

Rongotea Community Committee Minutes.

The meeting was held at the Gazebo, Douglas Square Rongotea at 7.30pm on the 4th April 2022.

Present: L Berry (Chairman), C Munn (Secretary), A Quarrie (Councillor), H Wheeler, B Procter, J Liverton, S Liverton, A Hodge.

Apologies: J Hawthorn, L Barlow, A Short (Councillor), A Gloyn, J Cook

Minutes of February 2022 meeting moved and seconded as a true record

Matters Arising:

Limited Parking Signs, Requested time limited parking signs outside the cemetery as it awkward if someone left a vehicle parked there and there was a funeral – we have not seen these yet, we would like it worded Short Term Visitor Parking only, WIP, If the committee wants to put up a sign they can within the cemetery boundary but not in the road corridor.

Culvert has slumped the new one by the S bends on Rongotea Road, possibly due to the very heavy rain event a month ago, the culvert furthest from the cemetery. There are a number of potholes around the district and Lance will phone or email them in, WIP more details needed as to which one.

Email received about Rubbish in drains and a concern about asking residents to clear the drain, we do not expect residents to clear the drain if they are not in a position to be able to clear them, please phone through to the council if you are unable to clear rubbish out of the drain.

Road sign in Square to be fixed – Job has been logged with the Manawatu District Council

Slump in Road by the windmill on Rongotea Road – Job has been logged with the Manawatu District Council.

Penny Road grass cut back – Job has been logged with the Manawatu District Council.

St John Defibrillator installation has been put on hold due to Covid-19

General Business:

Street light in North/East corner of Douglas Square bulb is flickering (To be phoned through to the Manawatu District Council)

Street light outside public toilet bulb is flickering (To be phoned through to the Manawatu District Council)

Street light on the corner of Thames Street and Tamar street bulb is flickering (To be phoned through to the Manawatu District Council)

Leen and Rongotea Road rubbish collection area – locals to put in a timely manner

Recycling bins overfull – if you notice they are full ring through to the council, which will help get bigger bins. The more people that ring they will give us bigger bins or more bins

Council Report:

- Impacts of MDC & contractor staff with covid or home isolation, staff shortages are starting to bite and some services have been reduced, the Feilding Library has reduced its hours (mainly closing earlier), solid waste and recycling services have been impacted, Roothing has had to roll over some summer construction works until next year due to Higgins having many staff away and this week MDC does not have enough staff to run both the front reception and call centre so daytime phone calls will go to our after hours provider. Ahead of the government decision, MDV lifted its vaccine pass entry on both Library and Makino Pool.
- Extraordinary vacancy Feilding Ward, with Cr Hilary Humphrey resigning and moving to a new role in Christchurch, we are left with a vacancy, it was decided that as it is within 12 months of the next Local Government elections we would not hold a costly bi-election but would carry the vacancy until October
- Quarterly Economic update for Manawatu District to Dec 31st, The Manawatu economy performed strongly for the whole of 2021. This was largely due to the strong markets in agriculture and record construction activity including Central Government funding like the Ohakea upgrade and the Te Ahu a Turanga (Manawatu – Tararua) highway project. However it hasn't been all plain sailing with Labour shortages, supply chain issues and inflation. Of course this first quarter we have already seen high fuel prices skyrocket and groceries go up significantly, greatly impacting household affordability. For some it will be a very financially challenging year ahead.
- Open spaces contract review, we had an independent review of our contract with Recreational Services which stated we are getting good value for money and quality services, Upon that we have undertaken to directly negotiate a contract extension with Recreational services instead of going out for open tender, it was noted by man that there is much positive feedback about this service right across the district
- Animal Control Services- this contract has been renewed. This service is provided to us by Rangitikei District Council and is another great example of the benefit of shared services.
- Bioplant Manawatu proposed pyrolysis plant Resource Consent to Horizons. The Horizons commissioners decided that under the RMA guidelines this should be publicly notified and submissions closed 31st March. MDC submitted in favour of the plant proceeding which was not unanimous amongst councilors but was supported by the majority.
- Roothing emergency works, As the result of the very heavy rain events in December, it is costing MDC \$1.5million to fix rooding in numerous locations around the district. We have applied for NZTA emergency funds. But they are running on very tight funding currently so it will be interesting to see what we get. 50% or more would be very satisfactory.
- Public places Bylaw was signed off in February which largely dealt with additional alcohol restricted areas (as raised by the Police) like the new Feilding skate park & highfield Hill lookout and where mobile food vendors could operate on Council owned land.
- District planning and Food act fees, These are being reviewed and are currently out of public consultation. There were no major changes proposed, just adjustments for

inflation.

- Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. This will be signed off for consultation later this week and will be available for comment for four weeks. I do recommend that Rongotea residents take an interest as one of the proposals is for the four larger villages to be offered kerbside recycling (at a cost). It's also your chance for mobile recycling centre and the blue bag route, It's your opportunity to request changes and put forward your ideas.
- The Poppy places trust gave us a presentation on their nationwide project to identify places or street names for significance relating to WW1 or WW2. They have identified a number of these but will be going out to the public for further nominations.
- Managaweka bridge is under budget and under time, but will not be opened until a carving from local iwi finished, MDC was having a debate about this on Thursday.
- Three waters has 31 Council working together on this to have it changed.
- ANZAC Day service, other groups can join the RSA to march to the Square or they meet at the square at 10am, RSA hall not open to the public after the ceremony.
- Ouse street footpath update, hot mix found in the dirt and the driveway concrete on one drive is to be redone.

Community Email account is now up and running feel free to email any thing you would like brought up in the next meeting rongoteacommunitycommittee@gmail.com

Meeting closed 8.17pm

Next meeting to be held 2nd May 2022