

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE WOODEND-SEFTON COMMUNITY BOARD HELD AT THE WOODEND COMMUNITY CENTRE, SCHOOL ROAD, WOODEND ON MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 5.30PM.

PRESENT

M Paterson (Chairperson), A Thompson (Deputy Chairperson), B Cairns, M Potter, S Powell and P Stone (arrived 5:37pm).

IN ATTENDANCE

P Redmond (Kaiapoi-Woodend Ward Councillor).

K LaValley (General Manager Planning, Regulation and Environment), G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager), G Stephens (Design and Planning Team Leader), T Kunkel (Governance Team Leader) and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

Fourteen members of the public were present.

1 APOLOGIES

Moved: B Cairns

Seconded: S Powell

THAT the Woodend-Sefton Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** and **sustains** apologies for leave of absence from J McLachlan and T Bartle.

CARRIED

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts declared.

3 CONFIRMATION MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Woodend-Sefton Community Board Meeting – 10 August 2026

Moved: B Cairns

Seconded: S Powell

THAT the Woodend-Sefton Community Board:

- (a) **Confirms**, as a true and accurate record, the circulated Minutes of the Woodend-Sefton Community Board meeting held on 10 August 2026.

CARRIED

3.2 Matters Arising (from Minutes)

There were no matters arising.

4 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Pegasus Youth Playground at Maungatere Reserve – John van der Burg

J van der Burg thanked the Board and the Council's Greenspace Team for the comprehensive report and advised that households surrounding Maungatere Reserve strongly opposed developing a flying fox at Maungatere Reserve as part of the Youth Space Project. He noted that the issue was not about excluding young people from the reserve, but rather whether intensive youth-play infrastructure was appropriate for that location.

J van der Burg advised that residents supported investment in youth recreational facilities elsewhere in Pegasus, particularly within Rakahuri Reserve. He noted that previous assessments and community engagement had consistently identified Maungatere Reserve as a less preferred location, with strong opposition from adjoining residents and staff concluding that investment there would not be a prudent use of funds.

J van der Burg acknowledged that residents accepted the reserve's normal recreational use but saw a significant distinction between existing activities and installing new, permanent, higher-impact infrastructure. He emphasised that Maungatere Reserve already provided value as open greenspace supporting a variety of community activities. He further requested that the Board recommend excluding Maungatere Reserve from any alternative youth-play proposals arising from the Pegasus Youth Space Project.

S Powell referred to J van der Burg's comments regarding the distinction between the established use of an open reserve and the introduction of new, permanent, and more intensive recreational infrastructure. She noted that his proposal suggested developing two recreational elements within Rakahuri Reserve, which she considered to be in a similar position to Maungatere Reserve, and asked how that distinction had been assessed. J van der Burg considered Rakahuri Reserve a more appropriate location for the proposed recreational elements. He noted that the scale and intensity of the proposed infrastructure differed, with the flying fox proposed for Maungatere Reserve representing a larger and more intensive recreational facility. J van der Burg further advised that, to his knowledge, no residents residing adjacent to Rakahuri Reserve had presented concerns to the Board regarding the proposal.

5 ADJOURNED BUSINESS

Nil.

6 REPORTS

6.1 Pegasus Youth Space – Approval of Locations Report – G Stephens (Design and Planning Team Leader)

G Stephens took the report as read.

P Redmond noted that the report did not provide a location for a flying fox in Pegasus and asked whether staff had considered alternative sites if Maungatere Reserve was not deemed suitable. G Stephens advised that staff had not identified any alternative locations for a flying fox, as other reserves lacked sufficient space. He noted that Rakahuri Reserve could potentially accommodate a flying fox; however, adding a flying fox alongside the two proposed recreational activities would occupy a significant amount of available space. G Stephens further advised that staff had already engaged with residents about the proposals for Rakahuri Reserve and that any substantial change to those plans would require further consultation with the affected community.

P Redmond asked whether any locations around Pegasus Lake might suit a flying fox, particularly in areas removed from nearby residential properties. G Stephens noted that very little space around Pegasus Lake was not highly visible to adjacent residents and therefore likely to generate similar concerns. He noted that the assessment and community feedback in the September 2025 report had clearly identified this issue.

P Redmond questioned whether the matter could be revisited once the Council assumed responsibility for Pegasus Lake. G Stephens explained that this could potentially be reconsidered in the future. However, he noted that any such consideration would need to take account of budget timeframes, particularly with the next Long Term Plan scheduled for 2027. He further advised that any project funding not expended by the end of the current financial year would be returned for Council consideration, at which time Council would decide its future allocation and use.

Responding to a question from P Redmond, G Stephens advised that staff had recommended focusing on broader youth recreation opportunities rather than specifically pursuing a flying fox installation. He noted that alternative opportunities may exist within Pegasus where staff could work with local young people to develop and deliver recreational initiatives, potentially enabling the existing budget allocation to be utilised within the current financial year. G Stephens further advised that, if the Board wished to pursue a flying fox project, including a potential proposal associated with Pegasus Lake, funding could be considered through the next Long Term Plan process. However, he noted that further assessment would be required to determine whether staff would support the proposal as a recommended project or whether it would be more appropriately advanced as a Board-led initiative.

B Cairns noted that it was proposed that any unallocated budget would remain available for the remainder of the financial year. He asked whether staff considered this timeframe sufficient to develop, assess, and fund additional youth-led proposals. G Stephens explained that staff intended to take a proactive approach and were aware of several groups they could engage with, including a group at Gladstone Park involved in adventure biking activities. He noted that this presented a potentially positive and previously unforeseen opportunity to support youth recreation initiatives. G Stephens further advised that, as the funding formed part of the Long Term Plan budget, Council approval would be required to carry forward any unspent funds at the end of the financial year. Accordingly, staff could not guarantee that funding remaining unspent at year-end would be available in subsequent financial years.

B Cairns then sought confirmation that staff were confident they could effectively engage with young people in the community and identify suitable projects that would utilise the budget for the benefit of youth within the available timeframe. G Stephens noted that he was confident in his intention and ability to pursue that outcome. However, he noted that, as engagement with local young people had not yet commenced and the process had not yet been worked through, he could not assure that suitable projects would be identified and delivered within the available timeframe.

P Stone asked whether Gladstone Park could be a suitable location for a flying fox. G Stephens advised that Gladstone Park had a substantial land area and already had an approved master plan in place, providing an established framework for future development. He noted that, as staff engaged further with local youth, Gladstone Park could be considered as a potential option for a flying fox. G Stephens added that Gladstone Park had featured less prominently in previous discussions because an existing activity was already operating there and could be further supported and developed.

A Thompson noted that the September 2025 report identified a flying fox as the highest-ranked preferred activity and questioned how the Board should account for the absence of a flying fox in the recommended proposal, given the level of community support it received. In response, G Stephens acknowledged that the flying fox ranked highly in the consultation results. However, he advised that staff had exercised caution when interpreting the feedback, as the results may have been influenced by responses received through

Pegasus School. He noted that, irrespective of the specific activity rankings, young people in Pegasus had been waiting a considerable period for dedicated recreational facilities, and the staff recommendation would provide a youth-focused recreational space for the community.

S Powell noted that the next Long Term Plan was not scheduled until 2027 and expressed concern that any unspent project funding could be lost. She queried whether staff would support carrying the remaining budget forward, given the delays experienced during the project. G MacLeod advised that the Council considers requests to carry forward unspent budgets as part of its annual financial year-end process. He explained that staff would present any proposed carry forwards through the annual financial wrap-up process, with the Council making the final decision. G MacLeod further noted that, if staff were actively working with a community group and there was a realistic prospect of delivering a youth recreation initiative, this would strengthen the case for retaining and carrying forward the funding into a future financial year.

Moved: M Paterson

Seconded: B Cairns

THAT the Woodend-Sefton Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 260813238663.
- (b) **Approves** Option 1, the adoption of Concept A for Rakahuri Reserve (Trim: 260813239002) for implementation for a Pegasus Youth Space.
- (c) **Declines** a flying fox being provided at Maungatere Reserve as part of the Youth Space Project.
- (d) **Notes** that the option recommended provides both the gaga dodgeball ring and basketball/tennis facilities at Rakahuri Reserve, together with associated amenity landscaping.
- (e) **Notes** that funding is currently provided within the Annual / Long Term Plan for the Pegasus Youth Space of \$192,515 (101552.000.5223). Staff estimate the cost for this option at \$120,000, leaving \$72,515 remaining.
- (f) **Notes** that the unallocated budget will remain available for the balance of the financial year. Staff will actively engage with youth on infrastructure improvements that would support existing youth activities and present options to the Board for consideration at or before the February 2027 Board meeting. If no suitable opportunities are identified before the end of the financial year, the project balance may be reprioritised within the LTP or removed as complete. Carryover requested.
- (g) **Notes** the feedback provided by the youth, wider community and adjoining neighbours as part of consideration of the outcome of this report.

CARRIED

P Redmond supported the motion but suggested the Board should not rule out all future playground infrastructure at Maungatere Reserve. He asked members to acknowledge the views of the residents who had attended the meeting, noting that their opposition to the proposal had been clearly expressed. P Redmond further requested that staff investigate alternative locations for a flying fox, commenting that such a facility appeared better suited to a larger open space.

S Powell acknowledged that any decision the Board made was likely to disappoint some community members, as each proposed location and activity had both advantages and disadvantages. However, she emphasised that a decision was required to ensure that young people in Pegasus received the recreational facilities that had been promised to them.

S Powell noted that, since the concept of a youth space for Pegasus was first developed, she had focused on providing facilities young people would actively use, recognising them as a valued part of the community. While acknowledging the lengthy and, at times, frustrating process to reach a decision, she referred to feedback from the Waimakariri Youth Action Plan, which highlighted the importance young people placed on having welcoming and safe spaces where they could spend time with friends.

S Powell advised that she had carefully considered feedback from both residents and young people throughout the process. She observed that reserves were intended for the enjoyment of the wider community rather than solely adjoining residents and that the use of reserves could evolve over time. S Powell thanked the community for its engagement and the feedback provided.

S Powell believed that young people would not feel particularly welcome at Maungatere Reserve, which she found disappointing. She considered Maungatere Reserve a suitable location for a flying fox due to its size and configuration, its separation from nearby residential properties by a road, and mature trees that could help mitigate noise. S Powell further noted that, when considered alongside facilities proposed for Rakahuri Reserve, it would have provided good recreational coverage for the northern part of Pegasus, where relatively few youth recreation facilities currently existed. Nevertheless, S Powell concluded that the proposed gaga dodgeball court and half basketball court at Rakahuri Reserve represented the best achievable outcome under the circumstances and indicated her support for staff continuing to explore additional youth recreation opportunities through the remaining project budget.

B Cairns expressed his satisfaction that the Youth Space Project would finally proceed and thanked staff for the significant time, effort and consultation undertaken throughout the process. He also thanked the residents of Maungatere Reserve for their participation and feedback. B Cairns noted that while the views of neighbouring residents were important, both the Council and the Board had to consider the broader interests of the wider community. He stated that he believed Maungatere Reserve would have been a suitable location for a flying fox; however, the Board had clearly heard and acknowledged residents' concerns. B Cairns encouraged staff to continue working closely with local youth to identify opportunities to utilise the remaining budget and suggested that alternative locations for a flying fox could be explored as part of that process.

A Thompson thanked the residents who attended the meeting and acknowledged their contributions to the discussion. He referred to statements within the report that identified the overarching objective of the project as creating a series of spaces for Pegasus youth to enjoy. He noted that the most important outcome was that the Board was finally delivering a recreational facility for young people in Pegasus. A Thompson also referred to the report's assessment that Option One offered the best value for money and delivered better outcomes for youth, while also recognising feedback from neighbouring residents that favoured the Rakahuri Reserve location. On that basis, he expressed his support for Option One. A Thompson acknowledged that the Board's decision was contrary to the preferences of some residents near Rakahuri Reserve and did not fully achieve the original aspiration of providing a series of youth spaces across Pegasus; however, he considered it the most appropriate option to progress the project and deliver a positive outcome for local youth.

6.2 **Application to the Woodend-Sefton Community Board's 2026/27 Discretionary Grant Fund** – T Kunkel (Governance Team Leader)

T Kunkel spoke to the report, noting that the Woodend Volunteer Fire Brigade submitted an application to host its annual Halloween party. The application complied with the Board's criteria as a community organisation; however, the Fire Brigade requested more than the usual amount the Board granted.

Moved: P Stone

Seconded: S Powell

THAT the Woodend-Sefton Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 260901260677.
- (b) **Approves** a grant of \$750 to the Woodend Volunteer Fire Brigade towards hosting their annual Halloween Community event.

CARRIED

P Stone stated that she considered the Fire Brigade deserving of the full amount requested. However, she noted that, given the Board's established approach to grant allocations and the stage reached in the financial year, she did not consider it appropriate to approve the full amount sought. P Stone acknowledged that a number of funding applications were still expected and indicated her support for retaining the grant at the Board's maximum funding level.

M Potter commented that the event had been a fantastic occasion for parents and families alike. He considered events of this nature to be important community activities that provided significant value.

S Powell expressed support for a grant of \$750, noting that she believed the applicant could achieve some savings and that the event could likely be delivered for close to that amount. She further commented that it was a worthwhile and popular event that promoted fire safety within the community.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

8 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

8.1 **Chairpersons Report for August 2026**

Moved: M Paterson

Seconded: B Cairns

THAT the Woodend-Sefton Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** the report from the Woodend-Sefton Community Board Chairperson (Trim: 260909272640).

CARRIED

9 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- 9.1. Oxford-Ohoka Community Board Meeting Minutes 5 August 2026.
- 9.2. Rangiora-Ashley Community Board Meeting Minutes 12 August 2026.
- 9.3. Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board Meeting Minutes 17 August 2026.

- 9.4. Review of Gambling (Class 4) Venue Policy and Totalisator Agency Board Policy – Draft Policies for Formal Public Consultation – Report to Council Meeting 4 August 2026 – Circulates to all Boards.
- 9.5. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Report June 18 2026 to July 20 2026 – Report to Council Meeting 4 August 2026 – Circulates to all Boards.
- 9.6. Adoption and Submission of North Canterbury Council Head Start Proposal – Report to Council Meeting 5 August 2026 – Circulates to all Boards.
- 9.7. Waimakariri Biodiversity Trust Deliverables for 2025/26 – Report to Utilities and Roding Committee Meeting 11 August 2026 – Circulates to all Boards.
- 9.8. Provision of Natural Burials Through a 24-Month Trial at Cust-West Eyreton Cemetery – Report to Community and Recreation Committee Meeting 18 August 2026 – Circulates to all Boards.

Moved: S Powell

Seconded: B Cairns

THAT the Woodend-Sefton Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** the information in Items 9.1 to 9.8.

CARRIED

10 MEMBERS' INFORMATION EXCHANGE

M Potter

- Attended the Matariki morning tea held at Pegasus School and reported that the event had been very successful and well attended.

B Cairns

- Recently attended the opening of the Sparks Family development on Boys Road called Rosburn. It featured residential units, along with repurposed farm sheds into arts and market spaces.
- Attended the Waimakariri Wearable Arts event; it was a great showcase of young and adult fashion talent.
- Attended the Walkway opening at Honda Forest, with Libraries and Greenspace staff working together.
- Attended the Food Secure North Canterbury meeting; they were setting up a charitable trust, focusing on food education and had assisted with the supply of edible trees and plants for food forests.
- Rangiora Townhall 100-year celebration weekend was wonderful. The two shows sold out, and the tours around the facility were well attended.
- Waimakariri Road Safety meeting: the Police informed the group that roadside drug testing was able to be done locally.
- RSA in Kaiapoi hosted Merchant Navy Day at Kaiapoi Coastguard. Their next event was Armistice Day on 11 November 2026, which would also launch the Passchendaele Walkway of trees connecting Kaiapoi to the Woodend cenotaphs. Seven trees would be named after battle honours.
- Attended Darnley Club Annual General Meeting; they did great work for our older residents.

P Stone

- The Woodend Community Association
 - The Annual Spring Community Clean-up was scheduled to be held on Saturday, 19 September 2026, commencing at 9.00am.

- The Annual General Meeting was scheduled for 5 October 2026. She advised that the meeting would consider proposed amendments to the Association's constitution.
- The Association had been contacted by J Mason from the Council's Greenspace Team regarding the promotion of the Woodend daffodil and a proposal to incorporate daffodil plantings at entranceway signage locations throughout the area. She advised that the Association was keen to progress the initiative through the Board's landscaping budget.
- The Woodend Spring Flower Show
 - The show was scheduled to be held on 3 October 2026 from 1.00pm to 4.00pm.
 - A Children's Craft Day was scheduled for 30 September 2026 for children from preschool age through to 12 years old. Resources would be provided to enable participants to prepare and submit entries.

11 CONSULTATION PROJECTS

11.1 Draft Community Outcomes 2026

<https://letstalk.waimakariri.govt.nz/draft-community-outcomes>

Consultation would close on Friday 18 September 2026.

11.2 Parking at Silverstream Shopping Centre

<https://letstalk.waimakariri.govt.nz/parking-at-silverstream-shopping-centre>

Consultation would close on Friday 25 September 2026.

11.3 Waimakariri Youth Council Future Voices Survey

<https://letstalk.waimakariri.govt.nz/waimakariri-youth-council-future-voices-survey>

Consultation would close on Friday 25 September 2026.

11.4 Managing and Minimising Our Waste

<https://letstalk.waimakariri.govt.nz/managing-our-waste>

Consultation would close on Friday 2 October 2026.

11.5 Draft North East Waimakariri Urban Plan

<https://letstalk.waimakariri.govt.nz/let-s-talk-about-the-draft-north-east-waimakariri-urban-plan>

Consultation would close on Sunday 4 October 2026.

The Board noted the Consultation Projects.

12 BOARD FUNDING UPDATE

12.1 Board Discretionary Grant

Balance as at 31 August 2026: \$11,599.

12.2 General Landscaping Budget

Balance as at 31 August 2026: \$15,120.

The Board noted the Funding Updates.

13 MEDIA ITEMS

Nil.

14 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDERS

Nil.

15 URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS UNDER STANDING ORDERS

Nil.

16 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Woodend-Sefton Community Board was scheduled for 5.30pm, Tuesday 13 October 2026 in the Sefton Hall.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6:28PM.

CONFIRMED

M Paterson

Chairperson

13 October 2026

Date