

Go Hororata Minutes

Tuesday 3rd February 2026, 7.30pm @ Hororata Hall



Attendees: Phil Freeman (Chair), Sam Adkins, John Foster, Susan Thornley, Chris Thwaites, Lucy Cookson, Margaret Cross, Sean Rooney, Ian Evans, Rebecca Lambie (MCB), Nat Mannering, Kate Foster, Craig Lambie, Michael Oakley,

Minute Secretary: Cindy Driscoll

1. Apologies

Craig Blackburn, Barty Doak, Marty Gameson, Annabel Freeman, Ruban Serra

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting – 2 December 2025

Taken as read.

Moved: Margaret Cross

Seconded: Lucy Cookson

Resolved: Accepted as true and accurate.

Matters Arising

- Civil Defence Bin – Margaret Cross
To check what equipment is currently held at Playcentre and then arrange a bin for the Hall.
- Tennis Court / Playground
Tennis court works scheduled to start 25 February, expected duration approx. 3 days (weather permitting).
Playground has undergone a deep clean with softfall removed and replaced. Picnic tables have been sanded and re-stained, and entry fences and gates washed and freshly painted.
- Rocking Horse – Phil Freeman
Currently in Bossman's yard. Will review installations in other playgrounds to determine a safe installation method at the Hall.
- Solar Lights for Hall Frontage – Phil Freeman
To be priced.
- New Flag for Monument – Phil Freeman
Ian Evans has donated a flag. Hororata Community Trust (HCT) can provide flags in future as these are difficult to source from SDC.
- Advocacy with SDC re Budget Reductions – Cindy Driscoll / Rebecca Lambie
Cindy and Rebecca met with John Verry. SDC officers have undertaken a prioritisation review to introduce efficiencies and reduce the 2026–2027 rates increase (SDC and SWL combined). Council will consider appropriate increases that do not adversely affect service delivery, infrastructure maintenance, or disadvantage rural communities.
A six-week public consultation will follow, including written and oral submissions, prior to finalising the Annual Plan.

- Community Security Cameras – Cindy Driscoll
Feedback from Community Patrol confirms Police are using the cameras for investigations and they are effective.
- Hole in road at Thwaites Corner – Rebecca Lambie
Issue has been fixed. Thanks to those who used Snap Send Solve.

3. Correspondence

No correspondence tabled.

4. Finance

- No significant changes since last meeting.
- Hall income (Dec/Jan): \$817.00
- Endowment paddocks (oats harvested): \$1,000.00
- Donation from Morris dancers' morning tea (Karen Meares, Mary Abbott, Sue Davies): \$380.00

Finance report tabled.

Moved: Phil Freeman

Seconded: Susan Thornley

Resolved: Passed.

5. Malvern Community Board (MCB) Update – Rebecca Lambie

- Speed Change – Hororata Road: Discussed whether the community supports relocating the 60km zone. This has been raised previously and is included in the Domain Master Plan, proposing the limit be moved north as the current location is too close to the toilets and Domani entrances and hall. To date, SDC has not actioned this. Yes the community want to see this changed. Rebecca to follow up on the process to formally lodge the request. Discussion noted the church corner may be too far; goal is to slow traffic near the tennis court gates.
- Public Art Funding: SDC has funding available for artwork in Malvern. A proposal has been developed and will be circulated. General support for artwork in each town, ideally by a local artist, to create a linked theme.
- Infrastructure Trials: SDC trialling rubber road surface in Glentunnel (down to the Domain).
- Future Projects for MCB Advocacy: Heritage trail in the Domain, footpath from café to Domain, zebra crossing from Hall to Domain.
- Public Transport: SDC trialling a bus service Springfield–Hornby and exploring future train service options.

6. Domain – Phil Freeman

- Fencing to start end of next week, completing equestrian paddock, yards/parking area, and fencing around the pit to allow grazing.
- Designing a more formal entrance near the Millennium Gardens, intended as the future main entrance (per Master Plan). Gate near flagpoles to become pedestrian-only.
- Positive progress with new Ranger Charlotta and Project Manager Oliver.

- To enquire about repairing the race track front straight fence.
- Yards at Thwaites Road end to be removed due to lack of maintenance. Parsons to reclaim timber; community assistance required. This will open and tidy the walkway.
- Lake now connected to the CPW scheme.
- Fire tank potentially to be relocated to equestrian area.
- New gate planned next to Scout Den (tennis driveway).
- Hedge trimming and flax cutting around the track – Cindy to raise with Charlotta.
- Front row of stables to be removed by February 2027 at the latest.
- Equestrian signs re working well and generally being respected by riders.

7. Community / Village

a. ANZAC Day

SDC has funding available for ANZAC Day, with traffic control prioritised and remaining funds allocated to functions. An application has been submitted. The Fire Brigade will continue to be a key part of the event and host afternoon tea. The Hall is available as a wet-weather backup for the service.

8. Hall

- Usage: Strong usage through December and January with 14 functions. Bookings remain positive; a wedding is booked over Easter.
- Endowment Block: Looking very good. Volunteers welcome to assist with paddock maintenance.
- Working Bee: Planned for March.
- Pigeon Issue: Nesting on the Hall needs to be addressed.
- Hall Redevelopment: Architect recommencing work; preliminary plans to be shared with the community late March / early April.

9. Group Updates

a. Hororata Primary School (sent in by Marty Gameson)

- Playcentre move well underway.
- Challenges with Corde and mowing; seeking alternatives. Chris to follow up with local contractors (may require multiple providers).
- Thanks to the Fire Brigade for a holiday call-out and for assisting with furniture moving during the break.
- Once toilet block and Playcentre renovations are complete, seeking community support to restore the bus bay and add off-road parking for the community pool.

b. Hororata Historical Society (HHS)

- Open first Sunday of the month, 1.30–3.30pm, from March through winter. “Stinky” has been fully refurbished and fully funded.

c. Tennis Club

- Coaching underway Monday, Thursday, and Saturday until mid-March.

d. Rifle Club

- Monthly shoots continuing. Strong fundraising results (including Games) have strengthened the club's financial position and enabled modern equipment purchases. An accessible ramp is being installed.

e. Fire Brigade

- Additional training completed; three new qualified drivers for vehicles.

f. Hororata Community Trust

- Continuing to support the wider community through collaboration. Groups needing support are encouraged to contact Cindy. Upcoming events:
 - Antiques & Collectables Market, Terrace Station – 14 February
 - CPW Open Day – 15 March (strong collaboration with CPW generating community income)
 - Swap Meet – 19 September
 - Hororata Highland Games – 7 November
- Primary focus remains the Hall project while maintaining support for broader community initiatives.

10. General Business

- Trees opposite the school (entering Hororata) are not maintained by SDC; Nat to monitor.
- Sticklings require trimming along the walking track. – Cindy talk to SDC.

Meeting closed: 8.39pm