

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING NO. OMC23-4  
HELD IN THE ŌMOKOROA LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE, WESTERN AVENUE, ŌMOKOROA  
ON TUESDAY, 6 JUNE 2023 AT 7.00PM**

**1 PRESENT**

Chairperson P Presland, Deputy A Hughes, Member B Bell, Member G Neilson, Cr M Grainger and Cr D Thwaites

**2 IN ATTENDANCE**

A Hall (Roading Engineer East and West), and G Golding (Governance Manager)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mayor James Denyer, Councillor Allan Sole (Katikati-Waihī Beach Ward)

**3 APOLOGIES**

The Chairperson noted that Deputy A Hughes was delayed but would be present shortly.

**4 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS**

Nil

**5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

**6 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS**

Nil

**7 PUBLIC FORUM**

**7.1 CHRIS DEVER - CIVICS**

Mr Dever was in attendance to speak regarding civic matters. The following points were noted:

- Mr Dever was of the belief that a function of the Community Board was to ensure that the Councillors kept the community priorities front of mind at the decision-making table.

- It was believed that the role of the Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor was to keep Council in order and ensure Council representatives maintained cohesiveness.
  - He reminded Councillors that there were significant concerns within the community, including State Highway 2 (SH 2) traffic.
  - There was public expectation that Elected Members should campaign for the communities wants and needs, rather than diverting to policies. It was believed that Councillors should be instigating conversations with organisations such as Waka Kotahi (NZTA) and Bay of Plenty Regional Council, rather than referring these conversations to the public.
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At 7:05 pm, Deputy A Hughes entered the meeting.

## **7.2 JO RICHARDS – NOXIOUS WEEDS AND GRAFFITI**

Ms Richards was in attendance to speak regarding noxious weeds and graffiti. The following points were noted:

- Mothweed was a noxious weed that spreads seeds when the pod bursts.
- Coming up to the Te Puna roundabout towards Tauranga, there was a large patch of mothweed on the right hand side. A service request had been submitted to Council, and a response was received that it was not classed as a noxious weed, and therefore no action would be taken.
- There was a corrugated iron fence covered in graffiti at the Te Puna roundabout. A service request was submitted, and the response received was that the graffiti was on private property, and that Council could take no action. There was concern that this graffiti would not be addressed.
- Ms Richards was of the belief that Council should maintain these issues for the community.

The Roading Engineer (East and West) noted that Council had an approach of 'the good neighbour', which meant that if there were noxious weeds growing over a fence/boundary line to Council property, that it would be attended to. Noxious weeds were defined by Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC), which was outlined in the contract between Council and WestLink. Contractors would be requested to inspect the patch of mothweed as a discretionary item. It was noted that mothweed fell within the category of 'sustained control' on BOPRC's noxious weeds list, alongside gorse and blackberry.

The Roading Engineer (East and West) also confirmed that, because the graffiti was on private property, Council had no responsibility to remove it and were exempt to the Fencing Act 1978. An exception would occur if the graffiti featured obscene images or language.

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The Board noted that Waka Kotahi had not maintained noxious weeds, such as privet and woolly nightshade, on their own compound lots in the area. The mothweed on the industrial road in Te Puna would be investigated.

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### **7.3 DES HAMMOND – STATE HIGHWAY 2 (SH 2)**

Mr Hammond was in attendance to speak to the Board regarding concerns with State Highway 2 (SH 2). The following points were noted:

- Mr Hammond commended the Chairperson on his recent article in the Lizard News.
- There was concern regarding the decision-making process in relation to planning for growth.
- There was fear that residents of Ōmokoroa were becoming 'locked in' to the area, due to commute times and future roadworks. It was noted that residents were taking two plus hours to travel from Ōmokoroa to Tauranga City.
- The Chairperson noted that the Board had no involvement in the SH 2 roadworks, as it was a Waka Kotahi project. The Board could only lead and support local projects and activities.
- The Board was strongly representing the communities views, and was willing to initiate conversations regarding community concerns, but had limited effect on Central Government decisions.
- As frustration continued to build, the welfare of residents was a main concern.

The Roading Engineer (East and West) noted that the temporary traffic management was designed for safety and traffic flow, and that it was a delicate and difficult balance.

The Chairperson encouraged the public to continue highlighting their concerns to the Community Board and Council, and that the Board would advocate these issues upwards if and when appropriate.

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### **7.4 LINDA CHALMERS – STATE HIGHWAY 2 (SH 2)**

Ms Chalmers was in attendance and spoke regarding concerns with SH 2. She endorsed the issues that had already been raised, and noted the following points:

- The situation was becoming increasingly frustrating.
- It was suggested that the use of commuter train carriages and ferry rides were mechanisms that could be used to transport residents into Tauranga.
- Council needed to progress the communities concerns in relation to this issue.

The Board suggested that Council could harvest the community concerns and investigate further in order to provide a response and level of comfort that concerns were being heard.

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**7.5 MATTHEW FARRELL – VARIOUS TOPICS**

Mr Farrell was in attendance to speak to the Board on the below points:

- Concern over the below areas:
  - Railway bridge retaining;
  - Fire station to bridge; and
  - Kaimai Views to bridge.
- An update was requested regarding roading and reserves for Kaimai Views, including discussions in relation to contract renewals.
- A status of the bridge at the end of Prole Road was requested.
- It was requested that an update be provided on the new Ōmokoroa Sports Pavilion on Western Avenue. Clarity was needed on whether this was just going to be a bookable space or whether it was planned to be used for youth groups, in an attempt to address youth issues in the area.
- Mr Farrell urged for consultation on the use of the empty space where the Old Sports Pavilion once sat. There was a need for a multi-use space on this site, rather than being developed into tennis courts.
- An email had been received from Waka Kotahi regarding the SH 2 concerns, outlining that the road rehabilitation between Wairoa Bridge and Bethlehem was commencing on 6 June 2023, between the hours of 8pm and 5am. Motorists were advised that peak time congestion would continue while works continued throughout June. The cycleway was planned to be completed in July, which should alleviate the traffic issues.

The Board noted that the Kaimai Ward Reserve Management Plan was up for renewal in 2024, which provided opportunities for submissions and public consultation.

Delays with Ōmokoroa Stage 2 had resulted in delays with the redevelopment of the footpath by the Ōmokoroa Settler’s Hall, as integration of road level changes was required, in order to achieve the sufficient standard. The Chairperson requested that the Board discuss this issue at a later date.

**8 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION**

**8.1 MINUTES OF THE ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 11 APRIL 2023**

**RESOLUTION OMC23-4.1**

Moved: Member G Neilson  
 Seconded: Deputy A Hughes

1. That the Minutes of the Ōmokoroa Community Board Meeting held on 11 April 2023 as circulated with the agenda be confirmed as a true and correct record.

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2. That the Chairperson’s electronic signature be inserted into the confirmed minutes.

**CARRIED**

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## **9 REPORTS**

### **9.1 ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – JUNE 2023**

The Board considered a report from the Chairperson. The report was taken as read, with further discussion on the below items.

Member Hughes provided the Board with a brief overview of his report 9.3 ‘Member’s Update – Ōmokoroa Community Policing and Ōmokoroa Community Response Plan’. The below additional information was provided:

- The Ōmokoroa Community Policing Group managed the Neighbourhood Watch, Community Patrol, and graffiti in the area.
  - In conjunction with the Community Board, the Community Policing group were having discussions regarding increased police presence in the community, with a goal of establishing a police station in Ōmokoroa.
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### **RESOLUTION OMC23-4.2**

Moved: Member B Bell  
 Seconded: Deputy A Hughes

That the Chairperson’s report dated 6 June 2023 titled ‘Ōmokoroa Community Board Chairperson’s Report – June 2023’ be received.

**CARRIED**

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### **9.2 ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY BOARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – JUNE 2023**

The Board considered a report from Cr Thwaites. The report was taken as read, with further discussion on the below items:

The second iteration of the revaluations were rejected by the Valuer-General, resulting in another delay.

Council may not adopt the Annual Plan in the expected timeframe. Hearings were set for July 2023, and the Annual Plan was planned to be adopted on 30 August 2023. There were no immediate consequences of this late adoption.

Cr Thwaites would be raising concerns regarding SH 2 at the Regional Transport Committee meeting on 15 June 2023.

Council was attempting to get Stage 2 of the Tauranga Northern Link (TNL) approved.

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**RESOLUTION OMC23-4.3**

Moved: Cr D Thwaites

Seconded: Cr M Grainger

That the Councillor's report dated 6 June 2023 titled 'Ōmokoroa Community Board Councillor's Report – June 2023' be received.

**CARRIED**

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**9.3 MEMBER'S UPDATE - ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY POLICING AND ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLAN**

The Board considered a report from Member Hughes. The report was taken as read.

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**RESOLUTION OMC23-4.4**

Moved: Member B Bell

Seconded: Member G Neilson

That Member Hughes' report dated 31 May 2023 titled 'Member's Update – Ōmokoroa Community Policing and Ōmokoroa Community Response Plan' be received.

**CARRIED**

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**9.4 COMMUNITY BOARD OPERATIONAL REPORT**

The Board considered a report from the Governance Advisor. The report was taken as read, with further discussion on the below items:

There was confusion about the \$50,000 committed expenditure for bus shelters. It was clarified that would be investigated and ensured that it was removed from the committed expenditure.

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**RESOLUTION OMC23-4.5**

Moved: Member B Bell

Seconded: Member G Neilson

That the Governance Advisor's report dated 6 June 2023 titled 'Community Board Operational Report' be received.

**CARRIED**

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**9.5 ADOPTION OF ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY BOARD STANDING ORDERS FOR THE 2022-2025 TRIENNIUM**

The Board considered a report from the Governance Advisor. The report was taken as read.

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**RESOLUTION OMC23-4.6**

Moved: Member B Bell  
 Seconded: Deputy A Hughes

1. That the Governance Advisor’s report dated 6 June 2023 titled ‘Adoption of Ōmokoroa Community Board Standing Orders for the 2022–2025 Triennium’ be received.
2. That the report relates to an issue that is considered to be of low significance in terms of Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy.

**CARRIED**

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**RESOLUTION OMC23-4.7**

Moved: Cr M Grainger  
 Seconded: Member B Bell

3. That, pursuant to Clause 27 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Ōmokoroa Community Board **adopts** the Western Bay of Plenty District Council Community Board Standing Orders for the 2022–2025 triennium as per **Attachment 1** of this report by a vote in support of not less than 75% of members present and voting.

**CARRIED**

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**9.6 INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP REPORT ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY BOARD JUNE 2023**

The Board considered a report from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer. The report was taken as read, with further discussion on the below items:

The Chairperson clarified that the issue regarding bollards at the end of the esplanade was a Council decision to make.

The Board decided to have a discussion regarding this at a later date, with the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Roading Engineer (East and West), to revisit options. This information would be communicated to concerned members of the public, including Fred Textor, if it had not been done so already.

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**RESOLUTION OMC23-4.8**

Moved: Deputy A Hughes  
 Seconded: Member G Neilson

1. That the Deputy Chief Executive’s report, dated 6 June 2023 titled ‘Infrastructure Group Report Ōmokoroa Community Board June 2023’ be received.
2. That the proposal from the Ōmokoroa Community Board to fund the supply and installation of approximately 6 meters of pool fencing along the edge of the seaside garden, which borders the Ōmokoroa Boat Club front deck and steps, be accepted. Included in this proposal is railing that will be added adjacent to the steps, pushing pedestrians away from the edge of the path to prevent potential falls. This would be funded from the Ōmokoroa Community Board Roading account, **up to a cost of \$5,000.00.**

**CARRIED**

### 9.7 FINANCIAL REPORT ŌMOKOROA - APRIL 2023

The Board considered a report from the Financial Business Advisor. The report was taken as read.

#### RESOLUTION OMC23-4.9

Moved: Member B Bell

Seconded: Member G Neilson

That the Financial Business Advisor’s report dated 6 June 2023 and titled ‘Financial Report Ōmokoroa – June 2023’ be received.

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 8.24pm.**

**Confirmed as a true and correct record at the Ōmokoroa Community Board meeting held on 1 August 2023.**



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Chairperson P Presland

**CHAIRPERSON**