

Minutes of the meeting of the Matura Community Board, held at the Matura Elderly Citizens Centre, McQueen Avenue, Matura, on Monday 22 January 2024, at 5.30pm.

Present	Nicky Coats (Chairperson), Colleen Te Au, Laurel Turnbull, Steven Dixon and Darren Matahiki.
In attendance	The Governance Manager (Susan Jones), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Keith McRobie), Roading Asset Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), Facilities Officer (Mr Neil Mair) and one member of the public.
Apologies	His Worship and Cr Phillips apologised for absence, accepted on the motion of Steve Dixon, seconded by Laurel Turnbull.

The Chairperson advised she and C Te Au had attended the local fire brigade awards prior to Christmas and appreciated the efforts put in by the volunteers to protect the community.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of L Turnbull, seconded by N Coats, THAT the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Matura Community Board held on Monday 27 November 2023, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson as a true and complete record.

2. PRESENTATION FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

Ms Sharlene Taylor-Giles from Neighbourhood Support was in attendance at the meeting and spoke about how it could support Matura work towards improving safety and connectedness, getting prepared for emergencies and supporting one another.

Neighbourhood Support knew connected communities were happier and healthier, could work together to find solutions to local issues and were prepared for emergencies. Together as a collective, the community had the skills and spirit needed to create safe, resilient and connected communities.

3. URGENT LATE BUSINESS

N Coats advised an item of urgent late business to be considered that related to overgrown sections in Kana Street and the potential fire risk. The growth also impacted on visibility for traffic in the area.

RESOLVED on the motion of N Coats, seconded by C Te Au, THAT pursuant to Section 46 (a)(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the Board address the following which requires urgent attention:

Subject

Overgrown sections in Kana Street and potential fire risk.

Reason for not being on agenda

Request for consideration at meeting received after agenda had been published.

Reason for urgency

Visibility and potential fire risk.

4. MEETING DATES FOR 2024 (SC3535)

A memo had been received from the Governance Manager together with a proposed meeting schedule for 2024. The proposed schedule was as follows:

- Monday 4 March
- Monday 8 April – meeting with the Council
- Monday 22 April
- Monday 10 June
- Monday 29 July
- Monday 5 August – meeting with the Council
- Monday 23 September
- Monday 18 November

RECOMMENDED on the motion of D Matahiki, seconded by C Te Au, THAT the meeting schedule for 2024 be adopted,

AND THAT a workshop be scheduled for Monday 14 October 2024.

5. PROPOSED GORE-MATAURA CYCLE TRAIL (SC3274)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager advising that in December, Great South had run information sessions in Gore about a Southland wide approach to cycle trails. It had commissioned Destination Planning Ltd, to complete the Southland Cycle Tourism Opportunity Assessment (CTOA).

Mr Mike Whale from the Mataura Lions Club had attended the public session. It seemed that Great South would be the main driver of this activity in Southland and

that the Council could struggle to get external funding for a trail unless it was under Great South's umbrella. Great South was undertaking a follow up study looking at all potential projects, trying to develop a strategy and plan of action. It had indicated that the projects that would be viewed favourably would be extensions and improvements to existing trails and new destination trails. It was likely there would be one pot of funding and that the merits of a Gore to Mataura trail would need assessment against other Southland projects.

N Coats advised a survey had been undertaken in late 2023 by Gemma O'Neill from Active Southland about the proposed trail. The results from the survey had been presented to the Board at its November meeting. Mrs O'Neill could assist with funding applications. L Turnbull asked if the Board should gather its information together and approach Great South to ensure the trail was included. In response to S Dixon, the Manager said when the original report had been written, the estimated cost was \$1 million. N Coats said Mike Whale had mentioned \$400,000 when the Lions Club had been considering the trail some years ago. N Coats said the trail would be a safe mode of transport for local residents to get to Gore. C Te Au asked if there needed to be more input from Great South and a bigger group to drive the project. The Manager added Nic Wills, Destination Development Advisor at Great South had been closely involved with the strategy. It could be helpful to invite her to a future meeting.

A copy of the Cycle Strategy from Great South was provided to Board members.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of S Dixon, seconded by N Coats, THAT the information be received,

AND THAT Nic Wills, Destination Development Advisor at Great South be invited to the next meeting to discuss the proposed Gore-Mataura cycle trail.

6. PROPOSED PET CEMETERY – HENDERSON PARK (SC3487)

The Parks and Recreation Manager advised that this issue had not been progressed since June 2023. He wondered about the appropriateness of Henderson Park as a location for a pet cemetery and suggested the option of having a section for pets at the Mataura Cemetery along the northern tree line should be considered. The tree line consisted of 20 deciduous trees and there would be space for 20 burials along that section. There would also be room for further pet burials in the adjoining cemetery extension in the future.

C Te Au asked if there were any cultural considerations having pets buried at the cemetery? There was also a need to confirm that the community wanted a pet cemetery. The Facilities Officer said people would need to know what the costs would be if they wished to bury a pet. The Manager advised he would speak with the Runanga about any cultural issues.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of S Dixon, seconded by L Turnbull, THAT the Board request the Parks and Recreation Manager to investigate the establishment of a pet

cemetery either along the northern tree line at the Maitaura Cemetery or at Henderson Park,

AND THAT an appropriate interment fee be charged for pet burials.

7. PAINTING OF NETBALL AND PICKLEBALL LINES ON NEW TULLOCH PARK COURT (SC1570)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager advising that the request for line marking for netball and pickleball at the new Tulloch Park court had taken him by surprise. He was unaware of the driver or demand for the line marking as neither sport had been considered nor discussed in any of the Tulloch Park development discussions at Community Board level or informally with the Tulloch Park development group. There had been some discussion around a netball shooting circle and that could be accommodated beside the new court.

At this stage, there was no funding available for additional marking but there was a contingency amount in the project budget. The other issue was that the company used to mark the courts was Christchurch based and the previous work programme had coincided with work it was completing in Otago and Southland. It would be a lot more cost effective if any additional marking could be co-ordinated with other work activity in the region.

N Coats recalled that the new court was to have included lines for a basketball court and netball circle. She thought most Board members agreed that it was to have been a multi-purpose court. The Manager said pickleball was very new. He would ascertain when the Christchurch company was able to undertake the markings for netball. N Coats said there was room at Tulloch Park for an additional court in the future if that was required.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of L Turnbull, seconded by D Matahiki, THAT the painting of netball lines on the new Tulloch Park court be arranged in association with the Christchurch based company's future work programme to be undertaken in Southland and Otago.

8. STATE HIGHWAY ONE WELCOME SIGNS (SC2696)

A report had been received from the Roding Asset Manager in response to queries from the Board on aspects of the sign erected at the southern approach to Maitaura.

The Board had expressed concern that the sign erected at the southern approach to Maitaura was not in accordance with the original design. It was noted that the sign was not yet complete. The corten steel eel motif at the base of sign along with placing of rocks at the base of the sign had still to be completed and would be carried out by Seddon's once both signs were in place.

Decisions on the design of the various components of the signs were made by the previous Board in conjunction with the former Roding Manager, Peter Standing,

Sarah Crispin from Crispin Design and John Seddon from Seddon Fibrous Plasterers during 2021. The artistic elements of the design, including choice of colours, from the beginning and throughout the project had been decided by Crispin Design. Several changes had been made during construction due to issues with the materials originally intended to be used. Other changes had been forced on the project including the relocation of both State Highway One signs due to poor foundation conditions and KiwiRail requirements.

In January 2022, during discussion on the design and cost of the proposed signs, a rough estimate of \$4,000 per sign for illumination had been mentioned. However, no provision had been made for lighting the signs in the budget presented to the Council for its approval of the works.

In November 2023, the Council ratified the Board's recommendation that sign illumination options and costs be provided. As the signs adjoined State Highway One, the first step was to confirm with the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) its requirements for such illumination. The response received from NZTA was that illumination of 'Welcome' signs adjoining state highways was not permitted. A formal request to NZTA would need to be made requesting an exemption to its policy with illumination options then being explored together with costs.

N Coats read a comment received from Cr Phillips. He asked that the Board and public be patient whilst the signs were fully completed. The word "Mataura" needed to be better highlighted. The Manager was unsure whether corten steel accepted paint and it may need additional treatment. He said the signs were relatively close to existing street lighting which may assist with visibility at night.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of C Te Au, seconded by S Dixon, THAT the report be received,

THAT alternative colour options be investigated for the lettering on the signs,

AND THAT a formal request be made to NZTA for an exemption to its signage illumination policy.

9. LONG GRASS IN KANA STREET (SC3732)

L Turnbull said the affected sections in Kana Street were overgrown and there was also gorse and broom on the sections. They were a traffic hazard due to visibility issues. She had been advised last year that overgrown sections now had to be referred to FENZ. An inspection was eventually undertaken in 2023 by FENZ and it was determined that the sections were not likely to go on fire naturally and consequently were not a hazard. The Board sought assistance from the Council to progress the sections being tidied up. The Council's Regulatory Officer had taken photographs to send to the owner but there was little else that could be done from a compliance perspective. The Roading Manager said broom and gorse was the responsibility of Environment Southland which could result in the entire sections being cleared.

N Coats undertook to contact Environment Southland on behalf of the Board and community about the gorse and broom on the affected sections.

The meeting concluded at 6.48pm