

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 03 December 2025, commencing at 9.02am.

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

Apologies: The Mayor (Grant Smith) (for lateness) and Councillors Bonnie Kuru and Leonie Hapeta (Council Business).

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin opened the meeting with karakia.

191-25 Apologies

The Mayor (Grant Smith) entered the meeting at 9.05am.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the apologies from The Mayor (Grant Smith) (for lateness), Councillors Bonnie Kuru and Leonie Hapeta (Council Business).

Clause 191-25 above was carried 16 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

192-25 Confirmation of Minutes – 5 November and 12 November 2025

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting of 5 November 2025 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting of 12 November 2025 Part I Public and Part II Confidential be confirmed as a true and correct record.

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Clause 192-25 above was carried 16 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

DECISION REPORTS

- 193-25 Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw - Further Advice on Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion Options**
Memorandum, presented by Peter Ridge, Acting Manager Strategy and Policy.

The Officer corrected the following error in the Policy: that the date of adoption be amended in clauses 3.1 and 4.1 to 3 December 2025.

Elected Members moved two motions (4 and 5) for further information reports on:

- (1) the result of the construction and demolition waste diversion trial, and
(2) the options for trialling the collection of soft plastics in the City.

Motion 5 was amended to seek a report which outlined the options and costs of a soft plastic trial, rather than agreeing a trial without full knowledge of cost.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

RESOLVED

1. That Council lift the report titled 'Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2025 – deliberations on submissions' from the 20 August 2025 Strategy & Finance Committee agenda and resume the deliberations on submissions.

Clause 193-25 above was carried 16 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

2. That Council confirm, pursuant to s.155 of the Local Government Act 2002, Council has determined that:
 - a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problems of maximising the diversion of waste to beneficial uses; regulating and managing the operation of kerbside waste and recycling

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- collection activities; and minimising the potential for waste to create a nuisance in public places; and
- b. a standalone bylaw is the most appropriate form of bylaw; and
 - c. the Palmerston North Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2025 does not give rise to any implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.
3. That Council adopt the Palmerston North Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2025 (as amended) and the Palmerston North Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw Administration Manual 2025 which will come into effect on 1 February 2026 (Option 1).

Clause 193-25 above was carried 14 votes to 1, with 1 abstention, 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

Against:

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin.

Abstained:

Councillor Bonnie Kuru.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

4. That the Chief Executive report back to the Council on the results of the Construction & Demolition waste diversion trial, including an assessment of the effectiveness of waste diversion, potential next steps and options for any further amendments to the Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2025.

Moved Brent Barrett, seconded Grant Smith.

5. That the Chief Executive report back in February 2026 on the scope (options and costs) of a trial of soft plastics collection at Awapuni, Ferguson Street and supermarkets.

Clause 193-25 above was carried 16 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Moved Rachel Bowen, seconded Lorna Johnson.

On an amendment to motion '5. **That Council That the Chief Executive report back in February 2026 on the scope (options and costs) of a trial of soft plastics collection at Awapuni, Ferguson Street and supermarkets and report outcomes to Council.**'

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the amendment was passed 16 votes to 0.

For:

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

194-25

Appointment of Council Representatives to External Bodies

Memorandum, presented by Hannah White, Manager - Governance.

Officers made the following corrections to the External Bodies list (Attachment 1):

- Add Palmerston North Medical Museum to the Palmerston North Defence Heritage Advisory Group – Cr Mark Arnott;
- Square Edge representative should be Cr Debi Marshall-Lobb (lead), Cr Kaydee Zabelin (support);
- Horizons Regional Transport Committee (pg 104) – not two positions, add substitute Cr Debi Marshall-Lobb.

An amendment to recommendation 5 was moved to remove Age Friendly from the list of bodies Council would **not** be appointing a representative to this term. In effect, Council will now appoint a representative to this body following a request from Age Friendly for a representative.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

RESOLVED

1. That Council approve the Mayor's recommendations for the appointment of Council representatives to external bodies (as amended) (Attachment 1).
2. That Council approve the amended Terms of Reference (Attachment 2) for the Steering Groups for the 2025-28 Council term.
4. That Council note it will reconsider a housing steering group alongside the committee structure review.
5. That Council note it will not appoint council representative(s) to the following bodies for the 2025-28 term.
 - Hoffman Kiln Trust
 - Manawatū Lesbian and Gay Rights Association (MALGRA)
 - Manawatū People's Radio

Clause 194-25 above was carried 15 votes to 1, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

Against:

Councillor Hayden Fitzgerald.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Rachel Bowen.

RESOLVED

3. That Council approve the Terms of Reference for the International Partnership Steering Group (Attachment 3).

Clause 194-25 above was carried 13 votes to 3, 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, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald, Lorna Johnson and Karen Naylor.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Rachel Bowen.

On an amendment to recommendation 5: 'That the Council note it will not appoint council representative(s) to the following bodies for the 2025-28 term.

• ~~Age Friendly Palmerston North~~

- Hoffman Kiln Trust
- Manawatū Lesbian and Gay Rights Association (MALGRA)
- Manawatū People's Radio'

the amendment was passed 16 votes to 0.

For:

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

The meeting adjourned at 10.34am.

The meeting resumed at 10.50am.

195-25

Meeting Calendar February 2026- June 2027

Memorandum, presented by Hannah White, Governance Manager.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

RESOLVED

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1. That Council adopt the Meeting Calendar February 2026- June 2027 (Attachment 1).

Clause 195-25 above was carried 13 votes to 3, 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, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta and Billy Meehan.

- 196-25 Transport Funding Update - NZTA-Funded Budget Adjustment for SH3 Detour Route Works**
Report, presented by Glen O'Connor - Acting General Manager Infrastructure.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

RESOLVED

1. That Council increase the budget of Programme 139 Sealed Road Resurfacing by \$705,519.73 to carry out resealing works on local roads used as detour routes during the construction of the new Te Ahu a Turanga Manawatū Tararua Highway, State Highway 3 (SH3).
2. That Council note the works will be 100% funded from NZTA subsidies.

Clause 196-25 above was carried 16 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

INFORMATION REPORTS

- 197-25 Caccia Birch In-House Delivery Review**
Memorandum, presented by John Lynch, Manager Venues + Events.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison left the meeting at 12:10pm.

An additional motion was moved for an annual report on Caccia Birch to ensure Elected Members had oversight over the performance of the venue.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded William Wood.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the memorandum titled 'Caccia Birch In-House Delivery Review' presented on 3 December 2025.

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2. That an annual report on the performance of Caccia Birch be added to the Arts Culture & Heritage Committee work schedule.

Clause 197-25 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, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

198-25**KeyResearch Annual Report and Benchmarking Report 2024/2025**

Memorandum, presented by Grace Nock, Manager Organisational Planning

Councillor Vaughan Dennison returned to the meeting at 12:53pm.

Councillor Leonie Hapeta left the meeting at 1:00pm.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the 2024/25 Residents' Survey Annual Report and the 2024/25 Key Research Benchmarking Report.

Clause 198-25 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

The meeting adjourned at 1.21pm.

The meeting resumed at 4.09pm.

Councillor Leonie Hapeta was present when the meeting resumed at 4:09pm.

Councillors Vaughan Dennison, Lorna Johnson and Kaydee Zabelin were not present when the meeting resumed at 4.09pm.

199-25**Road Maintenance Contract - 6 Monthly Update**

Memorandum, presented by Glen O'Connor - Acting General Manager Infrastructure.

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

RESOLVED

1. That the Council receive the memorandum titled 'Road Maintenance Contract - 6 Monthly Update' presented on 3 December 2025.

Clause 199-25 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

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200-25 Council Work Schedule

Moved Debi Marshall-Lobb, seconded William Wood.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive its Work Schedule dated 3 December 2025

Clause 200-25 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, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb closed the meeting with karakia.

The meeting finished at 4.37pm

Confirmed 11 February 2026

Deputy Mayor