
Minutes of the Waimate District Council
Social Focus Group Meeting held in the local
Government Centre, Queen Street, Waimate
on 14th September at 6:00pm.



In Attendance

Mayor John Coles
Lynda Ramsay (Senior Policy Analyst)
Jamie Halkett (Administration Assistant)
Carolyn Johns (Community Services Manager)
Karen Beker (Recreation Plan Co-ordinator)
Charles Ruddenklau (speaker)
Selywn Long (speaker)
Steve Napper (speaker)
Councillor Jim Rayner
Councillor Anne Townend
Hon Jim Sutton
Te Runanga o Waihao Inc
Waimate District Resource Centre
Grey Power
Lister Home
Waimate Ministers Association
South Canterbury Neighbourhood Support
Hunter Hall
Centre Care Counselling
Child, Youth and Family
Waimate Medical Centre

Apologies

Aoraki PHO Clair Baxter
Housing New Zealand
Waimate Health Developments
Sport South Canterbury
Aoraki Polytechnic
Friends of Knottingley Park
Principal Association
St Andrews Hall
Councillor Peter Foley
Councillor James Gibson
Councillor Mavis Andrews
Waitaha Taiwhenua o Waitaki Trust

Welcome

The Group was welcomed by his Worship the Mayor John Coles and explained the format of the evening. Apologies from our original speaker, Clair Baxter from the Aoraki PHO as there was another meeting that she urgently needed to attend but is very interested in still coming to speak to the Waimate public.

Apologies were read by Jamie Halkett and the recap of the last meeting on 11th May 2005 by Lynda Ramsay. The outcomes of that meeting have been identified as lack of volunteers especially youth, and the health services in Waimate which again is a big issue and will need a separate group to deal with some aspect of this. We made available a manual from the Ministry of Youth Affairs that focuses on showing local government how to get youth involved which is also general enough that it will be of help to other organisations. Another manual "Recruiting and Retaining Volunteers" produced by Waimate District Council was also made available. Extra copies are available from Jamie Halkett at the Information Centre.

A survey was also sent out after the last meeting and the results were read out to the attendees of the meeting.

Charles Ruddenklau – Waimate A&P Association volunteers

The Agricultural and Pastoral sector in New Zealand have been struggling with youth, but have hopefully turned a corner with more youth getting involved. The Waimate A&P Association had a problem with the members getting older and older the young people would join and then leave again we need to keep them involved keep them busy, youth today like to get in there do what has to be done and if you are not organised they don't stick around until you are.

Youth are free giving of their time so you have to be organised because if they don't have anything to do they will go home. If you give the youth responsibility they will take it and be very good at it too.

Karen Beker – Update on the Waimate Recreation Plan

An update on where the Waimate Recreation Plan is up too. The vision is "That Waimate be a happy and healthy place for everyone to belong in" The way we go about this is improving the health and well-being of the Waimate Community by providing opportunities for people to participate and grow in recreational and sporting pursuits. The result of the last survey were great with 60% return rate, an individual survey is also about to go into circulation that will be mailed out with the rates next month.

Introduction of Attendees

Organisation	Issue/ Advertorial
Waimate Medical Centre	Health and wellbeing of the community and we are user friendly
Lister Home	There is 33 Rest home beds and 18 Hospital beds and the number one issue is the need for more beds. Lister home is a community owned organisation.
Child, Youth and Family	Their number one issue is the increase in cases, but not the increase of caregivers that take in children.
Ministers Association	Issue is the realisation of cultural and spiritual needs in the community.
Grey Power	Membership is an issue even though it is at the other end of the scale older people as the members have to be 50+.
South Canterbury Neighbourhood Support	To have more Neighbourhood support groups in the area so we can have a safer caring community.
Te Runanga o Waihao Inc	To Advocate the value of working with the community.
Hunter Hall	The use of our facilities that are no longer being use. The awareness that these hall are there and they need to be used.
Waimate A&P Association	Getting the word out to the public about the annual A&P show.
Centre Care Counselling	Burning issue is the financing of the trust.
Resource Centre	Concerned with funding.

Meeting convened at 7:10 – Reconvened at 7:40

Steve Napper – Funding

The Waimate District Resource Centre offers Fund-view which is a data base with over 200 search engines for funding, but before going to find funding you need to answer these questions. What are you looking to fund? Do you need the funding? Can we go down other avenues? Should the money be coming directly from the government/council as it is community based and a need for the community? If you do not have a purpose for the money let someone else have it? These are question you should ask before and during your organisations look for funding.

Lynda Ramsay explained this part of the evening as a way for organisations in the Waimate District to have a heads up, to tell the community what they are all about.

Head Up – Social Services Committee, Selwyn Long

The Social Services Committee has been around since 1989 started up by David Owen and now Matt Henderson as President with a wide range of people as the committee members, Child, Youth and Family, Police, Churches all of these people are the networking body of the Social Services Committee whom work together. The District oozes with potential and what we do now will build on the future. It is all about being builders who are endeavouring to benefit the district. "Communities are built by construction workers – not demolition experts" We are building on what happens in the community some of the following has been worked on by our committee:

- Blue light Disco
- Skate board Park
- Travel Funds
- Parenting with confidence seminar

Our focus at the moment is to research if a youth worker is necessary for the district. There is a sub committee that is looking at a feasibility study / survey. If there is anyone that wants to join or has an interest in the Social Services Committee contact Steve Napper at the Resource Centre.

Minutes will be sent out to groups and organisations that attend they will also be available on the website www.waimatedc.govt.nz. If there is any resources that you wish to get and are not available put your name with Jamie Halkett and they will be sent out with the Minutes. The next meeting will be held in April 2006.

Meeting Closed at 8:30pm