

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building,, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 15 April 2026, commencing at 9.02am

- Members Present:** Councillors Rachel Bowen (in the Chair), Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Leonie Hapeta and Lorna Johnson.
- Members Present Online:** Councillors Lew Findlay and Bonnie Kuru.
- Non Members Present:** Councillors Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald, Orphée Mickalad.
- Apologies:** The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb.

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin opened the meeting with karakia.

7-26

Apologies

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the apologies.

Clause 7-26 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald and Orphée Mickalad.

Tribute to Joe Sing

Councillor Arnott made tribute to Joe Sing, Photographer, who recently passed away.

Joe was a photographer, mentor, educator, and innovator who made a lasting contribution to photography in this country, and helped guide and inspire thousands of photographers who continue to work in New Zealand and overseas.

He will be remembered as a true pioneer of photography in the Manawatū and a deeply respected figure in our community.

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8-26 Public Comment

Leah Crisp, Chair, Caccia Birch Trust made public comment in support of Item 8 (Caccia Birch Masterplan).

The Caccia Birch Trust Board is proud to have taken a very active role in the development of this Masterplan – a vital first step in shaping a clear, long term direction for the property and its grounds.

Caccia Birch holds significant value for the community as a site of heritage, identity and shared stories. The Board’s purpose is to ensure these stories, and the history of the house and grounds, are preserved, shared and experienced in ways that connect people to Caccia Birch and to each other. The Masterplan gives the Board the context and direction to fill that role effectively, ensuring any future work aligns with both heritage values and community aspirations.

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the public comment.

Clause 8-26 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald and Orphée Mickalad.

9-26 Presentation - All Saints Palmerston North

Presentation, by Julia Budd, Interim Priest in Charge and Vince Neall, Building Advisory Group Chair.

Representatives from All Saints Palmerston North updated the committee on the All Saints Church restoration project; presentation is appended to these Minutes.

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 9-26 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald and Orphée Mickalad.

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10-26 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the minutes of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee meeting of 18 March 2026 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 10-26 above was carried 8 votes to 0, with 3 abstentions, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson and Bonnie Kuru.

Abstained:

Councillors Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald and Orphée Mickalad.

11-26 Caccia Birch Masterplan

Memorandum, presented by John Lynch, Manager Venues + Events, and Kris Herman and James Marsh, Local Collective Architects.

Councillor Bowen moved a motion requesting an annual progress report to the Committee on the delivery of the Caccia Birch Masterplan.

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

1. That Council adopt the Caccia Birch Masterplan to guide future development of the grounds and inform future Long-term Plan processes.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

2. That the Chief Executive provide an annual progress report to the Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee on the delivery of the Caccia Birch Masterplan.

Clause 11-26 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald and Orphée Mickalad.

12-26 Annual Sector Lead Report: Community Arts Palmerston North Incorporated (Square Edge Community Arts)

Memorandum, presented by Gillian Tasker, Senior Community Development Advisor - Arts and Rose Bourke, Artistic Director, Square Edge Community Arts.

Rose Bourke, Square Edge Community Arts, presented their Annual Sector Lead Report; presentation is appended to these Minutes.

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE COMMITTEE - PART I - 15 APRIL 2026

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Annual Sector Lead Report: Community Arts Palmerston North Incorporated (Square Edge Community Arts)' presented to the Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee on 15 April 2026.

Clause 12-26 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald and Orphée Mickalad.

13-26

Annual Sector Lead Report: Creative Sounds Society Incorporated (The Stomach)

Memorandum, presented by Gillian Tasker, Senior Community Development Advisor - Arts and Abi Symes, Manager, The Stomach and Jordan Kupe, Creative Sounds Society Convenor.

Representatives from The Stomach presented their Annual Sector Lead Report; presentation is appended to these Minutes.

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Annual Sector Lead Report: Creative Sounds Society Incorporated (The Stomach)' presented to the Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee on 15 April 2026.

Clause 13-26 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald and Orphée Mickalad.

14-26

Committee Work Schedule

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Arts, Culture & Heritage Committee receive its Work Schedule dated 15 April 2026.

Clause 14-26 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE COMMITTEE - PART I - 15 APRIL 2026

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Kaydee Zabelin, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Vaughan Dennison, Hayden Fitzgerald and Orphée Mickalad.

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin closed the meeting with karakia.

The meeting finished at 10.50am.

Confirmed 17 June 2026

Chairperson

UNCONFIRMED