

Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board

2 April 2026

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [5]

Title | Taitara: Chair's Report

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is:

- a. to provide the Board with an update on projects of interest;
- b. to allow members to report on recent community engagement; and
- c. to cover other matters not listed elsewhere on the agenda.

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board:

1. **Note** the contents of this report; and
2. **Direct** that the minutes from the 16 December 2025 Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board meeting be amended with respect to Guy Steven's Public Forum presentation regarding the Mount Iron Trail Plan, as follows: "He noted that ~~the lower tracks are not Council owned land and~~ there has already been illegal creation of bike tracks on Mt Iron that do not follow the historic tracks".

Prepared by:



Name: Simon Telfer

Title: Chair

20 March 2026

Recent Formal Engagements

4 March Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board Planning & Review Hui

Attendees: Simon Telfer, Chris Hadfield, Councillor Cody Tucker, Councillor Nicola King, Councillor Niki Gladding.

4 March Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board Workshop

Attendees: Simon Telfer, Chris Hadfield, Councillor Cody Tucker, Councillor Nicola King, Councillor Niki Gladding.

Full Council Workshop

Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board (WUCCB) members attended part of a Full Council workshop held in Wānaka on 10 February in which Egis (independent consultant team) provided a summary of community engagement findings on the Wānaka Airport Future Review Scenarios.

Amendment of December 2025 WUCCB Meeting Minutes

1. Mr Guy Steven indicated that the confirmed minutes from the 16 December 2025 WUCCB meeting incorrectly indicated that he stated the following during his Public Forum presentation on the Mount Iron Trails Plan: “He noted that the lower tracks are not Council owned land...” Mr Steven clarified that he had not made such a statement.
2. This report includes a recommendation to amend the confirmed minutes to remove this statement.

Members' Sector Engagement Updates

Simon's Comments

3. Councillor Tucker did a great job in rallying Elected Members to pull out weeds at the Mt Iron roundabout. To be honest it was pretty hard work doing it all by hand and I was surprised to uncover a crop of carrots! While we made a tangible and aesthetic difference to around half of the roundabout, the focus does need to be on pushing NZTA for a more viable solution.
4. Kathy and I met with Otago Regional Council (ORC) transport staff to continue refining the public transport proposition with a specific focus on the Hāwea to Wānaka route. We have invited ORC to an upcoming workshop to discuss this further.
5. Housing for seniors in the Upper Clutha is an essential part of living in an equitable community. Quentin and I met with the board of Abbeyfield Wānaka to understand how Council can support their endeavours to build a new facility in Wānaka.

6. It was an intimate gathering for the Mayor's Chamber of Commerce lunch that I attended, but useful to keep up to speed with progress on housing, regional deals and economic diversification for the district.
7. The Wānaka Airport Liaison Committee continues to meet twice yearly. Topics at our catch-up in February included the appointment of a new Wānaka Manager, implementation of safety initiatives and progress on the Airport Masterplan.
8. Ewan Mackie, President of Bike Wānaka, shouted me a coffee as we discussed their ongoing advocacy for increasing the network of cycle paths around Wānaka and progress on mountain biking being reinstated on Mt Iron. We also discussed Sticky Forest and the club's relationship-building with the beneficiaries of that land.
9. Mayor John Glover and I commenced our six-weekly coffees, where we share insights on chairing, local government challenges and specific matters pertaining to the Upper Clutha.
10. For the fourth year in a row, Summerdaze at McMurdo Park was a hot and windy afternoon. Elected Members worked alongside Libraries and Sport & Rec staff to entertain tamariki, cook sausages and engage with local residents.
11. I joined WAI Wānaka for a Beach clean-up at Beacon Point. I was impressed that it included a more sophisticated "litter intelligence" repeatable approach as well as being excellent for community connection and camaraderie.
12. I love the Luggate Farmers' market. Thanks to everyone who came up and said hi at the QLDC Library tent to share how they were feeling about living in the Upper Clutha.
13. I'm not sure how the A&P Show dial up perfect weather (pretty much) year on year! I chatted to people both Friday and Saturday in the QLDC tent, in between parental horse duties and connecting with others on various commercial and community group stands.

Nicola's Comments

14. I met with Abbey Mocke and Judy Thompson to discuss matters relating to the Luggate Community Association.
15. I attended the Summerdaze events held in Albert Town, Hāwea, and Luggate and also attended the New Zealand Golf Open.
16. I met with Peter Newport and Jason Gibbins to discuss local democracy and attended the Wānaka A&P Show at the QLDC marquee.

17. I participated in the workshop for the Chief Executive recruitment process held in Wānaka and attended the Lake Wānaka Tourism members' update.

John's Comments

18. I attended meetings with Council staff and Bike Wānaka regarding the Peninsula Bay Reserve and the fencing for the native revegetation plan and its interaction with existing and planned mountain bike tracks and a shared path.

19. I attended the Wānaka A&P Show on both days to ensure there was a Wānaka rep at the QLDC tent when the Councillors were present.

Kathy's Comments

20. I attended the first Albert Town Community Association (ATCA) committee meeting of 2026, which is an active group of committed residents, currently seeking new members. We had a very useful update from Fulton Hogan on the Upper Clutha Wastewater Scheme, which will be repeated at the upcoming AGM on March 18. ATCA Secretary Elaine Kelly took me on a bike tour of Albert Town, highlighting key areas that ATCA supports, like the Templeton orchard and reserve, upper and lower lagoon reserves, river track, etc. Check out the amazing plantings and historical plaques that have recently been erected at key sites. So much to see and do in this thriving community!

21. I attended the Summerdaze picnics and Share With Us sessions, held at Albert Town's McMurdo Park, Luggate Farmers' Market, and Hāwea Domain. Thanks to all residents who attended and engaged with us – it was so good to be out and about to hear firsthand about the opportunities and challenges in each area. All were well attended.

22. I attended the Wānaka Chamber-hosted lunch with the Mayor, where a few thorny questions pertinent to local employers were raised and discussed.

23. The Wānaka A&P Show was another great opportunity to engage with both staff in the QLDC tent and the public. A variety of Council services and resources were on display, including the libraries, Dr Compost, Parks & Recreation (with a chance for kids to design their dream playground!). Pickleball was facilitated by the Sport & Recreation Team alongside Sport Otago, who also offered free used sports gear.

24. I've been working with Community Services leaders on their presentation for the April 2 WUCCB workshop, focusing on the strategic management of community facilities – both current and

potential for the future. There is huge demand from community groups for space to gather and operate across the district, and the WUCCB is advocating for those in our ward. We look forward to an update on this, especially as we want to identify potential investment through the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

25. I was also elected to be the Zone 6 representative to the LGNZ Community Board Executive Committee.

Cody's Comments

26. We have had some successful Summerdaze events in Luggate and at Hāwea's own Domain Daze, to connect with residents, with some great activities for the kids.

27. I attended a meeting with Brannigans at the Wānaka Watersports facility with the Community Association leaders to listen to their interests, values and ideas for recruitment of the new Chief Executive.

28. I have had a few meetings with residents, previous managers and current strategists around Wānaka Airport. Discussion included how it can cover its costs, what to be aware of moving forward with a master plan and how we can best address the consensus shared after the recent community input.

29. QLDC Councillors hosted a Mana to Mana meeting with Iwi in Arrowtown with representatives from all rūnaka for the first time, to discuss concerns around Shotover Wastewater solutions and how we can better partner and involve Iwi in decision making and shared values.

30. The Wānaka A&P Show was great, and I was able to talk with a bunch of residents about topics ranging from dogs on leads, to rates increases, and housing access.

31. I met with the Developers of Glendhu Bay Golf Course on site and at Jack's Point to discuss the future developments but also what can be meaningful efforts in my capacity as Chair of the Smart Growth Committee.

32. Quentin and I attended a last minute meeting at Rod Drury's Taramea to hear the input of the private sector on the Regional Deal while Minister Watts was down for the NZ Open. There was a lot of celebration of the effort done by Council to capture the greatest needs of the district and a consistent message to government to say, "update the settings so we can solve our own problems."

33. I've been in touch with other residents around the process of the Districts Licensing Committee and where improvements can be made, what a local alcohol policy could look like, as well as the growing needs for football facilities.

Chris's Comments

34. With the spare time I now have, I decided to spend time volunteering. To date I have volunteered at Challenge Wānaka and got a great feel for how the event is run and met many of the people responsible for putting this together.

35. I then volunteered at the Wānaka A&P show. I did three days and was impressed by how much work goes into the event. Finally, I have done one day already for Warbirds Over Wānaka and have more to come during the actual show.

36. My involvement with Wānaka Arts Cultural Trust continues as the momentum continues and an update will have been heard at this meeting.