

Waitaki District Council

Ahuriri Community Board

CONFIRMED MINUTES of the Ahuriri Community Board Meeting held at the Lakes Centre, Otematata on Monday 16 October 2017 at 3.16pm

Present Mr Sullivan (Chairman), Mr Reid, Mr Cowles, Mrs Munro,
Councillor Dawson (from 3.21pm)

Apologies Mr Chapman

In Attendance Mayor Kircher
Cr Perkins (rostered Councillor)
Mr Power (Chief Executive)
Mrs Baillie (Customer Services Group Manager)
Ms Hooper (Board Secretary)

Apologies

RESOLVED
ACB17/065

Mr Reid / Mrs Munro
“That the Ahuriri Community Board accepts an apology for absence from
Mr Chapman and for lateness from Cr Dawson.”

CARRIED

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 3.16pm, and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He extended a special, warm welcome to new Chief Executive Fergus Power who was attending his first Ahuriri Community Board meeting.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Public Forum

Mr Carl Calson addressed the meeting about damage being caused by flooding of the Otematata River. It had made access to his property difficult. It was a paper road owned by Council, but he maintained it as a matter of choice. Floods had washed out the bank, which meant the river upstream of the bridge filled up and cut off the access to his property. Unless the river direction was changed, he believed there would be serious issues into the future. The situation required fixing after every rainfall; in the last four weeks, the river had flooded three times; it took a day to recede once the rain stopped. Even a small amount of rain was enough to restrict access.

Mr Calson said the river, not the road, was the primary problem. Heavy machinery was needed to remove the gravel from the riverbed 100-150 metres from the bridge. An alternative was to raise the road. He provided photographs of the problems, which were circulated at the meeting. Special mention was made of large, fallen trees coming down the river and not clearing under the bridge, and the fact that the river had a dog-leg in it which was not helping with maintaining a good flow.

Cr Dawson joined the meeting, at 3.21pm.

The Chair thanked Mr Calson for bringing the matter to the Board's attention, and advised that the matter would be discussed and some follow up action agreed. The Mayor suggested that the next step should include talking to NZTA which was responsible for the river either side of the bridge, and finding a way to work together. If Council put some money into it, then NZTA would need to do

some work and contribute funds as well. He took the opportunity to thank Mr Carson for assisting the community with the clean up after the major flood event in July.

The Chairman declared the Public Forum closed, at 3.31pm.

1. Confirmation of Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED
ACB17/066

Cr Dawson / Mr Reid
“That the Ahuriri Community Board confirms meeting minutes of 4 September 2017, with one correction – delete Mr Cowles name from the “Present” list.”

CARRIED

2. Assets Update

To update the Ahuriri Community Board on issues, operations and projects managed by the Assets Group, occurring within the Ahuriri Ward since the last Board meeting.

RESOLVED
ACB17/067

Mr Reid / Mrs Munro
“That the Ahuriri Community Board receives the information.”

CARRIED

A short question and answer session addressed issues as set out below:

- Question: Can we have more grass seed sent up please for the Otematata East Road traffic island?
- Answer: This will be referred to the Parks unit for action.

- Question: When will visioning meetings be happening?
- Answer: Phase 1 would commence after 17 November. Outcomes would go to the Community Plan stage in May 2018.

- Question: Is our water going to have chlorine in it?
- Answer: It is expected that that will be the case, because that had become the default position after the Havelock North situation.
 - Comment: Sometimes there is a strong smell of chlorine from the water.
 - Response: That is a good thing, as there would only be a smell when the chlorine is reacting to a contaminant in the water.

3. Recreation Update

The purpose of this memorandum is to update the Ahuriri Community Board on routine work, maintenance issues and progress on minor projects from 24 August to 3 October 2017.

RESOLVED
ACB17/068

Mrs Munro / Mr Reid
“That the Ahuriri Community Board receives the information.”

CARRIED

The Chair extended congratulations to the Recreation Manager for the work he has done, especially working with ECAN.

With regard to the proposal for the swim area at Parsons Rock, Cr Dawson suggested it would be a good Board project, ie “Proudly sponsored by the Ahuriri Community Board”. It was agreed this could be discussed further, when Mr van der Spek tabled an update paper.

There was discussion about the appetite locally for leasing out camps as opposed to having in-house management. There was general agreement that the community would be unlikely to support it; crib owners would be worried about access; and things were working well as they were. The Mayor noted that the matter had been looked at again, and some improvements had been made. With big costs for infrastructure likely in future, the Community Services Committee had recommended to Council to provide more marketing, and target the shoulder season. The Chief Executive suggested ten or so solar showers for hire could be a useful addition.

The Chair agreed that more marketing was required. It was noted that a marketing programme for the shoulder season was an ideal project for an intern to do, if someone with marketing skills applied for the internship programme.

With regard to the situation at the Omarama dump station, a plumber had been called in and had to alter a lot of the set up – the tanks sloped back towards themselves, and the place was a “real mess”. Council was now investigating the problem, and Board members hoped that the matter could be addressed with the contractor.

With regard to the Kurow Island boat ramp, the Society would come back to the Community Board with a recommendation, and also look at raising funds. It needs to be taken another four metres, and would cost around \$30,000. The longer ramp was required so that the rescue boat could be launched. It was noted that the Board could not do anything, but the Valley Society could.

On the matter of maintenance for Kurow Island, Mr van der Spek had suggested that, once the budget was finalised each year, the funds were paid to the Society and it could then pay the bills, with copies of invoices being emailed to Mr van der Spek at the time of payment. Board members were happy with this proposed arrangement; the Mayor and the Chief Executive also agreed. It was noted that a health and safety plan would still need to be provided.

ACTION POINT: Mr van der Spek to put together a Memorandum of Understanding regarding this new financial process.

4. Building Consents Issued in Ahuriri Ward for the Months of August and September 2017

The report, as circulated, provided the Ahuriri Community Board with a list of building consents issued in Ahuriri Ward for the months of August and September 2017.

RESOLVED

ACB17/069

Mrs Munro / Mr Cowles

“That the Ahuriri Community Board receives the information.”

CARRIED

The cost for the marque erection was considered hire. It was noted that that could include hire costs as well as consent costs.

The Mayor congratulated the ward for the high level of activity happening there.

ACTION POINT: There was a request for the number of dwellings in the ward to be advised to Community Board members.

5. Otematata Cricket Nets

The report, as circulated, presented information about the Otematata Sports Club’s request to construct cricket practice nets on Otematata Domain for use by the community and visitors.

RESOLVED
ACB17/070

Cr Dawson (wholeheartedly) / Mr Cowles
The Ahuriri Community Board recommends:
That Council:

1. Approves the Otematata Sports Club's request to construct cricket practice nets on the Otematata Domain.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr Dawson said this was a 'great community project' that he was very pleased to wholeheartedly support. The Chair said the nets could be up in the next few weeks.

6. Elected Members' and Executive Management's Information Report

The report, as circulated, presented collated updates from Elected Members of the Ahuriri Community Board and of Council, and from Executive Management, in order to share information about matters and events that have occurred since the previous Board meeting. Contributing reports were presented in two parts, as follows:

Part I – Community Board Elected Members

- Chairperson's Report to this meeting;
- Community Board Members' Reports to this meeting;
- Community Board Councillor's Report to this meeting;

Part II – Management and Council Elected Members and Management

- Mayor's Report to 13 September 2017 Council Meeting
- Acting Chief Executive's Report to 13 September 2017 Council Meeting
- Customer Services Group Manager's Health and Safety Update to Customer Services Committee 30 August 2017

RESOLVED
ACB17/071

Mr Cowles / Mrs Munro
"That the Ahuriri Community Board receives the information, and the reports be taken as read."

CARRIED

Key discussion points from the Chair's Report included:

- The recent Zone meeting, and the fact that four Community Board members had attended and found it to be a valuable networking experience.
- The very serious issue of the Otematata river, as discussed during the Public Forum before this meeting. The Mayor confirmed that Council would address the issue with ECAN about what NZTA can and will do, and would then report back to the Community Board.

The matter of youth at the Lake camp over Labour Weekend was also raised. It was suggested that a plan needed to be in place each year for how to deal with any disturbances.

Mayor's Report: The Mayor spoke to his report, and provided updates on the following issues:

- Mycoplasma bovis – It had been reported last week that 4000 cows were being culled from one property. For now, the virus seemed to be contained, but testing would continue.
- NOIC was closer to having everything turned on.
- The district was busy with section sales and building activity, which was great to see.
- Lakes camping had got off to a great start.
- The Zone Meeting of South Island Councils held last Thursday and Friday had included a presentation from Fran Wilde, Chair of the Remuneration Authority, about a total revamp of the way elected members were paid. It looked like increases would happen, so that was good news.

Chief Executive's Report:

The Chief Executive spoke to his report, and highlighted the internship programme as presenting opportunities. He emphasised that it would be great for the “like to do” projects, including those from communities. He encouraged the Board to put forward any projects that could benefit from the involvement of an intern. They could be emailed through the Board Secretary, who would pass them on to Mr Hope who was the responsible Group Manager for the internship programme. Mr Power added that there was a need to remain aware that the completion of projects would be limited by which interns actually signed up and the skill set they could provide. Cr Dawson added that he was very supportive of the Chief Executive's internship initiative, and endorsed the suggestion for the Board to put forward any projects that could be considered by an intern with the right mix of skills. The Chair thanked the Chief Executive for his explanation of the programme, and for the invitation to put forward projects. He thought it was a very interesting option for the Board.

Mr Power provided background to the proposed realignment of Council positions and reporting lines.

Cr Perkins enquired about the status of the rest home in Kurow. In response, Mr Reid said it was very full (13-14 beds), with a waiting list. It had a new manager.

Mrs Baillie spoke to the Health and Safety Update, and in particular drew Board members' attention to the explanation of the differences between “lag” and “lead” indicators which had been added to the report content. She noted that a key incident occurring was that of bullying of staff from members of the public, including on the street. Management was working with staff to upskill them on how to de-escalate such conflicts, and training for resilience. Reporting of slips, trips and falls at the pool was also highlighted as important to show trends.

With regard to the six-monthly statistics, there was greater awareness around lifting, and the number of incidences recorded was higher than compared to the previous year.

In response to a question about who would be responsible for an incident here, at a Community Board meeting, Mrs Baillie advised that this would be considered a Council workplace, and it was important for all Board members to understand Council's policies and processes around health and safety.

The Chair raised the following points for potential future discussion:

- There was a need for the Board to start looking at the District Plan. Mr Reid said the key issue would be looking at where the zones are and whether there was any ability to have slightly smaller areas, for example, for rural residential.
- The local café in Otematata had closed down, which had caused some concern. The Mayor noted that other services were still being provided, and that it presented a business opportunity for someone else.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 5.13pm.

CONFIRMED on the 27th day of November 2017 at Omarama Community Centre, Omarama.

(signed)

Chairman