

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Queenstown Lakes District Council held in the Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown on Tuesday 1 April 2025 commencing at 1.00pm

Present:

Mayor Glyn Lewers; Councillors Bartlett, Bruce, Cocks, Ferguson, Gladding, Smith, Tucker, White, Whitehead and Wong

In attendance:

Mr Mike Theelen (Chief Executive Officer), Ms Meaghan Miller (General Manager, Corporate Services), Mr Brendan Peet (General Counsel), Mr Naell Crosby-Roe (Stakeholder and Democracy Services Manager), Mr Jon Winterbottom (Democracy Services Team Leader), Mr Ben Scott (Web & Digital Communications Advisor) and Ms Jane Robertson (Senior Democracy Services Advisor); four members of the media and approximately 35 members of the public

Apologies/Leave of Absence Applications

There were no apologies, noting however that Councillor Guy was on an approved leave of absence.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Councillor Gladding declared a conflict of interest.

Confirmation of Agenda

It was moved (The Mayor/Councillor Bartlett):

That the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolve that the agenda be confirmed without addition or alteration.

Councillor Gladding addressed the Council about the officer report. She commented on the sometimes conflicting obligations of being an elected member but expressed support for an independent Code of Conduct investigation into her alleged misconduct, which she considered was the correct process to follow in response to the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct.

Motion carried with Councillors Smith and Whitehead voting against the motion.

Councillor Gladding withdrew from the meeting table.

1 Elected Member Committee Membership

A report from Naell Crosby-Roe (Stakeholder & Democracy Services Manager) and Brendan Peet (General Counsel) proposed changes to Queenstown Lakes District Council's (QLDC) committee membership in response to a request from most Councillors, based on an elected member's deliberate disclosure of confidential information, such disclosure representing a serious breach of the Code of Conduct.

Ms Miller, Mr Crosby-Roe and Mr Peet presented the report.

Mr Peet noted that since preparation of the officer report, he had been informed that the Environment Court had dismissed an injunction brought by Aotearoa Water Action against the QLDC, seeking to stop the discharge of treated sewage into the Shotover River.

It was moved (The Mayor/Councillor Bartlett):

That the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolve to:

- 1. Note the contents of this report;**
- 2. Discharge Councillor Gladding as Deputy Chair of the Infrastructure Committee;**
- 3. Discharge Councillor Gladding as a member of the Infrastructure Committee;**
- 4. Discharge Councillor Gladding as a member of the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee;**
- 5. Appoint Councillor Tucker as Deputy Chair of the Infrastructure Committee;**
- 6. Appoint Councillor Guy as a member of the Infrastructure Committee; and**
- 7. Appoint Councillor Bartlett as a member of the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee.**

The Mayor sought comment from each member.

Councillors Smith and Whitehead both expressed support for option 2 in the report (initiating a formal Code of Conduct investigation undertaken by an independent party).

The motion was put and carried 8:2 with Councillors Smith and Whitehead voting against the motion.

The meeting concluded at 1.29pm.

MAYOR

DATE