

Waitaki District Council

Waihemo Community Board

CONFIRMED MINUTES of a Meeting of the Waihemo Community Board held in the Waihemo Service Centre, Tiverton Street, Palmerston on Monday 24 September 2018 at 6.30pm

Present	Kathy Dennison (Chair), Carol Watson, Heather McGregor, Paul Roy, Cr Jan Wheeler
Apologies	Ken Brown
In Attendance	Mayor Gary Kircher Cr Craig Dawswon (rostered Councillor) Chief Executive Fergus Power Ainslee Hooper (Governance Advisor) Bill Campbell (Media – East Otago Review)

The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30pm, and welcomed everyone present.

1. **Apologies**

RESOLVED
WCB 2018/057

Kathy Dennison / Carol Watson
That the Waihemo Community Board accepts apologies for
absence from Ken Brown.

CARRIED

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Public Forum**

Speaker 1 – Nicholas Rodger, NZTA Maintenance Contracts Manager, and Suzanne Watt, Downer:

Mr Rodgers said he managed State Highways 1, 85, 8 and 83 on behalf of NZTA. He and Ms Downer had been talking to community boards recently about upcoming works in their areas. Last year, NZTA had spent six months digging up Palmerston, sorting out the hill coming into town. He hoped the community was happy with the work. NZTA would come back and put a seal from the top of the hill to the bottom, and to the end of the splitter in front of the shops on the first bit of Tiverton Street. Letter drops advising of the work would be sent out. The work was planned for after Labour Weekend, but that could be pushed out a bit. Should take 3 weeks, but say 3-4 weeks as a maximum.

There were a couple of changes planned for the Pigroot. Road closure signs and gates were going up already. Rehabilitation work on one area had started already. A weather station would be installed, which would help with ice prediction and Met Service forecasts. A camera would also be installed, to help inform and manage winter maintenance.

Mr Rodger said he was happy to take feedback from the community board on the state of the State Highways and any issues they had. He was aware of the Saferoads alliance, which was a different project, which would also focus on Oamaru to Dunedin highway improvements.

The Chair thanked Mr Rodger and Ms Downer for attending the meeting to brief the Board. She noted that there had been concerns when the centre of town had been dug up for so long, and there may be more questions if it was to be done again. Mrs Dennison also asked if a slurry would be put outside the main shopping centre because it is very noisy without it. Mr Rodger said “no”. In response to the suggestion that the current arrangement was very noisy, Mr Rodger advised that the seal that was there was to waterproof the road, which took a while to seal. If a slurry was then put on top of that, it would not look good and it would not provide a long-term solution. Unfortunately, there were engineering reasons why the middle section would have to remain coarse.

The Mayor asked if that information could be provided to Council so that it could be included in Waitaki Link and the community newsletter, so that Palmerston residents understood the reasons for the surface differences.

A request was made to consider moving the “no air brakes” sign back a bit, so that air brakes would not be used outside the Catholic Church. Mr Rodgers said he would look into that.

Speaker 2 – Mr Gervais O’Reilly: Mr O’Reilly noted that he had lodged a Notice of Objection with Council to the proposed ‘stopping of roads’. He tabled a copy of the Notice and of some additional information.

Mayor Gary Kircher noted that there was a lot of detail in the information provided, and that it would not be appropriate to respond until such time as it could be considered. Mr O’Reilly said he understood those points.

Chief Executive Fergus Power asked for a copy of the documentation, and said he would ask officers to consider it.

ACTION: Chief Executive and Officers

ACTION: Governance Advisor also to scan the documents and email them back to Board members

Speaker 3 – Sandy Linton, Hampden Hall Committee:

Mrs Linton advised that the Hampden Hall Committee had voted last year to have the hall assessed for seismic risk. Logics in Dunedin had been contacted, and a quote had subsequently been received and the committee voted to proceed with the seismic risk assessment report. The Committee had then been advised by a Property officer that the report would need to be reviewed by Council. However, when the report arrived, it turned out to be a 30-year maintenance report, not a seismic risk report. There were also additional costs and charges that had not been notified to the Hall Committee, or had followed its normal financial processes. The Committee had not been informed that it would be charged \$100 per hour for the Property department’s time. It had accounted for 40% of the hall monies. Mrs Linton said the matter had since been sorted out with the Accounting Manager, but the Committee was still finding it difficult to understand why small hall committees had to pay the Property department for its time.

Mr Power apologised to Mrs Linton, and asked her to email him specific details so that he could follow up with officers. Mrs Linton said she would do that.

Speaker 4 – Heidi Thompson (camper vans and dump stations):

Thank you for the opportunity to speak. She sought to object to the Council’s plan to install a dump station on Goodwood Road. The grounds for objection are procedural and also health and safety. Procedural, because the Council and Board had failed to consult with immediate neighbours, and from a health and safety prospective, she believed a dump station should not be located within a 100km area of residents. She was concerned to have learned that a decision had already been made.

Chief Executive Fergus Power apologised to Ms Thompson, and noted that he had received a report today that an error had occurred, including that communications had been held with the

wrong person. Mr Power emphasised that this was the beginning of the process of identifying a location, and nothing was set in concrete. Location options would first be going to the Assets Committee and then to Council. He acknowledged that there had been a misstep on the part of officers, which he would investigate immediately.

Speaker 5 – Richard Cruice and Gary Cruice:

Mr Cruice said he and his father Gary had come to the meeting to introduce themselves, after hearing about Public Forum discussions at the last community board meeting with regard to the land swap. He said they were the landowners that have been in talks with Council, and said the land swap discussions with officers had worked in well with what the family was wanting to do. They wanted to restore trees, and they were keen to have a walkway, too. They would make themselves available to give information about what they were proposing to do, and be open and transparent.

Speaker 6 – Gary Dodd, President of the A&P Association:

Mr Dodd said he was here on behalf of the Association to oppose the waste disposal station at the showgrounds. He did not believe it would be conducive to the purpose of the showgrounds – to provide a recreational space to residents, and there was also children and health and safety matters to worry about.

The Chair thanked all Public Forum speakers for attending the meeting, and sharing their views with elected members. She noted that follow up actions had been agreed wherever possible. Mrs Dennison then declared the Public Forum closed.

4. Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED

WCB 2018/058

Heather McGregor / Paul Roy

That the Waihemo Community Board confirms the minutes of its previous meeting held on 13 August 2018, as circulated, as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED

5. Assets Update September 2018

The memorandum, as circulated, sought to update the Board on issues, operations and projects managed by the Assets Group, occurring within the Waihemo Ward since the last Board meeting.

RESOLVED

WCB 2018/059

Paul Roy / Cr Jan Wheeler

That the Waihemo Community Board receives and notes the information.

CARRIED

6. Recreation Update September 2018

The memorandum, as circulated, sought to update the Waihemo Community Board on routine work, maintenance issues and progress on minor projects for the period 3 August 2018 to 12 September 2018.

Discussion points included:

- Chief Executive Fergus Power advised that he would look further into the dump station matters following discussions during the earlier Public Forum. The Chair noted that the Community Board would want to be involved in any discussions about other sites that may be investigated.

ACTION: Community Board members were invited to email officers (Recreation Manager) with any suggestions for alternate sites.

- It was noted that a couple of pipes were broken in the middle of the Macraes Domain. It was proposed to fix those when the other work to extend the park was being done.

The Chair noted that it was not easy to identify the request for feedback from the Board when it was incorporated into project updates in the Recreation report.

ACTION: Feedback to be passed on to report author by Governance Advisor

With regard to the Dunback camp site and the collection of fees, there could be benefit in a future discussion about whether the status quo should remain, or whether changing needs should be investigated.

RESOLVED

WCB 2018/060

Paul Roy / Cr Jan Wheeler

That the Waihemo Community Board receives the information, and notes that the Chief Executive is looking into the dump station project.

CARRIED

7. Building Consents Issued in Waihemo Ward for the month of August 2018

The memorandum, as circulated, provided the Waihemo Community Board with a list of building consents issued in Waihemo Ward for the month of August 2018.

It was noted that Stafford Street is in Hampden, not Palmerston as stated in the building consents report.

ACTION: Governance Advisor to pass on to report author

RESOLVED

WCB 2018/061

Heather McGregor / Carol Watson

That the Waihemo Community Board receives and notes the information in the building consent report for August 2018.

CARRIED

8. Waihemo Community Board Financial Update – September 2018

The memorandum, as circulated, sought to update the Waihemo Community Board on the balances of separate rate accounts, movements in and out of the community funding budget, and the balance of funds available for distribution to community projects within the Board's ward.

RESOLVED

WCB 2018/062

Cr Jan Wheeler / Heather McGregor

That the Waihemo Community Board:

1. receives and notes the schedule detailing balances of separate rate accounts within the Waihemo 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

9. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Kathy Dennison thanked Ken Brown for filling in for her at the last meeting. She then presented his report, as follows:

16 August	Discussion with Council re Palmerston town signage
16 August	Prepared additional information for inclusion in the Annual Plan on the activities of the Waihemo Community Board
16 August	Discussed the new walkway in District Road with the landowner
28 August	Prepared and submitted a submission on the Representation Review 2018 on behalf of the Waihemo Community Board
23 August	Held discussions with the Property unit re an alternative use for the Council building in Palmerston
30 August	Held discussions with Council regarding funding for the new cycle park in Palmerston
14 September	Attended the opening of the East Otago Health Centre.
15 September	Attended the opening of the HamNak pipeline.
18 September	Held further discussions with ratepayers regarding the new walkway in District Road.

The Chair congratulated Council on the HamNak project, which she believed was tremendous for the area.

Mrs Dennison had also attended the opening of the Medical Centre, and believed it would be very beneficial for the area. She also acknowledged the funding that had been provided by Council and the Community Board to that project.

Field Days was coming up, and the Chair reminded Board Members to promote the event as widely as they can.

RESOLVED

WCB 2018/063

Kathy Dennison / Paul Roy

That the Waihemo Community Board receives the Chairperson's report and Ken Brown's report to this meeting.

CARRIED

10. Community Board Members' and Councillor's Reports (verbal)

Paul Roy:

Discussions with the Parks Officer regarding the cricket pitch.

Heather McGregor:

Meetings Attended

- Palmerston Bowls
- Puketapu Radio
- Dunback Hall Meeting
- Palmerston Halls Meeting AGM

East Otago High School "Talkabout" Evening on 13 September.

The 'talkabout' evening included a tour of the school and a chance to chat with staff and current students about subjects and opportunities that East Otago High School provides.

Palmerston Medical Centre Official Opening, on 14 September, was well attended. I was able to assist with the fund-raising for this project and the result of this facility will be a huge benefit to this community.

HamNak Pipeline Opening, on 15 September. This will also be of benefit for ratepayers in the Waihemo Ward, allowing for quality drinking water up to national standards to be piped from Oamaru.

The funding of two new toilets on Katiki Straight will also be of benefit for the travelling public and visitors to the area.

East Otago will become busier in the next couple of weeks with the upcoming Otago Field Days event, on 12 and 13 October.

Carol Watson:

- Since the last Board meeting, I have attended a “Talkabout” on 13 September, which was a tour of East Otago High School. It was good to have a look through my old High School and to meet with the present-day staff and some of the senior students.
- On Friday 14 September, I attended the opening of the new Medical Centre in Palmerston. Congratulations to the Trust on a wonderful facility.
- On 15 September, I attended the formal part of the opening of the HamNak pipeline at the Mill House. This is a great achievement for the district.
- On 17 September, Heather McGregor and I, and Cr Jan Wheeler, attended the Dunback Hall and community meeting. There were some concerns raised at the meeting about the increase in the Domain camping fees.
- On 19 September, the ED Combined Hall Committee held its Annual General Meeting and a general meeting. Chairperson Ngaire Joyce was re-elected, and I was returned to the role of Secretary/Treasury. A motion was moved at the meeting to allow Paul Mutch to make some informal enquiries into building a new hall to replace the Sports Hall. All information is to come back to the committee in writing, with no liability or cost to the ED Combined Hall Committee.

Cr Jan Wheeler:

4 September Harbour Strategy Area Workshop
 10 September Citizens' Awards
 11 September Council Meeting
 12 September POP meeting; guest speaker with Tourism Waitaki General Manager Margaret Munro
 14 September Opening of the Palmerston Medical Centre
 Waihemo locals worried about waste cost rise.
 15 September HamNak, followed by morning tea at Waianakarua with contractors
 17 September Dunback Hall Community meeting; numbers up for summer season
 21 September Main Street Memory Walk for Alzheimer's; followed the pipe band.

In response to a suggestion of having workshops with the community before the end of the year, the Chair advised that she had discussed the community plan with Mayor Kircher today and that workshops would be arranged in the near future.

The Chair also advised that she had received a letter from schools, with a few requests: students were interested in what was happening at the bike park, and had some ideas to put forward. She had agreed that the Board would meet with the students to discuss their views, and had emailed the letters through to officers to facilitate that process.

RESOLVED

WCB 2018/064

Heather McGregor / Carol Watson

That the Waihemo Community Board receives the update reports from the Community Board Members and Councillor.

CARRIED

11. Information Report – Mayor, Chief Executive, and Health and Safety Updates

The Information Report, containing updates as set out below, had been circulated with the agenda and was taken as read:

- Mayor's and Chief Executive's Report to the 11 September 2018 Council meeting
- Health and Safety Update to the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee Meeting, 11 September 2018.

Mayor Kircher noted that he had attended the official opening of the Medical Centre, which was a huge achievement for a small community. He gave accolades to Board Chair Kathy Dennison for her success in getting Council to contribute its biggest grant for some time to the project.

With HamNak now open, 93% of the district population now had drinking water that met the national standards. The Council team had done a very good job coming up with good solutions to some of the problems experienced. Waitaki was one of the biggest districts, and had a small comparative population which had initially had 20 plus water schemes in place.

With regard to the Palmerston clock, the parts have arrived so repair work was underway. The perspex on the current faces was also being replaced. The nearby tree would be trimmed.

Mayor Kircher had received a letter from Taranaki Smith about the work that needed to be done to upgrade the sports hall. More information was being sought by the Property team, and then there would be further discussions. It presented an opportunity for another community project, which could be an upgrade or perhaps building something new. He noted that Council would work with the Community to see what could be achieved.

Chief Executive Fergus Power took his report as read. He highlighted the geogastronomy approach to the visit of the UNESCO New Zealand Commissioners, which had been an exciting opportunity and showcase for local primary producers. Mr Power advised that, with the global geopark capturing every part of the district, including Waihemo and surrounds, it was important to do all that could be done to gain some prosperity from the status. The proposal was being progressed now, with the final dossier due in Paris in late November. There was an excellent team of people working on it.

Mr Power also referred to the commentary in his report about the low-emission economy, and the need to keep a watching brief on it. He anticipated that both the Canterbury and Otago Mayoral Forums would be actively engaged in it. The Productivity Commission's report made the point that it is an extremely complicated question, and the implications of it were not yet fully known and would take some time to unfold. The matter was of great importance to the agricultural industry.

Rostered Councillor Craig Dawson (Ahuriri Ward) congratulated the Board and the Waihemo community on the new Medical Centre. He also supported their efforts to push on with the dump station, because anything that helps visitors stay longer is good for the community. Cr Dawson also noted that the Ahuriri Community Board was as keen as the Waihemo Community Board to follow up on the community visioning workshops held earlier in the year, and they too were looking forward to working with Policy and Strategy Manager Mike Searle to have further community planning discussions before the end of the year. He thanked Board members for the opportunity to attend and participate in one of its meetings.

RESOLVED

WCB 2018/065

Paul Roy / Carol Watson

That the Waihemo Community Board receives the Information Report.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending, and declared the meeting closed, at 7.52pm.

CONFIRMED at the Waihemo Community Board meeting held on the 5th day of November 2018 at Waihemo Service Centre, Palmerston.

(signed)

Chairperson