

Methven Community Board – 27/11/23

Minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on Monday 27 November 2023, commencing at 10.30am, in the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Board Room, 160 Main Street, Methven.

Present

Kelvin Holmes (Chair), Megan Fitzgerald, Robin Jenkinson, Allan Lock, Richie Owen, Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan and Cr Rob Mackle.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Linda Clarke (Communications Advisor) and Mary Jenkin (Governance Support).

1 Apologies

That the apology from Mayor Neil Brown be accepted.

Owen/Lock

Carried

Public Forum

Mac McElwain, John Corbett and Barry Maister were welcomed to the meeting and invited to update the Board on the Lions “Bring back the Birdsong” initiative. This would be a long-term volunteer-based programme that involves trapping pests and planting bird-friendly natives in both Methven and the local foothills. The proposal for Methven is to create a small native bush, bird-friendly sanctuary, possibly adjoining the Garden of Harmony.

The Board has been asked to consider endorsing this and advocating for Council to help progress the initiative. It is envisaged some grant funding would be required to help administer the project.

In conclusion, the Chairman advised that the Board is interested in helping to support this project, and not just with funding. He suggested that they come back to the Board and have further conversation once progress has been made.

Mac, Barry and John were thanked for their presentation and left the meeting at 10.50am.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on 16 October 2023 be taken as read and confirmed.

Fitzgerald/Jenkinson

Carried

Matter arising: The Board recorded its intention to ensure grant recipients complete accountability reports. This will apply to all future grants.

5 Activity Reports

That the reports be received.

McMillan / Fitzgerald

Carried

5.1 Democracy & Engagement

- **Local Alcohol Policy consultation**

It was noted that Council will adopt the final Local Alcohol Policy on 6 December. This follows two rounds of community consultation.

- **LTP 2024-34**

The Board will undertake to be part of the LTP 2024-2034 consultation process.

- **Representation Review**

The Board noted that the representation review proposal is out for consultation until 17 December.

- **Draft Biodiversity Strategy**

The deadline for feedback was yesterday. Council will be hearing submissions on 14 December.

- **Draft Reserve Management Plans**

Further consultation will take place in 2024. When available, the Draft Plans will be publicised and consultation will be undertaken with the community. The Board will consider the proposals and provide feedback.

5.2 Business Support

- **Finance reports**

The Chair noted that the community pool is not showing payment made.

It was noted that this may be a timing issue and officers will check and report back.

5.3 Compliance and Development

- **Visitor promotion**

Hamish advised that Council will give consideration to the amount of resource allocation into this activity through the Long-term Plan 2024-34 budget process.

- **Garden of Harmony site and historic pipe site development.**

The Board will undertake to consult with the community and gather the community's ideas for this site in the new year. It will require further conversation, taking into consideration the historic pipe, before coming to Council.

- **Methven Drop-off yard**

The Board is concerned that non-permitted items are being left at the site and it was agreed that further education is needed to make people aware of the requirements. It was suggested that Council's website be updated to make the information clearer.

That the Board Chairman speaks with the property owner of a site that may be potentially suitable for a recycling depot.

Fitzgerald/Jenkinson

Carried

5.4 Infrastructure & Open Spaces

- **Roading**

Officers have been asked to investigate the need to hard prune trees on Dolmer Street (near deer fence).

Business transacted with the public excluded – 11.30am

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – the general subject 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 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
6	MCB Minutes 16/10/23 - Discretionary grant applications	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy natural persons

Owen/Lock

Carried

There being no resolutions passed, the Board resumed in open meeting and concluded at 11.32am.

[Confirmed by the Board on 29 January 2024]

Chairman