

Methven Community Board

22 September 2025



Methven Community Board – 22/09/25

Minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on Monday 22 September 2025, commencing at 9.00am, in the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Board Room, 160 Main Street, Methven.

Present

Kelvin Holmes (Chair), Megan Fitzgerald, Allan Lock, Richie Owen, Robin Jenkinson and Crs Rob Mackle Liz McMillan

In attendance

Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Mark Chamberlain (Roading Manager), Renee Julius (Property Manager), Linda Clarke (Communications Advisor) and Carol McAtamney (Governance Support).

1 Apologies

Mayor Neil Brown (absence) and Cr Rob Mackle (lateness)

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

Public Forum

Bike Methven

Stu Marr, Cam Bissett, Busty Coleman

- Wanting to ask the question 'does the Community wish to pursue the idea of building a more permanent pump track?'
- Current skills park is on Council land and Bike Methven has a Licence to Occupy
- The current skills park requires a lot of maintenance, more modern tracks require less upkeep
- It is not fit for purpose for getting young people to ride bikes (2 to 10 years of age)
- Project rationale - tourism enrichment, future-proofing mountain biking and enriching future generations
- The concept includes balance bike/scooter track, intermediate/advanced pump track, timber wall ride
- Bike Methven prepared to lead the fundraising towards the project including submitting grant applications
- Estimated establishment costs of \$150k
- Proposal is for Bike Methven to building the track and then gift it to Council

The Board expressed that they were currently in favour of the project concept and asked for investigations to be undertaken into possible alternative locations (taking into consideration visibility).

Rob Mackle joined the meeting at 9.27am

4 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on 11 August, be taken as read and confirmed.

Owen/Jenkinson

Carried

Addition:

Comment was made about community activity and involvement in the future of the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall.

Matters arising

- Noise complaints and contamination breaches
Investigations were undertaken as to whether these were coming from the same properties and whether the properties were Air BnB's. Officers advised that they do not believe it is repeat offenders. They also noted that it is difficult to identify Air BnB properties.
- A meeting to discuss the strategic direction of the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall is being held on 8 October, 7pm.
- Cushmor Drive
Contact is to be made with the Open Spaces Manager to see if the trees on Cushmor Drive can be thinned.

5 Activity Reports

That the reports be received.

McMillan/Lock

Carried

5.1 Infrastructure & Open Spaces

• **Roading**

Further investigations are to be undertaken on suitable locations for potential pedestrian crossings.

It was agreed that the parking spaces in front of Methven Central (on Methven Chertsey Road) be removed and painted with yellow lines. This is not seen as the permanent solution but a step towards making the road safer for users.

Discussions were held regarding the possibility of increasing the width of the access area to the Garden of Harmony on SH77. It was agreed it would be possible, however no decision was made on who would be paying for the work to be undertaken.

• **Open Spaces**

The entrance into town on SH77 from the Opuke Pools is requiring tidying maintenance.

EA Network (as the contractors) are following up with the suppliers of the CBD lights as they are substandard.

• **Solid Waste Management and Collection**

There has been substantial incidents of gross contamination of bins reported over the past few months. Additional Comms is to be undertaken to educate people.

5.2 Democracy & Engagement

• **Methven Reserve Board - Helipad**

That the Methven Community Board writes a joint letter with the Methven Reserve Board to the Ministers of Transport and the South Island to see a review of the Civil Aviation Act, part 139: Subpart I – Operating requirements – non-certificated aerodromes.

Lock/McMillan

Carried

5.3 Compliance & Development

- **Ashburton District Cycle Trial Feasibility Study**

A copy of the Cycle Trial feasibility study is now available on the Council website. The Council received the feasibility study at their meeting held 17 September and decided not to proceed with the cycle trail.

Valedictory

A message of thanks and appreciation from the Mayor was read to the meeting:

I am unable to make it to your final Board meeting today, as I have a meeting in Ashburton I need to attend. It would like to thank you all for the work you have done over the last 3 years. You have achieved many things in Methven and the township is looking magnificent and is a credit to all involved including the Board and the staff who work with. You have achieved plenty. Methven is certainly moving forward in leaps and bounds

I would also like to thank Kelvin as Chair and Allan as a Board member for your work and your retirement from the Board.

Congratulations to the other Board members on getting re-elected unopposed.

I will no doubt see you all at the 1 October Council meeting in Ashburton to formally farewell Kelvin and Alan and host you to afternoon after the meeting.

Deputy Chair Richie Owen also expressed thanks, on behalf of the Board, to the retiring Chair and Board member.

Business transacted with the public excluded – 10.30am

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

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
6	MCB Minutes – 11/08/25 Methven & Foothills Birdsong Initiative	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Owen/Fitzgerald

Carried

There being no further resolutions the Board resumed in open meeting and the meeting concluded at 10.36am.

Jenkinson/Lock

Carried

Confirmed on 1 October 2025
[by Chairman and Chief Executive]