

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 25 October 2023, commencing at 1:00 PM.

PRESENT

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

1. WELCOME

Co-Chairperson Robertson welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 1:00 pm and opened with a karakia. Staff present included Richard Saunders (Chief Executive), Pim Borren (GM Transport) (online), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Joanna Gilroy (Acting GM Regulatory), Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Jo Galer (Manager, Communications and Marketing) and Trudi McLaren (Governance Support). Also present was Andrew Douglas (Co-Chair Audit and Risk Subcommittee).

2. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Resolution: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Kelliher Seconded:

That the delegates from Otago Forestry Group, Forest Owners Association & Southern Wood Council may have their presentation time extended to 10 minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

Pierre Marasti representing Extinction Rebellion spoke to the Council on climate change. Following an opportunity for questions from Councillors, Cr Robertson thanked Pierre for attending the meeting.

Grant Dodson and delegates from Otago Forestry Group, Forest Owners Association & Southern Wood Council regarding concerns of the forestry sector. Following an opportunity for questions from Councillors, Cr Robertson thanked Grant and delegates for attending the meeting.

Resolution: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded:

That the Public Forum be extended for the duration of the final Public Forum presentation.

MOTION CARRIED

Nicola Campbell and Adam Currie representing 350 Aotearoa spoke to divesting from Fossil Fuels. Following an opportunity for questions from Councillors, Cr Robertson thanked Nicola and Adam for attending the meeting.

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as published.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillors were reminded to signal to the Chair any declarations of interest arising through the meeting.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the minutes of the (public portion of the) Council meeting held on 20 September 2023 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

7. PRESENTATIONS

Stephen Woodhead (Trustee), Graeme Gale (Managing Director) and Vivienne Seaton (Secretary Manager) were present from The Otago Southland Rescue Helicopter Trust to speak to the 2023 Annual Report which was provided to Councillors prior to the meeting and respond to questions.

A presentation was provided on key features and data from the Annual Report 2023. Mr Woodhead noted that there has been a name change in the Trust in the last 12 months (it was the Otago Rescue Helicopter Trust) as they cover the bottom part of the South Island (approximately 28% of New Zealand's land area) and operate primarily in Otago and Southland. He also advised that 2023 was a healthy year with generous support from the Community and significant donations. Support is still needed from the community, however, to ensure that they continue to operate effectively, and it is crucial to keep in touch with their community groups.

The Trust are operating the largest base in New Zealand and Mr Woodhead said that clinical pathways are extremely important, and they are currently able to fly patients to whichever is the most appropriate hospital, depending on their needs.

Following the presentation, Cr Robertson thanked the presenters for attending and their update, and for the world-class service they are providing.

Cr Scott left the meeting at 2.15pm and returned at 2.17pm.

8. ACTIONS (STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS)

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

9. CHAIRPERSON'S AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS

9.1. Chairperson's Report

Cr Robertson thanked the Councillors for their active engagement with the community and the amount of effort that they all put into this. She also advised Councillors of an inaccuracy in the report stating that she attended an engagement at Millers Flat, when she was attending a Wilding Pine conference that day and was unable to attend.

Resolution: Cr McCall Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the report be noted.

MOTION CARRIED

9.2. Chief Executive's Report

Resolution: Cr McCall Moved, Cr Mepham Seconded

That the report be noted.

MOTION CARRIED

10. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

10.1. Annual Report 2022/2023

Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services and CFO) and Sarah Munro (Finance Manager Reporting) were present to speak to the paper and respond to questions, and updates to minor inaccuracies were distributed to Councillors. The purpose of this report was to adopt Council's Annual Report for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Staff were thanked for their hard work and for everything they have done throughout the development of this report during a challenging time. It was also requested that Heidi and her team from Deloitte be formally recognised for their expert assistance, as this was her last year of working with the Council and it was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to her. The work that Pim Borren in his role as Interim Chief Executive had done during this time was also acknowledged by Council.

Resolution CM23-222: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Malcolm Seconded

That Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Approves** and adopts the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2023, subject to any minor editorial changes.
- 3) **Authorises** the Chairperson and Chief Executive to sign the Annual Report and Representation Letter on behalf of Council.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Mepham left the meeting at 2.46pm and returned at 2.50pm.

10.2. Treasury Management Policy and Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives

Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services and CFO) and Phil Borkin from JB Were was present online to provide background and answer questions. The purpose of this paper was to consider and approve amendments to Council's Treasury Management Policy and Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives to include considerations regarding ethical investing as recommended by the Audit and Risk Subcommittee.

Resolution CM23-223: Cr Somerville Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report and the attached Treasury Management Policy and Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives.
- 2) **Notes** the inclusion of a responsible investment policy in the Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives.
- 3) **Approves** the Treasury Management Policy and Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives.

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

Resolution: Cr McCall Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the Council Meeting adjourn for a 15-minute break at 3:30PM, reconvening at 3:45PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Mepham left the meeting at 3:45PM

Cr Laws left the meeting at 3:45PM

10.3. Port Otago Statement of Corporate Intent

Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services and CFO) was present to speak to the paper and respond to questions. The purpose of this paper was to receive Port Otago's Statement of Corporate Intent for the three years to 30 June 2026 and Cr Robertson thanked Port Otago for the provision of this document. It was noted that this was an opportunity for the Council to provide feedback that is allowed for in 'The Port Companies Act 1988: Consultation Process'.

The positive content of the report was recognised. However, the Statement of Corporate Intent is an important process for Council as 100% shareholder, to provide feedback to Port Otago. The paper was received less than one week prior to the meeting and the Council wishes to contribute quality feedback through this process, which requires adequate time. Therefore, Cr Robertson moved a procedural motion that the item of business being discussed should lie on the table until the 22 November Council Meeting and not be further discussed at this meeting today.

Procedural Motion Resolution CM23-224: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr McCall Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Agree** that the paper lie on the table to be considered at the Council Meeting of 22 November 2023.

MOTION CARRIED

10.4. Annual Returns of Inactive Subsidiaries

The purpose of this paper was to pass resolutions in lieu of holding annual general meetings for Council's three wholly owned inactive subsidiaries. The resolutions are to not hold an annual general meeting and then to not appoint an auditor for each company.

Resolution CM23-225: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Kelliher Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Approves** the following resolutions:
 - a. That it shall not be necessary for Regional Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.
 - b. That no auditors be appointed for Regional Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.

- c. That it shall not be necessary for Regional Pest Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.
- d. That no auditors be appointed for Regional Pest Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.
- e. That it shall not be necessary for Regional Monitoring Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.
- f. That no auditors be appointed for Regional Monitoring Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.

MOTION CARRIED

10.5. Dangerous dam policy

Joanna Gilroy (Acting General Manager Regulatory) and Rebecca Jackson (Team Leader Consents) were present to speak to this paper and respond to questions. Council's policy for "Dangerous, Earthquake-prone and Flood-prone Dams" must be reviewed every five years. The purpose of this report is to approve consultation of the proposed Dangerous Dams Policy 2023 using Special Consultative Procedures under s83 of the Local Government Act 2002. Both the draft policy (Attachment 1) and the Statement of Proposal (Attachment 2) are to be approved as part of this process. This will allow the public the ability to submit on this policy through this consultation process for which approval is sought to undertake.

Resolution CM23-226: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr McCall Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives the** report.
- 2) **Approves** the draft policy for consultation (Attachment 1).
- 3) **Adopts** the Statement of Proposal (Attachment 2).
- 4) **Approves** consultation of the proposed Dangerous Dams Policy 2023 using special consultative procedures under s83 of the Local Government Act 2002 subject to any minor editorial changes.
- 5) **Agree** to delegate to the Chair the appointment of the two suitable hearings panel members to consider the public submissions on the dam policy.

MOTION CARRIED

10.6. Annual Report Back from Audit and Risk Co-Chair

Andrew Douglas (Co-Chair of Audit and Risk Subcommittee) was present to speak to the paper and respond to questions. The purpose of this paper was to report back on the activities of the Audit and Risk Subcommittee for 2022/2023 as per the Terms of Reference of the Subcommittee.

Resolution CM23-227: Cr Kelliher Moved, Cr Noone Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.

MOTION CARRIED

10.7. LTP Community Engagement

Mike Roesler, Corporate Planning Manager and Sara Shea were present to speak to the paper and respond to questions. The purpose of this paper was to provide an opportunity for Council direction on the scope of the region-wide community engagement for Otago Regional Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034. The region-wide community engagement is one

component of a broader LTP engagement approach that was reported to the 10 August 2023 to the Regional Leadership Committee.

Resolution CM23-228: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** the proposed scope of the community engagement for the ORC Long Term Plan 2024-2034.
- 2) **Directs** staff to implement the preferred community engagement approach included in Table 3 for the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 based on the proposed scope presented in this report.
- 3) **Notes** that that Council staff will provide updates on progress through the established and programmed LTP Project Reporting.

MOTION CARRIED

11. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Resolution: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Noone Seconded:

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

- EROAD Procurement.

MOTION CARRIED

12. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Chairperson Robertson declared the public part of the meeting closed at 5:00 pm.



Chairperson

22 November 2023

Date