

**Meeting held 4 February 2025, 7pm
Woodville Sports Stadium Supper room**

1. Present:

J Kopa, C Archer, A Sowry, P Bonser, Cr S Gilmore, V Tomlinson, R McMillan, P Cox, J Lovett, K Stevens, B Hutton, J Bartlett, B Compton, J McNeur, P Johns, P Tayler, D Henman,
Guests: Norm Grayson

Apologies:

C Wilton, B Tomlinson, M McMillan, B Swenson, N Lovett

That the apologies be accepted

C Archer/P Johns

Carried

2. Other General Business:

Nil

3. Conflicts of Interest:

K Stevens – Contestable Fund

4. Minutes of previous meeting:

That the minutes are confirmed as a true and accurate record.

V Tomlinson / J Lovett

Carried

At this point Chairperson, J Kopa invited our visitor Norm Grayson to put his proposal/business plan forward. regarding **A Timber Museum**

Mr Grayson has been collecting exotic & native tree samples and is looking to set up a gallery & museum locally to display how timber was historically prepared.

It would require approx 400-450 sqm of space to fully display this.

P Johns questioned how it would be manned. A suggestion that it could be community rostered volunteers with an entry fee and possibly being self-funded.

B. Hutton suggested that the “Mans Shed” in Pahiatua is possibly one of the few buildings suitable.

J Kopa will send Norman contact details for B Hutton.

5. Matters Arising from the minutes:

Takaro Trailer – As discussed in the previous meeting this was hired for two days and was well received by the children.

Many thanks to Janelle & Ann Marie.

Poetry Book – Copies are now available at \$10 from the Information Centre and the Salvation Army

Te Apiti Discovery Centre – V McMillan presented the proposal documentation for this at the December meeting and it was decided to discuss it in more detail at the February 2025 meeting following a copy of the proposal being sent to all members.

B Hutton pointed out that Ashhurst is doing its own thing for the Manawatu Region. One of the key points was that part of the proposal would be a connected walkway between us and Ashhurst with the intent of hireage of bikes.

P Johns pointed out that Rangitane is driving how the area could be developed with the inclusion of Lions, Domain Board having a committed financial interest.

That \$3000 be given to Rangitane to assist with administrative costs and setting up the plans.

P Johns/ C Archer

Carried

6. Correspondence:

Inward: Mike Butterick – Highway Tolling Decision
Kevin & Joan McIntyre – Cemetery Tour
Paid Membership List
TDC/Peter Johns - Ferry Reserve Planting
Willsum Foods Ltd – Waitangi Day
TDC – Contestable Fund
Resene Paint – Gift Voucher
NZME – Inv/Statement
TDC – Annual Report
Defibrillator Recall
TDC – Water update
TDC – Media release re Disposal of Assets
Woodville Tennis Court – Pickleball Court
Resene paint – can of pebbles & voucher
Youth Parliament 2025

That the inwards correspondence be accepted and the outward approved

M Carroll/C Archer

Carried

That a letter be sent to TDC supporting the Pickleball Courts.

P Johns/C Archer

Carried

Outward: Nil

7. Financial Report

The financial report was presented by the Treasurer

That the Financial Report be accepted and accounts paid.

V Tomlinson/J Kopa

Carried

8. TDC Report – Cr S Gilmore:

Positively Woodville Report 04/02/24

Toll decision

Everyone will be aware of the decision not to toll Te Ahu a Turanga. The push back all started with the Woodville public meeting. Thanks for agreeing to hold this under the Positively Woodville banner.

NZTA still recommended that the toll go ahead, but our communities made it politically impossible, which is why I believe the minister killed the proposal.

There was a huge amount of work done by many, but it shows the power of our communities. Everyone should be very proud of their efforts in stopping this from happening and it should serve as a reminder to that if we engage, we can change things.

Contestable Fund

A reminder that the Contestable Fund is currently open - closing 7 Feb. The 2nd round opens on 1 April, closes 30 April.

Section 17a Reviews into Swimming Pools and Campgrounds

The recent reports are done under s17a of the Local Government Act which requires councils to review our services. A summary of the reports can be viewed within the last council meeting agenda on the council website.

It was recommended that both campgrounds and swimming pools retain the status quo model until operational improvements and improvements with data are completed. Of note in the campground report, it was flagged that the Woodville campground is not compliant with some campground regulations which require laundry and cooking facilities and has comparatively low utilisation, likely in part due to the popularity of Ferry Reserve.

The report recommended that Woodville campground only be made available to fully self-contained vehicles. A number of questions remain as to whether a laundry mat would be considered adequate and what the penalties were for non-compliance. It was made clear by councillors that any changes to the status would only be made after full consultation with our community.

Of note, it was reported that swimming pools in the district are operating comparatively well from a cost perspective, with volunteer committees, like WRAP, making a large positive contribution to this. The per swim cost (which is the direct council funding) in Woodville is \$8.78.

Local water done well changes

Following government requirements for planning our water assets, Council in December made the decision that the preferred option is to join with Wairarapa councils. A working group has been established with representatives of all councils in the Wairarapa and the Tararua District to develop a consultation document over the next month. Each council has two representatives, with ours being Mayor Tracey and Cr Kerry Southerland. Mayor Tracey will also act as the chairperson of the working group.

Once the consultation document is finalised, consultation will commence with community.

Current Water Status

No water restrictions in Woodville currently, but please conserve water so we reduce the likelihood of council staff needing to impose one.

Rationalisation of land and buildings

As mentioned in prior reports, this project is progressing. Consultants have identified several underutilised buildings and land in the district that could be potentially disposed of. The only property the consultants identified in Woodville is the Woodville Pioneer Museum front building, subdividing, and leaving the back sheds for storage.

The full report can be viewed in the agenda for the December council meeting on the council website. It's important to note that no decisions will be made without full community consultation, and in the case of the Pioneer Museum, it may also require ministerial consent as it is designated as a reserve.

NZTA Road closure

Council has been informed that work to connect the roundabout on the Woodville side will commence on 24 February. This will be a full road closure for approximately 5 weeks, necessitating a detour along Pinfold and Oxford roads for light vehicles, and diversion to the Pahiatua Track for heavy vehicles. We have been informed that there will be signs at detour sites telling people Woodville and its businesses are still accessible. I have requested through the mayor that we ask for the opportunity to influence the messaging and design of these signs to try to limit the impact to our business as much as possible and will also follow up about alternative detour suggestions to still allow vehicle flow through Woodville.

Following the reading of his report Scott acknowledged the toll decision and pointed out that often when we engage in items of issue to our community we can bring about change. He also pointed out that the "small" community meeting that was planned avalanched into a change of thought for the Government.

Discussion was held with regard to the proposed traffic diversion from 24 Feb and as to why it could not go up McLean Street allowing traffic to still come through the town. Some worry was voiced as to the proposed diversion removing the through traffic from the Main Street thus affecting the businesses.

That correspondence be sent to NZTA voicing our concerns and proposing Mclean Street as the preferred bypass.

V Tomlinson/P Johns

Carried

A Sowry raised a question to Cr Gilmore with regard to who would be covering the damage for repairs at the Woodville Settlers Cemetery following a tree that has come down on some of the tombstones/graves.

Concern was raised with regard to the casket depth of a grave since the incident.

P Tayler questioned Cnr Gilmore in regard to earthquake prone requirements. Do the dates as laid down by the Government (2030) still hold?

Asked for clarification from the Council as what the current dates are?

K Stevens pointed out the impact of the road closure at the corner of Woodlands and the old State Highway with regard to access to the cemetery and potential monthly tours.

General Business

Flag Trax – A quote is being sought from Chris Souness for the purchase of the Flag Trax.

A meeting was held in the previous week at which time Flag Trax was asked to provide a plan and price.

It was discussed that consent from Council would be required to complete.

B Hutton to email Chief Executive and CC S Gilmore, P Johns & J Kopa

P Johns/ V Tomlinson

Carried

If accepting the quote lead time would be 8 weeks for arrival. Flags would be interspersed with Positively Woodville and 150Year Celebration.

It was envisaged that there would be approx 22 flags up Main Street.

It was noted that the poles around the Park are at a different height and would require a separate plan and quote and Council will be encouraged to take on this section of the project.

V Tomlinson has suggested that we have the flags manufactured ready to be hoisted when trax are installed.

K Stevens asked as to who was designing the flags.

150 Celebrations – A report from V Tomlinson with regard to where we are with the planned celebrations. Quarterly pages will be in the Bush Telegraph as to what is happening each quarter.

Current proposed dates:

22 Feb – Horticultural and Industrial show – Floral arrangement to be 70 Mile Bush and 150 year Theme

8/9 March – Woolville 2025 – A celebration of the wonderful fibre that wool is and how it has shaped our district.

8th March day of demonstrations, stalls, food trucks and 9th March wooly church service to celebrate the beautiful fibre.

16th March – Meeting re proposed 150 Year of Farming – Motor Transport Show Day 1 Jan 2026

14th June – 150year Dance and Supper – 7pm \$ ticket , live band

The Committee have had it confirmed that a Woodville Race Meeting will be held themed Fashion in the Field. Date to be advised

Signs:

- a) Entrance signs are due to be placed at the Dannevirke end of town but TDC are waiting to determine northern end due to the roundabout construction
- b) The Steampunk billboards are to be removed and replaced with 150yr advertising,

Communications Role:

Chairperson J Kopa informed us that C Wilton is taking a time out from PW business due to family responsibilities. K Stevens to assist with facebook and promotion during Carole's absence.

Contestable fund closes 7th Feb

Application is being made for storage building funding. It was asked that if we were successful would there be room for a generator used by Civil Defence for the Community Centre.

It was agreed that we urgently need to find a more secure building as the container has leakage issues and the door is "challenging" to open and close.

PW documentation archiving

J Kopa asked the committee if anyone had reservations about her going through the old minutes and other records to appraise what would be suitable for retention or disposal. Documentation will be condensed to be stored as a community archive in an area at the I-Site.

P Johns/J McNeur

Carried

Resene paint spot prize:

In addition to a can of pebbles, a letter was received with a spot prize voucher of \$250 towards paint.

J Kopa suggested that we could use this paint on the empty 4 Square windows, (with their consent), with a stencil design to perhaps do a mural – windmills/sunflowers/hills. This could then be used as an example to encourage absentee landlords to allow us to also paint their windows.

That a letter be sent to absentee landlords suggesting such and gain access to do similar inside on empty shop windows.

P Johns/J Kopa

Carried

Community concern

Discussion re concern of increased graffiti and burglary activity.

Was stated that witnesses/victims need to Call 111 to inform the police as they cannot act until an action is actively reported.

Suggested that we contact the Police and ask them to attend a meeting with regard to the public concern.

Chairperson J Kopa will contact the police and extend an invitation to next month's meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.00

Next Meeting – 4 March 2025

Signed:

Chairperson

Date: