

**MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL OTAGO DISTRICT COUNCIL
HELD AT NGĀ HAU E WHĀ, WILLIAM FRASER BUILDING, 1 DUNORLING STREET,
ALEXANDRA
AND LIVE STREAMED VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 29 APRIL 2026
COMMENCING AT 10:30 AM**

PRESENT: Her Worship the Mayor T Alley (Chairperson), Cr T Paterson, Cr S Browne, Cr A Dowling, Cr S Duncan, Cr C Laws, Cr N McLean, Cr M McPherson, Cr C Pannett, Cr C Sanders, Cr B Scott

IN ATTENDANCE: P Kelly (Chief Executive Officer), L Fleck (Group Manager - People and Culture, Acting Group Manager - Community Vision), J Muir (Group Manager - Three Waters), Q Penniall (Group Manager - Planning, Infrastructure and Regulatory), S Righarts (Group Manager - Governance and Business Services), D Rushbrook (Regional Deals Lead), D Scoones (Group Manager - Community Experience), P Penno (Community and Engagement Manager), H Harries (Welcoming Communities Officer), G Chrystall (Community Experience Manager), W Harris (Venue Manager), G Bailey (Parks and Recreation Manager), B Winders (Project Manager – Cromwell Special Projects), M Burnett (Parks Officer – Strategy/Planning), A Crosbie (Policy and Strategy Lead), A Lines (Risk and Procurement Manager), B Sharland (Corporate and Strategic Planner), H Laverick (Roading Asset Engineer), N Lanham (Economic Development Manager), G Robinson (Property and Facilities Manager), D McKewen (Systems and Corporate Accountant), Z Zeelie (Team Leader – Statutory Property), W McEnteer (Governance Manager)

1 KARAKIA

Cr Browne gave a karakia to begin the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Phil Murray – Central Otago Environmental Society

Mr Murray spoke about the potential replacement of Falls Dam. Although he conceded that the dam does need to be replaced, it should not be something three times the size due to affordability for the community and for the degradation of the river. He believed that the community should not subsidise irrigation activities where those activities would be better suited elsewhere in the country. He then responded to questions.

Gerry Eckhoff

Mr Eckhoff spoke to the recent restoration of Earnsclough Castle. He noted that process of the hearing that took place and queried why the Hearings Panel accepted the Council's own guidance in the face of popular support for the project.

Alyssa Harrington – Kidney Health NZ

Ms Harrington from Kidney Health NZ spoke to their community grant application. She described the work that they do in the community including screening and testing for kidney problems.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

Moved: Paterson
Seconded: Browne

That the public minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 March 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

6 COMMUNITY BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

26.4.2 COMMUNITY BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Anna Harrison, Chair of the Cromwell Community Board joined the meeting to discuss matters of interest to the Board. She noted the ANZAC Day service in the new memorial space and that it was very successful. She also noted the debate around the name for the new facility and that the English name that the Cromwell Community Board had recommended was representative of what the community had asked for during the consultation period.

7 REPORTS

Note: Cr Browne assumed the Chair as the Community Vision and Experience portfolio lead.

26.4.3 2025/26 DISTRICT WIDE GRANT APPLICATIONS - 2ND ROUND

To consider the second round of the district wide grant applications for the 2025/26 financial year.

After discussion of the applications it was agreed that it was not Council's place to be supporting national bodies in their work and that it was too difficult to report where the money would ultimately be spent.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Duncan
Seconded: McPherson

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
 - B. Declines the application from Bowel Cancer NZ due to the precedent it would set for other national health services related applications.
 - C. Declines the application from Kidney Health New Zealand due to the precedent it would set for other national health services related applications.
-

- D. Declines the application from the Southern Cancer Society Trust due to the precedent it would set for other health services related applications.

CARRIED

26.4.4 THE CENTRAL OTAGO WELCOMING COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

To consider extending Central Otago District Council's delivery of the Welcoming Communities programme.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Duncan

Seconded: Alley

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Resolves to extend Council's delivery of the Central Otago Welcoming Communities programme a further two years, through to July 2028.
- C. Considers the inclusion of the Central Otago Welcoming Communities programme for four years, subject to 2027-37 Long-term Plan budget approval.

CARRIED

Note: Her Worship the Mayor resumed the Chair.

Note: Aroha Novak from Aukaha joined the meeting for item 26.4.5.

26.4.5 NEW CROMWELL FACILITY - NAMING

To consider and agree the English name for the new facility in Cromwell.

Ms Novak discussed the process to finalise the Te Reo name and discussed the meaning behind each of the names.

It was noted that the Te Reo name for the facility would be Te Puna Mahara and that the Te Reo name for the museum space would be Te Huika Wai.

A letter from Aukaha was tabled during discussion which formalised the Te Reo names for the facility and for the museum space, as well as an explanation of the names.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Browne

Seconded: Pannett

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Notes the Cromwell Community Board's recommendation.

CARRIED

After discussion it was agreed to endorse the name recommended by the Cromwell Community Board for the English name for the facility.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Scott
Seconded: Browne

C. Decides that the English name will be the Cromwell Memorial Events Centre.

CARRIED with Cr Duncan recording his vote against

Her Worship the Mayor called on each member to speak to whether they favoured the English or Te Reo name should go first in the title for the new facility.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Alley
Seconded: Paterson

D. Thanks Papatipu Rūnaka for the gifting of the name Te Puna Mahara and decides that the Te Reo name will go first in the title for the new facility.

E. Thanks Papatipu Rūnaka for the gifting of the name for the museum which will be known as Te Huika Wai.

CARRIED with Crs Duncan, Laws, Sanders and Scott recording their votes against

RESOLUTION

Moved: Alley
Seconded: Paterson

F. Authorises the Chief Executive to do all that is necessary to give effect to the resolution.

CARRIED

Attachments

1 Tabled Item - Letter from Aukaha regarding Te Reo names

Note: Cr Browne assumed the Chair as the Community Vision and Experience portfolio lead.

Note: Her Worship the Mayor left the meeting at 12.21 pm and returned at 12.23 pm.

Note: Cr McPherson left the meeting at 12.36 pm.

26.4.6 CROMWELL FACILITY FEES AND CHARGES

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

RESOLUTION

Moved: Pannett
Seconded: Scott

That the Council

A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.

-
- B. Authorises 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.

CARRIED

Note: Cr McPherson returned to the meeting at 12.38 pm.

26.4.7 PROPOSED AIR QUALITY MONITORING STATION - TABLE PARK ALEXANDRA

To consider the Vincent Community Boards recommendation, that Council publicly notify its intention to grant a lease in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977, to the Otago Regional Council for an air quality monitoring station on Table Park Recreation Reserve, Alexandra

After discussion it was agreed that the proposed location was the wrong place for this monitoring station and that permission should be declined.

RESOLUTION

Moved: McLean
Seconded: Duncan

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Declines the request for ORC to locate the proposed Air Monitoring Station within the Table Park Recreation Reserve.

CARRIED

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

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

RESOLUTION

Moved: McLean
Seconded: Alley

That the Council

- 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

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

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

RESOLUTION

Moved: Pannett
Seconded: Alley

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Agrees to 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. And that Aurora is advised that the cable marked red on the plan within this report will require relocation or removal once the site is confirmed for development.

CARRIED

Note: The meeting adjourned at 12.51 pm and resumed at 1.20 pm.

Note: Cr McPherson left the meeting at 12.51 pm and did not return.

Note: Cr Duncan returned to the meeting at 1.21 pm.

26.4.10 KĀMOANAHAEHAE - RIVER PARK UPDATE REPORT

To provide the Council with an update on the Kāmoanahaehae – River Park project.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Alley
Seconded: Scott

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Agrees that for the Kāmoanahaehae – River Park project, Stage 2 the Viewing Platform is completed subject to allocated budget.
- C. That Stage 3 (the Ramp) of the project does not proceed.
- D. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to do all that is necessary to give effect to the resolution.

CARRIED

26.4.11 CROMWELL TOWN CENTRE PROJECT

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.

After discussion it was noted that there should be some investigations into options for people that commute from Cromwell to work and leave their cars in the carpark. It was also noted that the cost of the concept plan had already been allocated in the 2025/26 financial year.

RESOLUTION

Moved: **Laws**
Seconded: **Sanders**

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Approves 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. Approves staff to investigate and cost road realignments on Murray Terrace and the intersection at Barry Avenue and Waenga Drive, Cromwell. Investigations will come back to Council for its consideration.
- D. Approves the implementation of private property design guidelines within the Cromwell Town Centre.
- E. Adopts the Project Structure and Governance Group framework and notes Council will approve a representative at its May meeting.
- F. Notes that all workshops will be joint between Council and Cromwell Community Board.
- G. Notes that the purpose of these recommendations is to enable the guiding North Star statement as in appendix 1 of the report.
- H. Investigate options for long-term parking for commuters from Cromwell.
- I. Notes that the budget for the concept plan and investigations is \$250,000 already allocated in the 2025/26 financial year.
- J. Directs the Chief Executive Officer to do all that is necessary to give effect to the Council's resolutions.

CARRIED

Note: Cr Paterson left the meeting at 1.54 pm.

26.4.12 PLAY STRATEGY

To consider feedback received on the Draft Play Strategy and to approve and adopt the final Play Strategy 2026.

RESOLUTION

Moved: **Browne**
Seconded: **McLean**

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Approves and adopts the Play Strategy 2026.

CARRIED

Note: Cr Paterson returned to the meeting at 1.58 pm.

Note: Cr Duncan assumed the Chair as the Roding portfolio lead.

Note: Cr McLean left the meeting at 2.11 pm and returned at 2.14 pm.

26.4.13 GAIR AVENUE TREES - CROMWELL

To consider the removal of approximately 80 Platanus x hispanica (Plane Trees) from Gair Avenue and Barry Avenue, Cromwell and repair of damaged footpaths.

It was noted that the planning plan should include trees and not just shrubs.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Duncan
Seconded: Sanders

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Agrees to the removal of approximately 80 Platanus x hispanica (Plane Trees) from Gair Avenue and Barry Avenue, Cromwell and repair of the footpaths as part of the 2026/27 Roding Annual Plan budget.
- C. Notes the Cromwell Community Boards direction to 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

26.4.14 CAPEX REPORT ON THE LITTLE VALLEY BRIDGE

To provide capex updates on the Little Valley Bridge Project.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Paterson
Seconded: Laws

That the report be received.

CARRIED

26.4.15 ROAD STOPPING POLICY ADOPTION

To consider adopting the Road Stopping Policy.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Alley
Seconded: Pannett

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Adopts the Road Stopping Policy for three years

CARRIED

Note: Her Worship the Mayor resumed the Chair.

26.4.16 LEASING & LICENSING POLICY

To consider approving the updated Draft Leasing and Licensing Policy for community engagement.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Alley
Seconded: Pannett

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Approves the updated Draft Leasing and Licensing Policy for community engagement.

CARRIED

Note: With the permission of the meeting, item 26.4.40 was moved forward.

26.4.40 ORGANISATIONAL BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN - FUEL RESPONSE

To consider Central Otago District Council's (CODC) approach to business continuity as fuel prices continue to rise both domestically and internationally.

It was noted that an update would be presented to the June meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Duncan
Seconded: Paterson

That the report be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

26.4.17 LONG TERM PLAN 2027/37 UPDATE

To consider an update on the Long-Term Plan 2027/37 project progress.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Paterson
Seconded: Dowling

That the report be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

26.4.18 QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE AND BUSINESS REPORTING

To consider performance and business reporting for Q3 of financial year 2025/26 (January, February, March 2026).

RESOLUTION

Moved: Scott
Seconded: Dowling

That the report be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

26.4.19 KEY RISK REPORT

To consider the Key Risk Register as at February 2026.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Paterson
Seconded: Laws

That the report be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

26.4.20 USE OF FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR BANNOCKBURN CYCLE PATH CONNECTION

To consider the use of Financial Contribution Reserves to fund a shared path connection in Bannockburn (approximately 185m) to improve safety and accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists, in line with the opening of the Kawarau Gorge Cycle Trail.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Paterson
Seconded: Duncan

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Approves the use of Financial Contribution Reserves to fund the design and construction of the Bannockburn shared path connection, up to a budget of \$300,000.

CARRIED

Note: Cr Pannett left the meeting at 3.02 pm and returned at 3.04 pm.

26.4.21 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME

To consider the annual Economic Development Work Programme for 2026-27.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Duncan
Seconded: Dowling

That the report be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

26.4.22 UPDATE OF THE ELECTED MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES AND REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

To consider updates to the Elected Members' Allowance and Reimbursement Policy.

It was noted that before each of the figures it should include the words 'up to'.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Scott
Seconded: Paterson

That the Council

- A. Receives the report and accepts the level of significance.
- B. Adopts the revised Elected Members' Allowance and Reimbursement Policy.

CARRIED

26.4.23 CAPEX REPORT ON THE FACILITY BY THE LAKE

To provide capex updates on the Facility by the Lake Project.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Alley
Seconded: Pannett

That the report be received.

CARRIED

26.4.24 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 28 FEBRUARY 2026

To consider the financial performance for the period ending 28 February 2026

RESOLUTION

Moved: Dowling

Seconded: Laws

That the report be received.

CARRIED

8 MAYOR'S REPORT

26.4.25 MAYOR'S REPORT

Her Worship the Mayor spoke to her report.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Alley

Seconded: Paterson

That the Council receives the report and notes its contents.

CARRIED

9 STATUS REPORTS

26.4.26 APRIL 2026 GOVERNANCE REPORT

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

RESOLUTION

Moved: Alley

Seconded: Paterson

That the report be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

10 COMMUNITY BOARD MINUTES

26.4.27 MINUTES OF THE VINCENT COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 17 MARCH 2026

RESOLUTION

Moved: Pannett

Seconded: Browne

That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Vincent Community Board Meeting held on 17 March 2026 be noted.

CARRIED

26.4.28 MINUTES OF THE TEVIOT VALLEY COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 19 MARCH 2026

RESOLUTION

Moved: Pannett
Seconded: Browne

That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Teviot Valley Community Board Meeting held on 19 March 2026 be noted.

CARRIED

26.4.29 MINUTES OF THE MANIOTOTO COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 26 MARCH 2026

RESOLUTION

Moved: Pannett
Seconded: Browne

That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Maniototo Community Board Meeting held on 26 March 2026 be noted.

CARRIED

26.4.30 MINUTES OF THE CROMWELL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 7 APRIL 2026

RESOLUTION

Moved: Pannett
Seconded: Browne

That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Cromwell Community Board Meeting held on 7 April 2026 be noted.

CARRIED

11 COMMITTEE MINUTES**26.4.31 MINUTES OF THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 MARCH 2026**

RESOLUTION

Moved: Pannett
Seconded: Browne

That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Assessment Committee Meeting held on 16 March 2026 be noted.

CARRIED

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next scheduled meeting is 27 May 2026.

13 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**RESOLUTION**

Moved: Laws
Seconded: Pannett

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 of Ordinary Council Meeting	<p>s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p> <p>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</p> <p>s7(2)(g) - the withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege</p> <p>s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities</p> <p>s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</p> <p>s7(2)(j) - the withholding of the information is necessary to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage</p>	<p>To protect a person's privacy</p> <p>Commercial sensitivity</p> <p>Legal professional privilege</p> <p>To enable commercial activities</p> <p>To enable commercial or industrial negotiations</p> <p>To prevent use of the information for improper gain or advantage</p>

26.4.32 - Grant of Rates Penalty Relief	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	To protect a person's privacy
26.4.33 - Organics Processing Facility Update	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
26.4.34 - Proposal to dispose of Lots 3 and 4 DP 428116 (Old Mutton Town Road Oxidation Pond Site)	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
26.4.35 - Consideration of Future Use of Endowment Land at 2 Kenmare Street Alexandra	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
26.4.36 - Risk Management Update	s7(2)(j) - the withholding of the information is necessary to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	To prevent use of the information for improper gain or advantage
26.4.37 - April 2026 Confidential Governance Report	<p>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</p> <p>s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities</p> <p>s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations</p>	<p>Commercial sensitivity</p> <p>To enable commercial activities</p> <p>To enable commercial or industrial negotiations</p> <p>To prevent use of the information for improper gain or advantage</p>

	(including commercial and industrial negotiations) s7(2)(j) - the withholding of the information is necessary to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	
26.4.38 - Confidential Minutes of the Vincent Community Board Meeting held on 17 March 2026	s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	To enable commercial or industrial negotiations
26.4.39 - Confidential Minutes of the Cromwell Community Board Meeting held on 7 April 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

CARRIED

The public were excluded at 3.42 and the meeting closed at 5.31 pm.