

Council MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otago Regional Council held in the Council Chamber, Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 23 August 2023, commencing at 1:00 PM.

PRESENT

Cr Gretchen Robertson	<i>(Chairperson)</i>
Cr Lloyd McCall	<i>(Deputy Chairperson)</i>
Cr Alexa Forbes	
Cr Gary Kelliher	
Cr Michael Laws	
Cr Kevin Malcolm	
Cr Tim Mepham	
Cr Andrew Noone	
Cr Bryan Scott	
Cr Alan Somerville	
Cr Elliot Weir	
Cr Kate Wilson	

1. WELCOME

Chairperson Robertson welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 1:00pm. Staff present included Richard Saunders (Chief Executive), Pim Borren (Interim GM Transport) (online), Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations) Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), and Trudi McLaren (Governance Support).

2. APOLOGIES

Resolution: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded:

That the apologies for Cr Andrew Noone for early departure, be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Raewynne Pedofski and neighbor Hazel spoke on Cruise Ship emissions quantified against car emissions and answered questions from Councillors.

Pierre Marasti spoke on Extinction Rebellion and was available to answer questions.

Cr Laws left the meeting at 1:15pm and returned 1:18pm

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

As per a written request from Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment, for an urgent response, Cr Robertson moved acceptance of a late confidential paper: *Consideration of Letter from Minister Parker related to the Upper Taieri Scroll Plain*, citing maintenance of legal professional privilege section 7(2)(g) of 48(1)(a) as the reason for considering in Confidence. Cr Kelliher seconded the motion.

Resolution: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Kelliher Seconded:

That the Council:

1. **Adds** the late item 2.1 Letter from Hon Parker related to the Upper Taieri Scroll Plain to the confidential agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No changes to Councillor Declarations of Interests were noted.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the minutes of the (public portion of the) Council meeting held on 26 July 2023 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

7. ACTIONS (STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS)

Open actions from resolutions of the Committee were reviewed. No changes were noted. Closed off items will be marked as 'complete' prior to the next meeting.

8. CHAIRPERSON AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORTS

8.1. Chairperson's Report

Chair Robertson noted that three additional pieces of correspondence had been added to the website, which were late attachments to the Chair's Report. These could be found alongside the agenda.

Resolution: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the report be noted.

MOTION CARRIED

8.2. Chief Executive's Report

Resolution: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Kelliher Seconded

That the report be noted.

MOTION CARRIED

9. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

9.1. Electoral System for 2025 and 2028 Local Body Elections

This report sought Council consideration of the electoral systems for the 2025 (and possibly 2028) local body elections. Amanda Vercoe, General Manager Governance, Culture and Customer was available to respond to questions.

At 1:46pm Cr Robertson moved that the meeting adjourn for a break to find the legislative reference to consultation with local authorities. Cr Scott Seconded and the motion passed. At 1:50pm Cr Robertson resumed the Council Meeting.

Richard Saunders, Chief Executive, confirmed that there is no formal consultation obligation in the legislation.

Cr Noone left the meeting at 1:51pm

Resolution CM23-200: Cr Somerville Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council

1. **Receives** this report.
Agrees to:
 - b) **Change** electoral system to Single Transferable Vote for the 2025 and 2028 local body elections
2. **Notes** a public notice will be made prior to 19 September advising of the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system for the 2025 and 2028 elections.
3. **Notes** that should a decision be made to change electoral systems to Single Transferable Vote, options for a public education campaign will be brought back to Council for consideration as part of Long-Term Plan considerations.

A Division was called:

Vote

For:	Cr Forbes, Cr Mepham, Cr Scott, Cr Somerville, Cr Weir, Cr Wilson, and Cr Robertson
Against:	Cr Kelliher, Cr Laws, and Cr Malcolm
Abstained:	Cr McCall

MOTION CARRIED

9.2. Climate Change Strategy Scoping

This report provided a high-level overview of the process and outputs for the development of the Regional Climate Strategy which is a service level measure for the 2023-2024 Annual Report. Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Andrea Howard (Manager Executive Advice), Jean Luc Payan (Manager Natural Hazards) and Francisco Hernandez (Principal Advisor Climate Change) were present to provide background on the paper and answer questions.

There was a small change to the wording of the resolution, number 3 "Consider whether" to "Request".

Resolution CM23-201: Cr Weir Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the Council:

1. **Notes** this report.
2. **Approves** the proposed approach for the development of a Regional Climate Strategy.
3. **Request** staff create Terms of Reference for a Working Group to provide advice during the development of the Strategy.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Noone returned to the meeting at 2:10pm

9.3. Governance Options for Stage Two of the Dunedin City Future Development Strategy: Submissions and Hearing Process

This report sought approval for the governance arrangements for Stage Two of the joint Otago Regional Council and Dunedin City Council Future Development Strategy (FDS), which is being developed in partnership with mana whenua. Stage Two comprises decisions on public submissions and adopting the final FDS in mid-2024. Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science) and Patricia McLean (Senior Policy Analyst) were present to speak to answer questions. Patricia McLean advised that Option 1 was recommended as more streamlined and less onerous on Councillors. This process will require both Councils (DCC and ORC) to agree on the options. The Chair noted a change of wording for recommendation no 4. from 'mana whenua' to 'iwi appointed commissioners' as advised, for clarity, by the Executive Steering Group.

Resolution CM23-203: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

1. **Notes** this report.

A Division was called:

Vote

For:	Cr Forbes, Cr Kelliher, Cr Laws, Cr Malcolm, Cr McCall, Cr Mepham, Cr Noone, Cr Scott, Cr Somerville, Cr Weir, Cr Wilson and Cr Robertson
Against:	Nil
Abstained:	Nil

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution CM23-204: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 2. Approves the governance arrangements as outlined in Option One, Stage Two of the joint ORC/DCC Future Development Strategy;*

A Division was called:

Vote

For:	Cr Forbes, Cr McCall, Cr Noone, Cr Scott, Cr Somerville, Cr Weir, Cr Wilson, and Cr Robertson
Against:	Cr Kelliher, Cr Laws, Cr Malcolm, and Cr Mepham
Abstained:	Nil

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution CM23-205 Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 3. Notes that decisions on the membership of any Joint Hearings Panel and Chair appointment will be sought at the next meeting of Council.*

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution CM23-206 Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 4. Supports** the inclusion of two iwi appointed commissioners

A Division was called:

Vote

For:	Cr Forbes, Cr McCall, Cr Mepham, Cr Noone, Cr Scott, Cr Somerville, Cr Weir, Cr Wilson and Cr Robertson
Against:	Cr Kelliher, Cr Laws and Cr Malcolm
Abstained:	Nil

MOTION CARRIED

9.4. Requirements of NPS for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat 2023

This report was to inform Council of changes to the Air Plan required to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat.

Resolution CM23-207: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Council:

- 1. Notes** this report.
- 2. Approves** the change to the Air Plan and public notification of the change.

MOTION CARRIED

9.5. Policy for considering requests for ORC support for external funding bids by third parties

The report sought to approve a policy for considering requests for ORC support for external funding applications. Richard Saunders, Chief Executive outlined that this seeks to streamline the process of supporting requests, when they are aligned with ORC strategy and policy.

Resolution CM23-208: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Council:

1. **Notes** this report.
2. **Approves** the policy position as set out below.
3. **Notes** that any letters of support will be reported back to Council through the Chairs report.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Laws requested his vote against the motion be recorded in the minutes.

9.6. Documents Signed Under Council Seal

Resolution CM23-209: Cr Weir Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Council:

1. **Notes** this report.

MOTION CARRIED

10. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of this meeting, namely:

- Confidential Minutes of the 28 June 2023 Council Meeting
- 2.1 Letter from Hon Parker related to the Upper Taieri Scroll Plain

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:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
<i>Confidential Minutes of:</i> 28 June 2023	Section 7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of	Section 48(1)(a); Subject to subsection (3), a local authority may by resolution exclude the public from the whole or any part of the

	deceased natural persons	proceedings of any meeting only on 1 or more of the following grounds: (a) that the public conduct of the whole or 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.
<i>Letter from Hon David Parker related to the Upper Taieri Scroll Plain</i>	Section 7(2)(g): To maintain legal professional privilege	Section 48(1)(a); Section 7(2)(g) Subject to subsection (3), a local authority may by resolution exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on 1 or more of the following grounds: (a) that the public conduct of the whole or 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

This resolution is made in reliance on [section 48\(1\)\(a\)](#) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by [section 6](#) or [section 7](#) of that Act or [section 6](#) or [section 7](#) or [section 9](#) of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.

11. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Chairperson Robertson declared the public part of meeting closed at 3:32pm



Chairperson

20 September 2023

Date

