

Waitaki District Council

Ahuriri Community Board

CONFIRMED MINUTES of the Ahuriri Community Board Meeting held at the Kurow Memorial Hall, Kurow on Monday 28 May 2018 at 3.15pm

Present	Graham Sullivan (Chair), Calum Reid (Deputy Chair), Vicky Munro; and Cr Craig Dawson
Apologies	Tony Chapman, Brent Cowles
In Attendance	Mayor Gary Kircher (ex officio) Cr Guy Percival (rostered Councillor) Fergus Power (Chief Executive) Ainslee Hooper (Governance Advisor) Ruth Grundy (media)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 3.15pm, and welcomed everyone present.

1. Apologies

RESOLVED
ACB 2018/023

Cr Craig Dawson / Vicky Munro
That the Ahuriri Community Board accepts apologies from
Tony Chapman (absent on leave) and Brent Cowles.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present who wished to participate in the Public Forum.

4. Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED
ACB 2018/024

Cr Craig Dawson / Callum Reid
That the Ahuriri Community Board confirms the minutes of the
16 April 2018 Meeting, as circulated, as a true and correct record
of that meeting, with one amendment: under Agenda Item 5, fourth
paragraph, second line – should read “to projects in order to not
risk overrating” [insert the word “not”].

CARRIED

**ACTION POINT rollover – Kurow Island Boat Ramp.
To remain flagged for future discussion.**

5. Kurow Camp Irrigation Connection

The report, as circulated, sought the Board's consideration, for recommendation to Council for approval, to allow the lessee to continue to irrigate grounds as necessary following the Kurow Duntroon Irrigation Company changing the existing above-ground irrigation channel to an underground pipeline.

RESOLVED
ACB 2018/025

Cr Craig Dawson / Calum Reid
The Ahuriri Community Board recommends:
That Council approves an irrigation connection and pipe to connect to the existing Kurow campground irrigation system.

CARRIED

6. Omarama Top 10 Office

The report, as circulated, sought the Board's consideration, for recommendation to Council for approval, to allow the lessee to construct a new office block to separate this activity from the lessee's residence and improve traffic flow.

RESOLVED
ACB 2018/026

Cr Craig Dawson / Vicky Munro
The Ahuriri Community Board recommends:
That Council approves the construction of a new office block by the lessee at the Omarama Top 10 campground.

CARRIED

7. Ahuriri Community Visioning Workshops – Outcomes Documents and Next Steps

The memorandum, as circulated, presented (as an attachment) the Outcomes documents from the three facilitated community visioning workshops held within the Ahuriri ward during early March, and conveyed the Chair's intention that the Board members discuss and agree on the next steps in the community visioning process.

- There was considerable discussion around the waste minimisation plan, recycling, and transfer stations.
- The community is concerned that there appears to be no change proposed to the opening hours at the transfer station, despite the community board's submission.
- The key issue is that the whole district is paying a lot for the cartage associated with recycling in the Ahuriri ward. The resource consent requires that waste is collected weekly, whether summer or winter, regardless of how full the bins are. That causes a huge cost.
- There is huge buy-in to recycling from the locals; it is the rate that needs to be sorted.
- The community wants to consider changing the opening hours around.
- There were differing views about the key problem – the cartage versus the hours.
- There was general consensus that the community board, in conjunction with Council, should work with the contractors providing the service to see if there was any opportunity to move hours around and look particularly at the green waste issue.

RESOLVED
ACB 2018/027

Calum Reid / Vicky Munro
That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

CARRIED

8. Ahuriri Community Board – Submission on the Long Term Plan 2018-28

The memorandum, as circulated, presented (as an attachment) the Board's submission on the Waitaki District Council's Long Term Plan 2018-28.

It was noted that the submission had been well written, and was an excellent summing up of the community's issues.

RESOLVED

ACB 2018/028

Graham Sullivan / Calum Reid

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

CARRIED

9. Tourism Waitaki Update

Tourism Waitaki General Manager Margaret Munro joined the meeting and made a verbal presentation. She had just visited the Kurow Information Centre and was impressed with the set up and how well the whole service had come together.

Key discussion points included the following:

- The desire to record better data through all of the i-sites in the district, to understand better where tourists were coming from, where they were going, how they were travelling (as part of a group or as an individual). The aim was to use such information for marketing purposes; to talk agents into changing itineraries to bring groups down SH83. If data could show that trends were developing along those lines, then the picture would be clearer and more useful.
- Commercial accommodation statistics and how they had been the only entities recording bed nights used. The increase in other providers (eg private residences, Book a Bach, Air BNB and the like) meant that bed nights were now understated nationally, by approximately half the number. Tourism New Zealand is looking for a national one-source data set which would be great for all; Statistics New Zealand was keen to be involved, too.
- TRENZ Exhibition – there had been some really positive feedback about the Waitaki region. There is serious interest from agents about redirecting their tours down SH83 to Omarama rather than Queenstown. Tourism Waitaki representatives were jumping into the discussion, explaining the diversity of tourism opportunities right across the district, and encouraging the change in route patterns. Mrs Munro noted that most tourists require attractions to be in place before they will come. There was great opportunities for Waitaki now with Alps2Ocean and Geopark to attract a more diverse range of tourists with offers that were unique to here and engaging for any age or interest group. Farm tours, stays and farm experiences were a high potential area, and Mrs Munro encouraged board members to have conversations with their communities about what business opportunities could be established down SH83; if the attractions were built, then Tourism Waitaki would get the trade to come to them.
- Luxury tour agents are also expressing interest; they want unique experiences for high-end clients; they would travel via helicopter in and out, so it was about needing the people on the ground to connect with them.
- Tourism Waitaki wanted to involve the communities in these opportunities, and hoped to do some drop-in sessions soon, to talk about trade, find out who is asking the questions and what they wanted, and then importantly, who here wants to do it?
- Capitalising on the Geopark initiative was also important. What else is up the valley that can be added to that experience? The more local knowledge and story-telling, the better. Chief Executive Fergus Power suggested that Board members encourage their communities to go to Council's website and click on the Expression of Interest application for the Geopark. If anyone had any recommendations for improvements or more experiences to add, then he would be very happy to receive them.

- External funding for some projects could be sought. MBIE funding might assist with earlier completion of A2O sections. There was a new fund (Tourism Attraction Projects – TAP) which was aimed at accelerating tourist attraction development. Some of it required a 50/50 split.
- Dark-sky accreditation – A Trust had set up the programme in Tekapo and organised the funding drive for it. Earth and Sky was operating a profitable economic business, which came back into International Dark-sky Accreditation (IDA). That has a regional benefit not directly to the business but to the district – creating new businesses, enhancing others already going. It does not require a business to drive IDA; it required a committee.
- There was another way to achieve accreditation. Mackenzie District had worked with Transit to get the right street lighting. Within the town, the lights had to be signed off by an engineer that they were approved for night-sky lighting and then that was put into a bylaw. Once the bylaw was in, then accreditation could be sought.

The Chair thanked Mrs Munro for attending the meeting and said it had been a real pleasure having an opportunity to discuss matters of interest with her directly. There was two Board members not at the meeting today, so he hoped there would be an opportunity soon for her to meet them as well.

Margaret Munro left the meeting, at 4.37pm.

RESOLVED
ACB 2018/029

Graham Sullivan / Vicky Munro
That the Ahuriri Community Board records its sincere appreciation to the General Manager Tourism Waitaki Margaret Munro for her very informative update on tourism in the Waitaki Valley.

CARRIED

10. Ahuriri Community Board Financial Update – Quarter 3 2018

The report, as circulated, presented information about the separate rate accounts and the funds available for distribution to community projects within the Ahuriri ward.

With regard to the **request for a workshop on the Kurow water rates shortfall**, this matter had been referred to the Finance Team.

With regard to the **criteria for each of the accounts**, the Board Secretary read out the explanation that had been provided by the Accounting Manager.

ACTION POINT: Secretary to email out the information to Board members

It was noted that the rates income for Otematata was rather high. The Chairman advised that there was a footpath project that would be coming to the Board soon.

RESOLVED
ACB 2018/030

Calum Reid / Vicky Munro
That the Ahuriri Community Board:

1. receives and notes the schedule detailing balances of separate rate accounts within the Ahuriri ward; and
2. receives and notes the report detailing movements and the balance of funds available for distribution to community projects within the Board's ward.

CARRIED

11. Recreation Update

The memorandum, as circulated, updated the Ahuriri Community Board on routine work, maintenance issues and progress on minor projects from 4 April to 14 May 2018.

There was brief discussion on the following topics:

- Twin Lakes Boat event had happened yesterday, and had been well attended.

- Camping revenue was up 15% over budget. That could be the result of a good summer, with people paying to stay longer, or because some were being displaced to here and other districts when the likes of Queenstown and Wanaka were full.
- The next opportunity would be around splitting up the season, and having an off-season pass perhaps; and promoting the Christchurch to Dunedin route more.

RESOLVED

ACB 2018/031

Cr Craig Dawson / Calum Reid

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

CARRIED

12. Assets Update

The memorandum, as circulated, updated the Board on issues, operations and projects managed by the Assets Group, occurring within the Ahuriri Ward since the last Board meeting on 16 April 2018.

It was noted that there was still some finishing work to be done on the footpaths for that project to be fully completed.

RESOLVED

ACB 2018/032

Graham Sullivan / Vicky Munro

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

CARRIED

13. Building Consents Issued in Ahuriri Ward for the month of April 2018

The report, as circulated, provided the Ahuriri Community Board with a list of building consents issued in Ahuriri Ward for the month of April 2018.

RESOLVED

ACB 2018/033

Cr Craig Dawson / Graham Sullivan

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives the information.

CARRIED

14. 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. Part I included reports from the Chair, Board Members, and Ward Councillor. Part II included the Mayor's and Chief Executive's Reports to the 8 May 2018 Council Meeting, and the Health and Safety Update to the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee Meeting on 15 May 2018.

Calum Reid provided his contribution verbally, as follows: That he had been involved with the playground project, and had been working with Paul Smith, the contractor at Kurow.

RESOLVED

ACB 2018/034

Calum Reid / Vicky Munro

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information in Part I of the report.

CARRIED

The Mayor's report was taken as read. Mayor Gary Kircher noted that tomorrow was Council's big day to decide on issues for the Long Term Plan. It was looking like a slightly lower total rate increase of 3.33% rather than the 3.5% originally envisaged. He said that the submissions from the community board, and Omarama and Otematata residents'

associations had all been well received, and it was clear a lot of effort had been put into them. There was agreement to get on with some town plans, which was a key response. Some things may not happen straight away but when they did come up, there would be good consultation with the communities. Some suggestions were quite straight forward (eg carparking and shop tidy-ups at Omarama). An application had been sent to the Tourism Infrastructure Fund for the toilet upgrade in Otematata. The Mayor also noted that the ward services rate could be used to do some things – eg parks and reserves, toilets, mowing, landscaping in towns.

In response, the Chair thanked the Mayor for his and Councillors' positive feedback on the community submissions. Local Committees were really getting into the community visioning process now, and were keen to work closely with the Board and the Council to keep things moving along.

The Chief Executive's report was taken as read. The Chairman noted that he had received a media enquiry about the quality of the water in Otematata, which actually had chlorine in it. Chief Executive Fergus Power advised that there was little doubt that centralised regulation on drinking water standards would be implemented. The Mayor also suggested that the nationalisation of water administration was another possible outcome of the Havelock North enquiry. Usefully, water is one area where Waitaki is doing quite well, and is ahead of the game with water upgrades (eg consolidation, pipelines, paying its way).

RESOLVED

ACB 2018/035

Cr Craig Dawson / Calum Reid

That the Mayor's, Chief Executive's and Health and Safety Reports be received and noted.

CARRIED

RESOLVED

ACB 2018/036

Cr Craig Dawson / Graham Sullivan

That the Ahuriri Community Board extend a vote of thanks to Vanished World for the work it has done over the past 17 years as a volunteer organisation which has laid the foundation for the Waitaki district's bid for UNESCO Global Geopark status.

CARRIED

Rostered Councillor Guy Percival said he had nothing to add to that which had already been said by the Mayor and Chief Executive.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting. It had been a good one, he said, and a highlight had been the presentation from Tourism Waitaki's General Manager Margaret Munro.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.24pm.

With regard to the **next meeting**, it was noted that Board members Vicky Munro and Calum Reid would be absent on leave on the scheduled date of the next meeting (9 July).

ACTION POINT: Board Secretary to canvass Board members' availability for a 9 July meeting to determine whether a quorum could be achieved or – if not – an alternative date for the meeting.

CONFIRMED at the next meeting which was held on the 27th day of August 2018 at the Kurow Memorial Hall, Kurow.

Chairman