

CENTRAL OTAGO HERITAGE TRUST



Minutes of the Board Meeting
4pm Wednesday, 20 March 2024
Clyde Museum Blyth St

PRESENT: David Ritchie (Chair), Marco Creemers, Russell Garbutt, Lynda Gray, Warwick Hawker, David Hurd, Pene Morris, Ross Naylor, Ann Rodgers (CODC Liaison). Maggie Hope (Heritage Coordinator).

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The unconfirmed minutes of the Board meeting held on 31 January 2024 were reviewed and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: David Hurd

Seconded: Lynda Gray

Carried

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Development of the Heritage Orchard concept: Russell Garbutt advised that the Clyde Garden Club will be discussing the idea at their next meeting in April.

FINANCE

Current Account Balances as at 14 March 2024

COHT Working Account: 38-9009-0215973-00	\$64,699.81
Oral History (OH) Account 38-9009-0215973-02	\$17,802.34
COHT Debit Account: 38-9009-0215973-04	\$212.24

Moved: Ross Naylor - Financial Statements be accepted

Seconded: Russell Garbutt

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

A: CODC Planning Update - Ann Rodgers

- Central Government has given all Councils the option of deferring the LTP by 12 months and in the interim, prepare an Annual Plan for 2024-25. CODC has taken up this option.
- Annual Plan budgets are currently being set with significant rates rises expected to cover the Three Waters infrastructure upgrades.
- There has been no indication that Community Funding will be cut at this stage, with applications still following the same timing cycles.

B: Department of Conservation Update

David Ritchie welcomed DoC District Operations Manager, Nicola Holmes, to the meeting. Nicola gave Trustees an update on their heritage-related work:

- Nicola acknowledged that the Central Otago District has the most heritage sites on DoC land when compared to other districts.
- DoC is currently developing a 10 year regional plan to prioritise key projects, many of which will involve partnering with other groups and organisations. Senior Heritage Advisor, Matt Schmidt would like to present the draft plan to COHT for feedback.
- A mapping project has been completed with mana whenua to identify nohonga/sites and their cultural significance.

- DoC anticipates changes ahead due to the Fast-track Approvals Bill. This legislation will allow fast-track decision-making process for infrastructure and development projects that are considered to have significant regional or national benefits.
- DoC continues to face resourcing challenges particularly with employment of rangers who were once key in telling the stories of our heritage as well as connecting the public to biodiversity.
- A discussion was held on raising the profile of heritage sites through storytelling. Nicola has a film maker on her team who would be interested in connecting with COHT on storytelling projects.

David Ritchie thanked Nicola for her update, noting the opportunities further collaboration. Nicola left the meeting.

C: CODC PLANNING UPDATE (continued) – Ann Rodgers

Updating Heritage Provisions in the Annual Plan

Ann advised that Council is supportive of including COHT in the engagement process. The outcomes of this engagement would inform the development of a revised COHT Strategic Plan. This is likely to take place in the later part of 2024.

Heritage Precinct Guidelines

Glan Hazelton will be contracted to include the Cambrians and cultural heritage within the guidelines. Ross Naylor queried if Matakanui would eventually be included as a Heritage precinct. Trustees agreed that the special character and history of Matakanui deserved recognition within the guidelines.

D: Oral History Manager Recruitment

- 13 applications were received, with four being shortlisted for interview. Maggie, Russell and David will be on the interview panel.
- Carolyn Squires has kindly agreed to do a thorough handover with the successful applicant.

Lynda Gray and Ross Naylor left the Meeting at 5:30pm

E: Update from Marco Creemers Earnsleugh Castle Renovations

Marco took Trustees on a video tour of the castle, which highlighted the significant progress including replacing the roof, earthquake strengthening, improvement to the entrance staircase and other layout changes.

F: Central Otago Museums Trusts Update – Maggie

- The Central Museums 100 Project is making good progress. The Ministry for Culture and Heritage has granted an extension for the launch which will now take place in spring.
- Martin Anderson has taken on the role of Interim Chair until June 2024 because of Owen Graham's resignation
- In early March, Council approved the construction of a new Memorial Hall and Events Centre on Melmore Tce. This multi-use facility will include the new Cromwell Museum.

G: Other Business

- The draft Queenstown Lakes District Creativity and Culture Strategy has recently been released and is open for public feedback. This strategy was developed in partnership by Queenstown District Council and the Three Lakes Cultural Trust (TLCT). COHT has been advocating for a similar strategy for our District. Maggie will send out the link to the draft strategy.
- 'Bannockburn - a Place to Stand' exhibition is now showing at Central Stories until Easter. This exhibition combines photography and storytelling. The stories of Bannockburn locals highlights the changes to village life over recent decades. These stories will eventually be published in the Old Bannockburn History Project website: <http://oldbannockburn.nz/>. There may be an opportunity to link these stories and photographs with our Oral History project.
- Warwick Hawker gave an update on the recent OGHT 31st Cavalcade. The 11 trails attracted over 500 entrants with a finale community event and hoedown at Waikaia host town.

Meeting closed at 5:50pm