



Otago
Regional
Council

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 4 December 2024,
commencing at 1:00 PM.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/TNHSj4ohwYY?si=9IZEIHijFeUSO9Lf>

PRESENT

Cr Gretchen Robertson (Chair)
Cr Lloyd McCall
Cr Alexa Forbes
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Michael Laws
Cr Kevin Malcolm
Cr Tim Mephram
Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Alan Somerville
Cr Elliot Weir
Cr Kate Wilson

DRAFT

1. WELCOME

Chair Robertson welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 1 pm. Staff present included Richard Saunders (Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Finance), Anita Dawe (GM Regional Planning and Transport), Tom Dyer (GM Manager Science and Resilience) Joanna Gilroy (GM Environmental Delivery), Tami Sargeant (GM People and Corporate) Amanda Vercoe (GM Strategy and Customer, Deputy CE), Kylie Darragh (Governance Support).

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for this meeting.

Cr Laws left the meeting at 1:10 pm.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Pierre Marasti from Extinction Rebellion spoke on climate change. There was an opportunity for questions and Chair Robertson thanked Pierre for attending.

Paul Coffey and Racheal Elder from Otago Trails Network gave a presentation and there was an opportunity for questions, Chair Robertson thanked both for attending.

Adam Currie from 350 Aotearoa spoke on the Climate Change Strategy, online. There was an opportunity for questions and Chair Robertson thanked Adam for attending.

Cr Laws returned to the meeting at 1:18 pm.

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as published.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillors were reminded to stand aside if a conflict arises.

6. PRESENTATIONS

Clare Hadley, Annie Wallace, and Craig Grant from Waiora Manuherekia gave a presentation to Council on the catchment project highlights from 2024. There was an opportunity for questions and Chair Robertson thanked the group for attending.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

No minutes for approval for this meeting.

8. ACTIONS (STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS)

Open actions from resolutions of the Committee were reviewed. No changes were noted.

9. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

9.1. Final Climate Strategy 2024 for adoption

[YouTube 46:50] The purpose of this paper was to present Council with the final version of the Climate Strategy 2024 for consideration and adoption. Hilary Lennox, Manager Strategy, Emily Mathias, Principal Advisor Strategy and Amanda Vercoe, General Manager Strategy and Customer, Deputy CEO, were present to respond to questions on the report.

Cr Noone left the meeting at 2:19 pm.

Cr Noone returned to the meeting at 2:22pm.

At 2:41 pm it was moved by Cr Wilson seconded by Cr Robertson that
That Council adjourn for five minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution CM24-201: Cr Somerville Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the Council:

- 1. Notes** the evolution of the climate strategy as described in this report.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution: Cr McCall Moved, Cr Noone Seconded

That the Council:

- 2. Moves** that a Council workshop is organised in the new year to review the Climate Strategy in more detail and understand the community feedback, before bringing the Strategy back for Council adoption.

For:	Cr Forbes, Cr Somerville.
Against:	Cr Kelliher, Cr Laws, Cr Malcolm, Cr McCall, Cr Mephram, Cr Noone, Cr Wilson, Cr Robertson.
Abstained:	Cr Weir.

MOTION FAILED

Resolution: CM24-202 Cr McCall Moved, Cr Noone Seconded

That the Council:

- 2. Adopts** the climate action strategy as described in this report.

MOTION CARRIED

9.2. Focus Areas and Objectives of the Regional Public Transport Plan

[YouTube 2:01:00] This report updated Council and sought to receive a formal response to the draft Focus Areas and Objectives of the draft Regional Public Transport Plan's (RPTP) (2025-2035) and updated Council for feedback on selected policies and actions of the draft RPTP. Lorraine Cheyne, Manager Transport, Grace Longson, Transport Planner and Daniel Basubas, Transport Planner and Anita Dawe, General Manager Regional Planning and Transport, were present to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution CM24-203: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the Council:

1. **Notes** the report.
2. **Endorses** the Focus Areas and Objectives for the draft Regional Public Transport Plan, subject to any changes requested.

Focus Area	Objective	Council response
a) A Connected and Integrated Network	Deliver a reliable and convenient public transport system that improves personal freedom and access to opportunities.	Support (recommended) OR Request that staff revise the focus area / objective
b) Passenger Experience	Provide useful public transport services that respect the safety and wellbeing of passengers, particularly for people experiencing transport-disadvantages.	Support (recommended) OR Request that staff revise the focus area / objective
c) Value for Money	Provide public transport services in a manner that achieves good value for money.	Support (recommended) OR Request that staff revise the focus area / objective
d) Build Trust	Proactively engage with communities and organisations, including iwi, to foster trust and ensure public transport projects align with community priorities.	Support (recommended) OR Request that staff revise the focus area / objective
e) Environmental Sustainability	Invest in a public transport system that promotes the best possible environmental outcomes regarding greenhouse gas emissions, pollutants and land use.	Support (recommended) OR Request that staff revise the focus area / objective

3. **Notes** the key policies and actions identified in the draft Regional Public Transport Plan

MOTION CARRIED

At 3:35 pm it was moved by Chair Robertson and seconded by Cr Wilson
That Council adjourn for ten minutes until 3:45 pm.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Laws left the meeting at 3:55 pm.

Cr Laws returned to the meeting at 4:02 pm

9.3. Flood Recovery Update

[2:40:36] This report provided information on the October 2024 flood event, response and initial damage assessment and update on the existing 2020, 2022 and 2023 flood repair and recovery programmes. Tom Dyer, General Manager Science and Resilience and Brett Patterson, Team Leader Programme Management, were available to answer questions on the report. There was an addition to the original recommendation.

Resolution CM24-204: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr McCall Seconded

That the Council:

- 1. *Receives*** this report.
- 2. *Notes*** the recent flood damage from the October 2024 weather event and specifically that the Puerua Training Line infrastructure requires urgent repair.
- 3. *Approves*** the award of a contract to Southroads Limited to undertake urgent repairs to the Puerua Training Line up to a total amount not exceeding \$1,000,000 (excl. GST). This is comprised of the estimate of \$750,000 (excl. GST) and contingency of \$250,000 (excl. GST).
- 4. *Authorises*** the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairperson, to award contracts including variations up to a total amount not exceeding \$2,540,000 (excl. GST) for the repairs identified as a priority as set out in Table 6.
- 5. *Authorises*** the Chief Executive and the General Manager Science & Resilience to make payments against approved project progress claims up to a cumulative amount not exceeding \$2,540,000 (excl. GST).
- 6. *Notes*** that the October 2024 flood damage repairs are unbudgeted expenditure in FY 2024/2025 as a result of the flood event and will be funded by scheme reserves.
- 7. *Notes*** the progress with ORC's Flood repair and recovery from the 2020, 2022 and 2023 flood events.
- 8. *Requests*** that staff provide an update on the October 2024 flood repairs and the financial implications to the March 2025 Council meeting.
- 9. *Notes*** that the approval to award a contract to Southroads without a tender process is not in accordance with ORC's procurement policy but it is justified due to the risk created by the flooding damage to the Puerua Training line.

MOTION CARRIED

9.4. Taieri Trails on Floodbanks

[YouTube 3:12:40] This report sought a policy decision from Council regarding the use of its flood protection assets for the establishment of shared use paths (SUP). Kirsten Tebbutt, Engagement, Strategy & Planning Lead and Tom Dyer, General Manager Science and Resilience were available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution CM24-205: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 1. Notes** this report.
- 2. Approves** the use (of) and access to ORC owned assets and land for the purpose of recreational activities through the construction of shared use pathways by the third parties.
- 3. Endorses** Option 3: ORC enables the development of SUPs on suitable flood assets and takes ownership for trail maintenance.
- 4. Notes** that staff will develop guidance for construction standards which must be met to ensure the integrity of assets are maintained.
- 5. Directs** staff to continue working with the Taieri Trails Group and Clutha District Council to finalise their proposals for Council consideration.
- 6. Notes** that the current Long-Term Plan 2024 – 2034 does not include specific funding towards supporting the investigation, construction and maintenance of ORC owned assets to be used for shared use pathways.

MOTION CARRIED

Gary Kelliher voted against.

Cr Somerville left the meeting at 4:39 pm.

Cr Somerville returned to the meeting at 4:40 pm.

9.5. Head of Lake Whakatipu Natural Hazards Adaptation Programme

[YouTube 3:34:30] This paper updated the Council on the progress related to the development of a natural hazards' adaptation strategy for the Head of Lake Whakatipu area. This paper also sought Council endorsement to seek public feedback on the draft Head of Lake Whakatipu Natural Hazards Adaptation Strategy, including 'summary and survey' documents. If endorsed, public feedback activities will commence from 5 December. Toan Nguyen, Senior Natural Hazards Adaptation Specialist, Ann Conroy, Team Leader Natural Hazards Adaptation, Jean-Luc Payan, Manager Natural Hazards and Tom Dyer, General Manager Science and Resilience, were present to respond to questions.

Resolution CM24-206: Cr Weir Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the Council:

- 1. Notes** this report.
- 2. Notes** the Head of Lake Whakatipu natural hazards adaptation work programme progress.
- 3. Endorses** the use of the detailed Draft Strategy document; and summary and survey document; for public feedback.

MOTION CARRIED

9.6 Council Calendar for 2025

[YouTube 4:15:40] This paper sought to adopt the governance meeting schedule for the Otago Regional Council for 2025. Amanda Vercoe, General Manager Strategy and Customer was available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution CM24-207: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Malcolm Seconded

That the Council:

1. **Receives** this report and the draft attached meeting schedule.
2. **Adopts** the meeting schedule, with or without changes.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Mepham left the meeting at 5:32 pm.

Cr Mepham returned to the meeting at 5:35 pm

9.7. Delegation to Chief Executive in relation to an appeal to the Dunedin City District Plan

[YouTube 4:27:12] To provide delegation to the Chief Executive to enable the uplift of conditions associated with rezoning of land in the Dunedin City Second Generation District Plan. Anita Dawe, General Manager, Regional Planning and Transport, Tom Dyer, General Manager, Science and Resilience, Richard Saunders, Chief Executive were available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution CM24-208: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr McCall Seconded

That the Council:

1. **Delegates** to the Chief Executive Officer authority to enter into an agreement under Rule 12.3.4.b.ii.2 of the Dunedin City Second Generation District Plan (2GP) between the Otago Regional Council and any landowner applying under Rule 12.3.4 of 2GP for the release of land in the South East Mosgiel Residential Transitional Overlay Zone (as shown in Figure 15.8.21A of 2GP) containing the terms and conditions on which the Otago Regional Council will accept the discharge of stormwater, directly or indirectly, from that landowner's land to the Owhiro Stream or to any work, system or facility owned or operated by the Otago Regional Council.

MOTION CARRIED

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

11. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the public be excluded from the following parts of this meeting, namely:

- 1.1 Confidential Minutes of Council 25 September 2024
- 3.1 CS2441 Port Otago Resolution In lieu of Annual Shareholders Meeting
- 3.2 CS2451 ORC Office Accommodation in Queenstown and Wānaka: Changes

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
1.1 Confidential Minutes of Council 25 September 2024	To maintain legal professional privilege – Section 7(2)(g)	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 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.
3.1 Port Otago Resolution In Lieu Of Annual Shareholders Meeting	To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons – Section 7(2)(a) To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities – Section 7(2)(h)	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 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.
3.2 ORC Office Accommodation in Queenstown and Wānaka: Changes	To enable a local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities – Section 7(2)(h)	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 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.

12. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Chair Robertson declared the meeting closed at 5:38 pm.

Chairperson

Date