

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 06 August 2025, commencing at 9.02am.

Members Present: Grant Smith (The Mayor) (in the Chair) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Members Present Online: Councillor Patrick Handcock

Apologies: Roly Fitzgerald and Pat Handcock (early departure).

Councillor Pat Handcock left the meeting at 10.31am during consideration of 114-25. He was not present for clauses 114-25 to 125-25 inclusive.

Councillors Lorna Johnson and Kaydee Zabelin were not present when the meeting resumed at 11.57am. They entered the meeting at 12.00pm after consideration of clause 116-25. They were not present for clause 116-25 having declared an interest in this item.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison was not present when the meeting resumed at 3.22pm. He entered the meeting again at 3.28pm after consideration of clause 121-25. He was not present for clauses 119-25 to 121-25 inclusive.

Councillor Orphée Mickalad left the meeting at 3.45pm after consideration of 122-25. He returned at 3.52pm after consideration of clause 123-25. He was not present for clause 123-25 inclusive.

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb left the meeting at 4.48pm after consideration of clause 124-25. She was not present for clauses 125-25.

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb opened the meeting with karakia.

109-25 Apologies

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the apologies.

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

Clause 109-25 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

110-25 Notification of Additional Items

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council agree to consider the following late Part II Confidential report titled: External Funding Opportunity for Community Projects in the Long Term Plan, for the reasons below:

Reason for lateness: Letter of intent arrived after the publication of the agenda.

Reason for urgency: To meet the timeframes of the third party.

Clause 110-25 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

Declaration of Interest

Councillors Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad and Kaydee Zabelin declared a conflict of interest in Item 11: Continuation of appointment of Plan Change I Commissioners (clause 116-25) and took no further part in discussion or debate.

111-25 Petition: Restore Wyndham Street to the current Work Programme

Petition presented by Kirsty Kirk and Kevin Shailer, residents of Ashhurst.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That the Council receive the petition for information.

Clause 111-25 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor,

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

112-25 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting of 25 June 2025 Part I Public and Part II Confidential be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 112-25 above was carried 13 votes to 0, with 2 abstentions, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Abstained:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillor Lorna Johnson.

REPORTS

113-25 Wyndham Street, Ashhurst Upgrade

Report, presented by John Aitken - Manager Project Management Office.

Councillor Barrett moved an additional motion to review whether further work is required on Wyndham St between Cambridge Avenue and Salisbury Street.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to recommence the procurement process and to report to Council on Programme and Funding options for the Wyndham Street Upgrade.

Moved Brent Barrett, seconded Leonie Hapeta

2. That in response to resident concerns, the Chief Executive review camber in Wyndham St between Cambridge and Salisbury.

Clause 113-25 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

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

114-25 **Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 Debrief**

Memorandum, presented by Grace Nock, Manager Organisational Planning and Performance and David Murphy, General Manager Strategic Planning.

Councillor Patrick Handcock left the meeting at 10:31am

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the memorandum titled 'Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 Debrief', presented to Council on 6 August 2025.

Clause 114-25 above was carried 13 votes to 1, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillor Lorna Johnson.

115-25 **Ratepayer Assistance Scheme (RAS)**

Memorandum, presented by Cameron McKay, General Manager Corporate Services.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded William Wood.

RESOLVED

1. That Council approve making a contribution of \$250,000 to support final development of the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme being proposed by Local Government New Zealand, with any further funding subject to further Council decisions.
2. That Council approve this contribution being funded from unbudgeted borrowing and notes that this contribution could either be capitalised into shares should the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme be established, or expensed if the scheme is not established.
3. That the Chief Executive reports to Council the progress of the development of the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme and next steps.

Clause 115-25 above was carried 13 votes to 0, with 1 abstention, the voting

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Abstained:

Councillor Lew Findlay.

The meeting adjourned at 11.41am.

The meeting resumed at 11.57am.

Councillors Lorna Johnson and Kaydee Zabelin were not present when the meeting resumed.

116-25 **Continuation of appointment of Plan Change I Commissioners**

Memorandum, presented by Desiree Viggars, Manager Legal, Risk and Assurance/Legal Counsel.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That the assignment of Lorna Johnson, Kaydee Zabelin and Orphée Mickalad to hear Proposed District Plan Change I apply until the decision of the Panel is issued, regardless of whether or not the members listed are re-elected to the Palmerston North City Council at the 2025 local government elections.

Clause 116-25 above was carried 11 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

Note:

Councillor Orphée Mickalad declared an interest and sat in the gallery.

Councillors Lorna Johnson and Kaydee Zabelin entered the meeting at 12.00pm.

117-25 **Atawhai Park and Walkway - Land Exchange with Massey University**

Report, presented by Kathy Dever-Tod, Manager Parks and Reserves, and Perene Green, Property Officer.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council proceed with the public consultation on the proposed land exchange with Massey University noting that:
 - a. The land being exchanged to Massey University from Council would be approximately 564m² of Lot 1 DP 48076
 - b. The land being exchanged to Council from Massey University would be approximately 541m² of Part Section

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

208 TN of Fitzherbert.

c. Council would receive easements:

- i. over Lot 11 DP 18880 (91 Atawhai Road) legalising the existing walking path access to Atawhai Park
- ii. over Part Section 208 TN of Fitzherbert retaining legal access of the existing walkway from Atawhai Park to Bledisloe Park
- iii. a new easement over Part Section 208 TN of Fitzherbert allowing for a future walkway to be developed from Springdale Park to Bledisloe Park

Clause 117-25 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

118-25

Local Water Done Well - Treatment of Stormwater and General Updates

Report, presented by Julie Keane - Transition Manager, Chris Dyhrberg – Deputy Chief Executive, Scott Mancer - Finance Manager.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council agree to Option 1 - Council transfers ownership and responsibility for stormwater assets and services to the Water Services Council Controlled Organisation:
 - a. on the basis that the ownership of Palmerston North City primary stormwater infrastructure will transfer to the Water Services Council Controlled Organisation set up by Palmerston North City, Horowhenua District and Rangitikei District Councils agreed by resolution 90-25; and
 - b. that the responsibility for delivering Palmerston North City stormwater services will transfer to the same Water Services Council Controlled Organisation.

Clause 118-25 above was carried 10 votes to 4, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad and William Wood.

Against:

Councillors Brent Barrett, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

RESOLVED

2. That Council note that the responsibility remains with Council to ensure provision of water services is provided to the city.
3. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a Water Services Delivery Plan that incorporates the resolutions above.
4. That Council note that this matter or decision is recognised as of high significance in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Clause 118-25 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

The meeting adjourned at 1.30pm

The meeting resumed at 3.22pm

Councillor Vaughan Dennison was not present when the meeting resumed at 3.22pm

119-25 Council Work Schedule

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive its Work Schedule dated 6 August 2025

Clause 119-25 above was carried 13 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

120-25 Sustainability Committee Part I Public - 18 June 2025

Councillor Barrett presented the recommendation below.

Moved Brent Barrett, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

RESOLVED

1. That Council adopt the recommendation from the Sustainability Committee of 18 June 2025:

Options of new indicators to include in the 2026 Sustainability Review

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

(clause 18-25)

Report, presented by Olivia Wix, Communications Manager and David Watson, Senior Climate Change and Sustainability Advisor.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

1. That the Chief Executive continue using existing data, include additional data already collected, and draw on data from other organisations to support the 2026 Sustainability Review (Option 3).

Clause 120-25 above was carried 11 votes to 0, with 2 abstentions, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

Abstained:

Councillors Lorna Johnson and William Wood.

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

121-25 Recommendation to Exclude Public

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting listed in the table below.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered		Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution
19.	Land Purchases - Kikiwhenua growth development	THIRD PARTY COMMERCIAL Disclosing the information could harm a company's commercial position	s7(2)(b)(ii)
20.	Options for Ruahine Street Property	COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: This information needs to be kept confidential to allow Council to engage in commercial activities without prejudice or	s7(2)(h)

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

		disadvantage	
21.	Appointments to Council-Controlled Organisations	PRIVACY This information needs to be kept private to protect personal information that is confidential or sensitive. This includes people who are no longer alive	s7(2)(a)
22	External Funding Opportunity for Community Projects in the Long Term Plan	THIRD PARTY COMMERCIAL Disclosing the information could harm a company's commercial position PREJUDICE THE SUPPLY OF SIMILAR INFORMATION: - Releasing this information could negatively affect similar confidential information or discourage people from sharing such information NEGOTIATIONS: - This information needs to be kept confidential to ensure that Council can negotiate effectively, especially in business dealings PREVENT IMPROPER GAIN OR ADVANTAGE: This information needs to be kept confidential to prevent its improper use for personal gain or advantage	s7(2)(b)(ii) s7(2)(c)(i) s7(2)(i) s7(2)(j)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as stated in the above table.

Clause 121-25 above was carried 13 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison returned to the meeting at 3:28pm.

COUNCIL - PART I - 06 AUGUST 2025

The public part of the meeting finished at 3.28pm.

Confirmed 3 September 2025

Mayor

UNCONFIRMED