

Minutes

Tapawera & Districts Community Council Annual General Meeting Tuesday 11th November 2025. 7:00pm

Apologies:

Members Present:

John Gully (Lakes Murchison Ward Councillor) attended as an invited guest

Discussion about attendance

The meeting opened with several meeting attendees asking why some people had been excluded. The Chair explained that the new TDCC constitution required by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 which was adopted at a Special General Meeting (20th May 2025) specified that only members could attend, speak and vote at general meetings.

Councillor John Gully was asked to attend as an independent scrutineer for AGM voting. This was explained to members at the start of the AGM and the offer made that he would be asked to leave if any member did not want him present - no-one requested he not be present and he stayed for the AGM.

Later in the meeting Gavin Scoble expressed a view that there were many societies across the country having to adopt new rules and like the TDCC some may find things from experience that need tweaking. He pointed out that if they wished, the incoming TDCC committee could propose changes to the constitution to members. These would need to follow the process detailed in the existing constitution and meet the requirements of the 2022 Act.

Previous general meetings

2024 AGM Minutes

Motion: That the 2024 AGM Minutes be accepted.

Moved: Tim Leyland / **Seconded:** Heather Spence – **Carried unanimously**

20 May 2025 Special General Meeting Minutes

Motion: That the 20 May 2025 SGM Minutes be accepted.

Moved: Tim Leyland / **Seconded:** Lisa Carleton – **Carried unanimously**

Chairperson's Annual Report (*Annex 1*)

Motion: That the Annual Report be accepted.

Moved: Steve Udy / **Seconded:** Mike Drake – **Carried unanimously**

TDCC Annual Financial Statement

Motion: That the Annual Financial Statement be accepted.

Result: 14 for, 15 against, 1 abstention.

Action: Members requested that the Community Centre be listed as an asset in future financial reports.

Action - : Gill Hammersley will be asked to add a line item to the annual financial report that specifies the value of the community centre asset.

Appointment of Auditor

Motion: That Susan Ellis be appointed as auditor for the next financial year.

Moved: Tim Leyland / **Seconded:** Heather Spence – **Carried unanimously**

Motion for discussion

The Committee Motion: - That the TDCC sell the Community Centre to provide funds as a contribution to the new Tapawera Hub and other community projects within Tapawera and surrounding Districts.

The current committee proposed the motion to encourage forward planning; any sale would not occur immediately. The new committee would still need the Centre for meetings until a new Hub is built in 2027. Once the Tapawera Hub is built TDC have advised that they will not fund two buildings. This has implications for TDCC in terms of affordability of running costs and maintenance.

Several attendees expressed opposition to selling the Community Centre. Some questioned why TDCC and the Tapawera Connect (TC) are separate organisations. Others stressed the need to consider future legislation on earthquake-prone buildings and its effect on renovation funding. It was clarified that TDC would, under current policy, not fund renovations for a building classified as earthquake-prone.

It was noted that the Centre is seen, by some, as an historic building in Tapawera, though in poor condition and expensive to maintain. It was further recognised that the building has been under-utilised by the community, partly because it is very cold. However, it became more active after the June and July floods, when it housed relief operations.

The cost of running the community centre was commented upon, without rates relief the rates would be \$3-4000 and insurance is currently over \$4000 per annum. As an old building, maintenance costs are significant.

TDCC paid over \$9000 for a detailed seismic assessment. This found the building rates at 20% of the “new building standard”. This remains a liability for owners. It was acknowledged that maintaining the building poses challenges for current TDCC office bearers.

Several members said more community consultation was needed and also that the motion should be deferred until after a new committee is elected.

An amendment was proposed that no vote be held until a public meeting is convened to discuss the Centre’s future but it was queried whether this could be accepted as it seemed to run counter to the original motion.

After listening to the views expressed the chair quickly canvassed the committee and the motion was withdrawn.

Action Trish Palmer proposed a public meeting and was asked to convene this meeting for the wider community. It would not be a TDCC meeting.

AOB

Six of the current committee members have served more than 2 year terms and are not making ourselves available for nomination to the new committee. The committee clarified why the nomination process for a new TDCC committee was not happening at the AGM and noted that nomination forms can be found in the TDCC page on the Tapawera Community website.

The date of any election has not been determined as an election will only be convened if more than 9 committee members are nominated. The minimum number of committee members is 3.

TDCC committee members were thanked for their efforts.

Meeting closed at 8.42pm

Annex 1

2025 TDCC Chair Report to the AGM

November 2025

This past year has been exceptional for TDCC and the Tapawera community for a number of reasons. The early winter storms, re-registration of the TDCC to meet ISA 2022 legislation, and the imminent retirement of several key members of our Committee are conspicuous against the backdrop of continued and valuable progress towards a new community hub for the wider Tapawera community and the many relatively minor action items we've addressed this year.

Although I was out of the South Island missing both the June and July storms, numerous Facebook postings kept me apprised of the situation and the substantial use made of our Community Centre as an essential base for the Flood Support Response. The evident sense of community and selfless work by many in the area is humbling indeed. I recognise the enormous impact this tragic event had on our community and understand the significant time needed for our land and community to heal.

The deadline for TDCC to re-register as an incorporated society under the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022 is April next year. Re-registration required major changes and additions to our previous constitution which in turn demanded changes to the way we operate. This new constitution was passed at a Special General Meeting in May this year and reregistration successfully completed soon afterwards.

Progress on a new hub for the broader Tapawera community has continued and, with the widely popular decision made to rule out the current Community Centre site, TDC undertook public consultation of three reserve sites around Tapawera, resulting in confirmation of the ex-railway reserve site behind the 4 Square. I look forward to construction beginning next year and to the opening of our new Hub a year or two later.

With our Committee elections scheduled in December this year we sadly acknowledge the imminent departure of some extremely productive Committee members who have expressed intentions to not stand again. Gavin Scoble has been actively engaged and intelligently productive in every meeting since his election to the Committee 4 years ago, usually assuming the Chair role in my absence, and readily contributing innumerable hours outside meeting time on TDCC matters. Wayne Leeden (recently retired in September) and Heather Spence both joined the Committee in 2023 and reliably brought their experienced wisdom to our meetings and their readiness to contribute time and energy to TDCC projects outside meeting time. Far and away the most valuable departing member of the Committee and one who has contributed so much for so long is Tim Leyland. Tim joined the Committee as Secretary in 2013 and has been an essential cornerstone throughout his tenure, his considerable experience and skilled guidance underpinning the Committee's significant productivity throughout.

Stuart Bryant as our long-time Ward Councillor has been a Committee member ex officio and, along with Councillor Christeen Mackenzie, has reliably attended our monthly meetings bringing a crucial informed TDC link to our discussions and advocacy. Both Stuart and Christeen have been instrumental in guiding and supporting the Tapawera community through their TDCC engagement until their recent retirement from their TDC councillor roles. Their combined contribution will be sorely missed.

I offer immense gratitude for the time, effort and dedication shown by all these departing members, as I do for those continuing to offer themselves for re-election.

Recognition is also due to Gill Hammersley for her proficient and outstanding work producing the Informer and maintaining TDCC accounts; to Amanda Beer and her wonderful Op Shop team for the invaluable contribution they make to the community through their voluntary efforts; and to Sue Wilson for keeping the community well informed on TDCC matters through social media. I offer my heartfelt thanks to these generous members of our community.

Finally, I will be leaving this role in December and intend to not stand for re-election. I joined the Committee after Tim shoulder-tapped me several years ago and I subsequently fell into the Chair role when my predecessor suddenly resigned. It has been a privilege to serve the Tapawera community, a task made so much easier having the support of the amazing team I've worked with on the Committee.

Significant progress over the past 12 months includes the following:

Community Centre

- Chimney cleaned and fire bricks replaced – thanks Martin Simpson
- Op Shop volunteers treated to meal in recognition of their valuable service
- Continued support for Molly's Coffee cart and Kainga Kai's food stall in front of Community Centre
- Community food stall installed March 2025
- Commission a DSA (Detailed Seismic Assessment) for the Community Centre
- Community Centre used as base for flood support response during and following June/July 2025 storm events with several committee members assisting
- Regular fortnightly cleaning organised October 2025 – thanks Jan Barker
- Training day in October 2025 with lunch and travel expenses covered for Op Shop volunteers
- Review insurance with FMG October 2025

New Community Hub

- The TDCC maintained a continuous presence on the Hub Steering Group and the Project Advisory Group (PAG), attending monthly meetings or as needed
- I, representing TDCC, met Nov 2024 with key community members keen to preserve the Community Centre and the Kahurangi Gateway gardens.
- Stuart and I, representing TDCC, met June 2025 with Tapawera Historic Society
- Build site confirmed by TDC – reserve land behind the 4 Square identified following public consultation on 3 reserve sites

Other

- New TDCC Constitution compliant with ISA 2022 (Incorporated Societies Act 2022) produced, confirmed at Special General Meeting in May 2025
- TDCC re-registered under ISA 2022
- Zoom access to TDCC Committee meetings provided (using Wangapeka Educational Trust account)
- Sue Wilson appointed in Oct 2024 as TDCC Social Media Coordinator
- Lobbied TDC to establish recycling station in Tapawera
- Feedback to TDC re speed limits in Tapawera
- Liaise with TDC re roadside mowing and culverts on rural roads
- Nicola Allan co-opted onto TDCC Committee as Stanley Brook representative
- \$1500 funding support for new chipper for the Tapawera School Community Garden
- Liaise with TDC February 2025 re vulnerable power pole in Stanley Brook
- An ANZAC wreath was purchased for Tapawera in April 2025
- \$100 funding support for Hub Easter fund-raising raffle
- Petrol voucher support for Della Webby in recognition of significant community volunteer role with Flood Support Response
- TDCC's picnic tables relocated around Tapawera with some refurbishing and repairs
- Guidelines established for letters to the Informer
- Meet the Candidates session organised in August 2025 in lead up to TDC elections
- I attended meetings hosted by the TDC Mayor for community association chairs
- \$1,000 funding provided for Tapawera Spring Show

Steve Udy, TDCC Chair