

Ruapehu District Council Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTES

THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE
IN THE PARK HOTEL, MILLAR STREET, NATIONAL PARK
ON FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2023, AT 10:00 AM

PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

Present Tuhinga

Mayor	Weston Kirton
Deputy Mayor	Vivienne Hoeta
Councillors	Robyn Gram
	Janelle Hinch
	Channey Iwikau
	Rabbit Nottage
	Brenda Ralph
	Korty Wilson

By Zoom	
Councillor	Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase

In Attendance I Tae Mai

ELT	Clive Manley	Chief Executive
	Vini Dutra	Executive Manager Infrastructure
	Lyn Hura	Executive Manager People, Capability & Safety
	Sharon Robinson	Executive Manager Regulatory & Customer Services
	Quentin Speers	Executive Manager, Finance, Strategy & Governance
	Pauline Welch	Executive Manager Community & Economic Development
Officers	Paul Wheatcroft	Executive Manager Communications
	Candice McNaught	Manager Community Relationships and Wellbeing
	Melissa Jackson	Manager Policy & Strategy
	Karee Cadman	Strategy & Policy Advisor
	Slade Rees	Strategy & Policy Intern
	Anne-Marie Westcott	Environmental Manager
	Kay Kidd	Executive Assistant to the Mayor
	Tasha Paladin	Governance Manager
	Adrian Leineweber	AV and IT Technician

	Robert Milne	Ruapehu Bulletin
By Zoom	Michelle Austin	Rates Team Leader
	Rina Hepi	Manager Community & Recreational Facilities
	Holly Buckley	Housing & Facilities Support Manager

External Speakers

		Item
Simon Willocks	Quotable Value Limited	9
Jo Kennedy	Visit Ruapehu Limited	12

Absent | Ngaro

Councillors Lyn Neeson

1 Opening Karakia | Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Wilson

2 Apologies

The Chairperson invited notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Hinch
Seconded: Councillor Wilson

That the Apologies from Councillor Neeson, and Councillor Iwikau (lateness) be accepted

3 Declarations of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4 Notification of Additional Items

There were no additional items not on the Agenda.

5 Confirmation of Order of Meeting

The order of the meeting was confirmed as taking the Public Business Excluded Business of Council will be taken before the Public Business Items. Item 9 Deputation: General Revaluation for Ruapehu District will also be taken after Item 12 Visit Ruapehu Quarterly Update.

The Meeting will adjourn at 12:00PM for the presentation of the Ruapehu District Citizens' Awards and luncheon.

13 Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business

Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 gives the Council the right by resolution to exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on one or more of the grounds contained within that Section.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Ralph
 Seconded: Councillor Hinch

That the Council:

1. Receives the Report **Resolution to Exclude the Public for Consideration of Council Business**;
2. Excludes the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting;
3. Notes the general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public, as specified under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
14 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes of the previous Council Meeting.	For the reasons set out in the Public Business Minutes of the Council Meeting 22 November 2023.	
15 Empowering Communities, Enhancing Lives Fund Applications for Allocation of Funding	s7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons. The detail of the applications and analysis of the applications needs to be confidential to protect the persons involved. s7(2)(b) To protect information which if public would disclose a trade secret; or unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.	s48(1)(a) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7.
16 Confidential Briefing by the Chief Executive.		s48(1)(a) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7.

The meeting closed to the Public at 10:10 AM, and reopened at 10:38 AM

6 Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders

There were no requests for Public Participation

7 Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting(s)**RESOLVED**

Moved: Councillor Wilson
Seconded: Councillor Ralph

That the Council:

1. Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Ruapehu District Council Meeting held Wednesday, 22 November 2023 as attached, as a true and correct record.

9 Adoption Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023

Members received a report for the purpose of adopting the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy deliberated at the previous Council meeting in November 2023. Council's Strategy & Policy Advisor spoke to the report and answered Members' questions.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Hinch
Seconded: Councillor Wilson

That the Council:

1. Receives the Report **Adoption Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy**; and
2. Adopts the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023 effective 15 December 2023.

Councillor Ralph requested her vote AGAINST the motion be recorded.

10 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Update

Members were presented with an update on the progress of the review of Ruapehu District Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP). Under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, Council is required to have a WMMP and undertake regular reviews at least every six years. The review also requires a Waste Assessment and consultation with the Medical Officers of Te Whatu Ora New Zealand Waikato and Whanganui.

Council's Environmental Manager and Manager Policy & Strategy spoke to the report and answered Members' questions. Member asked if Council received funding for the changes required. Officers advised that under the Waste Management Act, Council is required to undertake a review every six years however the previous plan did not have reference to the new strategy and therefore Council needed to undertake a Waste Assessment; the costs were covered under the waste levy.

The next phase of the development of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan is to go out for consultation with stakeholders. Officers are working with Para Kore to explore opportunities to divert marae waste as well as extending practices to the wider community. Members expressed the need to continue to further develop iwi Māori relationships to develop the right process to enable and support those at the table to make the right decisions.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Hinch
Seconded: Councillor Wilson

That the Council:

1. Receives the Report **Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Update**;
2. Notes that Ruapehu District Council has completed a Waste Assessment dated August 2023, as required under section 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008; and has consulted with the necessary Medical Officers of Health in relation to that Waste Assessment;
3. Considers its 2018-2028 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan in light of the August 2023 Waste Assessment; and
4. Instructs Council Officers to proceed with Option 1: the preparation of a new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, in accordance with section 43(3) of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

11	Visit Ruapehu Quarterly Update: December 2023
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Jo Kennedy of Visit Ruapehu provided Members with an update on Visit Ruapehu's activities. She shared that Visit Ruapehu will now be located at the rear of the Ohakune isite.

Locally, the benefit from a strong ski season was felt however, the region is currently seeing a softening of domestic visitors. With the cessation of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) funding, there is less available budget for domestic promotion, however, Visit Ruapehu will continue to give life to Tahia Ko Puanga, the Ruapehu Destination Management Plan, in all its work, within the budget confines. Members congratulated and acknowledged the efforts of Visit Ruapehu over the last 12 months.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Hinch
 Seconded: Councillor Nottage

That the Council:

1. Receives and notes the Report **Visit Ruapehu Quarterly Update: December 2023** for information.

8	General Revaluation for Ruapehu District
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*Note: Councillor Ralph left the meeting at 11:32AM, and re-entered at 11:34AM.
 Councillor Gram left the meeting at 11:53AM, and re-entered at 11:55AM*

Members received a briefing on the outcomes of the General Revaluation undertaken by Quotable Value Limited every three years. The council's Rates Team Leader introduced Simon Willocks of Quotable Value Limited who provided an overview of the process and answered Members' questions.

It was shared that the valuation for the Ruapehu District was delayed by two months and a resubmission was requested by the Office of the Valuer General due to uncertainty in the market and the need to revalue a considerable number of properties. It was noted there was no cost to the rate payer if objections and re-valuation inspections were requested by individuals.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Hinch
 Seconded: Councillor Nottage

That the Council:

1. Receives the Report **Deputation: General Revaluation for Ruapehu District** for information.

12 Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Verbal Reports.

Members each gave verbal updates on recent and upcoming events, and other matters of general and topical interest to the District.

The Meeting adjourned for the presentation of the Ruapehu District Citizens' Awards at 12:07PM

Ruapehu District Citizens' Awards

On behalf of the Councillors and the Citizens of the Ruapehu District, Mayor Kirton and Luigi Hotter, Chair of the Waimarino-Waiouru Community Board presented Joseph Callaghan with the Waimarino-Waiouru Citizens' Award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the community through his commitment and leadership of the Waiouru Taekwondo Club.

On behalf of the Councillors and the Citizens of the Ruapehu District, Mayor Kirton then presented Stuart Shaw with the Northern Ruapehu Citizens' Award in recognition of his many years of volunteer work on community improvement initiatives and the role model he provides for the youth of the Taumarunui community.

Closing Karakia | Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Iwikau

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 12:22PM

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held this 28th day of February 2024.



Weston Kirton, JP
MAYOR

Items Brought Into the Public Business Minutes

Note: Councillor Iwikau joined the meeting at 10:30AM.

Members received a report presenting the applications received for the Empowering Communities, Enhancing Lives Fund that was designed to fund projects that would enhance the wellbeings and provide long-term benefits to improve the overall quality of life in a community. Projects needed to be sustainable, not have ongoing costs to rates for operations or maintenance. They also needed to be located in Ruapehu and have community support. The funding pool came from the Better off Three Waters Funding from the previous government.

Council’s Executive Manager Community & Economic Development spoke to the report and answered Members’ questions. Members were presented with the one district-wide application for decision; community wide decisions will be made by the Community Boards.

Members asked if there was an opportunity to narrow the list and hear the applicants present their project proposals. Council’s Chief Executive advised the Community Boards would have that option if they chose to take it up; the pool of applications was predominantly place making and therefore within the remit of Community Boards. The Chief Executive shared his concerns with the district-wide application and highlighted the potential risk to Council being associated with digital safety and data protection.

Members felt they did not have enough information on the application to make a decision on the funding. Mayor Kirton suggested that perhaps the Council should listen to the applicant and hold funding back in case Council approves it; or alternatively agree to distribute 100% of the funds to the Community Boards.

RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Nottage
 Seconded: Councillor Gram

That the Council:

1. Receives the Confidential Report **Empowering Communities, Enhancing Lives Fund Applications for Allocation of Funding**;
2. **Withholds** \$67,000 for further consideration and allocates the remaining \$355,417 to be apportioned in line with the Department of Internal Affairs allocation method with the deprivation level of the area weighted at 20%, and the population at 80% as follows:

Waimarino-Waiouru Community Board	36%	\$127,950
Ōwhango-National Park Community Board	12%	\$42,650
Taumarunui-Ōhura Community Board	52%	\$184,817

3. **Does** record this resolution in the Public Business Minutes of this meeting; and
4. **Does Not** release a redacted version of this report as publicly available information until the funding decisions of Council and the Community Boards are formally announced.

Councillors Hinch and Kahukura Hadley-Chase declared a conflict of interest in the item and abstained from voting.