

OPEN MINUTES



Ōtorohanga Community Board

Te Poari Hapori o Ōtorohanga

Open Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Ōtorohanga Community Board held in the Waikōwhitiwhiti Room (Council Chamber) at Ōtorohanga District Council, 17 Maniapoto Street, Ōtorohanga on **Monday, 6 May 2024 commencing at 4.00pm.**

Tanya Winter, Chief Executive

8 May 2024

Membership

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	Attended

Quorum

A majority of members (including any vacancies).

Senior staff in attendance

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

These Open Minutes were prepared by Manager Governance, Kaia King and approved for distribution by Group Manager Engineering & Assets, Mark Lewis.

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Information only reports | Ngā pūrongo mōhiohio anake

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 4.00pm.

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

Board Member Butcher provided the following words of wisdom:

- “Children don’t quit after a failed first attempt. Just look at how they learn to walk. However, most adults fear stepping out of their comfort zones in life, especially if the first attempt wasn’t successful. Keep the childhood gift alive of not being hindered by fear of failure. Your confidence will soar”.
- “He toka tū moana | As durable as a rock pounded by the surf.”

Apologies | Ngā hōnea

There were no apologies as all Members were present.

Public forum | Hui tūmatanui

No requests to be heard had been received.

Late items | Ngā take tōmuri

There were no late items.

Declaration of conflict of interest | Te whakapuakanga pānga taharua

Jo Butcher advised as previously stated, she was a member of the Ōtorohanga Railway Station 100 years event organising group and would withdraw from any discussions and decisions relating to that group.

Confirmation of minutes | Te whakaū i ngā meneti

Resolved O71: That the open minutes of the Ōtorohanga Community Board meeting held on 2 April 2024, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Deputy Chairperson Coventry | Board Member Brown-Merrin

Decision reports | Ngā pūrongo whakatau

Item 28: Removal of Trees at Ōtorohanga Girl Guide Hall and Ōtorohanga Medical Centre

ŌDC’s Jared le Fleming outlined the report and advised the staff recommendation to undertake public consultation was due to the age of the trees. He noted it was possible members of the community had information on the history of those trees that staff might be unaware of.

Board Member Butcher queried why staff had not considered the removal of the elm in light of the recent discovery of Dutch elm disease in Te Awamutu. Mr le Fleming advised the disease shows up quickly in the trees and staff had no concerns with the current state of the tree’s health.

In response to a query from Deputy Chairperson Coventry, Mr le Fleming advised the Ōtorohanga Medical Centre had been in touch with St Mary’s School about the tree located on their land. Staff had no further involvement as the tree was on private property.

Chairperson Christison requested staff consider engaging the contractor to remove the trees as soon as the consultation period is completed, subject to no objections being received. Mr le Fleming confirmed staff could action this request.

Resolved O72: That the Ōtorohanga Community Board:

- a. Approve a three-week public consultation on the removal of the two Oak trees on Council land as shown in point 6.3 of the report; and
- b. Following the completion of the consultation period, on the provision there are no objections to the removal of the trees, Ōtorohanga Community Board approve the removal the two Oak trees.

Councillor Hughes | Board Member Muller

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 plans and locations for two stations were nearing final approval. She stated one station was to be located by the pump station near Ōtorohanga Groundspread and the other at Alex Telfer Drive (Kakamutu Road end) before the Bob Horsfall Reserve entrance. She advised the Board of a Waikato Regional Council requirement to have any structures 10 or more meters away from the base of the Te Ara a Waiwaiā walkway. This meant that the Phillips Avenue end of the walkway was unable to be used.

ŌDC’s Mark Lewis advised a report will be prepared by ŌDC’s Jared le Fleming for the Board’s consideration. ŌDC’s Tanya Winter commented that ongoing costs including maintenance and depreciation would be included in the report.

Project 3: Ōtorohanga kai forest (project closed)

Project 4: Ōtorohanga dog park (project on hold)

Board Member Butcher advised she was still in discussions with Resilio and iwi, but the project was effectively on hold at this time.

Other business | Ētahi atu take

Board Member updates

Board Member Butcher and Chairperson Christison attended the Ōtorohanga Kiwi House opening of the Zone 1 redevelopment. They both spoke to ŌDC’s Tony Quickfall at the opening about the number of drivers parking in the bus parking on Maniapoto Street. They sought the realignment of the signage to be visible to approaching traffic rather than facing directly into the street as currently located. Board Member Butcher also sought the addition of two new ‘No dog’ signs in the middle of Maniapoto Street in addition to the existing signage at each end. ŌDC’s Mark Lewis advised staff would consider if any enforcement actions were appropriate.

Deputy Chairperson Coventry queried the lack of yellow rubbish bags available for purchase at the supermarket. ŌDC’s Jared le Fleming noted these were still available to purchase from local dairies. He advised the issue related to the bags being back ordered with the supplier but until the delivery, bags from Taupo had been made available to the supermarket for purchase. These bags would be collected in lieu of the normal bags until the supply was re-established.

Board Member Muller had lodged a service request after noticing skid marks from motorbikes along the Te Ara a Waiwaiā walkway. She also commented on the intersection of Turongo and Te Kanawa streets and the tendency for drivers turning into Turongo to cut the corner which created a hazard for pedestrians. ŌDC’s Mark Lewis advised staff will look into mitigation options.

Chairperson Christison sought in installation of the 1km markers along the Te Ara a Waiwaiā walkway which was originally requested in November 2022. ŌDC’s Tanya Winter noted the need to install solid posts rather

than plastic markers which can be easily damaged. She advised staff would include this on the work program.

In response to a query from Councillor Christison, Mr Lewis advised the information signage for the Te Ara a Waiwaiā walkway would be installed. These would not be as large as first anticipated but of a design that can be added to in the future. This installation is to complete the project as agreed with the Waikato River Authority.

Community Board discretionary fund

Chairperson Christison referred to the request for funding by Trish Fisher for the Ōtorohanga Railway Station 100 years event at the previous month’s public forum. She noted no decision was made at the meeting as a number of Board Members were absent. Members spoke in favour of a grant.

Resolved O73: That the Ōtorohanga Community Board grant the sum of \$3,000 excluding GST from their Discretionary Fund to Trish Fisher for the Ōtorohanga Railway Station 100 years event.

Board Member Brown-Merrin | Councillor Hughes

Resolution register

There were no outstanding Resolutions.

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 4.32pm.

Workshops | Hui awheawhe

Ōtorohanga mowing contract areas	Open to the public	Jared le Fleming
Reserve Management Strategy update	Open to the public	Ross McNeil

The meeting day concluded at 5.20pm.