

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 20 May 2026, commencing at 9.09am.

- Members Present:** Lorna Johnson (in the Chair) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.
- Members Present online:** Councillor Bonnie Kuru
- Apologies:** The Mayor (Grant Smith) for late arrival on Council Business

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Lorna Johnson opened the meeting with karakia.

23-26

Apologies

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the apologies.

Clause 24-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

24-26

Public Comment

Shaun David Kay made a public comment. He provided a short overview to encourage attendance at the Rotary Youth Music Festival.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the public comment.

Clause 24-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - PART I - 20 MAY 2026

For:

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

25-26 **Presentation - Age Friendly Palmerston North**

Kerry Hocquard, Secretary, and Russell Hallam, Chair, of Age Friendly Palmerston North presented to the Committee.

Russell and Kerry provided an overview of the background of Age Friendly Palmerston North, outlining its purpose, activities, and the role the group plays in representing the interests of the community. They also raised a concern regarding the potential implications for the group, including its certification, should the Council proceed with amalgamation in line with central Government announcements.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 25-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

The Mayor (Grant Smith) entered the meeting at 9.38am after consideration of clause 25. He was not present from clauses 23 to 25.

26-26 **Presentation - Butterfly Compassion Community**

Trina Sheridan, Co-Founder and Chair, and Ella Moffat, Deputy Chair, of Butterfly Compassion Community

The presentation is appended to these minutes.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the presentation for information.

Clause 26-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

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27-26 Butterfly Compassion Community - Occupancy Arrangements at 82 Waldegrave Street

Report, presented by Perene Green, Property Officer.

The Committee moved into confidential session at 10.32am to discuss the attachment to this item. The Committee asked questions of the presenting officer on this and other commercial properties in the Council portfolio. No resolutions were put. The session closed at 10.43am.

Councillor Dennison moved an additional motion to provide short-term financial relief to the lessee.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

That the public be excluded for Item 8: Butterfly Compassion Community – Occupancy Arrangements at 82 Waldegrave Street to discuss commercially sensitive information related to the commercial lease referenced in this Item. This resolution is made under LGOIMA s.7(h) and (i) in order to protect the position of both the tenant and Council, which outweighs the general public interest.

Clause 27-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

The Committee returned to public session at 10.45am and then adjourned.

The meeting resumed at 11.03am.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

2. That Committee consider the future occupancy arrangements for Butterfly Compassion Community Incorporated (BCC) at 82 Waldegrave Street and determine one of the following options:
 - a. Approve public consultation on granting BCC a community occupancy agreement under Council's Support and Funding Policy.

Clause 27-26 above was carried 12 votes to 4, the voting being as follows:

For:

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - PART I - 20 MAY 2026

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

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

Moved Vaughan Dennison, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

3. That there be a change to the current lease terms from 1 June 2026 to allow for a 50% reduction to the commercial lease, unless superseded by the outcome of the process agreed above.

Clause 27-26 above was carried 14 votes to 2, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

Against:

Councillors Mark Arnott and Hayden Fitzgerald.

28-26

Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs) - Hearing of Submissions

Councillor Billy Meehan left the meeting at 12.01pm, during this item.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee receive the submissions and hear submissions from presenters who indicated their wish to be heard in support of their submission.
2. That the Committee note the Procedure for Hearing of Submissions, as described in the procedure sheet.

Clause 28-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

The Committee considered submissions on the proposed amendments to the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs).

The following persons appeared before the Committee and made oral statements in support of their submissions and replied to questions from Elected Members.

Out of Home Media Association of Aotearoa (Alex Booker and Frank Costello) (2)

Alex and Frank spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Referenced a previous incident where their legal counsel represented a member of OHMAA engaging with Council where there were opposing interpretations of the current bylaw.
- Highlighted a conflict between ss. 10.8 and 10.9 of the bylaw and the District Plan. Clause 2.3 says the bylaw is only meant to cover things not already addressed in the District Plan, but in practice clauses 10.8 and 10.9 overlap with it.
- OHMMA support the Council's goal of improving clarity of the rules for election signs, however, they believe that the changes proposed create more confusion and do not achieve that outcome
- OHMAA are happy to work with Council to propose solutions.

ACT Party (Manawatū ACTIVATE Committee) (Steve Wrathall and Paul Mitchell) (18)

Steve and Paul spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Keen to see harmonised rules across the country which allow candidates to choose how they advertise campaign spending limits. This would allow candidates to devote their energies to campaigning rather than dealing with different local bodies with different rules.

Councillor Billy Meehan entered the meeting again at 12.06pm after this item. He was not present for clause 28.

29-26 Overview of consultation activities and submissions - proposed amendments to the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs)
Memorandum, presented by Ann-Marie Mori - Policy Analyst.

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb left the meeting at 12.05pm.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Overview of consultation activities and submissions - proposed amendments to the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs)'.

Clause 29-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - PART I - 20 MAY 2026

For:

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

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb entered the meeting again at 12.10pm after consideration of clause 29. She was not present for clause 29.

30-26 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the minutes of the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee meeting of 29 April 2026 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 30-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

The meeting adjourned at 12.09pm.

The meeting resumed at 1.12pm.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb and Vaughan Dennison were not present when the meeting resumed.

31-26 Marriner Reserve - Proposal to Grant an Easement to Powerco - Deliberations Report

Memorandum, presented by Perene Green, Property Officer.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMEND**

1. That Council grant an easement to convey electricity at Marriner Reserve, Marriner Street, Palmerston North, to Powerco.
2. That the Committee note that the land area affected by the easement for Powerco is described as Lot 3 DP 29419.

Clause 31-26 above was carried 13 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - PART I - 20 MAY 2026

32-26

Community Reference Groups - Terms of Reference Review

Memorandum, presented by Martin Brady, Senior Community Development Advisor.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb and Vaughan Dennison entered the meeting again at 1.22pm during consideration of clause 32. They were not present for clause 31.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

1. That Council agree the revised Terms of Reference for Community Reference Groups, with an amendment to s.1.5 so that the Terms of Reference will be reviewed triennially.
2. That Council note that the provision for the acknowledgement payment to include the Heritage Reference Group is subject to budget being agreed in the 2026-2027 Annual Budget.

Clause 32-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

Note:

On an amendment (to recommendation 1): "That Council agree the revised Terms of Reference for Community Reference Groups, with an amendment to s.1.5 so that the Terms of Reference will be reviewed triennially."

The amendment was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

33-26

Annual Youth Wellbeing Update

Memorandum, presented by Remy Waldteufel-Irvine, Youth Services Team Leader.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - PART I - 20 MAY 2026

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Annual Youth Wellbeing Update' presented to the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee on 20 May 2026.

Clause 33-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Kaydee Zabelin.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

2. That the Committee refer an additional \$30K annually for the Youth Wellbeing Programme (including an annual Youth Wellbeing Forum and financial support for subsequent youth initiatives) to the 2027-2037 Long-Term Plan process.

Clause 33-26 above was carried 12 votes to 4, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

Against:

Councillors Mark Arnott, Hayden Fitzgerald, Billy Meehan and Karen Naylor.

34-26

Bi-annual Sustainability Report

Memorandum, presented by Olivia Wix, Manager Communications.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the Sustainability Report 2026 (Attachment 1) presented to the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee on 20 May 2026.

Clause 34-26 above was carried 15 votes to 1, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

Against:

Councillor Hayden Fitzgerald.

35-26

Committee Work Schedule - May 2026

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - PART I - 20 MAY 2026

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee receive its Work Schedule dated May 2026.

Clause 35-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

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

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Lorna Johnson closed the meeting with karakia.

The meeting finished at 2.20pm.

Confirmed 10 June 2026.

Chair