

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CROMWELL COMMUNITY BOARD
HELD IN THE CROMWELL SERVICE CENTRE, 42 THE MALL, CROMWELL
AND LIVE STREAMED VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 7 APRIL 2026 COMMENCING
AT 2:02 PM**

PRESENT: Ms A Harrison (Chair), Mr W Sanford, Ms R Anderson, Cr S Browne,
Mr M Casey (via Microsoft Teams)

IN ATTENDANCE: T Alley (Mayor), P Kelly (Chief Executive Officer), D Scoones (Group Manager - Community Experience), L Fleck (Group Manager - People and Culture, Acting Group Manager - Community Vision), Q Penniall (Group Manager - Planning, Infrastructure and Regulatory), S Righarts (Group Manager - Governance and Business Services), P Penno (Communications Manager), G Chrystall (Community Experience Manager), W Harris (Venue Director), B Winders (Project Manager - Cromwell Special Projects), A Crosbie (Policy and Strategy Lead), E Sherie (Libraries Manager), W McEnteer (Governance Manager), S Reynolds (Governance Support Officer)

1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

2 PUBLIC FORUM

ALEX LE BRUN – CENTRAL OTAGO MOTORCYCLE CLUB ASSOCIATION

MR LE BRUN SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE CENTRAL OTAGO MOTORCYCLE CLUB, NOTING THE BENEFITS THE CLUB PROVIDES TO THE COMMUNITY. HE HIGHLIGHTED THAT THE CLUB WAS WELL-RUN, WITH A STRONG MEMBERSHIP, REGULAR MEETS, AND NO ISSUES WITH NOISE OR DUST. HE ADVISED THAT THE CLUB WAS KEEN TO RELOCATE THE TRACK TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RESERVE, ON THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF HIGHLANDS.

HE OUTLINED THAT THE CLUB HAD THE SUPPORT OF HIGHLANDS MOTORSPORT PARK AND THE SPEEDWAY GROUP, MAKING IT A LOGICAL LOCATION FOR THE CLUB TO OPERATE FROM, AND NOTED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED MANY LETTERS OF SUPPORT ENDORSING THE MOVE. IT WAS ALSO NOTED THAT THE CLUB WOULD CONSIDER SHARING THE SPACE WITH DOG-WALKERS, AND THAT RETENTION OF THE TREES WOULD BENEFIT THEIR OPERATIONS BY AIDING DUST SUPPRESSION AND NOISE REDUCTION.

MR LE BRUN THEN RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS FROM THE BOARD.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Sanford
Seconded: Anderson

That the public minutes of the Cromwell Community Board Meeting held on 3 March 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of their obligations in respect of declaring any interests. There were no further declarations of interest.

5 REPORTS

26.3.2 NEW CROMWELL FACILITY - NAMING

To consider the feedback from the community regarding the English name for the new facility and to agree a name to recommend to Council.

Members gave an overview of their thoughts, thanking those who took the time to respond to the survey. It was noted that clear themes had emerged, with strong agreement that the words Cromwell, Memorial, Events and Centre were the most prominent.

Other alternatives, such as The Junction were considered interesting but did not receive sufficient support. Discussion included support for using Central Otago in the name and that these discussions would be had at Council level, but it was noted that both the community and the Board felt Cromwell was the appropriate title, and the Board wanted to demonstrate that they were listening to the strong themes identified in the survey.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Sanford

Seconded: Browne

That the Cromwell Community Board

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Recommends to Council that the English Name for the new facility should be the Cromwell Memorial Events Centre.

CARRIED

26.3.3 FEES AND CHARGES - CROMWELL FACILITY

To consider the fees and charges for the new Cromwell Facility.

It was noted that these matters had been brought to the Board several times for workshopping and decisions.

The Board thanked staff for developing the fees and charges into a workable list and noted that these charges would be reviewed regularly, with reporting provided to the Board once the facility was in operation.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Casey

Seconded: Anderson

That the Cromwell Community Board

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
 - B. Recommends to Council that the attached fees and charges be accepted for the first year of operation.
 - C. Notes that this is not an exhaustive list and directs staff to continue to develop fees and charges as the operation of the venue evolves.
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CARRIED

26.3.4 GAIR AVENUE TREES

To consider options for addressing ongoing damage caused by approximately 70 *Platanus × hispanica* (London Plane trees) along Gair Avenue, Cromwell. These trees are causing significant and recurring impacts to footpaths, private property, and other Council assets due to root intrusion.

It was noted that the remediation of the footpath while retaining the trees would consume 100% of the footpath budget. Many residents on Gair Avenue had requested the removal of the trees. It was also discussed that the scope of the work could be extended along Barry Avenue, where similar issues were occurring.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Anderson
Seconded: Sanford

That the Cromwell Community Board

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Recommend to Council that resolution 25.5.5 approved at the 5 August 2025 Cromwell Community Board meeting regarding Gair Avenue trees is revoked in its entirety.
- C. Recommend to Council the removal of approximately 70 *Platanus x hispanica* (Plane Trees) from Gair Avenue and Barry Avenue, Cromwell and repair of the footpaths as part of the 2026/27 Roading Annual Plan budget.
- D. Directs staff to prepare a planting plan, prior to removal, and an estimated cost for inclusion in the 2027/37 Long-term Plan or other funding options.

CARRIED

26.3.5 CROMWELL TOWN CENTRE

To consider the progression on the Cromwell Town Centre Project by proceeding with high level detailed concept design and investigation into the Northwest Precinct with the inclusion of Civic Facilities.

It was noted that town centre plans had been discussed for many years, and members cautioned that the scope should not be limited to the mall area, as the project needed to include the civic centre, extending to parts of Barry Avenue and the northwest precinct. It was also countered that previous projects had become too large and that this could be managed by a staged approach with prioritisation of areas where Council could have influence.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Sanford
Seconded: Browne

That the Cromwell Community Board

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
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- B. Recommends to Council that staff investigate options for the Council owned land which includes the Northwest Precinct and conducts a high-level detailed 30-year concept design for inclusion in the 2027/37 Long-term Plan.
 - C. Recommends to Council that the high-level detailed concept design includes necessary civic facilities.
 - D. Recommends to Council that staff investigate and cost road realignments on Murray Terrace and the intersection at Barry Avenue and Waenga Drive, Cromwell.
 - E. Recommends to Council the implementation of private property design guidelines within the Cromwell Town Centre.
 - F. Recommends to Council the adoption of the Project Structure and Governance Group framework.
 - G. Recommends to Council that governance updates be provided at every Board and Council meeting.
 - H. Notes that the purpose of these recommendations is to enable the guiding North Star statement as in appendix 1 of the report.

CARRIED

26.3.6 REQUEST FOR MINISTER OF CONSERVATION'S CONSENT FOR ELECTRICITY EASEMENTS OVER ANDERSON PARK RECREATION RESERVE CROMWELL.

To consider requesting Council to grant (pursuant to delegated authority) the consent of the Minister of Conservation, for electricity easements over Cromwell Reserve land.

It was noted that there was concern about the area being used for additional infrastructure. Reference was made to a separate consent that had recently been issued for a cell tower through the hearings process. It was discussed that the location was not considered ideal for such structures, but that the Board did not have control over this decision.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Sanford
Seconded: Casey

That the Cromwell Community Board

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Agrees to request that Council grants the consent of Minister of Conservation (pursuant to delegated authority), to easements in gross in favour of Aurora Energy Ltd as shown on the attached plans within this report, over Anderson Park Recreation Reserve legally described as Section 17 Block XVII Town of Cromwell parcel ID 3119539 for the installation of electricity infrastructure, in accordance with section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977.

CARRIED with Cr Browne abstaining from the vote.

26.3.7 REQUEST FOR MINISTER OF CONSERVATION'S CONSENT FOR ELECTRICITY EASEMENTS OVER MELMORE TERRACE RESERVE CROMWELL.

To request Council to grant (pursuant to delegated authority) the consent of the Minister of Conservation, for an electricity easement over Cromwell Reserve land.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Sanford
Seconded: Anderson

That the Cromwell Community Board

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Agrees to request Council grant the consent of Minister of Conservation (pursuant to delegated authority), to an easement in gross in favour of Aurora Energy Ltd, as per option 2 outlined in this report. For the following Reserve land legally described as Lot 27 Deposit Plan 303906 parcel ID 6538854, Part Lot 2 Deposit Plan 24198 parcel ID 6637892 and Section 5 Survey Office Plan 324541 parcel ID 6637899 for the upgrade of electricity infrastructure, in accordance with section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977.
- C. Recommends that Council request that existing infrastructure is moved to an agreed location.

CARRIED

26.3.8 ROAD STOPPING POLICY

To consider providing feedback to staff on the Road Stopping Policy.

Discussion followed on the requirement to obtain two valuations, noting that the applicant's and Council's valuations typically resulted in a negotiated meet in the middle outcome. It was also noted that valuations should be based on the highest and best use of the land.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Anderson
Seconded: Sanford

That the report be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

6 MAYOR'S REPORT**26.3.9 MAYOR'S REPORT**

Her Worship the Mayor reported on recent activities in the ward;

- Officiated the opening of the NZMCA event at the Cromwell Racecourse Reserve, noting enthusiastic attendees and that the reception and facility were well organised, with visitors speaking highly of their experience in the district.
 - Noted that the town had been busy over the Easter weekend.
 - Provided an overview of the Council meeting held at the end of March, including approvals for the Cromwell Golf Club and the 'Wheels' event in Cromwell.
 - Attended meetings regarding local democracy reporting and noted that there had been increased interest in the area.
 - Discussed the impact of rising fuel costs on Council operations and noted that she was exploring solar options for her own property.
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COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Sanford
Seconded: Browne

That the Cromwell Community Board receives the report.

CARRIED

7 CHAIR'S REPORT

26.3.10 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair gave an update on activities and issues since the last meeting.

- Attended the Museum Trust meeting in March, noted the ongoing collaboration with staff on the museum's relocation, but that there were concerns about space, access, layout, and shared use, and gave assurance that the museum operations were imperative to the success of the new facility.
 - Attended a Bannockburn Responsible Development Incorporated Society meeting, where concerns were raised about provisions for the new trail, including toilets, water, parking, and green spaces for cyclists to meet. Noted that a community or spatial plan for Bannockburn had been requested.
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COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Harrison
Seconded: Sanford

That the report be received.

CARRIED

8 MEMBERS' REPORTS

26.3.11 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Members gave an update on activities and issues since the last meeting.'

Mr Casey reported on the following:

- Attended an NZME breakfast with Auckland business leaders focused on commercial solar development.
 - Presented to the Finance and Expenditure Select Committee on the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Amendment Bill, advocating for inclusion of the Ratepayers Assistance Scheme (RAS).
 - Spent time with David Seymour discussing the Ratepayers Assistance Scheme, electrification, energy strategy, and electric vehicle use.
 - Competed in the Motutapu Mountain Bike Race, completing the event in just over three hours while recovering from illness.
 - Went for a joy-ride in Christchurch Airport's electric fire truck.
 - Met with the Meridian Energy executive team; presented personal background and participated in a strategic workshop on public EV charging infrastructure and home solar strategy.
 - Assisted with the orientation tour for the Play Hui.
 - Met with the Taxpayers' Union regarding the Ratepayers Assistance Scheme.
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- Filmed an interview for My House, My Castle.
- Awarded Kiwibank Sustainability Leader of the Year.
- Confirmed Ngāi Tahu whakapapa and commenced the formal registration process.
- Hosted a Māori leaders workshop on-farm relating to Whakahiko te Ao and Whakahiko ngā Marae initiatives.
- Ran an information session for Council on a potential community solar opportunity at Sandflat Road.
- Hosted an Opportunity Party on-farm and contributed to energy policy design discussions.
- Competed in the Hawea Classic cycling event, placing 16th overall and 5th in age category.
- Appeared on Q+A with Jack Tame.
- Attended the Downstream Energy Conference and met with Minister Mark Patterson, Dr David Wilson MP, and several New Zealand First representatives regarding the Ratepayers Assistance Scheme and energy policy.
- Attended an NZME breakfast with Auckland business leaders focused on commercial solar development in Auckland.
- Presented to the Finance and Expenditure Select Committee on the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Amendment Bill, advocating for inclusion of the Ratepayers Assistance Scheme (RAS) within the omnibus bill.

Mr Sanford reported on the following:

- Attended two speedway events over Easter.
- Attended Warbirds over Wanaka on Easter Sunday.
- Attended the Otago Athletics Championships in Dunedin.
- Attended Business South BA5 event.
- Attended the Cromwheels coordination meeting with CODC, CLEC, and Wheels Trust.
- Attended the Play Innovation Hui finale in Alexandra.

Ms Anderson reported on the following:

- Attended the Central Otago Spaces and Strategy Workshop; local sports representatives shared views on the districts needs and to help ensure sport and recreation were considered in planning.
- Attended a drop-in session at the Farmers Market regarding the Naming of the Facility by the Lake; some locals reinforced their views.
- Met with the Bannockburn Responsible Development Incorporated Society; noted their aim to progress a community plan covering toilets, parking, and green spaces, and discussed how to engage council in this work.
- Attended the Cromwell RSA monthly meeting, outlining final details for fitting out the RSA room and support for the ANZAC service and poppy collection was noted.
- Attended Cromwell College management and health & safety meetings; concerns raised about overpowered e-scooters and e-bikes being ridden to school, with engagement from community policing and education staff.
- Attended a special meeting of the Cromwell Rowing Club where they adopted a new club constitution.
- Volunteered at the Maadi Cup Rowing Regatta to assist with an event hosting over 2,000 student rowers.
- Had been participating and volunteering in Parkrun noted the success of the event.
- And had been playing padel at Central Padel and challenged her fellow board members to a game.

Cr Browne reported on the following:

- Attended the Assessment Committee for Creative Communities, noting that Bannockburn projects were included, with funding available twice yearly.
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- Attended the Play Hui; noted the achievement of the parks team in bringing the event to Central Otago, and highlighted the importance of incorporating play spaces into new developments beyond traditional playgrounds.
- Noted that Dunstan Zones and Central Otago Athletics events were held at Molyneux Park, showcasing the parks team's work and highlighting the preference of schools for hosting such events in Cromwell if facilities allowed.
- Noted the Top Bike competition at Molyneux Park, supported by Sport Central, with participants from the wider Central Otago and Queenstown Lakes region.
- Attended a Council meeting in Ranfurly; reflected on the district's size and that the fuel crisis will be a factor in getting around the district specifically for the winter sport season.
- Gave an update on the March Council meeting, noting that Council approved the progress of the Wheels in Cromwell event. Progress on the Roxburgh Entertainment Centre rebuild was highlighted and Community Board priorities for the Long-term Plan were reported, noting strong alignment between wards.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Anderson
Seconded: Browne

That the report be received.

CARRIED

9 STATUS REPORTS

26.3.12 APRIL 2026 GOVERNANCE REPORT

To report on items of general interest, receive minutes and updates from key organisations and consider the status report updates.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Browne
Seconded: Sanford

That the report be received.

CARRIED

10 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next scheduled meeting is 5 May 2026.

11 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Browne
Seconded: Anderson

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter 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 of

 the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Plain English Reason
Confidential Minutes – 3 March 2026	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	Commercial sensitivity
26.3.13 - March 2026 Confidential Governance Report	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	Commercial sensitivity

CARRIED

The public were excluded at 4.16 pm and the meeting closed at 5.06 pm

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CHAIR / /