

Tuesday, 23 September 2025

*Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga*

**Hastings District Council: Council Meeting**

*Ngā Minitī*

# Minutes

*Te Rā Hui:*

Meeting date:

**Tuesday, 23 September 2025**

Venue

**Council Chamber  
Ground Floor  
Civic Administration Building  
Lyndon Road East  
Hastings**

Time start - end

**1.00pm – 2.49pm**

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# Minutes

*Te Rārangi Upoko*

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*Ngā Minitī*

# Minutes

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*Kua Tae ā-tinana:* **Chair - Tiamana:** Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst  
**Present:** **Councillors - Ngā KaiKaunihera:**  
Councillors Ana Apatu, Marcus Buddo, Alwyn Corban, Malcolm Dixon, Michael Fowler, Damon Harvey, Henry Heke, Kellie Jessup, Tania Kerr (Deputy Mayor), Hana Montaperto-Hendry, Simon Nixon, Wendy Schollum and Kevin Watkins

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*Kua Tatū:*  
**In attendance:** Chief Executive - Nigel Bickle  
Deputy Chief Executive - Bruce Allan  
Group Manager: Infrastructure - Craig Thew  
Group Manager: Democracy & Emergency Management – Craig Cameron  
Group Manager: Community Wellbeing and Services – Rebekah Dinwoodie  
Interim Group Manager: Strategy – Gus Charteris  
Chief Financial Officer – Graham Watson  
General Counsel – Scott Smith  
3 Waters Manager – Steve Cave  
3 Waters Operations Manager – David Mackenzie  
Management Accountant - Development Contributions – Richard Elgie  
Media Communications Advisor – Nicki Harper  
Manager: Democracy and Governance Services – Louise Stettner  
Senior Advisor, Democracy and Governance Services – Lynne Cox  
Democracy and Governance Advisor – Caitlyn Dine

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*Kei Konei:*  
**Also present:** Submitters: Liz Davis, Aku Coombs and Tony Ashworth – Item 5  
Grey Wilson from Good Earth Matters and James Taylor from Development Partners – Item 6  
Members of the public were present in the gallery.

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**1. OPENING PRAYER - KARAKIA**

The opening prayer was given by Councillor Heke.

**2. APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE - NGĀ WHAKAPĀHATANGA ME TE WEHENGĀ Ā-HUI**

There were no apologies. Leave of absence had previously been granted to Councillor Te Au-Skipworth.

**3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - HE NGĀKAU KŌNATUNATU**

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - TE WHAKAMANA I NGĀ MINITI**

Councillor Kerr/Councillor Dixon

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held Thursday 21 August 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record.

CARRIED

**RECOMMENDATION TO PUBLICLY EXCLUDE SUBMISSIONS (ATTACHMENTS 1-27)**

Mayor Hazlehurst/Councillor Buddo

That submissions (attachments 1 – 27) for the Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme be publicly excluded in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 Section 7 (2) (a) – The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons including that of a deceased person.

CARRIED

**5. WHAKATŪ WEST STORMWATER SCHEME - FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS**

(Document ref 25/366)

**Liz Davis (Johnston Park)**

The submitter spoke to their submission.

**Aku Coombs (Engineering Welding and Maintenance)**

The submitter spoke to their submission.

**Tony Ashworth (Ortem Trading Co Ltd)**

The submitter spoke to their submission.

Mayor Hazlehurst announced that livestreaming of the meeting had commenced.

3 Waters Manager, Steve Cave, spoke to the report, delivered a PowerPoint presentation (CG-17-1-01857), and responded to questions from the meeting.

Chief Executive, Nigel Bickle provided background commentary to support the discussion.

Group Manager: Infrastructure, Craig Thew, responded to questions from the meeting.

Group Manager: Democracy and Emergency Management, Craig Cameron, outlined Option 1 of the report and recommended that Deputy Chief Executive Bruce Allan present the formal recommendations.

Mr Allan then stated the recommendations A) to G) for consideration.

Councillor Kerr/Councillor Fowler

- A) That Council receive the report titled Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme - further consideration of submissions dated 23 September 2025.
- B) That Council notes it has received and considered written submissions and heard verbal submissions on the Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme Proposal.
- C) That Council notes receipt of new correspondence from Lowe Corporation Ltd stating their support for the Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme Proposal and proposed two tiered differential rate. And that Lowe Corporation Ltd withdraw their request for their developed land to be recategorized as Zone 1.
- D) That Council confirm, subject to successfully negotiating land access with Lowe Corporation Ltd and Resource Management Act consenting, the setting of a targeted rate on landowners commencing 1 July 2026 for a 10-year term, on the general basis outlined within the Revised Rating Strategy (with or without minor modifications)'.- E) That Council delegates the Chief Executive to negotiate agreements with Lowe Corporation Ltd for required land for the Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme operation noting:
  - a. The land requirement is for 940m2 to accommodate a pump station facility and approximately 10,000m2 of stormwater detention (subject to survey).
  - b. Appropriate level of due diligence activities are to be completed in accordance with statutory and regulatory requirements.
  - c. Land use rights are acquired through negotiated agreement (through easements, land purchases or both) under the Public Works Act.
  - d. The land agreement will include a bundle of rights in favour of Council to provide for the unimpeded construction, operation and maintenance of the scheme facilities in perpetuity.
  - e. Any agreements are to be conditional on the later striking of the targeted rate.
  - f. And any other negotiation parameters to be set in Public Excluded.
- F) That Council delegates the Chief Executive (after receipt of appropriate legal advice confirming Councils commercial interests are protected and are within Council's set parameters) to enter into a legal agreement to give effect to resolution E).
- G) That Council's discussion/debate, regards resolution E) and F), is held in public excluded, subject to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987;
  - Section 7(2)(b)(ii) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where making available of the information would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.
  - Section 7(2)(l) The withholding of information is necessary to enable Council to carry out without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations.

The substantive motion A) to F) was left on the table. Mayor Hazlehurst then put recommendation G).

Councillor Nixon/Councillor Watkins

- A) That Council's discussion/debate, regards resolution E) and F), is held in public excluded, subject to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987;
- Section 7(2)(b)(ii) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where making available of the information would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.
  - Section 7(2)(l) The withholding of information is necessary to enable Council to carry out without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations.

CARRIED

***The meeting moved into Public Excluded session, during which Public Excluded minutes were recorded.***

**The public meeting reconvened and livestreaming resumed.**

The substantive motion on the table includes Recommendations A) to F) with Recommendation E(f) now including negotiation parameters resolved in Public Excluded.

Mayor Hazlehurst put A) to F)

Councillor Fowler/Councillor Kerr

- A) That Council receive the report titled Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme - further consideration of submissions dated 23 September 2025.
- B) That Council notes it has received and considered written submissions and heard verbal submissions on the Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme Proposal.
- C) That Council notes receipt of new correspondence from Lowe Corporation Ltd stating their support for the Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme Proposal and proposed two tiered differential rate. And that Lowe Corporation Ltd withdraw their request for their developed land to be recategorized as Zone 1.
- D) That Council confirm, subject to successfully negotiating land access with Lowe Corporation Ltd and Resource Management Act consenting, the setting of a targeted rate on landowners commencing 1 July 2026 for a 10-year term, on the general basis outlined within the Revised Rating Strategy (with or without minor modifications)'.
- E) That Council delegates the Chief Executive to negotiate agreements with Lowe Corporation Ltd for required land for the Whakatū West Stormwater Scheme operation noting:
- a. The land requirement is for 940m2 to accommodate a pump station facility and approximately 10,000m2 of stormwater detention (subject to survey).
  - b. Appropriate level of due diligence activities are to be completed in accordance with statutory and regulatory requirements.
  - c. Land use rights are acquired through negotiated agreement (through easements, land purchases or both) under the Public Works Act.

- d. The land agreement will include a bundle of rights in favour of Council to provide for the unimpeded construction, operation and maintenance of the scheme facilities in perpetuity.
  - e. Any agreements are to be conditional on the later striking of the targeted rate.
  - f. Negotiation parameters resolved in Public Excluded.
- F) That Council delegates the Chief Executive (after receipt of appropriate legal advice confirming Council's commercial interests are protected and are within Council's set parameters) to enter into a legal agreement to give effect to resolution E).

CARRIED

## 6. WAIPĀTIKI WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT - UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS

(Document ref 25/364)

3 Waters Manager, Steve Cave, introduced consultants Grey Wilson from Good Earth Matters and James Taylor from Development Partners.

Mr Cave spoke to the report and responded to questions from the meeting.

Councillor Kerr/Councillor Buddo

- A) That Council receive the report titled Waipātiki Wastewater Treatment Plant - Update and Next Steps dated 23 September 2025.
- B) That Council notes the further work required to advance matters raised in the report in respect of the campground and the timeframe to do so. That the Chief Executive is instructed to advance a pathway forward with the Hawkes Bay Regional Council.
- C) That Council approve pre-engagement with landowners on the community scheme component of the overall project.
- D) That the incoming Council further considers the scheme proposal as part of its development of the 2026/27 Annual Plan.

CARRIED

## 7. MINOR ITEMS - NGĀ TAKE ITI

There were no additional business items.

## 8. URGENT ITEMS - NGĀ TAKE WHAKAHIHIRI

There were no extraordinary business items.

Councillor Heke closed the meeting with a karakia.

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The meeting closed at 2.49pm

Confirmed:

Chairman:

Date:

Chief Executive \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nigel Bickle