

AGENDA

Geraldine Community Board Meeting Wednesday, 13 November 2024

Date Wednesday, 13 November 2024 Time 6.30pm Location Geraldine Library/Service Centre File Reference 1718138



Timaru District Council

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Geraldine Community Board will be held in the Geraldine Library/Service Centre, on Wednesday 13 November 2024, at 6.30pm.

Geraldine Community Board Members

Jan Finlayson (Chairperson), Janene Adams (Deputy Chairperson), Wayne O'Donnell, Shane Minnear, Rosemary Woods, Gavin Oliver and Cr Andy McKay

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

Community Board members are reminded that if you have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then you must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item, and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table

Nigel Trainor Chief Executive



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- 1 Apologies
- 2 Public Forum
- 3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business
- 4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature
- 5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest
- 6 Chairperson's Report

7 Confirmation of Minutes

7.1 Minutes of the Geraldine Community Board Meeting held on 2 October 2024

Author: Steph Forde, Corporate and Strategic Planner

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Geraldine Community Board Meeting held on 2 October 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Attachments

1. Minutes of the Geraldine Community Board Meeting held on 2 October 2024



MINUTES

Geraldine Community Board Meeting Wednesday, 2 October 2024

Ref: 1718138

Minutes of Timaru District Council Geraldine Community Board Meeting Held in the Geraldine Library/Service Centre on Wednesday, 2 October 2024 at 6.30pm

Present:Jan Finlayson (Chairperson), Janene Adams (Deputy Chairperson), Wayne
O'Donnell, Rosemary Woods, Gavin Oliver

In Attendance: Andrew McKay (prior to declaration) Nigel Trainor, Nicole Timney, Beth Stewart, Nigel Bowen, Mike Wrigley, Stephen Doran (minute taker), Scott Shannon, Andrew McKay, Troy Titheridge, Rosie Oliver.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Shane Minnear and Janene Adams.

2 Public Forum

Public Form Items were heard on:

- Police provision in Geraldine
- Cox Street / Kennedy Street Junction
- The future of the Geraldine town hall.
- Support for Geraldine Academy of Arts.
- Temuka Geraldine Rotary

3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

The Chair identified the following items of urgent business:

- Urban Vehicle Parking in Geraldine.
- Geraldine Domain Pavilion
- Information storage at council.

4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

Wayne O'Donnell identified the Geraldine Cemetery as a matter of minor nature for discussion.

5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

6 Chairperson's Report

The chair reported that they had been to:

- Arts council meeting,
- Speak to GM Corporate and Communications about information going out to the public on infrastructure projects.

- A strategic frame work refresh meeting.
- The HealthHub open day
- The Geraldine water headworks meeting.
- Meeting around concerns with river track maintenance as it heads north from footbridge.
- Pekapeka and riddells reserve with Bill Steans.
- Correspondence around active transport strategy and decions made at the last meeting.
- Darryn Grigs regarding the AF8, and he is going to present at the 13 November meeting.
- With library staff and kids alive around pavillion around maintenance.
- Urban car parking with respect to retailers, and potential for angle parking on hislop Street
- Hewlings Tree in Totara square.
- Police presence in town, and defibrillator.
- Rosie Oliver on strategic framework.
- Community group meeting with domain playground redevelopment.
- Drafting response to Environment Canterbury Regional public transport plan, and has had a meetingmeeting with wayne.
- Noted the Potential closure of Smithfield, and expressed thanks to mayor for handling.
- Noted the cash injection received from MfE for half of project value for peel forest.

7 Confirmation of Minutes

7.1 Minutes of the Geraldine Community Board Meeting held on 21 August 2024

Minutes were accepted with the following corrections noted:

- Sp.: Hugh McCafferty
- Sp.: Judy Lyttle.
- Name: Talbot Forest Scenic Reserve.
- Sp. Kylie Rait.
- Corr: Chair's report, she talked with fire brigade about helipad.
- Cigarette butts, melt plastic grass
- Central government instead of National Government
- Sp.: Ines Stager with Umlaut
- Kori Woods
- Affects not effects.
- correct name for Geraldine District Foundation.

Scott Shannon spoke to Chief Executive, don't usually get that level of detail. Disconnect and need for proof reading.

Resolution 2024/204

Moved: Wayne O'Donnell Seconded: Rosemary Woods That the Minutes of the Geraldine Community Board Meeting held on 21 August 2024 with the amendments noted be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Carried

8 Reports

8.1 Declaration by Geraldine Community Board Member

Andrew John McKay declared that he will faithfully and impartially, and according to the best of my skill and judgement, execute and perform, in the best interests of the Geraldine community, the powers, authorities, and duties vested in, or imposed upon him as a member of the Geraldine Community Board by virtue of the Local Government Act 2002, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, or any other Act.

Resolution 2024/205

Moved: Andy McKay

Sign a declaration, pursuant to section 54(1) and clause 14 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Carried

8.2 Update from Talbot Forest Working Group

The purpose of this report is to update the Geraldine Community Board of the recent activities of the Talbot Forest Working Group.

The chair asked why sycamore trees were not suitable no go for Native succession.

Rhys Taylor said that European sycamore create chemicals that suppresses other tree growth, they also grow faster and outgrow the natives. If you have sycamores alongside a river, they disadvantage other trees to grow there.

Mr O'Donnell noted that ash and elm do the same

Resolution 2024/206

Moved: Rosemary Woods Seconded: Andy McKay

That the Geraldine Community Board receive and note the Talbot Forest Working Group September 2024 report.

Carried

8.3 District Pool 2024 – 2025 Summer Season Operational Hours Update Report.

1 To provide an update to the Geraldine Community Board about the opening hours of the Geraldine District Pool over the 2024-2025 summer season.

The Recreation Facilities Manager spoke to this report noting the proposed opening hours for the Geraldine summer pool, opening on show weekend Friday 15 November, running through to the third Sunday in March. Noted the hours in the agenda.

Proposed last five weeks of season to slightly reduce hours to reflect staffing levels as students return to studies.

Discussion was had around comparison with last year's hours.

It was noted that the trial extension last year wasn't a great success operationally, that as summer goes on the number drop off as tourist numbers come off peak and people go back to work. All the district pools have a similar trend.

It was deemed that it there was not the capability to support an extension due to financial and resourcing constraints. This year we are keeping hours keeping standard with other pools.

It was noted that the pool is subsidised around \$30,000 a month. That in the whole season Geraldine took \$45000 in income and cost \$190,000 to run.

The cost drivers were noted as staffing because it is pool safe accredited you need two staff at all times; energy, that although Geraldine is in a better condition than the gas heated Pleasant Point, but electricity is expensive we pay extra capacity charge to draw power off local grid.

Confidence was expressed in being able to staff the pool, in the last few weeks it's open 70 hours a week, which is a lot of hours compared with other districts. For example, Ashburton closed Tinwald pool and is closing its indoor pool in January. Not many towns this size would have a pool operating those hours. Example, Arrowtown is open 1 Dec 1 1 March 12pm – 7 pm. We offer a lot more than other districts.

It was noted that every year we run into the same issue with staffing as students leave. We don't take on volunteers, because we are poolsafe accredited we have to have qualified lifeguards, so you need training and development.

May need to have rolling closures if you can't staff. We will recruit if people want to supplant the season to stop closures.

The issue is a mix of operational cost to run the pool, plus salaries, plus staff availability. It wouldn't be viable to extend the season.

Councils generally run to Poolsafe accreditation. On a busy day up to 120 people could be using, they need 2 lifeguards to properly look after that number of people.

Questions were raised about how successful the recruitment had been.

It was noted that they had held a successful recruitment phase, now on police check stage. Last summer we had two amazing students, hope we'll have an extra three on board. During the day is where we struggle. Mark Youngs is coming into be the senior lifeguard to support the season, rest will be resourced from CBAY. Since covid no backpackers have come on.

Resolution 2024/207

Moved: Rosemary Woods Seconded: Clr Gavin Oliver

That the Geraldine Community Board receive and note the District Pool 2024 – 2025 Summer Season Operational Hours Update report.

Carried

8.4 Strategic Framework Projects Selection

This paper was requesting the Geraldine Community Board to confirm the confirm the strategic project priorities for the \$70,000 capital expenditure funding provided in the 2024/25 Annual Plan year.

The chair Context was given that in the year ahead there will be another community board in place, and we need to hand over the framework in shipshape condition. They report that they are pleased with what we've got and credited the Development manager with being there from the beginning. 1400 submissions in process to get the strategic framework, and it's given mandates for a lot of what we do here.

The observation of some members was that that there were ad hoc things happening and they wanted more discipline. Previous meeting didn't see them consider the objectives and initiatives to see if they are relevant.

The chair would like to do the meeting again with Development Manager present. More comfortable with having that meeting again. There was general agreement for this.

The development manager said that it was not a problem to do that meeting again but asked if the board wanted to proceed with decision-making on back of this report, or did they want to redo workshop and bring a fresh report.

Agreement was made to continue to consider tonight's report and decide whether further work was needed.

The development officer prefaced that at the time the concepts were developed a year ago we didn't know what funding the current Long Term Plan would provide for levels of service. Both Pleasant Point and Temuka have some projects in their plans have operational costs existing council funds wouldn't cover the costs. At the moment what we're saying is should you chose then the community would have to cover any costs of a higher level of service.

Totara Square options were discussed including native planting and crusher dust pathway. Discussion was had around grass surfaces, parks no longer supporting the area if no decision is made, and how the approx. \$1,000 pa operating expenditure could be cut by finding better maintenance solutions.

Option was presented to reopen negotiations with landowner that if the community board funded the upgrade, whether the landowner would fund the upkeep.

It was noted that there is no maintenance agreement for that bit of land and there is no lease agreement to permit public access. There is nothing formalised and there is no budget for ongoing maintenance, which is different to the original premise. There is a verbal indication for both parties, but it is subject to landowner agreement.

Feedback is that the existing bench seat should be maintained and in current place. Discussion was had over alternative surfaces such as plastic grass. The mayor suggested that it was great in certain places, and only needed replaced every few years with little maintenance.

Dissatisfaction was expressed at the removal of services to this area. The mayor noted that there was pressure on operational budgets across the whole council and that everyone was focused on reducing costs, but if they were services

The board agreed that option 1 was closest to the original intent, could you argue with parks over the operational usage.

The development manager noted that it would be unlikely to proceed until consensus was gained over the long-term maintenance of the site. A request could be made to council for support at a future date for ongoing maintenance, which the community board says they will undertake.

Community Board agrees to Option 1: 10k subject to agreement with owner. Board have been advised of unfunded and ongoing liability.

The board was advised that the work could commence prior to December subject to unforeseen events. There was some concern over the square looking ratty for 2 ½ months. There are some events and tourists coming, so it is a high priority.

The development manager noted that there is no guarantee of ongoing carry forwards, so if a project is desired, delay is risky if you want something to happen.

The chair queried if you could accrue for larger projects, and it was advised that it would have to be done through Annual Plan process

Cox Street Project

The Development Manager discussed this project as part of the report.

Discussion was had over how interchangeable the options were, the choice of crusher dust and the cost of tree removal, where detail was provided that due to the siting of the trees beside the campground a high level of traffic management and extra safety measures were required.

Discussed the project as report. Option with tree removal would be higher than.

Queries were raised about use of local arborists, and it was noted that if they were sitewise accredited and approved contractors to work for council. There was also discussion over the health of the trees, it being noted that 2 of the three are declining with the crown dying back. The removal of one elm would be to create a large open space for markets.

There was further discussion over the tree removal, the path surfacing and whether it was appropriate to refer to the area as a market square. It was noted that the trees were not preferred species for the area, but that they are not part of the 'space invader' target species that are being actively removed by parks.

There was comment about public perception of trees being removed without it being necessary.

The secretary of the Farmers Market noted that they did not want to move, and it is not supported by those who sold at the market. It was noted that it was aimed at those people who operate on cox street who operate temporarily.

There was concern raised about the operating cost of having beds of roses, and azaleas or rhododendrons were suggested as a lower impact option.

Option 1 was preferred with changes to be agreed and a final price to be determined. It was noted that any furniture should adopt the Geraldine pallet of brown with grey steel

Seating Upgrades

The report gave overview of around 10 \$5,000 seating projects totally \$50,000. It was noted that the overall price of the individual projects was linked to how many and where they were.

Discussion was had over the requirement for people in outlying towns to have their say over the positioning and numbers of seats. That the seats needed back and arm rests, and that there was a need for a replacement picnic table by the river, as well as some alternative areas where they could be stated.

The preferred projects were, which acceptance of final costs and details to be delegated to the chair.

- 1 Peel Forest at end of walk to Blandswood turn off.
- 1 Orari
- 1 at Croquet courts
- 1 picnic table and bench seat behind the Village Inn.
- 4 in Woodbury.
- 2 at locations tbc in conjunction with community.

Heritage information boards

Information was provided in the report regarding these. It was discussed that this was more in the purview of the local lioness club, supported by local businesses and whether it would be better to leave it to them.

Discussion was had to reserve the \$15,000 budget for a yesteryear memorial for Woodbury and delegate CB members to progress to level for consideration. Once officers know the scope offers could price up what was needed.

It was noted by the development manager that if it was a complicated project, scoping of it would need to be done reasonably quickly.

Resolution 2024/208

Moved: Jan Finlayson Seconded: Rosemary Woods

- 1. Board allocates \$10,000 to the Totara Square first option subject to agreement of landowners.
- 2. Cox street allocation of up to \$95,000 to option 1: including refurbishment of picnic tables to Geraldine Pallet from option 2, Officers to investigate replacement of rose raised beds and further investigation of tree removals.
- 3. 50k to install seating around Geraldine district 1 Peel Forest, 1 Orari, 1 at croquet lawns, 1 picnic table and bench seat at riverside behind village inn, 4 in Woodbury, 2 other locations tbc in conjunction with community.

- 4. Allocate up to \$15k to yesteryear memorial for Woodbury.
- 5. Delegate to the Chair to accept final projects and cost.

Carried

9 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

9.1 Geraldine Car Parking

The chair led a discussion on Car Parking in the town, which included time limits in central Geraldine, whether the type of parking was fit for purpose and a request for angle parking on Hyslop Street.

There was also discussion around parking requirements for longer vehicles in town as well as provision for Electric Vehicles.

It was noted by the Development Manager that this would be dealt with as part of a wider parking strategy and that there wasn't funding to look at individual items in an ad hoc manner outside of this cycle.

Resolution 2024/209

Moved: Wayne O'Donnell Seconded: Andy McKay

Cr Jan Finlayson requested a report from Land Transport summarising supply and regulation of parking in Geraldine Township to be presented to a future Geraldine Community Board.

Carried

9.2 Geraldine Domain Pavilion

Jan Finlayson led discussion on the condition of Geraldine Domain Pavilion, it was noted that people had made bookings and gone to see what they've booked and then cancelled. It was identified that the venue needs maintenance. There is not money to get major work done now, but board would like to know that maintenance has been done and there is a plan to bring building up to a standard.

The Group Manager Property spoke to the item saying that there was an awareness that the inside is looking tired and is in need of a revamp. This is on the radar but needs to be priced up to go ahead. The hall is underutilised and there needs to be some discussion about other codes that could use the building to bring some more life to it.

The pavilion is live on the booking system but isn't seeing much activity.

Is underutilised and needs a bit of thought are there other codes that could inhabit building to give more life to it. Could something else happen there.

The problem areas were noted as the bar area, toilets, peeling wallpaper and the condition of the entranceway. The deck and balcony were nice, but the rest let the building down.

Toilets were cited as tired, holes in wall for doors. Wallpaper peeling off. Whole entranceway is tired. Looks *shabby*. Nice deck and balcony, but rest is let down.

9.3 Information Storage at Council

The chair raised the issue of Geraldine specific reports that were commissioned by the council and/or the community such as the North Waihi sports facilities review and the Peel Forest Community plan, and if they were being safely stored by council. With the desire that they could be publicly accessible through the website.

It was noted that reports are held in the corporate record through the Content Management system at council and can be easily accessed.

It was requested that the Community Board could identify and make available any reports and they could be safely stored at council.

10 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

10.1 Geraldine Cemetery

A resident had got in touch with Mr O'Donnell mentioning the reduction in rubbish bins, and he wished to pass this on. It was thought that they were one in the middle where the water pipe is.

There was also discussion over access to a defibrillator, that the nearest is at St Johns some distance away (although there was a suggestion that there was also one at the Squash Club). The question was asked whether the board could justify a defibrillator in this area.

There was a suggestion it could be funded by the Community Board, and that it could be brought to the next community board meeting.

11 Public Forum Issues Requiring Consideration

11.1 Police Provision in Geraldine

David Bray spoke to the issue of police provision in Geraldine and concerns over the levels of policing in Geraldine and that he thought the Community board should lead communication with ministers involved.

Discussion was had on the approach that the community board could take, historical accounts of policing in Geraldine and Temuka and some issues of a lack of timely access to police particularly when there was a busy highway.

The board also acknowledged that policing was different in rural areas, and they have some concerns about the safety of officers if they were working alone.

The Chair said that they would draft a letter to circulate amongst CB members.

11.2 Cox St / Kennedy St Junction

Mr McGregor Simpson spoke to the issues at the junction between Cox Street and Kennedy Street, suggesting its closure and the installation of a crash barrier. It was noted the challenging ground conditions for this road, and the number of accidents in recent times.

Concern was that many use Kennedy Street as a speed up ramp before joining the highway.

Discussion was had around options for the junction, noting that it would be a decision for the NZTA.

A request was made for TDC to sit down with NZTA and work out a better solution for the junction.

11.3 Geraldine Town Hall and Cinema

Discussion was held with a number of people regarding the Geraldine Town Hall and Cinema.

The Group Manager Property spoke to the concerns saying that they were currently in positive discussions with the current lessee, and it should be able to stay open.

Going ahead the building is earthquake prone, and considerations need to be made what work can be done over time.

Concerns were raised over levels of rent that could make the business unviable, it was noted that there was no intent to take these kinds of steps.

It was noted that to earthquake strengthen the building there would be the need for a significant ratepayer subsidy, as it would be around \$750,000 to remedy.

Margaret Chapman from the Geraldine Historical Society spoke about the history of the building. It was a town hall and public theatre, first showing films in 1925. The post office and Town hall are the most Iconic buildings, in Geraldine. There was a reading room and library at front, was demolished in 63 for toilets. Was movie theatre (silent) plus socials, concerts, balls.

Next year there is a celebration planned for the 100th anniversary.

Jimmy Wallace said he was pleased to learn lease has been offered to present tenant. He noted it was a well-used, much-loved theatre. Peppercorn rental is appropriate, it's a community facility that should be subsidised as it's important.

Andrew Chapman, a chartered professional structural engineer, spoke to his review of the file and looked at seismic report. He said it overestimate demand and queried why it was considered IL3 when the BWOF limits it to 250, 30% less.

A change in IL, wouldn't change the EQP status, but lessens work needed to bring up to code. Reports he's seen are limited in detail, such as roof needs to be strengthened, and does it include maintenance not related to EQ.

The Group Manager Property spoke to this saying that there had been a number of reports, and this included some maintenance work that needed to happen. Also, that the IL3 was appropriate as the theatre that sometimes have quite a lot of people, so 300 people could be there. It's something we could talk to the lease about and set limit to meet IL2.

There was further discussion about the decision to make it IL3 not 2, and that as a council the earthquake status of buildings needed to be taken seriously.

The chair suggested a statement be made to council:

- Geraldine Community board affirms the value to the Geraldine community of the town hall as expressed in strategic framework.
- The Board wishes to see the town hall appropriately earthquake strengthened and leased for civic purposes.
- Asks TDC to provide for strengthening of town hall in 2025/26.

11.4 Geraldine Academy of Performing Arts

Academy of Performing Arts

Rhys Taylor spoke to this paper, seeking funds from the Geraldine Community Board to help them support the purchase of the Geraldine Academy of Performing Arts from the owner St Mary's Anglican Church.

He spoke to the positive benefits of performing arts, the importance of having a dedicated venue for performing arts teaching and participation and the high level of usage that the centre has.

He said that although there was maintenance required for the building, which was built in 1907, it is intact and weather tight and its draughtiness means it doesn't get damp.

The church is considering sale of the hall to help fund earthquake strengthening of the church, so the academy is now fundraising to purchase the hall from the church.

The academy has a vigorous committee and hundreds of users and will be asking support from the people of Geraldine. A request to purchase the building taken to council but was declined.

He is asking the community board to look at their available funds and look at pledge of a sum of approx. \$10,000 to be paid in July. He says this in in line with the board's strategy and their backing would help with better funding.

Discussion was had around the value of the academy, the structure of who would own it and the long-term viability of the facility.

It was noted that the Academy has a long-standing board which has continued for a number of years. And that owning the building as an incorporated society would enable them to apply for different funding streams that church ownership doesn't allow for.

The price of the hall is unknown at this time.

Use of the endowment fund was raised, but it was noted that this would have to go through a formal council process, not the Geraldine Community Board. It was noted that there is around \$250,000 in the endowment fund that can be used for projects for the development of land and buildings in the community. That it had supported the Geraldine Health Hub and Peel Forest previously.

The Community Board was in support of pledging the funding but would require a report be taken to the next meeting to make a formal decision.

11.5 Update from Geraldine Temuka Rotary

Viki McKenzie from Temuka-Geraldine Rotary spoke to the activities of the service club.

She said they have been discussing with DOC on predator trapping, in the area. They are currently looking at sites, most likely in the domain.

She also spoke about taking part in the peace poles project, in international programme to put multilingual poles in places throughout the world calling for peace on earth.

The Geraldine High School students have been investigating sites for the poles. They had initially through Cox St, but it was very busy option considering the poles are meant to be in a peaceful surrounding, but perhaps the domain would be more suitable. Through the main gates and down avenue and where you can see it from the road, but you are surrounded by trees in a peaceful spot.

First one was planted in Hiroshima in 1945. Will highlight Geraldine to an international audience.

There was a suggestion to put them with the cherry trees in Todd Park

It was asked how the poles would encompass sign language as it's an official language. The organiser said that each pole would have four languages, and they were currently looking for options.

It was suggested that the group looks at the next local language, rather than looking internationally.

12 Board Member's Reports

Rosie Woods

She said she had been:

- Contacted by member of public regarding funding for the Woodbury food event.
- Spoke to Jim and Mary Powell to feed back some information about seats.
- Attended the Strategic Workshop, Health hub opening, Geraldine NZ board meeting
- Noted that there was more flooding back in the croquet area, croquet organisers emailed and are following up.
- Expressed thanks to TDC for reinstatement of dog poo bags.

Andy McKay

Said he had:

- Attended TDC meeting, we were the only CB there.
- Attended health hub opening
- Went to playground concept meeting with Geraldine NZ and other interested parties.

Wayne O'Donnell

Said he had:

- Attended Strategic workshop, health hub opening and meetings with Geraldine vehicle trust meeting, GDF and health partnership
- Received feedback about the trail behind RSA and NPD, with a lot of people annoyed that it is damaged again. It was noted by the chair that it keeps getting washed away by the side stream, and only temporary fix ups are required, and that rock walls put in place had create eddies that produce further washout.

Gavin Oliver

Said he had:

- Met with the Sculpture trail group, Geraldine NZ, and a number of other people.
- Attended GDF Medical Centre. He noted that it was great for Geraldine and brightened up that whole bit of town. Looking looking forward for first patient to be seen. It was noted that the Dentist was already operating, Doctors would be in next week. Trying to get VIPs to open officially.

The Meeting closed at 10.09pm.

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Chairperson

8 Reports

8.1 Towards 2050 Plan - Venture Timaru

Author: Steph Forde, Corporate and Strategic Planner

Authoriser:

Recommendation

That the Geraldine Community Board receive and note the Toward 2050 report from Venture Timaru

Purpose of Report

1 The purpose of this report is for Venture Timaru to provide a verbal update on the Towards 2050 plan (a special project) to the Geraldine Community Board as the Economic Development and Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) for Timaru District.

Assessment of Significance

2 This matter is assessed to be of low significance under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because is for information only and no decision is being sought.

Discussion

- 3 The Chief Executive of Venture Timaru will provide a verbal introduction of the Towards 2050 project to the Geraldine Community Board.
- 4 The presentation will include the following topics:
 - The need for an aspirational future for our district.
 - Changing & Ageing population.
 - Innovation and productivity
 - Play to our strengths, retain and attract aligned and new business
 - Alignment to existing plans such as the Councils Long Term Plan 2024-34
 - Workplan consultation to implementation.

General discussion

5 The attached Benji Patterson Ltd report was commissioned by Venture Timaru, and its purpose is to highlight what an aspirational economic future could look like for Timaru, and what achieving such an outlook would rely on. This report is the catalyst to start the conversation about our districts future and not the plan itself.

Attachments

1. Scenarios for an aspirational economic future for the Timaru District - Benji Patterson Ltd

2. Press Release: Towards 2050



October 2022

Scenarios of an aspirational economic future for Timaru District



Report commissioned by Venture Timaru

Prepared by: Benje Patterson Benje Patterson | People & Places www.benjepatterson.co.nz October 2022

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2. Executive summary

This report has been commissioned by Venture Timaru. Its purpose is to highlight what an aspirational economic future could look like for Timaru, and what achieving such an outlook would rely on.

At its heart, this report helps show:

- Where will Timaru's economy be in 2050 if the status quo remains?
- How much larger could Timaru's economy be if there is an aspirational focus on doing better things?
- · Which factors would achieving an aspirational economic future rely on?

2.1. Key findings

The potential 'size of the prize' for Timaru's economy from being ambitious is large:

- Timaru currently generates \$3.2 billion of GDP (2021).
- If Timaru does no better than just muddle along, with its status quo level of employment and current productivity trajectory then the economy would be worth \$4.2 billion in 2050.
- If, instead, there is transformational growth into high productivity employment, then Timaru's
 economy could be worth \$9.1 billion by 2050, which is almost three times its current size.



- The outcomes needed to achieve the 'better' future growth scenario are ambitious both in terms of how many people Timaru would need to attract to fill jobs and how productive industries would need to be:
 - Timaru would need to attract average net migration gains of just over 1,000 people each year to reach a population of 75,000 by 2050.
 - The aspirational productivity outcome in the 'better' scenario would require transformation towards at least one third of Timaru businesses doing things that were at least twice as productive as opportunities under the status quo by 2050.
- Ambitious industry transformation won't happen overnight. Initially many of Timaru's
 productivity wins will be found working with existing businesses in existing industries. But
 through time, Timaru can progressively step out from this base and become more
 transformational in what it does, including breaking into new industries.
- Regardless of which industries help Timaru achieve an aspirational economic future, there will be
 many factors which are necessary foundations. For example, an additional 9,000 homes, 200-300
 classrooms, and 1,500 more health and social assistance workers would be needed by 2050 to
 support the population growth needed under the aspirational 'better' future growth scenario.



3

3. Timaru's current economic context

There were 48,500 residents in Timaru in 2021 and employment sat at 26,054 jobs. Each job produced \$121,667 of GDP (compared to \$124,980 nationally), meaning Timaru generated total GDP of \$3.2 billion.



Employment in Timaru is more heavily concentrated on primary and goods-producing industries than nationally. Primary industries centre on dairy farming, sheep and beef farming, arable farming, and fishing. Goods-producing industries tend to be concentrated on processing of food and fibre products, although there is some machinery and equipment manufacturing to support the primary sector. High-value professional services are less represented in Timaru than the rest of New Zealand, but Timaru is a service centre for South Canterbury so has relatively high health, education, and retail employment.



Over the past 10 years, growth in Timaru has lagged the New Zealand average for GDP, jobs, and population. But productivity growth in Timaru was slightly above the national average.

able 1					
Comparing growth in Timaru against New Zealand over the past decade Annual average percentage change, 2011-2021, calculations from Infometrics and Statistics NZ data					
	Timaru	NZ			
GDP (\$ billion)	2.2%	2.6%			
Jobs	1.2%	1.9%			
Population	0.8%	1.6%			
Productivity (GDP/job)	1.0%	0.8%			



4

4. Aspirational future scenarios for 2050

This section introduces three scenarios for where Timaru's economy could be in 2050. The scenarios range from conservative to aspirational – and are designed to highlight the 'size of the prize' from being ambitious.

4.2. Overview of future scenarios for the Timaru economy

The three hypothetical scenarios modelled in this report for Timaru's economy in 2050 are:

- The 'status quo' (low) scenario. This scenario highlights what will happen to Timaru's economy if
 it can only maintain the status quo level of employment and its industries merely muddle along
 their current productivity trajectories.
- The 'more' (medium) scenario. This scenario highlights what will happen to Timaru's economy if
 it can gradually expand its underlying level of employment, but only in industries based around
 the district's current productivity trajectory, rather than in anything transformational.
- The 'better' (high/transformational) scenario. This scenario is the most ambitious and is based on doing more of things that are better. It highlights what would happen if Timaru can evolve its economy and grow employment into an industry footprint with transformationally higher productivity.

The rest of this section outlines the potential economic impacts for Timaru of each scenario. The detailed assumptions underpinning each scenario and their practicalities are also examined, with a focus on how many people and what productivity levels would be needed to support them.

4.3. 'Size of the prize' for Timaru's economy in each scenario

The potential 'size of the prize' for Timaru's economy from being ambitious is large. Calculations under the three future scenarios show that:

- If Timaru does no better than just muddle along, with its status quo level of employment and current productivity trajectory then the economy would be worth \$4.2 billion in 2050, which is one third larger than its current level (\$3.2 billion in 2021).
- If instead there is transformational growth into high productivity employment, then Timaru's
 economy could be worth \$9.1 billion by 2050, which is almost three times its current size.



Figure 4 – Timaru's future economic activity (GDP) under conservative through to ambitious scenarios



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4.4. Assumptions for achieving future scenarios

Each scenario of future economic activity is driven by assumptions based on jobs and productivity growth. The rest of section 4.4 unpacks the practicalities of each scenario's assumptions.

4.4.1. Assumptions for achieving the 'status quo' future scenario

The 'status quo' scenario has the lowest level of ambition for 2050. It simply assumes that:

- Employment in Timaru remains at its current level (26,054 in 2021)
- Productivity growth muddles along at its current trajectory (1.0%pa growth).

In practical terms, achieving the 'status quo' scenario's two assumptions would imply that by 2050:

- Timaru would need a population of 53,000 people, up from its current population of 48,500
- Productivity (GDP per job) would reach \$162,000, compared to \$121,667 at present.



It might seem counterintuitive that Timaru would have to expand its population just to maintain its status quo employment levels. But the reason is simple, Timaru's population is rapidly aging and 30% of residents are expected to be aged over 65 by 2050¹, compared to just over 20% aged 65+ at present.

Timaru would need to grow its population from 48,500 in 2021 to 53,000 by 2050 just to ensure there were sufficient people of working age to maintain Timaru's current level of employment and counteract increasing retirements.

The productivity growth assumption in the 'status quo' scenario is relatively unambitious. It only requires GDP per job in 2050 (\$162,000) to sit approximately one third higher than it does currently (\$121,667). Several places in New Zealand already have productivity at or approaching this level².

4.4.2. Assumptions for achieving the 'more' future growth scenario

The 'more' scenario is based around a slightly more ambitious growth scenario to 2050, where Timaru expands its underlying level of employment. It simply assumes that:

- Employment in Timaru grows at its current trajectory (1.2%pa growth)
- Productivity growth muddles along at its current trajectory (1.0%pa growth).

² For example, Infometrics Regional Economic Profile shows that productivity (GDP per job) in Waitomo, Waitaki, South Taranaki, Wellington, New Plymouth, and Buller already exceeded \$150,000 in 2021.



¹ Statistics NZ, subnational population projections (medium scenario), published 31/03/21.

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In practical terms, achieving the 'more' scenario's assumptions would imply that by 2050:

- · Employment in Timaru would sit 11,000 jobs higher than currently
- To fill these jobs, Timaru's population would need to rise from 48,500 people to 67,500 people
- Productivity (GDP per job) would reach \$162,000, compared to \$121,667 at present.



'More' future growth scenario for Timaru in 2050



Timaru's aging population³ means that lifting the population from 48,500 to 67,500 would need to increasingly be driven by migration from around New Zealand and overseas rather than natural increase.

Timaru would need to attract a net 800 people each year to lift the population to 67,500 by 2050. This level of migration would be twice as high as Timaru's average migration gains in recent history⁴.

4.4.3. Assumptions for achieving the 'better' future growth scenario

The 'better' scenario is the most ambitious and transformational scenario. It assumes that up to 2050:

- Employment will grow by 0.5%pa above its current trajectory (1.7%pa growth instead of 1.2%pa)
- Productivity will grow at 1%pa above its current rate (2.0%pa growth instead of 1.0%pa).

In practical terms, achieving the 'better' scenario's assumptions would imply that by 2050:

- Employment in Timaru would sit 16,500 jobs higher than it does currently
- To fill these jobs, Timaru's population would need to rise from 48,500 people to 75,000 people
- Productivity (GDP per job) would need to reach \$215,000, compared to \$121,667 at present.





³ A rising death rate, relative to births, is projected to reduce Timaru's population by an average of 175 people a year from 2023 to 2048. Source: Statistics NZ subnational population projections (published 31/03/21).
 ⁴ Between 2013 and 2018, net migration to Timaru averaged 400 people per annum. Source: Statistics NZ subnational population projections (published 31/03/21) which drew on censuses for historical perspectives.



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The outcomes needed to achieve the 'better' future scenario are ambitious – both in terms of how many people Timaru would need to attract to fill jobs and how productive industries would need to be.

Timaru would need to attract average net migration gains of just over 1,000 people each year to reach a population of 75,000 by 2050. This level of migration is ambitious – even during the high growth years of 2013 to 2018 Timaru only attracted an average of 400 people a year.

The 'better' scenario's assumption that the long-term rate of productivity growth in Timaru increases from 1.0%pa to 2.0%pa might not sound too ambitious at first brush, but only one district in New Zealand has achieved sustained productivity growth of at least 2.0%pa over the past decade⁵.

Only fundamentally shifting the productivity dial into better ways of doing business would allow Timaru to achieve such a sustained high level of productivity growth over a 30-year period to 2050.

The aspirational productivity outcome in the 'better' scenario would require transformation towards at least one third of Timaru businesses doing things that were at least twice as productive as opportunities under the status quo.



Achieving transformational change in Timaru's productivity would be a powerful thing, particularly given that attracting new workers to Timaru will be difficult against a context of heightened national and global competition for people. After all, productivity is about working smarter, not harder.

To put things in perspective, even in the extreme situation that Timaru can't attract enough new residents to lift employment, then a transformative shift in productivity alone would be enough to almost double the size of Timaru's economy (from \$3.2 billion of GDP in 2021 to \$5.6 billion of GDP in 2050).

⁵ Infometrics Regional Profile shows only Tararua (2.0%pa) had productivity (GDP/job) growth of at least 2.0%pa over the past decade. New Zealand's average productivity growth over the past decade was 0.7%pa.



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4.5. Stepping towards ambitious industry transformation

The previous sub-section highlighted that under the most aspirational scenario Timaru's economy could expand three-fold over the thirty years to 2050. This aspiration relies on growing and transforming the economy to at least one third of jobs having twice the productivity opportunities to the status quo.

The precise composition of what these industry transitions will be is uncertain and beyond the scope of this report. Nevertheless, this sub-section makes general comments about the decision-making context.

Transformations that build on existing strengths are easier to conceptualise, but 'blue sky' opportunities in new industries are harder to map out and many are reliant on yet-to-be-developed technologies.



What is known is that achieving ambitious industry transformation won't happen overnight. Initially many of Timaru's productivity wins will be found working with existing businesses in existing industries to streamline processes, explore adjacent products, and invest in proven technologies.

This approach is consistent with the Productivity Commission's recent inquiry into New Zealand's 'frontier firms' (businesses in the top 10% of those with the highest productivity)⁶. The inquiry researched how the economic contribution of frontier firms can be maximised to lift productivity across the economy. In its findings, the Commission said that we need to identify our frontier firms, learn about the characteristics of these businesses, implement focused innovation policy to strengthen the ecosystems that support them, and encourage the diffusion of their knowledge into non-frontier firms.

The 2021 Timaru District Economic Development Strategy (EDS) highlighted that the sectors in which Timaru has a competitive advantage are related to:

⁶ Available here: <u>https://www.productivity.govt.nz/assets/Documents/benchmarking-new-zealands-frontier-firms/2d6a4cd0ea/Benchmarking-New-Zealands-frontier-firms.pdf.</u>



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- Food and fibre (particularly dairy, meat, seafood, and food manufacturing)
- Logistics
- Professional, scientific and technical services.

These three sectors are a logical starting point for shifting Timaru's productivity dial. Furthermore, these sectors are also well-aligned to central government strategies and funding mechanisms. For example, all three are embedded directly and indirectly across the government's various Industry Transformation Plans⁷, while optimising logistics is the focus of the New Zealand freight and supply chain strategy⁸.

Through time, Timaru can progressively step out from this base and become more transformational in what it does, including breaking into new industries with at least twice the productivity potential to the status quo. Exactly what new industries will succeed is uncertain, but in exploring high productivity opportunities, Timaru must be cognisant of broader megatrends. These megatrends are long-term forces that can structurally change the industries in which Timaru might be competitive. Some megatrends to take note of when considering potential new high productivity opportunities include:

- An increased focus on inclusive growth. Higher GDP isn't the only goal, instead there must be a
 balance with the wellbeing of people, communities, and the environment. Investment in
 productivity can be a vehicle to inclusive growth, as high productivity, technologically driven
 industries can achieve prosperity and higher wages without unduly pressuring resources.
- COVID-19's legacy will endure long after the pandemic is over. Consumer demand patterns
 have evolved, and businesses may permanently adjust their practices, logistics, and supply chains
 to minimise future risks of disruptions. The changes create opportunities for localism and for
 regional locations with good transport connections to major metropolitan areas.
- The nature of work is changing. Younger workers have different expectations of work and are
 more likely to prioritise lifestyle with shorter working weeks and remote working. With good
 digital and transport connections there are opportunities for Timaru to capitalise on remote
 working trends and in other jobs that can deliver services 'weightlessly' to customers.
- Automation will have widespread effects, particularly in sectors with a lot of routine tasks. Automation brings productivity benefits, but new opportunities will likely focus on workers needing to develop different skills. There may be scope for Timaru to develop and pilot automation on local industries, for example agritech and drone-based agricultural solutions.
- Adapting to emissions and other environmental factors will have direct and indirect effects. Government regulations will directly create costs and constraints, particularly within agriculture for those with intensive pastoral farming models. Changing consumer preferences will also create indirect effects, which will likely favour more sustainably managed and lower impact business models. These changes will bring opportunities, for example to research and test how Timaru's food and fibre sector can pilot world-leading productive and sustainable transitions.

The above list should only be taken as a starting point when considering potential 'blue sky' industry opportunities that could help tranformationally lift Timaru's productivity. Megatrends by their very nature are uncertain – it is important to regularly consider other emerging forces. As stated in the Timaru EDS: "Timaru District, its people and businesses, need to embrace and respond to these changes, realising new opportunities and responding to disruptions".

⁸ The New Zealand freight and supply chain strategy takes a 30+ year view and will inform government and private sector investment. Productivity is key to the strategy. More here: <u>https://www.transport.govt.nz/areaof-interest/freight-and-logistics/new-zealand-freight-and-supply-chain-strategy/</u>



⁷ Industry Transformation Plans (ITPs) are a mechanism for implementing the Government's industry policy. ITPs have actions focused on long-term transformation. More here: <u>https://www.mbie.govt.nz/business-and-employment/economic-development/industry-policy/industry-transformation-plans/</u>

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5. Which enabling factors does ambition rely on?

Regardless of which industries help Timaru achieve an aspirational economic future, there will be many factors which are necessary enablers. Productivity, employment, and population growth are key drivers of economic prosperity (see Figure 10), but these can't happen in isolation and in turn rely on underlying foundations related to skills, natural resources, housing, infrastructure, and social and cultural capital.



Enabling factors needed to support achieving the 'better' future growth scenario for 2050 include:

- Sufficient business land and the right infrastructure. For businesses to do better things, they will
 need suitable premises. Even at the lower end of land needed per worker, 16,500 additional jobs
 would demand a minimum of 30 extra hectares of adequately serviced business land by 2050⁹.
- Access to capital. Transformational changes in productivity are inherently capital intensive.
 Accessing investment capital for small to medium businesses is especially difficult in the regions.
- Digital and transport connections. Digital and transport connectivity are crucial for businesses'
 productivity. Remaining connected to friends and family is also important for new residents.
- People with the right skills. The 16,500 new jobs would be in much higher productivity roles, with different skills demands to the status quo. Ongoing training to build capability of existing workers to use new technologies will be as important as attracting people with the right skills.
- Housing. Population growth of 26,500 people could equate to 9,000 more households by 2050. This number of new households is equivalent to 300 extra houses per year for the next 30 years.
- Schools. Within the population expansion of 26,500 people, there would be around 6,000 children of early childhood and school age. Depending on average classroom sizes this could mean an additional 200 to 300 classrooms would be needed in Timaru District by 2050.
- Health. An increasing population will place higher demand on health services. In order to
 maintain similar health service levels¹⁰, Timaru would need at least 1,500 more health and social
 assistance workers by 2050¹¹ to account for population growth from 48,500 to 75,000 people.
- Social and recreational infrastructure. Community infrastructure and services play an important
 role in supporting wellbeing, as well as helping to integrate and retain new residents. Investment
 should scale as populations increase. The 2019/20 Timaru Resident Opinion Survey showed 87%
 of residents visited a park or reserve in the past year, while 91% used a community facility.

¹⁰ There were 2,837 employed in health and social assistance in Timaru in 2021 against a population of 48,500.





⁹ A BERL study showed businesses require 17 to 100 sqm per employee depending on if they are service-based or heavy industry (see page 14: <u>https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/assets/WRC/Services/regional-</u> <u>services/BERL-Report-UNISA-Industrial-Land-Demand-Study.pdf</u>).

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6. Concluding remarks

This report has highlighted the power of being ambitious and transformational.

If Timaru can do no better than maintain its current level of employment and muddle along its status quo productivity trajectory then it will only be one third larger by 2050 than it is today.

However, if Timaru can be aspirational in terms of how many jobs it creates, people it attracts, and how productive these jobs are then Timaru's economy could triple in size over the same period. Such a goal would require a transformational shift into at least one third of Timaru's businesses doing things that were at least twice as productive as opportunities under the status quo.

Getting there won't be easy. Transformations that build on existing strengths are easier to conceptualise, but 'blue sky' opportunities in new industries are harder to map out and many are reliant on yet-to-be-developed technologies.

Furthermore, regardless of which industries help Timaru achieve an aspirational economic future, there will be many factors which are necessary enablers. Productivity, employment, and population growth are key drivers of economic prosperity, but these can't happen in isolation and in turn rely on investments in underlying foundations related to skills, natural resources, housing, infrastructure, and social and cultural capital.



Higher paid jobs, increased productivity, and an enviable quality of life for all that live here - it might sound too good to be true, yet realistically this needs to be what we aspire to for our district through to 2050 and beyond.

As the economic and tourism agency for the district, Venture Timaru commissioned economist Benje Patterson of People and Places to project where the district could be by 2050 – primarily to kick start the conversation about our future.

The ensuing report, "Scenarios of an aspirational economic future for Timaru District", looked at current trends across four key economic indicators - gross domestic product (GDP), job numbers, population growth and productivity - and assessed what the district would look like in 2050 if the status quo remained versus the hypothetical "a bit more" and "much better" scenarios.

The report describes the "much better" scenario as the most "ambitious and transformational", with employment increasing by 16,500 jobs and the district's GDP nearly tripling.

The report highlights that maintaining the status quo presents challenges due to our aging population and rising death rate, a trend similar to most provincial areas across New Zealand. By 2050, 30 percent of our population will be at retirement age.

To counteract this and keep our current level of employment, Timaru's population will, as a minimum, need to increase from 50,200 to 53,000.

"The results were quite confronting – on current trends come 2050 we are neither better off nor do we maintain status quo, we actually go backwards, and this, being something I'm sure we all agree on, is simply not acceptable" said Nigel Davenport, Chief Executive of Venture Timaru.

"Put bluntly we need to do much better to maintain and then enhance the vibrancy and prosperity of this great district of ours".

Currently Timaru has a competitive advantage in the Food and Fibre, Logistics and Professional, scientific and technical services sectors.

"Moving forward it is important we play to and enhance our existing strengths but also explore and attract adjacent and new business while embracing innovation and creativity" say Davenport.

Davenport believes now is the time to be bold, innovative and aspirational about the future of our district.

Mayor Bowen agrees " It's time to take an aspirational approach to our future explore and offer new opportunities including breaking into new industries and markets, leading to more and higher-paying jobs"
"This is all about igniting a collaborative and cohesive aspirational approach to "all our district can be and so much more" come 2050 and beyond. Importantly, this will not be informed by individuals but by all of us" says Mayor Bowen.

"There will be no re-inventing any wheels, rather plans already underway across various sectors and areas will be brought together in a way that we can all grasp, advocate for and play our part in making happen" he says.

Davenport says while there is much more work to be done yet, he is excited about the next 1-2 years as Venture Timaru helps facilitate this important work with the wider community and help bring a Towards 2050 plan to life.

"Wide spread engagement across our community is to get underway, as everyone who calls the district home has an important role to play, and we are keen to hear from everyone".

"An online platform has been established to seek input from the wider community to help inform the Towards 2050 plan with this complimenting a variety of in person catch ups planned.

"All are invited to share thoughts on how we can achieve a bolder, more innovative, and aspirational future for our District leading to 2050 and beyond".

"All information gathered will be collated to help inform the development and subsequent implementation of a Towards 2050 plan which will encompass our communities aspirations for our District along with associated barriers to achievement and the opportunities to overcome these".

8.2 Emergency Management Update Report

Author: Darryn Grigsby, Manager - Emergency Management

Authoriser: Paul Cooper, Group Manager Environmental Services

Recommendation

That the Geraldine Community Board receive and note the Emergency Management update report

Purpose of Report

1 To provide an update to the Geraldine Community Board on the preparedness of the Timaru District Council Emergency Management and an overview of the support and training in our communities.

Assessment of Significance

2 This matter has been assessed as being of low significance under Council's Significance and Engagement Policy due to this report being for information only.

Discussion

The Emergency Management Team

- 3 The Emergency Management team consists of two staff members and around 70 volunteers. Key responsibilities include collaborating with volunteer teams to provide support and training, planning and preparing for emergencies, creating partnerships with community groups like Neighbourhood Support South Canterbury and building relationships with mana whenua and partner agencies. A major focus is on engaging with communities to educate them and enhance their resilience to emergencies and helping them to create community resilience plans. In addition, the Emergency Management team contributes to Regional and National initiatives such as the Canterbury CDEM Group exercise Pandora and the national earthquake drill and tsunami hīkoi "ShakeOut".
- 4 In Emergency management, we use the 4R framework. The four components of the 4R defined in the Canterbury CDEM Group Plan (2022), are:
 - 4.1 **Reduction**: Risk reduction is identifying and analysing long-term risk to human life and property from hazards, taking steps to eliminate (avoid) if practicable and if not reduce (mitigate) the magnitude of their impact and the likelihood that they will occur.
 - 4.2 **Readiness**: Readiness details how the Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) will collaborate with partner agencies and the community to ensure that Canterbury is aware and prepared for an emergency.
 - 4.3 **Response**: Response is defined in the National Plan as the actions taken immediately before, during or directly after an emergency to save lives and property and to help communities recover.

4.4 **Recovery**: Recovery means the coordinated efforts and processes used to bring about the immediate, medium and long-term holistic regeneration and enhancement of a community following an emergency

Emergency Response

- 5 Although the Alpine fault poses a significant risk, with a 75% chance of a 8+ magnitude earthquake occurring in the next 50 years, it is not the only threat we face. For example, flooding is common in the Timaru District and climate change is expected to increase both the frequency and severity of these events. Additional risks encompass severe snowstorms, power outages, cyber-attacks, and emerging knowledge about solar activity. Effective emergency management requires assessing the likelihood and our vulnerability to of these risks and developing a comprehensive mitigation plan.
- 6 There has been a comprehensive Government inquiry into the severe weather events for more information follow this link: <u>https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/Government-Inquiry-into-Severe-Weather-Events/\$file/Report-of-the-Government-Inquiry-into-the-Response-to-the-North-Island-Severe-Weather-Events.pdf</u>
- 7 As with all emergency management agencies, we use the Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) as a tool to coordinate our efforts in an emergency. Within CIMS there are several types of coordination facilities but the central coordination centre for a Territorial Authority is the Emergency Operations Centre.
- 8 An Emergency Operations Center (EOC) ensures the coordination of information and resources to support incident management activities. The EOC for Timaru District is based in the Council building.
- 9 The EOC works closely with civil defence teams and other agencies to coordinate the response. It relies on communication and updates to build situational awareness about the emergency, so that resources and requests are prioritised and coordinated in a way that supports all communities.
- 10 In addition to coordination centres, if required we will establish a Civil Defence Centre (CDC).

Supporting Our Community

- "A Civil Defence Centre (CDC) is a facility that is established and managed by Civil Defence Emergency Management during an emergency to support individuals, families/whānau, and the community. CDCs are open to members of the public and may be used for any purpose including public information, evacuation, welfare, or recovery, depending on the needs of the community (Welfare Services in an Emergency Director's Guideline DGL 11/15)."
- 12 A CDC acts as a hub for information sharing, ensuring residents receive timely updates, assistance, and resources to manage and recover from the crisis. It plays a crucial role in enhancing community resilience by facilitating cooperation and communication.
- 13 While emergency services are essential in response efforts, our communities are also supported by a network of volunteers and resources ready to assist during emergencies. Community support teams and the response team play pivotal roles in helping local residents. Since resources are limited, it is important to foster well-prepared and resilient communities to allow these resources to be allocated to those in greatest need.

14 In addition to our volunteer teams, we have access to facilities, generators, and a radio network. The response team is equipped with rescue tools, and council staff set up and manage the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). We have regular training for these teams and conduct drills—such as Exercise Pandora—to evaluate our systems and maintain team readiness.

Are You Ready?

- 15 Recent events have highlighted an opportunity to better understand the gap between what communities expect from civil defence and what the emergency management system assumes communities will do (Report of the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events, 2024). In essence, the community is civil defence, and efforts before an emergency should focus on enhancing community resilience to withstand any emergencies.
- 16 To help improve community knowledge and readiness our Emergency Management Advisor has created the "Are You Ready?" document, a thorough guide for individuals and families to prepare for and respond to emergencies. This document is crucial for all community members as it provides practical steps to boost both personal and collective resilience.
- 17 The "Are You Ready?" document provides detailed instructions on creating emergency plans tailored to various scenarios, assembling emergency kits with necessary supplies, and understanding local warning systems and evacuation routes. It emphasizes the importance of community cooperation and the role each individual plays in ensuring their own and their neighbours' safety.
- 18 Additionally, the document covers psychological preparedness, addressing the emotional and mental health aspects of dealing with emergencies. By familiarizing themselves with these guidelines, community members can better manage the stress and anxiety that often accompany crises.
- 19 We encourage everyone to review the "Are You Ready?" document regularly and participate in community training sessions and drills such as the recent 'Shake Out drill'. These proactive measures will not only enhance individual preparedness but also strengthen our overall emergency response capabilities, ensuring that we are resilient in the face of adversity.
- As we move forward, we need to remember that preparedness is a shared responsibility. Each of us has a role to play in ensuring that our community is ready to face any challenge. By staying proactive and engaged, we build safer and more resilient communities. We encourage everyone to stay informed and collaborate with each other to build a resilient community.
- 21 The link to the "Are You Ready Guide": https://www.timaru.govt.nz/ data/assets/pdf_file/0005/911390/Are-you-ready-guide.pdf
- 22 In summary, Civil Defence is not the an additional emergency service, it is you and me; it is about how we work together as communities in order to look out for each other.

Attachments

Nil

8.3 Request for funding from Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts

Author: Stephen Doran, Group Manager Corporate and Communications

Authoriser: Nigel Trainor, Chief Executive

Recommendation

That the Geraldine Community Board:

- 1. Considers a funding request from Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts Incorporated for \$10,000 to be funded from the Geraldine Community Rate.
- 2. Decides on the date of availability of the funds
- 3. Decides on any requirements to be met prior to the funds being awarded, or any requirements for repayment of the grant should the purchase not proceed.

Purpose of Report

1 For the Geraldine Community Board to consider and make a decision regarding a funding request from Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts Incorporated ("The Academy") for \$10,000 to be funded from the Geraldine Community Rate.

Assessment of Significance

2 While the provision of funding is of importance to numerous community groups, the content contained in this report has been assessed as of low significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. This has been based on the assessment criteria with a specific focus on the impact on the number of people affected, the degree that people may be impacted, community interest, financing and rating impact, and impact on wellbeing.

Background

- 3 During the public forum portion of the 2 October 2024 meeting of the Geraldine Community Board, the Chair of The Academy, Rhys Taylor, presented to members seeking a pledge of support towards the purchase of the building which houses the Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts, from the current owner St Mary's Anglican Church (through the Anglican Church Property Trustees).
- 4 He spoke to the positive benefits of performing arts, the importance of having a dedicated venue for performing arts teaching and participation and the high level of usage that the centre has.
- 5 The church is considering sale of the hall to help fund earthquake strengthening of the church, so the academy is now fundraising to purchase the hall from the church.
- 6 No specific price has been set by the Anglican Church Property Trustees at this time.
- 7 The academy is asking the community board to look at their available funds and look at pledge of a sum of \$10,000 to be paid in July 2025. He says this in in line with the board's strategy and their backing would help with better funding.

- 8 As no decision could be made on a public forum item, there was a request for a decision making report to come to the next Community Board Meeting.
- 9 In the 2024-34 Long Term Plan (LTP) the Geraldine Board Charge was set to \$7.00. As at the 30 June 2024 the fund balance was \$79,865.30, with the addition of the targeted rate received to date this year of \$6,749.40, with no expenditure incurred to date, the current balance as at 31 October 2024 is \$86,634.70
- 10 The Geraldine Community Board has delegation to approve expenditure from this fund. Within the 2024-34 LTP the following is noted: "The cost of providing specific Council services as determined by the Temuka, Geraldine and Pleasant Point Community Boards, is recovered from those ratepayers in the form of a targeted fixed amount per rating unit in each of the Temuka, Geraldine and Pleasant Point communities."

Cir	nancial Voar	Applicant	Amount	Reason		
11	11 The following table outlines funding provided over the past three financial years:					

Financial Year	Applicant	Amount	Reason
2023/24	Ace Picture Framers	\$275.65	Framing for Community Board
2023/24	KG Photography	\$195.00	Photos for Community Board
2023/24	The Record Keeper Limited	\$330.00	GCB Annual Dinner
2022/23	Ace Picture Framers Ltd	551.30	Framing for Community Board
2022/23	Turnbull Earthmovers	\$240.00	Shingle for Toy Library
2022/23	Geraldine District Development &	\$1,235.36	Materials for Flume Project

No funding was provided in FY 21/22

Discussion

- 12 If the Geraldine Community Board determines this service to be provided funding, it can nominate a specific figure via a resolution.
- 13 If approved by the Geraldine Community Board, The Geraldine Academy of Performance & Arts Incorporated would then invoice Timaru District Council to receive the funds.
- 14 This decision is delegated to the Geraldine Community board and is at the discretion of such.

Options and Preferred Option

- 15 The Geraldine Community Board can choose to approve the grant to the full amount of \$10,000, decline the application or chose a different amount to grant.
- Providing the full grant of \$10,000 would leave a balance of \$76,634.70 available in the 16 Geraldine Community Board Grants budget.
- 17 The Geraldine Community Board can also decide on the timing of the grant, any requirements to be met by the applicant prior to the grant being made, or any requirements for repayment should the project not proceed.

Consultation

The Community Board Charges were consulted on during the Long Term Plan 2024-34 and 18 adopted by Council in 2024.

Relevant Legislation, Council Policy and Plans

- 19 Local Government Act 2002
- 20 Local Government (Rating) 2002

Financial and Funding Implications

21 This fund is available for the Geraldine Community Board to assess applications received or support local service provision within the Geraldine Community Ward. If the funds are not used, these continue to be held. Interest is accumulated at the close of the financial year and added to the balance of the fund.

Other Considerations

22 There are no other considerations.

Attachments

1. Fundraising Information from The Academy



News update, September 2024

The former church hall, built in 1907, has served the parish of St Mary's Geraldine in various roles, including supporting the bell which is still rung each Sunday before service, although it hosts very few church events these days. The Anglican Church Properties Trust, working through the local vestry, has leased the hall to independent users, initially to a playgroup and for the last 12 years a local charity: Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts (GAPA, charity number CC48529).

We were set up to provide an affordable venue and organising skills for participation in the arts and community activities. The founders were Fiona (a film-maker), Jill (an actress and singer) and Lorina (a Tui-folk-award-winning singer, with additional experience in drama and puppetry). They gathered a group of local residents, as initial members of an incorporated society.

Regular users today include Geraldine Community Choir, Fiery Peak Morris dancers, Finding Our Voices (music and drama for a group of young adults with special learning needs and varied abilities), additional dance rehearsals and performances, a monthly Blackboard Concert of shared live music and 'Mates 4 Mates' a social support group for rural workers. Family parties and private hirings, such as for a book-sale and a Labour Weekend musicians gathering, keep the building well used and do help to meet expenses. Other activity in recent years has included Bridge classes, an Advance Voting Place, hosting a children's choir, yoga classes, a folk festival, break-dancing, salsa dancing, calligraphy and art classes, plus the winter Lantern Walks.

There isn't any equivalent venue elsewhere in Geraldine, although there are other church and secular meeting rooms. The Academy has the advantage of on-site storage space (which has included instruments and a costume collection, craft materials, drama props, dance equipment), a piano, dance mirror wall, built-in amplifier and speakers/microphones/music stands, theatre lights; kitchen and toilets and some outdoor space with seating and tables. Drama performances can be rehearsed in our main hall prior to public shows at the Lodge Theatre, travelling professional musicians perform here several times a year, in addition to the shows hosted by Geraldine Arts Council at the Lodge Theatre. Our two smaller rooms have been used for social worker sessions and for individual music tuition. We have users spread through the week, daytime and evening, with capacity in our calendar to host more.

Our charity (GAPA) has recently been invited to consider purchase of the church owned building, offered a written 'first option to buy' before July 2025. We currently use the building under a Permit to Occupy which is a simplified form of lease with no long-term security. The parish seeks to raise capital from sale of the hall (they envisage 'several hundred thousand dollars') towards its own priority projects such as earthquake strengthening.

Why would we wish to become building owners?

1. We pay quite a high rent in relation to income from regular users and have to seek occasional operational grants to close a funding gap, especially since the arrival of COVID closed-down some regular activity. Mid & South Canterbury Community Trust made an operational grant in 2024. We keep user costs affordable, as a charitable aim.

2. The church vestry do seem intent upon either selling or demolishing the building. GAPA could be homeless by July 2025.

3. This building is Geraldine's best central location for a community centre, retaining a focus on arts participation whilst broadening users into other community and education activities. This would be compatible with the Community Resource Centre in Peel Street, which has much smaller meeting rooms. We would not duplicate specialist visiting services already provided there.

4. The unique value of the Academy - as a facility and as an organisation - has been recognised within the Geraldine Community Board's 2023 *Strategic Plan for Geraldine*, and in written support from the Geraldine Community Arts Council. We are therefore inviting both the Community Board (from its discretionary funds) and the Timaru District Council (from a land and property fund earmarked for Geraldine use) to make tangible and early contributions to our funding appeal. These can be offers of funding held on trust into 2025 subject to completion of property purchase. Letters indicating support for our fundraising appeal woud also be helpful.

5. Our landlords provide occasional assistance with building maintenance but have not been prepared to invest in major works. The building requires some replacement windows, part-floor and guttering repairs, although the basic structure is sound. If the building becomes owned by the community, income from its operation could be re-invested in long-term care of the building instead of being paid out as rent. We also seek to re-decorate, improve insulation, replace radiant heaters with heat pumps, and modenise electric wiring, adding additional electric power sockets. Grants towards capital improvements are available to us only once the building is community-owned. This part of our historic heritage, much like the nearby Town Hall Cinema, still has a modern role to play, once properly maintained.

6. We shall launch the fundraising appeal to the public, hold events and seek capital grants towards a target to be set by our AGM on 30 October. Meanwhile current and new supporters of GAPA are invited to join the Society at \$15 per person. Membership year runs through to April 2025. Payment is invited by bank transfer to Kiwibank a/c 38 9014 0041883 00 quoting your name and 'subs' (please also send your address and contact details to AcademyGeraldine@gmail.com or deliver a note into our roadside mailbox at 79 Talbot Street. Small donations towards operating costs are also welcome, but please hold-on until October for details of the *Pledge Me* or similar arrangement set up to handle larger offers of funding towards building purchase. We will not claim those funding pledges unless an affordable purchase can go ahead in 2025.

Rhys Taylor

Committee chair 021462260 anneandrhys@farmside.co.nz

Drafted 24 Sept 2024.

8.4 Mayor's Taskforce For Jobs Programme Update 2024

Author: Jessica Hurst, Community Development Advisor

Authoriser: Beth Stewart, Group Manager Community Services

Recommendation

That the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs Programme Update 2024 is received and noted.

Purpose of Report

1 To provide the Geraldine Community Board with an operational update on activities and progress in the Mayor's Taskforce For Jobs programme.

Assessment of Significance

2 This matter is deemed as low significance under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as this has ongoing but limited community interest and affects a small number of people in the community.

Discussion

- 3 In July 2024 the Community Development Team successfully secured \$180,000 from the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) Community Employment Initiative Fund a nationwide partnership between Local Government New Zealand and the Ministry of Social Development that has a strong focus on getting young people into sustainable employment.
- 4 The \$180,000 funding is received in two tranches. First tranche funding was a payment to Council of \$100,000 (plus GST) in year one, in consideration for Council delivering at least 8 sustainable employment outcomes. Second tranche funding comes at the point at which Council has delivered 8 sustainable employment outcomes under the programme, or is otherwise able to satisfy MTFJ that the Council will be able to deliver a total of at least 20 sustainable employment outcomes by 30 June 2025.
- 5 A sustainable employment outcome means that when, as a result of a Council action or initiative, a person is placed into permanent, full-time employment (30 hours + a week) and is achieved when that person has been continuously employed for 91 days.
- 6 The 12-month pilot programme highlights the power of localism, promoting community-led solutions for youth employment, education, and training.
- 7 Timaru District Council's MTFJ Programme focuses on placing young people aged 16-24 years whom are not in education, employment, or training, people with disabilities, and other disadvantaged people into employment, in Temuka, Pleasant Point, Geraldine, and outlying areas of the district.
- 8 People in rural New Zealand often face difficult challenges when entering into the labour force, these challenges include a lack of access to skill development pathways, driver licencing, and testing facilities, and a lack of access to employers.

- 9 The partnership reinforces that councils, led by their mayors, are well placed and connected to their communities to facilitate local employment outcomes.
- 10 The funding received is flexible, which means that an individualised and local based approach is taken when supporting people into work. The programme can provide a wage subsidy for the employer to take on a young person, cover the costs of training (including driver licencing), tool/boot subsidies, and other incentives.
- 11 The MTFJ Coordinator works closely with the Ministry of Social Development to ensure there is no duplication of services or resource.
- 12 The Timaru District is well-served by a number of agencies working in the youth employment space, and Council looks forward to working with those agencies where appropriate.
- 13 The MTFJ Coordinator has been in the role since August and has successfully placed 3 young people into local employment. A further 25 young people have signed up for the programme. The coordinator has been busy engaging with employers, schools, and young people to provide support, socialise the programme, and to develop relationships in the community.
- 14 The MTFJ Coordinator is requesting the support of Geraldine Community Board members to engage their local business and community contacts to support participation in the programme.
- 15 The MTFJ programme is in line with key priorities 1 (Empower a collaborative community that promotes wellbeing and social connectedness) and 2 (Optimise pathways and opportunities for the community to thrive) of the Safer Communities Strategy.

Attachments

1. Safer Communities Strategy 2023



WHAKAKITENGA (VISION): Safe, resilient and connected communities in the Timaru District

KAUPAPA (MISSION): To collaborate and empower our communities safety and wellbeing

MATAPONO (PRINCIPLES): The following principles guide the implementation of this strategy:

COMMITMENT TO CONTRIBUTE	Facilitate an inclusive, empowering and progressive process of promoting safety and wellbeing in the Timaru District	
COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION	To identify and record opportunities for a collaborative approach	
SUPPORT	Provide information and advice required to secure funding, enable organisations with key stakeholders to deliver and evaluate best-practice activity relating to safety and wellbeing	
PROACTIVE ACTION	Have the flexibility to respond to any new issues and opportunities that arise in the Timaru District	
INTEGRITY	Treat each other with respect, honesty and fairness	

WHĀINGA RAUTAKI (STRATEGIC PRIORITIES):

- 1. Empower a collaborative community that promotes wellbeing and social connectedness
- 2. Optimise pathways and opportunities for the community to thrive
- 3. Value, support and showcase diversity
- Reduce social and family harm

8.5 Thomas Hobson Trust Fund Accounts

Author: Naomi Scott, Community Funding Advisor

Authoriser: Beth Stewart, Group Manager Community Services

Recommendation

That the Thomas Hobson Trust Fund Accounts be received and noted.

Purpose of Report

1 To inform the Geraldine Community Board of the funds available for distribution in the Thomas Hobson Trust Fund Accounts for 2024.

Assessment of Significance

2 The content of this report is considered to be of low significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. This has been determined against the assessment criteria with specific focus on impact on the number of people affected, the degree that people may be impacted, community interest, financing and rating impact, and impact on wellbeing.

Background

- 3 The Thomas Hobson Trust was established under the will of the late Thomas Hobson. Hobson died in 1907 and following his death, the Trust was established and has been providing funds to the community for over 100 years. The Trust was established with the purpose of providing grants to organisations within the district of the former Geraldine County. With a redesignation of boundaries, the Trust now covers areas within the Temuka and Geraldine Wards.
- 4 As advised by the Public Trust on Thursday 24 October 2024 (Attachment 1), the funds available for distribution under the Thomas Hobson Trust for the 2024/2025 financial year are:
 - Geraldine Account \$25,000.00

Attachments

1. Public Trust Email - Confirmation of funds

From: Kim Alabardi To: Nacmi Scott Subject: Thomas Holson Trust Date: Thursdey, 24 October 2024 2:47:33 pm Attachments: Image001.ong Image003.ong Image003.ong

Hi Naomi

Hopefully I am not too late to include these figures in the report to the community boards.

Figures for granting are as follows (I have had to reserve some of the retained income this year in order to pay ongoing fees) –

Geraldine \$25,000 Temuka \$13,000

Let me know if you have any questions. I will send out the financials next week.

Thank you

Kind regards

Kim Alebardi

Senior Trustee - Rural Properties

Public Trust 301 Karamu Road North, Hastings

Private Bag 5902 Wellington Tel: 063570206 Toll Free: 0800 371 471 www.publictrust.co.mz



- 9 Consideration of Urgent Business Items
- **10 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters**
- **11** Public Forum Issues Requiring Consideration
- 12 Exclusion of the Public

Recommendation

That the public be excluded from—

- *(a)the whole of the proceedings of this meeting; or
- *(b)the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely,—

13.1 Thomas Hobson Trust Applications

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	Plain English Reason
13.1 - Thomas Hobson Trust Applications	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	To protect a person's privacy, including the privacy of deceased persons To protect commercially sensitive information

*I also move that [name of person or persons] be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of [specify]. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because [specify]

*Delete if inapplicable.

Note

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

- "(4)Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof)—
 - (a)shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and
 - \circ $\,$ (b)shall form part of the minutes of the local authority."

13 Public Excluded Reports

14 Readmittance of the Public

15 Board Member's Reports