



Minutes

Ohai Railway Fund Committee

Friday, 6 March 2026, 10.06am.

Southland District Council Otautau Office, 176 Main Street, Otautau

PRESENT

Chairperson	Kevin Dixon
Deputy chairperson	Shane Robertson
Members	Alanna Barrett
	Kevin Curtin
	Councillor Jaspreet Boparai
	Councillor Michael Weusten

APOLOGIES

Mayor Rob Scott

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee advisor	Rachael Poole
Community liaison officer	Kathryn Cowie

1 Opening

Councillor Boparai opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2 Apologies

An apology for non-attendance was received from mayor Scott

Resolved:

Moved Kevin Curtin/Cr Boparai

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee accepts the apology.

Carried.

3 Leave of absence

There were no requests for leave of absence.

4 Conflict of interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Additional Agenda items

There were no additional agenda items.

6 Confirmation of minutes

Resolved

Moved Kevin Dixon/Cr Boparai

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee confirms the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 16 February 2026 as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Carried

7 Public participation

There was no public participation.

Reports

8.1 Election of chair and deputy chair

Record No: R/26/2/101155

Report presented by Committee advisor, Rachael Poole

To elect a chairperson and deputy chairperson in accordance with clauses 25 and 26, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Resolved

Moved Shane Robertson/Cr Boparai

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as administrative based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. On this basis the Committee are not carrying out any engagement.
- 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) agrees to use voting system A to elect the chair and deputy chair.

Carried

Moved Shane Robertson/ Kevin Curtin

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee

- e) elects Kevin Dixon to be the chair of the Ohai Railway Fund Committee for the 2025/2028 triennium.

Carried

Moved Alana Barrett/ Kevin Curtin

- f) elects Shane Robertson to be the deputy chair of the Ohai Railway Fund Committee

Carried

8.2 Schedule of meeting up to October 2028

Record No: R/26/3/101451

Report presented by Committee advisor, Rachael Poole

This report proposes the Ohai Railway Fund Committee adopt a schedule of meeting dates up to September 2028.

Resolved

Moved Kevin Dixon/Shane Robertson

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as administrative based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. On this basis the Committee are not carrying out any engagement.
- 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) agrees to meet at 10am on the following dates at the Southland District Council, Otautau Office, 11 Main Street, Otautau:
 - Friday 15 May 2026
 - Friday 20 November 2026
 - Friday 14 May 2027
 - Friday 12 November 2027
 - Friday 12 May 2028
 - Friday 29 September 2028

Carried

8.3 Financial Report to 31 January 2026

Record No: R/26/2/74300

Report presented by Financial Accountant, Nicole Taylor

This report details Ohai Railway Fund's financial position for the year ended 30 June 2025 and the current year 1 July 2025 to 31 January 2026. It also seeks feedback about whether Ohai Railway Fund reserves should be classified as either an unrestricted or restricted reserve in relation to how it should be invested.

Resolved

Moved Shane Robertson/Cr Boparai

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) provides feedback at May 2026 meeting about the preferred classification of Ohai Railway Fund reserves for future investment as either:
 - i) unrestricted reserve (e.g. balanced fund investment)
 - ii) restricted reserve (e.g. bank account/term deposit)

Carried

8.4 Ohai Railway Fund - individual applications - September 2025 round

Record No: R/26/2/91547

Report presented by Community liaison officer, Kathryn Cowie

The purpose of this report is for the Ohai Railway Fund Committee to consider applications for the September 2025 round of individuals seeking grants to assist with tertiary study and international opportunities.

Resolved

Moved Chairperson Dixon/Alanna Barrett

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as administrative based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy . On this basis the assessed level of significance indicates that the community is kept informed of the decisions made in this report, rather than engaged prior to this decision being made.
- 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.

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- d) receives applications from the following:
- Connor McAuslin
 - Anna McPherson
 - Anaise van Miltenburg
 - Harry Excell
 - Toby McGregor
 - Baxter Hamilton
- e) approves a grant of \$1,000 to Conner McAuslin
- f) approves a grant of \$1,000 to Anna McPherson
- g) approves a grant of \$1,500 to Anaise van Miltenburg
- h) approves a grant of \$1,000 to Harry Excell
- i) approves a grant of \$1,500 to Toby McGregor
- j) approves a grant of \$700 to Baxter Hamilton

Carried

8.5 Ohai Railway Fund - organisation applications - September 2025

Record No: R/26/2/93926

Report presented by Community liaison officer, Kathryn Cowie

The purpose of this report is for the Ohai Railway Fund Committee to consider an application for the September 2025 round from one community organisation.

Resolved

Moved Alanna Barrett/Cr Boparai

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.
- b) notes that the matter or decision in this report is assessed as administrative based on Council's Significance and Engagement Policy . On this basis the assessed level of significance indicates that the community is kept informed of the decisions made in this report, rather than engaged prior to this decision being made.
- 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 an application from the following:
- Takitimu Swimming Club

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- e) approves a grant to the Takitimu Swimming Club of \$2,000 to assist with costs associated with a swim coaching weekend.

Carried

8.6 Ohai Railway Fund grants schedule

Record No: R/26/2/95972

Report presented by Community liaison officer, Kathryn Cowie

The purpose of the report is to provide the Ohai Railway Fund Committee with an alphabetical schedule of grant monies allocated since October 1993 for members' information.

Resolved

Moved Cr Weusten/Kevin Curtin

That the Ohai Railway Fund Committee:

- a) notes the information contained in the report.

Carried

The meeting closed at 10.55am.

Confirmed on