

Minutes of a ordinary meeting of the Community & Services Committee held on Thursday 14 August 2025 beginning at 10.00am held in the Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown.

Membership

Councillor Craig Ferguson (Chair), Councillor Esther Whitehead (online), Councillor Barry Bruce (online), Councillor Lisa Guy, Councillor Cody Tucker, Councillor Matt Wong

Attendees

Briana Pringle (Parks Planning Manager), Ken Bailey (General Manager, Community Services), Steven Peters (Parks Officer, Service Delivery), Dave Winterburn (Parks Manager), Christine Skipworth (Parks and Reserves Planner), Yvette Ridley (Parks & Reserves Officer Volunteer/Community), Lee Rowley (Park Officer, Arborist), Stef White (Parks Officer, Arborist), Simon Battrick (Sports & Recreation Manager), Marie Day (Community Partnerships Manager), Ruby Mills (Democracy Services Advisor), Jon Winterbottom (Democracy Services Manager), one member of the media and no members of the public

Apologies

There were no apologies.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

Matters Lying on the Table

There were no matters lying on the table.

Public Forum

There were no speakers at public forum.

Confirmation of Agenda

It was moved (Councillor Guy, Councillor Tucker):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve that the agenda be confirmed without alteration:

Motion was carried unanimously.

Confirmation of Minutes

It was moved (Councillor Tucker, Councillor Wong):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve that the minutes of the meeting on 3 July 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Motion was carried unanimously.

1. Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens Conifer Succession Plan

The purpose of this report was for the Community & Services Committee (the Committee) to consider approving Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens Conifer Succession Plan (the Plan).

Briana Pringle, Lee Rowley, Stef White and Dave Winterburn presented the item and proposed an amendment to the Plan, which was incorporated into an updated resolution upon which the Committee informally agreed (and which is incorporated in the substantive motion specified below).

The proposed amendment to the Plan was displayed on the screen and officers explained why these amendments were being proposed. The amendments provided clarification and corrected some names of organisations cited in the Plan.

Officers responded to questions on how Council would respond if there were problems with implementation of the Plan, whether all stakeholders were consulted when it came to the amendments proposed by officers at the meeting, specification of specific groups in that amendment given that the interested parties may change in the future, and whether there have been any discussions with the Queenstown Chamber regarding future funding opportunities.

Councillors spoke in support of the Plan and thanked officers for their work. There was discussion over the submissions that had been received on the Plan, which had revealed a range of distinct views (both in support and in opposition).

It was moved (Councillor Wong, Councillor Tucker):

That the Community & Services Committee:

- 1. Note** the contents of the report; and
- 2. Adopt** the Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens Conifer Succession Plan with the following changes:

- i. On page 15 (second to last paragraph) – *Replace*

“Planting locations will accommodate existing infrastructure, such as the Ice Risk and Field Team buildings, ensuring new plantings do not obstruct access, interfere with operations, or hinder maintenance activities like exterior repairs.”

With

“In areas with existing infrastructure, planting locations will be carefully planned to integrate with facilities such as the Ice Arena and QLDC Parks Buildings. These areas will feature mixed woodland with open, spacious plantings to ensure unobstructed access, preserve window views, support operational requirements, and avoid interference with maintenance or other infrastructure.”

- ii. On page 19 - add the following new ‘Expected outcomes’:

“7.1.1 Community and Stakeholder Engagement, and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

The Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens Succession Plan will foster a deep sense of community ownership and stewardship by actively involving key stakeholders, including the Friends of Wakatipu Gardens (FOG), Whakatipu Wilding Control Group (WCG), Queenstown Bowling Club, Tennis Club, Ice Arena, and future stakeholders. Stakeholders will be kept informed as the tree succession plan and operations progress, ensuring alignment with community goals and operational needs.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be established to document the core principles of the Plan, promoting ongoing engagement, transparency, and collaboration throughout the project. The MOU will outline how stakeholders will support the Plan’s operational components, including the formation of a management group to oversee implementation, make decisions on key milestones and hold points, and guide the principles shaping the Plan’s execution. This includes conducting seasonal planting walkover assessments to

evaluate the progress and establishment of new plantings and to plan subsequent stages of the project.”

3. **Direct** staff to enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Friends of the Gardens (FOG) and the Whakatipu Control Group (WCG) and any future Queenstown Gardens stakeholders to record overarching principles of Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens conifer succession plan.

Motion was carried unanimously.

2. **Chair’s Report**

The purpose of this report was to provide the Community & Services Committee with an update on projects of interest. This was the first of the reports for the new financial year.

Chair Ferguson presented the item and highlighted some key work across the Community Services directorate.

It was moved (Councillor Wong, Councillor Whitehead):

That the Community & Services Committee:

1. **Note** the contents of the report.

Motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 10.49am

Confirmed as a true and correct record:

CHAIR

DATE