

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MANGAKINO/POUAKANI REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE BOARDROOM, MANGAKINO SERVICE CENTRE, MANGAKINO
ON TUESDAY, 21 MAY 2019 AT 10.00AM**

- PRESENT:** Cr Kirsty Trueman (in the Chair), Mayor David Trewavas, Cr Barry Hickling, Cr Tangonui Kingi, Mrs Lisa de Thierry, Mr Mark Seymour
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Head of Operations, Head of Democracy, Governance & Venues, Infrastructure Manager, Asset Manager Stormwater & Solid Waste, Policy Advisor, Democratic Services Support Officer
- MEDIA AND PUBLIC:** Mangakino Primary School Principal Jason Wright, Whakamaru School Principal James White

Chairperson Cr Kirsty Trueman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a karakia. She then greeted local school principals Messrs Jason Wright and James White and provided a brief outline of the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group purpose and role, and introduced each of the Group members to them.

Notes

- (i) *An apology was also noted from the Chief Executive.*
- (ii) *Mrs de Thierry left the meeting at the start of item 4.4 (at 11.42) and re-entered the meeting at 11.44am.*
- (iii) *Cr Hickling left the meeting at the conclusion of item 4.5 (at 12.14pm) and re-entered the meeting during item 4.6 at 12.16pm He was not present for resolution MP201905/07.*

1 APOLOGIES

MP201905/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Barry Hickling
Seconded: Mrs Lisa de Thierry

That the apology received from His Worship, Mayor David Trewavas be accepted.

CARRIED

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MANGAKINO/POUAKANI REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING - 19 MARCH 2019

Minutes of a meeting of the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group held on Tuesday, 19 March 2019 had been circulated (A2461912).

MP201905/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tangonui Kingi
Seconded: Cr Barry Hickling

That the minutes of the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group meeting held on Tuesday 19 March 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4 REPORTS

4.1 PRESENTATION: MANGAKINO FULL PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mangakino Full Primary School principal Jason Wright distributed copies of his presentation and a recent school newsletter. He thanked the Group for the invitation to attend and provide an update on current school affairs.

Key points noted were:

- With education being critical in society, it would be advantageous to community groups such as the Representative Group to consider including a representative from that sector.
- Referred to the 2017 Education Review Office (ERO) report on Mangakino School which stated that the school was an under-achieving school in decline, and unsupported by the community. The list of needs was extensive and critical, and provided the impetus when undertaking day-to-day school business to ensure that the school was driving forward in the right direction.
- Started in the principal position one week into Term One, when released from his previous school.
- Very passionate about the school, its students, his role as principal and education overall. Had spent 18 years teaching and wanted to bring about positive changes as quickly as practicable.
- Progress over the last 14 weeks included
 - o Reviewed and adopted policies and procedures
 - o Developed cohesive professional learning initiatives
 - o Rationalised staffing: The decapitation process from an area school for years 1-13 to the current years 1-8 at the end of 2018 and negatively financially impacted the school and community, resulting in the need to rationalise staff
 - o Overhaul of asset management
 - o Improvements made to communication processes, especially community consultation
- Challenges were formidable, extensive and would take considerable time to address.
- Primary objective was ensuring rangatahi were taken care of in all capacities.
- Staff were expected to complete self-review appraisals.
- Had to keep things in perspective, especially with expectations around outcomes.

The following comments were noted during questions, answers, and related discussion:

- The Chair thanked Mr Wright for his endeavours to lead the school towards a more prosperous position, noting that the school was in an exciting space. Advised she was a trustee on the school Board of Trustees when it was an area school, and of the challenges with managing such a wider range of age groups, especially the older students. Felt that it was somewhat easier now with the current student composition of years 1-8. In reply, Mr Wright advised that having come from an area school himself, he had confidence in the area school concept as a quality model however, he agreed that the reduced student base was more easier to focus attention accordingly.
- The anticipated loss of students due to decapitation was 68. However, the actual figure when Mr Wright started in the principal's role was 45; 3 of those students were between the ages of 9-13.
- Ministry of Education (MOE) were very supportive of the school. Had met with MOE Rotorua based property infrastructure manager Paul Bennett to discuss refurbishing or rebuilding options (cost estimates for both were similar). Confirmed that the hall and whareniui were not part of any rationalisation. The construction of new modules was relatively quick and all going well, could be completed by February 2020. The Chair noted that the school would be able to apply to the community grants fund if the hall became a community hall, like that at Marotiri.
- Board of Trustees nomination process was underway, with results expected to be advised on June 21. Once the new Board was in place, the commissioner's role would be down-graded to a limited statutory manager.
- A member noted that traditionally ERO reports were quite scathing of schools administration in general. His personal view was that schools were a reflection of their community and as such, he questioned what could be done to make the community better eg better employment prospects, etc. In reply, Mr Wright noted that although the school was generally well supported by the community, they often did not see too

many parents. Upon arriving in Mangakino, he had informally asked members of the community for their opinion on the school's issues. The resounding response was "We never hear anything from the school", and that there was disjointedness between the school and the community. However, he agreed that it was a two-way process between parents and school.

- Whakamaru and Mangakino schools social media presence had improved significantly. Mangakino School Facebook pages was up and running well.
- Had compiled a lot of community feedback from a questionnaire done at the start of the year. A member noted that the library would be an ideal place to distribute such questionnaires as there was a lot of community interest in the school and people who did not have any children attending the school could provide input as well.

Whakamaru School principal James White then addressed the Group starting with a brief mihi of his whanau, hapū, and Iwi, Ngāti Koroki.

Key points noted were:

- Started in the principals role in Term 4, 2018.
- Originally from Putaruru (marae was near Arapuni / Pohara). Had prior connections with the Mangakino area, including helping when the local marae burnt down. Taking up residence now felt like 'coming home'.
- Was a community-minded person with an affinity for rural areas having grown up on a dairy farm in a similar community.
- Always looked for ways to engage in the community. Approach was to work closely with and look after all schools in the area, not just their own.
- Heavily involved in the Pinelands Group for inter-school events. Pinelands assisted the school with organising events that supported the community in a positive way.
- Committed to creating a positive environment and attitude towards education within the school that would ripple out into the community.
- Communication methods included newsletters, social media, phone, and talking to the community.
- The school was heavily involved in the Mangakowhiriwhiri Stream Wetlands Restoration Project. Had helped with planting ferns and incorporated this into the school curriculum eg propagation cycle – collecting seeds, planting them at school for later trans-planting on site.
- Wanted students to not only have ownership of their school, but also their community and environment. Students had visited Whakamaru Dam and developed their safety awareness and understanding of why they should not be fishing in particular areas.
- Acknowledged former principal Joanne Burch who had set up some good robust systems in collaboration with the school's Board of Trustees.
- Planned to work in close collaboration with Mangakino School.
- Utilised teaching strategies based on student's learning styles eg play-based, kinesthetic, etc.
- Supported the student agency – believed in students having the opportunity to voice their opinions about what their school needed.
- Whakamaru School was a 'KidsCan' school. KidsCan was a values and life-skills based learning programme run weekly. Values helped to promote positive behaviour. This school had developed the acronym KAAHU meaning **K**nowledge seeker; **A**lways respectful; **A**ccountable; **H**igh achiever; **U**nity.
- A personal friend from Waitomo had carved five pou to symbolise the KAAHU values. The pou would be unveiled at the upcoming school's / community haangi on June 12.
- Thanked the Group for its community grants support to purchase bilingual signage. Observed that Prime Minister Jacinda Adern had recently proclaimed that she could see 70% of New Zealanders being able to have a basic conversation in Te Reo by 2040.
- The community was quite transient in nature with students often going between schools throughout the area - Marotiri, Tirohanga, Mangakino, Whakamaru.

The following comments were noted during questions, answers, and related discussion:

- Student role was currently 97. Reached 101 students for 5 days but lost 4 students after the school holidays.
- Criteria to gain another teacher was retaining 100 students on the roll for a period of 10 days.

- There had not been any schools tour through the dam in at least 15 years. Tried with the senior students first, many of whom had family links to the dam through family members eg grandparents having worked there.

MP201905/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Mark Seymour
Seconded: Mrs Lisa de Thierry

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group receives the information and thanks Mr Jason Wright and James White for their attendance.

CARRIED

4.2 CURRENT ACTION POINTS UPDATE

The following updates were noted:

- The Head of Operations advised that a report on Lake Maraetai lakefront management would be provided at the next meeting.
- Te Awhina Hall: The Head of Operations advised that staff were waiting to hear from the marae trustees for an appropriate time to meet to discuss funding application options for a feasibility study to rebuild the hall.

Additional points noted were:

- o The building was classified as condemned.
- o A member noted that the entire area looked terrible. There were two buildings next to the hall which had both doors and windows removed, and an unruly hedge which needed to be removed.
- o The District Parks Manager advised that the operations team undertook basic ground maintenance only.
- o In reply to a question from the Head of Operations, members' agreed that for health and safety reasons (especially with young kids potentially hanging around the site) given the poor state of the buildings, those should be removed along with the hedge.
- Remove The Lines Company power charges item.
- The Infrastructure Manager advised that staff were investigating LED and solar panel options for Tirohanga / Forest Roads streetlights, which were more cost effective. In reply, a member noted that there were power lines available in that location; with traffic increases – especially heavy trucks - streetlights were needed at all rural road intersections in the Tirohanga area. The Infrastructure Manager responded that the answer to safety issues was not always to light up rural intersections enmasse. There were other factors to consider including installation and ongoing power costs, all of which would need to be programmed into the Long-Term Plan. Streetlights were 50% funded by NZTA therefore Council also had to align works to fit into NZTAs 3-year programme.
- The District Parks Manager advised that the poplars between the golf course and Lake Road had been inspected and were of no immediate concern. These would be monitored going forward together with some large gum trees north of tee 70.
- The Infrastructure Manager had been onsite (this morning) to inspect Tirohanga Road, and could not find any potholes. In reply, a member noted that there were depressions south of the hall.
- There were potholes at the doctors surgery entrance off the main street, where people often made a u-turn. The Infrastructure Manager advised that any potholes located within the surgery site boundary were the responsibility of the property owner.
- There was some longitudinal tracks showing through the new seal past Tram Road. The Infrastructure Manager advised this was a result of narrow strips of seal used to fill longitudinal ruts, which were the most cost effective solution. Although it did not look the best, it fulfilled its purpose and function.
- Additional boat parking spaces could be included as part of APRs scope.
- Staff were looking at better quality timber options to replace the seat units in the civic area; the seat

frames were still in good condition.

- The District Parks Manager advised that the garden out front of Ata's Bar & Eatery on the corner of Rangatira Drive currently had a miscellany of agapanthas and flaxes which had got out of control, and would be overhauled. A design plan would be brought back to the Group.
- The Chair noted that a local resident had approached Council seeking 50/50 funding support for the portion of fence that bordered a walkway and were declined as the walkway was classed as a paper road. The Infrastructure Manager confirmed that paper roads were road reserves however, Council was not legally obliged to form, repair or maintain paper roads. The District Parks Manager continued that there were many walkways within the District that fell into this same category. However in this particular instance, it would be appropriate for Council to use discretionary judgment as the walkway was well used by public and for this reason, maintained by the local parks team..

MP201905/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mrs Lisa de Thierry

Seconded: Mr Mark Seymour

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group receives the current action points update.

CARRIED

4.3 SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT WATER SUPPLY STRATEGY AND DRAFT ROAD ENCROACHMENT POLICY

Policy Advisor Tanya Wood gave a brief overview of both the Draft Water Supply Strategy and Draft Road Encroachment Policy, noting that both documents were at the formal consultation phase. There was an opportunity for the Group to make a submission on either document if wanted.

The following comments were noted during questions, answers and related discussion in relation to the Draft Water Supply Strategy:

- A member noted that Mangakino / Atiamuri areas had the highest targeted rate for funding water treatment; any increases going forward would make the area very expensive to live in. Water charges should be equitable for all consumers across the district therefore felt it was important that the Group make a submission in support of this. Another member disagreed, noting that costs should lie where they fall, and that people should not have to subsidise others water usage. Suggestion followed that the Group's submission address each of the different water schemes eg Tirohanga rural, Mangakino residential.
- A member also wanted the submission to support responsible water use (articulated in outcome no. 2). The Policy Advisor added there were many external pressures with ensuring responsible water use and management. With catchment allocations being almost usurped and people competing for water resources Council needed to ensure that its network was as efficient as possible.
- With day-to-day living costs being high, needed to consider peoples ability to pay for water, especially those on minimum wage or fixed income (elderly pensioners).

The following comments were noted during questions, answers and related discussion in relation to the Draft Road Encroachments Policy:

- Grazing on berms in rural areas was noted as an issue. However, a member commented that this was a normal practice for many farmers, and as long as it was approached with the required precautions in mind eg placing cones and signs out if needed, it was not a major issue.
- Café table and chairs (on town footpath) were sometimes obstructive. The Infrastructure Manager advised that this was a permitted activity, although there had to be an unobstructed path clearance of 1.5 metres for pedestrians, wheelchairs, etc. Some store owners also paid lease fees to Council for occupying footpath space based on a square-metre rate.

MP201905/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mrs Lisa de Thierry
Seconded: Cr Barry Hickling

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group provides feedback for inclusion in formal submissions on the Draft Water Supply Strategy and / or Draft Road Encroachment Policy.

CARRIED

4.4 TIROHANGA ROAD PROJECTS BRIEFING

The Infrastructure Manager distributed a handout prepared by the Engineering Officer – Roading in relation to district wide reseals and planned works for Tirohanga Road.

Key points noted were:

- \$600k (\$300k per year) had been allocated for road widening over the next 2 years.
- The team had looked at road surfaces and heavy traffic increases, especially due to the dairy plant operations.
- The Engineering Officer – Roading had investigated a range of options for widening outside the hall. The pavement was also identified as requiring replacement.
- Had looked at most cost effective options to address tram track issues.
- Next year's work would be done from State Highway 1 working back towards Tirohanga.
- The blue circled area on the last page of the handout was where current works were taking place, and the yellow areas related to areas that widening would take place next year.

The following comments were noted during questions, answers and related discussion:

- Current widening works taking place on Tirohanga Road was similar to that being undertaken on Poihipi Road.
- A lot of resealing work had been completed to date.
- Council thoroughly looked at all serious or fatal crashes within the district in addition to the police conducting their own investigation. Police would provide a crash report once completed. Council would attend to anything required and / or identified by the Coroner's office.
- The Infrastructure Manager had been onsite earlier in the morning; work was progressing well.
- Works were prioritised against many other rehabilitation projects, e.g Poihipi Road, Broadlands Road, etc.
- Funding limitations had an impact on the ability to remedy all depressions.
- Site 2 construction would take place outside the Tirohanga School and was scheduled for reseal next year.
- Concrete roads could be treated that it did not hold water, and the life span exceeded chip seal pavements typically used in New Zealand however, it was also a much more expensive option.

MP201905/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mrs Lisa de Thierry
Seconded: Cr Barry Hickling

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group receives the information in relation to projects planned for Tirohanga Road.

CARRIED

4.5 TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING

The Asset Manager Stormwater & Solid Waste discussed asset management planning at Taupō District Council. An explanation was given of the process and an overview of the work undertaken by Council's asset managers. Some key points noted were:

- Asset Management Planning (AMP) process was a 3-yearly process.
- Objective was to meet the required levels of service (LOS) in the most cost-effective manner.
- LOS was a balancing act; consequences needed to be considered holistically, including the impacts across the organisation and community?
- Assessment process had many AMP linkages, LOS, asset life cycle, renewal planning, determining whether the asset providing the expected outcome, and identifying who was involved.
- Infrastructure asset plans such as pipes were done over a 30-year life cycle; consideration had to be given to what the need for Council would be 30-years out.
- AMPs had the ability to be reviewed every year through the Annual Plan process; the Group could feed into that process. AMP process ensured decision-making was well documented and options were identified.
- AMPs were usually supported by various strategies / documentation and typically included a business plan, which the assets, performance and outcomes would then filter out from. Strategies included LOS, performance measures, and operations planning. Data needed to be collected and consideration given to how an asset would be funded. That information was fed back to the CEO and if approved, put into the Annual Plan.
- Asset management was an ongoing process that also supported decision-making. Anything new required a comprehensive business case including cost benefit analysis, lifecycle analysis, costs to operate, and review date.
- Condition assessments would identify whether assets were deteriorating
- Considerable time was spent undertaking due diligence, investigation and strategising.
- Feedback from the community was received through various consultation processes including the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan.
- Service requests were very useful to identify whether an asset was performing or not.

MP201905/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mrs Lisa de Thierry

Seconded: Mr Mark Seymour

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group receives the information in relation to Council's asset management planning.

CARRIED

4.6 TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL PROJECT MANAGEMENT METHODOLOGY

The Head of Operations gave an apology on behalf of the Project Management Advisor and went through his report, highlighting key points in relation to Council's approach on project management, eg. scope, delivery, time involved, key stages to be worked through, resourcing, staff / contractor and tender management (clustering work before going out to tender).

MP201905/08 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Mark Seymour

Seconded: Cr Barry Hickling

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group receives the information on project management methodology.

CARRIED

4.7 UPDATE FROM THE MANGAKINO COMMUNITY COORDINATOR

The report was taken as read and the following key points noted:

- The Show and Shine event would be held on July 13, 2019.

- The opening of the Waikato River Trails Atiamuri (just over 2km long) extension would take place on June 29, 2019. People could park in the old carpark, then walk to the shuttle. A new Cortenz sign which framed Titiraupeka maunga in the background had been installed (approximately 1.5 kilometres down from the town end of the golf course). There was an opportunity to do something similar at the swing bridge, and Atiamuri e.g story of Pohaturoa maunga. Could also re-skin the sign board at Waitomo Fuel site.

MP201905/09 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kirsty Trueman

Seconded: Cr Tangonui Kingi

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group receives the report from the Mangakino Community Led Development community coordinator.

CARRIED

4.8 COMMUNITY ISSUES

The following community issues were noted:

- An extra bus had been added to the school bus route; 'bus turning' signs were required for Poihipi and Tihoi Road's intersection. Although there was no issue with parked cars waiting for the bus, there was a BnB establishment nearby which people were also parking out front of, creating additional risk issues e.g visibility.
- There were several damaged road signs (white information type ones). The Head of Operations would pass this information on to NZTA.
- Thanked the Engineering Officer – Transportation Operations for the new local St John and fire service signs.
- A member noted that there was a section of Ranginui Road (about 1km outside of the Taupō district boundary / within Otorohanga boundary side) which had not been mowed and had only been graded twice in the 11 years she had lived in Mangakino. The Otorohanga district side of the road was beautifully kept, however this portion of road was largely neglected.
- A member had discussed the parking area entrance to the Pouakani Totara Tree walk with the District Parks Manager about Council undertaking some planting and assisting with keeping it maintained. Also acknowledged and thanked the local community member who had voluntarily been mowing and maintaining the area for some time.
- Discussions ensued regarding the pending liquidation of Mangakino Community Agency and in particular, options to continue providing NZ Post services going forward.
- Police had confirmed the condition of Tirohanga Road was not an issue in the recent crash where several lives were lost.
- A member noted that Inframax were doing a good job on the Tirohanga Road upgrades.
- A member flagged that Tirohanga residents were considering making a similar request to that of the Turangi community for a financial review on Tirohanga rates spend.
- There would be two police officers covering the Mangakino area from July 1, 2019; one of the officers lived in Taupō.

MP201905/10 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Mark Seymour

Seconded: Mrs Lisa de Thierry

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group receives the information relating to community issues.

CARRIED

4.9 MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following verbal updates were noted:

Mr Mark Seymour

- Discussed the government's stance towards reducing the country's greenhouse gas emissions, in particular methane gas from live stock.
- Waikato Regional Council was working on erosion in the general Taupō area. Part of a group in Reporoa / Broadlands area doing similar work.

MP201905/11 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mrs Lisa de Thierry

Seconded: Cr Tangonui Kingi

That the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group receives the information on members' reports.

CARRIED

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The Meeting closed at 1.02pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Mangakino/Pouakani Representative Group Meeting held on 16 July 2019.

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CHAIRPERSON