



Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

Notice of Meeting

of the

Community Services Committee

in the

**Whitestone Cheese Empire Room of the Oamaru Opera House,
94 Thames Street, Oamaru**

on Wednesday 22 November 2017

MEMBERSHIP:

Cr Perkins (Chair)
Cr Wheeler (Deputy Chair)
Cr Holding
Cr Kingan

Mayor Kircher (ex Officio)
Cr Garvan
Cr Hopkins
Cr Wollstein

Community Services Committee Meeting

Wednesday 22 November 2017

Whitestone Cheese Empire Room of the Oamaru Opera House,
94 Thames Street, Oamaru

Apologies

Declarations of Interest

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Community Services Committee:

Cr Perkins (Chair)	Mayor Kircher (ex Officio)
Cr Wheeler (Deputy Chair)	Cr Garvan
Cr Holding	Cr Hopkins
Cr Kingan	Cr Wollstein

Waitaki District Council

Community Services Committee

**UNCONFIRMED Minutes of Community Services Committee Meeting of the
Waitaki District Council held in the Whitestone Cheese Empire Room,
Oamaru Opera House, 94 Thames Street, Oamaru
on Wednesday 11 October 2017 at 11.17am.**

Present Cr Perkins (Chair), Garvan, Holding, Kingan, Wheeler, and Wollstein;
Mayor Kircher

Apologies Cr Hopkins

In Attendance Cr Dawson
Cr Percival
Cr Tavendale
Mr Power (Chief Executive)
Mr Jorgensen (Assets Group Manager)
Mr Hope (Chief Financial Officer)
Mrs Baillie (Customer Services Group Manager)
Mr van der Spek (Recreation Manager)
Mr Roesler (Policy and Communications Manager)
Ms Hooper (Policy Officer – Governance)

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Apologies

RESOLVED
CSC17/031

Mayor Kircher / Cr Wollstein
"That the Community Services Committee accepts an apology for absence
from Cr Hopkins."

CARRIED

1. Confirmation of Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED
CSC17/032

Cr Wheeler / Cr Garvan
"That the Community Services Committee confirms meeting minutes for
30 August 2017, with one correction, on page 3, under Agenda Item 7,
resolution was moved by Cr (not Mayor) Wollstein."

CARRIED

2. Lakes Camping

The report, as circulated, presented information to the Community Services Committee with options for managing campgrounds in the district, for recommending to Council.

RESOLVED
CSC17/033

Mayor Kircher / Cr Kingan
The Community Services Committee recommends:
That Council:

1. Continues to manage Falstone, Sailors Cutting, Loch Laird, Wildlife, Otematata Boat Harbour and Parsons Rock as 'Kiwi style' camping grounds.
2. Requests that further marketing opportunities are identified to increase patronage, especially in the shoulder periods.

CARRIED

3. Resource Recovery Park Easement

The report, as circulated, presented information to the Community Services Committee about proposing an easement for commercial vehicle access to the Waitaki Resource Recovery Park for the purpose of commercial recycling, for recommending to Council.

RESOLVED
CSC17/034

Cr Wollstein / Cr Kingan

The Community Services Committee recommends:

That Council:

1. Agrees, subject to notification and the consideration of any submissions, the granting of an easement over part of the land known as Part Section 31 Block VI Oamaru SD (OT/8A/1038) to the trustees of the Waitaki Resource Recovery Park.
2. Agrees that conditions for an easement are as follows:
 - i. Purpose of easement: Commercial vehicle access of no greater than 10 commercial vehicle movements per day for the purpose of commercial recycling at 42 Chelmer Street, Oamaru.
 - ii. Term of easement: For the life of the activity. Any change to the activity purpose will require re-negotiation with Council's Recreation unit.
 - iii. Public Access: Public access over the land will be maintained at all times.
 - iv. Maintenance and Repair: The owner will be responsible for maintaining and repairing that part of the Fenwick Park site subject to the easement agreement. Any change will need to be approved by Council's Recreation unit.
 - v. Safety: Vehicles must travel at no more than 10km and give way to pedestrians and other park users.

CARRIED

Cr Garvan left the meeting at 11.57am.

4. Community Services Group Activity Report

The memorandum, as circulated, presented information to the Community Services Committee about the activities of the Community Services Group for the period 17 August to 27 September 2017.

RESOLVED
CSC17/035

Cr Holding / Cr Kingan

"That the Community Services Committee receives the information."

CARRIED

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 11.58am.

Confirmed on this 22nd day of November 2017 in the Whitestone Cheese Empire Room at the Oamaru Opera House, 94 Thames Street, Oamaru.

Chairman

Community Services Committee Report

From Recreation Manager

Date 22 November 2017

Infants' Area – Oamaru Cemetery

Recommendations

The Community Services Committee recommends:

That Council:

1. Sends a letter from the Mayor, thanking Roseanne Sheridan and donors for their initiative and contributions.
2. Approves refurbishment of the infants' area of the Oamaru Cemetery in accordance with the concept plans provided in Attachment Two to this report.

Objective of the Decision

To gain Council approval of the refurbishment concept plans.

Summary

It is proposed that the Community Services Committee recommends that Council approves the attached concept plans.

Summary of Decision Making Criteria

	No/Moderate/Key		No/Moderate/Key
Policy/Plan	No	Environmental Considerations	No
Legal	No	Cultural Considerations	No
Significance	No	Social Considerations	No
Financial Criteria	No	Economic Considerations	No
Community Views	Key	Community Board Views	No
Consultation	No	Publicity and Communication	Moderate

Background

The infants' area of the Oamaru Cemetery was developed through the initiative of Roseanne Sheridan and is a memorial garden for pre-born and newly born babies who have died. The garden serves our community by assisting with healing for families in their grief.

Many of the plant species that were chosen have grown too bulky for the site and cutting back of these plants has resulted in an area that requires refurbishment. Roseanne Sheridan has approached Council with a proposal to enhance the area and has sought donations from the community to support this. A site meeting was held with Councillors where Roseanne explained her vision.

Based on Roseanne's vision, a concept plan has been drawn up and is provided in Attachment Two. Plants have been selected for their comforting and healing properties as well as fragrances and seasonal attractiveness. An angel sculpture (refer Attachment Three) represents a guardian, and also that some mothers also see their children as angels. The angel stands to guard and protect, as well as comfort.

Roseanne has communicated with families, organisations, cultural and faith groups, both when the area was first constructed and recently as part of the renovation plans. In addition, there have been media articles on aspects of this, such as the donation of the Oamaru stone feature as part of the stone symposium.

Roseanne has coordinated the following donations from the community:

- Roses
- Limestone carving – limestone donated by Linda Wilson and carving completed by a Waimate group at the Oamaru Stone Symposium
- An Oamaru stone pillar – donated by Dooleys
- Reflective Sign – donated by RK Signs
- Entrance granite stone – being donated by Crombie Monumentalists.

It is requested that Waitaki District Council:

- Constructs concrete bases for three installations.
- Removes overgrown cypresses.
- Digs out roots and poor soils, and replaces with fresh soil, compost and mulch.
- Supplies the plants and carries out the replanting.

This can be completed by prioritising this work from our maintenance budgets. The plant replacement will need to be done as part of normal maintenance in any case.

Summary of Options Considered

Option 1 – The Community Services Committee recommends that Council (recommended):

1. Sends a letter from the Mayor, thanking Roseanne Sheridan and donors for their initiative and contributions.
2. Approves refurbishment of the infants' area of the Oamaru Cemetery in accordance with the concept plans provided in Attachment Two.

Option 2 – The Community Services Committee recommends that Council:

1. Sends a letter from the Mayor, thanking Roseanne Sheridan and donors for their initiative and contributions.
2. Approves refurbishment of the infants' area of the Oamaru Cemetery in accordance with the concept plans provided in Attachment Two, with suggested changes

Option 3 – The Community Services Committee recommends that Council:

1. Declines refurbishment of the children's area of the Oamaru Cemetery in accordance with the concept plans provided in Attachment Two.

Assessment of Preferred Option

Option 1 is the preferred option as:

1. The infants' area requires refurbishment.
2. The proposed concept will create a special area for remembrance.
3. The community has come together to support this initiative.



Erik van der Spek
Recreation Manager

Neil Jorgenson
Assets Group Manager

Attachments

Additional decision making considerations
Concept Plan
Oamaru Stone Feature

Additional Decision Making Considerations

The following matters have been considered in making the decisions.

Outcomes

The proposed refurbishment contributes to the following Council Outcomes:

- We keep our district affordable – much of the work is being completed through community donations.
- We understand the diverse needs of our community – the infants' area provides a special place for remembrance.

Community Views

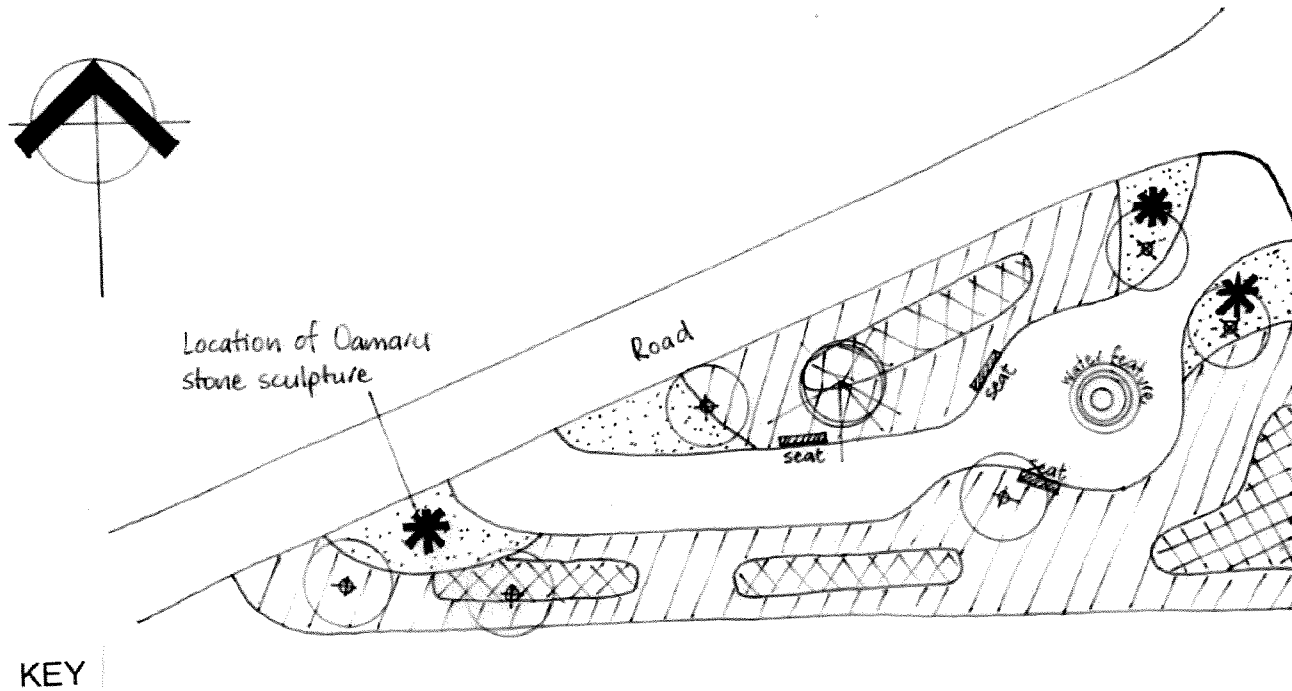
The proposal has come from a member of the community and members of the community have supported it with donations.

Financial Considerations







Council's contribution can be met through existing budgets. Much of Council's contribution is work that we will need to complete anyway (replacement of plants).

Publicity and Communication Considerations

It is recommended that Council issues a press release thanking Roseanne and donors for their initiative and contributions.



KEY

-  Existing totara
-  Sophora microphylla
-  Features at entrances including a sculpture and a piece of granite with a plaque.
-  Roses and lavender planted at entrances
-  Shrub planting (1 metre) to help create privacy, includes Magnolia
-  Lower shrub and groundcover plantings

DRAFT CONCEPT PLAN

Infant's Cemetery

Oamaru Cemetery, Oamaru

Note: Not to Scale

Prepared by Stephanie Scott, Landscape Architect

PH: 0274 387 875

1 September 2017

Attachment Three Oamaru Stone Feature



Community Services Committee

Memorandum

From Community Services Group Manager

Date 22 November 2017

Community Services Group Activity Report for the period 28 September to 8 November 2017

Recommendation

That the Community Services Committee receives the information.

Summary and Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform the Committee about the activities of the Community Services Group for the period 28 September to 8 November 2017.

Background

The Community Services Group is a diverse group that has a varied impact on the community. This report process is the only direct reporting line to Councillors for some of the Community Services units.

Advance notice of any questions would be gratefully received.

Community Safety and Development

Safer Waitaki Project – all activity is reported against the projects three strategic outcomes.

1. Strategic Outcome 01 Reduction of harm related to alcohol, drugs and violence

Alcohol & Drug Coalition

Meeting held 26 September, 8 members present.

Business included:

- Presentation by Southern Stop Smoking Service.

Mental Health & Addictions

Meeting held 8 October with 19 members present.

Business included:

- Presentation of Draft Directory of Services.
- E Cigarettes information for health care workers.
- Southern Alliance Mental Health & Addictions Network Update.

Family Violence Working Group

Meetings held 3 October and 24 October.

Business included:

- Event Management Plan for White Ribbon event 24 November.
- Youth You Tube Project to run 20 and 23 November.
- To view video of the pilot project visit the Safer Waitaki Website.
<https://sites.google.com/saferwaitaki.co.nz/saferwaitaki/reduction-of-harm>

Family Violence Prevention

Meeting held 24 October with 14 members present.

Business Included:

- Professional Development Opportunities.
- Emergency Housing.

Over 65's

Older Persons Provider Group meeting held 17 October with 9 attendees. Group is working on key issues and there is a focus on the outcomes of the Senior Survey.

2. Strategic Outcome 02 Increased social engagement of the under 25 and over 65s

Under 25

SKIP project going well. Work currently being undertaken includes planning for 'Clued Up Families' Expo to be held 10 March 2018.

3. Strategic Outcome 03 Environmental change that makes the safe way the easy way

Industry Link

Meeting held 28 September with 8 attendees.

Road Safety

Waitaki Roadsafes held a Fatigue Stop on the Friday 20 of October. 200 vehicles were stopped, drivers were given goodie bags containing water, sweets and road safety messages. All travellers were offered a free sausage sizzle and hot drink to combat fatigue. Feedback was excellent with tourists and kiwi travellers alike surprised and impressed with the initiative which is designed to combat fatigue on long journeys.



Community Patrols

On the 11 of November Waitaki Community Patrols celebrate 5 years of operation. The Patrol currently has 21 volunteers and since its inception in 2012 has logged over 5,900 hours. The Patrol also contributes to Meals on Wheels delivery, and numerous community events including Art on Bikes.



4. Engagement

- Met with Southern Regional Advisor Ministry for Pacific Peoples Ministry of Pacific People, 29 September. The Ministry can provide a suite of opportunities for our community. These include Working with Pacific Communities and Cultural Competency.
- Met with Jimmy McLaughlin, Methodist Mission 12 October, to explore opportunity to develop a tool that will measure community outcomes.

- Working with Graham Copson, Manager Volunteering Otago, to include Waitaki component in the work they do. Graham has also attended a Safer Waitaki meeting and we are sharing workshop opportunities with the community.

Forrester Gallery, North Otago Museum and Archive

5. Programmes

Burns Memorial 23 September – 15 October

The Annual Exhibition of artworks from students at local schools – continues to be very popular. 11 schools and early childhood centers visited with total student group visits being 488. A total of 849 visitors came to the gallery during this exhibition.

Mary Horn: Works Revisited

An exhibition of new work and a retrospective of 20 years of painting by well-known artist Sister Mary Horn. An opening on Saturday 21 October was well attended by 95 people.

Waitaki Arts Festival: Art on Bikes Sunday 8 October

The Forrester Gallery supported the inaugural Arts Festival by commissioning a Moa Bike especially for the Art on Bikes event. The bike was very popular also fronting other events during the festival. The Otago Daily Times covered this event.

The Gallery also ran an event #bugrocks with #OamaruRocks in the Botanic Gardens as part of the Bike event with 165 participants on bikes.

Te Moa: Waitaki – this exhibition has been a great success as a supporting act for school visits in association with the Burns Memorial Exhibition. Visits were hosted jointly by our Curator of Education, Liz King and Museum Curator, Chloe Searle

A public talk about the Moa by Dr Mike Dickison took place on Thursday 28 September and was well attended by 39 people, including a number of new faces to the gallery and museum.

"Passchendaele!!

A commemorative blog about the battle of Passchendaele was posted to the Museum blog site and twitter.



3 Images:

Burns Memorial Exhibition 2017.

The Moa Bike: Matt King giving Tara Garrett a ride on the Moa bike at Art on Bikes event.

Mary Horn Opening: Sister Mary and Sister Cecily at the opening which featured music composed by Sister Cecily and performed by local quartet Decadia.

Note: Images may NOT cleared for republishing or onward use beyond this report.–
please do not republish

6. Collections

The Archive received an important gift of record relating to early stone quarrying in the district and the early days of the Empire Hotel on Thames Street from the Oamaru Totara Tree Stone Company from Kathleen Perry. These records are particularly significant because of the importance of Oamaru stone as a building material throughout New Zealand and parts of Australia and the relative paucity of existing records in cultural institutions about the industry.

Curator of Archives and collection technician Lee Cooper worked with Warehouse Stationery to digitise the Oamaru Borough Water Race Series – to support proper care and access to these valuable and fragile records.

Consultant Priscilla Pitts has been engaged to complete a deaccession (and disposal) report for the Forrester Gallery collection. Initial review work was carried out with the Director on 28 September.

Collections research and rehousing work continues on collections in support of the Cultural Facility Development Project (CFDP).

7. Education

The Curator of Education hosted our regular holiday programme in the wonderlab from 9-12 October. This holiday the theme was Te Moa and attendance was 80.

Staff hosted the Otago Museum Discovery Club at the gallery on Wednesday 5 October with an attendance of 14.

The Curator of Education hosted Te Ara Polytechnic for a skills day about Careers in Cultural Institutions, also giving them a tour of the gallery.

Community

A collaborative project with South Canterbury Museum Heritage Education Services for the delivery of Learning Experiences Outside the Classroom (LEOTC) in our district has been finalised. Information about the programmes offered in 2018 has been delivered to Schools.

Museum Curator Chloe Searle presented talks to:

North Otago Womens Club –about the CFDP project

North Otago Patchers and Quilters Club – about the Museum textile collection.

Staff attended the regular South Canterbury North Otago Museums meeting hosted by Pleasant Point Museum on 3 October. Chloe Searle has convened this group for the last 4 years and has now handed on the role.

Collaborations

The Director and Archivist have continued to work with IT to review Records Management across WDC. This has required significant input. It is hoped that the work done to date will be progressed following the restructuring of Council groups.

Staff have supported the Waitaki Arts Festival as noted above.

The Curator of Education was invited to attend the Oamaru Intermediate School Steampunk performance gala following a whole of school visit to a Gallery programme hosted collaboratively with Steampunk HQ and local artist Trish Shirley.

Staff worked with Parks and Recreation Staff, iwi and archaeologists to support outcomes following flooding of the Awamoa Creek Archaeological Authority Site. Te Runanga O Moeraki is the holder of the archaeological authority for this site, while WDC is the landowner. The Museum now holds some items recovered from the site pursuant to which it is now obliged to report to the Ministry of Culture and Heritage under the Protected Objects Act. The Museum is working collaboratively with iwi on this requirement and to ensure the best outcome for the any items recovered from the site.

An internship arrangement is in place with the Otago University History Department – seeking a student intern from the history programme to complete a project with the Waitaki District Archive photographic collections during summer 2017-2018.

The Curator of Archives continues to support North Otago Early Settlers Association (NOESA) and work collaboratively with them on their project to research early settler photographic portraits.

The Museum hosted another visit from Prof Richard Walter Head of Department Archaeology and Anthropology Department Otago University and his team from 30 October – 2 November. The team visited to progress their research project on the Willetts' Collection including a visit to the site and presented a public update to interested parties and stakeholder on Thursday 2 November.

Fans on Show - An updated display of fans was curated for the Oamaru Opera House foyer display case.

8. **Special Projects**

Another public update meeting for the CFDP took place at the gallery on 31 October. The architect John McKenzie attended to field questions regarding the new entry concept will be the main topic of conversation. The meeting was positive and the entry concept generally well received. Attendance 25 pax.

Michael Voss is the CFDP Project Team Manager and has been working on getting up to speed on the project. Meetings have been held with the architect regarding revised designs for the new entry and issues and ideas for the internal layout.

A strategic plan for the CFDP will need to be finalised in order to complete decisions about internal layout i.e. in terms of priority functions and overall space allocation. For example the balancing of tourism vs community functions; collection storage vs programme space.

Consultant Priscilla Pitts (ex Director Dunedin Public Art Gallery and Toitu and ex General Manager Heritage NZ) has been engaged to consult on the proposed fit-out and provide peer review on fitness for purpose.

An additional \$65,000 has been pledged to the CFDP by the Stout Trust.

The WDC and Culture Waitaki websites have been updated to reflect progress e.g. new entry concept and funding successes. Additional background information has also been added e.g. collection significance reports and details of expert and community support received. Exhibits at both the Gallery and Museum about the CFDP have also been updated.

Recreation

9. General

- Recruitment to fill the role of Parks Officer – urban (Oamaru) continues. The continued vacancy is putting pressure on the rest of the team but Officers want to ensure we get the best possible candidate for the role.
- Warm conditions and regular rainfall has contributed to rapid grass growth. Generally contractors are keeping reserves within specification but have struggled with clumping of the clippings due in part to grass length and in part to the wet grass from dew and fog.
- Flower bedding areas are due for a change over in November. The winter planting have lasted reasonably well, but have now gone to seed.

10. Aquatics

- Swim Otago has confirmed that they will look at hosting 2 regional swim meets in Oamaru this year.
- Swimmers from Waitaki Aquatic Centre squads performed well at National short course champs bring home medals and many personal bests.

- Council has initiated a partnership with Anglican Family care to provide fully subsidised swim lessons for those that can't afford it.
- The organisers of the South Island secondary school canoe polo championships have confirmed a booking for next year, but have not committed beyond that point.

11. Lakes Camping Grounds

- Otematata river clearance consisting of vegetation removal and clearing of the river mouth has been completed for this year.
- Revenue to date is slightly up from previous years. It is too early to determine whether this is additional numbers or if it is a change in arrival times of season pass holders.
- Environment Canterbury will mark the boat channel at the Boat Harbour with new buoys.

12. Parks

- The 'rubbish' at risk of entering the coastal marine area at the two sites of historic 'fly tipping' in the Awamoa Foreshore Reserve identified by Otago Regional has been removed. There is further 'rubbish' that is currently not threatening the coastal marine area that is likely to require removal in future. Officers will continue to monitor and liaise with Otago Regional Council.
- The fence around the Holmes Wharf penguin colony is expected to be completed by mid-November to allow sealing of the carpark early December.
- Refurbishment of Craig Fountain and reinstatement of the path lighting between the front entrance and the display house is progressing. Officers hope to have the trench areas rehabilitated and re-sown in the next few weeks. It is likely work on the fountain will be completed in December. Once lighting is complete, officers will remove any signs that suggest the gardens are closed at dusk. These hours are a hangover from the past and the gardens are not physically closed to manage access, with some people already using the gardens after dusk.



The large bowl going on

- Moeraki Centennial Park – The stairs down to the beach have been reinstated and the contractor received favourable comments from local residents at the tavern.



New stairs at Moeraki

- Millennium Track – A route has been formed on the lookout track. This is expected to provide a link to a 'tramping' or 'route' standard until decisions can be taken about whether further work is justified.

13. Toilets

- *Omarama Dump Station* – Planting of tussocks on the soil mounds will be completed when this can be fitted into the work programme. Officers are waiting for our contractor to complete remedial work to increase the size of the improve usability.
- Council has had toilet seats stolen from Duntroon, Palmerston and Campbell's Bay (along with the cistern itself) public toilets in the past month.



14. Projects

- Craig Fountain – Work has commenced as detailed under point 12, bullet 3, and will be completed in the next two months. Lighting the rest of the Alps 2 Ocean walkway from the display house to the other end of the gardens will be completed as a separate project.
- Palmerston Walking Improvements – Officers are trying to contact the landowner for the district road to State Highway 1 connection to discuss options prior to taking a report to the Community Board.
- Ahuriri and Waihemo Bike Park's – Council has allocated \$50,000 each towards bike skills areas in these wards. The intention is to use this as local share to obtain additional community funding. Officers are working on a design that will incorporate road skills and bike control tests, for Community Board consideration.
- Mill Domain - Council's contractor has reopened and added additional pea-gravel to the drains. Further work is planned to cultivate uneven areas, bring in additional soil to mix with the existing, relevel and resow. Once the new grass has established, further renovation work is planned, consisting of:
 - Mini-moling to carry water to the installed drains
 - Aeration to improve microbial activity
 - Liming and fertilising to improve soil quality
 - Tree works to reduce shading
 - An ongoing soil and turf management programme based on annual assessments carried out by sportsturf specialists.

Streetscapes

Construction specifications for Dunback, Herbert and Maheno are being finalised. Hampden concepts will be workshopped with the Waihemo Community Board in November. Duntroon concepts will be completed once acquisition of land for the toilet has been completed.

Dunback Domain Toilets

Resource consent has been applied for and the details of the toilet block are being finalized with the supplier. Officers expect to have a contractor in place in December with installation late January.



Dunback Toilet Concept

Duntroon Toilets

Officers have approached Land Information New Zealand to acquire the land used as green space in Duntroon (and on which Council wishes to locate a public toilet) and are awaiting its response.

Weston Domain Toilets

As assessment of the existing toilets by a draftsman recommends construction of a separate block as being more practical and cheaper than trying to refurbish the existing one. Officers are

looking at a Portabuild option similar to that planned for Dunback, which should be able to be completed within budget.

Sailors Cutting and Falstone waste water systems – Officers will commence work on these projects in early 2018 once the Craig Fountain and the Dunback toilet projects are completed.

15. CRM Comment

CRM completion is sitting at 71%. Outstanding CRMs are related to maintenance tasks for our contractor and generally not customer-related. Some have been completed but Authority has not been updated to reflect this. Officers are working with our contractor to improve this.

Waitaki District Libraries

16. Events

The library held 28 events in September with up to 65 people attending an evening event. The bi-weekly Toastmasters is growing from strength to strength with up to 23 attendees.

BookChat groups met in Oamaru and Palmerston and the latter was hosted by Oamaru staff due to an absence.

17. Displays

Officers supplemented one of the evening talks with a display of books and DVDs. More shelves have been converted for displays to allow face out displays of material that results in more attractive presentations and browsing.

18. Culture Waitaki Website

The Culture Waitaki team is currently looking at a rebrand. To coincide with this, the team at the library is looking to swap out the current banners, both from our online catalogue and the Culture Waitaki website.

19. OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) statistics

It was pleasing to see a substantial increase in the number of sessions and page views of our online catalogue this month. This shows that there are a growing number of our customers that use our online catalogue not just to look up the physical location of an item from our collection but also to access our e-collections: Bolinda, Wheelers, GiveUs, Ancestry.com and World Book.

20. Collection Management

Officers have established a new display called "Quick Picks" in the Non Fiction area. This sits in a highly visible space and is proving exceptionally popular with our public. Taking our cue from this success, we are now looking at ways in which we can promote our revenue making collections by taking advantage of our high foot traffic areas.

21. Digital Initiatives

The digital services librarian is now fully engaged in the training of library staff in digital literacy. Officers have already seen a marked improvement in their skill set and some staff are now doing self-led learning after gaining confidence with technology.

The public is also reaping the benefits of our digital learning services and this month several members of the public have enquired about the computer basics course run by the 2020 Trust. Almost all of the courses offered in the 2020 Trust's Stepping Up programme are self-led, but under the guidance of our digital services librarian.

22. Youth Report

Toddler Time

Toddler Time included stories about surprises, seasons, being on the farm and cats and dogs.

Wriggle & Rhyme

Wriggle & Rhyme sessions have concentrated on skills focused on the development of balance, hands, upper body, language and self-esteem. Sessions continue to be well-attended and the changes in children's development can be noticed week to week.

23. Statistics (September)

Oamaru	2017	2016
Borrowers - new	61	65
Borrowers - total	11750	11194
Door Count	8981	12207
Events - Adults	8	19
Events - Adults - attending	164	634
Events - Children's	20	0
Events - Children's - attending	556	0

The electronic RFID system is more accurate than previous manual count. On occasions patrons coming in and out of the library were counted twice. Decline in door counts is consistent with National trends with more electronic access and the public using the web connections to renew, reserve, etc. material.

<i>Issues</i>		
Issues - eBooks	77	131
Issues - via Koha only	1420	
Issues - via Self-Issue Kiosk	11089	
Issues - % done via RFID	89%	
Total - Issues	15088	17979
Total - Issues - Renew	2579	
<i>Twitter</i>		
Twitter - total followers	756	676
<i>Volunteer Hours</i>		
Total - Volunteer Hours	151.25	188.25

24. Engagement

Fiona Kerr, Youth Librarian, visited two groups at Little Wonders Play Centre on different days. She visited the class with younger children and ran a Wriggle & Rhyme session which included activities to support the development of hands and fingers, and upper body development. The group consisted of 8 children with a number of familiar faces from the library. At the end of the session, Fiona told the teachers about a resource she uses to support these sessions and a student teacher came to the library the next day to get this book.

Schools:

On 5 and 6 September Mackenzie College was in Oamaru playing hockey for Tournament Week and visited the library to do homework and access the internet. It was great to see the library being used so usefully by this school group between games.

On 25 September, Papakaio School visited the library. On 29 September Totara School came in for a visit after going to the Forrester Gallery en route to the Waitaki Aquatic Centre: a great use of the Waitaki District Council's facilities.

Branches:

Fiona visited the Palmerston branch on 12 September. The Palmerston Playcentre enjoyed this session. As there were not enough parents to walk with the children from the Palmerston

Preschool and Nursery, Fiona went to their centre to share stories and songs rather than at the library. Fiona had 60 children attending the sessions.

Kids Book Club:

Kerrie Gamble, the Youth Support Library assistant, ran the group on 7 September with 8 participants. The group did a "Mission Possible" activity with questions such as: If you had to spend a day with one character from any book, who would it be and why? If you were writing a book, what would the title be and who would your main character? This was followed by each member speaking about books they are currently reading as well as new books.

Oamaru Opera House

25. Venue Usage

Comparative year to date figures

Venue Hire Statistics	9 September – 21 October 2017		9 September – 21 October 2016	
	Bookings	Pax	Bookings	Pax
Not for Profit/Free of Charge	9	149	13	292
Commercial	26	1,922	20	1,173
Community	26	1,465	15	2,453
Total	61	4,036	48	3,918

27.1% increase in venue hire comparatively

Year to Date Comparative Statistics

Venue Hire Statistics	2017		2016	
	Bookings	Pax	Bookings	Pax
Not for Profit/Free of Charge	29	648	26	519
Commercial (Incl Sponsorship JV)	60	2,706	51	2,982
Community (Incl WDC)	53	3,159	36	3,539
Total	142	7,013	113	7,040

25.7% increase in venue hire comparatively

New clients:

Farmlands Co-operative Society Limited (Christchurch) for Farmlands Ladies Night Oamaru

- Oamaru Opera House (OOH) chosen over the Waitaki Community Recreation Centre and The Loan & Merc / Housekeepers Function Centre
- Approx. 320 attendees
"We were very happy with our experience at the Opera House and have received great feedback from both our shareholders and trade displays. I look forward to working with you again in the future." Shannon Woodward, Events and Sponsorship Partner.

Forsyth Barr Investment Advice (Dunedin) for Kiwisaver Seminar

- 25 attendees
"I just wanted to say thank you very much for a great evening and superb food. We will hopefully see you again." Tania Campbell, Advisor Assistant.

Hynds Pipe Systems Limited (Auckland) for Hynds: 20+ Year Anniversary Dinner

- A formal 3 course dinner to celebrate staff who have been with the Oamaru Company for 20+ years
- 25 attendees
"I hear the event went really well, great music and yummy food as well. Our CEO and the Directors really liked the Opera House and were very impressed with the service. Thanks for all your help Veronika, a great team effort on your behalf." Lisa Dick, Executive Assistant to CEO.

Returning clients:

House of Breakthrough Church (Oamaru) for ROAR Conference

- Approx. 400 attendees over 1.5 days
- Booked dates for 2018 straight away and added an extra day making it a 2.5 day conference
"We would just like to thank you and your amazing staff for the wonderful service over the weekend! We were absolutely thrilled with how everything went." Sonja Braxton.

Mckenzie & Co (Oamaru) for 7 Ways to Grow Your Business Seminar

- Have not booked the Opera House since 2011 but after a short site visit made a new booking
- Approx. 35 attendees
- Oamaru Opera House is their venue of choice for future seminars

Waitaki District Council continues to hold weekly Meetings and Workshops in the Empire Room due to flood damage at its Headquarters building. Additional bookings that would not normally be held at the Opera House have been made due to the flood damage, such as Regulatory Meetings, Fire Warden Training, Computer Training, Social Club Quiz Night, etc.

Convene South

Veronika Brylinska, OOH Event Co-ordinator, attended the Convene South annual expo with Metka Conlan from Oamaru Convention Bureau and, although Oamaru Opera House had four appointments, no new relationships/sales/bookings were generated.

There were very few Day Buyers and even less Hosted Buyers outside of Christchurch; most of the interest was in the Wanaka/Queenstown area.

Queries directed at the Opera House and the Waitaki region in general were around capacity and accommodation, reflecting our shortcomings when it comes to the numbers we can accommodate both in lodging and venue hire.

The Opera House will attend the expo biennially and always in partnership with the Oamaru Convention Bureau.

26. Community

In September the Opera House donated show tickets to Oamaru Repertory and Totara School Fundraising raffles

24/7/17 – 8/10/17 – Waitaki Girls' High School work experience programme – a Year 13 student spent Thursday afternoons assisting with online marketing. She also assisted at three events – set up, service and customer liaison.

7/10/17 – OOH lights up teal to raise awareness of Trigeminal Neuralgia

12/10/17 – Hosting new North Otago Museum display of antique fans

17/10/17 – 19/10/17 – Hosted North Otago Floral Arts Group competitive exhibition

Not for Profit groups that utilise the venue:

- Alzheimer's Support Group (weekly)
- Oamaru Newcomers Group (increased numbers to 30 pax) (fortnightly)
- Migrants Newcomer's Group (weekly)
- Friends of Forrester for Lunchtime Recital (monthly)
- Wriggle & Rhyme preschool programme (weekly)

27. Show attendance

Whitestone Contracting Auditorium

21/9/17 – The 7 Sopranos: 157

23/9/17 – The Best Comedy Show on Earth: 186

28/9/17 – Made in the Waitaki: 152

29/9/17 – The Big Bike Film Night: 97

7/10/17 – Pass the Gat: 127

Inkbox Theatre

22/9/17 – Kiwa Quartet: 51

26/9/17 – Bill Massey's Tourists: 48

28. Waitaki Arts Festival

The inaugural Waitaki Arts Festival ran from 21 September to 8 October 2017, over a period of three weekends and two weeks. It included 16 ticketed events featuring music (classical to contemporary) dance, comedy, theatre, literature and family shows. They were performed in multiple spaces – the Oamaru Opera House, a double decker bus, local galleries, retail and hospitality venues – and emphasis was placed on the unique spaces in the precinct. In addition to the ticketed events, there were six community events free of charge – the Oamaru Stone Symposium, Burns Memorial Art Exhibition, Scotts Smokin' Blues, Brews & Barbeque, Through the Lonesome Dark and Art on Bikes. The major family day events were held in Friendly Bay and on the Alps 2 Ocean cycle way.

Approximately 4,300 people participated in the festival by attending the events, this includes artists, volunteers, staff and general public attendances. The ticketed events were attended by 1,637 people, with 8% of these audiences from outside the district. Over the Festival, there were five sold-out events.

The Festival was a success on the most important level – bringing our community together in a safe, cohesive environment. Multiple organisations and individuals worked together to create successful family events.



A big thank you to funders and sponsors:

- Otago Community Trust
- Whitestone Contracting Ltd
- New Zealand Media and Entertainment (NZME)
- Tourism Waitaki
- Parkside Quarries
- Whitestone Cheese Co
- Brydone Hotel
- Scotts Brewing Co

A big thank you to all the following organisations and businesses that volunteered their time and resources to help bring this Waitaki Arts Festival to fruition:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| • Alps 2 Ocean | • Oamaru Farmers Market |
| • Community Patrol | • Oamaru Stone Sculpture Symposium |
| • Cycle Ventures | • Orokonui Eco-Sanctuary |
| • Fine Arts Gallery | • Slightly Foxed Book Store |
| • Kakanui School | • Snap Fitness |
| • Kimberley Mavor School of Dance | • Sport Waitaki |
| • Limetones Choir | • Tourism Waitaki |
| • Loan & Merc | • Vanished World |
| • Headfirst Travel | • Waitaki Community Gardens |
| • Forrester Art Gallery | • Waitaki District Library |
| • Glue Creative | • Weston Playcentre |
| • Grainstore Gallery | • Whitestone Civic Trust |
| • NZ Whiskey Company | • Youth Council |
| • Oamaru Garrison & Salvation Army Band | |

All events were delivered to a very high standard and attendees were effusive in their praise. It is rewarding to witness the Festival 'buzz' as it is confirmation that you have created a vibrant and successful event.

Feedback

We continue to receive daily positive verbal feedback.

A few people took the time to write to us:

"Pass the Gat last night was an AAA+... the evening was such a success, as the Festival has been overall." CEO, Waitaki District Council

"Congratulations on a splendid inaugural Waitaki Arts Festival! Thank you for your efforts in making the Waitaki an even better place to live." Ops Manager, Whitestone Civic Trust

"The past two weeks has seen a wide range of cultural choice with the Arts Festival. I personally have seen a bike movie, dancing on a bus, and an awesome night last night at Pass the Gat."

All the people I have talked with provided only positive feedback. I hope the good numbers in attendance continue into the future" Acting Community Services Manager, WDC

"Congrats to the tireless team - what an amazing Festival in a stunning part of the world! Thank you for inviting us to your stunning venue." Artistic Director, 7 Sopranos

"I just wanted to say well done for the Arts Festival. Great to see something so positive for the Arts in North Otago." – Local high school teacher

"Congratulations on pulling together the Waitaki Arts Festival this fortnight. I think the energy which went into getting this off the ground is a real credit to you and your team." Audience member

"We enjoyed being part of the festival in providing sound requirements for the high quality of artist you brought to town" – Service provider for the Festival

Art on Bikes comments:

"The organisation was brilliant with so much on offer...great for families catering for all ages. Thanks"

"Awesome day out - well done everyone involved!"

"Such a fun family day out! Thanks to all the organisers"

"It was an awesome family event and we enjoyed hosting a wide range of kids, adults, work colleagues, bike and bug lovers. It was a vibrant event, bursting at the seams with community enthusiasm" – Waitaki Community Gardens Manager



Financial

Financially the festival will break even – this is primarily the result of the goodwill of previously named organisations providing much support and the Oamaru Opera House investing staff and audience development resources to this event.

A crowd funding campaign was initiated for the Festival – due to a lack of understanding of what the campaign was, it did not reach the target. Feedback from the campaign made it clear that people were unfamiliar with the crowd funding concept so as a result of this we have scheduled a presentation from Boosted. The Boosted Arts Foundation NZ representatives will come to Oamaru to present this workshop, at no cost, and several local organisations have already expressed interest in attending (ie Janet Frame Trust, Whitestone Civic Trust, Forrester Art Gallery and local artists).

Audience Development

The integration of the many genres into one festival created a natural crossover in market segments. The collaboration with Snap Fitness, Cycle Ventures and Alps2Ocean is a great example of how we can all work together to bring art and culture into a sporting environment. The collaboration with Waitaki Community Gardens was another opportunity to integrate art and culture into the home gardening environment. Emphasis on breaking down how art is construed – if it is a skill, it is an art form – with physical art we can emphasise that art form further and bring some joy and community collaboration into the same arena.

The introduction of Steampunk and Heritage Victorian sectors appearing in pockets of the festival allowed for easy social interaction from audiences who might not normally engage in those genre specific festivals.

As an inaugural event working across those all these sectors, we achieved our reach to a wide range of people and created some 'wow' factor memories with those who engaged, leaving them with a desire to participate again. This is the 'high' we want in our community and the satisfaction at being able to deliver this is beyond explanation.

Future of the Waitaki Arts Festival

For this festival to remain on the community calendar it will require greater funding support. Principal investment needs to be secured by way of naming rights sponsorship and funding grants. To maintain the traction from this Festival, it is proposed that the Art on Bikes will remain as an annual event, keeping the Waitaki Arts Festival brand active in-between the festival years.

Calls for expressions of interest will be promoted over the next six months to attract other organisations that would like to contribute to the Arts Festival programme in 2019. The contribution and inclusion of a wide range of community groups brings the community together in an uplifting way.

This festival has the potential to be developed into a significant tourist attraction during the shoulder season, focusing on the unique aspects of the region. Limited funds did not allow for workshops, or reach up the valley and North end with so many more significant venues that can be utilised, for example Waitaki Boys High School Hall of Memories is not only an exceptional space, it also has a beautiful pipe organ. The term venues is used broadly – indoor and outdoor spaces apply.

There is a high level of support for free of charge family events and it is important to ensure that these continue to be delivered to a high standard and in a safe environment.

In conclusion....it would be fair to say that this event was a success and this final quote sums things up nicely:

"You well know the challenges of galvanizing our audiences and patronage. You deserve success but if only partial please persist: there are continuing evidences of the added value all our arts and entertainment are providing to attract both people and business. A young couple from Melbourne who are shifting here were amazing to find the options and access to lifestyle and enjoyment in Oamaru – including the Opera House and Forrester Gallery" – Bruce Albiston, Burnside Homestead



Lichelle Guyan
Acting Community Services Group Manager