

Minutes of a Community & Environment Committee Workshop

Tuesday 8 September 2026 at 10.00am
Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown

Membership:	Councillor Matt Wong	Councillor Gavin Bartlett
	Councillor Cody Tucker*	Councillor Melissa White
	Councillor Jon Mitchell	
Apologies:	Councillor Bartlett for Item 3-5	
	Councillor Tucker for Item 5	
In attendance:	Councillor Samuel 'Q' Belk	Mr Simon Telfer*
	Mr John Wellington*	Mr Chris Hadfield*
	Ken Bailey	Allan Wainwright
	Dave Winterburn	Christine Skipworth
	Marie Day	Lee Rowley
	Jeannie Galavazi	Alex Jamieson
	Stef White	Katherine Harbrow*
	Greg Rozen	Kat Banyard
	Matthew Judd	Briana Pringle
	Kirsty Pope	Ruby Mills
Media:	None	
Public:	One	

*online

No.	Agenda Item	Actions
1.	<u>Review of the Updated Draft QLDC/CODC Spaces and Places Strategy</u> The purpose of this item was to discuss feedback on the Draft 2026 Queenstown Lakes-Central Otago Sub-Regional Sport & Recreation Facilities Strategy (now titled QLDC/CODC Spaces and Places Strategy). Allan Wainwright (Wānaka Recreation Manager) presented the item and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A). Key points of discussion included: Feedback received through stakeholder engagement was summarised, with discussion focusing on the support for indoor climbing facilities, recognition of aquatic facility needs, population growth pressures, and access to natural recreation spaces. It was noted that feedback would be incorporated into the final strategy.	Further information on the establishment and funding of the Te Anau climbing facility is to be provided to the Committee

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	- Discussion covered the scope of the strategy, including the consideration of natural recreation activities, access to private climbing facilities, and the importance of regional collaboration and alignment with similar strategies and planning principles across Otago. - It was noted that the strategy is scheduled for consideration by the Community & Environment Committee in October. Attachments: <i>Attachment A: Presentation Slides – Spaces and Places Strategy Update</i> <i>Attachment B: QLDC/CODC Spaces and Places Draft 2026 Strategy</i>	
2.	<u>QLDC Tree Strategy</u> The purpose of this item was to brief the Community & Environment Committee on the first QLDC Tree Strategy, including why it's being developed, its goals, scope and process. Lee Rowley (Arborist) and Christine Skipworth (Team Leader – Parks Planning), Jeannie Galavazi (Principal Parks Planner), and Steph (Arborist) presented the item and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A). Key points of discussion included: - Clarification on the purpose, scope and application of the proposed Tree Strategy, including the distinction between a strategy and a policy. - Explanation of the benefits, risks and long-term management of trees, including species selection, suitability for different environments, lifecycle costs, succession planting, public safety, hazardous or harmful tree species, and the protection and removal of significant trees. - Discussion also covered implementation considerations, including planting and consultation processes, implications for future development, fire risk management, and the opportunity for Council to demonstrate best practice through its management of public spaces and tree assets. Attachments: <i>Attachment A: QLDC Tree Strategy Presentation Slides</i>	None.

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3.	<u>Frankton Arm and Sunshine Bay Reserve Management Plan (RMP) Review</u> The purpose of this item was to provide an update on the Frankton Arm and Sunshine Bay Reserve Management Plan (RMP) review, including key themes arising from early engagement (held 8 June to 6 July). Direction was also sought from councillors on 3 key topics: commercial boat operators, lakefront structures and other commercial activities. Alex Jamieson (Parks Planner) and Jeannie Galavazi (Principal Parks Planner) presented the item and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A). Key points of discussion included: • It was noted that the draft Reserve Management Plan is expected to be released for public consultation in early 2027. • Direction was sought on the future management of commercial boat operators. General support was expressed for Options 2 and 3, enabling existing operators to expand facilities and allowing new commercial boating activities where specified criteria are met. • Direction was sought on the future management of existing lakefront boatsheds. General support was expressed for Option 2, repurposing boatsheds for community use, with further clarification requested on how this option would be implemented. • Direction was sought on the future management of new lakefront structures. General support was expressed for Options 2 and 3, allowing structures in identified locations and/or where specified criteria are met. • Direction was sought on the future management of commercial activities within reserve areas. General support was expressed for Options 2 and 3, enabling commercial activities that provide a public benefit and are appropriate to the character of the reserve, including through location-specific controls and criteria where appropriate. Attachments: <i>Attachment A: Presentation slides – Frankton Arm and Sunshine Bay RMP</i> <i>Attachment B: Let's Talk feedback received during early engagement (8 June – 6 July 2026)</i> <i>Attachment C: Email submissions received during early engagement (8 June – 6 July 2026)</i>	• Staff to provide further information on the application of Option 2 for existing lakefront boatsheds and new lakefront structures to assist consideration of the preferred approach.

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4.	<u>Third Party Funding</u> The purpose of this item was to provide a briefing to Community & Environment Committee members on Third Party Funding. This includes informing a common understanding for how QLDC could explore community investment and partnership pathways. Marie Day (Community Partnerships Manager) presented the item and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A). Key points of discussion included: • Discussion focused on potential approaches to community investment, including partnerships with philanthropic organisations and other external funding providers, and the importance of managing expectations and risk where funding opportunities may not be successful. • The Queenstown Events Centre was discussed as a potential pilot project for exploring alternative funding mechanisms. General support was expressed for this approach, with further discussion and feedback to be provided to Council at a future workshop. Attachments: <i>Attachment A: Presentation slides – Third party funding</i> <i>Attachment B: Discussion paper – Exploring community investment and partnership opportunities (July 2026) – by Councillor Matt Wong</i> <i>Attachment C: Fiscal Cost or Catalyst for Impact? Revisiting the Role of Donation Tax Credits (August 2026) – by Shamubeel Eaquab, Simplicity Research Hub and Steven Moe, Parry Field Lawyers & Seeds Podcast</i>	None.
5.	<u>Aquatic Centre Decarbonisation (LPG Conversion)</u> The purpose of this item was to provide Councillors with an update on the LPG boilers Energy Conversion for the three aquatic centres: Arrowtown Memorial Pool, Alpine Aqualand (Queenstown Events Centre), and Wānaka Recreation Centre. Greg Rozen (Programme Director) presented the item and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A). Key points of discussion included: • An update was provided on progress toward replacing LPG boilers at Arrowtown Memorial Pool, Alpine Aqualand and the Wānaka	None.

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	Recreation Centre. It was noted that the Arrowtown Memorial Pool project remains on track. • Discussion focused on funding shortfalls for the Alpine Aqualand and Wānaka Recreation Centre projects, and the need to identify funding options to enable the programme to proceed. It was noted that a report will be presented to Council in October seeking direction on potential funding pathways and delivery options. • Discussion also covered project risks and delivery considerations, including electricity network costs, equipment procurement timeframes, solar generation opportunities, and alternative energy sources. It was noted that biomass was not considered a preferred option due to supply and operational constraints. Attachments: <i>Attachment A: Presentation Slides – Aquatic Centre Decarbonisation (LPG Conversion)</i>	

The workshop concluded at 12.27pm.