

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Thursday 24 October 2024 at 4.00pm
57 Kilmore Street, Christchurch



1 Welcome to Guests

Paul Deavoll, President welcomed everyone to the 2024 Annual General Meeting of Business Canterbury, including life members Peter Townsend and Dr Rod Carr; fellow Board members; Business Canterbury staff and most importantly members. He acknowledged Strategic Partners Westpac, Orion, 2Degrees and The University of Canterbury along with local Ford dealers Avon City Ford and Team Hutchinson Ford for supporting us with the AGM, together with ElectionNZ for their ongoing support.

2 Apologies

28 apologies were received for the AGM and are appended to the minutes.

3 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2023

The minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting held on 21 October 2023, having been made available to the members present, were taken as read and signed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Peter Townsend
Seconded: Andrew Dallison
Carried

There were no matters arising.

4 President's Key Comments

- With a legacy spanning 165 years, we can reflect on the incredible changes we've undergone over the past year. These include a transformation in our approach to delivering value, connecting with members, and advocating for regional businesses. Significant strides have been made in advocacy for our business community, positioning us for long-term success and strengthening our impact for years to come. We have fielded nearly 600 requests for support, hosted stand-out events, and delivered over 57 training courses.
- Thanks to Board colleagues who had given their time freely, with special thanks to those finishing and those that will be continuing. Members were thanked for their continued support, trust and commitment to our organisation, as we navigated the changes. The President recognised the Chief Executive's outstanding leadership and the dedication of the entire Business Canterbury team. Their hard work had driven the transformation while delivering exceptional service, resources, and advocacy for members, helping businesses navigate opportunities and challenges.

5 Adoption of Annual Report and Financial Statements

The motion to adopt the 2023/24 annual report and statement of accounts was carried without dissent.

Moved: Grant Walker
Seconded: Erin Black
Carried

6 Appointment of the Auditors

The President thanked BDO for the 2023/2024 audit.

The motion for the appointment of the auditors to be delegated to the incoming 2024/25 Board was carried without dissent.

Moved: Andrew Logie
Seconded: John Hutchinson
Carried

7 Chief Executive Key Comments – Leeann Watson

- High-level overview video outlined some of our highlights. The past year had been the most significant in our 165-year history, marked by the successful implementation of our transformation programme. This has included new name, branding and business model to ensure we diversify and grow our revenue streams and create the ability to scale our member growth and engagement. Other achievements - transitioned members into the new member value framework; introduced new dedicated programmes to support manufacturers, exporters and importers; launched initiatives such as Canterbury Trusted and Bold Company podcast and news website to tell success stories of our members and change the story of our changing economy; new technology that enabled us to provide a more customised tailored member experience and had driven efficiency through automation.
- There have been significant changes on both the regional and national fronts with the general election and the Christchurch City Council's Long-Term Plan making way for significant policy shifts. Key wins - removal of Fair Pay Agreements; return of 90-day trials; reform to Holidays Act, Health and Safety in Work Act, and vocational training, which are critical for businesses in the region. Over the past year we have engaged with 17 Ministers which demonstrates that Business Canterbury is seen as the home and voice of Canterbury business. Our quarterly business survey received over 450 responses and was referred to locally and nationally, so it provided a good barometer for business confidence and sentiment for our region which we also used to inform our work programme and advocacy.
- Thanks were given to:
 - our strategic partners: The University of Canterbury, Orion, Westpac, and 2Degrees, along with all our other partners.
 - the Board for their support and their dedication and leadership.
 - the entire Business Canterbury team, who had worked tirelessly through a period of intense change whilst continuing to provide unwavering commitment and support to our members.
 - our members for their trust, commitment, and belief in us. That support is the driving force behind our success.

8 Honorary Life Membership

The President acknowledged the recent passing of David Halstead. David was a board member of the Canterbury Employers Chamber of Commerce from 1999 – 2014, Board President during this time from 2005 - 2008, a Life Member and an avid supporter of our organisation.

On behalf of the 23/24 Board, recommend that the wider membership endorse an Honorary Life Membership.

Andrew Logie was a Board Member between 2012 to 2023, during his time he also represented us as a Board Member on the NZCCI Board for 9 years and as a Board Member of BusinessNZ for 7 years. He played a strong role in representing the interests of Canterbury businesses in these positions and continues to be a strong advocate for Business Canterbury in the community. Andrew's tenure coincided with the transformation, and he provided guidance and direction across various projects. This included the review and subsequent new Constitution and Governance structure.

The motion that Andrew Logie be bestowed with honorary life membership to Business Canterbury was approved.

Moved: Dr Rod Carr
Seconded: Peter Townsend
Carried

Andrew Logie thanked the Board for the unexpected accolade, for which he was honoured. He felt being a board member was a way to give back to the business community and he had thoroughly enjoyed his time working with this valuable organisation, at times, feeling more like a staff member.

9 Election of the Board of Directors 2024/2025

Steve Kilpatrick and his team from Electionz.com were acknowledged and thanked for running another smooth election.

The Chief Executive thanked all 10 nominees for putting themselves forward and advised the four successfully elected Board members for 2024/2025 were:

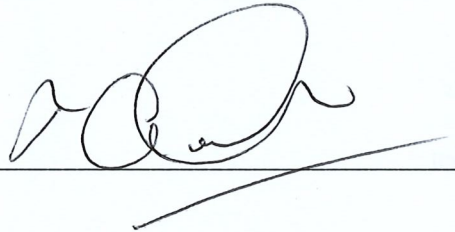
- Erin Black, Connect Consultancy
- Paul Deavoll, Orion New Zealand Ltd
- Hayley Hobson, Drive Accountancy
- Grant Walker, 2BConnected

The Chief Executive thanked previous Board members for their support and commitment to Business Canterbury during their term.

10 General Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4:38pm.

Read and confirmed:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'P. Deavoll', written over a horizontal line.

Date:

4 Nov

2025