

SUBMISSION ON A NOTIFIED RESOURCE  
CONSENT APPLICATION

FORM 13 - Pursuant to Sections 95A, 95B, 95C, 96,  
127(3), 137(5)(c) and 234(4) of the Resource Management Act 1991



### Submitter

Name	Dennis Riley
Contact Person (If different from above)	
Postal Address	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	
Email	

### Details of the Proposal to which this Submission Relates

Name of Applicant	Masterton District Council
Address of Proposal	64 Chapel St, Masterton
Application No.	RM240135
Description of Proposal	Demolition of Masterton Town Hall + municipal Buildings

### Details of Submission

My submission:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supports the whole proposal           | <input type="checkbox"/> Supports part of the proposal |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Opposes the whole proposal | <input type="checkbox"/> Opposes part of the proposal  |

In the event this application is subject to a Resource Consent Hearing. Do you wish to be heard in respect of your submission?

- Yes     No

If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing

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**Submission Statement**

The specific parts of the Proposal that this submission relates to.

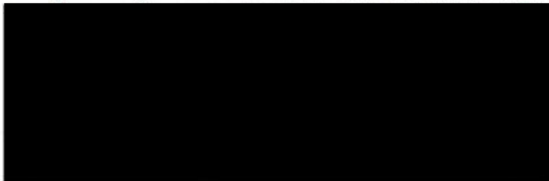
*Refer attached submission.*

**Decision you want the Council to make:**

- Grant the Consent     Decline the Consent     Grant the Consent with Conditions

**Signature**

To be signed by the submitter or person authorised to sign on behalf of the submitter.



Name *Dennis Riley*  
Date *9-2-25*

**Important notes for the Submitter**

1. In accordance with the Privacy Act 1993, submissions will be made available for viewing by Council and members of the public.
2. This form is for your convenience only. You may make a submission that addresses the points above in a letter or other suitable format.
3. Submissions will not be returned, so please keep a copy.
4. A copy of your submission must be sent to both Council and to the applicant.

## **Submission to Masterton District Council Regarding Demolition of the Town Hall and Municipal Buildings**

I strongly oppose the demolition of the Town Hall and Municipal Buildings, including the façade, under Resource Consent Application No RM240135. I support **Option 3: decommissioning and mothballing** the buildings until ratepayers are made aware of the future cost of the water rates under the Local Water Done Well initiative, expected to be consulted on in April. This Council should not be proposing to spend any ratepayers' money on non-essential projects until after the true cost of water rates and the subsequent rates rise percentage has been disclosed to the community. Then the community can decide if they can afford both.

There is no urgency to demolish these heritage buildings given the Government has extended the deadline to remediate earthquake-prone buildings until 2031. The Town Hall has been closed for nearly ten years and there are other conference and event venues around the Wairarapa that have filled this void. Yes, people are tired of the whole debate but that is no reason to demolish what could turn out to be a costly mistake.

Over 1000 people in this community (including most Councillors and the current Mayor) protested at the Hands around the Town Hall protest in June 2021 to retain these buildings, including the façade, but now they want to demolish it all. The Municipal Buildings are a significant cultural asset to Masterton, representing a tangible link to our town's history and identity. Given the limited heritage structures remaining in this town, preserving these buildings should be a priority, but not until the Local Water Done Well programme of works is sorted, costed, and made visible to the public.

Dennis Riley

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]