

## Masterton Town Hall project

- Support strongly Masterton District Councils proposal to demolish the Town Hall and rebuild a new multi/purpose facility.
- Support the evidence/advice from Daniel Butterick.
- I have worked closely with David Borman on two major projects recently and respect his experience and advice on what is achievable with a new build and within the budget proposed. I strongly support his submission.
- For 21 years I worked almost every day in the Town Hall building as Mayor of the District and observed during that period the activities and events that were very much part of the vibrancy and culture of our District and Region. I have fond memories of the shows both visiting and local, the public meetings and the large number of exhibitions and events.
- There has been a cost and a significant loss with the lack of any progress over the past 9 years. There will never be a right time to progress a significant development similar to this. I do however believe strongly that what the Council is proposing is achievable within budget and that this is the right time to proceed.
- Part of that confidence relates to the external fundraising which I have agreed to be part of. We have formally established a separate trust with support from the council. A group of locals have committed to being trustees, I am ready to present a draft strategy which will promote the inclusion of the community in this important project and tap into local, regional and national funds.
- I confirm again my strong support and personal time and commitment to this important regional project.