



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, 10 February 2025 at 6pm (6.05pm – 6.33pm).

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor	Matt Wilson
Strategic transport manager	Hartley Hare
Group manager infrastructure and capital development	Fran Mikulicic
Community partnership leader	Kelly Tagg
Committee advisor/customer support partner	Deborah-Ann Smith-Harding

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

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 Carolyn Smith **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board confirms the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2024 as a true and correct record of that meeting.

6 Public participation

Chair Tither used his chair's discretion for the public participating item and relaxed the standing orders for a longer open conversation about the matter of Waterloo Road. Staff in attendance to answer technical questions were Hartley Hare – Strategic transport manager and Fran Mikulicic – Group manager infrastructure and capital development.

Peter Turner, Michael Beattie, Wyatt Osment, Angus Alderton and Nikasha Naylor spoke about issues for the twelve rate payers and sixteen residents over safety concerns and the damage to upper Waterloo Road in the past two years with forestry. Photos and written information of the degrading road was presented to the board for consideration and the issues raised by the local ratepayers were as follows:

- sections of Waterloo Road was poorly sealed
- over the past 6 years there has been continuous repairs done to this road that is not fixing the core issue of the road
- the safety issue and cost for local ratepayers has not been considered by Council
- local residents/ratepayers feel Council may omit remediation to upper Waterloo Road due to Council's budget deficit

In response, Mrs Mikulicic mentioned Southland District Council received an increase in roading funding in September 2024 from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) for the next three years, but it was less than what Council requested. NZTA increased its overall funding assistance rates for Southland District Council-owned roads from 52% to 55% of their total upkeep from mid next year, leaving the council to pay 45% despite council owning 5000km of roads in the district, second only to Auckland, and council staff had calculated that NZTA needed to fund 71% of the district's roading upkeep so the council could carry on with its existing programme.

Mr Hare stated this deficit in NZTA funding had been factored in the Long Term Plan 2024-2034.

Deputy Chair Hellewell asked whether it was prudent for Council to consider the cost effectiveness of long term maintenance versus resealing upper Waterloo Road.

The attendees questioned Council's requirement for farmers to have traffic management plans in place to remove trees within 20 metres of the road.

Chair Tither thanked the public participants for voicing their issues and safety concerns.

Reports

7.1 Community board reporting

Record No: R/24/12/75437

Community partnership leader – Kelly Tagg updated the board of the community leadership, operational and Council activities in the board area and across the district.

Mrs Tagg reminded board members to declare any pecuniary and other interest and submit any mileage claims.

Nominations for local government elections open on 1 July 2025 and close on 1 August 2025. Local government election day is 11 October 2025.

Resolution

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

That the Northern Community Board:

- a) **receives the report titled "Community board reporting" dated 29 January 2025.**

7.2 Councillor update

Record No: R/25/2/3642

The Councillor update report was taken as read.

Resolution

Moved Sonya Taylor, seconded Pam Naylor **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board:

- a) **receives the report titled "Councillor update".**

7.3 Chairperson's report

Record No: R/25/1/2878

Chair Tither mentioned there was not too much to report with the Christmas break and mentioned the Christmas decorative flags have been put up & taken down and thanked Mrs Taylor for looking after the Mossburn flags. The Chair has been monitoring the rubbish skip bin at the Lumsden station and has reprimanded a Dipton resident who had been depositing his household rubbish in the overflowing skip.

Deputy Chair Hellewell announced the forthcoming fundraising dinner and cricket match to be held at Mossburn Community Centre on 14 and 15 February 2025 for the annual "Batting for Rural Mental Health."

Mrs Taylor advised that many of the memorial trees in Mossburn have died and that soil testing was being undertaken. Mrs Taylor advised that the RSA wished to be kept informed as to the outcome and also wished to be involved with selecting replacement trees.

Mrs Naylor mentioned another red mobile coffee vendor has set up in Garston who is busy with tourist trade and confirmed the "Around the Mountain" cycle trail flags are up.

Resolution

Moved Carolyn Smith, seconded Amanda Reedy **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board:

- a) **receives the report titled "Chairpersons report" dated 30 January 2025.**

7.4 Next meeting

Record No: R/25/1/2877

Resolution

Moved Pam Naylor, seconded Sonya Taylor **and resolved:**

That the Northern Community Board:

- a) **confirms that the next meeting of the Board is at 6pm on Monday 14 April 2025 to be held at the Lumsden Memorial Hall, 8 Meadow Street, Lumsden.**

The meeting concluded at 6.33pm

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF A
MEETING OF THE NORTHERN COMMUNITY BOARD
HELD ON 10 February 2025.

DATE: 14 April 2025

CHAIRPERSON:

