

QLDC Council
18 March 2021

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take : 10

Department: Chief Executive's Office

Title | Taitara: Chief Executive's Report

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT | TE TAKE MŌ TE PŪRONGO

The purpose of this report is to report on items of general interest and to summarise items from recent meetings of standing committees and the Wānaka Community Board.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA

That Council:

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

Appointment to Film Otago Southland Trust

2. **Agree** to appoint Councillor MacLeod to the Film Otago Southland Trust;

Appointment of Deputy Chair of Audit, Finance & Risk Committee

3. **Appoint** Stuart McLaughlin as Deputy Chair for the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee with immediate effect.

Update of resolution from meeting held 23 July 2020

4. **Amend** the resolution of 23 July 2020 by adding:
 - a) **Agree** that the transfer may now be completed in accordance with Resource Consent RM200276; and
 - b) **Approve** section 114 of the Public Works Act 1981 being used to make 45m² of recreation reserve on Lot 321 DP 37403 (Area A) legal road in the event that the road vesting cannot be effected using the Resource Management Act 1991 or gazettal process under the Reserves Act 1977;

Te Kararo/Queenstown Gardens Development Plan

5. **Approve** the recommencement of the Te Kararo/Queenstown Gardens Stage One project due to its interface with the Recreation Ground pipe work and the opportunity for the Gardens path to be upgraded at the same time;
6. **Approve** the reallocation of \$400,000 of the Coronet Forest Revegetation budget to the Queenstown Gardens Development Plan Stage 1 project;

COVID-19 Rent Relief Policy Update

7. **Approve** the extension of the COVID-19 rent relief policy through until 31 December 2021; and
8. **Approve** a one-off 50% decrease in Table and Chairs licence fees that come due in the 2021 calendar year.

Prepared by:



Name: Mike Theelen
Title Chief Executive
5/03/2021

Membership of Film Otago-Southland

1. In May 2020 the Film Otago Southland (FOS) Trust Board was subject to a change in funding and structure, with the sole employee transferring to QLDC employment.
2. The financial support for the film office continues with an equivalent operational cost including salary and overheads now being assumed in the Council's OPEX budgets.
3. With the change to direct funding, the Board has moved to appoint its own Trustees in consultation with the Economic Development Manager and Film Office. With the departure of former Trustee Ross McRobie, it is now seeking QLDC representation on the FOS Trust Board.
4. The Mayor has sought expressions of interest from Councillors and Councillor MacLeod has advised that he is interested in joining the Board. The Council is asked to formally approve this appointment.

Appointment of Deputy Chair of Audit, Finance & Risk Committee

5. At the beginning of the current Council triennium (2019-2022), Councillors adopted a committee structure of Standing Committees, including the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee.
6. As part of that process, a Chair was appointed to the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee (Councillor John MacDonald), along with Councillor Copland and three external members. At that time, no Deputy Chair was appointed which is inconsistent with the approach for other Standing Committees.
7. Councillor MacDonald has tendered his resignation from his position as Councillor with immediate effect in accordance with the Local Government Act (Schedule 7, Part 1, S4).
8. The Mayor has indicated that once a new Councillor is elected he will review the membership of the committee and a new Chair should be appointed by Council at that time.
9. To ensure the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee may continue to conduct its business, it is recommended to elect a Deputy Chair. As a former Chair and long-standing member of the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee, the Mayor has recommended that current committee member Stuart McLaughlin be appointed to the position.

Request to update a resolution made at 23 July Council meeting

10. At a meeting held on 23 July 2020 the Council approved a reserve exchange to resolve a development encroachment by Queenstown Commercial Ltd. The resolution was as follows:

On the motion of Councillor Lewers and Councillor Clark it was resolved that the Queenstown Lakes District Council:

1. **Note the contents of this report; and**

2. **Authorise that 45m² of recreation reserve on Lot 321 DP 37403 (Area A) is exchanged with 45m² of freehold land on Lot 403 DP 379403 (Area B), and that land is vested as recreation reserve; and**
 3. **Agree that any transfer is conditional that notified Resource Consent RM200276 is granted, any appeals to such have otherwise been determined.**
11. In discussion with the Department of Conservation and Council's property service provider, it has been identified that the resolution needs to be amended to be in accordance with section 15AA of the Reserves Act 1977. This is to make the resolution actionable post confirmation of the resource consent being granted.
12. In addition, it has been identified that it may be necessary to vest the new legal road using section 114 of the Public Works Act once its reserve classification has been removed. This is in the event that the road vesting cannot be achieved using the Resource Management Act 1991 or gazettal process under the Reserves Act 1977. The resolution should therefore be updated to require the transfer to be completed in accordance with Resource Consent RM200276 and to approve use of section 114 of the Public Works Act 1981.

Queenstown Gardens Development Plan

13. Stage one of the Te Kararo/Queenstown Gardens Development Plan from Horne Creek to the Band Rotunda is at detailed design and the outline plan of works has been approved. The work includes an upgrade of pathways, signage and lighting. This work has been discussed with the Friends of Queenstown Gardens.
14. The project was previously included in the current year but deferred and the funds reallocated. Stage One provided for improvements and upgrades to the Queenstown Trail network through parts of the Gardens and an upgrade to the Gardens entrance including new landscaping, signage and cultural narrative.



Figure 1: Stage One Queenstown Gardens Redevelopment, the Band Rotunda to Horne Creek

15. The changes to the Recreation Ground pump station wastewater upgrade as a result of the need to step away from the directional drilling approach meant that the wastewater project now cuts through the Queenstown Gardens and intersects with stage one (Fig 2). As this work will dig up sections of the Queenstown Trail it is now opportune to reinitiate stage one of the Queenstown Gardens project to dovetail into the planned wastewater works.
16. The total project budget is \$845,000 which includes landscape design, project management and cultural design costs, of which \$400,000 is required to complete stage one. Staff therefore request that \$400,000 be transferred from the Coronet Revegetation budget so that stage one can be carried out in conjunction with the Recreation Ground project, taking advantage of project efficiencies.
17. The Coronet Revegetation budget has a savings of \$400,000 due to a delay in the start of the harvest in the current Ten Year Plan.

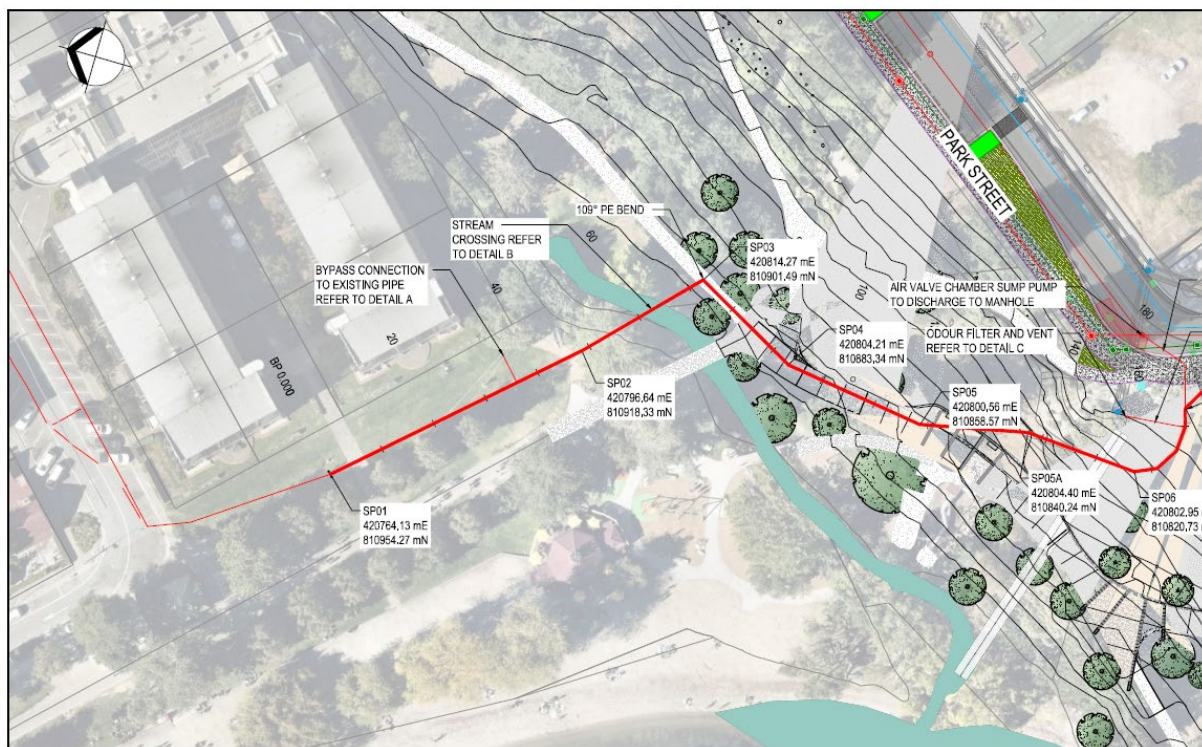


Fig 2: The red line details pump station wastewater alignment through the Queenstown Gardens path

COVID-19 Rent Relief Policy Update

16. The Council passed a Covid-19 commercial and residential tenant focused rent relief policy on 16 April 2020. This policy initially envisaged an end date of 31 December 2020. Through this policy the Council has granted 46 tenants rent relief, equating to a total value of over \$1.24 million. This policy is administered by a team consisting of the Chief Executive who acts in consultation with the Mayor, Councillor MacDonald (as Chair of the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee) and the General Manager, Finance, Legal and Regulatory.

17. Due to the ongoing disruption being caused to businesses and the Queenstown Lakes District community at large as a result of COVID-19, this policy is recommended to be extended for a further year through until 31 December 2021. Given the ongoing impact being reported in particular to restaurants and cafés, it is also proposed to provide a one-off 50% decrease in Table and Chairs licence fees, which are due to renew later this year. This would equate to a one-off reduction in revenue of \$93,575.45. The 2020 policy did not provide for any rent waivers to these businesses, though area changes at no cost have been offered to those requesting support.
18. The Council has budgeted for a reduction in base and turnover rents for the current and next financial year. Rental income is tracking in line with expectations and it is anticipated that budgets will remain at projected budget during this period.

Committee Meetings of the Previous Round

Planning and Strategy Committee – Councillor Clark (4 February 2021)

Information:

- 1 Gorge Road Natural Hazards District Plan Review – Pre-Notification Public Consultation
- 2 Request to mediate in relation to the appeal by Bella Vista Interests against the granted resource consent RM191272
- 3 Request to mediate in relation to the appeal by Waterfall Park Limited against the decline of resource consent RM200290
- 4 Request to mediate in relation to the appeal by Cardrona Cattle Company against the decline of resource consent RM191130
- 5 Update on resource consent appeals before the Courts
- 6 Update on appeals relating to Council's decisions on the Proposed District Plan

Items 2-6 were considered with the public excluded.

Infrastructure Committee – Councillor Smith (11 February 2021)

Information:

- 1 Options report to reinstate Meads Road access past the Homestead
- 2 Arthurs Point Crossing Single Stage Business Case

Wānaka Community Board – Mr Barry Bruce (18 February 2021)

Information:

- 1 Temporary Road Closure Application – Wānaka A&P Show 2021
- 2 Chair's Report

Community and Services Committee – Councillor Miller (10.00am, 25 February 2021)

Information:

- 1 Queenstown Lakes – Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport & Recreation Facility Strategy 2021
- 2 Draft Lake Hayes Estate, Shotover Country and Bridesdale Reserve Management Plan
- 3 Heritage Incentive Grant Application – Queenstown Bowling Club Pavilion
- 4 Heritage Incentive Grant Application – Fork & Tap

Appeals Subcommittee – Councillor Clark (1.00pm, 25 February 2021)

Information:

- 1 Update on appeals relating to Council’s decisions on the Proposed District Plan

This meeting was held with the public excluded.

Audit, Finance and Risk Committee – Mr Stuart McLauchlan (11 March 2021)

Information:

- 1 2020/21 December Year to Date Financial Overview
- 2 Sensitive Expenditure
- 3 Risk Management Update
- 4 QLDC Organisational Health, Safety and Wellbeing Performance
- 5 Climate Action Plan Update
- 6 Project Management Office Assurance Management Framework
- 7 Review of QLDC Procurement Practices
- 8 Update on the Review of Procurement Policy & Procurement Guidelines
- 9 Legal Update
- 10 Audit of Ten Year Plan 2021-2031
- 11 Treasury Update: February 2021

Items 9-11 were considered with the public excluded.