



Northern Community Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Northern Community Board held in the Athol Hall, 28 Athol-Five Rivers Highway, Athol on Monday, 12 February 2024 at 6pm (6.04pm to 6.54pm).

PRESENT

Chairperson	Greg Tither
Deputy chairperson	Lance Hellewell
Members	Pam Naylor
	Amanda Reedy
	Carolyn Smith
	Councillor Tom O'Brien

APOLOGIES

Sonya Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee advisor/customer support partner - Deborah-Ann Smith-Harding
Community partnership leader - Kelly Tagg

1 Apologies

An apology was received from Sonja Taylor.

Resolution

Moved Deputy Chairperson Hellewell, seconded Carolyn Smith **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board accepts the apology received from Sonja Taylor.

2 Leave of absence

There were no requests for leave of absence.

3 Conflict of interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4 Extraordinary/urgent items

There were no extraordinary/urgent items.

5 Confirmation of minutes

Resolution

Moved Pam Naylor, seconded Amanda Reedy **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board confirms the minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2023 (to include Public Excluded) as a true and correct record of that meeting.

6 Public participation

There was no public participation

Reports

7.1 Community board reporting

Record No: R/24/1/4235

Mrs Tagg took the through the community leadership, operational information and updates in the Boards area and reported :

- Mayor Rob Scott presented the local Community Service Award to Jim Guyton at the Mossburn Fire Station and Mr Guyton said he didn't regret a day of his service to Mossburn, by quoting "If you put something into the town you get it back."

- the withdrawal of funding for Transport Choices Programme was not applicable as the Board has no projects for this initiative
- reminded the Board that grants from five other community fund applications close on 31st March 2024 and the Board may wish to consider the Sports New Zealand Rural Travel Fund in addition to the Northern Southland Development Fund
- Mark Day, who was in attendance at the meeting, advised the Board of (four) staff shortfalls in the Community facilities team and requested patience for extended timeframes being experienced currently
- in the governance space, Mrs Tagg reminded the Board of the AKONA platform launched by Council as a training tool for gaps in learning with online learning sessions available covering topics such as LGOIMA, engaging with Māori, working with the media, chairing meetings, designing and delivering speeches and health & safety and governance
- the policy for Trading in public places with a schedule of approved sites is to be discussed in a workshop.

Resolution

Moved Pam Naylor, seconded Deputy Chairperson Hellewell **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board:

- a) **receives the report titled “Community board reporting” dated 2 February 2024.**

7.2 Councillor update

Record No: R/24/1/2638

Councillor O’Brien took the Board through his update to inform :

- His attendance at Waitangi Day Celebrations in Bluff last week and not only enjoyed the powhiri and being welcomed onto the Marae, but also enjoyed the wharekai and the rare opportunity to meet Sir Tipene Orogen
- conversed with Mervyn English of Ngai Tahu and Murihuku Regeneration and planned to meet with him in the near future to discuss challenges and opportunities in the Energy and Housing sector in Southland
- met with Andrew Clement, CEO of Hiringa Energy, and Jason Brown, CEO of Mitsu and Co (A division of Mitsubishi), and will be discussing hydrogen energy opportunities which have already been realised at two plants in the North Island and what potential may exist over and above the existing framework
- together with Councillor Matt Wilson, Councillor O’Brien has been dealing with some of the questionable rules around traffic management while central Government ,through Waka Kotahi, takes a broad and blanket approach to it. Dealing with concerns about costing , practicality and the discrepancies associated with things like number of traffic movements on a road, the type of road and the capabilities of the operator, there have been ongoing discussions with a resident of Mossburn who has raised valid points. Councillor O’Brien understands there are elements of the legislation that are under review and will find out more in the near future
- Councillor O’Brien was contacted by a member of the Garston Fire Brigade who are considering relocating , possibly to the Garston Hall and Mrs Tagg will contact the property team to confirm any signed leases

- Councillors will be in Chambers for what is likely to be a busy day on Wednesday as they attend firstly an extraordinary Council meeting to approve the appointment of a Commissioner to the Environmental Protection Agency expert consenting panel for the Southland Windfarm consent application. They will then discuss the draft revenue and financing policy, the supporting documents for the long term plan and the use of New Zealand emission units (from forestry) at the finance and assurance committee meeting. After that meeting, the councillors will talk about the capital projects planned for the Long Term Plan (LTP) and other material around the LTP.

LTP update

- With the proposed change from the 100 day plan of central government, staff have been working incredibly hard to include all the water services assets back into the 10 years of LTP 34. What that means is a re-look at the budgets and proposed rate increase
- the LTP team will be taking the supporting documents to the finance and assurance committee meeting on Wednesday. These include:
 1. All the activity management plans
 2. The infrastructure strategy
 3. The financial strategy
 4. All associated policies
 5. The performance management framework
- Council will also present the significant forecasting assumptions again as there are some changes to the assumptions associated with the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and Waters reforms and staff are working hard on the consultation document to be workshopped next week.

Resolution

Moved Pam Naylor, seconded Carolyn Smith **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board:

- a) **receives the report titled “Councillor update”.**

7.3 Chairperson's report

Record No: R/24/2/4468

Chair Tither spoke to his report, giving feedback on the following topics:

- The Community Service Award Presentation for Jim Guyton was well presented with Mayor Rob Scott in attendance
- the Lumsden Playground upgrade has started as of 1 February 2024
- Mrs Tagg confirmed the Christmas flags will be taken down as she now has the dismantling tool to do so. Apart from flags for Christmas, Matariki and Anzac, there is an opportunity to have 17 more flags at a cost of \$100 each for all year round visibility. Chair Tither asked if flags could be sponsored by local businesses and Mrs Tagg will seek permission around the legality of this approach plus art work guidelines.

- Chair Tither requested Council to revisit the replacement of dead plants with the current 3-year garden maintenance contract. Regards the maintenance of the Lumsden gardens, Mark Day, Community facilities manager, mentioned the mature trees are sprouting and need constant eradication because they are an invasive species.

Board members reported as follows:

Deputy Chair, Lance Hellewell

The country cricket event “Batting for Rural Mental Health” was a success in Mossburn with about \$25,000 in auctioned prizes which raised approximately \$50,000 for the charitable event.

Sonja Taylor

Sonja updated the Board on Mossburn matters as follows:

- Mossburn Tennis courts: Friday social tennis have started and the school is also starting tennis lessons for children over six. Due to the rain, the cricket match “Batting for Rural Mental Health” between Mossburn, Lumsden and Te Anau was played on the tennis court surface (a cover was put on the centre acting as the pitch). It is a very pleasant, private and sheltered area which will be utilised a lot more because of the project.
- Flagtrax – the Christmas flags need taking down and Sonja asked if the required dismantling tool is at SDC Lumsden office? The ANZAC flags are due to be erected in late April.
- Mossburn domain – the Rugby club has resown the main field and junior fields as it was patchy with the dry season, but now finally is filling in. Sonja has instructed the mowing contractor (through Mark Day) to continue mowing the area from now on however, the mowing was placed on hold as the new grass was too “soft”. A new cricket pitch was installed by the Batting for Rural Mental Health committee , however the big cricket event on Saturday, 10 February 2024, was not held on the new pitch but played on the tennis courts because of the rain. This was a very successful day/evening and it was hoped to hold this event annually.
- Mossburn Stag – Mossburn Lions have recently tidied up the Stag garden and are looking to do more plantings, re-paint the Stag and light it up at night.
- Mossburn Playground – Sonja requested feedback from Council regarding the future plans for the playground.

Carolyn Smith

Carolyn has been asked where to obtain WasteNet’s (new) waste recycle stickers (to be placed inside the yellow bin lids). Mrs Tagg will request a supply from the Council’s communications team.

Pam Naylor

Lance Spencer, Contracts program lead, handed out the current contractual mowing maps for the district. Pam mentioned the lawns in Garston had not been mowed for a month and asked if mowing the school reserve could be incorporated in the mowing contract going forward.

Resolution

Moved Carolyn Smith, seconded Pam Naylor **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board:

- a) receives the report titled "Chairpersons report" dated 1 February 2024.

7.4 Next meeting

Record No: R/24/2/4467

Resolution

Moved Amanda Reedy, seconded Pam Naylor **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board:

- a) confirms that the next meeting of the Board is at 6pm on Monday 8 April 2024 to be held at the Lumsden Memorial Hall, 8 Meadow Street, Lumsden.

The meeting concluded at 6.54pm

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A MEETING OF THE NORTHERN COMMUNITY BOARD HELD ON MONDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2024.

DATE: 8 April 2024

CHAIRPERSON:

