
Methven Community Board Inaugural Meeting – 3/11/25

Present

Mayor Liz McMillan; Councillors Deb Gilkison and Jeanette Maxwell; and Faye Barrand, Megan Fitzgerald, Richie Owen, Robin Jenkinson and Simon Wareing.

In attendance

Toni Durham (GM Community & Open Spaces), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure), Mark Chamberlain (Roading Manager), Dan Huismann (Acting Communications Manager), Linda Clarke (Communications Advisor) and Carol McAtamney (Governance Support).

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

4 Introduction and explanation of statutory requirements

Received for information purposes.

5 Election of Chair, Deputy Chair and Board Appointments

That System B is the method used to elect the Chair and Deputy Chair.

Fitzgerald/Owen

Carried

That Megan Fitzgerald is elected as Chairperson of the Methven Community Board.

Owen/Jenkinson

Carried

That Richie Owen is elected as Deputy Chairperson of the Methven Community Board.

Jenkinson/Barrand

Carried

That Robin Jenkinson is elected as the Methven Community Board representative on the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Board.

Owen/Wareing

Carried

That Simon Wareing is elected as the Methven Community Board representative on the Methven Reserve Board.

Jenkinson/Owen

Carried

That Richie Owen be appointed as Methven Community Board's representative on the Methven & Foothills Birdsong Initiative Trust.

Jenkinson/Barrand

Carried

The Chair expressed thanks and appreciation, on behalf of the Board, to the Board's former Chair Kelvin Holmes and Board member Allan Lock for their contributions over the previous term.

Mayor's Speaking Rights

That Mayor Liz McMillan be granted speaking rights at the Methven Community Board meetings.

Owen/Maxwell Carried

6 Methven Community Board Recordings of Meetings

That investigations be undertaken into the costs involved with livestreaming of meetings and an update to be provided at the next meeting

Owen/Jenkinson Carried

7 Activity Reports

That the activity reports be received.

Owen/Wareing Carried

7.1 Legal & Democracy

- **2026 meeting dates**

That the Methven Community Board's meeting schedule retains the status quo of a six weekly cycle, with meetings commencing at 9am.

Wareing/Owen Carried

Democracy

- **2025 Local Elections**

The Chair extended congratulations to newly elected Mayor Liz McMillan and the new Western Ward Councillors Deb Gilkison and Jeanette Maxwell.

A bus trip around the Methven district for Community Board members is to be arranged.

- **Methven Reserve Board – Helipad**

A joint letter from the Methven Community Board and the Methven Reserve Board has been sent 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.

No response has been received to date. A copy of the letter is to be forwarded to members.

7.2 Infrastructure

- **Pedestrian crossing outside Methven Central**

Council officers have been undertaking investigations on the possible layout of a loading zone, pedestrian crossing point and parking spaces on Methven Chertsey Road outside Methven Central.

The Board agreed that discussion should be deferred until Council officers and Board members have had the opportunity to meet with representatives from Methven Central. It was further agreed that this will be followed up with a workshop, to include representatives from Methven Primary and the Pre-school on Methven Chertsey Road.

That the matter lies on the table pending a meeting with Methven Central and a workshop with the schools.

Fitzgerald/Owen Carried

- **CRM Report**

It was agreed that rather than providing a list of individual CRM requests, future reports will include a summary of each category and the status of the request to be provided.

- **Solid Waste Management and Collection**

The high number of gross contaminations in kerbside collection bins was noted. An education advertising campaign is to be undertaken.

7.3 Community & Open Spaces

- **Methven CBD Lighting Project**

Members requested specific details on the status of the Methven CBD lighting project – when are the suppliers expected to correct the quality and brightness issues?

7.5 Business Support

- **Discretionary Grant**

Council officers are currently investigating the options of establishing a system that will call for grant applications on a quarterly basis. This will be discussed at the upcoming budget workshop.

7.6 Birdsong Trust Report – Garden of Harmony project

The naming ceremony formally accepting the Arowhenua gifted named for the site (Ka koroti a te manu ‘the chattering of the birds’) has been undertaken. The ceremony was well attended by members of the Community.

It was noted that the Trust have undertaken some extensive pruning to tidy up the area.

8 Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Board/Methven Reserve Board

That the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Board and Methven Reserve board representatives be requested to provide a report on a quarterly basis to update the Methven Community Board on the activities of their respective Boards.

Owen/Barrand

Carried

The meeting closed at 9.46am

[Confirmed by the Board 26 January 2026]

Chairperson