



Otago
Regional
Council

Council MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otago Regional Council held at The Gate, 6 Barry Avenue, Cromwell, Central Otago, Wednesday 24 July 2024, commencing at 1:00 PM.

[YouTube Livestream Link](#)

PRESENT

Cr Gretchen Robertson *(Chairperson)*
Cr Alexa Forbes
Cr Gary Kelliher *(online)*
Cr Kevin Malcolm
Cr Tim Mephram
Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr Alan Somerville
Cr Elliot Weir
Cr Kate Wilson

1. WELCOME

Chairperson Robertson welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 1:00 pm with a karakia. Staff present included Richard Saunders (Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Finance), Anita Dawe (GM Planning and Transport), Tom Dyer (GM Science and Resilience) Joanna Gilroy (GM Environmental Delivery), Tami Sargeant (GM People & Corporate) Amanda Vercoe (GM Strategy & Customer -Deputy CEO), Kylie Darragh (Governance Support), Lorraine Cheyne (Manager Transport).

The Chair also extended a special welcome to Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Simon Upton, Mayor Tim Cadogan and councillors attending from the Central Otago District Council.

2. APOLOGIES

Resolution: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded:

That the apologies for Cr Lloyd McCall and Cr Michael Laws be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Pierre Marasti was present to speak on behalf of Extinction Rebellion. Following an opportunity for questions Chair Robertson thanked Pierre for attending.

Jack Davis from Lowburn Valley spoke on his consent application for off grid electricity generation. Following an opportunity for questions Chair Robertson thanked Jack for attending.

Philip Murray Chair of the Central Otago Environmental Society spoke on the notification of the Regional Land and Water Plan. Following an opportunity for questions, Chair Robertson thanked Philip for attending.

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as published.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No changes to Councillor Declarations of Interests were noted.

6. PRESENTATIONS

Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Simon Upton and Geoff Simmons (Chief Economist for the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment) spoke on the Going with the Grain Report and addressing the changing of land use to help mitigate future national and global climate change. There was an opportunity for questions and Chair Robertson thanked both for their attendance.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: Cr Mephram Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the minutes of the (public portion of the) Council meeting held on 26 June 2024 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

8. ACTIONS (STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS)

Open actions from resolutions of the Committee were reviewed. The Chair noted that the first three listed were showing clear progress, but due dates will not be met so would need extending but otherwise all tracking well.

9. CHAIRPERSON'S AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS

9.1. Chairperson's Report

Chair Robertson mentioned some highlights, including Libby Caldwell's (Manager Environmental Implementation) presentation on National Wilding Conifers Programme funding at Minister Hoggard's site visit in Twizel and the work with DCC and Youth Voice post the Dunedin Bus Hub tragedy. There was an opportunity for questions on the report.

Resolution: Cr Forbes Moved, Cr Noone Seconded

That the report be noted.

MOTION CARRIED

9.2. Chief Executive's Report

Chief Executive Richard Saunders took the opportunity to formally welcome to the new Executive Leadership Team to Council for their first meeting. There was an opportunity for questions on the report.

Resolution: Cr Weir Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the report be noted.

MOTION CARRIED

10. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

10.1. Upper Lakes ICG appointment

[YouTube 02:14:22] This paper provided an update to Council on the progress on the Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) Programme in the Upper Lakes including the nomination of a Councillor for the group and endorsement of: a. the community's preference for the scope (boundary) of the Catchment Action Plan (CAP); b. proposed members to be appointed to the Upper Lakes Integrated Catchment Group (ICG); and c. the proposed Terms of Reference for the Upper Lakes ICG. Anna Molloy (Principal Advisor Environmental Implementation) and Simone Langhans (Catchment Action Planner) introduced the paper and were available via zoom to respond to questions.

Cr Forbes left the meeting at 3:16pm during the nomination discussion.

Resolution CM24-152 It was moved by Cr Mephram, seconded by Cr Scott:

That the Council nominates Cr Forbes to represent ORC on the Upper Lakes ICG.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Forbes rejoined the meeting at 3:31pm.

Resolution CM24-153: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Mepham Seconded:

That the Council:

- a) Endorses** the scope (boundary) for the Upper Lakes CAP as the QLDC boundary.
- b) Appoints** the recommended list of members to the Upper Lakes ICG.
- c) Endorses** the draft Terms of Reference for the Upper Lakes ICG with minor changes.

MOTION CARRIED

10.2. Adoption of Draft Otago Southland Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031

[YouTube 02:35:10] This paper sought Council approval to submit the mid-term review of the Otago Southland Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031 to the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA).

Lorraine Cheyne (Manager Transport) spoke on the progress of the draft plan including an extended consultation. The next steps is adoption and submit it to the New Zealand Land Transport Authority for inclusion in their funding programme.

Cr Wilson as co-Chair on the RLTP Committee, added that the substantial inflationary issues for all councils were an enormous challenge. Overall, the paper is more understandable at a community level which is a positive for better engagement.

Cr Forbes, also co-Chair on the RLTP Committee, acknowledged Environment Southland, thanking Russell Hawkes and Lorraine Cheyne for their help in creating the document which represents the agreement between the two regions.

Resolution CM24-154: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded:

That the Council:

- a) Notes** this report.
- b) Notes** the Otago Regional Transport Committee endorsed the Regional Land Transport Plan in June 2024;
- c) Approves** the mid-term review of the Otago Southland Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031 (being those parts of the Otago Southland Regional Land Transport Plans 2021-2031 that apply in Otago).
- d) Forwards** the approved Plan to the New Zealand Transport Agency by 1 August 2024.

MOTION CARRIED

10.3. South Dunedin Future - Programme Update (July 2024)

[YouTube 03:07:56] This report provided an update on the South Dunedin Future (SDF) programme. It included a summary of the activities completed during January to June 2024, foreshadowing key upcoming activities, and signalled potential implications of this work. Jonathan Rowe (Programme Manager, South Dunedin Future) was available by zoom respond to questions.

Resolution CM24-155: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Weir Seconded:

That the Council:

- 1) Notes** activities undertaken as part of the South Dunedin Future (SDF) programme since the previous report to both Councils in December 2023.
- 2) Notes** the pending completion of two key assessments, including the Risk Assessment for South Dunedin and Spatial Adaptation Options for South Dunedin.
- 3) Notes** the delivery of these reports will move the programme into the next phase and require decisions on management and mitigation of risk, selection of adaptation options, and transition times for implementation.

MOTION CARRIED

10.4 Efficiency Review – Progress Update

[YouTube 03:20:57] This paper provided Council with an update on implementing the Efficiency Review recommendations following the review undertaken by Morrison Low in 2023. Richard Saunders (Chief Executive) was available to respond to questions.

Resolution CM24-156: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Malcolm Seconded

That the Council:

- a) Notes** this report.
- b) Notes** that the recommendations of the Efficiency Review will be implemented as part of a broader programme of business transformation encompassing ‘point in time’ reviews, alongside ongoing feedback mechanisms from staff, Councillors, community, partners, and stakeholders.
- c) Notes** that six monthly progress updates will be provided to Council.

MOTION CARRIED

10.5 Remuneration Authority Determination 2024/2025

[YouTube 03:35:40] The Remuneration Authority has undertaken its annual review of elected members’ remuneration and allowances and issued its determination for local government elected members which applies from 1 July 2024 until 30 June 2025. Amanda Vercoe (GM Strategy and Customer, Deputy CEO) was available to respond to questions.

Resolution CM24-157: Cr Weir Moved, Cr Robertson Seconded:

That the Council:

- 1) Receives** this report.
- 2) Notes** the updated remuneration rates for local authority members.
- 3) Approves** the 2024 ORC Councillor Expenses, Reimbursements and Allowances Policy.

MOTION CARRIED

10.6. Documents Signed Under Council Seal

[YouTube 03:42:24] This paper was brought to inform the Council of delegations which have been exercised requiring application of the Council Seal during the period of 31 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

Resolution CM24-158: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Mephram Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) Notes** this report.

MOTION CARRIED

11. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Resolution: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded:

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of this meeting, namely:

1.1 Chief Executive Performance Review for 2024/25 KPIs

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under [section 48\(1\)](#) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

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
Chief Executive Annual Performance Review and KPIs for 2024/2025	To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons – Section 7(2)(a)	Section 48(1)(a); Subject to subsection (3), a local authority may by resolution exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on 1 or more of the following grounds: (a) that the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

This resolution is made in reliance on [section 48\(1\)\(a\)](#) 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 or [section 6](#) or [section 7](#) or [section 9](#) of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.

The Chair also move that Doug Craig be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of knowledge of CE Performance Review 2024/25 KPIs This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because of ongoing consultation.

MOTION CARRIED

14. CLOSURE

The public part of the meeting closed at 4:44 pm.



Chair Cr Robertson

28/08/2024

Date