
Council

OPEN MINUTES

UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of a meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin on Wednesday 10 September 2025 at 11:00 am.

PRESENT

Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Councillors

His Worship The Mayor Bernie Wanden
Councillor David Allan
Councillor Mike Barker
Councillor Rogan Boyle
Councillor Ross Brannigan
Councillor Clint Grimstone
Councillor Nina Hori Te Pa
Councillor Sam Jennings
Councillor Paul Olsen
Councillor Jonathan Procter
Councillor Justin Tamihana
Councillor Alan Young

Via audio visual link

Via audio visual link
Via audio visual link

IN ATTENDANCE

Reporting Officer

Monique Davidson
Daniel Haigh
Jacinta Straker
Brent Harvey
David McCorkindale
Blair Spencer
Nicki Brady
Ashley Huria
Lacey Winiata

Chief Executive
Group Manager - Community Infrastructure
Group Manager - Organisation Performance
Group Manager - Community Experience and Services
Group Manager – Community Vision and Delivery
Group Manager – Housing & Business Development
Group Manager - Capability and Transformation
Business Performance Manager

Meeting Secretary

Grayson Rowse
Alice Petersen

Principal Advisor – Democracy
Democracy Support Officer

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Public Participation

The following members of the public attended the meeting and spoke on the items listed:

Name	Agenda Item
Viv Bold	Item 7.1 - Levin Landfill Closure - Leachate Groundwater Project
Charles Rudd	Item 7.1 - Levin Landfill Closure - Leachate Groundwater Project
Christine Moriarty, David Moore, Graeme Lindsay, Rachael Selby	Item 7.1 - Levin Landfill Closure - Leachate Groundwater Project

Councillor Procter exited the meeting at 11:37 am.

3 Late Items

There were no late items.

4 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Cr Tamihana acknowledged there was a perception of a conflict of interest in relation to Item 7.1 - Levin Landfill Closure - Leachate Groundwater Project, but he felt it did not preclude him from taking part in consideration of that item.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution Number CO/2025/167

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 6 August 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

That the minutes of the meeting of the Public Excluded Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 6 August 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6 Elected Members Reports

6.1 Mayoral Report

This report informed Council and the community about events and functions and Council-related meetings that I attended from 30 July – 2 September 2025, and to provide an update on items of interest such as submissions made on behalf of Council.

Resolution Number CO/2025/168

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

- A. That Council receive and note Report 25/539 Mayoral Report.

CARRIED

6.2 Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Chairperson's Report

This report presented the Chairperson's report from Te Awahou Foxton Community Board

Resolution Number CO/2025/169

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

- A. That Council receive and note Report 25/540 Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Chairperson's Report.

CARRIED

7 Reports for Decision

7.1 Levin Landfill Closure - Leachate Groundwater Project

This report sought Council endorsement of the Levin Closed Landfill Management Plan (CLMP) that includes direction to further understand and manage effects on the environment including leachate from the Old Levin landfill that closed in 2004. The CLMP reconfirms permanent closure of the Levin Landfill for receipt of municipal waste and will be regularly updated to manage aftercare of the site over the next 30 years.

Resolution Number CO/2025/170

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

- A. That Council receive Report 25/458 Levin Landfill Closure - Leachate Groundwater Project.
- B. That Council recognise this matter or decision as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/171

MOVED by Cr Tamihana, seconded Cr Hori Te Pa:

- C. That Council endorses the Levin Closed Landfill Management Plan (CLMP) [in principle]. The CLMP is an aftercare plan, setting out management, maintenance and operation of the Closed Levin Landfill. This is a living document that includes monitoring and proposed operational requirements for

Leachate BPO projects that will continue to be developed alongside Iwi partners, owners, PMG and NLG.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/172

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Hori Te Pa:

That Council endorses approach to continue enhancing the monitoring framework related to leachate from the old Levin landfill to inform ongoing analysis and decisions on mitigation requirements to maintain compliance with consent conditions, and the Landfill Agreement.

That Council notes funding to continue researching and validating alternate opportunities including onsite treatment of leachate, additional capping of the Old Levin Landfill or wetland planting will come from the approved existing Best Practicable Option (BPO) funding.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/173

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Allan:

That Council notes Officers will be presenting back a report in December 2025, which takes on board expert peer review and Iwi and community advice and voice, to set out the detailed delivery of landfill aftercare actions, as provided for in the Landfill Agreement and the Levin Closed Landfill Management Plan. This will provide recommendations to Council specifically on leachate intervention, capping of the old landfill and potential purchase of adjoining land for wetland creation.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/174

MOVED by Cr Grimstone, seconded Cr Boyle:

That Officers report back the monitoring framework following engagement with PMG and NLG, that provides assurance to Council on the ongoing commitments to testing of the Hokio Stream.

CARRIED

Councillor Procter returned to the meeting at 01:03 pm.

7.2 Final Capex Carry Forward to 2025-26

This report updated the capital budgets for 2025-26 through considering projects that are required to be carried forward from the 2024-25 budget into the 2025-26 capital budget.

Resolution Number CO/2025/175

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Young:

- A. That Council receive and note Report 25/464 Final Capex Carry Forward to 2025-26.
- B. That Council recognise this matter or decision as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/176

MOVED by Cr Brannigan, seconded Cr Jennings:

- C. That Council approves to carry forward \$4.842m of capital projects into 2025/26 as outlined in the report.
- D. That Council notes that \$1.023m of the capital carry forwards is expected to be funded externally.
- E. That Council approves to carry forward \$81,572 of debt funded operating costs for infrastructure, noting that they will be funded from lower spending in capital projects.
- F. That Council approves to carry forward \$277,276 of debt funded operating costs planned for software, to be used for software and innovation projects.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/177

MOVED by Cr Tamihana, seconded Cr Jennings:

- G. That Council provides financial delegation to the Chief Executive to approve the claim for \$1.8m from Waka Kotahi for the Tararua Roundabout Water Main Relocation and upgrade in line with the NIFF agreement and PDA agreement with Waka Kotahi.

CARRIED

7.3 Horowhenua Destination Management Plan

This report reflects the commitment signalled in the Long Term Plan 2024-44 to continue the Destination Management function and ensures Council can respond to new opportunities and challenges while aligning with community outcomes and strategic priorities.

Resolution Number CO/2025/178

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Grimstone:

- A. That Council receive Report 25/530 Horowhenua Destination Management Plan.
- B. That Council recognise this decision as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/179

MOVED by Cr Brannigan, seconded Cr Jennings:

- C. That Council endorse the refreshed Destination Management Plan and the supporting implementation and metrics framework as a strategic framework to guide the sustainable growth and development of the Horowhenua visitor economy.

CARRIED

7.4 Local Road Improvements Programme Business Case

This report sought endorsement of the Local Road Improvements Programme Business Case (PBC), ahead of submission to NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA).

Resolution Number CO/2025/180

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

- A. That Council receive and note the Report Local Road Improvements Programme Business Case.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/181

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

- B. That Council endorse the Local Road Improvements Programme Business Case.

CARRIED

7.5 Update to Elected Members Allowances and Reimbursement of Expenses Policy

This report advised Council on the recent update to the Local Government Members (2025/26) Determination 2025, and presents minor amendments to the Elected Members Allowances and Reimbursement of Expenses Policy for approval

Resolution Number CO/2025/182

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

- A. That Council receive Report 25/520 Update to Elected Members Allowances and Reimbursement of Expenses Policy.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/183

MOVED by Cr Hori Te Pa, seconded Cr Young:

- B. That Council note the changes to vehicle kilometre rates and childcare reimbursement rates incorporated from the Local Government Members (2025/26) Determination 2025
- C. That Council approves the amendments to the Policy clarifying the definition of Council business in relation to Community Board members, requiring expenses and allowances to be claimed for within 3 months of them falling due and introducing a home security allowance reimbursement.
- D. That Council note the home security reimbursement and the increase in the childcare reimbursement will be available to members from the day after the return of the election results for the 2025 local body elections. The home security reimbursement will also only be available based on recommendations from a security threat and risk assessment authorised by the Chief Executive.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned for a break at 1.46pm.

The meeting resumed at 2.10pm

8 Reports for Noting

8.1 Organisation Performance Report - September 2025

This report presented the Organisation Performance Report for September 2025.

Resolution Number CO/2025/184

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

That Council receive and note Report Organisation Performance Report - September 2025.

CARRIED

8.2 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report September 2025

This report presents Council the updated monitoring report covering resolutions and requested actions from previous meetings of Council.

Resolution Number CO/2025/185

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Brannigan:

That Council receive and note Report 25/522 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report September 2025.

CARRIED

8.3 Long Term Plan 2024-44 Actions Monitoring Report

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the ongoing monitoring report, which reflects the progress of those actions and recommendations from the Long Term Plan 2024 - 44.

Resolution Number CO/2025/186

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

That Council receive and note Report 25/523 Long Term Plan 2024-44 Actions Monitoring Report.

CARRIED

9 Proceedings of Committees

9.1 Proceedings of Te Awahou Foxton Community Board - 18 August 2025

This report presented Council the minutes of Te Awahou Foxton Community Board meeting held on 18 August 2025.

Resolution Number CO/2025/187

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

That Council receives and notes Report 25/536 Proceedings of Te Awahou Foxton Community Board - 18 August 2025 and the associated minutes.

CARRIED

Resolution Number CO/2025/188

MOVED by Cr Allan, seconded Cr Tamihana:

That Council adopts the revised Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy, incorporating community feedback.

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

For:

Councillors: David Allan
Rogan Boyle
Ross Brannigan
Clint Grimstone
Nina Hori Te Pa
Paul Olsen
Justin Tamihana
Bernie Wanden
Alan Young

Against:

Councillors: Mike Barker
Sam Jennings
Jonathan Procter

The division was declared **CARRIED** by 9 votes to 3.

CARRIED

9.2 Proceedings of the Community Wellbeing Committee 13 August 2025

Resolution Number CO/2025/189

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Grimstone:

- A. That Council receive and note Report 25/524 Proceedings of the Community Wellbeing Committee 13 August 2025 and the associated minutes.

CARRIED

9.3 Proceedings of the Community Funding and Recognition Committee 30 July 2025

This report presented Council the minutes of the Community Funding and Recognition Committee meeting held on 30 July 2025.

Resolution Number CO/2025/190

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Allan:

- A. That Council receive and note Report 25/525 Proceedings of the Community Funding and Recognition Committee 30 July 2025 and the associated minutes.

CARRIED

9.4 Proceedings of the Risk and Assurance Committee 6 August 2025

This report presented Council the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 06 August 2025.

Resolution Number CO/2025/191

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Brannigan:

- A. That Council receive and note Report 25/526 Proceedings of the Risk and Assurance Committee 6 August 2025 and the associated minutes.

CARRIED

9.5 Proceedings of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee 27 August 2025

This report presented Council the minutes of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee meeting held on 27 August 2025.

Resolution Number CO/2025/192

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Hori Te Pa:

- A. That Council receive and note the minutes of the Proceedings of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee 27 August 2025.

CARRIED

10 Procedural motion to exclude the public

Resolution Number CO/2025/193

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Hori Te Pa:

That the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is 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 follows.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) 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 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

C1 Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant - Upgrade Headworks

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	This report discusses includes commercially sensitive information in relation to negotiation of a contract..

C2 Gas Procurement

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	The report contains commercially sensitive pricing and contract information. Making this public could disadvantage Council in its negotiations with suppliers..

C3 Proposed Rating Sale - 17 Churchill Crescent, Shannon

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information. s7(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).

Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	To ensure the tender process and negotiations for sale are confidential.

C4 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report September 2025

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(c)(ii) - 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 damage the public interest. s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	These actions relate to potential or actual sales of property, and contract negotiations. The public release of these actions at this time may affect sales prices or disclose negotiation points.

C5 Proceedings of Risk and Assurance Committee - Public Excluded - 6 August 2025

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	Reasons inherited from original meeting.

C6 Proceedings of Te Awahou Foxton Community Board - Public Excluded - 18 August 2025

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	Reasons inherited from original meeting.

C7 Proceedings of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee 27 August 2025

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	This report contains private employment details of the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive's expectation of privacy in relation to her employment outweighs the public interest in having this information released to the public.

The text of these resolutions is made available to the public who are present at the meeting and form part of the minutes of the meeting.

CARRIED

2.56pm The public were excluded.

Resolutions in relation to the confidential items are recorded in the confidential section of these minutes and are not publicly available.

5.00 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON

DATE:

CHAIRPERSON: