



AGENDA

Late Reports

Cromwell Community Board Meeting Tuesday, 18 May 2021

Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2021

Time: 9.00 am

**Location: Cromwell Presbyterian Church,
10 Elspeth Street, Cromwell**

(Unless Central Government changes COVID-19 meeting restrictions before then,
in which case it will be held electronically using Microsoft Teams and livestreamed)

**Sanchia Jacobs
Chief Executive Officer**

Order Of Business

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4 REPORTS FOR DECISIONS

21.4.4 ADDENDUM - ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS FOR CROMWELL COMMUNITY BOARD

Doc ID: 534090

1. Purpose

Submissions that have not been attached to the original agenda.

2. Attachments

Appendix 1 - Addendum - Submissions for Cromwell Community Board [↓](#)

#657

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:51:16 PM
Last Modified: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:02:13 PM
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IP Address: [REDACTED]

Page 2: Your details

Q1

Please provide your details below (all fields required):

First name	Nita
Last name	Smith
Organisation (only required if providing feedback on behalf of a group or organisation)	Mokihi Reforestation Trust
Postal address	22 Schoolhouse Road
City / Town	Cromwell
Post code	9384
Email address (if you don't have an email address, please type n/a)	[REDACTED]
Daytime phone (mobile or landline)	+ [REDACTED]

Q2

Cromwell

Please select your local Community Board (if known/applicable):

Q3

Yes

Do you want to speak to Council or local Community Board about your feedback?

Page 3: District Museum Function

Q4

5. No opinion.

Which option do you support for the District Museum Function? (please select one)

Page 4: Cromwell Masterplan

Long-term Plan 2021 - 2031 Consultation

Q5**5. No opinion.**

Which of the Cromwell Masterplan timing options do you support? (please select one)

Q6**D. No opinion.**

What is your preferred option for the hall/events centre? (please select one)

Page 5: Roxburgh Community Pool Upgrade

Q7**4. No opinion.**

Which option do you support for the Roxburgh Community Pool upgrade? (please select one)

Page 6: Alexandra Riverside Park Development

Q8**4. No opinion.**

Which option do you support for the Alexandra Riverside Park Development? (please select one)

Page 7: Omakau Community Hub

Q9**5. No opinion.**

Which option do you support for the Omakau Community Hub? (please select one)

Page 8: Other comments

Q10

Do you have any other comments to make in relation to the key proposals and content of the consultation document?

Please find attached the submission on behalf of the Mokihi Reforestation Trust

Q11

Upload any supporting information here.

Long Term Plan submission - Mokihi Reforestation Trust.docx (133.3KB)

Page 9: Optional demographic information

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Long-term Plan 2021 - 2031 Consultation

Q12

Respondent skipped this question

What age bracket do you belong to?

Q13

Respondent skipped this question

Gender:

Q14

Respondent skipped this question

Tell us how you heard about the Long-term Plan consultation:

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LTP Submission presented by Mokihi Reforestation Trust – written by Trustee, Nita Smith

Central Otago was once forested.

The “natural environment” that we think is natural – our golden hills are in fact a decimated, deforested and almost desertified landscape devoid of its original forest cover. This holds no, or very little habitat for our precious taonga, our native fauna – birds, geckos, insects etc. We have lost the vital ecosystem services an intact ecosystem can provide for all. Think dry woodland rich in kowhai, Tree daisies, totara, lancewoods, kanuka, Pittosporum and cabbage trees to name just a few of the species that would have covered the vast majority of the lowlands of Central Otago.

The dry woodland forests that occur in eastern South Island today are among the most overlooked and least understood of all New Zealand vegetation types (S. Walker et al. 2003).

The original forest here was rapidly removed by human burning after the fourteenth century. Further human modifications including modifying the river systems for goldmining and hydro power and drainage for pasture have changed the nature of the hydrology system. Adding to this, over-grazing, and the introduction of weed and pest species has had a drastic impact on the soils. Ultimately these modifications have even changed the microclimate.

In parts of Central Otago, remnants of pre-settlement forests and shrublands survive today only as single trees or small stands of indigenous woody plants, however no examples of pristine or intact ecosystems remain (S. Walker et al. 2003). The continued pressure from weed and pest species mean that even these remaining stands are under pressure.

Have you seen these – have you stood under a mighty Kowhai or Totara here in Central Otago? Probably not.

None of these areas are easily accessible to the general public, therefore disconnecting people with their natural heritage.

“Without endemic touchstones visible to the resident population on a daily basis, their appreciation of the history of their own land and identification with it will gradually atrophy. As northern [hemisphere] temperate images fill people’s experience and imagination, these foreign elements become entrenched in tradition with an inevitable global loss of both biological and cultural diversity” Colin Merc (Landcare Research).

We worry about amazon rainforest being burnt now – how about our own burnt landscape. Climate and Biodiversity are intrinsically linked, and when we declare a climate emergency, we can’t ignore the worldwide biodiversity emergency that is occurring in parallel.

As stated in the Guardian, “Wildlife populations are in freefall around the world, driven by human overconsumption, population growth and intensive agriculture. On average, global populations of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles plunged by 68% between 1970 and 2016, according to the WWF and Zoological Society of London (ZSL)’s biennial Living Planet Report 2020. Sir David Attenborough states that humanity has entered a new geological age – the anthropocene – where humans dominate the Earth, but said it could be the moment we learn to become stewards of our planet. “Doing so will require systemic shifts in how we produce food, create energy, manage our oceans and use materials. But above all it will require a change in perspective,” (<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/sep/10/humans-exploiting-and-destroying-nature-on-unprecedented-scale-report-aoc>)

While this all sounds daunting, with careful planning, reforestation is possible. The positive impacts are vast, and can complement our commercial land uses, by focusing on the uneconomical “wastelands” as well as on public lands. Many of our species are fast growing and uniquely adapted to our harsh climate. As biodiversity increases, environments can better withstand stressful events and have a better chance of adapting to environmental change. The more species present in a system, the more resilient and stable it will be. Plants can also help in other ways. Benefits can include erosion and flood control, moderation of climate, recycling of nutrients, control of pests, help with pollination, and, in some instances, the filtering of contaminants. Increased native biodiversity results in cleaner rivers and

streams, helping out threatened native fish. It also has added advantages such as boosting tourism, where people from around the world travel to see a place unlike anywhere else. Many of our species are found only in this country, and some even only found in this valley. If these species are lost here, then they are lost to the world. (N. Simpson & B. Teele. 2017)

How does this link to the LTP?

Biodiversity and Climate must underpin everything that the CODC does in the same way that community and economics currently do. A cultural shift must happen so that all visions, plans, policies and statements intrinsically include these elements and they are given due consideration in all decision making. Therefore this is bigger than the LTP, and is a request that biodiversity and climate become central to all CODC visions, plans, policies and statements.

More specifically the points I would like to make are:

- 1) The Long Term Plan's purpose is to enhance our communities wellbeing, with three pillars including Sustainable Environment. Nowhere in the consultation document does it mention anything about biodiversity, and while climate is mentioned it does not carry through to the projects that are subject for consultation. This needs to be included in the decision making e.g. which options have the least impact on climate. The current LTP states under Our Goals: Managing Change while protecting and enhancing our culture, heritage and landscape. However there is no actionable point to anything relating to doing this with regard to landscape (which intrinsically includes biodiversity). It only details waste reduction.
- 2) Biodiversity awareness training for CODC staff and councilors.
- 3) All CODC public buildings to have gardens that represent our native biodiversity to help give the community connection or touchstones to our natural heritage.
- 4) All heritage projects to include natural history as well as cultural history.
- 5) At present under the District plan and RMA everything rests on mitigating any environmental effect, but from a benchmark of what is currently present. When the present landscape is so completely devastated this is almost pointless. Therefore restoration must be taken into account when granting resource consents. Biodiversity and Climate must be central to discussion when updating the very out of date District Plan. E.g. Clearance of indigenous vegetation (Rule 4.7.6KA) is in direct conflict with the Sustainability Strategy.
- 6) Due to the scale of the biodiversity destruction that has occurred, restoration cannot rest only on small volunteer led groups. It must be entrenched in the culture of CODC so as to flow throughout all activities, and cause a tipping point within the community so that not only are CODC and community groups restoring the landscape but it becomes what every private landowner intrinsically does as well.
- 7) At present, the small environmental groups like Haehaeata Natural Heritage Trust (Clyde), and Mokihi Reforestation Trust (Cromwell) are the local leaders in restoration and while small, have a huge amount of practical knowledge. These groups not only need to be encouraged (as stated in the Cromwell Community Plan), but actively supported by CODC with significant funding to ensure they can be the community catalyst to scale up impact at the community level. These trusts are unlikely to ever have significant revenue streams, so require ongoing long term funding that allows them to grow. \$10000 per year per trust operational grant.
- 8) All resource consents that are required to mitigate environmental effects either to screen visual effects or to enhance the ecological value should be required to plant a minimum of 80% eco-sourced native plants. Planting plan to be signed off by expert ecologist to ensure we don't just get mass planted alpine tussocks. The remaining 20% would be encouraged to be food source options e.g. nut or fruit trees.

- 9) All new CODC plantings to have minimum 80% eco-sourced natives planted. The remaining 20% would be encouraged to be food source options e.g. nut or fruit trees. All existing CODC plantings to eventually be replaced with the above schedule when appropriate. The Tree Policy to be updated to reflect this. The Planting Policy to be updated with consultation with Haehaeata Natural Heritage Trust and the Mokihi Reforestation Trust and professional botanists with local expertise.
- 10) All Climate Emergency related documents to include restoration of biodiversity as this has been missing thus far. Primarily this is for carbon sequestration purposes but obviously has positive ecosystem service impacts too.
- 11) Update the Sustainability Strategy to include “restore indigenous biodiversity” as well as protect, under point 6.2.2.
- 12) Whenever natural landscape is described (in any plans, visions etc), a true and accurate description needs to be used. Terms such as beautiful landscape are misleading and do not recognize the highly degraded landscape that we currently have. For example:
 - a. The Cromwell Community plan states: We value: Our beautiful and diverse surrounding natural environment and landscape.
 - b. The Sustainability Strategy states: Central Otago is New Zealand’s most inland region, located in the southern half of the South Island. It is breathtakingly different with vast undulating landscapes, rugged snow-capped mountains, clear blue rivers and lake, deep gorges and tussock-clad hills.
 - c. Under the Cromwell District Challenges it fails to mention anything about our severely degraded ecosystem

Submitter ID	First name	Last name	Organisation/ Group	Key Proposals	Option selected	Comment	Staff response
121	Daniel	Ooi	0	District Museum Function	1. In-house museum function (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan timing option	1. Hybrid Option (Council's preferred).	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan hall/events centre	A. 2000m2 building (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Roxburgh Community Pool	1. 50/50 loan/reserve fund split (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Alexandra Riverside Park Development	1. Fully loan funded (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Omakau Community Hub	1. 1/3 each way (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Other comments	Other comments	0	
124	Paula	Moore	0	District Museum Function	1. In-house museum function (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan timing option	0	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan hall/events centre	0	0	
				Roxburgh Community Pool	0	0	
				Alexandra Riverside Park Development	0	0	
				Omakau Community Hub	0	0	
				Other comments	Other comments	0	
192	Shona	Rae	Cromwell Mini Golf	District Museum Function	5. No opinion.	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan timing option	2. Arts, Culture & Heritage Precinct First Option.	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan hall/events centre	D. No opinion.	0	
				Roxburgh Community Pool	0	0	

				Alexandra Riverside Park Development	0	0	
				Omakau Community Hub	0	0	
				Other comments	Other comments	I notice that an allowance has been made for renewal of the skateboard park. As I have owned the mini golf next door for 18 years I have made a number of what I feel are useful observations. I feel it would be unwise to shift the park from its present location. The main reason being that it has built in security (Subway). Since Subway has arrived I have never had to call the police re behavior at the park. They are open long hours so that is a great advantage too. Security is a big issue for skateboard parks. OK space is limited. The half basketball court behind it is only used occasionally and I have only ever seen one attempt at a game. There has been a new basketball court upgraded down near the college which I understand is open to the public. Integrate the the court area into the new skateboard park. Nothing has been mentioned re Cromwell Mini Golf. This is a great family orientated activity that brings people off the highway. Many go on to eat etc while they are in the area. A loss of this facility would meant the loss of a family friendly priced activity. The facility is well maintained and having lots of recreational activities is a great draw card for the town. Many more locals and from nearby towns are make use of this facility.	Funding is provided in year six of the Long Term Plan to complete a site assessment for an expanded skate and scooter park to service the Cromwell area. This reflects the intention of the Cromwell Masterplan in respect to future design and use of Big Fruit Reserve.
236	Tania	Murray-Haigh	0	District Museum Function	1. In-house museum function (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan timing option	1. Hybrid Option (Council's preferred).	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan hall/events centre	A. 2000m2 building (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Roxburgh Community Pool	4. No opinion.	0	
				Alexandra Riverside Park Development	4. No opinion.	0	
				Omakau Community Hub	5. No opinion.	0	
				Other comments	Other comments	0	
657	Nita	Smith	Mokihi Reforestation Trust	District Museum Function	5. No opinion.	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan timing option	5. No opinion.	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan hall/events centre	D. No opinion.	0	
				Roxburgh Community Pool	4. No opinion.	0	
				Alexandra Riverside Park Development	4. No opinion.	0	
				Omakau Community Hub	5. No opinion.	0	
				Other comments	Other comments	Please find attached the submission on behalf of the Mokihi Reforestation Trust	Climate change and sustainability strategy - noted

751	Pierre	Leyser	0	District Museum Function	4. Expanded heritage / museum role.	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan timing option	2. Arts, Culture & Heritage Precinct First Option.	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan hall/events centre	B. 1200 - 1400m2 building.	0	
				Roxburgh Community Pool	4. No opinion.	0	
				Alexandra Riverside Park Development	4. No opinion.	0	
				Omakau Community Hub	5. No opinion.	0	
				Other comments	Other comments	0	
752	Barbara	Armstrong	0	District Museum Function	1. In-house museum function (Council's preferred option).	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan timing option	5. No opinion.	0	
				Cromwell Masterplan hall/events centre	D. No opinion.	0	
				Roxburgh Community Pool	0	0	
				Alexandra Riverside Park Development	0	0	
				Omakau Community Hub	0	0	
				Other comments	Other comments	See supporting information	Noted