

Date: 10 March 2026 at 3.33 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, 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 Governance Advisor & Executive Assistance – Mr G Hancock, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, one member of the media (Stratford and South), and two members of the public.

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read and the H&S message was read. The mayor welcomed members, senior staff to the meeting and members of the public.

2. Apologies

None recorded.

3. Announcements

The District Mayor asked members to stay behind for a councillor-only session following today's meeting.

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. The District Mayor noted that Councillor Sexton's leave for 10 February had not been recorded. The Governance Advisor would amend the record.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 10 February D26/4442 Page 10

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council, held on Tuesday 10 February 2026, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

HARRIS/WATT
Moved/Seconded
CL/26/12

6.1.2 Public Forum Notes D26/4440 Page 14

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

6.2 Extraordinary Meeting of Council – 24 February
D26/6228 Page 16

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council, held on Tuesday 24 February 2026, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/BERTIE
Carried
CL/26/13

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 24 February
D26/6227 Page 18

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 24 February 2026 be received.

SEXTUS/BERTIE
Carried
CL/26/14

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 24 February 2026 be adopted.

DUDLEY/WATTS
Carried
CL/26/15

The District Mayor noted that this recommendation related only to the adoption of the recommendations, and that any amendments to the minutes would need to be made at the upcoming Policy and Services Committee meeting.

7. District Mayor's Report
D26/7612 Page 26

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

BERTIE/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/26/16

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- The all-of-sector and rural provincial meeting was held,, which the Mayor and CE attended. This was the first time the meeting had been held at Parliament. The House was in recess, so most politicians were away. However, Deputy Prime Minister David Seymour and the Minister of Civil Defence, Mark Mitchell, were present. It was noted by the Minister of Civil Defence that the number of emergency events nationwide has been significant. The District Mayor noted it was remarkable our region has not been among those affected.
- The District Mayor noted his attendance at a Grey Power meeting, acknowledging their passion. The transfer station was raised as a concern, and noted the council is aware of this.

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

BOYDE/BECK
Carried
CL/26/18

2. THAT the April 2026 Whangamomona-based Ordinary Council meeting does not proceed and instead be held in the Council Chambers.

HARRIS/HALL
Carried
CL/26/19

3. THAT a Policy & Services Committee meeting be scheduled at Whakaahurangi Marae for 2026; and a rural roadshow be introduced from 2027, with expressions of interest sought early that year.

HALL/CHADWICK
Carried
CL/26/20

Recommended Reason

Due to low attendance rates at the Whangamomona rural meeting, it is proposed that the April 2026 meeting not proceed there and instead a Policy & Services Committee meeting be held at Whakaahurangi Marae, strengthening our partnership approach with iwi.

The Governance Advisor noted the following points:

- The Whangamomona-based meeting has been a historical one, dating back to 2009. Attendance at the meeting has dwindled over the years, and this paper is based on feedback received from elected members following the most recent meeting.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde sought clarification on whether there was a possibility for the Whangamomona meeting to become a Policy and Services Committee meeting in future. The Governance Advisor advised that this could be considered as part of the options presented to elected members through the rural roadshow discussions.
- Councillor Watt enquired about the cost of rural meetings. The Chief Executive advised that costs are minimal and relate mainly to staff time and travel.
- Councillor Hall asked whether there had been any interest from other rural areas. The Chief Executive advised that there had been some interest from Tututawa, although this had not eventuated.

9. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Recommendation

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Agenda Item No: 10

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 are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for excluding the public	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
The Percy Thomson Trust Trustee Appointment	The withholding of the information is necessary to	To protect the privacy of natural persons, including

		protect the privacy of a natural person.	that of deceased natural persons (s 7(2)(a)).
HARRIS/HALL Carried <u>CL/26/21</u>			

10. Public Excluded Item –

Recommendation <u>THAT</u> the open meeting resume.	BECK/BOYDE Moved/Seconded <u>CL/26/26</u>
--	--

11. Questions

None.

12. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 36

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.07 pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 14th day of April 2026.

N C Volzke
District Mayor