

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TURANGI/TONGARIRO COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE BOARDROOM, TURANGI SERVICE CENTRE, TOWN CENTRE, TURANGI
ON WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2020 AT 2.00PM**

- PRESENT:** Miss Amanda Maclaren (in the Chair), Mr Ian Ashmore, Mr Clint Green, Mrs Donna Searancke, Mr Robert Severne, Cr Tangonui Kingi, Cr John Mack
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Cr John Williamson, Chief Executive, Head of Economic Development and Business Transformation, Head of Communications and Customer Relations, Head of Community, Culture and Heritage, Head of Democracy, Governance and Venues, Infrastructure Manager, Customer Relations Manager – Turangi, Senior Communications Advisor, Democratic Services Support Officer
- MEDIA AND PUBLIC:** 7 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone and Cr Tangonui Kingi opened the meeting with a karakia.

- Notes:
- (i) *Items were heard in the following order: 1-4.3, 4.5-46, 44*
 - (ii) *Agenda item 4.4 'Extraordinary Vacancy on the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board (Tongariro Subdivision) was moved to the end of the meeting and the matter discussed in confidence. Upon conclusion, the item was released from confidence.*
 - (iii) *Cr John Mack left the meeting at 2.08pm during item 4.2 'Urban HQ Proposal' and re-entered the meeting at the conclusion of the item at 2.30pm.*

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were noted from Mayor David Trewavas and Cr Anna Park.

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr John Mack - item 4.2 'Urban HQ Proposal'

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 TURANGI/TONGARIRO COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING - 3 JUNE 2020

TT202007/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Robert Severne
Seconded: Cr Tangonui Kingi

That the minutes of the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board meeting held on Wednesday 3 June 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4 REPORTS

4.1 CURRENT ACTION POINTS

The following updates were noted:

- Typographical error recorded in the action sheet – replace Colin Baker with Ross Baker.

- Workshop to be scheduled to progress Turangi to Taupō (T2T) bike trail discussions, update and finalise the community plan and vision (noted that many changes had occurred as a result of the covid lockdown), and discuss land availability in Turangi.
- Town gymnasium renewals work was on hold until outcome of Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP) 'shovel ready' applications were known. The Chief Executive commented on the \$20m CIP funding already confirmed for the Taupō Town Centre project noting that although this funding was specifically allocated to that project, all pending successful CIP applications should be considered a win for the entire district as these projects were already factored into Council's Long-Term Plan (LTP) budgets and therefore could be redistributed to other areas.
- Zoom meeting with Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL) and Destination Great Lake Taupō (DGLT) scheduled for 9 July – remove item.
- In reply to a question, the Head of Communications and Customer Relations advised that pre-consultation on the LTP would take place in August. Community feedback had also been received through the Regenerate Taupō District initiative and user satisfaction surveys that were currently underway.

TT202007/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tangonui Kingi

Seconded: Mr Robert Severne

That the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board receives the action points update.

CARRIED

4.2 URBAN HQ PROPOSAL

The Head of Economic Development and Business Transformation highlighted that the main challenge with the proposal was that the status of the proposed site was legal road therefore fundamentally it could not be leased therefore a Licence to Occupy (LTO) would be required. Additionally, careful consideration needed to be given to the town mall retailers who would likely have varying viewpoints. Engagement with mana whenua hapu Ngāti Turangitukua was also strongly encouraged, which the developers Comack Properties Ltd had already committed to undertaking.

A member noted that a 9-year lease (3 + 3 + 3) was too short and did not provide adequate comfort and security for Comack in terms of their financial investment for a development of this scale. In reply, the Chief Executive noted that it would be negligent for Council to commit to a longer term as a lot could change in 9 years. Decisions in relation to future lease renewal would be devolved to the Council in-situ at that time.

The Head of Community, Culture and Heritage reiterated that although there was no legal obligation for Council to consult Ngāti Turangitukua on this proposal, out of respect for their respective relationship as Treaty partners this engagement was important.

With the leave of the Chair Comack partner Zane Cozens reiterated that the developers wanted the full support of the community, and gave a brief update on public feedback and interest received he had received since the presenting the initial proposal.

The Head of Economic Development and Business Transformation undertook to collate feedback from key stakeholders and the wider community and report back to the Board at its August meeting for a decision / recommendation to Council for consideration at its meeting on August 25.

TT202007/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tangonui Kingi

Seconded: Mr Ian Ashmore

That THE TURANGI/TONGARIRO COMMUNITY BOARD:

1. supports in principle the proposal, and
2. requires direct communication with affected parties including key stakeholders and wider communication with the community prior to making a recommendation to Council.

CARRIED

4.3 116 TAUPAHI ROAD - REQUEST TO PURCHASE ROAD RESERVE

The Infrastructure Manager took the item as read and briefly outlined the history relating to the road reserve which was currently not required for road purposes.

Fernwood Investments Limited director and owner of 116 Taupahi Road Mr Clint Nel and co-owner Mrs Andrea Nel were in attendance. Both made additional comments in relation to this request and answered questions from members.

Ensuing discussions centred around the importance of seeking feedback from Taupahi Road property owners and Ngāti Turangitukua, with the suggested resolution subsequently amended to reflect give effect to this.

TT202007/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tangonui Kingi

Seconded: Mr Ian Ashmore

That the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board directs officers to undertake further consultation and seek feedback in relation to the request from affected parties, key stakeholders, and the wider community including Taupahi Road property owners and Ngāti Turangitukua, for further consideration by the Board.

CARRIED

4.4 EXTRAORDINARY VACANCY ON TURANGI/TONGARIRO COMMUNITY BOARD (TONGARIRO SUBDIVISION)

TT202007/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tangonui Kingi

Seconded: Mr Robert Severne

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the local government official information and meetings act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Agenda Item No: 4.4 Extraordinary Vacancy on Turangi/Tongariro Community Board (Tongariro Subdivision)	Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	Section 48(1)(a)(i)- the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7

That, pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board moves that the public be excluded this part of the proceedings of this meeting due to privacy reasons.

.CARRIED

The Head of Community, Culture and Heritage outlined the process of engagement staff had followed in response to the Board's original request to invite Ngāti Turangitukua to nominate a suitable person for the vacancy. Ngāti Turangitukua subsequently declined that offer and – at the next instruction of the Board – officers extended the invitation to all marae within the Turangi/Tongariro Ward and undertook a series of workshops and hui. This resulted in the endorsement by 7 marae chairpersons of Mr Te Takinga New as the preferred nominee.

TT202007/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Ian Ashmore

Seconded: Mr Clint Green

That the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board:

1. pursuant to section 117A of the Local Electoral Act 2001, appoints Te Takinga New, being a suitably qualified person in the Turangi/-Tongariro community, to fill the vacancy on the Tongariro subdivision of the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board for the remainder of the 2019-2022 triennium; and,
2. notes that the criteria by which Te Takinga New was selected for appointment was as follows:
 - third highest polling candidate in the October 2019 Local Government Elections for the Turangi/Tongariro Ward Councillor
 - previous community board experience from 2013-2019
 - proactive involvement and whakapapa links (genealogical connections) to various marae within the Turangi/Tongariro Ward
 - understanding of Tikanga Māori and proficiency in Te Reo
 - endorsed by 7 local marae chairs within ngā hapū o Te Mātāpuna.

CARRIED

TT202007/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tangonui Kingi

Seconded: Mr Clint Green

That the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board releases the above item from confidence.

CARRIED

4.5 UPDATE ON TURANGI PROJECTS AND OPERATIONS

The following key points were noted:

- The first meeting of a steering group comprising Council staff, community board members and Ngāti Turangitukua representatives to oversee the upgrade of Turangitukua Park would take place on 15 July. The group members were Mrs Donna Searancke and Cr John Mack - TTCB, Mr Te Takinga New - Ngāti Turangitukua Charitable Trust, and Matua Jeff Bennet – chair of the Ngāti Turangitukua Maori Committee.
- The tree obscuring the town CCTV cameras located by the (former) ANZ building had been transplanted.
- The Board approved a request from Turangi Foodbank for two heat pumps in their premises at the Senior Citizens Hall which was leased from Council. All other renewals work at the Senior Citizens Hall eg painting, etc, bar essential maintenance / repairs were to be put on hold pending the outcome of the CIP shovel-ready applications. This decision would be reviewed at a later date.
- As at 1 July the Turangi and Taupō i-Site operations were under Council management. The Head of Communications and Customer Relations had met with Dave Wallace from the Volcanic Activity Centre and was yet to meet with Dave Lumley from the Department of Conservation to discuss the possibility of a merge to better enhance services for the community, as well as trialling Sunday opening hours for the month of July.
- \$300k that was set aside for the Gateway Project to revamp the Pihanga Road entrance into Turangi had been moved to the current year budgets. The Head of Community, Culture and Heritage advised that partnership conversations for this project and the Te Kapua Park playground upgrade would continue with

Ngāti Turangitukua. In reply, a member noted that with domestic tourism being the main offerings from an economical perspective post Covid there was even more urgency for these projects to get underway as soon as possible.

TT202007/08 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Mack

Seconded: Cr Tangonui Kingi

That the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board receives the update on Turangi Projects and Operations as at July 1, 2020.

CARRIED

4.6 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Mr Rob Severne continued to answer and direct enquiries from the community. He had been invited to assist His Worship with cutting the ribbon for the Turangi Property Brokers opening, and had also assisted with the removal and transplanting of the tree blocking the cameras at the (former) ANZ building.

Cr John Mack had attended various council meetings and workshops. He asked that the Board be forwarded Council agendas as discussions often had relevance to Turangi. Cr Mack had responded to the email about the closure of Tokaanu Marina and advised the writer that it was a matter out of the Board's control. In reply, the Chief Executive concurred noting that the time had passed to be able to change anything. The decision was made by Local Government Minister Hon. Nanaia Mahuta following consultation with affected parties including The Tokaanu Maritime Trust, boat owners / users including Mr Te Takinga New representing waka ama users, and other expert consultants. All stakeholders were kept informed throughout the process, with some joining site visits that the Chief Executive had also attended.

Mrs Donna Searancke continued to work alongside local sporting clubs and the strategic partnerships advisor regarding the Rural Travel Fund.

Ms Amanda Maclaren acknowledged and thanked the King Country Electric Power Trust (KCEPT) for their generous donation of (a minimum) of \$100-off The Lines Company (TLC) bills for the month of June for all beneficiaries within the KCEPT area and the \$500k granted to the Tūwharetoa St John. Additional thanks was also given to TLC who wiped all variable charges for its customers during April.

Ms Maclaren had also been approached from a flags-track company representative who had provided flags for many towns around New Zealand including some in Taupō, and requested that this be included in Gateway Projects discussions as the flags were a good practical product that anyone could put up and take down.

In reply to comments asking if Council had any leverage to minimise the visual impacts of Sparks recently installed cell tower at Motuoapa (which had also brought no improvements in mobile reception) the Chief Executive explained that there had been a similar situation with a cell tower at Rainbow Point whereby Council had approached Spark on behalf of concerned residents however they were not prepared to make any changes. Regarding cell reception, Council had advocated on black spots along State Highway 1 between Turangi and Taupō for some years. The upcoming rollout of the ultra-fast broadband should realise some improvements.

Mr Ian Ashmore had planted new trees around his surrounding neighbourhood, including three trees donated by Council to replace some silver birch trees that were removed. In reply to a query regarding a gum tree that had been removed at Waitetoko, the Head of Economic Development and Business Transformation advised that he had made enquiries and Council staff and contractors were not involved in the removal of this tree. The Chief Executive added that any information passed on to Council identifying person/s responsible in the intentional removal of a tree on public land would be followed up.

Cr Tangonui Kingi noted that although he appreciated the Minister's decision and understood that wider consultation had taken place in relation to the Tokaanu Marina closure, his primary concern was who / what would replace the services and support provided by the Maritime Trust with the positive engagement of local youth through water-based activities. In response, the Chief Executive suggested that it would be beneficial for the harbourmaster to attend the next Board meeting to further clarify and explain how and why the decision to close the marina was ultimately made.

Discussions between Safe Turangi and Turangi Police regarding changes to the police presence in town were progressing well. An update on this would be provided at a later date.

The Head of Community, Culture and Heritage advised that security personnel at the Turangi Public Library was ending and all library staff across the district had undertaken extra training in the security space.

TT202007/09 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Mack

Seconded: Mr Ian Ashmore

That the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board receives the members' reports.

CARRIED

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed with a karakia from Mr Rob Severne at 4.10pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board Meeting held on 5 August 2020.

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CHAIRPERSON