

MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TEKAPO COMMUNITY BOARD HELD IN THE LAKE TEKAPO COMMUNITY HALL, TEKAPO, ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2014, AT 7.30PM

PRESENT:

Peter Munro (Chair)
Stella Sweney
Alan Hayman
Lyn Martin
Cr Murray Cox

IN ATTENDANCE:

Garth Nixon (Community Facilities Manager)
Geoff Horler (Utilities Manager)
Jason Gaskill (Tourism Waitaki)
Stephanie Craig (Department of Conservation)
Arlene Goss (Committee Clerk)
4 members of the public

OPENING:

The chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APOLOGIES:

Resolved that apologies be received from Claire Barlow and Wayne Barnett.

Stella Sweney/Murray Cox

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

VISITOR:

Jason Gaskill from Tourism Waitaki was welcomed to the meeting. He provided details regarding his work on the Alps2Ocean cycle trail. NZ Cycle Trails, a government organisation, has officially agreed to adopt the Tekapo canal road as part of an Alps2Ocean related ride. He is working through some details and signage issues, but these are minor and easily managed. This allows the promotion of Tekapo and its connection with the main trail.

He is still working on some off-road developments in the Waitaki Valley. They have some funding, now working on landowner access. Discussions are progressing well. He expects to make firm commitments about getting that section off-road in about 18 months.

He estimates the track will have more users this year. There are more counters on the trail to give a better idea of how people are using the trail. There has been information received that a lot of users are doing multiple nights on the trail. People spending nights helps to fund the maintenance of the trail.

He has a target of the end of 2018 to make the trail a self-sustaining operation so it is not a drag on ratepayers. They are working hard to get to that position and will give updates to both councils. He submits quarterly reports to councils, these are public information and he is happy to send them out once they have been seen by the councils.

The chairman asked regarding 'self-sustaining', does this mean the accommodation places pay? No the structure will be able to cover its operational and maintenance costs. There is a booking engine as part of the website. This is structured so a percentage goes back to the trail. This should provide increased patronage without increased cost.

Do they have a counter to indicate how many people are starting at Tekapo? They will have two or three counters on the section, one at the start, one mid-way and one at the Hayman Rd end.

Cr Cox asked if there would be more toilets put in. This conversation is happening at the moment. With only one season we don't know where people need facilities. An app is launching soon to see where people are going and this will influence the location of new toilets. Mr Gaskill said if there were areas where the community board thought it would be wise to put toilets to suggest this to him.

Cr Cox asked how the surface of the track that was sprayed near Pukaki coped over winter. Not as well as hoped. They are working with DOC on the Pukaki Flats to improve the trail there. The track is checked for maintenance every six weeks.

The chairman said the community board was pleased and excited that it started in Tekapo and it would be an asset to the town. Mr Gaskill said he hoped over time it would become a significant activity here.

A member of the public asked for a guess as to how many people will start at Tekapo and how many at Glentanner. Mr Gaskill said some people were expecting that over time Tekapo would become the place to start because of ease of access. Other people view starting at Mount Cook as iconic. Others will like the ease of the ride on the canal road.

A member of the public asked if a circular route around Lake Alexandrina would encourage people to stay in Tekapo longer. Mr Gaskill said it wouldn't hurt. Communities needed to think about who would maintain tracks and fund the maintenance before building them.

Mr Gaskill left the meeting at 7.52pm.

MINUTES:

The chairman thanked Stella Sweney for standing in as chair at the last meeting. Stella Sweney has given some minor grammatical corrections to Arlene Goss. She also questioned the resolution regarding the Department of Conservation water tanks. The resolution reads that the community board would pay for both the cost and the installation of the tanks. She would like to amend that resolution to only include the cost of the tanks.

Resolved that the resolution regarding a funding request for water tanks in the regional park, recorded in the minutes of the Tekapo Community Board meeting of November 17, 2014, be amended to read "That the community board pay \$6,000 to the regional park to pay for the tanks."

Stella Sweney/Lyn Martin

Under Funding Requests, Item 2 – Tekapo Springs Information Centre: An amendment is to be made to change Ms Hemsworth's comments to: "Ms Hemsworth asked why the Tekapo Springs application was considered along with the other information centre and why her application was **not** treated individually on its own merits."

Under Ward Members Report, final comment: An amendment is to be made to change this to; "The Regional Park **campsite** opening is only a couple of weeks away."

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Tekapo Community Board held on October 6, 2014, be confirmed and adopted as the correct record of the meeting with the changes noted above.

Lyn Martin/Murray Cox

TEKAPO COMMUNITY BOARD MATTERS UNDER ACTION:

1. Civil Defence:

Ray Gardener and Nathan Hole need to attend the next meeting regarding the Tekapo Emergency Plan.

2. Review of Freedom Camping Bylaw and its Alignment with the Freedom Camping Act:

Draft bylaws are currently out for public consultation. Submissions have been received. A hearing will be held on November 27 in Fairlie. It is important that people make a submission. Discussion was held on whether a community board as a whole, or individual members, could make personal submissions on the draft bylaw.

3. Council Owned Units for Worker Accommodation:

The community development worker is doing some work in this area.

4. Walkways and Cycle ways:

Garth Nixon has put pegs in the ground for a proposed route for the connection to the Alps2Ocean. Community board members have looked at this. Discussion was held on this route as outlined on a map in the agenda at page 10.

Lyn Martin suggested doing some landscaping as part of this work. Further discussion was held on the benefits of using this route. Stella Sweney questioned the location of the information centre in the long term. The chairman said that road frontage needs work. It would be a perfect way to use that ground as it's safe, scenic, gradual. It would need some transition and signage at the Aorangi Crescent end. Garth Nixon said the next step was to get approval from Land Transport because some of it the track is on their land.

Lyn Martin commented that there should be a traffic island at that end of the town. This needs to be discussed with Transit NZ. The community board resolved as follows:

Resolved that the Tekapo Community Board instructs the community facilities manager to prepare specifications for the walkway/cycleway as shown on the plan and bring back the costs of the project to the community board.

Murray Cox/Alan Hayman

5. Tekapo Plantation: Murray Place/Section A:

Mr Nixon said the contractor is engaged and work will take place over the next month with fencing and spraying completed. Whitestone will be planting shortly. To be updated at the next meeting.

6. Future of Moturiki Island:

Stephanie Craig said the Department of Conservation is waiting for the winds to die down before visiting the island. They have to get permission to go on the island and put up permanent signage. They have spoken to Ngai Tahu. Someone will inspect the

island at the end of December. They are advising the public not to go to the island. DOC said the trees have been weakened and may fall down, so this is a safety issue.

The chairman asked if part of the restoration would include planting. DOC don't have a firm plan. They want to work out whether it's safe to go there first. Would like to keep the community board updated. Will update the chairman who will forward an email to the community board members. As the town gets busier the island will be visited more often over summer.

Stella Sweney asked if there was an intention to trim trees. Because it's a culturally significant site they cannot just go there and cut down trees. Need to consult with Ngai Tahu first. Do signs prohibit fires? Stephanie Craig said she did not know, but will suggest it and talk with iwi about it. A member of the public asked if they were likely to plant pines or natives. DOC is not looking to plant anything at the moment.

7. Request to YHA:

This issue is currently with the Tekapo Property Group.

8. Litter at the Church of the Good Shepherd:

Garth Nixon has been in communication with the church regarding litter. This is a work in progress.

9. Tekapo Squash Club:

Cr Cox has discussed a move with the squash club committee.

Cr Cox and Garth Nixon have been working on costings for moving the squash club. When they are received there will be discussion with council in regards to funding.

10. Street Names Commercial Lane:

An email from Melanie Schauer with a suggestion for a street name is attached to the agenda at page 32. Garth Nixon suggested using the name to build ongoing relationships with iwi. Cr Cox said council was working closely with iwi in the development of the town lakefront area. Stella Sweney asked about the process to introduce numbers once the street is named. Council has a process in place. The chairman said this was urgent and needed to proceed. Lyn Martin asked if this would be a lane, drive, street etc. The community board would leave this decision to the roading manager.

Resolved that the community board recommends to council that the name Rapuwai is suitable as a name for the commercial lane at Tekapo.

Lyn Martin/Stella Sweney

Stella Sweney would like an explanation of the name to be included in communications with ratepayers.

11. Tekapo Promotions Association:

The chairman and Cr Cox have had an informal discussion with the Tekapo Promotions Association. A community board representative at their meetings would be great. The chairman and Cr Cox have both been members of this association in the past but are not now. Lyn Martin volunteered to do this on behalf of the community board.

12. Town Projects:

a. Landscaping the Community Centre Car park.

Garth Nixon said documents have gone out to contractors to price this.

- b. Alps2Ocean Link between Tekapo and Canal Road.
Start point will be at Alpine Springs Information Centre.
- c. Rock wall extension along Main Road to Aorangi Crescent.
Garth Nixon has a price for this for the budget of \$30,000 and if the community board are happy to proceed with this work.
- d. Upgrade of Hamilton Drive lookout.
Bernie Haar to progress this.
- e. Walkway on Lakeside Drive – pruning, landscaping.
This is regards to pruning and removing pine trees on Lakeside Drive. Is this something we should be talking in the community about? Discussion was held on the approach to take with these trees. An amount has been put aside to deal with this. The chairman thinks we need to go slowly because there will be a radical change to the look of the drive. He suggested thinning and planting at first. Garth Nixon suggested removing 50% to start with. The chairman would like to have a look at it with an expert. He would like to start with the ugly trees. Garth Nixon to talk to contractors regarding this, including the most cost effective way to do it.
- f. Regional Park – community board to fund tanks at \$6000. Need an invoice.

Lyn Martin asked regarding the playground and the solar system project. Cr Cox said he would catch up with the playground committee. Solar system project has applications in to other groups to fund signage and planet signs. It was agreed to add these to the list of projects for future updates.

FINANCIAL REPORT TO SEPTEMBER, 2014:

This report is the financial report for the community board for the period to September 2014, the purpose of which to update board members on the financial performance of the Tekapo Community as a whole for that period. This information is early in the financial year and a lot of the accruals have not been done.

Income is down at the Tekapo community hall this month but is increasing overall. Expenditure is due to the purchase of the screens for the hall. Donations and grants relates to money paid to the Tekapo Promotions Association. Unplanned maintenance on page 25 relates to work on Pioneer Drive clearing wilding trees and grass.

Cr Cox asked regarding the Tekapo School pool. The community board makes a grant towards the running costs because they make the pool available to the public.

Resolved that the report be received.

Murray Cox/Alan Hayman

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2015:

The purpose of this report is to advise the community board of the scheduled meetings for 2015. The chairman noted that four of the meetings were in the school holidays. He will not make the October one. Cr Cox asked to move the October meeting a week ahead. After discussion the board decided to move this meeting to October 13, 2015. In the winter months the meeting time will go back half an hour.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received.

Alan Hayman/Murray Cox

2. That the attached schedule of meetings be noted with the meeting of October 5 moved to Tuesday, October 13.

Lyn Martin/Murray Cox

WARD MEMBER'S REPORT:

Cr Cox said most of the month has been tied up with the Tekapo Lakefront Development. The plan in the agenda is not the final one, this is ongoing. He has also attended meetings of the Upper Waitaki Water Zone committee. A nutrient allocation group has been set up to set nutrient limits in the basin. Decisions will be made on this by March, 2015.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT THE COMMUNITY BOARD ON OTHER COMMITTEES:

Cr Cox reported that the NZ Motor Caravan Association Park is open. They are getting five or six campervans a night in there. Apart from that the regional park committee are spraying weeds and cutting grass. Water tanks to go in before Christmas.

The chairman reported from the Tekapo Footbridge committee. The buy-a-plank campaign is finished with \$150,000 raised. Part of the NZTA requirement was a peer review and that has been going ahead.

The chairman asked regarding an update from the property group. Cr Cox said some updates are planned before Christmas. There have been delays around doing the storm water and subdivision for stage 1 which includes the new supermarket and main green area. Still looking like construction will start in January/February. In terms of storm water the council has asked the consultants to look at Lakeside Drive as well. Geoff Horler said the storm water is an issue now with Ecan, we can't just discharge it into the waterways. Needs to be treated.

Cr Cox said the lakefront development project has been quite complicated but it does seem to be coming together and we are conscious we need to get out to the public again, but until things are signed off it's hard to do that.

The chairman asked for updates regarding progress across the road from the community hall. Resource consent has been given for the new hotel and they are at the stage to look at building permits. There has been a lot of discussion around traffic and car parks and discussions are being held with the school around traffic issues and options for parking.

Stephanie Craig from DOC said she was leaving the meeting and asked if there was anything to take back to DOC. Cr Cox suggested the draft Freedom Camping Bylaw.

Stephanie Craig left the meeting.

DRAFT TEKAPO PARKING AND LANDSCAPE PLAN:

Cr Cox said this is the second draft of this report and follows the public drop-in session. He said a lot of the sites on the plan are depicted in concept rather than reality, so there could be changes to parking and buildings. There are still some difficulties around the western car

park with six different options. They haven't really allowed for public toilets and haven't addressed bus shelters. Still no addressing of car parking for boats and caravans, which may have to go outside the VC1 land.

Lyn Martin said there are no cycle stands or racks in the plan. Garth Nixon said these can be incorporated into street furniture. Stella Sweney is concerned about the western car park being a bottleneck with all the traffic passing through that area. Also sees this as an opportunity for the Church of the Good Shepherd to tidy up. There is no real recognition of the concerns of residents regarding that area. A lot of people would like to see buses and campervans restricted to the eastern car park and only cars there. She outlined problems with people visiting the church, including campervans who arrive when it's dark and leave in the morning. This plan doesn't address those problems. The chairman suggested closing off the end of Pioneer Drive. The footbridge is coming into play. Cr Cox said the consultants were asked to look at Hamilton Dr to Tekapo Springs but some of that is missing.

Discussion was held on parking at the Church of the Good Shepherd and whether reducing parking in this area would improve the situation. Providing toilets in the eastern car park might encourage buses to stop there. Weddings at the church are interrupted by people who shouldn't be there.

A member of the public said the issue of buses at the church is the biggest issue. He suggested making buses park outside the town. He said if buses park in town and people have to walk across the bridge to the church this becomes a pilgrimage. The tour companies don't provide anything for the benefit of a free attraction.

Alan Hayman said no buses or campervans should be allowed except for weddings or disabled access.

A member of the public wished to comment on the landscaping. He said the wilding pines were blocking a view coming into the Tekapo. He did not see anything in the report about existing trees and whether they should stay. He likes the general planting at the back which talks about natives. There are some random wilding pines in front of the pub obstructing the view. He wondered if Boffa Miskell should look at existing trees and see if any of them should stay.

A member of the public said the bus parking was not necessary by the church but if buses parked in town they would need to create bigger car parks for buses. Another member of the public said the solar system walk was included, but not shown in the concept plan.

A member of the public said it's a great report but until we know what the buildings are and where they are going it's hard to judge this. Cr Cox said Boffa was continuing to work on this. Trying to get Stage 1 sorted with the western car park was the first step.

Cr Cox will send the community board's feedback to Stephen Gubb for communication with Boffa Miskell and Aurecon.

Lyn Martin asked regarding pedestrian crossing points on the main highway. Geoff Horler said on a state highway you might get an island, but that's all you will get.

GENERAL BUSINESS – RABBIT CONTROL:

A letter from Stephen Hunter is attached to the minutes. He is asking permission to use bait traps in the plantation. He also wants permission to do some regular rabbit extermination around the town. Garth Nixon said the community board does have a budget for pest

control. He supports Mr Hunter's approach. The chairman suggested a quarterly report, or letter on a regular basis would be good to keep the community board informed.

GENERAL BUSINESS – GRANT REQUEST FROM AORAKI MULTICULTURAL TRUST:

Garth Nixon provided some background information regarding the use of the hall by charitable organisations. He said the Aoraki Multicultural Trust was a good cause and suggested they be offered the local user rate. The community board agreed. The community board would like to see a six monthly report on how the new service is going, how many people are using the service, and what value it is to the community.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received.

Stella Sweney/Lyn Martin

2. That the Tekapo Community Board provide free hall hire by way of a monthly grant to cover hall use by the Aoraki Multicultural Trust. This will equate to approximately \$930 over 12 months hall hire at local user rates, and the community board requested a report on how the service is going in six months.

Lyn Martin/Alan Hayman

GENERAL BUSINESS – REQUEST FROM TEKAPO SCHOOL REGARDING HALL USE AND GRANT REQUEST TEKAPO SCHOOL JUMBLE SALE:

These two items were considered together. Garth Nixon said from working with other schools he was aware they had an operational grant to provide certain services. If they did not have a hall there was money in the operational grant to purchase services.

He was concerned with the implications of regular hall use by the school, such as who cleans up after the children. At the moment there was a caretaker doing that work. The school would need to understand the current bookings and how the place was left. He said they currently get a reasonable deal on local user rates and the community board could make grants for one-off events.

The chairman felt the school has had a very good deal from the community board with the use of the hall. Cr Cox said the difficulty if they have open access is that you can't use it for other events. The hall is very well used with a large number of other bookings.

Lyn Martin asked if there was a large space available in the school for sports. No.

The Fairlie school pays \$15 an hour to use the sports hall in Fairlie.

The second request for a grant for the jumble sale was discussed.

Resolved that the Tekapo Community Board will take a case by case approach to applications from the school for hall use and that \$200 towards the use of the hall hire for the jumble sale be granted.

Alan Hayman/Stella Sweney.

GENERAL BUSINESS – GRANT REQUEST UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY:

A letter from the University of Canterbury requesting a grant towards the cost of a conference is attached.

Cr Cox said the hall was built to host events like this and he would expect them to pay for the hire. The grant should be coming from the University of Canterbury or Earth and Sky as a sponsor. Lyn Martin suggested a compromise of the lower fee. Discussion was held on the role of the University in the town and whether it was a commercial operation. The chairman said they should pay the lower, local rate as they have been in the town a long time.

Resolved that the local rate for hall hire be offered to the University of Canterbury to support two astronomy conferences in the Tekapo Community Hall.

Alan Hayman/Lyn Martin

Cr Cox voted against this motion and asked for his vote to be recorded.

PUBLIC EXCLUDED:

Resolved that the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely consideration of the item 'New Storm water Line'.

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
New Storm water Line.	Commercial sensitivity	48(1)(a)(I)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows: *New Storm water line under section 7(2)(b)(ii)*.

Murray Cox/Alan Hayman

The Tekapo Community Board continued in open meeting.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.32PM**

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE: _____