

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Sport & Recreation 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 2.01pm

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

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor William Wood opened the meeting with karakia.

6-26

Apologies

Moved William Wood, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the apologies.

Clause 6-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad and Rachel Bowen.

7-26

Presentation - New Zealand Rural Games 2026

Presentation, by Daniel O'Regan, Marketing & Communications Manager and Sponsorship Support and James Stewart, Chair of the New Zealand Rural Games Trust.

Representatives of the Rural Games Trust updated the Committee on the recent Rural Games event; presentation is appended to these Minutes.

Moved William Wood, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

SPORT & RECREATION COMMITTEE - PART I - 15 APRIL 2026

1. That the Sport & Recreation Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 7-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad and Rachel Bowen.

8-26

Presentation - Sport Manawatū

Presentation, by Kelly Shanks, Chief Executive and Carl Johnstone, General Manager – Partnerships, Sport Manawatū.

Representatives from Sport Manawatū presented a sector update to the Committee; presentation is appended to these Minutes.

Councillor Orphée Mickalad left the meeting at 2.37pm.

Moved William Wood, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Sport & Recreation Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 8-26 above was carried 9 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru and Rachel Bowen.

Councillor Orphée Mickalad entered the meeting again at 2.42pm.

9-26

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved William Wood, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the minutes of the Sport & Recreation Committee meeting of 25 February 2026 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 9-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad and Rachel Bowen.

10-26

Manawatū Community Athletics Track - Annual Report 2025

Memorandum, presented by Aaron Phillips, Activities Manager – Parks and Andy Allison, Chairperson, Manawatū Community Athletics Track Advisory Committee.

SPORT & RECREATION COMMITTEE - PART I - 15 APRIL 2026

Moved William Wood, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the Manawatū Community Athletics Track Annual Report 2025, presented on 15 April 2026.

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

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad and Rachel Bowen.

11-26

Hockey Turf at Massey University - Annual Report

Memorandum, presented by Aaron Phillips, Activities Manager – Parks, and Andy Allison, Chairperson, Hockey Turf Steering Group.

Moved William Wood, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the 2025 Annual Report for the Hockey Turf at Massey University.

Clause 11-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad and Rachel Bowen.

12-26

Manawatū River - Esplanade Strip/Reserve Purchase Akers Road

Report, presented by Aaron Phillips, Activities Manager – Parks.

Moved William Wood, seconded Hayden Fitzgerald.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee refer the purchase of an Esplanade Strip along the Manawatū River at 182 – 226 Akers Road, Linton, to the 2026/27 Annual Budget deliberations.

Clause 12-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad and Rachel Bowen.

Councillor Rachel Bowen left the meeting at 3.15pm.

13-26

Te Āpiti Manawatū Gorge - Ashhurst Loop Track progress

Memorandum, presented by Aaron Phillips, Activities Manager – Parks.

Moved William Wood, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

SPORT & RECREATION COMMITTEE - PART I - 15 APRIL 2026

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the update report on progress on the Te Āpiti Manawatū Gorge - Ashhurst Loop Track.

Clause 13-26 above was carried 9 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru and Orphée Mickalad.

14-26

Committee Work Schedule - April 2026

Moved William Wood, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive its Work Schedule dated April 2026.

Clause 14-26 above was carried 9 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors William Wood, Leonie Hapeta, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru and Orphée Mickalad.

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor William Wood closed the meeting with karakia.

The meeting finished at 3.22pm.

Confirmed 12 August 2026

Chairperson