

Clutha District Council

Minutes of the meeting of Clutha District Council held in the Council Chambers, 1 Rosebank Terrace, Balclutha on Thursday, 25 January 2024 commencing at 1.30pm.

Present His Worship the Mayor Bryan Cadogan, Councillors Kevin Barron, Dane Catherwood (arrived at 1.35pm), Wayne Felts, Gaynor Finch, Bruce Graham, John Herbert, Alison Ludemann, Simon McAtamney, Dean McCrostie, Brent Mackie, Jock Martin, Ken Payne and Bruce Vollweiler

In Attendance Steve Hill (Chief Executive), Jules Witt (Group Manager Service Delivery), Sharon Jenkinson (Chief Financial Officer), Peter Stafford (Strategic Planning Manager), Kara Steedman (Senior Policy Advisor), Diane Byars (Communications Manager), Beki McCabe (Communications Coordinator) and Julie Gardner (EA/Governance Advisor)

Linda Till (Head of 3 Waters), Donna McArthur (Head of Infrastructure Strategy & Delivery), Laura Gourley (Waste Minimisation Officer), Trey Willis-Croft (Management Accountant), Natasha Munro (Policy Advisor), Oscar Melad (Financial Support Accountant), Debbie Duncan (Library/Service Centre Manager)

Apologies Councillor Michele Kennedy

Moved Councillors Herbert/Payne and Resolved:

“That the apology be sustained.”

His Worship the Mayor Bryan Cadogan welcomed Councillors, staff and the media to the first meeting of 2024 and advised that this meeting was being livestreamed and recorded.

Mayor Cadogan said a Whakatauki in place of the Karakia.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC FORUM

Roy Johnston – Vehicles on Beaches presentation

- Highlighted recent incidents of vehicles on beaches at Papatowai over the holiday period.
- Would like Council to seriously consider speed limits for all CDC beaches.
- Recent death at Muriwai Beach has highlighted what can happen when vehicles travel at high speeds on a beach.
- Speed limit of 30km/hr is imposed at roadworks but is still too fast for wildlife and children on beaches, night driving on beaches should be totally banned.
- International visitors are appalled at our lax attitude for driving on beaches.
- The current Bylaw is very weak, proactive education has been poor, beach signage is too small to be effective.
- Bylaw includes provision for implementing Safe Zones and would like consideration given to Papatowai Beach and other vulnerable beaches.
- Respectfully request an assurance that CDC will seriously consider implementing Safe Zones on our vulnerable beaches.

Councillor Martin left the meeting at 1.33pm and returned at 1.34pm

Mayor Cadogan requested that the presentation from Roy and anyone else be included as part of the LTP submission process which opens on 28 March 2024.

It was highlighted that this could then be included in the work programme to review the Vehicles on Beaches bylaw.

1 LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 REVISED TIMELINES

The Strategic Planning Manager submitted a report advising on the proposed course of action and revised timelines in response to the Government announcements on Long Term Plan 2024-34 development and related matters.

Peter advised that Deloitte were rescheduling audits nationwide as a result of recent Government announcements and have provided a revised timeline for Councils in response to that announcement.

Further Government legislative amendments are expected in the second half of February 2024 for an extension of up to 3 months to finish the LTP.

Consultation Document Audit is expected to commence from 4 March 2024 and should be sufficiently completed for a Council decision on 27 March 2024. Subject to that LTP consultations are to commence on 28 March 2024 and close on 26 April 2024 to be followed by LTP submission hearings on 7 & 8 May 2024, with an LTP Decisions meeting scheduled for 23 May 2024. Deloitte are to advise of subsequent final audit dates. LTP

approval is subject to final audit timelines and legislative amendment details expected in the second part of February 2024, but is likely to take place in late June or early July 2024.

The Chief Executive advised that all councils in NZ now have clear information that 3 Waters is to be included so everyone is in the same position.

Moved Councillors Finch/Payne and Resolved:

“That Council receives the ‘Long Term Plan 2024-34 (LTP) Revised Timelines’ report.

That Council confirms the revised LTP timelines in response to advice received by the Minister of Local Government.”

2 LTP WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

The Strategic Planning Manager submitted a report advising of a number of LTP items to be discussed in a workshop format.

Moved Councillors Finch/Ludemann and Resolved:

“That Council receives the ‘LTP Workshop Discussion Report’ dated 25 January 2024.

That Council suspends Standing Orders to facilitate discussion as this is a workshop item.”

The meeting moved into a Council Workshop at 2.04pm.

The Council meeting resumed at 5.22pm.

3 DECISIONS ARISING FROM WORKSHOP DIRECTIVES OF 25 JANUARY 2024

The Strategic Planning Manager submitted a request to formalise key decisions arising from the workshop discussion on 25 January 2024 for inclusion in the pre-audit documents (Consultation Document, Financial Strategy and Investment Strategy) to be considered at Council’s next meeting on 15 February 2024.

Moved Councillors Felts/Graham and Resolved:

“That Council reinstates Standing Orders.

That Council receives the ‘Decisions arising from Workshop Directives of 25 January 2024’ report.

That Council reviews directions made at the Council Workshop session of 25 January 2024 and for each direction provides decisions.”

Workshop Session 1A – Financial Strategy Key Financial Assumptions

Moved Councillors Payne/McCrostie and Resolved:

“That Council agrees to support staff obtaining a credit rating noting that it will be confirmed at the Risk & Assurance meeting on 1 February 2024.

Moved Councillors Graham/Felts and Resolved:

That Council adopts a rate cap of a set 25% for year 1-3, then a different 10% for years 4-10.

That Council confirms:

- that the inflation rates are updated to the final BERL rates.***
- Interest on Borrowing: 5.25% (average of years 1-3, advice from Miles O'Connor at Bancorp).***
- Interest on Investments: 5.25% to mirror the above (advice from Ben Trollip at MJW was 7.3% average over 10 years, we had been using 3.4%)***

That Council adopts the following directions –

- Three waters loans: fund the interest and principal repayments on all three waters loans. (was previously interest only)***
- Phase in three waters depreciation to be fully funded in year three (previously funding 25% only).”***

Workshop Session 1B – Financial Strategy Key Financial Assumptions

Moved Councillors Vollweiler/Graham and Resolved:

“That Council agrees to include a consultation question on providing an additional rates rebate.”

Workshop Session 2 – Fees & Charges

Moved Councillors Ludemann/Payne and Resolved:

“That Council notes a final Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges incorporating any updates (including trade waste and water fees and charges) will be brought to the February 15, 2024, Council meeting for adoption as part of the suite of documents required to inform the LTP consultation.”

Workshop Session 3 – Financial Policies Approach Update

Moved Councillors Vollweiler/Finch and Resolved:

“That Council notes the proposed approach to Financial Policies Updates that are to go to Risk & Assurance on 1 February 2024 and Council on 15 February 2024.”

Workshop Session 4 – Matters from Residual matters from other workshops

Moved Councillors Ludemann/Felts and Resolved:

“That Council agrees to the development of a Clutha District Council Disability Strategy in Year 1 of the LTP 2024-34 from within existing operational budgets.

That Council agrees that in response to the Heritage Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan (from 2023/24 Annual Plan submission) to no additional salary funding but identify through a staff submission projects for possible funding support including the development of a ‘Heritage Toolbox’.

That Council supports receiving a submission as part of the LTP submission process to support the Clutha Budget Advisory Service Food Hub with up to \$25,000 per annum.”

Workshop Session 5 – Consultation Document & Questions

Moved Councillors Finch/McCrostie and Resolved:

“That Council agrees in principle to the draft Council Consultation Document Outline subject to the Chief Executive taking into account comments made during the preceding Council workshop session.

That Council agrees in principle to the draft Consultation Questions and Feedback subject to the Chief Executive taking into account comments made during the preceding Council workshop session.

That Council notes a draft Consultation Document is to be brought forward to the Council meeting of 15 February 2024 for Council consideration and pre-audit approval.”

Workshop Session 6 – Consultation Plan

Moved Councillors Vollweiler/Graham and Resolved:

“That Council notes a final LTP Consultation Plan incorporating any updates will be brought to the February 15, 2024, Council meeting for adoption as part of the Consultation Documents pre-audit approval.”

Workshop Session 7 – Infrastructure Strategy and AMPs Update

Moved Councillors Finch/Payne and Resolved:

“That Council notes the Infrastructure Strategy and AMPs Update incorporating any updates will be brought to the February 15, 2024, Council meeting for adoption as part of the Consultation Documents pre-audit approval.”

4 DRAFT WASTE MINIMISATION MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024

The Waste Management Officer submitted the Draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024 and requests Council adopts this for consultation.

Councillors commented about the acronyms used within the document as these may not be obvious to those reading the plan – Laura advised that there should be a glossary that includes these at the back of the document.

An executive summary will be written to reduce the size of the document in keeping with the waste minimisation philosophy – other councils are also taking this option.

Moved Councillors Ludemann/Herbert and Resolved:

“That Council receives the ‘Draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024 report.

That Council adopts the Draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024 for consultation (Attachment A).

That Council adopts the Statement of Proposal for the Draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024 (Attachment B).

That Council adopts the timeframe of 25 January 2024 to 30 June 2024 for the consultation and submission period for the Draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024.”

5 DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

Mike Goldsmith (GHC Consulting) submitted the Draft Climate Change Strategy and requested approval to release it for consultation alongside the LTP Consultation.

Moved Councillors McAtamney/Catherwood and Resolved:

“That Council receives the ‘Draft Climate Change Strategy’ report dated 25 January 2024.

That Council approves the release of the Draft Climate Change Strategy, for consultation alongside the LTP Consultation.

That Council delegates Chief Executive’s edits for corrections and updates to the Draft Climate Change Strategy if required.”

6 OUR PLACE TAIERI MOUTH CONSULTATION MATERIAL

Mike Goldsmith (GHC Consulting) submitted a report requesting Council approve the 'Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material' for public release.

Moved Councillors Vollweiler/Finch and Resolved:

"That Council receives the 'Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material' report.

That Council approves the release of the Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material, for consultation.

That Council delegates Chief Executive's edits for corrections and updates to the Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material if required."

The meeting closed at 5.44pm.

Read and Confirmed

**B A Cadogan
MAYOR**