

Minutes for:
Cambridge Connections Community Reference Group

Time:	5:15 – 6:45pm
Date:	14 September 2025
Venue:	Kaipaki Room, Waipā District Council, Cambridge Office, 23 Wilson Street Cambridge, and via Teams.
In attendance:	In Person: Katie Mayes, Peter Carr (Chair), Kelly Bouzaid, Ngawai Hamblin, David Cooney, Phil Mackay, Sharon Cresswell, Gabby Byrne, Alan Garvin, Andrew Myers, Graham Scott, Kellie Pearson. Online: Ian Wilson
In support:	Cllr Mike Montgomerie – PGG Chair (for general business only), Ingrid Barratt, Rachel Algar, Abby Reddy (minutes)
Apologies:	Chris Flatt, Peter Pickett, Poto Davies.

1. Welcome & Admin

Ngawai Hamblin opened with karakia.

Katie Mayes noted that Peter Carr and Chris Flatt have been elected as Co-Chairs of the group. Katie will continue to facilitate the meetings and act as a timekeeper to allow the Co-Chairs to fully participate.

Website use: The CRG website is currently being used for public engagement, with all feedback made publicly available. Members who have not yet signed up were strongly encouraged to do so to participate in the Ideas Forum.

Rules of Engagement (Appendix 1): A brief reminder and review were conducted. For this meeting, a volunteer (Sharon) focused on the rule “Open Mindset”. Going forward, a rule will be highlighted by a volunteer at each meeting.

2. Context setting – Questions for Clarification

Katie Mayes noted that the documents listed below (appendices 2-6) were provided to CRG members for context, and that the purpose of this section of the agenda was to answer any questions members had relating to said information.

- [Introduction to NZTA Problem and Benefit statements \(Appendix 2\)](#)
- [Investment Logic Mapping Workshop Record \(Appendix 3\)](#)

- Context re challenges and opportunities (Appendix 4 & Appendix 5)
- Indicative planning steps for a new bridge (Appendix 6)

A general discussion followed regarding lack of clarity of the role of the group.

Katie noted that Cllr Mike Montgomerie, who was the previous project governance group chair, will be joining the meeting during “general business” to clarify the group’s role and answer any questions. Katie noted that he will likely continue as Chair for the project governance group, pending approval from the Mayor.

3. Workshop/ Brainstorming & Key themes emerging

The group broke out into small groups to workshop the following three questions:

- What are the key transport problems? (now and in the future)
- What are the key benefits if these problems were solved? What would be of greatest benefit?
- What would a good transport system look like?

Due to limited time, many members were unable to fully complete the brainstorm activity. Following discussion, it was agreed that the collected brainstorm data would be collated and circulated to members for further input ahead of the next meeting on 30 October.

The feedback from this exercise will inform the agenda for the next CRG meeting, where the group will finalise the key themes to inform Problem and Benefit Statements.

4. General Business

Clarification of the role of the CRG

Katie introduced Cllr Montgomerie, who emphasised the following key points regarding the role of the CRG:

- The CRG’s purpose is to represent the voices and perspectives of the community groups that need to be heard.
- While members have consented to being publicly identified, the group should not become lobbied.
- Co-Chairs are encouraged to maintain independence and push back against any lobbying or politicisation.
- Cllr Montgomerie expects that the CRG would engage directly with Elected Members through workshops and maintain a close connection with Council throughout the process.
- Councillors are the decision makers; the CRG acts as a reference group, providing feedback and insights to inform Council’s decisions.

Update on Community Engagement Activities

The engagement period for public engagement began on Monday 6 October, and has been extended to 27 October. A summary of feedback and ideas from public engagement and final Ideas Forum will be presented at the next CRG meeting on 30 October.

In response to CRG member questions around types of engagement, an update was provided. It was noted that this represents the first stage of engagement. A second, broader phase will take place from February 2026, involving community markets and wider outreach activities.

Website Data / Sharing of Information

Key data will be made available on the Cambridge Connections website over the next few weeks ahead of the 30th CRG meeting.

Lead-up to the SP&P Meeting on 3rd December

The group had a short discussion about how it can use its time together most effectively and deliver on the agenda outcomes, including a consideration of what work may be able to be undertaken between meetings.

Confirmation is pending for a workshop to be held with the CRG, Community Board and Elected Members prior to 3 December 2025. The workshop is expected to take place in the second half of November 2025 to introduce the project to newly elected members and enable elected members to make an informed decision about the strategic case at the committee meeting in early December. A meeting invite will be issued as soon as the date is confirmed.

5. Immediate Next Steps

- Circulate to the group following the meeting:
 - Link to the Conflicts of Interest (COI) form, with a reminder for all members to complete it if they have not already done so.
 - A write-up of Workshop feedback, including key emerging points for further refinement and feedback (to be provided as an editable document with tracked changes).
 - Ensure CRG members have access to a key information pool and that relevant data is made available on the website ahead of the 30th October meeting.
- Update the “Why” diagram to illustrate the link between the CRG and Council.
- Confirm the date for the November workshop with the Community Board and Elected Members.

Ngawai Hamblin closed with karakia.