

Wednesday, 25 March 2026

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga
Hastings District Council: Council Meeting

Ngā Minitī

Minutes

Te Rā Hui:
Meeting date: **Wednesday, 25 March 2026**

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

Time start - end **1.00pm – 4.21pm**

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Kua Tae ā-tinana: *Tiamana:*
Present: Chair: Mayor Wendy Schollum

Ngā KaiKaunihera:

Councillors:-Alwyn Corban, Siam Daniel, Michael Fowler (Deputy Mayor), Stephen Gibson, Kellie Jessup, Elisha Milmine, Hana Montaperto-Hendry, Simon Nixon, Derek Nowell-Usticke, Henare O’Keefe, Nicholas Ratcliffe, Callum Ross, Heather Te Au-Skipworth and Kevin Watkins

Kua Tatū:

In attendance:

Chief Executive - Nigel Bickle
Deputy Chief Executive - Bruce Allan
Group Manager: Democracy and Emergency Management – Craig Cameron
Group Manager: Community Wellbeing and Services – Rebekah Dinwoodie
Group Manager: Marketing and Communications – Naomi Fergusson
Group Manager: Strategy – Gus Charteris
Chief Financial Officer – Graham Watson
Public Spaces Planning Manager – Anna Sanders
Community Strategies Manager – Emma Morgan
Youth Lead – Emma James
Youth Development Coordinator – Renee Makea
Manager: Democracy and Governance Services – Louise Stettner
Democracy and Governance Advisor – Caitlyn Dine
Democracy and Governance Advisor – Christine Hilton

Kei Konei:

Also present:

Hastings District Youth Council Members
Deputy Principal Hastings Christian School – Gerald Feyter
Principal Flaxmere College – Cherie Heeney
Deputy Principal Havelock North – Sam Wallace
Hastings Girls Highschool representatives
St Johns College representatives

1. OPENING PRAYER - KARAKIA

The opening prayer was given by Councillor O'Keefe, followed by a waiata, *Te Aroha*.

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

Councillor Watkins/Councillor Te Au-Skipworth

That leave of absence be granted to Councillor Milmine for 7 – 13 April 2026.

CARRIED

Leave of Absence had previously been granted to Councillor Lorkin.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - HE NGĀKAU KŌNATUNATU

Councillor Te Au-Skipworth declared a conflict of interest in relation to public excluded items 19 and 20.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - TE WHAKAMANA I NGĀ MINITI

Councillor O'Keefe/Councillor Corban

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held Thursday 19 February 2026 be confirmed as an accurate record.

CARRIED

Councillor O'Keefe/Councillor Corban

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held Wednesday 25 February 2026 be confirmed as an accurate record.

CARRIED

Councillor O'Keefe/Councillor Corban

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held Thursday 5 March 2026 be confirmed as an accurate record.

CARRIED

5. MAYOR'S UPDATE

(Document ref 26/76)

Mayor Schollum spoke to the report.

Councillor Jessup/Councillor Ratcliffe

That Council receive and note the report titled Mayor's Update dated 25 March 2026.

CARRIED

6. REQUEST FOR A LEASE FOR A FITNESS CONTAINER (POD) AT KIRKPATRICK PARK

(Document ref 26/126)

Public Spaces and Planning Manager, Anna Sanders and Communities Strategies Manager, Emma Morgan, spoke to the report and responded to questions from the meeting.

Councillor Daniel/Councillor Corban

- A) That Council receive the report titled Request for a Lease for a Fitness Container (POD) at Kirkpatrick Park dated 25 March 2026.
- B) That Council authorise officers to commence public notification, in accordance with Section 54(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977, inviting submissions on the M.E.K.E Foundation's request for a three-year ground lease to install a fitness POD at Kirkpatrick Park for the operation of gym classes.
- C) Council notes that a further report will be brought back following submissions for a final decision on the request for a lease for Fitness POD at Kirkpatrick Park.

CARRIED

7. APPOINTMENTS TO THE HERETAUNGA TAKOTO NOA MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE

(Document ref 26/143)

Manager, Democracy and Governance Services, Louise Stettner, spoke to the report and responded to questions from the meeting.

Councillor Jessup/Councillor Te Au-Skipworth

- A) That Council receive the report titled Appointments to the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee dated 25 March 2026
- B) That Council appoint the following Mana Whenua members to the Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee:
 - i. Mr Michael (Mike) Paku
 - ii. Ms Elizabeth Waiwiri-Hunt
 - iii. Marina Toatoa
 - iv. Ngaio Tiuka
 - v. Ms Diana Taunoa
 - vi. Pōhatu Paku
 - vii. Paora Manaena

CARRIED

8. YOUTH COUNCIL - ADVISORY GROUP (2026)

(Document ref 26/106)

Youth Lead, Emma James and Youth Development Coordinator, Renee Makea, spoke to the report.

Mayor Schollum acknowledged all the Hastings District Youth Council members and all the Hastings Schools that were in attendance at the meeting.

Councillors acknowledged the contributions of the Youth Council members.

Mayor Schollum/Councillor Ratcliffe

That Council receive the report titled Youth Council - Advisory Group (2026) dated 25 March 2026.

CARRIED

9. PROPOSED YOUTH COUNCIL APPOINTEES TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES

(Document ref 26/105)

Youth Lead, Emma James, spoke to the report.

Councillor Ratcliffe/Councillor Watkins

- A) That Council receive the report titled Summary of Recommendations of the Youth Council meeting held 10 February 2026.
- B) That Council make the appointment of Youth Council Members as listed,

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE/COMMITTEE/BOARD	NOMINATED APPOINTEE/S
Community & Civic Futures Subcommittee Two Youth Council appointees (non-voting)	Georgia Abraham Paige Cunningham
Infrastructure Delivery Subcommittee Two Youth Council appointees (non-voting)	Zander Peterson Dominic Goodenough
Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee. Two Youth Council appointees (non-voting)	Ihaia Wainohu Te Aroha Mohi
Rural Halls Subcommittee Two Youth Council appointees (non-voting)	Payton Tautau Te Aroha Mohi

GROUPS	NOMINATED APPOINTEE/S
Multicultural Advisory Group Two Youth Council representatives and one alternative	Tangiataahua Mata Ellae Te Aonui Wairama Sahij Kaur
Disability Reference Group Two Youth Council representatives	Gem Wiremu Georgia Abraham
Age Friendly Advisory Group Two Youth Council representatives	Fibe Van Der Merwe Rainna Kim
Smoke Free Vape Free Coalition Group (external) Two Youth Council representatives	Aiden Walters Sahij Kaur Payton Tautau

CARRIED

Councillor Jessup left the meeting at 1.33pm.

10. REQUEST TO ADOPT THE DRAFT HEREPOHO ESKDALE PARK RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CONSULTATION PURPOSES

(Document ref 26/102)

Public Spaces Planning Manager, Anna Sanders, spoke to the report and responded to questions from the meeting.

Councillor Jessup rejoined the meeting at 1.36pm.

Councillor Nowell-Usticke/Councillor Fowler

- A) That Council receive the report titled Request to adopt the Draft Herepoho Eskdale Park Reserve Management Plan for Consultation Purposes dated 25 March 2026.
- B) That Council adopt the draft Herepoho Eskdale Park Reserve Management Plan (attached) for public consultation and instruct officers to commence the public notification process in accordance with Section 41(6) of the Reserves Act 1977.
- C) That Council hear and consider submissions on the draft Herepoho Eskdale Park Reserve Management Plan at a future Council meeting.
- D) Council notes that adoption of a final Reserve Management Plan for Herepoho Eskdale Park will be considered at a future Council meeting following consideration of submissions.

CARRIED

11. ADOPTION OF DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27 AND CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

(Document ref 26/94)

Chief Executive, Nigel Bickle, Mayor Schollum and Deputy Chief Executive, Bruce Allan, spoke to the report and responded to questions from the meeting.

Councillor Nixon/Councillor Watkins

- A) That Council receive the report titled Adoption of Draft Annual Plan 2026/27 and Consultation Document dated 25 March 2026.
- B) That Council adopt the Statement of Proposal attached titled “Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme” for community consultation.
- C) That the Council engages with landowners in the Whakatū West area on the best available information in early April as part of the ongoing Statement of Proposal engagement commenced in 2025.
- D) That Council adopts the supporting information required by section 95A (4) of the Local Government Act 2002 (The Draft Annual Plan 2026/27), incorporating any amendments made at its meeting of 25 March 2026.
- E) That Council adopts the Draft Annual Plan Consultation Document pursuant to sections 82A (3), 95 (2) and 95A of the Local Government Act 2002, incorporating any amendments made at its meeting of 25 March 2026.
- F) That Council delegates to the Chief Executive any inconsequential updates and drafting changes to complete the documentation above.

CARRIED

12. 2026 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND (LGNZ) CONFERENCE, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) AND REMIT PROCESS

(Document ref 26/115)

Manager, Democracy and Governance Services, Louise Stettner, spoke to the report and responded to questions from the meeting.

Councillor Corban/Councillor Ratcliffe

- A) That Council receive the report titled 2026 Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Conference, Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Remit Process dated 25 March 2026.
- B) That Council delegate authority to the Mayor to support other council’s remits on behalf of Hastings District Council to allow these to proceed to the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting for consideration.
- C) That Council endorse the following three Councillors to accompany the Mayor (Presiding Delegate) and attend the Local Government New Zealand Conference to be held 29 - 31 July 2026 and the LGNZ Annual General Meeting to be held on 29 July 2026 at the Energy Events Centre in Rotorua.

Councillor Siam Daniel

Councillor Elisha Milmine

Councillor Michael Fowler.

- D) That Council notes the Chief Executive will explore the practicality of additional councillors attending the conference and provide appropriate advice to the Mayor.

CARRIED

13. LOCAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

(Document ref 25/478)

Manager, Democracy and Governance Services, Louise Stettner, spoke to the report and responded to questions from the meeting.

Councillor Ratcliffe/Councillor Te Au-Skipworth

- A) That Council receive the report titled Local Governance Statement dated 25 March 2026
- B) That the Council adopt the Local Governance Statement for the 2025-28 triennium **(Attachment 1)**.

CARRIED

14. REQUESTS RECEIVED UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987 (LGOIMA) UPDATE

(Document ref 26/140)

Manager, Democracy and Governance Services, Louise Stettner, spoke to the report and responded to questions from the meeting.

Councillor Nowell-Usticke/Councillor Milmine

- A) That Council receive the report titled Requests Received Under The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) Update dated 25 March 2026.
- B) That the LGOIMA requests received from 18 January 2026 to 28 February 2026, as set out in **Attachment 1** of the Report be noted.

CARRIED

15. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

(Document ref 26/156)

Manager, Democracy and Governance Services, Louise Stettner, spoke to the report.

Councillor Daniel/Councillor Ratcliffe

- A) That Council receive the report titled Proposed Amendments To Schedule Of Meetings dated 25 March 2026.
- B) That Council adopt changes to the 2026 Schedule of Meetings as follows:

Monday 20 April 2026 to Monday 4 May 2026, 1pm	Postponement	Rural Community Board
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Council Chamber		
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CARRIED

16. MINOR ITEMS - NGĀ TAKE ITI

There were no additional business items.

17. URGENT ITEMS - NGĀ TAKE WHAKAHIHIRI

There were no extraordinary business items.

18 RECOMMENDATION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC FROM ITEMS 19, 20, 21 AND 22

SECTION 48, LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987

Mayor Schollum/Councillor Milmine

THAT the public now be excluded from the following parts of the meeting, namely;

- 19 Kerbside Recycling Collection Contract Extension**
- 20 Kerbside Rubbish Collection Contract Extension**
- 21 Land Divestment**
- 22 Flaxmere Town Centre**

The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this Resolution in relation to the 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 is as follows:

<i>GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED</i>	<i>REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER, AND PARTICULAR INTERESTS PROTECTED</i>	<i>GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF EACH RESOLUTION</i>
19 Kerbside Recycling Collection Contract Extension	Section 7 (2) (i) The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).	Section 48(1)(a)(i) Where the Local Authority is named or specified in the First Schedule to this Act under Section 6 or 7 (except Section 7(2)(f)(i)) of this Act.

		Contract negotiations.	
20	Kerbside Rubbish Collection Contract Extension	<p>Section 7 (2) (i)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p> <p>Contract negotiations..</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(i)</p> <p>Where the Local Authority is named or specified in the First Schedule to this Act under Section 6 or 7 (except Section 7(2)(f)(i)) of this Act.</p>
21	Land Divestment	<p>Section 7 (2) (b) (ii)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the 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.</p> <p>Section 7 (2) (h)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p> <p>Section 7 (2) (i)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p> <p>Negotiations with parties to divest of Council land.</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(i)</p> <p>Where the Local Authority is named or specified in the First Schedule to this Act under Section 6 or 7 (except Section 7(2)(f)(i)) of this Act.</p>
22	Flaxmere Town Centre	<p>Section 7 (2) (b) (ii)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the 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.</p> <p>Section 7 (2) (c) (i)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information or information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.</p> <p>Section 7 (2) (i)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(i)</p> <p>Where the Local Authority is named or specified in the First Schedule to this Act under Section 6 or 7 (except Section 7(2)(f)(i)) of this Act.</p>

to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

To protect ongoing negotiations, 3rd party tenancy arrangements and broader public engagement that will take place in due course.

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 4.21pm

Confirmed:

Chairman:

Date: