MINUTES
Ordinary

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

F25/96/05 – D25/46311

Date: 9 December 2025 at 3.30 PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairperson), the Deputy Mayor A K Harris, Councillors: S J Beck, J Bertie, J R Best, G W Boyde, D K Chadwick, A M C Dudley, J M S Erwood, E E Hall, K A Sextus and M J Watt.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs R Johnson, the Director – Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the HR & Governance Administrator – Mrs C Reynolds, the Roading Manager – Mr S Bowden, the Economic and Community Development Manager – Mrs S Afzal, three members of the public and one member of the media (Stratford and South).

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read.

2. Apologies

No apologies were received

3. Announcements

The District Mayor advised he had received a letter from Minister Bishop outlining the changes to the Resource Management act which were just announced, he will forward this to Elected Members.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

Elected members were asked to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance schedule for Ordinary Council Meetings was attached

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 11 November
D25/42432 Page 11

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council, held on Tuesday 11 November 2025, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

WATT/BERTIE
Carried
CL/25/143

The HR & Governance Administrator undertook to make the following amendments:

- Update the las bullet point on page 14 to *The District Mayor noted it is important to note that the auditors take particular interest in all allowances.*

NCV

6.1.2 Public Forum Notes
D25/42438 Page 19

The notes from the public forum were attached for Council's information.

6.2 Policy and Services Committee – 25 November 2025
D25/43983 Page 21

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 25 November 2025 be received.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/144

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 25 November 2025 be adopted.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
CL/25/145

6.3 Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee – 2 December 2025
D25/44779 Page 36

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund Committee meeting held on Tuesday 2 December 2025 be received.

HARRIS/SEXTUS
Carried
CL/25/146

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Committee meeting held on 2 December 2025 be adopted.

DUDLEY/CHADWICK
Carried
CL/25/147

7. District Mayor's Report
D25/45520 Page 38

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/BEST
Carried
CL/25/148

Economic and Community Development Manager joined the meeting at 3.45pm

Points noted in Discussion:
- The risk of attempting to keep rates within the 2-4% rate increase target outlined in the letter from the Hon Simon Watts was discussed, noting over time the cost increase may be faster than the allowance, which will make Councils fall further behind in infrastructure investment.

8. Decision Report – Nominating Regional Transport Region

D25/45619 Page 49

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/BERTIE
Carried
CL/25/149

2. THAT Council notifies the Taranaki Regional Council that with regard to regional transport it chooses to be represented on the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee.

HARRIS/BOYDE
Carried
CL/25/150

Recommended Reason
The Regional Council requires Council to formally advise every three years.

Points noted in Discussion:

- It was noted Council has always chosen to be represented on the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee.

9. Decision Report – Committee Terms of Reference

D25/44540 Page 53

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/25/151

2. THAT the Committee review the proposed Terms of Reference Council Committees and make further amendments as appropriate.

3. THAT the Terms of Reference are approved to apply for the next three years, reviewed earlier.

ERWOOD/HALL
Carried
CL/25/152

Recommended Reason
To ensure the Committee's Terms of Reference are relevant and fit for purpose.

The Chief Executive noted the following point:

- The terms of reference were previously within the delegations policy, making them separate makes it easier to change going forward, and easier for members of the public to follow.
- The sole purpose of the terms of reference is to make the role and authorities of each committee clear.
- The Mayor established the Hearings Committee with the intention that all hearings would be managed within this committee. However, it has become clear that during the Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan processes this approach introduces delays. The requirement to go from the Hearings Committee back to Policy and Services creates a 10–12 day lag, which could be problematic when timelines are tight. The solution would be to retain the ability within the Policy and Services Committee to hold hearings.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The Deputy Mayor questioned on page 65 under membership if the Chairperson should be the Deputy Mayor, rather than the Mayor. It was confirmed it should be the Deputy Mayor.
- The Deputy Mayor sought clarification if the Deputy Chair of the District Licencing Committee should be the Deputy Mayor. The District Mayor advised the Deputy Mayor should be the Deputy Chair.

Points noted in Discussion:

- Councillor Hall requested the line on page 64 "best interests of the Council or its community" be changed to "best interests of the community or the Council" to reflect Council exists to serve the community.
- Councillor Hall suggested that urgency on page 64 could be clarified. She suggested the words "Urgency meaning a matter requires immediate consideration and cannot reasonably wait until the next scheduled meeting without causing significant risk, disadvantage, or loss of opportunity to the community or its Council." It was agreed to include this.

10. Decision Report – Proposed Parking Changes at Various Locations

D25/43973 Page 86

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/25/153

2. THAT the Council approves the following changes to the Parking Control Bylaw Schedule:
   - Create a new '*P5 Loading Zone'* at **BRO57**.
   - Create 2x '*No Parking'* lines on both sides of the corner of Montague Grove to be named **MON02** and **MON03.**
   - Revoke the 2x (of 8x) *Angled Parking* spaces marked **REG28**.
   - Create 1x '*Accessible Park'* to be named **REG28A**.

BOYDE/CHADWICK
Carried
CL/25/154

Recommended Reason
In accordance with the Parking Control Bylaw Clause 9.1 *"the Council may, by resolution, set, amend or revoke parking restrictions on any urban or rural road under the Council's jurisdiction, by amending the schedule and maps, without the need to consult on the entire bylaw."* This report seeks Council approval to endorse the proposed on-street parking changes noted above in recommendation 2.

11. Public Forum Response

Speaker Craig Nielson
Topic Taranaki Motorsports Facilities Charitable Trust

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The Chief Executive noted that at the time of deciding to grant a loan, it was discussed what role Council would take as it needed to be considered that as Council has a regulatory tole, this could come into jeopardy if Council was too involved.
- The Chief Executive clarified Speedway were able to operate, but other motorsports are unable to as Speedway pre-dates the current legislation to have consent for such an activity. There has been discussion with Speedway that it would be better if they had a consent, however they would start off on a different foot to other activities.
- The Chief Executive noted that activities have occurred in the area without the required consent, which has heightened concerns among neighbouring properties. The consenting process involves both the applicants and affected neighbours, so these sensitivities need to be carefully managed.
- The District Mayor questioned whether the neighbours' objections were primarily related to noise, and if so, why car static activities would require consent. It was clarified that consent is necessary because the area is specifically zoned for farming, and not for other types of activities. Councillor

Boyde questioned if the changes to the Resource Management Act will affect to this? While it was noted it is not certain, it appears the direction it will take will go in favour of property owners.

- Councillor Hall questioned why a loan was granted for a project which consenting would not allow. It was advised that at the time of granting the loan it was not clear if the project could or could not go ahead, as the problems which come along will only be known as the process progresses. Taranaki Motorsports has attempted to go through the resource consent process twice for the smaller aspects, however these resource consents have not met the need required for complex consents, following the correct process is required.
- The District Mayor advised the funding application to Kanoa was supported by the Mayoral Forum, which had the weight of all four Councils rather than SDC, so the wording in the presentation was misleading.
- It was noted there were a lot of questions raised in the presentation. It was requested the Chief Executive provide some options going forward on if there is anything specific Council can do. This will be brought back to a workshop.

12. Questions

There were no questions.

13. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 125

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.34 pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 10th day of February 2026.

N C Volzke
District Mayor