

# MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TEKAPO COMMUNITY BOARD HELD IN THE LAKE TEKAPO COMMUNITY HALL, TEKAPO, ON MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016, AT 7.00PM

### PRESENT:

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

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Claire Barlow, Mayor  
Garth Nixon, Community Facilities Manager  
Arlene Goss, Committee Secretary  
7 members of the public

### OPENING:

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### APOLOGIES:

Resolved that apologies be received from the chief executive, Wayne Barnett.

**Lyn Martin/Stella Sweney**

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

### MINUTES:

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Tekapo Community Board held on November 16, 2016, be confirmed and adopted as the correct record of the meeting, including those parts taken in public excluded.

**Alan Hayman/Stella Sweney**

*The chairman moved the item of freedom camping ahead on the agenda to reflect public interest in this matter.*

### FREEDOM CAMPING:

Garth Nixon said there have been two reports related to this issue. The first from Joanne Bradley, which is on the agenda. He has also had Whitestone monitoring the area. There are problems with the number of cars and campervans using Hamilton Drive as they often exceed the maximum of five. The Whitestone report is the result of monitoring over the last 10 days. This involves picking up litter and looking for toilet paper. Whitestone has not found any toilet paper in the last 10 days. They picked up a few tissues. Whitestone will continue with this a couple of times a week.

Bruce Martin has been issuing fines to campers at trouble spots and was present at the meeting. He said some people are sleeping in cars with sleeping bags. Fines are issued 50/50 between Hamilton Drive and the main carparks. Normally he goes a couple of times in the evening and re-directs self-contained campers to places outside the village. Non self-contained are directed to campgrounds. He goes early in the morning and issues fines and takes a photo of each camper so they cannot say they weren't there. In a month he has issued 84-85 fines. The biggest problem are the small vans that only meet the minimum requirements for being self-contained. These people say they are not planning to use the toilet in the van. He would like to see the council blanket ban the township but recognises this is difficult under the legislation. The chairman congratulated Bruce Martin for his work on behalf of the community.

Garth Nixon said about 25% of people who have been issued tickets have paid so far, but there is a period of time people have to pay.

The Mayor asked members of the public to report non self-contained vans to the council. Cr Cox said vans and cars are entitled to use the car park as a rest area during the day. They are issued tickets early in the morning if they stay overnight. He would like to come up with some clear alternatives. All forms of tourism are increasing in the Mackenzie.

Stella Sweney thanked Bruce Martin for what he is doing. It's a national problem but we need local solutions. She spoke about Southland where freedom camping is working and said freedom camping is banned in urban areas in Southland. This is a national issue because of section 12 of the act and there are so many tourists. She called for the Mayoral forum to address this at a national level. The Mayor said the Mayoral forum knows there is a problem and is trying to change the Act. She called for people to use social media to shame the rental vehicle companies.

A member of the public who was at the meeting asked for improvements to the intersection. The chairman said this has already been raised by the community board with NZTA. Another member of the public asked if council workers could pick up toilet paper that has blown east and south of the Hamilton Drive area. She also said campers are disposing of rubbish in the middle of town and the council rubbish bin facility is not coping. Garth Nixon said he is exploring self-compacting bins for this area.

Another member of the public said the town should make its own rules. Lyn Martin said Hamilton Drive was part of the strategy and can it be removed from the strategy? The Mayor said she will check this.

The chairman said they need to identify appropriate areas for freedom camping. The Mayor asked if it was possible to put a limit of two hours on the parks of Hamilton Drive. Stella Sweney suggested using the area in front of the campground on Lakeside Drive as a place for self-contained freedom campers.

The chairman asked where to from here. There will be a review in March and this matter will be discussed at the next Council meeting on February 16.

## **TEKAPO COMMUNITY BOARD MATTERS UNDER ACTION:**

Lyn Martin requested that each Matter under Action be dated when it first goes on the list.

### **1. Tekapo Plantation: Murray Place/Section A:**

Replanting completed. The plants are small. The track needs weed spraying. No signs at the resource park gate. Garth Nixon to check on this.

2. **Freedom Camping:**

On the agenda for discussion.

3. **Future of Motuariki Island:**

Nothing to report.

4. **Tekapo Squash Club:**

Club representatives have agreed to go back to their members. Cr Cox said there needs to be progress on what a sports club would look like and how it would be operated. Wayne, Murray and Garth to meet and discuss concept plans. This would be both a Council and community led project.

5. **Town Projects:**

a. Alps2Ocean Link between Tekapo and Canal Road -

b. Rock wall extension along Main Road to Aorangi Crescent - This area looks much better.

c. Upgrade of Hamilton Drive lookout – Price received. Stella Sweney asked if the upgrade could take place after the decision has been made on freedom camping. Garth Nixon said a concrete threshold, reshaping the car park to improve drainage. Could this area be closed while the work is being done? Yes. The price is \$33,000.

Resolved that the Tekapo community board approves the spending of \$33,000 to carry out the upgrade of the Hamilton Drive lookout.

**Murray Cox/Peter Munro**

d. Walkway on Lakeside Drive – Area mulched. Genesis plans work on the tunnel. A workshop is needed on the development of this area. Garth Nixon to come back with a date.

6. **Tekapo Domain Playground:**

Initial site meeting held. Next step to mark out boundary and prepare site.

7. **60Km Speed Limit Extension:** This request has gone to NZTA.

8. **Civil Defence:**

The chief executive to come back to the community board at a later date with more information.

9. **Tekapo Footbridge:**

A plan for the footbridge approaches was attached to the agenda. Discussion was held on how these would be funded. Cr Cox asked how much un-spent projects money Tekapo has in reserve from previous years.

The chairman said it would like the finance manager came to the community board meetings. The community board agreed to use L and L Construction to carry out the work as they have already done some work in the area to a high standard.

The memorial seat will need to be relocated, and an interpretation panel. The Lions have a wishing well and they are keen to incorporate it somewhere.

Resolved that the Tekapo Community Board uses reserve funds to complete the footbridge approaches and pathways on both sides of the Tekapo footbridge.

**Stella Sweney/Lyn Martin**

**10. Tekapo canal boat ramp:**

Joint discussion needed on widening the ramp and providing a turnaround area. Garth Nixon to review the agreement between Genesis and Council.

**11. Solar System Project:**

Lyn Martin read an email from Chris Maclaren to update the board on this project. It said the stands have been fabricated and are at the painters waiting to be powder coated. Six signs are at the printers waiting for final proof. The six signs around the sundial will be erected first. They have volunteer labour organised to do this and will be tidying up the landscaping around the sundial at the same time.

**12. Request from Glenmore Station for a sign at the Lake McGregor Turn Off:**

Completed, remove from list.

Garth Nixon then took the community board through the projects financial report.

**FINANCIAL REPORT TO DECEMBER, 2015:**

This report is the financial report for the community board for the period to December, 2015, the purpose of which is to update board members on the financial performance of the Tekapo Community as a whole for that period.

Garth Nixon offered to email a report on Tekapo Hall income to community board members with more information about hall bookings and income.

Under rubbish collection the extra cost is for extra bins put in at the petrol station. Rubbish bins are emptied several times a day. Discussion was held on holiday home owners using the town bins to dump their rubbish. Suggestions included putting a skip somewhere and increasing the hours the resource recovery park is open.

Resolved that the report be received.

**Cr Cox/Alan Hayman**

**WARD MEMBER'S REPORT:**

Cr Cox said the consultation process around Plan Change 13 has taken place. This includes the rules around the intensification of farming in the district and other matters. There is also a private plan change for land around the campground. Submissions close in early February.

Elected members attended a workshop on roading. The property group is ticking along. The mini golf site at Tekapo will be cleared. This land could be sold or used by council for other purposes. Work is being finished to give title to the supermarket and Earth and Sky. Stage 2 development is underway. The other current matter of interest to Council is the Meridian building at Twizel.

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

Cr Cox said the regional park was dry with extreme fire danger so they are holding back on tractor and chainsaw work.

The chairman said the Tekapo Footbridge group are still raising money to pay for the bridge. The chairman of the White Water Trust has cancer and is terminal. This is sad news for the trust.

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

### MAP ROUTE FOR TEKAPO WALKWAYS:

Garth Nixon tabled a map of walkways around Tekapo. He asked for an opinion from the community board as to where they would like work to be done. He took suggestions from the members regarding the different routes and what they should be named. Three routes were chosen for further development.

### EMAIL FROM STELLA SWENEY AND NON URGENT MATTERS:

**Drone policy:** Stella Sweney said she was concerned that neither the Church of the Good Shepherd or Footbridge were included. These are not on council-owned land. People who operate drones must get permission from the land owner when they are flying over land.

**Visit by Gurkhas:** A member of the public who was at the meeting said the Gurkhas from Nepal are coming to stay at the Tekapo Military Camp in April. He would like to hold a community evening for them. He would like to know if the community board would support this because the intent is to raise funds for earthquake relief in Nepal. The chairman suggested he put in a written application for a grant.

**Village Green:** There was a request for the grass to be restored in this area so people can use the area as a green space.

### EMAIL FROM JOANNE BRADLEY ON FREEDOM CAMPING:

This matter was discussed earlier in the meeting.

## PUBLIC EXCLUDED:

Resolve that the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely:

1. Concept plans from Tekapo Property Group meeting (attached).

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
Concept plans from Tekapo Property Group meeting	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: *Concept Plans from Tekapo Property Group meeting under section 7(2)(b)(ii).*

**Lyn Martin/Cr Cox**

*The Tekapo Community Board continued in open meeting.*

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS  
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.27PM**

**CHAIRMAN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chairman**