

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Committee Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 13 August 2025, commencing at 9.02am.

Members Present: Councillor Lorna Johnson (in the Chair), The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Non Members: Councillor Vaughan Dennison.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) left the meeting at 12.23pm during consideration of clause 28. He was not present when the meeting resumed at 4.17pm. He entered the meeting again after consideration of clause 29. He was not present for clauses 28 and 29.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison left the meeting at 12.51pm during consideration of clause 29. He was not present for clauses 29 to 31 inclusive.

Councillors Billy Meehan, Kaydee Zabelin, Lew Findlay were not present when the meeting resumed at 4.17pm. They were not present for clauses 29 to 31 inclusive.

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Lorna Johnson opened the meeting with karakia

19-25 Public Comment

Brett Neill, Chair, and Bill Evans, member of the Bunnythorpe Community Committee, made a public comment in support of Item 8: Bunnythorpe Community Plan 2025-2028.

John Charlton made a public comment in support of Item 6: Petition – Review of the Operations and Management of Animal Management Team. He spoke on the increased number of ACC claims per year for dog bites in Palmerston North.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The COMMITTEE RESOLVED

1. That the Committee receive Public comment 1 for information.

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Clause 19-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

2. That the Committee receive Public comment 2 for information.

Clause 19-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

20-25

Petition - Review of the Operations and Management of Animal Management Team

Kath Dixon presented a Petition requesting that the Council review their policies and processes activities and performance of the Animal Management team.

She expressed concerns about public safety due to a growing number of incidents involving dangerous and uncontrolled dogs, which have led to injuries, fear, and a diminished quality of life in the community. She also criticised the enforcement of the Dog Control Act 1996, citing under-enforcement of regulations by the Animal Management Team.

She proposes that Council does an independent formal review of the Animal Management Team focusing on:

- Performance metrics and enforcement effectiveness.
- Public Education and engagement.
- Resource levels and staff qualifications.
- Community satisfaction and feedback mechanisms.
- Benchmarking against other Councils

Two additional motions were moved. One asked the Chief Executive to investigate the concerns raised by the petitioners and the other requested the Chief Executive report back on the draft terms of reference for the review.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Committee receive the presentation for information.

2. That the Chief Executive investigate the concerns raised by

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petitioners about Animal Management and Enforcement of the Dog Control Act 1996 and respond to them directly.

Clause 20-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Orphée Mickalad.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

3. That the Chief Executive report back on the draft terms of reference of a review of the effectiveness of the Animal Management Services.

Clause 20-25 above was carried 11 votes to 1, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

Against:

Councillor Patrick Handcock.

21-25 **Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the minutes of the Community Committee meeting of 21 May 2025 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 21-25 above was carried 10 votes to 0, with 2 abstentions, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Abstained:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillor Vaughan Dennison.

22-25 **Bunnythorpe Community Plan 2025 - 2028**

Memorandum, presented by Hilary Webb, Planner.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee endorse the Bunnythorpe Community Plan 2025

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- 2028 to inform future planning and decision-making, including the 2027-37 Long-Term Plan and land-use and infrastructure planning processes associated with Te Utanganui, the Central New Zealand Distribution Hub.

Clause 22-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

23-25

Presentation: Manawatū Tenants Union

Cameron Jenkins, coordinator of the Manawatū Tenants Union presented to the Committee.

Cameron provided an updated report of Manawatū Tenants Union activities throughout the last year.

The report is appended to these Minutes.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 23-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

24-25

Presentation: Seniors Reference Group - Annual Presentation

Jim Jefferies, Chair of the Seniors Reference Group presented to the Committee.

He presented a review of the past year and what the group will focus on for the 2025/26 year. The report is appended to these Minutes.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 24-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad,

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Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

25-25 Presentation: Pasifika Reference Group - Annual Presentation

Andrew Jamieson Samoa, Co-Chair and Courtney Manu, Co-Chair of the Pasifika Reference Group presented to the Committee.

They presented a review of the past year and what the group will focus on for the 2025/26 year. The powerpoint is appended to these Minutes.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 25-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

The meeting adjourned at 11.00am

The meeting resumed at 11.19am

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lew Findlay, Orphée Mickalad and Vaughan Dennison were not present when the meeting resumed at 11.19am.

26-25 Presentation: Disability Reference Group - Annual Presentation

Hugh O'Connell, Chair, Natalie McLean, Co-Chair, and Sara Georgeson, member of the Disability Reference Group presented to the Committee.

They presented a review of the previous year. The report is appended to these Minutes.

Councillors Lew Findlay, Orphée Mickalad and Vaughan Dennison entered the meeting at 11.20am.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) entered the meeting again at 11.24am.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 26-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

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27-25 Social Housing Update - Work Programme 1: Delivery Model for Property Memorandum, presented by Glenn Bunny, Manager Property.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Committee receive the Memorandum titled 'Social Housing Update – Work Programme 1: Delivery Model for Property' presented on 13 August 2025.

Clause 27-25 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

28-25 Update on Housing Insecurity Pilot Programme Memorandum, presented by Martin Brady, Community Development Advisor and Danu Sefton, Community Development Advisor.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) left the meeting at 12.23pm.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Update on Housing Insecurity Pilot Programme' presented to the Community Committee on 13 August 2025.

Clause 28-25 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood, Kaydee Zabelin and Vaughan Dennison.

29-25 Summary of Community Funding Allocations 01/07/2024 - 30/06/2025 Memorandum, presented by Stephanie Velvin, Manager Community Development.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison left the meeting at 12.51pm.

The meeting adjourn at 1.00pm

The meeting resumed at 4.17pm

Councillor Karen Naylor left the meeting at 4.21pm

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Billy Meehan, Kaydee Zabelin, Lew

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Findlay and Vaughan Dennison were not present when the meeting resumed.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Summary of Community Funding Allocations 01/07/2024 – 30/06/2025' presented on 13 August 2025.

Clause 29-25 above was carried 6 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Orphée Mickalad and William Wood.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillor Karen Naylor entered in the meeting again at 4.25pm

30-25 City Library Annual Report 2024-2025

Memorandum, presented by Linda Moore, Manager City, Library and Shannon Simpson Business and Technical Support.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the report titled 'City Library Annual Report 2024-2025' (Attachment 1) presented to the Community Committee on 13 August 2025.

Clause 30-25 above was carried 8 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

31-25 Committee Work Schedule - August 2025

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Patrick Handcock.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Committee receive its Work Schedule dated August 2025.

Clause 31-25 above was carried 8 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Patrick Handcock, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

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Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Lorna Johnson closed the meeting with karakia.

The public part of the meeting finished at 4.57pm.

Confirmed 8 October 2025.

Chair

**Waid Crockett
Chief Executive**