

Minutes of a meeting of the QLDC Infrastructure Committee held on Thursday 17 August 2023 beginning at 10.00am

Present

Councillor Bartlett (Chairperson), Councillor Gladding, Councillor Cocks, Councillor Ferguson, Councillor Smith, Councillor Tucker (arrived at 10.04)

In Attendance

Mr Tony Avery (General Manger Property & Infrastructure), Councillor Melissa White, Mr Hugo de Cosse Brissac (Roading Engineer), Mr Ben Greenwood (Roading Operations and Contracts Manager), Mr Jon Winterbottom (Governance Team Leader); two members of the public and no media

Apologies

There were no apologies.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

No declarations of Conflicts of interest.

Matters Lying on the Table

There were no matters lying on the table.

Public Forum

Mr James Hart (Small Passenger Service Association/Corporate Cabs), Queenstown SPSV Rank Permits

Mr Grant Scannell joined Mr Hart at the table. Mr Hart raised concerns about unregulated independent taxi operators, which included general concerns related to high prices, sexual assaults, and the refusal to take short trips. Mr Hart also expressed concern about the Council's role in this matter, citing overpriced permits, and indicated that a complaint had been made to the Ombudsman.

Confirmation of Agenda

On the motion of Councillor Smith and Councillor Gladding it was agreed that the agenda be confirmed without alteration.

Motion carried.

Confirmation of Minutes

On the motion of Councillor Gladding and Councillor Ferguson it was agreed that the public minutes of the meeting on 23 February 2023 be confirmed without alteration.

Motion carried.

Councillor Cocks inquired whether the Committee could be updated on progress related to previous items. Chair Bartlett indicated such updates would be received during regular meetings with General Manager Tony Avery, and that the Chair would then pass along any updates to Committee members.

1. Proposed Bicycle Parking in Arrowsmith Central Business District (CBD)

A report from Hugo de Cosse Brissac (Roading Engineer) presented options for the Buckingham Street, Arrowsmith Bicycle Parking Proposal (the proposal) received from Arrowsmith Promotion & Business Association (APBA) to the Infrastructure Committee. The report recommended the removal of car parking spaces at three locations on Buckingham Street and one location in the laneway beside the Athenaeum Hall within the Arrowsmith CBD and replace these with bicycle racks. The report recommended that QLDC would fund the installation costs and be responsible for ongoing maintenance.

Mr de Cosse Brissac and Mr Greenwood presented the report which was taken as read. Mr de Cosse Brissac and Mr Greenwood responded to questions.

A question was raised about how a higher level of service than was typical in the district – e.g. the proposal included maintaining planter boxes – could be justified. Staff indicated that the finer details of the plan had yet to be worked out but suggested that some additional protection for the bike parks would be worthwhile. Officers said that the team could work on low-cost options if that was the Committee's preference.

A question was asked about the use of concrete pads as opposed to having bikes parked at road level. Officers clarified that the concrete pad and parking at road level were the two options considered and the preference was the road-level one for various reasons.

It was noted that the report did not discuss emissions but there was value in discussing the emissions' cost of having a concrete platform. In response to a question, officers confirmed that it would be possible for the Committee to specify that any flower maintenance be performed by APBA.

The team was thanked for working closely with APBA, and it was emphasised that smaller communities such as Arrowsmith wanted to be listened to.

The Chair indicated that the APBA was still seeking approval, including on final layout, and would take on board feedback from the meeting. In response to a question, officers suggested it would be reasonable for Council to maintain the bicycle racks and the boxes.

Mr Avery indicated that he could check and report back a final design before moving forward. Support was expressed for this approach.

There was further discussion of bike-parking on Wiltshire Street. Officers indicated that bike-parking on Wiltshire Street related to a different proposal and would not be appropriate to address in this resolution.

It was agreed that language would be added to the recommended resolution in the report, specifically adding “with final design subject to the Chair’s approval” to the end of clause 2 and “excluding any plant maintenance” to the end of clause 3.

On the motion of Councillor Gladding and seconded by Councillor Smith it was resolved that the Infrastructure Committee:

- 1. Note the contents of this report; and**
- 2. Endorse the proposed removal of car parking spaces at three locations on Buckingham Street and one location in the laneway beside the Athenaeum Hall within the Arrowtown CBD and replace with bicycle racks with final design subject to the Chair’s approval; and**
- 3. Note that Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) will fund the installation costs and be responsible for the ongoing maintenance excluding any plant maintenance.**

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Additional Parking Restrictions Under the Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2018

A report from Hugo de Cosse Brissac (Roading Engineer) sought the Committee’s approval to establish various new (and updates to existing) parking restrictions.

Mr de Cosse Brissac and Mr Greenwood presented the report which was taken as read. Mr de Cosse Brissac and Mr Greenwood responded to questions.

Councillors asked questions and raised numerous concerns about various aspects of the proposed parking restrictions.

It was suggested that there was a risk in reaching decisions based on personal experience. Mr Avery suggested that one option would be to approve some but not all of the proposed changes, however he cautioned against making changes on the fly.

The point was raised that the proposed parking restrictions impacted an Active Travel route and suggested there was a danger of parked cars opening doors on bikes. It was noted that this was not addressed in the report and proposed that a further report on this would be a good idea. Mr Avery indicated that considering such issues were beyond the scope of this report and that any such further report would be a big piece of work since it involved implications for an Active Travel route.

On the motion of Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Cocks it was resolved that the Infrastructure Committee:

- 1. Note the contents of this report; and**
- 2. Approve changes to the new and existing restrictions applying to the on-road and off-road parking restrictions as set out in Attachment A and B. These will come into force once signed or marked**

Councillor Gladding proposed an amendment to the original resolution.

Councillor Gladding moved and Chair Bartlett seconded the following amended resolution:

- 1. Note the contents of this report; and**
- 2. Approve changes to the new and existing restrictions applying to the on-road and off-road parking restrictions as set out in Attachment A and B, excluding the parking restrictions for Park Street “no parking” changes proposed (shown on pages 51 to 54). These will come into force once signed or marked.**

Motion lost by a vote of 2 to 4. [Councillor Gladding and Councillor Bartlett voted in favour of the motion]

The amended resolution having been lost, debate resumed on the original motion.

On the motion of Councillor Smith and Seconded by Councillor Cocks it was resolved that the Infrastructure Committee:

1. Note the contents of this report; and
2. Approve changes to the new and existing restrictions applying to the on-road and off-road parking restrictions as set out in Attachment A and B. These will come into force once signed or marked

Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 1. [Councillor Gladding requested that her vote against the motion be recorded]

The meeting concluded at 11.11am.

Confirmed as a true and correct record:

Chair

Date