

Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board

11 July 2024

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [3]

Title | Taitara : Chair's Report

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is:

- a. to provide the Board with an update on projects of interest;
- b. to allow members to report on recent community engagement; and
- c. to cover other matters not listed elsewhere on the agenda.

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board:

1. **Note** the contents of this report.

Prepared by:



Name: Simon Telfer

Title: Chair

27 June 2024

Context | Horopaki

Members' Sector Engagement Updates

Simon's comments

1. In late May I presented the Community Board's thoughts to Otago Regional Council ('ORC') on their Long Term Plan. Our feedback focused on the need for public transport in the Upper Clutha, its integration with our active transport network and the reluctance of Upper Clutha residents to have an increased ORC targeted rate until the transport service is actually provided.
2. The Wānaka Chamber of Commerce AGM was held at the District's Club and saw a number of new board members appointed. I challenged the decision to increase membership fees when the increase was not accompanied by a clear strategy outlining what the new revenue would be spent on.
3. The Meet the Mayor session, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce, is a great way to hear first-hand from Mayor Glyn Lewers on his priorities as well as ask specific questions of him. This session included topics of Crown Range road safety, car-pooling, preparedness for AF8, Airbnbs and housing affordability.
4. I participated in a workshop with Councillors and other Elected Members to share feedback on the Local Government Commission request for better enablement and empowerment of the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board.
5. Gina Dempster, General Manager of Wastebusters, and I met to discuss the ambitious plans for Wastebusters including the potential development of a new retail and office space. I shared some ideas about the formation of a steering/governance group for this large construction project.
6. One lunchtime I walked around Mt Aspiring College ('MAC') with Nicola Jacobsen, talking about issues facing the school and the community. We also specifically looked at the provision of more bike parking for students, adjacent to the Schools to Pool pathway.
7. The Kahu Youth AGM showcased the exceptional work the Trust has achieved over the past 12 months. I'm looking forward to experiencing the more permanent fit out of their new space at Paetara Aspiring Central.
8. I continue to work closely with the MAC Foundation on the better use of land adjacent to the international hostel. The current focus is to better understand the implications of a Council encumbrance that was added to the land when it was transferred three or so decades ago.
9. My role as Chair of the Community Board sees me also as a Trustee of the Graeme and Olive West Trust. Our annual granting was undertaken a month or so ago, distributing funds to numerous community groups in the Upper Clutha.
10. Finally, a number of local Sports Clubs, especially Athletics and Football, have been in contact and are advocating strongly for faster delivery of sports grounds. The Community Board will look to lend weight to their individual Long Term Plan submissions.

11. Other than that, I took a week of annual leave over the month to recharge batteries for the second half of 2024.

Cody's comments

12. I was invited to speak at the inaugural Crux Podcast to share the journey of being a Councillor in Hāwea and to share the nuance of working within local government and Queenstown Lakes District Council ('QLDC'). To listen, search Crux, the podcast on Spotify.
13. I was privileged to be asked to be a panellist at Wai Wānaka's celebration regarding Community Led Change. I have started to realise it's far more important to be as honest as possible around the sometimes uncomfortable conversations in contrast to my usual overly optimistic self and this experience really highlighted the importance of sharing all of the ugly parts of the story too.
14. I spent half a day with Wao for their food resilience think tank. They exemplify the incredible talent and passion in the district which hopefully has helped spark some tangible ideas to take forward.
15. I was invited for the second time to be a panellist on the Waste Minimisation Community Fund and was so inspired by the applicants. I am really excited to share more when we can about these innovative initiatives to reduce waste and build community.
16. Lots of korero with local community members around the arts/culture, skatepark lighting and road crossings. The joys of a generalist.
17. Enormous amounts of work for the Long Term Plan and Infrastructure Strategy are finally coming to light and we're out looking for every opportunity to connect with residents to hear thoughts and priorities.

Lyal's comments

20. Wānaka Business Chamber held a Business Excellence Awards Launch event with entries now open and due to close at 5.00pm on 6 August 2024. The finalists will be announced in September and a gala dinner and awards ceremony will be held at Rippon on 9 November 2024.
21. Albert Town Community Association is progressing projects including installation of a bus shelter (ORC is providing the shelter) on Alison Avenue beside the commercial area; putting a picnic table at Templeton Park; completing a short section of path at McMurdo Park; installing another historic plaque; and establishing a Community Response Group.
22. Path Wanaka AGM saw Niamh Shaw step down as Chair and Randell Dobbs elected as the new Chair. Randell is also Chair of the Kahu Youth Trust which will be useful to foster a close relationship and sharing of resources between these two groups which are both focussed on youth and the parents of youths.

23. Abbeyfield Steering Group met online and the members are very motivated to make progress. The QLDC Property team is checking the status of the preferred crown land and is getting a valuation to feed into any subsequent proposal for consideration.
24. Upper Clutha Sports Trust Association has approved annual grants to 13 sports people totalling \$5,900. The recipients are competitors in a range of sports with potential to compete at a national level (Football, Ski Racing, Freestyle Ski Slopestyle, Free Style Snowboard, Cross Country Mountain Biking, Athletics, Sailing, Swimming and Basketball).
25. The monthly Wānaka Business Chamber Business After 5 (BA5) was hosted by Reece Quarters which is the company building worker accommodation on Reece Crescent (on the old 'Yard' site). The intention is to build 15 townhouses with four separate designs and 6 or 7 bedrooms in each. The units will be fully furnished and managed for the owners, with a covenant prohibiting use as visitor accommodation for 10 years.
26. At the completion of the latest Wānaka Business Chamber facilitated leadership course, a small graduation ceremony was held to recognise the graduates and get feedback on the course. All graduates applauded the course and briefly commented on the outcomes most beneficial to them, all of which were widely varied.
27. The Chair's report at the Kahu Youth Trust AGM highlighted the success over the past year and explained how they have been trying out the new facility at Paetara Aspiring Central and are now confident the fit-out design that has been produced will be most appropriate. Fit out work will commence soon.
28. This month's Wānaka Business Chamber 'Brews & Banter' session had Carolyn Oakley-Brown from CardiAction as guest speaker. CardiAction is a cutting-edge screening service that aims to make cardiovascular health both understandable and actionable. It involves a quick, painless, and non-invasive pulse wave analysis, similar to a blood pressure test, and can identify up to 85% of individuals at risk of developing Cardiovascular Disease (CVD). Following the test, users receive a personalised action plan to address and manage their cardiovascular health, accessible through the CardiAction app. Given that an estimated 80% of cardiovascular conditions are preventable and one in three deaths in New Zealand are caused by CVD, this service is particularly crucial for men to proactively manage and reduce their risk of heart diseases. Aspiring Pharmacy offer this screening service and it is highly recommended.

Chris's comments

29. I continue to work closely with Linda Joll with regards to arts projects in the Upper Clutha. There are currently a number underway and these are discussed further below.
30. I continue to liaise with Rob Johnson and the Dibble Sculpture that his family is donating. With the work going on around the Water Sports facility there has been a delay so I have been chatting with the parks team to keep things moving and to discuss where the final location will be. Placement of the sculpture is an agenda item, so it is good to see that matters have progressed to this point.

31. Another project is the stainless steel Haast eagle sculpture and Linda has been working with NZTA on this.
32. The main project is the Wānaka Arts Centre Trust ('WACT'). Michael Sidney (Chair) and I continue to put pressure on elected officials. All trustees remain dedicated to the completion of this project. It is intended to be world class and provide the community with a much needed facility that will last beyond 50 years.
33. Recently, the Trustees met on line and all these projects were discussed and plans made for their progression.
34. I attended the opening night function for the Luma Festival. QLDC and Jan Maxwell were thanked profusely. As usual, it was a fantastic show.
35. The Upper Clutha Historical Records Society had their AGM and various people changed positions but the dedication of this team is impressive. Further information is available on their website www.uppercluthahistory.org

Linda's comments

36. I met with Te Kakano Nursery with regard to their concerns with the manner in which our street trees and open space plantings are being managed. The Tree Policy covers all areas of best practice, which we discussed and recommended any concerns with the tree policy would be best to be identified and shared with parks.
 37. It has been a very busy winter so far across all communities with deliveries for Food for Love. An inspiring group of people assist across a wide range of volunteer work to provide for our communities for which we are very grateful.
 38. WACT continues to work with the Parks Department regarding the Dibble sculpture and a final placement is expected by the end of July 2024.
 39. The Cardrona Ratepayers and Residents Association continues to engage with its community regarding the proposed use of open spaces within the Cardrona village. It is hoped to be able to undertake progressive upgrading and planting as appropriate, along with possible pathways to allow connection to the resort and the village.
 40. Wai Wānaka recently put on a very well attended information sharing event at Glendhu Station. It was a wonderful opportunity to share information with landowners and other interested parties about Wai Wānaka's huge efforts for our environment. Thanks to all involved in arranging this event.
-