

CONFIRMED MINUTES

**OF THE WAIHEMO COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD IN THE WAIHEMO SERVICE CENTRE, PALMERSTON
ON MONDAY, 10 MARCH 2025 AT 6:00 PM**

PRESENT: Member Jim Thomson, Member Tanya Bell, Member Kerry Stevens, Chair Heather McGregor, Member Carol Watson

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Gary Kircher
Lisa Baillie (Director Community Engagement and Experience)
Joanne O'Neill (Director Strategy, Performance, and Design)
Sieglyn Duero (Executive Assistant; minute-taker)

MEETING OPEN

The Chair declared the meeting open at **5.58pm** and welcomed everyone present.

1 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED WCB 2025/001

Moved: Cr Jim Thomson

Seconded: Member Carol Watson

That the apology received from Member Paul Roy and Alex Parmley be accepted.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Elizabeth Corish (Palmerston Landfill)

Elizabeth expressed concerns regarding the closure of Palmerston's landfill. The closure has led to inconvenience and increased travel for local residents, which is not environmentally sustainable as it does not contribute to the reduction of the carbon footprint.

The mayor responded that Palmerston's landfill had a limited life and the consent had lapsed.

Member Kerry Stevens suggested that for similar concerns in the future, individuals should speak at a Council Meeting public forum or make a submission to the Long-Term Plan (LTP).

Lisa Baillie noted that the Transformation programme will include changes in reporting through the Locality Officer to produce meaningful data for the community.

4 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

4.1 PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE WAIHEMO COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 2 DECEMBER 2024

There is no response yet to the proposed joint meeting to clarify responsibilities for maintaining the storm water channels.

Cr Thomson is coordinating with the Otago Regional Council and Cr Malcolm (ORC) to ensure personnel availability on-site.

RESOLVED WCB 2025/002

Moved: Member Kerry Stevens

Seconded: Member Carol Watson

That the Waihemo Community Board confirms the Public minutes of the Waihemo Community Board Meeting held on 2 December 2024, as circulated, as a true and correct record of that meeting.

5 MEMORANDUM REPORTS

5.1 BUILDING CONSENTS ISSUED IN THE WAIHEMO WARD DURING NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2024 AND JANUARY 2025

RESOLVED WCB 2025/003

Moved: Member Kerry Stevens

Seconded: Member Tanya Bell

That the Waihemo Community Board receives and notes the information.

5.2 COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS AND WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

RESOLVED WCB 2025/004

Moved: Member Carol Watson

Seconded: Cr Jim Thomson

That the Waihemo Community Board receives and notes the information.

5.3 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chair noted that after 39 years, the Palmerston Sawmill has closed. The sawmill had been supportive of the community.

RESOLVED WCB 2025/005

Moved: Chair Heather McGregor

Seconded: Member Kerry Stevens

That the Waihemo Community Board receives and notes the information.

5.4 FINANCIAL REPORT TO WAIHEMO COMMUNITY BOARD (MARCH 2025)

RESOLVED WCB 2025/006

Moved: Cr Jim Thomson

Seconded: Member Carol Watson

That the Waihemo Community Board receives and notes the information.

5.5 COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT - LINKS TO COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA PAPERS

Item 5.5 was discussed after Item 5.6.

Update from Mayor Gary Kircher

The Mayor's report was presented at the Council Meeting on February 25th. Discussions regarding the St John shuttle service are progressing well.

The Local Water Done Well discussions are ongoing, with Waitaki involved in two groups. An investigation into a joint council-controlled organisation (CCO) is in progress, and the Waitaki District Council (WDC) now joins councils from Clutha, Gore, Central Otago, Timaru, Waimate, and Mackenzie. Community consultation is planned for April or May.

Update from Cr Jim Thomson

Cr Thomson received a call from a dissatisfied member of the public concerning the consultation process for the District Plan. He acknowledged that the decision-making process is not without flaws and noted that the submission procedure can help refine it. This allows the panel to make informed decisions. Encouragingly, support is available for those who are not confident in making their submissions, and individuals are urged to seek assistance as needed.

Update from Lisa Baillie

Provided an update noting changes in Governance, expecting a straightforward process. Used a different communication style acknowledged during the LTP consultation. Stage 4 of Transformation presented; the customer service approach has changed, identifying gaps but acknowledged by the community.

Update from Director Joanne O'Neill

Joanne is the WDC Director for Strategy, Performance, and Design, and she will be assuming responsibility for the WCB portfolio.

RESOLVED WCB 2025/008

Moved: Member Kerry Stevens

Seconded: Member Carol Watson

That the Waihemo Community Board receives and notes the information.

5.6 CORRESPONDENCE

Item 5.6 was discussed before Item 5.5.

The Correspondence from Bruce and Denise Cameron has been supplied by the Board Chair for formal receipt at this meeting. It is in regard to a complaint on an ongoing unauthorised musical festival at 468 Chalmers Road, Palmerston.

Officer comment noted that the activity is a permitted activity and did not require a resource consent. Building permit was granted for the marquee, and alcohol licence was not required.

Officer comment noted that no reports of complaints received for the 2024 event and other issues raised should be directed to the local police.

ACTION: The WCB is requesting an officer response to be sent to the sender, if it has not been done.

RESOLVED WCB 2025/007

Moved: Member Tanya Bell

Seconded: Member Carol Watson

That the Waihemo Community Board formally receives two items of correspondence and considers officer comments (where available) and any actions in response.

6 MEETING CLOSE

The Chair declared the meeting closed at **6.44pm**.

TO BE CONFIRMED at the Waihemo Community Board Meeting to be held on Monday, 12 May 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON