

**Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board**

**18 April 2024**

**Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [1]**

**Title | Taitara : Chair's Report**

**Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko**

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The purpose of this report is:

- a. to provide the Board with an update on projects of interest;
- b. to allow members to report on recent community engagement; and
- c. to cover other matters not listed elsewhere on the agenda.

**Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka**

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That Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board:

1. **Note** the contents of this report.

**Prepared by:**



**Name:** Simon Telfer

**Title:** Chair

**3 April 2024**

## Context | Horopaki

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### Members' Sector Engagement Updates

#### *Simon's comments*

1. Recent weeks were taken up organising and facilitating the Upper Clutha Community Meeting on Healthcare Services. It was excellent to see over 400 people coming together in the Lake Wānaka Centre auditorium and respectfully listening to a panel of medical experts. The meeting's key goal was to show that our community is concerned about the state of healthcare and this message was well and truly conveyed. After hours/urgent care provision was seen as the main priority, followed by accessibility to medical services and the inequity in the cost of healthcare compared to elsewhere in the country. I am very grateful for Monique Mayze, with Lucy Middendorf alongside her, stepping up and forming the advocacy group Health Action Wānaka to continue the momentum.
2. The Community Board is continuing to advocate for greater empowerment over the Wānaka Asset Sales Reserve (aka 'Scurr Heights Fund'). While the Reserve's purpose will stay the same we would like the spending/investment of the funds to be delegated to the Board and for it to allow greater partnership with local community groups for delivery. We are looking at this as an opportunity from the community, for the community, by the community and with the community. Queenstown Lakes District Council's (QLDC) Chief Executive has committed to allocating senior internal resources next month to discuss and develop this initiative further.
3. Recommendations from the Local Government Commission (LGC), in response to the petition to separate the Upper Clutha from QLDC, asked QLDC to improve its awareness of community needs and to be more visible in Wānaka-Upper Clutha. It also asked for the identification of possible actions to improve engagement with Wānaka-Upper Clutha. The Commission went on to recommend that QLDC undertake the following three actions by 31 May 2024:
  - a. Work with the Community Board and the key initiators of the reorganisation initiative to identify specific actions targeting improved communication, engagement, and transparency of information, including consideration of regular meetings and other council activities to be held in the Wānaka-Upper Clutha area, with a view to developing a stronger relationship between QLDC and Wānaka-Upper Clutha;
  - b. Work with the Community Board to consider the potential value of developing measurement tools for assessing the allocation and prioritisation of council resources, projects and budgets across the district, with a view to ensuring that there is an equitable balance of resources, projects and budgets across the district;
  - c. Work with the Community Board to explore options for further empowerment of the Community Board, including consideration of increased delegated decision-making power and provision of a budget for projects or activities in Wānaka-Upper Clutha.

4. The Community Board has provided input via a third party research organisation and will have follow up discussions with QLDC staff in a workshop following this Board meeting.
5. The Community Board continues to advocate strongly for community consultation to be undertaken on the future of Wānaka Airport. We believe that the Upper Clutha community is sophisticated enough to understand the implications of growth pressures on the district, Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) mandated requirements and fiscal constraints facing QLDC. The sooner genuine consultation can occur the better the outcome will be for this key asset and our community at large.
6. On 27 March 2024 I attended the Chamber of Commerce session with the Mayor presenting. It was a small but engaged audience with the two hours starting with an overview by Mayor Glyn Lewers on the challenges of funding the Long Term Plan. Questions from the audience included the topics of affordable housing, health provision in the Upper Clutha, alternative revenue streams for QLDC and progress around Wānaka Airport master planning.
7. I attended a 2Walk&Cycle conference in Wellington to learn about initiatives being delivered by other councils and advocacy groups across the country. I also sought an understanding of the implications of Central Government's new focus on roading over other transport modes.
8. The Community Board workshop in mid-March was a deep dive in to the objectives of the Mt Iron Reserve Management Plan. The current timeframe has the draft management plan coming to the Community Board Meeting in May, ahead of going out for community consultation in June.

*Lyal's comments*

Wānaka Community Response Group (CRG)

9. Radio training was held with all CRGs in the district coordinated by the Emergency management Team in Queenstown. It was a good exercise and highlighted some areas that need to be addressed with local communications in our area.

Upper Clutha Community Meeting on Healthcare Services

10. This was a very successful public meeting based on the large numbers present and the response by the health officials in attendance. It will be important to highlight the outcomes from the meeting and follow up with processes to ensure the momentum started to address the shortfalls in our health services is maintained.

Quarterly Board Connection Social

11. Only a small number of members from the various community boards attended the latest get together. There was good discussion, but the value of the meetings is being questioned. The original aim of the meetings does not seem to have been achieved and alternative options for Board interaction may be considered.

National Community Boards Online Hui

12. This hui was held to present the results of a recent National Community Boards survey and actions planned by the Community Board Executive Committee to address key issues regarding delegations, remuneration and other support for community boards. These are not new issues but working collaboratively with other boards to make changes should be supported.

Councillor Catch Up – Queenstown Lakes District Council, Central Otago District Council (CODC) and Otago Regional Council

13. These meetings provide opportunity for informal discussion on topics of shared interest. The CODC representation review, public transport needs, procurement processes, and Long-Term Plan work were some of the topics broached.

*Cody's comments*

14. I made a short video on TikTok, Facebook and Instagram showing a week in a life of a District Councillor to help inform the public what the commitment looks like and what kind of things we get up to outside the stuff you see in formal meetings.
15. I spent a couple of hours at the A&P Show talking to whoever wanted to chat about Council stuff.
16. I helped Simon with facilitating the Public Health meeting at the Lake Wānaka Centre which had an amazing turn-out and brought to light some critical concerns our community is having to face.
17. I attended Startup QT Lakes event at Paddons Paddock around local manufacturing and product development hosted by Pivot Innovation and Eliot Drake of Wai Innovation.
18. I went to see Eliot later in the week at his workshop and as an industrial designer myself, I was absolutely stoked on what he's doing.
19. I met with the Lake Hāwea Community Association to discuss the latest updates on three waters, signage, playgrounds funding and the fiscal outlook to help build a clearer understanding of where things are at and how it will affect our community.
20. I met with a masters student interning at Wai to share learnings of Local Government and what people in the Upper Clutha are concerned about, how people are coping/feeling and where our priorities are.
21. The Local Government Commission report around the Upper Clutha Council Investigation recommended some actions for QLDC to pursue in the coming months to address the concerns of the petition.
22. We have been working as a Board to try and find ways we can empower our community and deliver small and meaningful projects through financial autonomy.

23. We have also spent time trying to find clear and accountable ways to improve communication.
24. Councillor Smith and I met with Council staff about the Gladstone Track signs and agreed an approach that captures the community's concerns. We also reiterated the need for an Upper Clutha tracks signage strategy to be developed along with the Tracks Trust to provide clear and consistent design language for new and renewed signs.
25. I caught up with ORC and CODC councillors in Cromwell to keep the relationship strong. I have done rough calculations on Whoosh, a horizontal gondola network as an option for public transport and realised it stacks up extremely well. I sent through QLDC's submission to the GPS-Transport (Government Policy Statement – Land Transport) and have socialised it with ORC to ensure they consider it an option in the business cases.

*Linda's comments*

26. The first of three major events for the town, the Wanaka A&P Show, was larger than ever and I spent time on the QLDC stand. The marketing team do an outstanding job putting this site together and there was good engagement with the public who were interested to understand Council's recycling and waste plans in particular.
27. The Ripe Wānaka Wine and Food Festival was a sold out event and well attended by many visitors to the area. It was a very hot day on site and most attendees appeared to be from all over the country and Australia. We are certainly on the map for quality wine and food and this event has potential to grow and be a showcase of the region in the future.
28. Warbirds Over Wānaka was also sold out and I attended all three days as a volunteer. There were an incredible number of overseas visitors from all over the world for this major event. I was stationed on the information stand which put me on the forefront for giving directions around the show and shared in the sense of excitement around the grounds. I assisted with parking management on the Friday where there were many issues due to the parking management plan. For myself, it took me 2.5 hours to exit the carpark.
29. The naming of roads project is gaining momentum and I would expect to have a list to present to the Board at our May meeting. Te Kakano, Upper Clutha Historic Society, Te kuro O Take Kārara and Te Kura O Tititea are all excited about being involved in this legacy project.
30. The Arts Trust is continuing to communicate with the donor of the Dibble, a render has been completed to show its placement on the lakefront, and the Arts Trust is continuing to work with the parks team on the installation of this momentous art piece coming to the lakefront.
31. Food for love deliveries is again very busy, with hundreds of meals being prepared and delivered to those in need in our community, delivering these meals opens up many opportunities to see those vulnerable in our community and it is a pleasure to be able to provide support to these people by the generous dedication of our community.
32. There were a lower numbers of meals delivered during February 2024 which may be because many locals were away.

*Chris's comments*

Wānaka Arts and Culture Charitable Trust (WACT)

33. We had a meeting on 2 April 2024 to discuss where we are at with regards to site selection and the continuation of QLDC involvement. We have two main site options and we have been offered complimentary concept drawings for our preferred site. At this stage we are hoping to have the concept ready for a meeting with Council in May.

QLDC Arts Trust

34. I continue to work as a trustee particularly with regards to the installation of the Dibble sculpture on the lakefront adjacent to Wānaka water sports facility. This is in conjunction with the parks team and the contractors that are working on the new bridge and the carparking area.

35. As mentioned the Dibble sculpture is being donated by a local family and will enhance the area significantly.

Upper Clutha Historical Records

36. The AGM for this is coming up. Their focus at the moment is working on interviewing many of our locals that have lived in the area for a number of decades with the aim of getting a verbal history from each of them.

*John's comments*

37. I have been involved in the discussion and resolution of the signage issue at the Gladstone Track at Lake Hāwea, together with ongoing discussions regarding wayfinding and signage of tracks in general in the Upper Clutha.

38. Activities have been quite limited this month by me being out of the district for work for most of the period.

**Attachments | Kā Tāpirihaka**

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A	Three Waters projects report
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Attachment A: Three Waters Project Update

Project Code	Project Name	Project Status	Estimated Practical Completion	Location	Phase	Status Report Overall Comment
000847	Aubrey Rd Rec Reserve SW detention pond	Green - On Track	19/09/2028	Wanaka	5.Detailed Design	Design is complete
000518	Beacon Point New Reservoir	Green - On Track	01/05/2024	Wanaka	7.Construction	Practical completion of the reservoir was achieved on 22nd December 2023. The reservoir is currently active and delivering water to the QLDC network. The project is being delivered in line with a revised construction program which allows for the delay in earthworks while the reservoir is practically complete.
001353	Cardrona Water Supply Scheme Pipeline (WS)	Amber - At Risk	23/04/2024	Cardrona	7.Construction	Construction Contract awarded to HEB. Works commenced week of November 13, 2023, and due for completion in May 2024 due to delays related to unforeseen ground conditions and poor weather.
000905	Luggate Water Supply Scheme (WS)	Green - On Track	01/12/2028	Luggate	5.Detailed Design	Final design approved through ECG. Construction funding deferred to FY28.All land acquisition agreements are signed and progressing settlement in line with the conditions. Notice of Requirements applications for the borefield, treatment plant, and reservoirs are all progressing.
000625	Project Pure Upgrade (WW)	Red - Critical	06/03/2024	Wanaka	7.Construction	The project is now complete with the assessment of the Contractors application for Practical Completion underway. As previously noted, completion of the project was delayed due to issues encountered during commissioning.
001260	Wanaka Waste Facilities (WM)	Amber - At Risk	13/01/2026	Wanaka	3.Concept Design	Concept design is due for completion in May 2024. The current approved budget is insufficient for the preferred upgrade solution. Work is underway to assess the cost and scope in more detail before the amount of new funding can be confirmed.