

**CONFIRMED MINUTES**

**OF THE AHURIRI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING  
HELD IN THE OMARAMA COMMUNITY CENTRE, 35 CHAIN HILLS HIGHWAY, OMARAMA  
ON MONDAY, 12 MAY 2025 AT 2:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Member Alan Pont, Member Mike King, Member Calum Reid, Member Steve Dalley, Member Karen Turner

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Gary Kircher  
Paul Hope ( Support Service)  
Shannon Barlow (Executive Assistant; minute-taker)

**IN ATTENDANCE FOR SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS:**

Melanie Jones (Community & Economic Development Manager)  
Sonia Martinez (Strategic Communications & Engagement Manager)

**MEETING OPEN**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 2:00PM and welcomed everyone present.

**1 APOLOGIES**

**RESOLVED ACB 2025/008**

Moved: Member Calum Reid  
Seconded: Member Alan Pont

That the apology received from Cr Brent Cowles be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 PUBLIC FORUM**

Michelle Kitchen, Chairperson of the Ōmārama Residents' Association, along with Lindsay Purvis and Maurice Cowie, spoke to the Board about the allocation of Better Off funding for the resealing of the Ōmārama Community Hall carpark. The current state of the carpark does not meet the community's needs. The Ōmārama Residents' Association has discussed this with the Chair, Calum Reid, Board Member Mike King and Director, Support Services, Paul Hope. There has been two quotes received. The Association has allocated funds to the project, and the remaining funds required will meet the Better Off funding criteria and can be completed within the timeline.

The Board Chair inquired about the next steps for getting the project signed off. Community & Economic Development Manager, Melanie Jones, advised that the Council is very supportive of this opportunity, considering it a good use of the remaining Better Off funds. She noted that further internal discussions are necessary. It was confirmed that the project can be signed off within two months' time and that the Better Off funds do not expire at the end of June. Melanie Jones will confirm this information to the Community Board through an email.

**4 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

**4.1 PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE AHURIRI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 10 MARCH 2025**

**RESOLVED ACB 2025/009**

Moved: Member Steve Dalley

Seconded: Member Alan Pont

That the Ahuriri Community Board confirms the Public minutes of the Ahuriri Community Board Meeting held on 10 March 2025, as circulated, as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**CARRIED**

**5 MEMORANDUM REPORTS**

**5.1 BUILDING CONSENTS ISSUED IN THE AHURIRI WARD DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2025**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board members with a list of building consents issued in the Ahuriri Ward during February and March 2025.

The decision on the report change has not yet been made. An email will be sent to the Board requesting feedback on their requirements and preferences for future reporting.

**RESOLVED ACB 2025/010**

Moved: Mr Alan Pont

Seconded: Mrs Karen Turner

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

**CARRIED**

**5.2 COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS AND WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to convey reports from the Ahuriri Community Board Members and the Ahuriri Ward Councillor for the information of communities throughout the Waihemo Ward.

The Board members acknowledged their reports as read.

**RESOLVED ACB 2025/011**

Moved: Mr Mike King

Seconded: Mr Steve Dalley

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

**CARRIED**

### **5.3 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to share the Chairperson's report with Board members and the public.

Discussed Paddies Flat Flooding with an Officer and provided an ECAN report on required mediation. Has engaged in a productive discussion with Director, Community Engagement & Experience, Lisa Baillie and the Locality Team and the Board members were given a process for contacting Council officers. Represented the Board at the Kurow and Ōmārama ANZAC Day services, and attended the Duntroon service and two smaller services in the Waitaki Valley. All services were well attended.

#### **RESOLVED ACB 2025/012**

Moved: Mr Calum Reid

Seconded: Mr Mike King

That the Ahuriri Community board receives and notes the information.

**CARRIED**

### **5.4 COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT - LINKS TO COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA PAPERS**

The purpose of this report is to provide links to final agenda papers and any related attachments for recent Council Meetings and events, along with the Chief Executive's summary of discussions at Council Meetings (where available), for the information of Community Board members and their Ward communities.

#### Update from Mayor Kircher

Attended the presentation by Warren Ulesele and Paul Barker outlined the series of reforms that will significantly reshape local government's landscape in New Zealand. The Long-Term Plan (LTP) is currently out for consultation. The LTP will be agreed upon and finalised at the Council meeting on 27 May, with adoption and rate setting scheduled for late June. The District Plan was notified in March, and submissions are due to close Friday, the 16 May. There have been some issues with the mapping technology, but these are currently being addressed. The Water Services Delivery Plan must be submitted by September. The Mayor outlined four options, with the preferred being the Southern group with a joint Council-Controlled Organisation (CCO).

#### **RESOLVED ACB 2025/013**

Moved: Mr Steve Dalley

Seconded: Mr Alan Pont

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

**CARRIED**

### **5.5 FINANCIAL REPORT TO AHURIRI COMMUNITY BOARD (MARCH 2025)**

Director, Support Services, Paul Hope spoke to the report. Advised the standardised water schemes are in progress. For Bushy Creek, acceptable solutions are still expected. The Ohau project has been completed, marking a positive step, with the budget for next year brought forward to this year to facilitate progress. Work on other schemes and drinking water is progressing, although at a slower pace. All funds are in positive balances, including those for the halls.

Regarding financial delegations, a workshop is proposed for one of the next two meetings to discuss this matter. The Chair will send an email to Paul Hope to organise. It was confirmed that if an item is in the report, the Board has control over it.

**RESOLVED ACB 2025/014**

Moved: Mr Mike King

Seconded: Mr Alan Pont

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

**CARRIED**

**5.6 WAITAKI GATEWAY AND TOWNSHIP SIGNAGE**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the development of new Waitaki Gateway and Township signage. Seek community board feedback on designs and next steps.

Strategic Communications & Engagement Manager, Sonia Martinez updated the Community Board on the new district logo, presenting two options. Due to NZTA requirements, the design options are limited. The project is budget-conscious, focusing on durable, like-for-like replacements and natural materials. The designs will be posted on the "Let's Talk" page for community feedback, at this stage Corten steel is the favourable material option. It was noted that additional signage is needed from the Waimate into Kurow location. Members were asked to suggest local contacts for quotes. Questions were raised about adding farewell messages on the back of the signs. The Mayor suggested an interim solution for consistency. Further project details will be provided to the Community Board. The Chair expressed gratitude to Melanie Jones and Sonia Martinez for their presentation. The Board was in favour of the work completed thus far.

Resolved ACB 2025/15

Moved: Mr Mike King

Seconded: Mr Alan Pont

That the Ahuriri Community Board receives and notes the information.

**CARRIED**

THE CHAIR EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO MAYOR GARY KIRCHER FOR HIS LONG-TERM SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND FOR HIS ONGOING SUPPORT TO THE COMMUNITY BOARD OVER THE YEARS.

**6 MEETING CLOSE**

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.27PM.

TO BE CONFIRMED at the Ahuriri Community Board Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 1 July 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON