



EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM ON THURSDAY 22 MAY 2025 COMMENCING AT 9 AM

The Council Meeting was live streamed to the Westland District Council YouTube Channel and presentations are made available on the council website.

The purpose of the Extraordinary Council Meeting was to hear, deliberate and decide on submissions to the Draft Long Term Plan 2025 - 2034.

Her Worship the Mayor welcomed the Council members, members of the public attending and those watching the live stream and for those speaking to their submission today. Council have read the submissions prior to the meeting and will seek points of clarification and questions.

A Minute's silence was observed for former Mayor and Chairman Durham Havill.

Westland District Council
Mayor
1989-1998

Westland County Council
Chairman
1983-1989

1. KARAKIA TĪMATANGA OPENING KARAKIA

The opening Karakia was read by Her Worship the Mayor.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Chairperson:	Her Worship the Mayor
Deputy Mayor & Southern Ward Member:	Deputy Mayor
Northern Ward Members:	Cr Neale, Cr Burden, Cr Phelps
Hokitika Ward Members:	Cr Baird, Cr Davidson, Cr Gillett
Southern Ward Members:	Cr Manera
Iwi Representatives:	Kw Madgwick

NGĀ WHAKAPAAHA

APOLOGIES

Kw Tumahai, Iwi Representative

B. Phillips, Chief Executive

ABSENT

Nil

Moved Cr Manera, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that the apology from Kw Tumahai and B. Phillips be received and accepted.

STAFF PRESENT

E. Bencich, Group Manager District Assets; L. Crichton, Group Manager Corporate Services and Risk Assurance; E. Rae, Strategy and Communications Advisor; (via Zoom); L. Truman, Finance Manager; M. Waters, Community Services Manager; D. Maitland; Executive Assistant; N. Sinclair, Senior Administrator.

Present for part of the meeting:

C. Lomax, Animal Control Officer

J. Visser, Facilities, Property and Compliance Officer

3. WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Interest Register had been circulated. There were no changes made to the Interest Register noted.

4. PŪRONGO KAIMAHI STAFF REPORTS

- **Draft Long Term Plan 2025/2034 Hearing, Deliberations and Decisions Report**

Appendix 1: Table of Submitters.

Appendix 2: Submission analysis.

Appendix 3: Submissions.

Emma Rae, Strategy and Communications Advisor introduced this item.

Moved Deputy Mayor, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that:

1. Council receive the report.
2. Council hear and consider the written and verbal submissions.
3. Council deliberates on the submissions to the Draft Long Term Plan 2025-2034 in the open part of the meeting.
4. The CE be instructed to make the necessary amendments to the Draft Long Term Plan 2025-2034 and present the Long Term Plan 2025-2034 to the Ordinary Council Meeting on 26 June 2025 for adoption.

5. SUBMISSION HEARINGS

- Hearing the submissions and feedback to the Draft Long Term Plan 2025/2034 will be in the open section of the meeting.
- Deliberations will be held in the open section of the meeting.
- Decisions will be made by Council in the open section of the meeting.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OR CONNECTED VIA ZOOM TO SPEAK TO THEIR SUBMISSION:

Schedule of Verbal Submissions

The following items were taken out of order to the Agenda papers.

Submitters	Topics Spoken to:
Allan McGibbon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates • Pakiwaitara Building • Hannah's Clearing Landfill remediation • Jackson Bay Wharf repair • Alternative West Coast Wilderness Trail route to Ross • Dog registration • Hokitika Swimming Pool • Council's vision and community outcomes
Lez Morgan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates • Pakiwaitara Building • Alternative West Coast Wilderness Trail route to Ross • Hokitika Swimming Pool • Destination Westland / Wildfoods Festival • Debt • Rubbish bins <p>Mr Morgan circulated a copy of his rates bill for Councillors information.</p>
Anthea Keenan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debt • Alternative West Coast Wilderness Trail route to Ross • Entranceway onto Pine Tree Road • Stormwater connection
Captain Max Dowell QSM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hokitika History
Paul and Glenys Breeze	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Waters • Buildings • Water quality at Lake Kaniere, including septic tanks, nitrates from the dairy farm, ashes being spread into the lake. Kw Madgwick suggested a round table meeting to discuss issues at Lake Kaniere.
Katrina Simpson, Hokitika Hockey Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport and recreation • Purpose built multi-use facility for hockey but could be used for futsal and soccer. • Alternative funding sources have not been explored as yet.
Janelle Shaw, Glacier Country Tourism Promotions Group (via Zoom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Waters • Glacier Country community funding • Tourism Promotion Rate and asked for a breakdown and expenditure of the isite and West Coast Wilderness Trail. • Kw Madgwick asked Ms Shaw about the Franz Josef/Waiau Wastewater vulnerability.
Don Neale, Westland Community Centre Inc (Hokitika Regent Theare)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community grant
Stasia Kennedy, Catholic Parish of South Westland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates for Catholic Parish Churches. Currently the Parish pay water rates for all Parishes in south Westland. Increases have been

	significant and are unsustainable. The Parish would like to see a reduction, or removal, of the Rates for services.
<p>Moved Cr Baird, seconded Cr Neale and Resolved that the meeting adjourn for a morning tea break at 11.08 am.</p> <p>The meeting reconvened at 11.20 am</p>	
Greg Maitland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial accountability • Rates Rises. Suggested Council talk to Internal Affairs to increase the amount of rates rebate. • Debt • Pakiwaitara building • Hannah's Clearing Landfill remediation • Alternative West Coast Wilderness Trail route to Ross. would like to see the Totara Bridge be load tested before a decision is made. • Three Waters. Suggested extra pond be added to the Hokitika Sewerage scheme. • Hokitika Swimming Pool • Museum and Carnegie Building
<p>Simon Cameron, West Coast Federated Farmers (via Zoom)</p> <p>Nigel Billings, West Coast Federated Farmers (via Zoom)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannah's Clearing Landfill remediation • Jackson Bay Wharf • Dog registration and discounts for subsequent working dogs. • Rates and the drivers of rates increases. • Debt
Vance and Carol Boyd (via Zoom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannah's Clearing Landfill remediation • Alternative West Coast Wilderness Trail route to Ross • Hannahs Clearing Water Supply is still mentioned in the Long Term Plan.
Samuel Blight, Destination Hokitika	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destination Hokitika Rate. • The promotions rates promotes Hokitika as a whole. • Rate be levied for duration of the Long Term Plan. • Rate be increased each year. • Consider renaming Destination Westland Ltd.
Jacqui Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates increases and affordability. • Debt • Financial accountability • Pakiwaitara Building • Museum and Carnegie Building • Three Waters • Sewerage ponds • Selling excess Council land and buildings.
<p>Her Worship the Mayor requested the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actual budget for the Hokitika Museum. - How many dollars is a percentage of rates. - Information regarding the Churches. 	

Moved Cr Phelps, seconded Deputy Mayor and **Resolved that the members** adjourn for lunch at 12.44 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 1.33 pm.

The following people had requested speaking rights, but were unable to attend the meeting on the day:

Andy Campbell, Councillor, West Coast Regional Council Darryl Lew, Chief Executive, West Coast Regional Council	Melinda Packham, Westland Basketball
Don Harcourt	

DELIBERATION AND DECISIONS ON SUBMISSIONS:

Council were in receipt of a copy of the analysis of all the submissions and deliberated in the open part of the meeting.

As a result of the feedback made to the Council, the following has been agreed to by the Council in relation to the Draft Long Term Plan 2025 - 2034:

The following items were taken out of order to the Agenda papers.

#	Submission Subject and Council Discussion	COUNCIL DECISION
1.	Pakiwaitara Building, 41 Weld Street, Hokitika	Moved Cr Baird, seconded Cr Phelps and Resolved by a show of hands that the Pakiwaitara Building be put on the market immediately, with a caveat that investigations be undertaken to provide costings on two alternative options for the Council Building; namely: i) demolished and rebuild on the Pakiwaitara site. ii) to occupy the Government Building. Options to be reported back to Council in June 2025. The motion was carried unanimously.
2.	Hannah's Clearing Landfill Remediation	Moved Cr Baird, seconded Cr Gillet and Resolved by show of hands that Hannah's Clearing Landfill Remediation be removed entirely from the Long Term Plan. The motion was carried unanimously.
3.	Jackson Bay Wharf Repair	Moved Cr Burden, seconded Deputy Mayor and Resolved to keep the Jackson Bay Wharf Repair in the Long Term plan with external loan funding. If unsuccessful with funding, Council to look at other options available or the Jackson Bay Wharf Repair.

		Cr Gillett, Cr Neale, Cr Phelps recorded their votes against the motion.
4.	Alternative West Coast Wilderness Trail route to Ross	Moved Deputy Mayor, seconded Cr Burden and Resolved to build an alternative West Coast Wilderness Trail route to Ross with external funding. Cr Phelps recorded his vote against the motion.
5	Dog Registration Restructure	Moved Deputy Mayor, seconded Cr Burden and Resolved to restructure the dog registration fees, noting a 50% reduction to the working dog fee for subsequent working dogs. Cr Neale and Cr Davidson recorded their votes against this motion.
6.	Financial Accountability	This item was noted.
7.	Three Waters	This item was noted. Franz Josef/Waiau – extension of the work. Future Franz programme.
8.	Boat Ramp at Jackson Bay	This item was noted.
9.	Glacier Country Community Funding	This item was noted.
10	Hokitika Swimming Pool	Moved Deputy Mayor, seconded Cr Phelps and Resolved that: i) funding for the Toddler Pool at the Hokitika Swimming Pool be removed from the Long Term Plan. ii) funding for the heating upgrade to stay in the Long Term Plan. iii) clarification on the breakdown of costs for the roof and floor upgrades be provided to Council in June 2025.
11.	Chlorination	This item was noted.
<p>Moved Cr Neale, seconded Deputy Mayor and Resolved that members break for afternoon tea at 3.42pm.</p> <p>The meeting reconvened at 3.51pm</p> <p>Cr Burden left meeting at 3.42, and returned 4.00pm.</p>		
12	Rates	This item was noted. Cr Gillett noted that Councillors haven't done any work on OPEX and this is to be discussed with the Chief Executive. Agreed that Cr Gillett take the

		<p>lead on rate charges, allocations and written format.</p> <p>Rates for Churches Group Manager Corporate Services advised that 15 Churches are charged for services (not rates) to a total of \$50,000. They do not pay rates on the land the church sits on but do on the Presbyterian buildings. Ratepayers have the option to waiver the water service charges or receive a half rate charge.</p>
Moved Cr Baird, seconded Cr Gillett and Resolved to extend the meeting past 6 hours.		
13.	Council's Vision and Community Outcomes	This item was noted.
14	West Coast Wilderness Trail	<p>This item was noted.</p> <p>Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday 27 May to discuss the structure and how the trail will be managed going forward. Noted that this item will come back Council.</p>
15.	Ross Swimming Pool	This item was noted.
16.	Destination Westland Ltd / Hokitika Wildfoods Festival	<p>This item was noted.</p> <p>A further meeting of the Council Controlled Oversight Committee will be held on the 5 June 2025.</p>
17.	Rubbish Bins	This item was noted.
18.	Communications and Engagement	This item was noted.
19.	Council Auditors	This item was noted.
20.	Debt	This item was noted.
21	Infrastructure	This item was noted.
22.	Museum and Carnegie Building	<p>Moved Cr Baird, seconded Cr Neale and Resolved that a Working Group be formed with the following members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Her Worship the Mayor • Cr Davidson • Kw Madgwick, Iwi Representative • M. Waters, Community Services Manager (to assist and facilitate) • Two community stakeholders
23.	Feral Cats	This item was noted.
24.	Dogs	This item was noted.

25.	Council Controlled Organisations	This item was noted.
26.	Buildings	This item was noted.
27.	Pre-election commitments	This item was noted.
28.	isite	<p>This item was noted.</p> <p>Councillors discussed the costs for the isite and West Coast Wilderness Cycle Trail.</p> <p>Cr Burden asked to review what was resolved in the CCO Oversight Committee ¹Workshop relating to the isite.</p>
29.	Sport and recreation	This item was noted.
30.	Public Toilets	This item was noted.
31.	Staffing	This item was noted.
32.	Tourism Promotions Rate	This item was noted.
33.	Heritage Buildings	This item was noted.
34.	Community Grant	This item was noted.
Cr Manera left the meeting at 4.51pm, and returned at 4.54 pm.		
35.	Westland Safer Community Coalition	This item was noted.
36.	Hokitika History	This item was noted.
37.	Ross Cemetery	This item was noted.
38.	Natural Hazards	This item was noted.
39.	Franz Josef Southside Master Planning	This item was noted and refers to the Future Franz Project.
40.	Destination Hokitika Rate	<p>Deputy Mayor declared a conflict of interest.</p> <p>Moved Deputy Mayor, seconded Cr Baird and Resolved that the Destination Hokitika Rate remain in the Long Term Plan and the rate increase incrementally in line with inflation each year.</p> <p>Cr Phelps recorded his vote against the motion. Cr Manera abstained from voting.</p>

¹ Amended by Council 29.05.25

Her Worship the Mayor closed the meeting by thanking the Councillors and all those from the Community who took the time to enter a submission and to those who presented in person and online.

**DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 29 MAY 2025
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM**

MEETING CLOSED AT 5.04 PM

Confirmed by Council at the 29 May 2025 Meeting.

**Her Worship the Mayor
Chair**

Date: 29 May 2025

CONFIRMED