

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON TUESDAY, 30 MAY 2023 AT 1.00PM**

PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Karam Fletcher, Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Kylie Leonard, Cr Danny Loughlin, Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin, Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kevin Taylor, Cr Kirsty Trueman, Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Chief Executive, General Manager Operations and Delivery, General Manager People and Customer, Legal, Risk and Governance Manager, Finance Manager, Events and Venues Manager, Project Management Office Manager, Environmental Services Manager, Communications Manager, People and Culture Manager, Policy Manager, Executive Manager to the Mayor, Asset Manager Water, Museum and Library Manager, District Events Manager, Events and Contracts Lead, Senior Solicitor, Manager Asset Information, Policy Advisors (2), Digital Content Creator, Governance Quality Manager

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: Audit New Zealand representative, Mr Leon Pieterse

1 KARAKIA

Cr Karam Fletcher recited an opening karakia.

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

Nil

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr John Williamson declared he had a conflict of interest in relation to confidential agenda item 6.1. He abstained from discussion and voting in relation to that item.

Cr Yvonne Westerman declared an interest in the urgent late item 5.9.

URGENT LATE ITEM - GRANT OF EASEMENT TO UNISON NETWORKS LIMITED OVER LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVE - SEVEN OAKS, KINLOCH

TDC202305/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That, pursuant to section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the following item be added to the agenda and dealt with at this meeting as it was not available at the time the agenda was circulated, and consideration of the item is a matter of urgency, requiring a decision without delay.

- *Grant of Easement to Unison Networks Limited over Local Purpose Reserve – Seven Oaks, Kinloch*

CARRIED

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 27 APRIL 2023

TDC202305/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday 27 April 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5 NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE ME NGĀ WHAKATAUNGA | POLICY AND DECISION MAKING

5.1 MEMBERS' PORTFOLIO UPDATES

Elected Members shared the following updates:

Cr Christine Rankin

- Two issues facing the business community were finding staff; and accommodating staff.
- Thanked Council staff for their support of the Kinloch Representative Group. The information provided at the meeting held on 11 May 2023 was excellent and remarked upon favourably by a member of the audience from Wellington.

Cr Rachel Shepherd

- Attended an informal catch up with a group of local sportspeople interested in establishing a sports hub facility. More information would be provided in due course.

Cr Karam Fletcher

- Thanked Council staff for their proactive approach in the rangatahi support space. He was unable to attend a Taupō Youth Network meeting the day before (29 May) due to Annual Plan hearings, but understood that a kaitiaki group was being established to help steer the direction of the Taupō Youth Network.

Cr Kirsty Trueman

- Had received good feedback from members of the public in Mangakino about Council staff supporting less mobile members of the community with ramps. More funding for footpaths was in the pipeline too, which would make it easier for people to access the lake, river trails and the cemetery in Mangakino.
- Mangakino School had requested that surplus school buildings be transferred to Council to manage as a community facility.
- Attended a meeting with the owners of the Bus Stop Café to thank them for their service to the community. A bunch of flowers had been presented on behalf of Council.

Cr Yvonne Westerman

- Attended the Acacia Bay Residents' Association monthly meeting.
- Attended a Waiora House Trust meeting.
- Attended a Waipahihi Botanical Society meeting.

Cr Danny Loughlin

- Advised that Greening Taupō was holding a planting day on Friday 2 June 2023 at Crown Park.

Cr Kevin Taylor

- Council was working with Police and Towncentre Taupō to address CCTV issues in the Taupō central business district. There were examples of excellence around the Bay of Plenty region which could be replicated in Taupō.

Cr Anna Park

- Attended a Probus meeting in Tūrangi.
- Attended the Powertalk NZ Conference held in Taupō from 19 to 21 May 2023.
- Joined the Mayor and Acting Chief Executive to welcome the Chinese Consul to New Zealand and delegation to Taupō. A great discussion was had.
- Attended a Pink Ribbon breakfast event in support of the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation.
- Attended the King's Coronation event in Taupō on 6 May 2023.
- Attended a recent Mayor's coffee catch up at the Fine Fettle café; the event was well attended.

Cr Kylie Leonard

- Awaken Café Reporoa was hosting a fundraiser for Linda Forrest on Friday 2 June. Linda had recently been diagnosed with cancer and the community was coming together to support her.
- The Tirohanga Matariki Ball would take place on 1 July 2023; a great annual event to support.
- Waikato Regional Council was considering its freshwater policy. This would be discussed at meetings in Taupō and at Titoki Marae near Reporoa on 21 and 22 June 2023.
- The recent downgrade in the milk price would negatively affect the rural economy.
- Condolences were sent to the families of recent road fatalities in the Taupō East Rural Ward.
- Gypsy Day would take place the following day (31 May 2023).
- Permapine was looking for community projects to support.
- Expressed concerns about potential negative impacts on local schools of Ministry of Education re-zoning.

Cr Duncan Campbell

- Attended the new Crown Park pump track opening with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on 17 May 2023. This was a wonderful facility for the community.

Cr Sandra Greenslade

- Attended a bi-monthly Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee workshop on 3 May 2023 at which the Mana Whakahono workplan was discussed. The Committee had also made a submission on Council's draft Annual Plan 2023/24.
- Met with the Chairperson of the Omori-Kuratau Ratepayers Association on 5 May 2023 to discuss ongoing issues relating to erosion and lake levels. The erosion committee was working hard in conjunction with Council staff.
- Attended the Electricity New Zealand Conference on 11 and 12 May 2023. Climate change and emissions reductions were key topics discussed.
- Attended the dawn opening ceremony for Te Mataapuna in Tūrangi.
- Attended the opening of the Tūrangi St Johns Ambulance Garage on 13 May 2023. The Mayor also attended and it was a beautiful day.
- Chaired the Tongariro Representative Group meeting held on 17 May at the Motuoapa Fishing and Boating Club. Cr Karam Fletcher had been elected the Deputy Chairperson of the Group.
- Attended a Massey University volcanic risk hui on 17 May.
- Attended the Omori-Kuratau Pink Ribbon brunch at which \$3k was raised for the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation.
- Advised that the Tūrangi Aero Club had recently entertained a Korean film crew, with kaumātua support.
- Advised that the New Zealand Banking Association's Tūrangi banking hub trial had unfortunately been cancelled due to lack of a suitable building meeting earthquake standards.
- Attended the Tūrangi BA5 at Bayleys with Cr Yvonne Westerman; a nice evening.

- Advised that Tūrangi had recently featured on the ITM fishing television show.

TDC202305/08 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Kylie Leonard

That Council receives the portfolio updates from members.

CARRIED

5.2 ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

The Finance Manager and the Audit New Zealand representative, Mr Leon Pieterse were present.

Mr Pieterse introduced himself and advised that although the audit of the Taupō District Council Annual Report 2021/22 had been completed late, this was no reflection on Council staff or management. The delay was due to auditor shortages. The draft Annual Report 2021/22 and supporting information had been presented to the Risk & Assurance Committee earlier in the month. A new auditor had been appointed to complete the audit of the Audit Report 2022/23 by 31 October 2023.

His Worship the Mayor, David Trewavas thanked Mr Pieterse for his work auditing Taupō District Council documents over the years.

Deputy Chairperson of the Risk & Assurance Committee, Cr Danny Loughlin confirmed that the Committee had recommended adoption of the Annual Report 2021/22.

TDC202305/09 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council:

1. receives the report of Jeanette Paenga, Finance Manager, titled Adoption of the Annual Report 2021/22; and
2. pursuant to section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002, and on the recommendation of the Risk and Assurance Committee, Council considers the 2021/22 Annual Report and any further amendments to be agreed at the meeting, Council adopts and approves publication of the Taupō District Council Annual Report 2021/22; and
3. pursuant to section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002, and on the recommendation of the Risk and Assurance Committee, Council considers the 2021/22 Summary Annual Report and any further amendments to be agreed at the meeting, Council adopts and approves publication of the Taupō District Council Summary Annual Report 2021/22.

CARRIED

5.3 BUDGET SUBSTITUTION FOR ATIAMURI & WAIHAHA WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

The Asset Manager Water summarised the proposal and answered questions. The following points were noted:

- Good progress was still being made on the Hatepe Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand project. However, the currently budgeted \$1.2m would not be spent within timeframes, hence the proposal to transfer the funding to other projects.
- The Hatepe project would be included in the Long-term Plan 2024/34. Council staff would continue to work with land owners, residents, the Department of Conservation and local hapū.

- The Atiamuri and Waihaha Plant Upgrade projects were the next two projects on the list of six projects (with River Road and Whakamaru already completed). If approved, it was estimated that the sites would be operational in one year.
- The Tirohanga and Whareroa projects would follow with funding to be requested through the Long-term Plan 2024/34.
- Prices had increased significantly since the projects were initially planned in 2020/21.
- The projects did include contingencies. It was difficult to forecast accurately in the current environment.

TDC202305/10 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kylie Leonard
Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That Council approves a budget transfer of \$1,014,000 (one million and fourteen thousand) within the Waters activity from the Hatepe Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand (DWSNZ) project to the Atiamuri and Waihaha Plant Upgrade Projects to enable completion of these projects.

CARRIED

5.4 ARTS AND CULTURE AND NGĀ TOI ACTION PLAN

The Events and Venues Manager presented the Arts and Culture and Ngā Toi Action Plan for receipt. He agreed with comments from a member, that work would now commence on delivering the 37 actions. The next step would be going back to those who contributed to the Action Plan. Some of the actions could be delivered by the community.

His Worship the Mayor thanked the Events and Venues Manager and the independent strategist, Ms Nicola Harvey, for their work on the Action Plan.

TDC202305/11 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor
Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council

1. receives the Taupō District Arts, Culture & Ngā Toi Action Plan, 2022 (Objective reference A3320808); and
2. revokes the Lake Taupō District Cultural Development Strategy (September 2004).

CARRIED

5.5 TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT - APRIL 2023

The Acting Chief Executive introduced the report, highlighting the current draft Annual Plan 2023/24 process; the Poolsafe accreditation process recently completed for AC Baths and the Tūrangi Turtle Pools; and the start of the construction of Te Whare Hono o Tūwharetoa, the building in which Council would be a tenant.

The Finance Manager summarised the organisation's financial performance as detailed in the report. In answer to a question, she advised that Council's Taupō Electricity Ltd (TEL) fund shares were revalued every month.

In answer to a question, the Acting Chief Executive advised that external contractors were being used in the parks and reserves team, due to ongoing effects on that team's operations as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle. The General Manager Operations and Delivery added that those contracts were competitively tested and negotiated.

The Project Management Office Manager introduced the Manager Asset Information, who provided an overview of the SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) upgrade project. This was the central network environment monitoring and controlling Council's 18 water treatment plants, 11 wastewater

treatment plants and other equipment throughout the district.

The Manager Asset Information answered questions as follows:

- There were communications challenges around the network, especially at remote sites, but different solutions (for example radio) were available and used to fix issues.
- No one communications provider could provide perfect coverage. Starlink was an option, but it was not cheap and back up would still be required.

TDC202305/12 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Karam Fletcher

That Council notes the information contained in the Performance Report for the month of April 2023.

CARRIED

5.6 2022-2025 WAIKATO TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT

The Policy Advisor summarised the report and key elements of the Waikato Triennial Agreement, confirming that there were no legal ramifications as a result of adopting the Agreement after the statutory deadline.

TDC202305/13 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council adopts the 2022-2025 Waikato Triennial Agreement attached to the agenda.

CARRIED

5.7 AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS - CLAUSE 15

Members agreed to amend Standing Orders as proposed, with an additional amendment to the fifth bullet point in clauses 15.2 and 16.2, being inclusion of “/or” after “and”.

TDC202305/14 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That Council amends its Standing Orders to include the following new clause:

- **Clause 15.5 Application of restrictions I Te hāngaitanga o ngā Herenga**

Clause 15.2 above applies to members of the public addressing meetings at any time, not just as part of a scheduled public forum session; and

Inclusion of “/or” after the word “and” in the fifth bullet point contained in clauses 15.2 and 16.2.

CARRIED

5.8 COUNCIL ENGAGEMENTS JUNE 2023 AND CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Governance Quality Manager advised that two additional engagements had been added to the list for June 2023, being a 'thank you' morning tea for Tidy Taupō volunteers and a catch up with Waikato Regional Cr Mike Downard, both on the morning of Tuesday 27 June 2023.

She also advised that Cr Karam Fletcher had asked to attend the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference, along with His Worship the Mayor and Crs Duncan Campbell and Rachel Shepherd. Cr Fletcher added that he would already be in Christchurch attending the Te Maruata hui prior to the LGNZ AGM and Conference. Members approved Cr Fletcher's attendance at the AGM and Conference.

TDC202305/15 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That Council:

1. Receives the information relating to engagements for June 2023; and
2. Approves the attendance of Cr Karam Fletcher at the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting and Conference taking place in Christchurch on Wednesday 26 July 2023, with costs of attendance, flights and accommodation to be paid by Council.

CARRIED

5.9 GRANT OF EASEMENT TO UNISON NETWORKS LIMITED OVER LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVE - SEVEN OAKS, KINLOCH

TDC202305/16 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kylie Leonard

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That Council grants Ministerial consent to the grant of easements in gross in favour of Unison for rights to convey electricity and to convey telecommunications over Lot 305 DP 586278 Local Purpose Reserve (Stormwater, Wastewater) pursuant to section 48(1) of the Reserves Act 1977, and authorises the Acting Chief Executive and Mayor to sign the requisite consent certificate on behalf of Council.

CARRIED

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

TDC202305/17 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

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 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
<p>Agenda Item No: 6.1 Lake Taupō Cycle Challenge 2023-24</p>	<p>Section 7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Agenda Item No: 6.2 Extension to Events Budget – Major Events Funding</p>	<p>Section 7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information</p> <p>Section 7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable [the Council] to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Agenda Item No: 6.3 Confirmation of Confidential Portion of Council Minutes - 20 April 2023</p>	<p>Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Agenda Item No: 6.4 Appointment of Taupō District Council Chief Executive</p>	<p>Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p>	<p>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</p>

CARRIED

Note: The following resolution was made with the public excluded but was released shortly after the meeting so can therefore appear in the public part of the minutes:

6.4 APPOINTMENT OF TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL CHIEF EXECUTIVE

TDC202305/C18 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Yvonne Westerman

Seconded: Cr Kirsty Trueman

1. That, pursuant to s 24 of the Local Government Act 2002, Council appoints Mrs Julie Gardyne to the position of Principal Administrative Officer / Chief Executive of Taupō District Council for a term of three (3) years, subject to the negotiation of mutually accepted terms and conditions.
2. That Council delegates the finalisation of the individual employment agreement to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.
3. That the above resolutions be released from confidence once the employment agreement has been signed.

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 3.08pm with a karakia from Cr Karam Fletcher.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the ordinary Council meeting held on 27 June 2023.

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CHAIRPERSON