

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 25 September 2017 at 6.30pm**

Present Mrs Dennison (Chair), Mrs McGregor, Mr Brown, Mr Roy,
Mrs Watson, Cr Wheeler

In Attendance Mayor Kircher
Cr Wollstein
Mr Power (Chief Executive)
Mr Hope (Chief Financial Officer)
Ms Hooper (Board Secretary)

The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30pm, and welcomed to the meeting and to the Waitaki district the new Chief Executive, Mr Fergus Power. She invited Mr Power to speak to the meeting.

Mr Power gave a summary of his career background, and then outlined what he saw as key aspects for his role. These included building further on relationships between Council and stakeholders and the broader community, and improving systems with a focus on increasing accessibility to information for communities within the district. He noted that Council was in a very strong financial position and had an outstanding executive leadership team with whom he was looking forward to working with over the next five years to implement initiatives and focus on building increased resilience, increased prosperity, and increased happiness. He thanked the Board Chair and members for their warm welcome.

Apologies

There were no apologies.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. Confirmation of Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED
WCB17/056

Mrs McGregor / Mr Paul
“The Waihemo Community Board confirms the minutes of the Waihemo Community Board meeting held on 14 August 2017.”

CARRIED

2. Building Consents Issued in Waihemo Ward for the Month of August 2017

To provide the Community Board members with a list of building consents issued in Waihemo Ward for the month of August 2017.

RESOLVED
WCB17/057

Mr Brown / Mr Roy
“The Waihemo Community Board receives the information.”

CARRIED

3. Assets Update

A memorandum had been circulated 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
WCB17/058

Mr Brown / Mrs McGregor
“The Waihemo Community Board receives the information.”

CARRIED

4. Recreation Update

A memorandum had been circulated to update the Waihemo Community Board on routine work, maintenance issues and progress on minor projects for the period 2 August to 13 September 2017.

RESOLVED
WCB17/059

Mr Brown / Mrs Watson
“The Waihemo Community Board receives the information.”

CARRIED

The Chair extended a “bouquet to Council” based on community feedback about how nice the cemetery is looking after recent work.

With regard to the big macrocarpa tree that posed a problem at the beach, the Chair advised Board members to note that it would make a difference to the view when it came down and that they may want to spread the word amongst the community to ensure the outcome did not come as a surprise.

5. Palmerston Town Clock

To provide Waihemo Community Board members with options for the Palmerston Town Clock following requests from Palmerston residents to repair.

RESOLVED
WCB17/060

Mrs McGregor / Mrs Watson
“The Waihemo Community Board recommends:
That Council places the repairs to the Palmerston Town Clock on hold
and arranges a workshop to discuss options.”

CARRIED

During the ensuing discussion, workshop items were AGREED as follows:

- New or a repaired clock (costs to be available for both, for comparison)?
- How many faces (two would probably be enough)?
- Location – the clock was currently in a prime position, and ideally, it would stay there
- If the clock remained where it is, then the tree would need to be considered (it was doing a lot of damage to the pavement)

Process steps from this point forward were AGREED as follows:

1. Board members would first discuss the workshop issues amongst themselves first.
2. Then, Board members would seek feedback on those issues from the community.
3. The Board would determine which workshop items were required, based on community feedback, and advise Council officers of same.
4. Council officers would source information in response to the workshop issues raised, and provide it to the Board in the form of workshop paper/s.
5. The workshop would be scheduled as soon as practicable, to determine and agree on a way forward for the Palmerston Town Clock.

It was further AGREED that it was unlikely all of the steps would be achieved before the next Waihemo Community Board meeting scheduled for 6 November, but it was hoped that the workshop could be held before Christmas.

6. Chairperson's Report

To present the Waihemo Community Board Chairperson's Report to the meeting.

RESOLVED

WCB17/061

Mr Roy / Mr Brown

"That the Waihemo Community Board receives the Chairperson's report."

CARRIED

The Chair briefed Board members on the following additional items:

- East Otago Field Days, 18-19 October. Extremely positive about number of stalls.
- Heather and Kathy went to A&P AGM – They are in good heart, and do a lot of work for the community, especially for children.
- An update on Hampden Hall Committee – Chair Gary Johnston has resigned after 34 years service; he has done a sterling job for the community, and the Board Chair thought it would be good to thank him for that. Virginia Powell also resigned as Secretary.
- Flaxes Retreat – getting busier all the time.
- 45 amenity rate ideas came in from Palmerston and Hampden; they would be considered next week. Comments were mainly positive. Ideas that were not amenity rates had been forwarded to the Parks unit.
- Waihemo Community ward visit this Friday.
- Community Board training – Representation Review – pages here.
- Shag project
- Tourism Waitaki – Ocean to Alps Summit.

ACTION POINT: A letter of thanks to be written to Gary Johnston, Chair of Palmerston Combined Halls Committee, for his 34 years of service on the Committee in various roles.

Chair / Secretary

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

Heather McGregor:

- Hampden Hall Committee meeting, RSA Trust AGM,
- Workshops in Oamaru on 30 August
- 4 September Waihemo Community Board meeting
- Palmerston Amenity Rates meeting
- Potholes have been fixed around town.

Carol Watson:

- Tagging along – informal meeting here in early Sept.
- Palmerston amenity rates meeting
- Zone meeting in Gore
- Hampden amenity rate get together
- Combined Halls AGM – ended up secretary.

Paul Roy:

- Palmerston amenity rates meeting
- Local catch ups
- Thank you to Council for grader appearance in our area recently

Ken Brown:

- Had a follow up re roading complaint. Got a result. That is good to see; the sort of thing we should be trying to do.
- Informal meeting with Board.
- Continued informal discussions with board members.
- Hampden Hall Committee meeting.

Jan Wheeler:

- Council meeting 16 September.
- Talked to ORC Simon Stephenson re meeting up by end of August.

- 26 August – 15 of millennium walkway group met to discuss how we might do something on the track.
- Request from Hampden school boy – getting a 20km sign outside school. Elton Crane has written to school as well.
- Good to see enthusiastic Field Days event team.

RESOLVED
WCB17/062

Mrs McGregor / Mrs Watson
“That the Waihemo Community Board receives the reports from Community Board Members and the local Councillor.”

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

To provide Waihemo Community Board members with a copy of the following items for information:

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

Mayor Kircher spoke to his report, and highlighted key issues:

- Observatory Retirement Village
- Good progress on NOIC
- Dr Cloete – acknowledgment of his great work for the Council and the District
- Hamlac pipeline – good progress being made; getting close to Hampden now
- Field Days – up to 105 exhibitors, which is very impressive

He also noted his attendances at the following two events:

- “Candidates night” in Palmerston – the Mayor congratulated the community for getting all parties to have a representative in attendance. Participants had a good chance to hear from them all.
- Promotion of Palmerston meeting – there had been good discussion on the opportunities and challenges. It was great to get more houses into Palmerston, but that created problems with the rising cost of land. There were some small things that Council could do to minimise the risk, but such issues would always come down to a commercial decision for developers. He extended an open invitation for members of the Waihemo community to put forward their ideas on how to resolve or deal with such issues. The Chair acknowledged the invitation, and encouraged Board members to share it with their communities and to pass back any comments.

The **Acting Chief Executive’s report** and **Health and Safety Update** were taken as read.

RESOLVED
WCB17/063

Mr Roy / Mr Brown
“That the Waihemo Community Board receives the Information Report.”

CARRIED

Verbal Updates:

From Executive Management – Mr Hope

- Auditors would be onsite next week.
- FY 2017 would end with a good financial result for Council, which was a good position to be in going into Long Term Plan consultations.
- Financial summaries of the accounts were expected to be available for the next Board meeting.
- Jason Gaskill has resigned as General Manager of Tourism Waitaki and the Board is now considering the appropriate process to recruit his replacement. Customer Services General Manager Lisa Baillie had been advising them. It was hoped someone could be appointed before Christmas. However, Mr Gaskill had agreed to stay on until someone is able to commence in the role, especially to get through the very busy December – February summer season.

- Quotable Value would be presenting to the October Council meeting with the results of the triennial revaluation. A report to Council regarding the impact on rates would follow. The Mayor advised that it was expected that all valuations for all types of properties had increased, but it was how those values measured up against the average that would determine rates. For example, if a property's value went up less than the average, then rates could go down; if values went up more than the average, then rates would also go up. Further details would be available in the report going to Council.

From Rostered Councillor – Cr Wollstein

- September had seen a number of Councillors taking leave
- There had been workshops on LTP and rating systems and proposals, as well as reports on the Toilet and Dump Station plan, for example, which would be subject to consultation with the community.
- Council had welcomed Fergus' arrival last week, and it was back to business now with a full time Chief Executive which was great.
- Cr Wollstein – Bit quiet of late; councillors have been on leave. Workshops on LTP, rating systems and proposals, Toilet and Dump Station plan – to be consulted on with the community.
- Welcomed Fergus last week – back to business with full time CEO – great.
- Oamaru Harbour development – some good applications had been received.
- Craig Fountain in Oamaru Gardens – this was now being repaired to working order. It was costing more than originally anticipated, but the final costs included extras (eg power through to the hot house behind, reinstalment of the drinking fountains).
- A list of Carry Forwards was also accepted by Council recently.
- The LTP 2018-28 process would start with a Council workshop this Wednesday, to consider the forward timetable.

Discussion ensued on the LTP process, with some key questions and answers as follows:

- 1 Question: What involvement will Community Boards have and at what level?
Answer: Amenities rates input remains crucial. Community Boards would also be brought together as a group at key points of the process, and especially when there are bigger issues with an impact on the particular areas.
- 2 Question: If you make changes to the funding policy, will that make changes to the LTP?
Answer: Yes.
- 3 Question: How much involvement does this community board want?
Answer: Board members are taking an interest. It is important that they get a good understanding of what's going on, so that they can get messages out to the wider communities.

The Chair's view on key areas of involvement included:

- Discussions / workshops on funding, especially where roading is changed or impacted.
- Pre-consultation with the communities, and any guidance on how to best achieve that.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 7.39pm.

Confirmed this 6th day of November 2017 at Waihemo Service Centre, Palmerston.

(signed)

Chairperson

Immediately following the meeting, Mayor Kircher presented local resident Ron Sloan with his Citizens Award, with proud family and community members and the local media in attendance.