

Minutes of a Community & Services Workshop

Tuesday 30 July 2024 at 1.00pm
Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown

Present:	Councillor Craig Ferguson (Chair)	Councillor Barry Bruce
	Councillor Lisa Guy	Councillor Cody Tucker
	Councillor Matthew Wong	
Apologies:	Councillor Esther Whitehead	
In attendance:	Councillor Lyal Cocks	Councillor Niki Gladding
	Simon Battrick	Kat Banyard
	Briana Pringle	Sophie Craig
	Jeannie Galavazi	
	24 members of the public	No members of the media

No.	Agenda Item	Actions
1.	<p><u>Ben Lomond and Queenstown Hill Reserve Management Plan</u></p> <p>The purpose of this workshop was for officers to describe key details of an updated Ben Lomond and Queenstown Hill Reserve Management Plan (RMP) to the Community & Services Committee to obtain feedback to guide development of the draft RMP in the areas of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The vision statement; and 2. A position on key topics: access; vegetation management; extent of recreation activities; new commercial activities; helicopters. <p>Jeannie Galavazi led the officer presentation.</p> <p><u>Vision</u> Officers circulated a redrafted vision statement and invited members to suggest written changes.</p> <p><u>Key Topics: Policy Development</u></p> <p><i>Vegetation Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation management: current dominance of exotic trees (wilding) with only small pockets of native trees. 	<p>Officers to present a draft Ben Lomond and Queenstown Hill Reserve Management Plan to Community & Services Committee in October 2024.</p> <p>Elected members to submit their proposed ideas for the vision statement.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To achieve biodiversity, will need to get rid of pine trees but these will need to be replaced with something else and both processes will have cost implications (plus will be financial impact on buy-back of carbon credits.) Also note that the current pine forest is important to the bike trail experience. • Want a forest that provides 'autumn colour' and for there to be trees of stature. • Maintaining status quo will mean controlling the spread of pines and the associated expense. <p><i>Arrival areas at reserve entrances</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers displayed images of the arrival areas into various high use reserves. Members considered undeveloped vs an appropriate level of service. Toilets are needed in some reserves to stop inappropriate toileting. <p><i>Opportunities for recreation reserves</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time Walk on Queenstown Hill has some unofficial 'pirate' trails. Should they be formalised? A more transparent way of developing new trails is needed. <p><i>District Plan: Ben Lomond Sub Zone</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is an area that is more permissive and is predominantly where all the commercial leases are located. Is Ben Lomond at capacity for commercial recreation? <p><i>Helicopters</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only want to permit limited helicopter access but also acknowledge that helicopters are essential for reserve management (construction, pest control). <p>Attachments: Attachment A: <i>Presentation on the updated Ben Lomond and Queenstown Hill Reserve Management Plan (see attached)</i></p>	

The workshop concluded at 2.09pm.