



# **Unconfirmed MINUTES**

**Ordinary Council Meeting**

**18 May 2021**

**MINUTES OF MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE EVENTS CENTRE LOUNGE, TWIZEL  
ON TUESDAY, 18 MAY 2021 AT 9.30AM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Graham Smith, Deputy Mayor James Leslie, Cr Anne Munro, Cr Stuart Barwood, Cr Murray Cox, Cr Emily Bradbury, Cr Matt Murphy

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Suzette van Aswegen (Chief Executive), Paul Numan (General Manager Corporate Services), Tim Harty (General Manager Operations), Alexis Gray (General Manager People and Culture), Aaron Hakkaart (Planning Manager), Katherine Hill (Senior Corporate Planner), Sam Molyneux (Executive Assistant), Arlene Goss (Governance Advisor), Charlie O'Mannin (media), seven members of the public including the public forum speakers.

## **1 OPENING AND PUBLIC FORUM**

The Mayor opened the meeting with a karakia and welcomed everyone. He then opened the public forum.

**Neville Cunningham** spoke about what he viewed as deficiencies at the Pukaki Airport. He said the airport was totally dysfunctional. The reason for that was a lack of leadership, accountability and direction. He said the airport needed a plan looking forward.

He said people who own land at the airport have been trying to form a society of the landowners and residents. They would like to work together with the council on a plan.

Mr Cunningham said investment has been lost at the airport. It should be the major strategic asset at the Mackenzie. The airport manager was not here at the meeting today. Landing fees were a shambles. The lack of action over fencing had been three years. There was a lack of signage.

Mr Cunningham was upset about receiving a notice of termination of his lease. He handed the Mayor a letter and asked for it to be processed today. This letter is available as an attachment to these minutes.

Cr Munro asked Mr Cunningham to define what he wanted included in a five-year plan. He said he wanted growth and investment.

The Mayor said he appreciated the points he raised.

**Luke Paardekooper** asked for clarification on the time available to speak. He wanted to speak about the representation review (which would normally occur in a hearing) and had other matters to discuss in the public forum. The governance advisor asked Mr Paardekooper if he agreed to speak about the representation review at this public forum, without the need to close the meeting and open a hearing. He agreed to this. (Mr Paardekooper's written submission on the representation review is available as an attachment to these minutes.)

He said it was important to have the best people on Council. He was surprised that a lot of Twizel people supported a Tekapo person at the last election. If three wards were created it would create a kingmaker situation in Tekapo. He would feel uncomfortable with a council that had a kingmaker at the table. He did not think the proposal was consistently fair. If the third ward was put in place Twizel would have more people per councillor and this was unfair. Regarding the community board proposal, issues in townships were different to issues in rural areas. He felt it would be

better to have a rural community board across the district, which would give rural people a voice. Also, how does Mount Cook fit into the picture? He asked if there were any questions from councillors and there were none. The Mayor thanked him for his submission.

Mr Paardekooper handed out chocolates to the councillors, making sure that some councillors received more chocolates than others. He then put a pavlova on the table and covered it in whipped cream and sprinkles. He said he wanted to demonstrate that different parts of the district were not getting a fair share of the pavlova/cake.

Mr Paardekooper then commented on the recent spatial planning sessions held throughout the district. He believed the three towns did not get the same amount of time and input from the drop-in sessions. He said there was a higher population in Twizel so more time should be spent there. Cr Leslie said some meetings had few or no people turn up, so he did not see the purpose of holding a meeting that nobody attended. Mr Paardekooper said it was the perception of fairness that mattered.

## **2 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

## **3 VISITORS**

There were no visitors.

## **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **5 BEREAVEMENTS**

There were no bereavements.

## **6 MAYOR'S REPORT**

### **6.1 MAYORAL ACTIVITIES REPORT**

The Mayor outlined the highlights of his report. The 3-Waters project was concerning the Mayors and councillors. Cr Bradbury asked about the situation in Christchurch. The Mayor said both Christchurch and Auckland were opposed to the project. The chief executive said to “watch this space” and Council would make evidence-based decisions.

#### **RESOLUTION 2021/42**

Moved: Cr Anne Munro  
Seconded: Cr Stuart Barwood  
That the report be received.

**CARRIED**

## 7 REPORTS

### 7.1 UPDATES FROM COUNCILLORS ON THE WORK OF OTHER COMMITTEES

**Cr Anne Munro** reported from the Aoraki Mackenzie Dark Sky Committee. There was an outreach held in Twizel on the impact of LEDs on insects. About 30 people turned up and found this helpful.

The OTOF water zone committee has five empty positions due to resignations and is currently refreshing its membership. They are meeting on June 14 to fill these positions.

The Biosecurity Advisory Group hasn't met for 3 months. Wilding pines, rabbits and wallabies are on the agenda.

The Biodiversity Champions Group is a new group and has come up with a term of reference.

**Cr Stuart Barwood** reported that the Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee has drawn up an action plan and would meet on Friday. He read out the focus points from the plan. They were hoping to engage more with the northern end of the district.

Downlands Water Committee was making progress on building the new reservoir. A workshop is coming up.

**Cr Emily Bradbury** said the Alps2Ocean committee was on hold until the terms of reference had been tidied up.

**Cr James Leslie** passed on congratulations to the roading group for the speed at which the streetlights in Twizel had been replaced.

### 7.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S ACTIVITIES REPORT

The chief executive took this report as read and noted the big jump in the number of resource consent applications last month. The trend had not continued this month.

She continued to note the highlights in the report and praised Tim Harty and Brian Milne for dealing with the large number of community facility service requests.

She noted some changes to her list of meetings as follows:

Key Meetings added to diary after distribution of agenda:

13 May

- Three Waters Update to Zone5/6 Mayors and CEs – by Zoom
- Jim Murray and Mayor – Takapo matters
- Recovery Manager Update

14 May

- Chair of TPDA – PR

17 May

- Chair of Audit and Risk Committee – pre-meeting liaison

Cr Munro asked the reason for the meeting with John Edgewell. He was a previous contractor and called in for coffee with the chief executive regularly to discuss how things were going.

Regarding leave liability, the chief executive said the liability listed under the CEO business unit

was divided by five people. The executive team had put a plan in place to manage annual leave.

A staff engagement survey was running at the moment. As of yesterday, 53% of staff had completed the survey.

In general, the chief executive said she was pleased with the performance of the team and her priority was completing the Long-Term Plan.

Cr Barwood asked if FTE figures should include casuals and contractors.

Alexis Gray said they were not included because the turnover rate would be very high, due to the short nature of fixed term contracts.

Recruitment was going well. Alexis Gray outlined the roles currently being advertised and applications received.

#### **RESOLUTION 2021/43**

Moved: Mayor Graham Smith

Seconded: Cr Emily Bradbury

That the report be received.

**CARRIED**

### **7.3 COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT**

Paul Numan went through his report and noted that the capex budget had not been spent in some areas for various reasons which were explained in the report.

Operating expenditure was a bit underspent due to not getting enough work done on the roads. Tim Harty said there was more work being done now to tidy up the end of the current roading contract and move into the new contract.

Discussion moved to the building unit and the work that had been done to improve building services. The Mayor was pleased to see this happening.

Cr Cox said community facilities were underspent and would that be carried over? Yes. Cr Cox wanted to ensure this money was not used to claw back some of the LTP costs. Mr Harty said the money would carry forward into the same budget it was currently assigned to. A report would come to council on this.

#### **RESOLUTION 2021/44**

Moved: Cr Matt Murphy

Seconded: Deputy Mayor James Leslie

That the financial report for Mackenzie District Council to March 2021 be received.

**CARRIED**

### **7.4 LONG TERM PLAN UPDATE 2021-2031**

Katherine Hill took the report as read. Following recent workshops staff had reviewed progress to

date and were working with Audit NZ to develop a revised project plan, which was attached to the agenda.

Looking to adopt the LTP on the 30th of September. There were continued risks with other work including the Annual Report but would continue to work with audit on this.

Cr Munro said not delivering the annual report on time was unpalatable. Paul Numan said discussion had taken place with Audit New Zealand and they would not miss this statutory deadline.

It was noted that Council could not strike rates until the LTP was adopted on 30 September. At this stage rates bills will go out as usual, with the first quarter instalment at the old rate.

Cr Cox asked for clarification on the adoption date and this was confirmed as 30 September. The reasons for this date were explained by the chief executive. It was important to spend time on consultation with the community. Auditors were arriving on May 31.

Cr Murphy asked about the possibility of a rate rise just before Christmas. This would be spread across all three quarters. He asked Council to be mindful of this. A system was already in place for people to make application for relief in cases of hardship.

**RESOLUTION 2021/45**

Moved: Cr Stuart Barwood

Seconded: Deputy Mayor James Leslie

That the report be received.

**CARRIED****7.5 PROPOSED FEES AND CHARGES 2021/22**

The purpose of this report was for Council to adopt the proposed fees and charges for the 2021/22 financial year, excluding Resource Management fees and charges.

Katherine Hill outlined this report. RMA fees would be consulted on, and the others would come into effect on July 1.

Cr Leslie asked for more information on the 7% user charge in governance. Katherine Hill said she would check on this. These were not just councillor related but include other governance costs including administrative.

Cr Barwood asked about the wait for property files to be sent to Twizel. This was because property files were not held in Twizel but were sent to Twizel on request.

**RESOLUTION 2021/46**

Moved: Mayor Graham Smith

Seconded: Cr Emily Bradbury

1. That the report be received.

**CARRIED****RESOLUTION 2021/47**

Moved: Cr Murray Cox  
Seconded: Deputy Mayor James Leslie

2. That the Council exempt the breach of the Revenue and Financing Policy with regard to the funding of Governance General and Twizel Swimming Pool from the prescribed 20-40% user charges.
3. That the Council adopt the attached fees and charges for the 2021/22 financial year, exclusive of Resource Management fees and charges.

**CARRIED**

## **7.6 MONTHLY REPORT FROM SOUTH CANTERBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - MARCH AND APRIL 2021**

Paul Numan said he was looking at the current arrangements with the South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce, given there was now an economic development officer employed by Council. This matter would come to a future meeting.

Cr Leslie congratulated local businesses that were finalists in the business awards.

The Mayor said the Chamber's response to Covid had been excellent. The Chamber had supported a lot of our businesses in the past year.

Cr Munro said Mackenzie needed to be sold as a workforce destination, rather than just a visitor destination.

### **RESOLUTION 2021/48**

Moved: Cr Anne Munro  
Seconded: Cr Murray Cox

That the information be noted.

**CARRIED**

*The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.55am and re-convened at 11.08am.*

## **7.7 ADOPTION OF COMMISSIONERS RECOMMENDATION ON PLAN CHANGE 18 TO THE DISTRICT PLAN**

The purpose of this report was for Council to decide on provisions and matters raised in submissions on Plan Change 18 (Indigenous Biodiversity).

Planning Manager Aaron Hakkaart provided the background to this matter. Council was now required to decide before 30<sup>th</sup> June this year. The plan change had had immediate legal effect, so had been applied in the basin since November 2017.

He read through the changes made by the independent commissioners, as outlined in a two-page document named: Plan Change 18 – Summary of High Commissioners Recommendation. This document is available as an attachment to these minutes.

Cr Barwood raised the issue of irrigation to water newly planted indigenous trees. Mr Hakkaart explained the situation with irrigation. To establish any irrigation in the basin already requires a

resource consent under plan change 13. The definition of “significant natural area” was explained. Under the Resource Management Act the council had a responsibility to protect indigenous vegetation and not degrade it.

The Mayor asked farmer John Murray for his opinion of the findings. The chief executive said this was outside the standing orders. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 11.23am to allow Mr Murray to speak and reconvened the meeting at 11.25am.

Cr Cox asked for more time to understand this fully before deciding. Given that Council had until June 30 to decide he requested that councillors receive advice.

Cr Murphy asked if council could make changes. Council delegated this to the commissioners. The option was to accept the report or not. The commissioner’s findings were evidence based after listening to submissions. If anything was missing, another plan change was needed.

Cr Munro said the councillors would be serving the community well to give the time to workshop and understand this completely.

Discussion took place on inviting council’s planner to a workshop. The councillors also wanted to understand the consequences of accepting or rejecting it.

**RESOLUTION 2021/49**

Moved: Cr Anne Munro

Seconded: Cr Stuart Barwood

That the report be received.

**CARRIED****RESOLUTION 2021/50**

Moved: Cr Murray Cox

Seconded: Cr Stuart Barwood

That the report named: Adoption of Commissioners Recommendation on Plan Change 18 to the District Plan lie on the table until the next council meeting on June 29, 2021.

**CARRIED****8 COMMUNITY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS****8.1 MINUTES OF TWIZEL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING - 15 MARCH 2021****RESOLUTION 2021/51**

Moved: Cr Emily Bradbury

Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

That the Minutes of the Twizel Community Board Meeting held on Monday 15 March 2021 be received.

That Council notes the following resolutions passed by the Twizel Community Board:

1. That the Twizel Community Board approves a grant of \$500 to the Mackenzie Book and

Arts Festival.

**CARRIED**

## **8.2 MINUTES OF TEKAPO COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING - 17 MARCH 2021**

### **RESOLUTION 2021/52**

Moved: Cr Emily Bradbury

Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

That the Minutes of the Tekapo Community Board Meeting held on Wednesday 17 March 2021 be received.

That Council notes the following resolutions passed by the Tekapo Community Board:

1. That the Tekapo Community Board approves a grant of \$1,000 to the Mackenzie Book and Arts Festival Society towards staging the Book and Arts Festival.

**CARRIED**

## **8.3 MINUTES OF FAIRLIE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING - 18 MARCH 2021**

### **RESOLUTION 2021/53**

Moved: Cr Emily Bradbury

Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

That the Minutes of the Fairlie Community Board Meeting held on Thursday 18 March 2021 be received.

**CARRIED**

## **9 CONFIRM COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **9.1 MINUTES OF ENGINEERING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING - 2 MARCH 2021**

#### **RESOLUTION 2021/54**

Moved: Cr Emily Bradbury

Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

1. That the Minutes of the Engineering and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2 March 2021 be received.

**CARRIED**

**9.2 MINUTES OF PLANNING AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING - 2 MARCH 2021**

**RESOLUTION 2021/55**

Moved: Cr Emily Bradbury

Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

1. That the Minutes of the Planning and Regulations Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2 March 2021 be received.

**CARRIED**

**9.3 MINUTES OF AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING - 16 MARCH 2021**

**RESOLUTION 2021/56**

Moved: Cr Emily Bradbury

Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

1. That the Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 16 March 2021 be received.

**CARRIED**

**9.4 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - 16 MARCH 2021**

**RESOLUTION 2021/57**

Moved: Cr Emily Bradbury

Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 March 2021 be received and confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

**10 PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

**RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLUTION 2021/58**

Moved: Cr Emily Bradbury

Seconded: Cr Murray Cox

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the

reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
<b>10.1 - Downlands Water Scheme Proposal</b>	s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
<b>10.2 - Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Funding Application - Round Two</b>	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
<b>10.3 - Approval to Procure Term Assurance Services</b>	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
<b>10.4 - Procurement Policy Exemption for Takapo/Tekapo WWTP Planning</b>	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.  s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
<b>10.5 - Minutes of Public Excluded Audit and Risk Committee Meeting - 16 March</b>	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the

<b>2021</b>	disadvantage, commercial activities	disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
<b>10.6 - Minutes of Public Excluded Planning and Regulations Committee Meeting - 2 March 2021</b>	s7(2)(g) - the withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
<b>10.7 - Minutes of Public Excluded Council Meeting - 16 March 2021</b>	<p>s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p> <p>s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</p>	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2021/59**

Moved: Deputy Mayor James Leslie  
 Seconded: Cr Emily Bradbury

That Council moves out of closed meeting into open meeting.

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 12.30pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on**

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**CHAIRPERSON**