



Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board held in the Stewart Island Pavilion, Ayr St, Oban on Thursday, 13 February 2025 at 8.53am (8.53 – 10.54am).

PRESENT

Chairperson	Aaron Conner
Deputy chairperson	Aaron Joy
Members	Mike Douglass
	Andrea Young
	Councillor Jon Spraggon

APOLOGIES

Rakiura Herzhoff
Daniel Meads

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee advisor	Kirsten Hicks
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1 Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Rakiura Herzhoff and Daniel Meads.
Moved Mike Douglass, seconded Cr Jon Spraggon **and resolved:**

That the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board accepts the 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 Cr Jon Spraggon, seconded Mike Douglass **and resolved:**

That the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board confirms the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2024 as a true and correct record of that meeting.

6 Public participation

There was no public participation

Reports

7.1 Community update

Record No: R/25/1/88

Britt Mathias (Department of Conservation updated the board on the following topics:

- continuing rat incursions, Ulva Island
- Predator Free Rakiura community consultations are ongoing
- there are five new hoiho chicks on Bravo Island
- more penguins have been spotted on local beaches, coming ashore for the moult
- there has been a downturn of 18% trampers on Stewart Island tracks this season. This decrease is in both domestic and international users.
- repairs and maintenance have been carried out at Freshwater, Tolsons and the bolts have been tightened under the Observation Rock viewing platform

- sealion warning signs have been installed on Ulva Island and around the township. These will be in place for the season only.
- consideration is still being given to gravelling parts of the Rakiura track
- some gravelling has been carried out on Ulva Island, undertaken by volunteers

Constable Stuart Newton (New Zealand Police) spoke to the board on the following topics:

- parking restrictions – these will be enforced once the signage is in place. It would be good to advertise these changes widely.
- paradise ducks are becoming a problem in Halfmoon Bay

Resolution

Moved Cr Jon Spraggon, seconded Andrea Young **and resolved:**

That the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board:

- a) **Acknowledges the attendance of representatives from community agencies at the meeting.**

7.2 Councillor update

Record No: R/25/2/3645

Cr Jon Spraggon presented this report.

Matters drawn to the attention of the board include the following:

- Milford community trust
- Te Anau airport
- upgrade of the Tuatapere water supply
- dates have been set for local body elections. Nominations will open in July, close in August and results should be known in October

Resolution

Moved Cr Jon Spraggon, seconded Mike Douglass **and resolved:**

That the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board:

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

A recess was held between 9.17am to 9.22am to allow staff who were unable to attend the meeting due to adverse weather conditions to join via Teams

7.3 Community board reporting

Record No: R/24/12/75451

Community partnership leader Karen Purdue was in attendance for this report.

Particular items discussed included:

- Smartygrants – SDC grants are now applied for through this online system
- the representation review was approved in March
- the Golden Bay masterplan is still awaiting feedback from Te O Marama
- current de-sludging work at the waste treatment station is encountering issues
- are the flexible marker posts (especially at Golden Bay) necessary, as they are very often broken?

Resolution

Moved Cr Jon Spraggon, seconded Andrea Young **and resolved:**

That the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board:

- a) receives the report titled “Community board reporting” dated 30 January 2025.

7.4 Unbudgeted expenditure - roading bylaw signs

Record No: R/25/2/3871

Ben Whelan (Roading engineer) was present for this item.

This report seeks the board's endorsement for an unbudgeted expenditure of \$33,337 to install signage associated with the amended Roading Bylaw across the Stewart Island network. Following a comprehensive review of the current Roading Bylaw restrictions and subsequent public consultation in October 2024, Council adopted the amended Bylaw on 11 December 2024. The amendments focus on new parking restrictions and a one-way system to better manage parking access issues and enhance road safety around Observation Rock.

The new bylaw restrictions will necessitate the installation of 65 new signs and associated posts. As these works are not included in the Long Term Plan (LTP), staff are requesting the board's endorsement for the unbudgeted expenditure of \$33,337 by way of a locally funded loan. These works will include supply and installation.

Resolution

Moved Cr Jon Spraggon, seconded Deputy Chairperson Aaron Joy **recommendations a to c, with changes to d (as indicated with a ~~strike through~~) and new (as indicated) and resolved:**

That the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board:

- a) receives the report titled “Unbudgeted expenditure - roading bylaw signs”.
- b) determines that this matter or decision be recognized not significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.

- c) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.
- d) recommends to Council the approval of unbudgeted expenditure of \$33,337 toward the supply and installation of new signage relating to the 2024 Roding Bylaw amendment, to be funded by a ~~15~~ 10 year loan to be repaid from the Stewart Island/ Rakiura Community Board rate.

7.5 Chairperson's report

Record No: R/25/1/77

The following items were discussed by board members:

Energy – currently awaiting the funding application response

Power loss – Unaccounted for power loss is being investigated by Hartley Hare and also the energy pilot group

Ulva Island wharf – a decision needs to be made to either accept the Hunter family proposal or renew the wharf on the current footprint. All previous work and reports have been reviewed. A scope of work required for upgrading the original wharf needs to come from Emtech. Possibly an upgrade might be possible in October 2025. The work would need to proceed under the existing resource consent conditions. Until a plan is prepared it would be difficult to ascertain whether the upgrade would be considered to be repairs and maintenance. Current thinking is to upgrade the wharf in a heritage style with the improvements of ramp access.

The board requests full costing and plans for the April community board meeting.

An individual Ulva Island wharf user fee needs to be considered in conjunction with the current wharf user licence,

The current uncertainty is affecting the tourism numbers and causing anxiety for operators. The situation for private/tourism operator access is not yet clear. Dialogue needs to be kept open with the Hunter family.

Golden Bay walking track – currently with WSP who will be drilling for soil samples. The plan is for a two metre wide boardwalk manufactured from fibre reinforced material. The concept designs are back from the engineers, and once the geotech results are back, a concept plan can be confirmed

Predator Free Rakiura (PDF) – at the engagement meeting yesterday it was announced that the trial area at Pegasus is now on hold. Instead a suppression activity will take place in a dotterel area (DOC funded) which will include deer repellent and rat action. PDF are funding monitoring of this trial.

The community meeting held 10 February was discussing 1080 (two sessions, four speakers). It was suggested that going forward a clearer idea of each meeting's agenda be given, along with future dates. It is hoped that communications about meetings will improve. Toxins and bio-security are the hottest topics, and someone should always be available at the community meetings to cover these.

Roding reserve gardens – a short discussion took place about the unattended garden plots past the museum on Main Road. Jacqui will be on island on 24 February and the future of these areas will be discussed then

Recycling and green waste review – Evidently this is progressing behind the scenes. Grant Isaac will meet with Cr Jon Spraggon and Chairperson Aaron Conner.

Spatial planning – an update went to Council yesterday. Stewart Island's planning will take place between March and May 2025.

Emergency management plan – Janelle Ladbrook has forwarded the incomplete updated plan to Aaron Joy for further work

proposed council amalgamation – the proposal has been referred to Wellington

smart meeting training – there have been some issues with import/export meters, which are being followed up by staff

dog enforcement – there seems to be a lack of action on this, and some confusions as to the whereabouts of the pound

Resolution

Moved Cr Jon Spraggon, seconded Mike Douglass **and resolved**

That the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board:

- a) receives the report titled "Chairperson's report".

7.6 Next meeting

Record No: R/25/1/1535

Committee advisor Kirsten Hicks spoke on this item. The board noted that the April meeting would take place at the Rakiura Museum Te Puka O Te Waka, and not at the usual venue.

Resolution

Moved Mike Douglass, seconded Andrea Young **and resolved:**

That the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board:

- a) receives the report titled "Next meeting".
- b) confirms that the next meeting of the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board will be held at 8.45am on Thursday 10 April, at the Rakiura Museum Te Puka O Te Waka.

The meeting concluded at 10.54am

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF A
MEETING OF THE STEWART ISLAND/RAKIURA
COMMUNITY BOARD HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2025.

DATE: 10 April 2025



CHAIRPERSON