



# Minutes

## Marlborough Local Advisory Committee Meeting

**Date:** 27 July 2022

**Time:** 9:00am-3:00pm

**Venue:** Blenheim Fire Station

### Present:

Trevor Hook	LAC Chair
Tracy Johnston	LAC Deputy Chair
Chris Faulls	LAC Member
Nic John	LAC Member
Mark Lucas	LAC Member
Mark Elkington	LAC Member

### In Attendance:

Christine Watson	Senior Advisor, Local Advisory Committees
Cullum Peni-Wesche	Senior Advisor, Local Advisory Committees
Grant Haywood	District Manager, Nelson-Marlborough
Sarah Kara	Community Risk Manager
Chris Hayles	Group Manager, Nelson-Marlborough

### Guests:

Cathryn Moriarty	National Manager Strategy And Performance
Rylee Pettersson	Principal Advisor, Local Planning
Valarie Fono	Project Manager, Te Pae Tata
Rocky Radovanavic	Consultant, Te Pae Tata
Anne-Maree Harris	Area Operations Manager, St John

### Apologies:

Lucy Chamberlain	National Manager, Local Advisory Committees
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### Welcome

The meeting opened with a karakia and a welcome from the Chair.

### Minutes

The minutes of the Committee's meeting on 13 May were confirmed as a correct record, with one small amendment.

## **Resignation**

The Chair noted the resignation of Rod Thomas and acknowledged his contribution to the Marlborough LAC in its first two years.

## **Meeting dates**

The Committee set dates for its quarter 3 and 4 meetings and will meet on 1 March and 10 May 2023.

## **Community engagement**

The Deputy Chair met with the Chief Executive of Wine Marlborough, discussing the impacts of false alarms, risk reduction and the value of supporting volunteers, as well as opportunities for messaging in Wine Marlborough's publication, Winepress. The importance of representation of grape growers at the Land Management Forum (LMF) was also highlighted and the CE will attend a LMF meeting for the first time in August.

In June, a new community hall was opened in Linkwater, where shared use of a wet room, kitchen and training rooms has been arranged for Fire and Emergency volunteers, as a result of an opportunity identified by an LAC member and acted on by the local Chief Fire Officer. A funding contribution from Fire and Emergency towards the building has secured better facilities for the local Brigade.

The Committee facilitated a Chamber of Commerce 'Business After 5' event, hosted by the District team and Blenheim Brigade, to engage with the local business community. The key messages were the value of supporting volunteers and encouraging responsibility to reduce false alarms. Outcomes included increased recognition of the skills and positive attributes volunteers bring to the workplace and the corporate social responsibility benefits for businesses.

Discussions with volunteers themselves revealed the pride they feel in serving their communities and the Committee noted the importance of highlighting this in volunteer attraction drives.

The Chair thanked the District team and LAC members for their effort and collaboration. The Marlborough Chamber of Commerce is now a strong ally and, with the Committee's support, the District team will follow up with attendees who expressed interest in supporting Fire and Emergency.

## **Engagement planning**

The Chair will attend the Land Management Forum meeting in Blenheim on 30 August, along with a Committee member who represents DOC on the Forum. They will gather insights for Committee discussion and consider the value of LAC attendance going forward.

Engagement with the Marlborough District Council, alongside the District Manager has been arranged for early August.

The District Manager is keen for the Committee to resume engagement with volunteer brigades and members are meeting in August to plan an approach to this.

The French Pass Brigade has disbanded, due to a lack of volunteers. LAC members will attend a community meeting looking at how best to support the community going forward, to gain awareness and listen with our strategic and community-focused perspective. A cross-agency approach will be important and the reality is that agencies need to be honest about what support communities such as this can expect and what they will need to do themselves.

The Committee is beginning work with Port Marlborough to understand the broader community risks, implications and unintended consequences of the port expansion project as it relates to emergency readiness, risk and response for Fire and Emergency. Members will meet with Port Marlborough's Health and Safety Subcommittee in November.

### **District update**

The District update covered preparation for the upcoming fire season, agency collaboration, increasing engagement with Te Taihū iwi and the current collective bargaining process.

A Committee member will connect the District Team with a Regional Government Interagency Hui on 10 August. This group is reconnecting after the challenges of COVID and it may be useful for Fire and Emergency to be present. Members would like to see collaboration on work with iwi and other community groups discussed.

In discussion, attendees noted a perception within the community that all emergency services can deal with emergencies of all kinds and that there is potential to manage the public's expectations in this space. With little understanding of the different roles and capabilities of responders, people expect a similar kind and degree of care from any 'uniform' that responds.

### **St John**

The Committee welcomed Anne-Maree Harris, who gave an overview of St John's structure in Te Taihū, their cooperation with Fire and Emergency and how St John is using community committees to gather information about volunteers and communities.

Members were interested to hear that closer collaboration between the two organisations has been explored and that joint training is already happening. However, even where the two are located together, there is a limit to response cooperation, mainly due to the organisations' structures and desire to retain their separate identities.

Particularly in small and remote communities, a joint approach to attracting volunteers could be useful.

### **Te Pae Tata – Communicating Wildfire Risk Project**

The Committee was briefed on a group of risk reduction projects being progressed at national level, including the Communicating Wildfire Risk Project. LAC members contributed their understanding of where risk exists in their communities and the groups of people that communications may need to be provided for.

Members noted that a widely used weather system, harvest.com, would be useful for notifying the rural community of wildfire risks. Messaging on Tourism New Zealand's website, social media and in i-sites may be an effective and credible means to communicate with international visitors.

### **Planning landscape and Local Planning**

The Committee received a presentation on the LACs' role in planning processes and in particular, how they will contribute to local planning in their District now that local planning processes have been set up to feed into Fire and Emergency's District plans. Each Committee will have opportunities each year to review the District plan relevant to their local area, ensuring the inclusion of the community's voice and perspective.

## Marlborough LAC Insight Report

The Committee considered a draft of its annual Insight Report to the Board and discussed amendments, additions and changes to tone and emphasis.

## Board report

The Committee discussed and agreed its quarterly report content for the Board.

## Action Log

	Date	Action	Responsible	Due	Status/ Notes
1.	27 Jul 2022	Attend next Land Management Forum meeting	Chair	Oct 2022	Completed
2.	2 Feb 2022	Invite Lexie O'Shea (Health NZ Nelson/Marlborough) to attend Oct LAC meeting	District Manager	Oct 2022	Completed
3.	13 May 2022	Set up meeting with MDC for LAC and District Leadership Team	Chair / District Team	Aug 2022	Meeting with CE completed
4.	13 May 2022	Share with LAC information on Hawke's Bay's virtual brigade (at Oct meeting)	CRM	Oct 2022	Completed
5.	27 Jul 2022	Draft letter to Rod Thomas, acknowledging his resignation and contribution to the LAC	National LAC Team	Aug 2022	Completed
6.	27 Jul 2022	Consider implementing exit interviews for LAC members	National LAC Team	Oct 2022	Exit interview process in development
7.	27 Jul 2022	Provide LAC with date of French Pass community meeting	Chris Hayles	Aug 2022	Appropriate time to be advised
8.	27 Jul 2022	Connect District team with government agency meeting on 10 August	Nic John	Jul/Aug 2022	District Manager attended
9.	27 Jul 2022	Talk with Port Marlborough CE about who is best for the LAC to connect with, at governance level	Tracy Johnston	Oct 2022	To follow up after H+S subcommittee meeting in Oct

					– agenda item March 2023
10.	27 Jul 2022	Provide suggested dates for LAC engagement with volunteer brigades	District Team	Oct 2022	LAC members to approach local brigades
11.	27 Jul 2022	Provide guidance for LACs on engagement with elected representatives (Mayors, Councillors, MPs)	National LAC Team	Aug 2022	In progress
12.	27 Jul 2022	Define and identify remote communities in Marlborough	CRM and Nic John	Oct 2022	Completed - workshop with CRM and CRR team at Dec meeting
13.	27 Jul 2022	Assist District Team to map out follow up engagement after Chamber of Commerce BA5 event	Mark E	Dec 2022	In progress