

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Kawerau District Council
held on Wednesday 26 March 2025
in the Council Chamber commencing at 9.00am**

Present: Her Worship the Mayor F K N Tunui
Deputy Mayor A Rangihika
Councillor C J Ion
Councillor W Godfery
Councillor B Julian
Councillor S Kingi
Councillor J Ross
Councillor R G K Savage

In Attendance: Chief Executive Officer (M Godfery)
Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services (L Butler)
Group Manager, Operations and Services (R Nel)
Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning (M Glaspey)
Communications & Engagement Manager (T Humberstone)
Economic and Development Manager (L Barton)
Administration Officer (L Kerei)

1 Karakia Timatanga | Opening Prayer

Pastor Mark Kingi opened the meeting with a prayer.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Andrews.

**Councillors Kingi / Ross
CARREID**

3 Leave of Absence

No Leave of Absence were received.

4 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Councillor Ion and Ross Declared a Conflict of Interest with item 18 – Adoption of Draft Rate Remissions and Postponement Policies for Consultation.

Councillor Ion and Julian Declared a Conflict of Interest with item 15 – Receipt of Submissions, Deliberations and Adoption of the Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy.

5 Meeting Notices

Chief Executive Officer gave a reminder of the special occasion at 12.00pm today. This will cause the meeting to adjourn.

6 Nga Mihimihi | Acknowledgements

Her Worship the Mayor sends her aroha | love to all in the community that have lost loved ones and gives her well wishes to all on behalf of Council.

7 Public Forum

Andre van Schalkwyk raised the following concern:

- Andre spoke of how he joined the previous Council Meeting in February to convey his continuous issues with the dogs next door to his business/motel. Since this meeting he has met with Chief Executive Officer Godfery and gave thanks to him for meeting at the motel to hear the barking himself. Andre is still facing the same challenges and no resolution. Mr van Schalkwyk advised Elected Members that due to the barking he has had to close the motel until 28 March 2025.

Elected Members acknowledged Andre for coming back into the Chambers and speaking in Public Forum again. His frustrations are heard by Elected Members and will hold a discussion with the Chief Executive Officer outside the Council Meeting to discuss excessive barking and the number of dogs on site. Deputy Mayor Rangihika advised he did stop outside the gate of the compound and sighted more than 3 dogs on the property.

Action items:

- Chief Executive Officer to advise Elected Members if the 23 recordings of Mr van Schalkwyk complaints were received.
- Staff to have continuous communication with Andre with regards to this matter.

8 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

8.1 Ordinary Council – 26 February 2025

Elected Members have requested if there are action items for staff to complete that are raised from Public Forum these are to be included in the action schedule moving forward.

Resolved

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 February 2025 is confirmed as a true and accurate record.

**Councillors Kingi/Savage
CARRIED**

9 CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

9.1 Regulatory and Services Committee Meeting – 12 March 2025

Elected Members have requested if there are Action Items for staff to complete that are raised from Public Forum these are to be included in the action schedule moving forward.

Resolved

That the minutes of the Regulatory and Services Committee Meeting held on 12 March 2025 is confirmed as a true and accurate record.

**Councillors Ion / Ross
CARRIED**

10 Her Worship the Mayor's Report

Resolved

That Her Worship the Mayor's report for the period Thursday 20 February 2025 to Wednesday 19 March 2025 is received.

**Councillor Kingi / Her Worship the Mayor
CARRIED**

11 Action Schedule (Chief Executive) (101120)

Action item:

- Economic and Development Manager to obtain historic designs that were created by the Youth Council of the day for the skatepark and basketball area. This is to be added and developed on instead of starting a new designs.
- Elected Members would like to know how/who does Tent Board benefit or work with the Community.

Resolved

That the updated Action Schedule of resolutions/actions as updated and amended requested by Council is received.

**Councillors Ross / Ion
CARRIED**

12 Raising a \$4.0 million renewal loan (2025) from Local Government Funding Agency (Financial Accountant) (206700)

Council discussed the report on the Raising a \$4.0 million renewal loan (2025) from Local Government Funding Agency.

10.18am **Chief Executive Officer** departed the meeting.
10.20am **Chief Executive Officer** returned to the meeting.

Resolved

1. *That the report "Raising a \$4.0 million renewal loan (2025) from Local Government Funding Agency" be received.*
2. *That Council approves the raising of \$4.0 million renewal loan for a fixed term for a period to 20 April 2029.*
3. *That Council delegates the CE authority to execute all the necessary documents for the raising of this \$4.0 million renewal loan.*

**Councillors Julian / Godfery
CARRIED**

13 Overview of Elections and Order of Candidates' Names (Communications and Engagement Manager) (101287)

Council discussed the report on the Overview of Elections and Order of Candidates' Names.

Resolved

1. *That the report "Overview of Elections and Order of Candidates' Names" be received.*

**Councillors Ross / Savage
CARRIED**

Resolved

2. *That Council resolves for the 2025 triennial election, to adopt the alphabetical order of candidates' names.*

**Councillors Ross / Kingi
CARRIED**

14 Adoption of Council's Fraud and Corruption Risk Assessment (Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services) (201300)

Council discussed the report on the Adoption of Council's Fraud and Corruption Risk Assessment.

Resolved

1. *That the report "Adoption of Council's Fraud and Corruption Risk Assessment" be received.*

2. *That Council adopt the “Fraud and Corruption Risk Assessment” as proposed in Appendix A.*

Councillors Ion / Savage
CARRIED

10.43am **Councillors Ion and Julian** departed the meeting.

15 Receipt of Submissions, Deliberations and Adoption of the Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy (Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning) (110800)

Council discussed the report on the Receipt of Submissions, Deliberations and Adoption of the Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy.

Resolved

1. *That the report “Receipt of Submissions, Deliberations and Adoption of the Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy” be received.*
2. *That Council receive the submissions.*
3. *That Council deliberations on the Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy; and*
4. *That Council resolves to adopt the Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy 2025 effective from 31 March 2025; and*
5. *That Council authorises the Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning to make any necessary minor edits or changes to reflect decisions made by Council at the meeting.*

Deputy Mayor Rangihika / Councillor Kingi
CARRIED

10.56am **Councillors Ion and Julian** returned to the meeting.

16 Adoption of the Freedom Camping Bylaw and Amendments to the Reserve Management Plan (Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning) (320400)

Council discussed the report on the Adoption of the Freedom Camping Bylaw and Amendments to the Reserve Management Plan.

11.21am **Councillor Ross** departed the meeting.

11.23am **Councillor Ross** returned to the meeting.

Resolved

1. *That the report “Adoption of the Freedom Camping Bylaw and Amendments to the Reserve Management Plan” be received.*
2. *That Council confirms the proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw is the most appropriate way to manage freedom camping in Kawerau.*
3. *That Council confirms the proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw as attached*

- i) *Is in the most appropriate form of the Bylaw; and*
 - ii) *Does not give rise to any implications under, and is not inconsistent with, the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.*
4. *That Council resolves to adopt the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 pursuant to section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011.*
 5. *That Council authorises the Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning to make any necessary minor drafting or presentation amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw to correct errors or omissions, or to reflect decisions made by Council during the meeting to adopt the Freedom Camping Bylaw.*
 6. *That Council approves the commencement date for the Freedom Camping Bylaw to be 1 April 2025.*
 7. *That Council resolves to adopt the proposed changes to the Reserves Management Plan for consistency with the Freedom Camping Bylaw.*
 8. *That Council adopts the fees and charges as proposed, or as determined by Council, for prior consent applications.*

Councillors Kingi / Savage
CARRIED

17 Proposed Budget Overview and Rates for Long Term Plan 2025-2034 (Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services) (201600)

Council discussed the report on the Proposed Budget Overview and Rates for Long Term Plan 2025-2034.

11.53am **Councillor Godfery** departed the meeting.

11.56am **Councillor Godfery** returned to the meeting.

Resolved

1. *That the report "Proposed Budget Overview and Rates for Long Term Plan 2025-2034" be received.*
2. *That Council adopt the draft budget 2025/26 and the proposed rates for inclusion in the preparation of the Long Term Plan Consultation Document which will be adopted by Council on 9 April 2025.*

Councillor Ion / Deputy Mayor Rangihika
CARRIED

12.06pm Her Worship the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

1.07pm Her Worship the Mayor resumed the meeting.

1.07pm Councillors Ion and Ross departed the meeting.

18 Adoption of Draft Rate Remissions and Postponement Policies for Consultation (Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services) (110551)

Council discussed the report on the Adoption of Draft Rate Remissions and Postponement Policies for Consultation.

Resolved

1. *That the report "Adoption of Draft Rate Remissions and Postponement Policies for Consultation" be received.*

**Councillors Kingi / Savage
CARRIED**

Resolved

2. *That Council adopts the following Draft Rate Remissions and Postponement policies for public consultation as part of the Long Term Plan Consultation process:*
 - *Rates relief for farm properties*
 - *Rates relief for developments*
 - *Rates remission and postponement policy for Māori freehold land*
 - *Rates penalty remission policy*
 - *Rates remission for Sport, Recreation and Community Organisations Leasing Council Land*
 - *Rates remission for Boundary Reorganisation Properties*

**Councillors Godfery / Savage
CARRIED**

3. *That Council confirm the removal of the remission policy for High Value Properties which will no longer apply from 1 July 2025.*

**Councillor Kingi / Deputy Mayor Rangihika
CARRIED**

1.30pm **Councillors Ion and Ross** returned to the meeting.

19 Exclusion of the Public – 1.30pm

Resolved

That the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

1. **Minutes for Confidential Meeting Held on 26 February 2025**
2. **Zone 5 and 6 Renewal**

**Councillors Ross / Savage
CARRIED**

The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is excluded; the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under Section

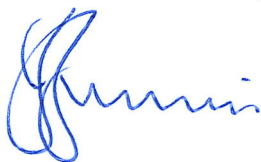
48(1) of the Local Government Information & Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution is as follows:

General Subject of the matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
1. Minutes for Confidential Meeting held on 18 December 2024. 2. Zone 5 and 6 Renewal	Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions.	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48 (1) (a) (i)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) (a) of the Local Government Official Information & Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 7 (2) (b) (i) of that Act.

20 **Karakia Whakamutunga | Closing Prayer**

Pastor Mark Kingi closed the meeting with a Karakia at 1.58pm



F K N Tunui
Mayor

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