

Minutes of a Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board Workshop

Thursday, 9 May 2024 at 10.00am
Armstrong Room, Lake Wānaka Centre, Wānaka

Present:	Simon Telfer (Chair)	Councillor Barry Bruce
	Councillor Lyal Cocks	Chris Hadfield
	Linda Joll	Councillor Cody Tucker
	John Wellington	
In attendance:	Councillor Quentin Smith	Simon Battrick
	Stewart Burns	Marie Day
	Ken Bailey	Jon Winterbottom
	Jane Robertson	
	One member of the media	No members of the public

No.	Agenda Item	Action
1.	<p><u>WUCCB Empowerment Fund</u></p> <p>The Chair detailed the purpose of the discussion, for the Board to be able to influence where the Scurr Heights fund ('Wānaka Asset Sales Reserve') is invested. This is different from the smaller discretionary fund that the Board would also like.</p> <p>General acknowledgement that the fund should be used for capex not opex or feasibility studies. It should be for appropriate community assets (i.e. large projects, not lots of minor requests).</p> <p>Board members would like the ability to prioritise a project that isn't funded in the Annual Plan/LTP e.g. an 'unexpected opportunity'. This could include new community facilities or seed funding to a project funded jointly with grants from other major funders in the region (community trusts and Central Lakes Trust).</p> <p>Discussion on how this could be achieved equitably across the district, such as ring-fenced community funding allocated to the three wards with ward Councillors empowered to agree projects in wards without a community board.</p>	<p>Officers to investigate where funding could be sourced.</p> <p>Officers to arrange a discussion regarding the guiding principles for the use of the Wānaka Asset Sales Reserve (which should include Board members and the concept of a subcommittee)</p> <p>The Chair to summarise (to Mr Burns) how the Board wants to invest the Wānaka Asset Sales Reserve fund.</p>

No.	Agenda Item	Action
	<p>Officers advised they are developing a grants funding policy.</p> <p>Attachments: <i>(see attached)</i> <i>Attachment A: WUCCB Empowerment Fund Options (PowerPoint Presentation)</i></p>	

The workshop concluded at 11.07am.

Item 1: Attachment A

WUCCB Empowerment Fund Options

WUCCB Workshop Presentation 9th May 2024

Empowerment Fund

- To discuss options for the proposed establishment of a Wānaka Upper Clutha Empowerment Fund, managed by the Wānaka Upper Clutha Community Board.
- This discussion would include:
 - Fund purpose.
 - Scope and scale of the fund including options for sourcing funding.
 - Alignment with Council investment processes.
 - Community engagement and support for proposed funding process.
 - Fund process and administration.

What is the Purpose?

What we have heard.....

- WUCCB would like full delegation to utilise the Wānaka Asset Sale Reserve Fund (Scurr Heights Fund)
- WUCCB would like to clarify the principles of the Wānaka Asset Sale Reserve Fund
- Delivering community expectations considering a reduced TYP
- Wants Council to empower the WUCCB as per the Local Government Commission report
- Don't want to duplicate or over complicate projects
- Want to be able to directly fund community organisations to enable projects to happen, i.e. Rotary etc
- Want control over funding for engagement activities/governance work/small events
- Want to understand the capex renewals processes and priorities, i.e. minor roading/parks renewals
- WUCCB wants to continue to build goodwill with the community

Best Practice Principles

Government's Controller and Auditor-General provides advice to government entities about how to spend public money wisely and well. This includes six principles to guide best practice:

- Accountability
- Openness
- Value for money
- Lawfulness
- Fairness
- Integrity

We are developing a QLDC Community Investment (Grants) Policy over the next 12 months

Empowerment Fund Options

1. Wānaka Asset Sale Reserve Fund (Scurr Heights)
2. Utilise and ringfence an amount funding from existing QLDC Community Fund funding and align with current funding processes.
3. Reallocate budget from existing capex minor renewals budget lines to enable a local fund to occur
4. No fund - meet with WUCCB/ELT/Senior staff to understand the priorities in the “quick win/low hanging fruit space”
5. Other options?

Wānaka Asset Sale Reserve Fund

Guiding Principles

- Capital projects approved in the council's long term or annual plans benefiting "residents of the Wanaka ward".
- Projects that increase the "level of service" for Wanaka and do not include services required as part of the town's growth otherwise funded from development contributions and depreciation.
- Repayment of debt incurred on capital expenditure projects which had funded an increase in level of service for the Wanaka ward.

It would exclude use of the money for;

- The purchase of assets which are primarily acquired for speculative purposes.
- Operating expenditure.

Process to change the principles will require a Council Report, including proposed recommendations for consideration by Full Council.

Scope/Scale/Process

1. Empowerment Fund Policy/Criteria development
 - a. What will we fund?
 - b. What will we not fund?
 - c. When will we fund?
 - d. How will we fund?
 - e. How much will we fund, i.e. cap?

2. Alignment with Community Grants processes i.e. “SmartyGrants”
 - a. Alignment with QLDC Grants Policy/processes (in development)
 - b. Simple online application form
 - c. QLDC Officer/Board Chair Assessment of application
 - d. Funding report prepared
 - e. Final funding decision at Board meeting
 - f. Accountability/Outcome report

3. Engagement with the Community

4. Resourcing implications

Next Steps

1. Confirm Fund option and amount
2. Further workshop with the WUCCB (or nominated representatives) to develop local fund policy/criteria/process
3. Engagement with the Wānaka/Upper Clutha Community around proposed Fund
4. Prepare a report for Full Council decision on proposed Fund