



Minutes

Southland District Council

Wednesday, 12 November 2025, 10.03am.
Council Chamber, Level 2, 20 Don Street, Invercargill

PRESENT

Mayor	Rob Scott
Deputy mayor	Christine Menzies
Councillors	Jaspreet Boparai
	Don Byars
	Phil Dobson
	Paul Duffy
	Sarah Greaney (via video link)
	Julie Keast
	Tom O'Brien (via video link)
	Brian Somerville
	Jon Spraggon
	Michael Weusten
	Matt Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee advisor	Fiona Dunlop
Chief executive	Cameron McIntosh

1 Opening

Mayor Scott opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 Apologies

There were apologies for lateness from Councillors Byars and O'Brien.

Resolved

Moved Mayor Scott/Cr Menzies

That Council accepts the apologies for lateness.

Carried

3 Leave of absence

There were no requests for leave of absence.

4 Conflict of interest

Councillor Wilson advised that he had a conflict of interest in relation to item 8.1 - Waikaia speed limit reduction - submissions, deliberation and approval. He advised that he would not take part in debate or voting.

5 Additional agenda items

There were no additional agenda items.

6 Confirmation of council minutes

Resolved

Moved Cr Spraggon/Cr Duffy

That the Council confirms the minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2025 as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Carried

7 Public participation

Paul O'Hara deputy head of mission with the Irish embassy and Catriona Kaio consular officer were in attendance. Mr O'Hara advised that they were in Invercargill for one of the "pop up" consular offices.

Reports

(Councillor Wilson withdrew from the table due to a conflict of interest.)

8.1 Waikaia Speed Limit Reduction - Submissions, Deliberation and Approval

Record No: R/25/10/51675

Report presented by team leader, organisational policy, Chris Rout.

The purpose of the report was to provide information to Councillors on submissions received during consultation on the Waikaia speed reductions proposal and present options to Council, so that it can make decisions on the final Waikaia speed reductions proposal.

Resolved

Moved Cr Menzies/Cr Somerville

That the Council:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as being of moderate importance based on Southland District Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, with consultation undertaken in accordance with the requirements of clause 3.8 of the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024.
- 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) receives all written submissions on the Waikaia speed limit reductions.
- e) considers the feedback received on the Waikaia speed limit reductions.
- f) in its consideration of the decisions on the Waikaia Speed Limit Reduction Proposal has had regard to:
 - i) the road safety aspects of the Government Policy Statement on land transport 2024-34;
 - ii) the cost benefit disclosure statement for the speed limits proposed; and
 - iii) guidance and information developed and maintained by the New Zealand Transport Agency under clauses 3.12 and 3.13 of the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024.

- g) endorses Option 1 and approves a reduced speed limit of 60km/h, which is unadjusted from the proposal publicly consulted on as specified in Attachment D (of the officer's report).
- h) resolves that the reduced speed limit of 60km/h will come into effect as soon as reasonably practicable following:
 - i) approval for the reduced speed limit of 60km/h the Director of Land Transport;
 - ii) approval from New Zealand Transport Authority for the 'stopping place' road classification at the same location;
 - iii) entry of the reduced speed limit of 60km/h in the National Speed Limits Register; and
 - iv) installation of necessary signage for the reduced speed limit of 60km/h.

Carried

(Councillor Wilson returned to the table following his conflict of interest.)

8.1 Committee structure and adoption of terms of reference

Record No: R/25/10/52179

Report presented by democracy advisor, Michal Gray

The purpose of the report was for Council to note the governance structure established by the Mayor, adopt the terms of reference of all committees and the community boards and establish two statutory required committees.

Resolved

Moved Mayor Scott/Cr Spraggon

That the Council:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as being as administrative based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
- 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) notes that under s 41A Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), the Mayor has established the following committees and appointed the chairs:
 - Finance and Assurance Committee
 - Mr Bruce Robertson (Chair)
 - Mayor Rob Scott (Deputy Chair)
 - Cr Jaspreet Boparai
 - Cr Don Byars
 - Cr Phil Dobson

Cr Paul Duffy
Cr Sarah Greaney
Cr Julie Keast
Cr Christine Menzies
Cr Tom O'Brien
Cr Brian Somerville
Cr Jon Spraggon
Cr Michael Weusten
Cr Matt Wilson

- Executive Committee
Mayor Rob Scott (Chair)
Cr Christine Menzies
Mr Bruce Robertson (Chair Finance and Assurance Committee)

e) notes that the Mayor under s 41A of the LGA, has established and made appointments to the following subcommittees:

- Riverton Harbour Subcommittee
Cr Michael Weusten (Ward councillor)
Emma Gould
Ian Coard
Nic White
Hayley Nelson
Muriel Johnstone
- Stewart Island/Rakiura Visitor Levy Subcommittee
Cr Christine Menzies (Chair)
Cr Jon Spraggon
Mr Bruce Robertson (Chair Finance and Assurance Committee)
(Council will make additional appointments at a later date once nominations have been called for and made).
- Te Anau Basin Water Supply Subcommittee
(Council will make appointments at a later date).

f) notes that the Mayor, under s 41A of the LGA, has made appointments to the joint committees of Council listed below:

- Civil Defence Emergency Management Group
Mayor Rob Scott
Cr Christine Menzies as alternate
- Great South Joint Shareholders Committee
Mayor Rob Scott
- Southland Regional Transport Committee
Cr Christine Menzies
Mayor Rob Scott as alternate

- Southland Regional Heritage Joint Committee
Cr Paul Duffy
Cr Christine Menzies
 - WasteNet (Waste Advisory Group)
Mayor Rob Scott
Cr Christine Menzies
- g) establishes the Ohai Railway Fund Committee as required by clause 90 of the Local Government (Southland Region) Reorganisation Order 1989 and makes the following appointments:
- Mayor Rob Scott
 - Cr Jaspreet Boparai
 - Cr Michael Weusten
- h) establishes the District Licensing Committee as required by sections 186 and 189 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 with the following membership:
- Cr Paul Duffy (Chair)
 - Cr Jaspreet Boparai (Deputy Chair)
 - Cr Tom O'Brien
 - Cr Brian Somerville
- i) agrees to together with Invercargill City Council and Gore District Council to maintain and publish a combined list of persons approved to be members of any of the licensing committees in the Southland region (subject to Invercargill City Council and Gore District Council resolving similarly) and approves Cr Paul Duffy, Cr Jaspreet Boparai, Cr Tom O'Brien, and Cr Brian Somerville to be included on the combined list.
- j) adopts the terms of reference including delegations as contained in Attachment A (of the officers report) for the community boards, all committees, subcommittees and joint committees of Council and approves the terms of reference and delegations to be updated in Council's Delegations Manual.

Carried

8.3 Appointments to council organisations

Record No: R/25/11/54031

Report presented by democracy advisor, Michal Gray

The purpose of the report was for Council to appoint elected members to represent Council on external bodies and one council controlled organisation for the new triennium.

Council noted that at its meeting in June 2023, Council agreed to the Milford Community Trust's request to become an exempt Council Controlled Organisation.

Resolved

Moved Cr Boparai/Cr Dobson

That the Council:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as being administrative based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
- 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) approves the appointment of elected members to the following Council organisations, as recommended by the Mayor:
 - Cr Matt Wilson to the Around the Mountains Cycle Trail Trust
 - Cr Julie Keast to the Citizens Advice Bureau Invercargill Board
 - Cr Michael Weusten and Cr Don Byars to the Creative Communities Assessment Committee
 - Cr Julie Keast to the Gore and Districts Community Counselling Centre
 - Cr Julie Keast to the Pioneer Women's Memorial Trust
 - Cr Phil Dobson to the Southland Indoor Leisure Centre Charitable Trust
 - Cr Paul Duffy to the Southland Regional Heritage Building and Preservation Trust
 - Mayor Rob Scott and Cr Christine Menzies as alternative to the Te Rōpū Taiao
 - Cr Jaspreet Boparai to the Tuatapere Amenities Trust
 - Cr Julie Keast to the Whakamana te Waituna Trust
 - **Cr Greaney to Connected Murihiku.**
- e) notes that the Mayor is an ex officio member of the Southland Medical Foundation Incorporated.
- f) revokes the appointments of Ms Eve Welch and Mr Blair Stewart to the Taramea (Howell's Point) Management Committee (two members appointed last triennium), confirms that Cr Don Byars will remain on the Management Committee, and appoints Mr Neil Linscott and Mr Michael Weusten to the Management Committee.
- g) notes the existing appointments of directors of Milford Sound Tourism Limited of the chief executive, Mr Cameron McIntosh and external appointee, Mr Rex Williams.

- h) appoints Cr Sarah Greaney, Mararoa Waimea Ward Councillor, as trustee of the Milford Community Trust.

Carried

8.4 Elected Members' Remuneration

Record No: R/25/11/54061

Report presented by GM strategy and partnerships, Vibhuti Chopra.

The purpose of the report was to seek decisions on the allocation of the governance remuneration pool for the remuneration proposal, which includes the underlying remuneration rates of elected members, to enable submission to the Remuneration Authority for their consideration and determination for the 2025-2028 triennium.

Resolved

Moved Cr Somerville, Cr Dobson

That the Council:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as being administrative based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
- 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) approves the proposed allocation of the Southland District Council governance remuneration pool, until 30 June 2026, for inclusion in the remuneration proposal as follows:
 - i) Deputy Mayor at 1.5 times the base councillor remuneration - \$62,040
 - ii) Councillor (11) - \$41,360
- e) requests staff provide this proposed allocation to the Remuneration Authority in the remuneration proposal for its approval.
- f) approves the unbudgeted expenditure of \$23,000 associated with the increased remuneration pool, to be funded using operational surpluses, with any remaining shortfall to be funded from the District Operations Reserve.

Carried

8.1 Adoption schedule of meetings

Record No: R/25/11/53343

Report presented by committee advisor, Fiona Dunlop.

The purpose of the report was for Council to adopt a meeting schedule for the remainder of 2025 and for the 2026 year.

Resolved

Moved Cr Keast, seconded Cr Boparai

That the Council:

- a) agrees that Council meetings will be held in the District on a regular basis.
- b) agrees to hold a meeting at Takutai o Te Titi Marae, Colac Bay within the next six months.
- c) adopts the schedule of Council and Finance and Assurance Committee meetings for the remainder of 2025 and for the 2026 year:

Date	Meeting	Time	Venue
Wednesday 26 November 2025	Council	10am	Te Anau Club, Pop Andrew Drive, Te Anau.
Wednesday 10 December 2025	Finance and Assurance Committee	10am	Council Chamber, Level 2, 20 Don Street, Invercargill
Wednesday 10 December 2025	Council	10am	Council Chamber, Level 2, 20 Don Street, Invercargill
Wednesday 28 January 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 11 February 2026 (Note – Waimumu Fielddays 10 – 12 February 2026)	Council (To consider the DAP financials and supporting information (if no consultation))	10am	TBC
Wednesday 18 February 2026	Workshop	10am	TBC
Wednesday 25 February 2026	Finance and Assurance Committee (to receive the DAP consultation document, financials and supporting information if consultation required)	10am	TBC

Wednesday 25 February 2026	Council (to consider and adopt DAP consultation document, financials and supporting information if consultation required)	10am	TBC
Wednesday 4 March 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 18 March 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 25 March 2026	Workshop	10am	TBC
Wednesday 8 April 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 22 April 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 29 April 2026	Council meeting for Annual Plan oral hearings	10am	TBC
Thursday 30 April 2026	Workshop	10am	TBC
Wednesday 13 May 2026	Council meeting for Annual Plan deliberations	10am	TBC
Wednesday 27 May 2026	Workshop Draft Annual plan for review	10am	TBC
Wednesday 10 June 2026	Finance and Assurance Committee DAP for recommendation to Council for approval	10am	TBC
Wednesday 10 June 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 17 June 2026	Finance and Assurance Committee	10am	TBC
Wednesday 24 June 2026	Council Annual Plan approval	10am	TBC
Wednesday 1 July 2026	Workshop	10am	TBC
Wednesday 5 August 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 12 August 2026	Finance and Assurance Committee	10am	TBC
Wednesday 26 August 2026	Workshop	10am	TBC
Wednesday 2 September 2026	Council	10am	TBC

Wednesday 9 September 2026	Finance and Assurance Committee	10am	TBC
Wednesday 23 September 2026	Workshop	10am	TBC
Wednesday 7 October 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 14 October 2026	Finance and Assurance Committee	10am	TBC
Wednesday 21 October 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 28 October 2026	Workshop	10am	TBC
Wednesday 11 November 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 25 November 2026	Council	10am	TBC
Wednesday 2 December 2026	Workshop	10am	TBC
Wednesday 9 December 2026	Finance and Assurance Committee	10am	TBC
Wednesday 16 December 2026	Council	10am	TBC

Carried

Public Excluded

Exclusion of the public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Resolved

Moved Mayor Scott/Cr Boparai

That the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

9.1 Milford Sound tourism Ltd: Shareholding matters

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Milford Sound tourism Ltd: Shareholding matters	<p>s7(2)(g) - maintain legal professional privilege.</p> <p>s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p> <p>s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p>	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists.

Carried

The public were excluded at 10.40am.

(Councillor Byars joined the meeting at 10.47am.)

(Councillor O'Brien joined the meeting via video link at 10.50am.)

The meeting closed at 12.11pm.

Confirmed on: 26 November 2025

Signed:

