

TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TAUPŌ EAST RURAL REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE RIVER ROAD COMMUNITY HALL, RIVER ROAD, REPOROA, TAUPŌ
ON FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2020 AT 10.00AM

- PRESENT:** Cr Kylie Leonard (in the Chair), Mr Patrick Hart, Cr Anna Park, Mayor David Trewavas, Ms Evelyn Forrest
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Cr John Boddy, Head of Communications and Customer Relations, Head of Democracy, Governance and Venues, Co-Governance Manager, Democratic Services Support Officer
- MEDIA AND PUBLIC:** 11 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone and invited Ms Evelyn Forrest to open the meeting with a karakia.

Notes: (i) *Items were heard in the following order: 1-4.1, 4.5, 4.2, 4.4, 4.6*

- (ii) *Mayor David Trewavas addressed the meeting and gave apologies as he could not partake in the full meeting due to a prior commitment. He noted that the Taupō East Rural Representative Group was established to increase representation and engagement rural communities and Council and congratulated the members on their appointments to the Group.*

Mayor David Trewavas left the meeting at 10.12am and was not present for resolutions ending in 02, 04 and 06.

1 APOLOGIES

TERR202007/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Ms Evelyn Forrest

That the apology received from Mr Richard Webber be accepted.

CARRIED

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

4 REPORTS

4.1 OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chair noted that member / staff introductions were carried out during an online Zoom informal catch up of the Taupō East Rural Representative held during the Covid-19 lockdown period.

4.2 PRESENTATION: NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE FOR RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

New Zealand Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship (NZIRE) managing director Mariana van der Walt gave a

brief overview about the objectives of the NZIRE and shared information and examples in relation to developing local entrepreneurial initiatives to stimulate local growth and income opportunities in small towns and rural communities.

Ms van der Walt had extensive experience both nationally and internationally in the innovation space, including supporting the establishment of innovative business groups / community hubs and facilitating workshops within rural communities and small towns through the use of digital technologies. NZIRE could assist with sourcing funding to embed these services through commercial investors and Trust Waikato.

To conclude, members thanked Ms van der Walt for her presentation, and affirmed that creating hubs within isolated communities resonated strongly for many marae as well.

TERR202007/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Mr Patrick Hart

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group receives the information and thanks Ms Mariana van der Walt for her presentation.

CARRIED

4.3 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

The Head of Democracy, Governance & Venues briefly outlined (the two) available voting processes for the election of the chair and recommended that members use System B, which was the simplest option.

Mr Richard Webber

**Nominated by Mr Patrick Hart
Seconded by Cr Anna Park**

TERR202007/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Patrick Hart
Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group:

1. Confirms that System B be used to determine the election process for the Deputy Chairperson; and
2. Elects Mr Richard Webber as the Deputy Chairperson of the Taupō East Rural Representative Group.

CARRIED

4.4 UPDATE ON THE TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW

Senior Policy Advisor Hilary Samuel gave an overview on the Taupō District Council District Plan Review. Key points noted were:

- The District Plan set the rules for development and subdivision around the district.
- The majority of the current plan was now over 10-years old.
- Last year the government introduced new planning standards which would help provide consistency across plans throughout New Zealand.
- Rural areas were one of the first sections being reviewed. Planning standards had introduced a new zone 'rural lifestyle' blocks; size 2-4 hectares. Current data to date suggested that there was a shortage of rural lifestyle blocks however, that had to be balanced alongside protection of the natural rural environment.
- River Road and Wairakei Villages would remain as residential areas under the plan.
- Current rural zoning restrictions only permitted one dwelling per 10 hectares. However, papakainga were exempted from this rule under the existing plan. A member noted that attaining papakainga status could take considerable time. The process to change from rural to papakainga was administered by the Māori Land Court therefore Council needed to ensure that its DP process was

- also supportive of that. Papakainga was significant due to the multiple ownership of Māori lands.
- The plan should be reflective of block size eg farming sheds over 1000 square metres required resource consent, which was both unnecessary and expensive.
 - A member noted that marae had to have various resource consents and permits to operate, and that consideration should be given for the unique way many operated. For example, marae were having to meet the same standards as commercial operations in some instance. The Senior Policy Advisor noted that a new zone called the Māori Purpose Zone had been introduced under the new planning standards which would be useful to help mitigate some of those issues.
 - Aimed to notify the DP prior to the next elections in September, and have the review completed by late 2021 / early 2022.

TERR202007/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Ms Evelyn Forrest

Seconded: Mr Patrick Hart

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group receives the update on the Taupō District Council District Plan Review.

CARRIED

4.5 CONFIRMATION OF LOCATION FOR 2020 TAUPŌ EAST RURAL REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETINGS

Members discussed the proposed schedule as per the report and decided to amend the day and start time of the meeting to be the third Thursday of every second month at 6.00pm.

Lisa Nairne, head of customer relations and communication introduced herself noting that she was Council's appointed person to oversee and support the Group. She invited members of the public that wished to receive future communications pertinent to the Group to note down their email. The intention going forward was to develop an e-newsletter that would provide an overview of key topics discussed at meetings, items of interest to the rural ward, etc. The first newsletter would profile the Group members.

TERR202007/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Ms Evelyn Forrest

Seconded: Mr Patrick Hart

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group confirms that its remaining scheduled meetings for 2020 be held in the following locations:

- Rangitaiki (17 September)
- Wairakei (19 November)

CARRIED

4.6 COMMUNITY ISSUES

At the invitation of the Chair, the following issues were noted by members of the public.

- Widening Broadlands Road: link existing narrower portions of Broadlands Road to sections that have already been widened. Particularly dangerous during increase of cyclists on the road training for events.
- Install a footpath through the River Road residential area as there was a safety issue with cars coming around bends and pedestrians walking on the road, especially mothers with prams.
- Requested new equipment for the River Road playground, especially for older children as current equipment was mostly for under 5s.
- Residents advised that at a meeting with Council staff a few years ago they were promised two picnic tables for playground area. Weekly soccer games drew large crowds to the area so would be helpful

- to have tables so people could sit and eat.
- There were tree branches from a private property overhanging on to Broadlands Road and creating a safety issue. The trees were located at the perma-pine straight just before Whites Road.
 - Kerbing was needed to channel water to a storm water drain and soak hole on River Road. The area was prone to excessive flooding during heavy rain events due to no kerbing to channel water towards existing storm water collection points.
 - Request from residents for recycle bins and collection service (for same). In reply, the Head of Communications and Customer Relations noted that she would arrange for staff to provide an update at a future meeting on Council's Waste Minimisation Management Plan (WMMP).
 - Hall bookings coordinator John Turnbull advised of maintenance issues in the hall; rotten timber on outside of hall at kitchen end; no insulation so very cold in winter; main entrance door buckled and locks needed replacing; locks inside toilet doors were not working; sliding door on disability toilet jamming and needed repairing; re-paint required; hot tap over sink not working (could not turn on / off).
 - A member asked about Council's plans to manage sewage taking into consideration future population growth on the northern side of river at Nukuhau, Acacia Bay, as the main treatment was via the southern side of Waikato River. In reply, the Head of Communications and Customer Relations advised that she would make arrangements for an update to be provided at a future meeting.

TERR202007/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Mr Patrick Hart

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group receives the information relating to community issues.

CARRIED

4.7 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cr Kylie Leonard noted that Taupō District Council had objected to Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 under the criteria that related to stormwater and disposal of the town's effluent out to Broadlands. Although Council's consent would still have the existing restrictions in place the Broadlands network - which would now come under farming - would be subject to more stringent requirements. Appeals to the Plan Change needed to be submitted by July 7, 2020. Encouraged conversations about this; people were able to piggy-back on the submission of other individuals or organisations.

Member Evelyn Forrest requested that Council lead from the front and fit in with the vision and strategy for the Waikato River. Council needed to ensure that there were sufficient plans in place for sewerage to accommodate future expansion on the northern side of the River at Nukuhau, Acacia Bay, etc; the main centralised treatment plant was quite close to the River. These concerns were shared by everyone and not just Iwi. In reply, the Head of Communications and Customer Relations gave an update on Council's efforts to date in addressing the issues and undertook to arrange for staff to provide an update on this at the next Group meeting. Additionally, the Co-Governance Manager advised that Council's infrastructure team would also be having targeted conversations about this with Iwi partners.

TERR202007/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Mr Patrick Hart

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group receives the information on members' reports.

CARRIED

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 11.43am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Taupo East Rural Representative Group Meeting held on 17 September 2020.

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CHAIRPERSON