Natural Environment Bill (Trim 260126012212).
 - Council response to the Infrastructure Funding and Finance Amendment Bill (Trim 260126012878).
- (f) **Notes that** the following submissions are still policy proposals or exposure drafts of Bills. These proposals will undergo further work before being introduced to parliament. If the proposals become Bills and undergo the usual legislative process, the Council would be able to comment at the Select Committee stage:
- Council response to the Department of Internal Affairs Proposed Rates Target Model (Trim 260126012458).
 - Council response to the Development Levies Proposal (Trim 260126013052).
 - Council response to the Simplifying Local Government Proposal (Trim 260126012829).

- (g) **Circulates** the report and attached submissions to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

8.8 **Appointment to the Waimakariri Passchendaele Advisory Group** – K Rabe
(Governance Advisor)

T Kunkel spoke to the report, noting that the Waimakariri Passchendaele Advisory Group felt that community representatives would add value to the groups work. The group therefore requested that the Council consider appointing Neville Atkinson, Russell Keetley and Aaron Clark as the community representatives to the Advisory Group.

Moved: Deputy Mayor Redmond Seconded: Councillor Doody

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 260316076982.
- (b) **Confirms** the recommended appointment of N Atkinson, R Keetley and A Clark as the community representatives to the Waimakariri Passchendaele Advisory Group.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Redmond, who served as the current Chairperson of the Waimakariri Passchendaele Advisory Group, endorsed the appointment of N Atkinson, R Keetley and A Clark as the community representatives to the Advisory Group. It was believed that the community representatives' useful insights and advice would be valuable for promoting the history of the Battle of Passchendaele and the Advisory Group's work.

Mayor Gordon noted that the Advisory Group had considered identifying suitable community representatives. He advised that both N Atkinson and R Keetley, who had been leading a project relating to the Passchendaele Cycle and Walkway, were considered appropriate appointments given their passion and enthusiasm for the initiative. He further endorsed A Clark, who participated in the Rangiora Returned and Services Association (RSA)'s recent visit to Passchendaele, Belgium, and whom had ideas for strengthening the relationship with the Zonnebeke community.

Councillor Fulton commented that A Clark would be a capable addition to the Advisory Group. His enthusiasm and knowledge of the history of the Passchendaele Offensive would be a valuable contribution to the Advisory Group's work.

8.9 **Appointment of a Council representative to the Community Liaison Group for the development of Waimakariri Irrigation's Wrights Road Storage Ponds** – T Kunkel
(Governance Team Leader)

T Kunkel spoke to the report, advising that Waimakariri Irrigation Limited (WIL) was constructing storage ponds on Wrights Road, Burnt Hill. In 2013, WIL was granted a building consent, and in 2014, a Resource Consent was issued; however, those consents were subsequently challenged in the Environment Court and granted in August 2020. As part of the Environment Court ruling, WIL was instructed to facilitate the establishment of a Community Liaison Group to consult with community representatives. The Council had been requested to appoint a representative to the Community Liaison Group, and it was recommended that the Council's Portfolio Holder for Drainage, Stockwater and Three Waters (Drinking Water, Sewer and Stormwater) be appointed.

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260316077135.

- (b) **Appoints** the Council's Portfolio Holder for Drainage, Stockwater and Three Waters (Drinking Water, Sewer and Stormwater), Councillor T Fulton, as its representative to the Community Liaison Group for the development of Waimakariri Irrigation /Burnt Hill Storage Limited's Wrights Road Storage Ponds from 1 April 2026 until the end of the political triennium in 2028.
- (c) **Notes** that the Council's representative to the Community Liaison Group for the development of Waimakariri Irrigation /Burnt Hill Storage Limited's Wrights Road Storage Ponds will inform the relevant Council staff if and when required.

CARRIED

Councillor Mealings commented that, as the Council's Portfolio Holder for Drainage, Stockwater and Three Waters (Drinking Water, Sewer and Stormwater), Councillor Fulton was an appropriate appointment to the group and would make an outstanding contribution.

Councillor Ward also supported the motion, noting the importance of the development of the storage ponds system to the Waimakariri District.

8.10 **ANZAC Day Services 2026** – T Kunkel (Governance Team Leader)

T Kunkel took the report as read.

The meeting adjourned for a workshop from 12:09pm to 12:23pm to discuss the Council representation at Anzac Day services.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Ward

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No 260308071492.
- (b) **Appoints** Mayor Gordon and Councillors Doody, Mealings, and McLaren to attend the Ohoka Anzac Day service to be held at 11am on Friday, 24 April 2026, at Ohoka Hall, Mill Road, and to lay a wreath. Noting that the wreath will be laid in conjunction with the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board.
- (c) **Appoints** Deputy Mayor Redmond and Councillors Cairns and McLaren to attend the Woodend Anzac service to be held at 6pm on Friday, 24 April 2026, at the Woodend Community Centre, and to lay a wreath at the Woodend War Memorial. Noting that the Woodend-Sefton Community Board will also be laying a wreath.
- (d) **Appoints** Mayor Gordon and Councillors Bartle and Powell to attend the Sefton Anzac service to be held at 6pm on Friday, 24 April 2026, at the Sefton War Memorial, and to lay a wreath. Noting that the wreath will be laid in conjunction with the Woodend-Sefton Community Board.
- (e) **Appoints** Mayor Gordon and Councillors Powell and Cairns to attend the Pegasus Dawn Service to be held at 5.55am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at Pegasus Lake, and to lay a wreath. Noting that the wreath will be laid in conjunction with the Woodend-Sefton Community Board.
- (f) **Appoints** Mayor Gordon and Councillors Goldsworthy, McLaren and Doody to attend the Veterans Dawn Parade to be held at 6:30am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Rangiora RSA.
- (g) **Appoints** Deputy Mayor Redmond and Councillors Cairns and Bartle to attend the Kaiapoi Dawn Service to be held at 6.30am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Kaiapoi War Memorial at Raven Quay, and to lay a wreath. Noting that the wreath will be laid in conjunction with the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwī Community Board.
- (h) **Appoints** Councillors Mealings, Fulton and Doody to attend the Oxford Anzac Day service to be held at 9.30am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Oxford Cenotaph, and to lay a wreath. Noting that the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board will also be laying a wreath.

- (i) **Appoints** Councillors Goldsworthy and McLaren to attend the RSA Memorial Service to be held at 9.30am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at Rangiora High School and to lay a wreath. Noting that the wreath will be laid in conjunction with the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board.
- (j) **Appoints** Mayor Gordon and Councillors Cairns and Powell to attend the Kaiapoi Citizens' Anzac Day Service to be held at 9.45am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Kaiapoi Cenotaph (Trousselot Park), and to lay a wreath. Noting that the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board will also be laying a wreath.
- (k) **Appoints** Deputy Mayor Redmond and Councillor Bartle to lay a wreath on behalf of the people of Zonnebeke, Belgium, at the Kaiapoi Citizens' Anzac Day Service to be held at 9:45am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Kaiapoi Cenotaph (Trousselot Park).
- (l) **Appoints** Councillors Doody and Fulton to attend the Cust Anzac Day service to be held at 10am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Cust Community Centre and Cenotaph and to lay a wreath. Noting that the wreath will be laid in conjunction with the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board.
- (m) **Requests** a Rangiora-Ashley Community Board Member to attend the Fernside Anzac Day Service, to be held at 10am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Fernside Hall and to lay a wreath on behalf of the Council and the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board.
- (n) **Appoints** Mayor Gordon and Councillor McLaren to attend the Rangiora Anzac Day Service to be held at 11:30am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Rangiora Cenotaph, and to lay a wreath. Noting that the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board will also be laying a wreath.
- (o) **Appoints** Deputy Mayor Redmond and Councillor Bartle to lay a wreath on behalf of the people of Zonnebeke, Belgium, at the Rangiora Anzac Day Service to be held at 11:30am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Rangiora Cenotaph.
- (p) **Appoints** Councillors Mealings, Fulton and Doody to attend the West Eyreton Anzac Day Wreath-Laying service to be held at 11.30am on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the West Eyreton Memorial Gates, and lay a wreath. Noting that the wreath will be laid in conjunction with the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board.
- (q) **Appoints** Mayor Gordon and Councillors Goldsworthy, McLaren, and Doody to attend the Striking of the Flag at 1:30pm on Saturday, 25 April 2026, at the Loburn War Memorial, and lay a wreath. Noting that the wreath will be laid in conjunction with the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board.
- (r) **Circulates** a copy of this report to all Community Boards for information, noting a separate report to the Community Boards appointing their representatives.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon acknowledged the Governance Teams' support and commended the work done to support elected members on Anzac Day.

8.11 **Adoption of the 2025-2028 Governance Statement** – S Nichols (Governance Manager)

C Genet took the report as read and provided members with an overview of the proposed minor amendments to the Council's 2025-2028 Governance Statement, including updates to elected members' details following the 2025 Local Government election and to Waimakariri District population figures.

Responding to Councillor Powell's question, T Kunkel advised that workshops, as non-decision-making meetings, which were also not subject to the Standing Orders, would not be defined as official meetings under the Governance Statement.

Councillor Mealings questioned the status of the Waimakariri Biodiversity Trust. J Millward confirmed that the Trust was not a Council-controlled organisation, hence it was not included in the Governance Statement.

Mayor Gordon sought confirmation of the Waimakariri District population figures included in the 2025-2028 Governance Statement, and C Genet stated that the district's total population was reflected as 74,073.

Councillor Fulton asked whether the Waimakariri-Rakahuri CWMS Leadership Group should be included in the Governance Statement. J Millward noted that the Governance Statement did not include future Council Committees or functions.

Moved: Councillor Powell

Seconded: Councillor Cairns

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260116007181.
- (b) **Adopts** the Governance Statement document for the 2025-28 triennium (Trim 260116007098), which will be placed on the Council website.
- (c) **Approves** the Governance Manager to undertake any minor edits prior to finalisation.
- (d) **Circulates** a copy of the document to the Community Boards.

CARRIED

8.12 **Ratification of the Canterbury Local Government Triennium Agreement** – S Nichols
(Governance Manager)

C Genet spoke to the report, noting that it sought ratification of the Canterbury Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement (the Agreement) 2025–28, including the terms of reference for the Canterbury Mayoral Forum. The Agreement formalises how councils in Canterbury communicate, co-operate, and collaborate, and mandates the Mayoral Forum as the primary mechanism for implementing it.

Moved: Councillor Goldsworthy

Seconded: Councillor Fulton

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260310073255.
- (b) **Approves** the Canterbury Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement 2025-28. (Trim 260310073504).
- (c) **Authorises** Mayor Gordon to sign the Canterbury Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement 2025-28 on behalf of the Waimakariri District Council.

CARRIED

9. **HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING**

9.1 **Health, Safety and Wellbeing Report February 2026 and March 2026** – J Millward (Chief Executive)

J Millward took the report as read, and there were no questions from elected members.

Moved: Councillor Bartle

Seconded: Councillor Doody

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260317078053.
- (b) **Notes** that there were no Worksafe notifiable incidents this month. The organisation is, so far as is reasonably practicable, compliant with the duties of a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.

- (c) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for their information.

CARRIED

10. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION

10.1 Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting 17 February 2026

Moved: Councillor Ward

Seconded: Councillor McLaren

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Item 10.1 for information.

CARRIED

11. COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES FOR INFORMATION

11.1 Minutes of the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board meeting 4 February 2026

11.2 Minutes of the Woodend-Sefton Community Board meeting of 9 February 2026

11.3 Minutes of the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board meeting 11 February 2026

11.4 Minutes of the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board meeting 16 February 2026

Moved: Councillor Powell

Seconded: Councillor Bartle

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Items 11.1 to 11.4 for information.

CARRIED

12. COUNCIL PORTFOLIO UPDATES

12.1 **Iwi Relationships** – Mayor Dan Gordon

Mayor Gordon acknowledged the recent Annual Hui, noting that it had been an excellent event and a strong start to the year. He emphasised the importance of the Council's relationship with the Rūnanga and stated that preserving and strengthening that relationship was of significant value. Mayor Gordon regarded the Hui as a meaningful engagement and expressed his intention to continue supporting it in the years ahead.

12.2 **Greater Christchurch Partnership Update** – Mayor Dan Gordon

Mayor Gordon reported that at the previous Greater Christchurch Partnership meeting, a recommendation was adopted to place the partnership model on hold while the Government undertook work on its proposed reforms to simplify local government.

12.3 **Government Reforms** – Mayor Dan Gordon

Mayor Gordon noted that no further information had been received regarding the likely timing or implementation of the Government's proposed reforms. He advised that, in various discussions he had participated in across a range of local government forums, Government representatives had indicated they would engage with Local Government New Zealand before implementing any changes.

12.4 **Climate Change and Sustainability** – Councillor Niki Mealings

Councillor Mealings highlighted the following:

- The Organisational Greenhouse Gas Footprint 2024/25 Draft Report was progressing well and should be completed by the end of March 2026.

- The first meeting of the Biodiversity Champions and the Canterbury Climate Reference Group, which had representatives from 11 Canterbury councils, was held. Everybody was pleased to be back on board. It was interesting to hear from the smaller councils that still found significant value in being part of these groups.
- Food resilience, the Greenspace Team was overseeing an intern from Massey University who was working on a food resilience project and was trying to get a handle on our food resilience.
- Food Secure North Canterbury transferred to an intern.

12.5 **International Relationships** – Deputy Mayor Philip Redmond

Waimakariri Passchendaele Advisory Group – the Council had confirmed three community appointments.

13. **QUESTIONS**

Nil.

14. **URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

15. **MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Moved: Councillor Cairns

Seconded: Councillor Fulton

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act (or sections 6, 7 or 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may be), it is moved that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

- 15.1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of Council Meeting 3 March 2026
- 15.2 25/128 Mandeville Resurgence Drainage Upgrade – Stage 1A Tender Approval and Request to bring forward budget
- 15.3 Variation to Bellgrove Private Developer Agreement
- 15.4 Potential Strategic Property Acquisition, Rangiora

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public was excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution were as follows:

Item No	Subject	Reason for excluding the public	Grounds for excluding the public.
MINUTES			
15.1	Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of Council Meeting 3 March 2026	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	To protect the privacy of natural persons and enable the local authority to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial), and maintain legal professional privilege. LGOIMA Section 7 (2)(a), (g) and (i).
WATER SERVICES			
15.3	25/128 Mandeville Resurgence Drainage Upgrade – Stage 1A Tender Approval and Request to bring forward the budget	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	To enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities and enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations). LGOIMA Section 7(2)(h) and (i).

REPORTS			
15.4	Variation to Bellgrove Private Developer Agreement	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	To enable the Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities and enable the Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations and make available the information is likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the developer and the Council. LGOIMA Section 7(2)(bii), (h) and (i)
15.5	Potential Strategic Property Acquisition, Rangiora	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	To protect the privacy of natural persons and enable the local authority to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial), and maintain legal professional privilege. LGOIMA Section 7 (2)(a), (g) and (i).

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING

The public-excluded portion of the meeting was held from 12:50pm to 1:41pm.

OPEN MEETING

15.3 **Variation to Bellgrove Private Developer Agreement** – C Roxburgh (Project Delivery Manager) and J McSloy (Development Manager)

Moved: Councillor Mealings Seconded: Councillor McLaren

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260318078931.
- (b) **Agrees** to a variation of the Bellgrove Private Developer Agreement to incorporate the properties at 249 and 257 Coldstream Road, noting this is subject to the sale and purchase completing and the further detail proposed under recommendation (c).

CARRIED

16. NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of the Council is scheduled for Tuesday, 5 May 2026, commencing at 9am to be held in the Kaikanui Room, Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre, 176 Williams Street, Kaiapoi.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1:41PM.

CONFIRMED

Chairperson
Mayor Dan Gordon

5 May 2026

Date