

Minutes of a meeting of the Wānaka Upper Clutha Community Board held in the Armstrong Room, Lake Wānaka Centre, Armstrong Street, Wānaka on Thursday 22 June 2023 commencing at 10.00am

Present

Mr Simon Telfer (Chair), Councillor Barry Bruce, Councillor Lyal Cocks, Ms Linda Joll, Councillor Cody Tucker and Mr John Wellington

In attendance

Councillor Quentin Smith, Mr Ken Bailey (General Manager, Community Services), Mr Dave Winterburn (Parks Manager), Ms Briana Pringle (Parks and Open Spaces Manager), Mr Bill Nicoll (Resilience and Climate Action Manager), Mr Dan Andrew (Team Leader, Inland, Emergency Management Otago), Ms Jacqui Lambeth (Emergency Management Advisor, Upper Clutha, Emergency Management Otago), Mr Daniel O’Keeffe (Communications and Marketing Advisor), Mr Jon Winterbottom (Governance Team Leader) and Jane Robertson (Senior Governance Advisor); two members of the media and two members of the public

Karakia

The meeting opened with a karakia given by Ms Joll.

Apologies/Leave of Absence Applications

Mr Hadfield was an apology for the meeting, but was on an approved Leave of Absence.

Mr Wellington sought a Leave of Absence 5 July – 16 August 2023.

On the motion of Mr Telfer and Ms Joll the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board resolved that the Leave of Absence request be approved.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Cocks and Councillor Tucker declared an interest in item 2 (‘Request to remove Council trees from Wānaka Golf Club’) as they were both members of the Wānaka Golf Club. They undertook to sit back from the meeting table during discussion of the item.

Matters Lying on the Table

The item ‘Request to remove Council trees from Wānaka Golf Club’ was lying on the table from the Board meeting held on 30 March 2023.

On the motion of Councillor Bruce and Mr Wellington the Wānaka Community Board resolved that the item entitled ‘Request to remove Council trees from Wānaka Golf Club’ be

uplifted from the table and considered as item 2 at the meeting.

Public Forum

1. Heather Thorne (Chair, Albert Town Community Association)

Mrs Thorne advised that the previously attractive and rustic entrance to Albert Town via Alison Avenue was marred by muddy road verges that had been destroyed over a two year construction project in the area. The grass would never recover but the Council had refused a suggestion to stop vehicle access to the area by using bollards, despite the fact that this would also eliminate illegal parking. It seemed that only verges in the 70km/h and 80km/h zones were mowed but the ones in Albert Town itself were not well cared for and this looked bad both to visitors and locals. She asked whether the lack of mowing in other areas was an oversight.

Mr Bailey undertook to speak to those responsible for the mowing service. Councillor Cocks advised that he had raised the matter via a Councillor request and was happy to follow up on it.

The Chair asked the Governance Advisor to include this as an action item from the meeting.

Confirmation of Agenda

On the motion Mr Telfer and Councillor Tucker the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board resolved that the agenda be confirmed without addition or alteration.

Confirmation of minutes

On the motion of Mr Wellington and Ms Joll the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board held on 19 May 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

1. **Notice of Intent to prepare a Reserve Management Plan**

A report from Briana Pringle (Parks and Open Spaces Manager) detailed plans to develop a Reserve Management Plan ['RMP'] for the Mount Iron Recreation Reserve, described the process to prepare a RMP and recommended that the Board recommend to Council that a Notice of Intent be published advising of the process under s41(5) of the Reserves Act 1977 for preparing the RMP.

Mr Winterburn and Ms Pringle presented this report and item 2.

Ms Pringle detailed the process to develop the RMP, noting that the first step was to seek suggestions, from which staff would prepare an initial draft. Once adopted for consultation, the formal feedback and a hearing would follow with the hope that the final RMP could be in place by the end of 2024.

There was further discussion about the types of issues that would be covered in the RMP. Ms Pringle suggested that Mount Iron was different from other reserves and it may not need a develop plan. The RMP would identify natural boundaries and connections but was likely to be a more bespoke type of plan than others prepared.

Mr Telfer asked if the plan would address a future governance structure for the reserve. Ms Pringle considered that there was scope for this to be included in the RMP.

On the motion of Mr Telfer and Mr Wellington it was resolved that the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board:

- 1. Note the contents of the report; and**

- 2. Recommend to Council to exercise the Minister's consent (under delegation from the Minister of Conservation), that a Notice of Intent is published advising that a Reserve Management Plan for the Mount Iron Recreation Reserve is to be prepared, in accordance with s41(5) of the Reserves Act 1977.**

Motion carried.

Councillor Cocks and Councillor Tucker sat back from the table and did not take part in the following item.

2. Request to remove Council Trees from Wānaka Golf Club (uplifted from the table)

A report from Briana Pringle (Parks and Open Spaces Manager) assessed an application from the Wānaka Golf Club to remove about 70 trees of mixed wilding and exotic species and replace every tree removed with two trees in accordance with the Council's Tree Policy. Ms Pringle also provided a supplementary report in which she provided responses from the Wānaka Golf Club on various questions about the proposed water storage facility and removal/replacement plans. The supplementary report provided two recommendations additional to those in the original report, requiring the replanting plan with detail of grade and species of tree to be brought back to the Board Chair for approval. Ms Pringle added that the Wānaka Golf Club had committed to completing the replanting programme within a single planting season.

Councillor Bruce indicated that he was happy to support the proposal, noting that the Wānaka Golf Club had occupied the reserve for many years and had been good custodians of the land over this time.

Ms Joll spoke in opposition to approving the proposal because it would result in the removal of 70 established trees, all of which were in good condition.

Mr Wellington shared the concerns about the loss of established trees but noted there were plans to replace them. His concerns about the duration of the replanting programme had been addressed so he was prepared to support the recommendation.

The Chair observed that allowing the item to lie on the table had enabled various concerns to be addressed and he was happy that the Board would be able to influence the replanting programme. However, he expressed concern at the overall sequencing of the request, noting that it would have been helpful for the Board to have been involved earlier in the discussions, as the Wānaka Golf Club was proposing a major change to the reserve.

On the motion of Councillor Bruce and Mr Wellington it was resolved that the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board:

- 1. Note the contents of this report;**
- 2. Note that the request was considered as per the QLDC Tree Policy 2022, including replacing any removed tree with two trees;**
- 3. Approve the request by Wānaka Golf Club to remove approximately 70 trees of mixed wilding and exotic species within their lease area on Wānaka Golf Course Recreation Reserve, Wānaka;**
- 4. Require that all necessary resource consents, including earthworks and any other relevant variations are obtained by the Wānaka Golf Club for the Reservoir Project prior to the removal of any trees; and**
- 5. Require that the replanting plan is signed off by the Chair of the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board; the plan must include detail on the species, location and grade (size) of the trees.**
- 6. Agree that there will be no replacement planting on the Russel Street/Ballantyne Road lower reserve, opposite the Police Station in Wānaka.**

Motion carried with Ms Joll voting against the motion and Mr Telfer abstaining.

Councillor Cocks and Councillor Tucker rejoined the table.

3. Chair's Report

A report from the Chairperson provided updates on matters of interest not covered elsewhere in the agenda and presented individual updates from members. Specific updates were provided on the following:

- 'Welcome to Wānaka' signage
- Conversion of former Wānaka Mitre 10 building to a Community Centre
- Reorganisation petition seeking a separate territorial authority for the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Ward of the Queenstown Lakes District
- Emergency Preparedness in the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Ward
- Summary of recent activities at Wānaka Recreation Centre ['WRC']
- Members' Sector Engagement Updates

Members reported on their areas of interest and community engagement.

Dan Andrew, Bill Nicoll and Jacqui Lambeth from Emergency Management Otago joined the table to talk about emergency management and civil defence plans.

Members considered the recommendation to ask for the welcome signs to Wānaka to be replaced with those containing the correct spelling, as 'Wānaka' was now the officially gazetted name. Councillor Cocks observed that the signage had been a joint Council and Rotary project.

On the motion of Mr Telfer and Mr Wellington it was resolved that the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board request that the 'Welcome to Wanaka' signs be updated with the macron over the 'a'.

Motion carried

Mr O'Keefe joined the table and addressed the Board about the process to name the new community centre to be created within the former Mitre 10 building in Wānaka. Following some input from students at Mt Aspiring College, the name 'Aspiring Youth and Sports Centre' had been suggested.

Mr Telfer did not support this name, and pointed out that the building was not exclusively for youth or for sporting activities. He supported using 'Aspiring' but suggested instead the name 'Aspiring Central'. He noted that it was close to the centre of town, was a short name and distinctly different from the Wānaka Recreation Centre. He had consulted various interested parties and all were supportive of this name.

On the motion of Mr Telfer and Ms Joll it was resolved that the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board agree that the

new name of the community centre being established in the former Mitre 10 building be 'Aspiring Central'.

The motion was carried with Councillor Cocks voting against the motion.

On the motion of Mr Telfer and Councillor Bruce it was resolved that the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board note the contents of the report.

Motion carried.

The meeting concluded at 11.21am.

CHAIR

DATE