

Public minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 18 May 2023

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.30am

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (Chair) (from 10.13am, Presiding Member from 10.59am)
Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair) (Presiding Member from 9.30am to 10.40am)
Councillor Bassett
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ropata
Councillor Saw
Councillor Woolf

Councillor Staples, as the Council Deputy Chair, presided at the meeting in the absence of the Council Chair.

Karakia timatanga

The Presiding Member opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Nash

That the Council accepts the apology for lateness from Councillor Ponter, due to his attendance at other Council business.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Conflicts of interest declarations

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Fiona Hodge, East Harbour Kindergarten, spoke to agenda item 14 – Greater Wellington’s Quarter 3 Summary Report (Report 23.188), and tabled a letter.

Noted: Council requested that officers consider the installation of a bus shelter outside East Harbour Kindergarten (stops 8848 and 9848), and report to the Transport Committee.

4 Petition: Preserve Belmont (Farm) Park

Sandra Stevenson, Peter Law, Paul Nation and Gill Kennedy tabled a petition to preserve farming in Belmont Regional Park.

Noted: Council noted that the master planning process for Belmont Regional Park is about to commence and that the Preserve Belmont (Farm) Park group would be engaged with as part of this process.

5 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 30 March 2023 – Report 23.133

Moved: Cr Bassett / Cr Laban

That the Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 30 March 2023 - Report 23.133.

The motion was **carried**.

6 Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 30 March 2023 - Report PE23.134

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Gaylor

That the Council confirms the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 30 March 2023 - Report 23.134

The motion was **carried**.

Strategy, policy or major issues

7 Feedback On The Draft Annual Plan 2023/24 And Budget Finalisation – Report 23.177

Alex Smith, Team Leader, Corporate Planning and Reporting, and Ali Trustrum-Rainey, Chief Financial Officer, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Nash

That Council:

- 1 Notes that at its meeting on 30 March 2023, Council agreed to an 'Inform and Engage' approach for the Annual Plan 2023/24 as no significant or material changes have been proposed from Greater Wellington's Long Term Plan 2021-31.
- 2 Notes the feedback from the public as summarised in this report and in Attachment 1.
- 3 Notes the final Annual Plan 2023/24 and the related resolutions on rates and charges for 2023/24 will be presented to the 29 June 2023 Council meeting for formal adoption.
- 4 Notes that an increase in insurance premiums of \$800k has been applied to the Annual Plan 2023/24 budget, and that any rates increase associated with this cost increase has been mitigated.
- 5 Approves an increase in the Public Transport debt funding for the 2023/24 lower farebox revenue from \$4 million up to \$15million, noting that as this loan would be taken out at the end of the financial year it would have no rates impact in the 2023/24 but would impact subsequent years
- 6 Approves the reinstatement of \$250k expenditure to the WellingtonNZ budget, noting that this will have no additional rates impact in 2023/24.
- 7 Agrees to the 17.8 percent average regional rates increase, as described in the public engagement material approved by the Council at their Meeting on 30 March (Annual Plan 2023.24 Engagement, 23.100).

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Ponter arrived at the meeting at 10.13am, during questions of the above item.

The meeting adjourned at 10.40am and resumed at 10.59am. Councillor Staples vacated the chair when the meeting adjourned, and the Councillor Ponter assumed the chair when the meeting resumed.

8 Uniform Annual General Charge and general rates analysis – Report 23.178 [For information]

Kyn Drake, Project Manager, Three Waters Reform and Financial Policies, spoke to the report.

Governance

9 Policy on Elected Members' Allowances and Expenditure – Report 23.164

Will Ogier, Principal Advisor, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Staples

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the proposed revised *Policy on Elected Members' Allowance and Expenses* requires the subsequent approval of the Remuneration Authority before it can take effect as the policy includes provisions (on flu vaccinations and personal and work-related support) that are outside the Remuneration Authority's Annual Local Government Members Determination.
- 2 Adopts the revised *Policy on Elected Members' Allowance and Expenses* (Attachment 3).

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: Council requested that officers prepare a remit for the Local Government New Zealand AGM seeking that the Remuneration Authority considers mode neutrality and mode shift when setting travel related allowances for elected members.

10 Sensitive Expenditure (Elected Members) Policy - Report 23.93

Will Ogier, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Bassett

That Council:

- 1 Notes its prior resolution that any proposed involvement of the Chair of the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee in Greater Wellington business outside of their specific Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee role shall require a prior authorising Council resolution (Report PE22.520).
- 2 Agrees to the Chair of the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee on the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer approving the Council Chair's expenditure under the *Sensitive Expenditure (Elected Members) Policy*.
- 3 Adopts the revised *Sensitive Expenditure (Elected Members) Policy* (Attachment 2).

The motion was **carried**.

11 Delegation of use of the common seal - Report 23.152

Will Ogier, Kaitohutohu Matua Principal Advisor, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Bassett / Cr Saw

That Council:

- 1 Revokes (effective 22 May 2023) the delegation made by the Council on 20 May 2019 to the General Manager Corporate Services to affix the common seal.

- 2 Revokes (effective 22 May 2023) the delegation made by the Council with effect from 31 August 2015 to the General Manager People and Customer to affix the common seal.
- 3 Delegates authority to each of the Group Manager People and Customer and the Group Manager Corporate Services (effective 22 May 2023) the power to affix the common seal of the Council when it is required to be fixed by law, including:
 - a When issuing a warrant to any officer authorised to enter private land on behalf of the Council in accordance with section 174(1) of the Local Government Act 2002
 - b When issuing a permit pursuant to section 417(1)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA)
 - c When approving a plan of survey of reclamation (as the consent authority) in accordance with section 245(5) of the RMA
 - d When effecting any policy statement or plan (other than a regional coastal plan) under clause 17(3) of the First Schedule to the RMA
 - e When effecting the adoption of any regional coastal plan under clause 18(2) of the First Schedule to the RMA
 - f When executing any Memorandum of Transfer pursuant to section 80 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002
 - g When adopting a regional pest management plan under section 77 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
 - h When adopting a regional pathway management plan under section 97 of the Biosecurity Act 1993or when it is prudent and in the interests of good local government to affix the seal to a document.
- 4 Confirms that the delegation to the Chief Executive to affix the common seal, made by the Council on 21 May 2014 remains in effect.

The motion was **carried**.

12 Power of Attorney to sign deeds - Report 23.150

Francis Ryan, Manager, Governance and Democracy and Will Ogier, Principal Advisor, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Ropata

That Council:

- 1 Grants (effective 22 May 2023) a Power of Attorney to Susan McLean, Group Manager, to sign deeds on behalf of the Council.

- 2 Confirms the Power of Attorney granted to Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, on 28 September 2021, and confirms that the Power of Attorney granted to Samantha Gain, General Manager, on 21 June 2019 ,remains effective in her new role of Group Manager.
- 3 Authorises two Councillors to sign the Power of Attorney document (Attachment 1) as a deed.

The motion was **carried**.

13 Whaitua Kāpiti Committee Terms of Reference – Report 23.176

Nicola Patrick, Director, Catchment, and Tim Sharp, Whaitua Programme Manager spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Lee

That Council:

- 1 Notes the proposed alteration to allow Whaitua Kāpiti Committee remuneration to be paid to mana whenua partners instead of only to their Committee representatives.
- 2 Notes that the amendment to the Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee was requested by mana whenua to support the Tiriti House model.
- 3 Approves the proposed Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee (Attachment 2).
- 4 Agrees that the Chief Executive should liaise with the Chief Executive of Kāpiti Coast District Council to work towards pay equity for the Kāpiti Coast District Councillor appointed to the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee.

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: With regard to paragraph 8 of Report 23.176, the Council noted that the terms of reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee have built on a treaty partnership approach that has evolved in the development of preceding whaitua implementation plans.

14 Greater Wellington’s Quarter Three Summary Report - Report 23.188

Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Nash

That Council accepts Greater Wellington’s performance report for the nine months to 31 March 2023 (Greater Wellington’s Quarter Three Summary Report as at 31 March 2023 – Attachment 1).

The motion was **carried**.

15 Finance update - year to date to March 23 – Report 23.179 [For information]

Ali Trustrum-Rainey, Chief Financial Officer, and Darryl Joyce, Manager, Accounting Services, spoke to the report.

Resolution to exclude the public

16 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 23.187

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That the Council excludes the public from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Mana whenua appointments to committees - Report PE23.169

Appointment of member to the Farming Reference Group - Report PE23.166

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific ground/s under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Mana whenua appointments to committees - Report PE23.169	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about candidates for appointment to the Long Term Plan Committee, Wellington Regional Leadership Committee, and Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River Valley Subcommittee. Release of this information is likely to prejudice the privacy of natural persons (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as releasing this information would disclose their consideration for appointment as a Committee member.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has considered whether the public interest outweighs the need to withhold the information and has determined that there is no public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.</p>

override the need to withhold the information.	
Appointment of member to the Farming Reference Group - Report PE23.166	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about a proposed candidate for appointment. Release of this information prior to Council's decision is likely to prejudice the privacy of natural persons (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as releasing this information would disclose their consideration for appointment to the Farming Reference Group.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.</p>

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Act and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.

The motion was **carried**.

The public part of the meeting closed at 12.16pm.



Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date: 15 JUNE 2023