

OPEN MINUTES



Ōtorohanga Community Board

Te Poari Hapori o Ōtorohanga

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Ōtorohanga Community Board will be held in the Waikōwhitiwhiti Room (Council Chamber) at Ōtorohanga District Council, 17 Maniapoto Street, Ōtorohanga on Tuesday, 4 June 2024 commencing at 4.00pm.

Tanya Winter, Chief Executive

17 June 2024

Elected Member attendance register

Chairperson	Upoko	Councillor Katrina Christison	Attended
Deputy Chairperson	Upoko Tiriwā	Peter Coventry	Attended
Member	Mema	Kat Brown-Merrin	Attended
Member	Mema	Jo Butcher	Attended
Member	Mema	Councillor Steve Hughes	Attended
Member	Mema	Tori Muller	Apology

Senior staff in attendance

Chief Executive	Tanya Winter	Apology
Group Manager Business Enablement	Graham Bunn	Attended
Group Manager Engineering & Assets	Mark Lewis	Attended
Group Manager Regulatory & Growth	Tony Quickfall	Apology
Group Manager Strategy & Community	Nardia Gower	Apology
Chief Advisor	Ross McNeil	Apology

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No reports.	
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Public excluded | Take matatapu

No reports.	
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Opening formalities

Commencement of meeting | Te tīmatanga o te hui

Chairperson Christison declared the meeting open at 4.01pm.

Opening prayer/reflection/words of wisdom | Karakia/huritao/whakataukī

Board Member Brown-Merrin provided words of wisdom from Richard Branson: “Train people well enough that they can leave but treat them well enough that they don’t want to”.

Apologies | Ngā hōnea

Resolved O73: That the Ōtorohanga Community Board receive and accept the apology from Board Member Tori Muller and Councillor Steve Hughes for non-attendance.

Deputy Chairperson Coventry | Board Member Brown-Merrin

Public forum | Hui tūmatanui

There were no requests to speak.

Late items | Ngā take tōmuri

There were no late items.

Declaration of conflict of interest | Te whakapuakanga pānga taharua

There were no conflicts declared. Chairperson Christison noted all members were within the boundary of the water rating area (item 29).

Confirmation of minutes | Te whakaū i ngā meneti

Resolved O74: That the open minutes of the Ōtorohanga Community Board meeting held on 6 May 2024, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Board Member Brown-Merrin | Deputy Chairperson Coventry

Decision reports | Ngā pūrongo whakatau

Item 29: Ōtorohanga metered water charges

ŌDC’s Brendan O’Callaghan (Manager Finance) advised the Board had an opportunity to make a recommendation to Ōtorohanga District Council who would make the final decision.

Board Member Brown-Merrin queried if staff were confident that the budget would meet the proposed expenditure. Mr O’Callaghan noted that unless water loss increased it was not expected that expenditure would be more than the income. She then queried what would happen if there was a shortfall in income. Mr O’Callaghan advised the deficit would increase which would increase the loan payments for the principal and interest. He noted the direction provided was to achieve a zero deficit. She queried provisions for low income earners and Mr O’Callaghan advised the rates rebate scheme via central Government included water rates although he noted this was fixed amount.

ŌDC’s Graham Bunn advised staff worked with debtors, arranging payment plans and noted the remissions policy was available on the grounds of hardship. Ms Brown-Merrin queried reductions for debtors who had large leaks that were repaired, and Mr Bunn advised this was available to debtors who provided evidence the leak was repaired.

Deputy Chairperson Coventry queried if any income greater than expenses was ringfenced and Mr O’Callaghan confirmed the money would stay in the water supply account.

In response to a query from Board Member Butcher, Mr O’Callaghan advised staff took a holistic approach to costs using a ‘fair and equitable’ approach rather than breaking down the fixed charge to individual cost centres. She queried the cost to cover the fixing of pipes and Mr O’Callaghan advised there was a district component of 5% whereas the water loan rate was paid by all properties within the defined area to cover the existing loans. She queried the leaks and ŌDC’s Mark Lewis advised ŌDC recently undertook leak detection and 11 leaks were identified with all now repaired. He noted one leak was substantial and located under the railway line. She queried the last increase and Mr O’Callaghan advised the last increase was two years previously and the driver for the proposed increase was due to an increase in costs.

Resolved O75: That the Ōtorohanga Community Board recommend to Ōtorohanga District Council the 2024/25 Metered Water Rates be set at:

- a. \$200 per connection per annum (GST exclusive); and,
- b. \$1.80 per cubic metre of water (GST exclusive).

Deputy Chairperson Coventry | Board Member Brown-Merrin

Board Member Butcher requested her vote against be recorded.

Information only reports | Ngā pūrongo mōhiohio anake

There were no reports.

Public excluded | Take matatapu

There were no reports.

Board projects

Project 1: Picnic in the park (project closed)

Project 2: Ōtorohanga hauora and connectivity trail

Board Member Butcher advised the project team were still investigating equipment options and noted the popularity of the fitness stations at the Maketu boat ramp. She advised that discussions with ŌDC staff had indicated the three potential locations were possible.

Project 3: Ōtorohanga kai forest (project closed)

Project 4: Ōtorohanga dog park

Board Member Butcher advised iwi were not supportive of the dog park at the Huiputea Reserve due to its sanctity. This project is ongoing.

Other business | Ētahi atu take

Board Member updates

Board Member Butcher spoke on the Ōtorohanga Railway Station 100 years celebration noting the organising committee were thankful for the grant provided by the Board at its last meeting.

Community Board discretionary fund

Resolved O76: That the Ōtorohanga Community Board grant the sum of \$1,000 excluding GST from their Discretionary Fund to the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House Trust.

Board Member Brown-Merrin | Board Member Butcher

Resolution register

No changes were made to the Register.

Closing formalities**Closing prayer | Karakia**

Deputy Chairperson Coventry provided a closing prayer.

Meeting closure | Katinga o te hui

Chairperson Christison declared the meeting closed at 4.30pm.

Workshops | Hui awheawhe**Footpath programme**

ŌDC's Paul Strange (Manager Roding) spoke to a map handout.

The meeting day ended at 5.19pm.