

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE OXFORD-OHOKA COMMUNITY BOARD HELD AT THE WEST EYRETON HALL, 2 EARLYS ROAD, WEST EYRETON ON WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 6.30PM.

PRESENT

S Barkle (Chairperson), T Robson (Deputy Chairperson), M Brown, T Fulton, W Godfrey, R Harpur, N Mealings and P Merrifield.

IN ATTENDANCE

G Cleary (General Manager Utilities and Roading), J McBride (Roading and Transport Manager), K Straw (Civil Projects Team Leader), K Rabe (Governance Advisor) and C Fowler-Jenkins (Governance Support Officer).

There were 33 members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

2.1. West Eyreton Residents

West Eyreton residents raised concerns regarding antisocial behaviour and illegal dirt-bike activity in the area. While dirt bikes had not previously posed a significant issue due to the availability of suitable riding locations, over the past six months a small group had begun using both the public road and the walkway. The bikes were reported to have been travelling at speeds of up to 80 km/h. There had also been incidents of vandalism at the reserve on the corner of North Eyre Road and Poyntz Road.

The Oxford Police had become involved and had recently spoken with several youths, advising them that they were not permitted to ride on public roads. Residents discussed with Community Board member M Brown on the possibility of installing basic signage along the walkway to indicate that it was not intended for dirt-bike use.

Residents also noted that they spent considerable time maintaining the road reserve on the corner of North Eyre Road and Poyntz Road; however, vehicles had been causing damage, especially in winter by parking or doing burn-outs and other such activity which was time consuming and costly to repair. Residents had suggested that installing barriers would help prevent ongoing damage.

G Cleary advised that staff were aware of the issue and had already spoken with several residents. Staff had considered the effectiveness of signage but advised that signs were unlikely to resolve the problem, as the behaviour stemmed from non-compliance with existing road rules. He noted that requests for signage were common across the district, however in this case staff did not believe signs would be effective without ongoing enforcement. He suggested that the matter could be raised at the Council's Road Safety Coordinating Committee.

S Barkle noted that a community-camera initiative was underway across the district, enabling communities to jointly fund the installation of cameras, with footage made available to the police.

2.2. **John Madeley – Canterbury Landscape Supplies Consent Renewal**

J Madeley expressed concern regarding the Canterbury Landscape Supplies consent application for Diversion Road, noting that the company had sought a 30-year renewal of its existing consent issued five years earlier. During that period, the volume of material processed on site had increased, and the resulting odour had become increasingly offensive. Residents were notified on 7 January 2026 and given until 10 February 2026 to lodge submissions, and he noted that the Council had also been notified. He reported making more than 40 complaints to Environment Canterbury regarding the odour, but no action had been taken. J Madeley requested that the Board submit, as it had previously, in opposition to the 30 year renewal.

G Cleary advised that the Council had been notified as a courtesy and would not be submitting on this matter, explaining that its role as a regulatory authority made it unusual to submit on a consent of this nature. He added that the Council may simply have been notified as an affected party. While the Board had previously submitted on behalf of the community it had not been notified in this instance and therefore was unable to submit on this consent.

S Barkle noted that she would advise the Community Liaison Group, which monitored the current consent conditions, and that the Board would support residents where appropriate.

N Mealings observed that issues had escalated after the surrounding forestry block was logged. While residents recognised this change, it remained unclear whether the increased odour was due to logging activities or increased processing at the facility.

3. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Item 7.2 N Mealings declared a conflict of interest as she was a member of the Waimakariri Dog Training Club.

4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

4.1. **Minutes of the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board – 3 December 2025**

Moved: T Robson Seconded: R Harpur

THAT the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board:

- (a) **Confirms**, as a true and accurate record, the circulated Minutes of the Inaugural Oxford-Ohoka Community Board meeting, held on 3 December 2025.

CARRIED

4.2. **Matters Arising (From Minutes)**

There were no matters arising.

5. **DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

5.1. **Holly Gardiner – Wright Road Dam**

H Gardiner advised that she lived on South Eyre Road and had a background in resource management. She expressed concern about misinformation circulating within the community and the perceived lack of clear communication from the Council. She noted that although the Resource Consent for the Wrights Road Dam had been granted in February 2014, the public had received little information since then, aside from occasional updates from Eyre Community Environment Safety Society Inc (ECESS). Community interest had recently increased following Waimakariri Irrigation Limited (WIL) securing funding for the dam.

At the public meeting in January 2026, attendees were informed that notices relating to the dam had been placed on their Land Information Memorandum (LIM)s. Residents were advised that they would need to request a LIM, at a cost of \$300, to view this information. This had come as a surprise to many, who had expected direct notification from the Council. She also noted that while WIL had information available on its website, it had not been updated to reflect current developments. A draft evacuation plan existed, however it had been prepared in 2014 as part of the original Resource Consent and had not been updated since.

G Cleary clarified that each property in the district had a property file containing documents such as building consents, drainage plans, and service requests. He explained that the Council did not add information to a property file relating to activities occurring elsewhere. When purchasing a property, prospective buyers typically requested a LIM, which required staff to collate relevant information and identify applicable resource consents or district plan rules. He emphasised that LIMs were not automatically produced for every property, and the Council had no legal obligation to proactively update property owners about information that might later appear on a LIM. He noted that the Resource Consent had been publicly notified and was widely known. He also informed residents that specific information could be provided at the Council reception free of charge.

5.2. **Eyre Community Environment Safety Society Inc (ECESS)**

C Ballinger advised that ECESS had been formed in 2012 after learning of the Wrights Road Dam proposal. The Society had lobbied the New Zealand Society of Large Dams and challenged Waimakariri Irrigation Limited's (WIL) proposal, contributing to changes in legislation governing large-scale dams. The Burnt Hill storage site covered 1km², and the dam was designed to be 12 metres high with a capacity of 8.2 million cubic metres. Its height enabled WIL to gravity-feed water to shareholders at lower cost.

She outlined evacuation considerations, flood-mapping information, and associated community risks. The dam designer had previously indicated that a breach could put 107 lives at risk, based on 2012 data that had since changed. C Ballinger also noted that in 2005 a local resident had been refused insurance due to information contained in their LIM. Although WIL's consent required the company to hold public liability insurance, residents in the flood zone had not yet received related information, raising concerns given current insurance challenges.

In response to a question from T Fulton regarding the expected form of an evacuation plan, C Ballinger stated that warning times in the event of a dam breach would depend on how quickly danger was recognised, and that communication in the area was unreliable. She noted that the consent required WIL to work directly with each resident to develop an evacuation plan, and that only two bridges were available for residents to leave the area.

5.3. **Brent Walton- Waimakariri Irrigation Limited (WIL)**

B Walton advised that the Wrights Road storage pond was a 120-hectare property, with approximately 100 hectares to be inundated. The site comprised two separate dams. When the irrigation scheme was established in the late 1990s and early 2000s, reliability had been a key objective. Over time, discharge consents were obtained to support climate-mitigation and environmental outcomes. Following an Environment Court hearing, a Resource Consent was granted in 2020.

He explained that the original shareholder structure required a 75% majority for approval, however the proposal received 73%, meaning it did not proceed under the initial entity. WIL, however, considered reliability essential and therefore formed a new company to progress the project. Certainty was not achieved until 19 December 2025. He acknowledged community frustration regarding limited communication.

Burnt Hill Storage operated as a standalone company closely linked to WIL. As a result of the Environment Court process, the dam was subject to two additional layers of oversight beyond what the original consent required. The consent conditions were extensive and required strict reporting. This included the review and update of emergency evacuation plans; no water could be introduced to the dam unless regulators were satisfied these plans were current. WIL was also required to maintain comprehensive insurance, including public-liability. A community liaison group would meet quarterly during construction and biannually thereafter. Public meetings were scheduled for 14–15 February 2026 (small-group sessions) and 24 February 2026.

In response to questions from S Barkle regarding insurance, B Walton confirmed that WIL was required to hold public-liability insurance, although the way such cover applied in practice was complex. Insurance experts would attend the 24 February meeting.

Regarding evacuation planning, he confirmed that an emergency evacuation plan had been prepared during the Environment Court process to the Court's satisfaction, and ongoing updates were required. He also noted that the consent required plans to be reviewed every five years, including when properties changed ownership.

In response to a query from M Brown, B Walton confirmed that trial evacuations would be required. When asked by N Mealings whether WIL would directly approach all affected residents, he stated that the method of communication was still to be determined. While mail drops had been used previously, more effective approaches might now be available, and WIL would comply with the consent's communication requirements.

6. ADJOURNED BUSINESS

Nil.

7. REPORTS

7.1. Proposed Oxford Minor Safety Improvements – K Straw (Civil Projects Team Leader) and J McBride (Roading and Transport Manager)

K Straw presented the report, which sought approval for the scheme design of two projects within the Roading Capital Works Programme. The first project related to improvements at the Depot Road bridge to increase driver awareness of the narrow bridge and reduce vehicle speeds on the approaches and across the structure. The second project concerned Oxford's speed management, with the initial design focused on threshold treatments at the three main township entrances. He provided an overview of the proposed works.

T Robson observed that the condition of Main Street near the Cemetery, and at the opposite end of Oxford, was poor. He considered it inefficient to undertake the upgrade without addressing those issues concurrently. J McBride advised that resurfacing at the eastern end of Oxford was already included in the sealing programme and that seal widening would be completed at the township entrance.

T Robson asked whether shifting the red slurry treatment further back from the pedestrian crossings would be more effective. K Straw responded that the treatment between the limit line and the crossing was intended to increase driver awareness of the crossing itself.

T Fulton noted feedback that campervans were pulling over near the West Oxford Reserve and slowing on the kerb. He asked whether the project addressed this issue. K Straw advised that it did not, noting that the Council generally did not install turning bays for reserves with low vehicle-turning demand.

Moved: T Robson Seconded: M Brown

THAT the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board:

(a) **Receives** Report No. 251013194306.

AND

THAT the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board recommends:

THAT the Utilities and Rooding Committee:

- (b) **Approves** the Scheme Plans for the Depot Road Bridge, the Oxford Urban / Rural Speed Thresholds and Oxford Pedestrian Crossings.
- (c) **Approves** the implementation of 240m of no passing lines (120m on each bridge approach) on Depot Road, between RP 730m and 850m (westbound), and RP 1215m and RP 995m (eastbound) (as per Trim: 251024203213).
- (d) **Approves** the implementation of 200m of no passing lines on Depot Road leading to the approach of the threshold, eastbound between RP 250m and RP 50m (100km/hr / 50km/hr speed threshold) as per attachment ii
- (e) **Notes** that the Depot Road bridge has a budget of \$70,000 within the 2025/26 financial year.
- (f) **Notes** that the Oxford urban / rural speed thresholds project has a budget of \$90,000 spread across the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years, and that it is anticipated that all line marking, and the proposed kerbed threshold will be completed in the 2025 / 26 year, with the threshold signage being installed within the 2026 / 27 year.

CARRIED

Moved: S Barkle Seconded: N Mealings

THAT the meeting be adjourned for a workshop on Safety Improvements at Intersections on Tram Road at 8:31pm.

CARRIED

Moved: S Barkle Seconded: N Mealings

THAT the meeting would resume at 9:08pm.

CARRIED

7.2. **Applications to the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board's 2025/26 Discretionary Grant Fund – K Rabe (Governance Advisor)**

K Rabe took the report as read.

There were no questions from members.

Moved: T Robson Seconded: R Harpur

THAT the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 260119007329.
- (b) **Approves** a grant of \$500 to the Waimakariri Dog Training Club Inc towards the purchase and installation of an electric water heater.

CARRIED

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1. Tree Removal – Adjacent to Swannanoa Tennis Court Memo

Moved: T Robson Seconded: M Brown

THAT the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** the memo on Tree Removal – Adjacent to Swannanoa Tennis Court (Trim: 251218243139).

CARRIED

9. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

9.1. Chairperson's Report for December 2025 and January 2026

- Attended the Oxford Christmas Parade - a lovely community event.
- Eyre Community Environmental Safety Society (ECESS) Public Meeting – Public meeting held by ECESS to inform residents about the Burnt Hill storage dam project. Concerns around insurance, information on LIMs, loss of life and who was going to hold the consent conditions to account.
- Community meeting with Nga Tahu Farms and some surrounding neighbours regarding community cameras – A productive meeting discussing the support of community cameras. These would be hooked up to local police to aid in the deterrent and prosecution of antisocial and criminal activities. Funding and installation points were discussed.
- Canterbury Landscape Supplies (CLS) meeting – There would be an onsite meeting at CLS held for the liaison group to look around the site. CLS had applied for consent to continue their operation for 30 years. Some concern about the operations continuing from some nearby residents who still have issues with smell.
- Met with the Principal of Swannanoa School – Discussed the potential addition or relocation of the road camera. Discussed the student's propagating plants and potentially assisting in planting at the Wards Road walkway.
- Meeting with the Councils Communications Team regarding Community Engagement – Met with M Cullen to discuss upcoming community events and the resources the Board may need.
- Woodstock Quarries - Waiting for the judge and commissioners to go through the information from the court case. When they had time to do this they would likely give an interim decision along with any more detail or information they may want given or clarified.

Moved: M Brown Seconded: P Merrifield

THAT the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** the verbal report from the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board Chairperson.

CARRIED

10. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- 10.1. Woodend-Sefton Community Board Meeting Minutes 8 December 2025.
- 10.2. Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board Meeting Minutes 8 December 2025.
- 10.3. Rangiora-Ashley Community Board Meeting Minutes 10 December 2025.
- 10.4. Council Submissions to Central Government Consultations for September and October 2025 – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards.
- 10.5. Adoption of Community Board Submissions on Resource Management Matters Policy – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards.
- 10.6. Adoption of Elected Members Expenses Policy – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.7. Elected Member Pecuniary Interests Register – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.8. Oxford-Ohoka Community Board Chairpersons Report for Period 1 January 2025 to 30 September 2025 – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.9. Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board Chairpersons Report for Period 1 January 2025 to 30 September 2025 – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.10. Rangiora-Ashley Community Board Chairpersons Report for Period 1 January 2025 to 30 September 2025 – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.11. Woodend-Sefton Community Board Chairpersons Report for Period 1 January 2025 to 30 September 2025 – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.12. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Report October 2025 to Current – Report to Council Meeting 2 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.13. May 2025 Flood Recovery Progress Update and Project Update on Infrastructure Resilience Fund for 2024/25 and 2025/26 – Report to Utilities and Roading Committee Meeting 9 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.14. Update to Northern Pegasus Bay Advisory Group Terms of Reference – Report to Community and Recreation Committee Meeting 16 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.15. Arohatia te Awa Terms of Reference – Report to Community and Recreation Committee Meeting 16 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.16. Aquatics December Update – Report to Community and Recreation Committee Meeting 16 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards
- 10.17. Libraries Update to December 2025 – Report to Community and Recreation Committee Meeting 16 December 2025 – Circulates to all Boards

Moved: S Barkle

Seconded: N Mealings

THAT the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board:

- (a) **Receives** the information in items.10.1 to 10.17.

CARRIED

11. MEMBERS' INFORMATION EXCHANGE

T Robson

- Woodstock Quarries Landfill – Over the last couple of months, received a number of requests for more information about this issue, it may be an idea for the Board to post another update on its Facebook page.

- West Oxford Reserve – Campers staying for long periods of time was still an issue for nearby property's, there had been a request for more signage around camping rules.
- Wheels with Wings – Great event despite the weather. Well, done to the Lions and Community Trust for organising this.
- Ashley Gorge info Kiosk – Construction was now complete, and the group was working on the information panels.
- Oxford Safety Upgrades – contacted by a local resident about how long the project was taking.

M Brown

- Attended Oxford Christmas Parade.
- Attended the Oxford Christmas Carols in the Park.
- Motor bike kids doing burnouts at North Eyre Road and Pontyz Road corner and have been using public walkway on North Eyre Road at very high speed. Residents continue to be concerned about safety and damage; one resident had camera footage and had passed it on to the Police.
- Spoke with a local resident over the rehab complex in Downs Road.
- Attended a meeting at the West Eyreton Hall – there was ongoing concern about the Dam and direction of Eyre Community Environmental Safety Society (ECESS).
- Attended a public meeting at Eyrewell over installing security camera as there was illegal activity in the area.
- Received an email from a local resident about local youths on bikes/cars anti-social behavior and protection of roadside reserves on the corner of North Eyre Road and Pontyz Road.

P Merrifield

- Oxford Museum Committee Meeting – Still following up on the storage solution, another building had been thrown into the mix. The old Oxford Jail had been offered to the Museum, but a storage solution needed to be sorted first.
- Eyrewell security camera meeting at Ngai Tahu lodge – The Police went through the scenario the Police would like to see happen in the Eyrewell area. It was a positive meeting and people were keen to see it progress.

T Fulton

- Received feedback from a No.10 Road resident that smell from the Canterbury Landscape Supplies composting business was still an issue in the area.
- Received feedback from Eyre Community Environmental Safety Society (ECESS) members that they wanted a public hearing comparable to an update from Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd.
- Request from Karla Camble, Ngai Tahi Lodge Manager at Eyrewell, to attend a community meeting to discuss the installation of more security alarms in the area. Local Police led the meeting.
- Oxford resident Ted Dring (Waimakariri Access Group) expressed concerns about apparent staff reluctance to go ahead with red-paint approach markings at Oxford town entrances.
- Contacted by Oxford Lions about plans to develop land immediately east of West Oxford reserve for recreation. The Councils Greenspace team were aware of this interest. The Lions had mown some of the overgrown property in the meantime. Met with staff and the Lions on site, believe there was value in exploring use of this land. Some of this land was at the end of long-term leases and was unlikely to be leased again in the foreseeable future.

- Responding to vandalism of a heat pump at the Oxford Gym. Met with Council Greenspace Team on site to work out the next steps in terms of gym security. Issues with vandalism in Pearson Park were ongoing but there were more security cameras in the area than ever before and good co-operation between park users.
- Southbrook Park sports/community complex – working party involvement. Community meeting planned in February 2026 for guidance on next steps.

W Godfrey

- Attended Oxford Christmas Parade.
- Eyre Community Environmental Safety Society (ECESS) – concerns about potential water storage pond/dam and flooding implications if the retention structure as well as insurance implications for residents. breached.
- Met with K Howat and R Harpur, the outgoing Mandeville Sports Board representative, learning the current situation.
- Met with K Howat about the current situation of the Ohoka Domain.

R Harpur

- Waimakariri Access Group Training session coming up in March 2026.

N Mealings

- Walked in Kaiapoi, Rangiora and Oxford Christmas parades pre-Christmas and sponsored a tree in the Oxford Christmas Grotto with the Mayor. Wonderful events, well supported by the community.
- Council Briefings – There was a comprehensive suite of reform legislation coming through in the form of several bills: Local Government Reform Bill, Natural Environment Bill, Planning Bill, Local Government (Infrastructure Funding) Amendment Bill, Rates Capping Bill and the Emergency Management Bill, all of which the Council was submitting to. This was in addition to the already enacted Water Services reform that the Council was working through setting up for at present. There was concern that while these bills were promoted as a way to create efficiencies and reduce costs, that they were not coordinated with one another with respect to sequencing, and there were a significant number of potentially costly unintended consequences through these bills if passed as written that will ultimately cost ratepayers much more than the status quo if not addressed.
- Resident concern with nearby CLS application to renew resource consent for 30 years. Unhappy with recent odour after surrounding forestry block was felled around CLS, and Environment Canterbury had not followed up on numerous complaints made by them and several other residents.
- Resident was concerned with a neighbor's loud activities at unsociable hours and smoke from their regular burn off fires on an undersized section.
- First Waimakariri Youth Council meeting of 2026 – They had a new Co-chair, and there were now two youth development coordinators as E Belton had returned from maternity leave and C Burgess had joined her and was sharing the role. The Waimakariri Youth Council was recruiting new members. They were particularly keen to get representation from youth aged 12 to 24 from the Oxford-Ohoka ward, as there was no one currently on the Youth Council from our ward.
- Various Mandeville Sports Club related discussions.
 - Met with W Godfrey and Council staff to talk about the Mandeville Sports Club structure and roles.
 - The Mandeville Sports Club was keen to get moving with the Boards landscape funded memorial area.

- The Mandeville Sports Clubb and Council staff were nearing finalizing a draft future concept plan to come to the Board and Community and Recreation Committee workshops prior to consultation with the community.
- Special General Meeting to be held February 18 to adopt new constitution and re-register under new Incorporated Society Act.
- Contacted by resident – raised concerns about communication to do with the Wrights Road Water Storage Dam Project.
- Ohoka Domain Working Bee – Attended the usual monthly working bee at the domain. W Godfrey took part as well and introduced himself to the group. He would be a great addition to our fantastic group of volunteers. She also raised the upcoming Annual Plan consultation for them to prepare to make a submission if required.
- Council Meeting and Workshop – Draft Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2026 approved to go out for consultation. Kintyre SMA options

12. CONSULTATION PROJECTS

Nil.

13. BOARD FUNDING UPDATE

13.1. Board Discretionary Grant

Balance as at 30 January 2026: \$3,484.

13.2. General Landscaping Fund

Balance as at 30 January 2026: \$14,330.

The Board noted the funding update.

14. MEDIA ITEMS

Nil.

15. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDERS

Nil.

16. URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS UNDER STANDING ORDERS

Nil.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Oxford-Ohoka Community Board is scheduled for 6.30pm, Wednesday 4 March 2026 at the Mandeville Community Centre.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS CLOSED AT 9:17PM.

CONFIRMED

Chairperson

Date

Workshops (9:17pm to 9:56pm)

Refer trim:

- *Safety Improvements at Intersections on Tram Road – Joanne McBride (Roading and Transport Manager) 20mins*
- *Community Board Plan – Kay Rabe (Governance Advisor) 10mins*
 - *Delay likely with the compilation of the Board Plan.*
 - *Proposed to bring this for approval to the April meeting.*
- *Members Forum*
 - *Support for West Oxford Reserve Expansion – Tim Fulton - Postponed*