



# MINUTES

## Safer Communities Committee Meeting Thursday, 12 December 2024

Ref: 1728197

**Minutes of Timaru District Council  
Safer Communities Committee Meeting  
Held in the Meeting Room 1, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru  
on Thursday, 12 December 2024 at 1pm**

**Present:** Mayor Nigel Bowen (Chairperson), Jackie Williams, Gavin List, Keith Shaw, Graham Dellow, Andrea Grant, Greg Newton Donna Lindsay, Nils Macfarlane, David Duthie, Chris Thomas, Katy Houstoun, Anna Graf

**In Attendance:** Jessica Hurst (Community Development Advisor), Claire Barlow (Community Experience Manager), Naomi Scott (Community Funding Advisor), Darryn Grigsby (Emergency Management Manager), Lucy Mehrstens (Road Safety Coordinator), Michelle Bunt (Road Safety Coordinator)

**1 Apologies**

**1.1 Apologies**

**Resolution 2024/54**

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Member Katy Houstoun

That the apologies of Scott Shannon, Teressa May, Margie Goldsmith, Rosie Chambers, Vicki Walker, and Tina Kavanaugh be accepted.

**Carried**

**2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**

No items of urgent business were received.

**3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**

**3.1 Minor Nature Item for Discussion**

The Safer Communities Committee agreed to receive member updates as a Minor Nature Item.

**4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

**5 Confirmation of Minutes**

**5.1 Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 10 October 2024**

**Resolution 2024/55**

Moved: Member Nils Macfarlane

Seconded: Member Chris Thomas

That the Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 10 October 2024 be amended to include Teresa May as attending. Amended minutes are then confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

**Carried**

## **6 Reports**

### **6.1 Safer Communities Update - December 2024**

The Community Development Advisor provided the Safer Communities Committee with an operational update on activities and progress in the Safer Communities programme.

Highlights discussed:

**Whakanuia Awards** – 21 young people with disabilities, neurodivergence, and other health impairments received recognition of their achievements and hard work at the inaugural awards ceremony.

**Let's Connect Geraldine** – A number of agencies and community groups came together to speed-network to learn more about services provided in Geraldine. The CDA noted that next time they would endeavour to have more Geraldine-based attendees.

The CDA provided the committee with a verbal update on the **Need Help Booklet** – the final draft has been completed and has been sent through to Citizens Advice Bureau to complete the contents page. Once this has been completed, it will be sent through to a designer to get the booklet created.

### **Resolution 2024/56**

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Member Katy Houstoun

That the Safer Communities Update – October 2024 report is received and noted.

**Carried**

### **6.2 Adoption of CDEM Local Welfare Plan**

The Emergency Management Manager spoke to the report to present the Local Welfare Plan to the Safer Communities Committee.

Key discussion points:

- The purpose of the plan is to showcase structure/responsibility. It is about the who and what, but not the 'how'. Responsible agencies like MBIE will always be a responsible agency, the plan is about how the welfare committee works together.
- The Safer Communities Committee Terms of Reference will need to be looked at to reflect the local welfare plan.

- The Emergency Management Manager noted a comment about inclusion of iwi in the document and will consider this.
- Some members of the community have not received the 'Get Ready' booklets, the EM Manager will look into further distribution. The booklets are available at Council facilities.

**Resolution 2024/57**

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Member Gavin List

That the Safer Communities Committee

1. Receives and notes the scope for Local Welfare Plan; and
2. Review the Terms of Reference of the Safer Communities Committee to support the Local Welfare Plan.
3. Follow up with a workshop for the Safer Communities Committee.

**Carried**

**7 Consideration of Urgent Business Items**

No items of urgent business were received.

**8 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters****8.1 Member updates****Chris Thomas – Age Concern South Canterbury**

Seeing more financial hardship. Loneliness for older people increase over the holiday period. He has created a list of social connection opportunities which is being placed in the Courier Newspaper.

**Lucy Mehrtens and Michelle Bunt – Road Safety Coordinators**

Increasing trend of crashes locally, as well as reported heightened aggression. Fatigue Stop is being hosted in Fairlie on 21 December. Noted the support from AMI and Fulton Hogan. Mountainview High School has signed up to take part in SADD next year, which is fantastic!

**Keith Shaw – The Y**

Another successful year for The Y, graduations will happen next week. Several new appointments recently. Added pressure in the government agency space right now. Next year they will widen their scope with a new three-year strategic plan.

**Anna Graf – Alpine Energy**

Working in the energy wellbeing/hardship space. Held two forums this year. Working on a HEAT kit project with Safer Communities – first items have been purchased!

**Nils Macfarlane – Multicultural Aoraki**

Another great year for MA. They are closing for the year on Friday, their health team will work through. Looking forward to 2025. They have 49 hampers for distribution for Smithfield families, donated by McCains.

**Katy Houstoun – Family Works**

Alliance is sending out grocery vouchers to all staff. Three new former refugee families are arriving in Timaru tomorrow. Christmas Angels has broadened their reach, they are supporting 100 families this year. Christmas on the Bay is this Saturday.

**David Duthie – TCMA**

Community meals continue to be well-attended. Game On programme is going well, with some fantastic feedback from participants.

**Gavin List and Graham Dellow – Timaru Community Patrol**

Cameras in town have been quiet – they have expanded their coverage. Training new people to do the cameras. Not seeing homelessness on their patrols. Patrol to Police programme is happening elsewhere in the country, have had a recent local enquiry. Always looking for more volunteers.

**Greg Newton – Health NZ**

Work continues on the 'What About You' programme, promoting a reduction in alcohol harm, working with SCRU – looking to expand this programme into other sports next year.

**Darryn Grigsby – Emergency Management TDC**

Exercise Pandora was held recently, great response from agencies. Welfare was excluded from the exercise, will look to bring that in for future scenarios.

**Jackie Williams – South Canterbury Neighbourhood Support and Women's Refuge**

12 months in the role at SCNS, seeing at increased awareness in emergency preparedness. The Committee is looking at a new strategy for next year. SCRW – currently restructuring, looking to appoint a new GM in the new year. Office has moved to Elizabeth St, skeleton staff over the holiday period, crisis line will still run. Seeing several police reports a day.

**Andrea Grant – Health NZ**

Recently hosted a food resilience community meeting, initial discussions are positive. Looking to set up a disability steering group for health – potential to work in with another group.

*Andrea is moving to Auckland in the New Year – we thank you for your contributions to the Committee, and the Timaru community.*

**Donna Lindsay – Fire and Emergency NZ**

Just entered the restricted fire season. Mid-South Canterbury Emergency Relief fund has been set up so that in the event of a fire, where people have no where to stay, three nights accommodation can be paid – officers on the firetrucks can manage that.

**Mayor Nigel Bowen**

Big thank you to everyone in attendance for the work you all do in the community.

**The meeting closed at 2pm.**



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**Chairperson**