



MINUTES

Geraldine Community Board Meeting Wednesday, 13 November 2024

Ref: 1719313

**Minutes of Timaru District Council
Geraldine Community Board Meeting
Held in the Geraldine Library/Service Centre
on Wednesday, 13 November 2024 at 6.30pm**

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

In Attendance: Mayor Nigel Bowen, Nicole Timney (Group Manager of Property), Naomi Scott (Community Funding Advisor), Jessica Hurst and Stacey Barnett – (Mayoral Taskforce for Jobs & Community Development), Samantha Molyneux (Community Services Operations Coordinator) Darryn Grigsby – Manager for Emergency Management, Rhys Taylor (Geraldine Academy of Performing Arts), Tanya Stoddart and Nigel Davenport (Venture Timaru), Rachel Scott (Woodbury Community Response Team) and Mo Martin.

1 Apologies

Nil

2 Public Forum

Rachel Scott – Initiated a **Community Response team** in Woodbury. Participated in an AF8 simulation, considered the Woodbury area in that event which would likely knock out key infrastructure such as bridges. Explained her actions that followed in speaking to her local network, put out an EOI with 5 expressing interest, including Cllr Andy McKay as the Search and Rescue Officer, contacting Timaru District Council to be considered in the process, Lamorna presented the Woodbury settlement flood zone area. Created a community response plan, allocated roles to volunteers and their strengths, identified Woodbury Hall as the Community Welfare Centre, the Cricket Pavilion as the Communications Centre and the school as an additional venue. Each member is working on each area to recruit volunteers, such as ambulance officers etc. Have identified lacking in some critical resources to effectively operate as a team, the most important being a basic radio and 3 handhelds so they can operate effectively in the event and to support Search and Rescue efforts across the entire area, such as neighbouring teams like Peel Forrest and Geraldine. The Woodbury Hall also requires a generator in order to function properly in an event, with a local electrician providing a quote and secure housing for it. Seeking partial funding of it from the Woodbury Community Board as it will be housed in their hall and they will have full use.

Due to the nature of the area and coverage, identified Starlink is the best option for remote connection. Purpose of the proposal is to introduce themselves and to offer support to the Geraldine Emergency Response Team as a subgroup of them. They also look to seek financial support in the first item above which is a base radio and 3 handhelds. Ideally need 6 to cover the entire area.

The Community Board praised the group for a great initiative that's important to the community. They then queried such things as the venue selection and their reasoning, whether they were EQ proof and expected to withstand an event such as the AF8, whether the radios would require a subscription or case-by-case use, scaling the number of handhelds, blackspots and channels, storage and safe keeping, accessibility, alternative funding options, the generator, solar panels, Te Moana Gorge residents and other resources they can already draw upon. The assistance this would provide the Geraldine team knowing there is already a team in situ at Woodbury.

They also discussed the potential for cross functionality with the Peel Forrest outdoor centre and FENZ through a sharing deal. Radios are expensive, a considerable investment and there might be different way we can connect and communicate. Geraldine does annual training which can be extended to Woodbury.

Ballpark figure is \$2,000 per handheld and \$4,000 for the base radio. So likely a \$10,000 outlay.

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

Resolution 2024/210

Moved: Clr Gavin Oliver

Seconded: Wayne O'Donnell

The Geraldine Community Board receives and notes Cr Jan Finlayson's Chairperesons Report.

Had conversations with Troy Titheridge regarding the Samuel Hewlings Totara Tree in the CBD , Miles Anderson office regarding Geraldine Police vacancy, Geralinde Community Board response to the Active Transport plan and hearing on 26 November, Geraldine Arts Council meeting which is hosting the arts exhibition opening tomorrow, meetings of interested parties with representatives of the Geraldine Playground, Standing Committee meetings, communications with Suzi Ratahi regarding speed restrictions at the North end of town and wider Cox Street and Kennedy corner. Met with the Geraldine District Projects Trust, meeting with Rachel Scott re Woodbury Response Team and the AF8, discussion ongoing with Nigel Trainor and processes regarding the Community Board discretionary fund.

Carried

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

Resolution 2024/211

Moved: Andy McKay

Seconded: Rosemary Woods

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.

Carried

8 Reports

8.1 Towards 2050 Plan - Venture Timaru

- 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.

Resolution 2024/212

Moved: Rosemary Woods

Seconded: Janene Adams

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

Nigel Davenport and Tanya Stoddart spoke to the report, with Benjes report and the press release with the Mayor providing context around what they're doing. Forecasting economic indicators and what this looks like come 2050, which for the Timaru District is a "bit of a punch in the nose." Looking to provide the broader context to the Community Board of the report and seek their support in the engagement required that's starting now with the community via flyers, pamphlets and online.

They discussed facts around the population and it's decline, with a view to become more resourceful and leveraging existing strengths and industries, with transformational strategies to attract population and quality of life for those who live here. Initial conversations see a big emphasis on energy, technology and sustainability to set up future generations for success. They explained their intended target audience, and their learnings from the approaches of Taranaki and Southland. Global trends are reducing population numbers.

The Community Board members queried the teenage population and any perceived disinterest in attending the local polytechnic. Ara was discussed as a massive asset, but the need to have co-campuses and establishing strength of economy. Potential to establish a scholarship fund that retains those people as well, the high level of apprenticeship rates in South Canterbury, skillset vs. industry with programmable processes, on the job training vs. training in institutions. Apprenticeship boost programmes being support by central government ad funded by MSD. Looking to engage schools and the Y etc. over the next 6 months.

Carried

8.2 Emergency Management Update 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.

Resolution 2024/213

Moved: Shane Minnear

Seconded: Rosemary Woods

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

Recent North Island weather event review has thrown up some big findings. 62% of people haven't taken their preparations, and it was discussed that the expectations between FENZ and community are different. Presented information in the form of the "Are You Ready" booklet which is a blue print for individuals in an Emergency Response event and has been distributed to the community via mail.

The AF8, booklet and its recommendations were discussed and it's scale that we cannot comprehend. Exercise pandora last Thursday was best guess/scientific approach which was successful and saw some great solutions to resolve those issues. The booklet has had the effect it was intended to do, for example the Woodbury initiative that's being driven by the community, families are talking and becoming better prepared for the events, particularly smaller isolated communities.

No plans to shift from the Geraldine Library at this stage but other venues about how they can be incorporated into the various community plans.

Carried

8.3 Request for funding from Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts

- 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.

Resolution 2024/214

Moved: Wayne O'Donnell

Seconded: Janene Adams

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.

Community Board members have been over this extensively. The academy has begun its fundraising and the sum that's been accumulated through gifts, grants and pledges will be assessed in June. With the agreement of these recommendations, it will now enable the second round of fundraising. Report will be made available in July.

The funds should be repaid in full if the purchase not proceed.

Carried

8.4 Mayor's Taskforce For Jobs Programme Update 2024

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

Resolution 2024/215

Moved: Janene Adams

Seconded: Andy McKay

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

The program is funded externally in partnership with MSD and LGNZ. Focus areas are outlying area of the Timaru District. Really amazing work happening with employment agencies in Timaru, but MSD and LGNZ support being out in rural areas.. The NEAT rate in the district, being young people who are 16-24 not in education, employment or training is 12% compared to 2023 which was 9.8% and now sitting just below the national average of 12.4%. A young person who goes onto the benefit under the age of 19 is likely to be on it for an average of 17 years.

Stacey Barnett new to the role introduced herself and provided some background of her experience. Then went onto detail the programme and intention of the programme. Connecting with businesses to develop networks and working with young people. The Timaru jobs saw 36 enrolled for this programme. 3 months of continuous employment in a full time position are the indicators for success of the program.

Plan to attend Geraldine Highschool and NEAT youth with no next steps. Sent communications out and would like to gain a better understanding of the Geraldine community and their needs in this space. Looking to arrange a driving school, forklift/heavy machinery licensing and any barriers for agriculture. The program offers 3 month post placement support and additional wrap around support for any workplace issues, advocating for the young person.

Seen significant benefits and change occurring in the past 90 days and want to continue that churn. The funding is really flexible, each placement comes with a certain amount of money attached and there's a wide range of things the money can be spent on. PPE, licensing, food, petrol it's a real wrap around service with a flexibility which some agencies don't have.

The Community Board asked how they could assist and Stacey explained she simply needs contacts and details. Stacey will look to advertise the programme and base herself out of the Geraldine Library when capable to connect with youth in the area.

The Community Board raised Fonterra as the major employer in the area and why we're unable to get young people out there. Commitment was made to make contact with this organisation and connect the MTFJ programme if possible.

Carried

8.5 Thomas Hobson Trust Fund Accounts

- 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 re-designation 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

Recommendation

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

Moved: Wayne

Seconded: Janene

Carried.

6 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

Nil.

7 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

The Community Board discussed the need for a defibrillator at the Health Centre and whether the board would fund one for the area. Needs to be formalised for the next meeting and provide some information in writing.

The defibrillators are \$3,000 plus \$760 for the cabinet outside of the building which are the basics. Newer ones are less expensive to maintain and up to date. The company was AED NZ and the type is a ZOLL AED Defibrillator. 3 types, one for public use, one for emergency response and one for proper medical centres.

Is that enough that will trigger a report at the next meeting?

Yes, they will take it through the process.

At the talbot street end on the corner site and good access for everyone and out of the weather.

Wanye to send as much information as they've got and the details.

Geraldine Pavilion – Painting – Now painted the outside of the building. Emailed the CB members pictures for the inside and have a quote for approx. \$6K and if we do that, the budget would be very low for any other halls in the district. Worth considering if there are monies from other funds to subsidise. As much as it's a case of meeting up there at some point with everyone and exploring other ways of sorting it out.

Is it possible to get the bar cleaned out of fridges, glasses etc.?

The coke fridge does get used, there's a broken dishwasher which can go and really good deep clean and see what's left to be done budget wise. Really have no money in our budgets, which is very real and need to have a conversation about how to execute the rest.

Worth taking a trip up there to look at it, get some work done that can happen in the first instance and more revenue will be driven if it gets utilised more.

8 Public Forum Issues Requiring Consideration

Nil.

9 Exclusion of the Public

Resolution 2024/216

Moved: Jan Finlayson

Seconded: Janene Adams

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 | <p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p> <p>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</p> | <p>To protect a person's privacy, including the privacy of deceased persons</p> <p>To protect commercially sensitive information</p> |

8:36pm

Carried

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
 - (b)shall form part of the minutes of the local authority.”

10 Public Excluded Reports

13.1 Thomas Hobson Trust Applications

11 Readmittance of the Public

Recommendation

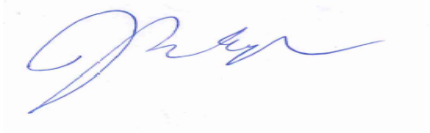
That the meeting moves out of Closed Meeting into Open Meeting.

12 Board Member's Reports

The Chairperson and Community Board Members discussed various organisations they have met within the community and meetings they have attended.

The Meeting closed at 9:12pm.

Minutes confirmed 12 February 2025



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Chairperson