

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON MONDAY, 29 JULY 2024 AT 9.00AM**

PRESENT: Cr Kevin Taylor (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Sandra Greenslade (until 4.56pm), Cr Kylie Leonard (until 4.35pm), Cr Danny Loughlin, Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin, Cr Rachel Shepherd (from 9.01am), Cr Kirsty Trueman, Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (L O'Brien), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services (T Hale), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Project Management Office Manager (P Fletcher via MS Teams), Iwi and Co-Governance Manager (D Rameka via MS Teams), Community Development and Engagement Manager (H Tattle via MS Teams), District Customer Relations Manager (T Russell via MS Teams), Executive Manager Mayor's Office (J Later), Resource Consents Manager (H Williams), Team Leader Corporate Planning (A Smith), Senior Policy Advisor (K Goode), Senior Policy Advisor (P Caruana via MS Teams), Senior Project Manager (P Bradshaw via MS Teams), Asset Manager Transportation (C Sharland via MS Teams), Team Lead – Transportation Operations (I Cruz via MS Teams), Project Manager – Stakeholder Specialist (T Perry via MS Teams), Policy Advisor (A Wilson), Policy Advisor (H Wood via MS Teams), Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor (B Forlong via MS Teams), Community Development Advisor (A Hendricks via MS Teams), Community Engagement Advisor – Northern Taupō District (C Dredge via MS Teams), Community Engagement Advisor (R Prisk via MS Teams), Infrastructure Project Manager – Operations (E May via MS Teams), Programme Manager (J Walton via MS Teams), Senior Analyst – Business Transformation (T Paget), Team Leader Customer Support Tūrangi and Mangakino (J Cathro via MS Teams), Governance Quality Manager (S James), Senior Technical Support Analyst (N Ramos), Committee Advisor (N Turnbull), People and Culture Advisor (A Matthews via MS Teams), Senior Customer and Business Support Officer (N Donaldson via MS Teams), Business Support Officer (K Foden via MS Teams), Road Safety Coordinator (S Wraight via MS Teams), Legal and Governance Coordinator (D Periam), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: 67 members of the public over the course of the day.

- Notes:
- (i) Cr Danny Loughlin opened and closed the meeting with the Taupō District Council karakia.
 - (ii) Cr Rachel Shepherd entered the meeting at 9.01am. She was not present for resolution TDC202407/01.
 - (iii) Chair Cr Kevin Taylor added resolution TDC202407/01 to deal with the meeting duration.
 - (iv) Cr Christine Rankin left the meeting at 12.25pm. She returned via MS Teams when the meeting reconvened at 12.43pm.
 - (v) Cr Kylie Leonard left the meeting at 4.35pm and Cr Sandra Greenslade left the meeting at 4.56pm.

1 KARAKIA**2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES****TDC202407/02 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor
Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That the apologies received from His Worship the Mayor David Trewavas, Crs Karam Fletcher and Yvonne Westerman (for absence) and from Cr Rachel Shepherd (for lateness) be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/02 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Danny Loughlin noted that he was a trustee for the Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board.

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

5 NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE ME NGĀ WHAKATAUNGA | POLICY AND DECISION MAKING**TDC202407/03 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin
Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council continues the Council Meeting Long-Term Plan Hearings and Deliberations which commenced from 9am Monday 29 July 2024:

1. Beyond six hours per meeting day, and
2. For more than two continuous hours without breaks per meeting day as required.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/03 above.

5.1 LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34 HEARINGS AND DELIBERATIONS REPORT

Chair Cr Kevin Taylor acknowledged the council staff that had worked tirelessly, it had been a monumental effort.

The Senior Policy Advisor informed members how the meeting would work for the week. She explained that Monday and Tuesday would be for hearings and was a chance for members to seek clarification from submitters speaking to their submissions. The reports attached to the meeting agenda contained officer advice which was expected to change and could be expanded over the course of the week. It was intended as advice and did not predetermine any decisions.

The Senior Policy Advisor asked that members accept the submissions and the late submissions before the hearings commenced. All submissions had been provided to members via Diligent Boards and were also available on the Council website via this [link](#).

TDC202407/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That Council:

1. Receives, considers, and where requested, hears, pursuant to sections 82 and 93 of the Local Government Act 2002 submissions on the Long-term Plan 2024-34, with the written submissions provided on Council's website; and
2. Accepts the four late submissions provided on Council's website.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/04 above.

Chair Cr Kevin Taylor advised that the emphasis was on hearing from submitters and that members were present to receive information. He reminded the public who were at the meeting presenting their submission that members could ask them questions of clarification. Each speaker would be given five minutes, then a bell would sound and there could be follow up questions from members.

The following submitters spoke to their submissions, with additional points as noted.

1380 – Ms Elena Mendez-Gray

Ms Mendez-Gray supported the submission made by the Wairakei Community Group and shared a video from her son with members (A3602647). In answer to questions from members, she asked that the access from Wairakei Village across State Highway 1 and State Highway 5 be accessible for pedestrians and cyclists, and safe. Her submission represented all age groups, in particular children and the elderly.

1087 – Ms Carolyn Hedly, Kinloch Village Golf Club

Ms Hedley shared a handout (A3602662) with members to support her submission and shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3602665), both for the weather-proofing and upgrading of the club buildings.

She confirmed that Council staff had supported her and the Club to apply for alternative funding. The membership cost was currently \$350 per year, non members paid \$25 green fees.

1332 – Mr Mark Wynyard, Taupō East Rural Representative Group

Mr Wynyard added that Broadlands Road improvements should include widening to an extra 1 metre on either side for tractors to travel down, plus unofficial slip roads for those turning off. He asked that there be a slip road added before entering the Broadlands Landfill from the north to make it safer.

1068 – Ms Hannah Lightfoot and Ms Catriona Eagles, Taupō Hotel Apartment Ltd (THAL)

Ms Eagles highlighted that Taupō Hotel Apartment Limited supported the footpath upgrade project, particularly between Napier and Crown Roads.

1391 – Ms Hannah Lightfoot and Ms Catriona Eagles, Acacia Views Limited

Ms Eagles highlighted that Acacia Views Limited supported the proposed funding for the wastewater and transport projects within Taupō North, Acacia Bay and Mapara Catchment and urged that these works be completed in the intended timeframes or sooner.

617 – Ms Hannah Lightfoot and Ms Catriona Eagles, Cheal Consultants Ltd

In response to questions from members, Ms Lightfoot clarified the following:

- A reduction in the Development Contributions charges for smaller dwellings based on the number of bedrooms rather than the coverage of the dwelling could incentivise developers to build smaller dwellings and meet increasing demand for smaller, more affordable dwellings.
- The reduction should not apply to parks and reserves but rather to the infrastructure such as water and wastewater which would be impacted less by a two bedroom dwelling.

1419 - Mr Ron McPhail, Kinloch Community Association

Mr McPhail clarified the following:

- The Kinloch Community Association (KCA) members did not support the proposal for the

kindergarten and community services building at Seven Oaks due to the lack of safety at the roundabout and the limited parking. The KCA members believed there were better alternatives.

- 60 people responded to the survey that was attached to the KCA submission.

1191 – Ms Kelly Schmidt

Ms Schmidt asked members if there would be a choice of bags or bins and noted that many holiday home owners would not use the bins. She supported food waste collection but noted that the containers should have a weighted lid or bottom to prevent them blowing down the street.

977 – Ms Amanda West, and boardmember Mr Tom Loughlin, Destination Great Lake Taupō Board

Ms West advised that she could provide data and research to support the submission if required. Mr Loughlin advised that Council and Destination Great Lake Taupō (DGLT) were on the same waka and that DGLT wanted to keep the relationship strong and keep finding a way forward.

The following was clarified:

- Business partnerships were the only entities that paid levies to DGLT and these were only for business events.
- Central government funding that had been provided after the COVID-19 lockdown would not be provided in the future.
- It was difficult to track the tourism figures which overall were down since before the COVID-19 pandemic. However, while international tourist numbers were down, they were staying for longer.

964 – Mr Rick Keehan and Ms Jo Bransgrove, Amplify

Ms Bransgrove shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603222) to support the submission.

The following was clarified for members:

- Short-term accommodation providers that were not regulated (such as Air BnB) should be commercially rated to ensure fairness across accommodation providers.
- Amplify had lobbied central government regarding the challenges of short-term accommodation.
- Amplify had worked with retail businesses and commercial office space providers in the Taupō CBD by assisting them to change the way they ran their businesses. This also applied to Tūrangi.

1347 – Mr Angus Judge and Ms Alice Barnett, Genesis Energy Limited

Mr Judge advised that Genesis Energy Limited gave back to the community and contributed to mana whenua initiatives. Genesis welcomed an opportunity to discuss further with Council staff the proposed differential rating factor. It was unknown how it compared with other councils around the country.

1194 – Mr Rowan Sapsford and Mr Pete Masters, Bike Taupō

Mr Sapsford shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603262) to support the submission.

The following was added:

- Bike Taupō and Waikato River Trails had a good relationship and the Bike Taupō Chairman Mr Pete Masters was on the Waikato River Trails board. The two organisations helped each other but were independently run.
- Craters of the Moon tracks were now all up and running post Cyclone Gabrielle damage incurred in February 2023.
- Bike Taupō also had a good working relationship with the Department of Conservation.

448 – Mr Geoff Hawthorn

Mr Hawthorn did not support bins and noted that one solution for all of the district did not fit and would erode goodwill.

1364 – Mr Matt Andrews, Kinloch Representative Group

Mr Andrews thanked Council for the communication and engagement during the Long-term Plan consultation and advised that the Kinloch Representative Group looked forward to working collaboratively and addressing needs together.

The meeting was adjourned at this point (11.11am) and reconvened at 11.23am.

1196 - Mr John Gibbs

Mr Gibbs advised that there was growing awareness and acceptance of cats being required to be contained in their own property in Australia and New Zealand.

1116 – Mr Mark Seymour, Mangakino Pouakani Representative Group

Mr Seymour summarised the submission and highlighted in particular the support for the ward specific projects.

1362 – Mr Scott Hubbard and Mr Pierce Brown, Pokaka Crescent Residents Group

On behalf of the Pokaka Crescent Residents Group, Mr Hubbard requested that the Vegetation Management Plan for Secombe Park that was made in 2011 be updated in a collaborative manner, along with revised maintenance plans.

1148 – Mr Pat Kane

Mr Kane supported the submission made by the Kinloch Representative Group and highlighted the key issues for Kinloch from his submission.

618 - Doug and Kevin, Housing for the Elderly

Doug and Kevin advised that they understood that the rents needed to be increased and asked if a lower percentage of 15% increase rather than 25% could be considered. In answer to a question, they advised that not all of the pensioners would be eligible for assistance through the Ministry of Social Development.

1406 – Mr George Patena, Te Kotahitanga o Ngāti Tūwharetoa

Mr Patena summarised the submission's key points and added that the collaboration and cultural representation had improved, particularly in Taupō town. However, outside of Taupō there were cultural narratives missing, particularly in the southern part of the district. The built environment was not represented outside of Taupō town.

Te Kōpu ā Kānapanapa, Taupō District Council and Waikato District Council were at the point of implementing the framework but the concern was that it was not visible to those outside of governance.

1099 – Ms Sarah Hunt, and Mr Bruce Bartley, Seven Oaks Kinloch Ltd

Ms Hunt and Mr Bartley highlighted that their submission focused on three bottom lines – community, environmental and financial outcomes.

The meeting was adjourned again at this point (12.25pm) and reconvened again at 12.43pm.

614 – Mr Ross George, Taupō Tennis Club

Mr George advised that the Taupō Tennis Club turned 100 years in 2024 and was based on the North Tongariro reserve. There were currently eight all weather courts on leasehold land from Council. The club had good membership and courts were able to be booked by non members. Multiple tournaments were held over the year. The club would like to provide covered courts which could be of use to multiple other sports and community providers such as the Winter Festival and the Home and Garden Show. The club was open to discussion with Council and others to work on this.

1341 – Ms Ann Tweedie

Ms Tweedie spoke to her submission and highlighted key points.

522 – Ms Xanthe Wyse

Ms Wyse had previously received the arts community grant and stressed that art was therapeutic and had helped her manage her mental health disabilities. She advised that offering the community grant on a six monthly basis would give people a more feasible goal to work towards.

Her art could be viewed online at <https://www.soarpurpose.nz/>

1411 Ms Rachel Thompson Kids Greening Taupō and 1374 Ms Robyn Ellis, Greening Taupō (combined presentation)

Ms Thompson shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603297).

Kids Greening Taupō and Greening Taupō shared a kaupapa under the umbrella of Project Tongariro. They were appreciative of the support from Taupō District Council and wanted to strengthen the relationship.

1409 – Ms Adele Schur

Ms Schur reiterated that Kids Greening Taupō and Greening Taupō did a great job and that weed minimisation and predator control was important. She advised that Kids Greening Taupō had provided her kids with amazing leadership opportunities, and lifted up the young people.

1412 – Mr Scott Devonport, Simpli Consulting Limited

Mr Devonport circulated a handout to support his submission (A3603317). He acknowledged that Mercury owned the bridge across the Waikato River in Taupō town but believed that Council should be funding depreciation on it, and that it was a challenge.

The meeting was adjourned again at this point (1.38pm) and reconvened again at 1.43pm.

1351 – Mr Todd Baldwin, Mercury Energy

Mr Baldwin presented the key points of the submission and advised that he thought that rates paid by Mercury in other parts of the country were not as high as what was proposed in Taupō District Council's Long-term Plan but he was not sure.

1092 – Ms Catriona Eagles, Breda Investments Limited and E. F. Deadman Limited

Ms Eagles summarised the submission and highlighted the request for improved access and water capacity for those in the Mapara area.

390 – Ms Joy Tombs

Ms Tombs shared a letter to the Taupō Times editor from the publication on 28 June 2024 by Mr Fred Beckers (A3603343). She highlighted that household waste was one thing that could be controlled and asked that the charges be reviewed so those that were low waste producers were not penalised.

1385 – Ms Belinda Walker, Kinloch Families Trust

Ms Walker shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603333). She acknowledged the loss of their previous Chair Mr Jack Jenkins who had recently passed away. In response to a question, she advised that it was her understanding that the commitment from Henry Hall Trust for a community facility in Kinloch was only for land, not for a building.

1339 – Ms Sarah Hunt, Taupō Business Chamber

Ms Hunt highlighted key points from the submission.

1325 and 1405 – Mr Tredagar Hall with support from Mr Dominic Bowden, Te Hikuwai o Tūwharetoa hapū and Nukuhau Pā (combined presentation)

Mr Hall highlighted that both submissions connected together and were overall supportive of the proposals in the Long-term Plan. He asked that Council continued to work with other organisations and hapū in the community to honour the tipuna by co-designing and giving everyone buy-in.

1348 – Mr Peter Shepherd, Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board

Mr Shepherd acknowledged Council's submission to Parliament on the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment bill. He stressed that early and meaningful engagement was important.

The meeting was adjourned again at this point (2.24pm) and reconvened again at 2.36pm.

576 – Ms Catriona Eagles and Mr Michael Allen, Wairarapa Moana ki Pouakani Incorporation

Ms Eagles summarised the submission and Mr Allen added that Wairarapa Moana ki Pouakani had mana whakahaere in Mangakino, the power and ability to care for the land.

1083 – Mr John Cridge

Mr Cridge shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603337) to support his submission with alternative solutions to a second crossing over the Waikato River.

1273 – Mr Simon Anderson, River Road Residents Collective

Mr Anderson shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603347) to support his submission.

1367 – Mr Jeremy Williams, Contact Energy Limited

Mr Williams summarised the submission and highlighted that power stations operated differently to other commercial properties and did not have the same impact on Council services. He was not aware of what

other councils charged electricity generators.

1335 – Ms Tina Jakes and Mr Glyn Wooller, Waikato River Trails

Mr Wooller shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603351). He noted that most of the funding for Waikato River Trails was received from South Waikato District Council and asked that Taupō District Council considered providing more funding going forward. While the trails were mostly up and running, safety improvements were required. Mr Wooller agreed to provide financial information to members to support the application for additional funding.

1192 – Ms Rana Dick

Ms Dick advised that she supported submission 1406 from Mr George Patena of Te Kotahitanga o Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

568 – Ms Lorraine Cholmondeley-Smith

Ms Cholmondeley-Smith summarised her submission.

The meeting was adjourned again at this point (3.26pm) and reconvened again at 3.41pm.

604 – Mr Donovan Bixley, Taupō Concert Band

Mr Bixley summarised his submission.

988 – Ms Joanna Bixley and Ms Kylie Dumball, Centre Stage Taupō

Ms Bixley gave the history of Centre Stage and advised that the current funding model worked well.

712 – Mr Peter Marshall

Mr Marshall summarised the main points of his submission.

1138 – Ms Laurie Burdett

Ms Burdett thanked Council for the easy to read Long-term Plan consultation document and supported the agenda item to continue with bags for kerbside waste collection.

1414 – Mr Chris Johnston and Ms Val Hoogerbrugge, Waiora Community Trust

Mr Johnston summarised the submission and added that in the next three years Waiora Community Trust needed Council's support. Ms Hoogerbrugge advised that there was a wide range of social services using Waiora House covering all age groups.

1336 Mr Tim Ford and Mr Chris Bell, Taupō Master Builders

Mr Ford and Mr Bell summarised the submission and reiterated that cost increases should show a break down of what the fees would cover. They requested that the fee increases be reduced or staggered over a number of years.

1413 – Ms Jennifer Scothern-King, Ms Rachel Canning, Ms Vera Aperloo, Wairakei Community Group

The representatives from the Wairakei Community Group shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603366) which contained photographs to support the submission. The main concerns were around safety, particularly for children. The main priority was for a safe route in and out of the village.

Cr Kylie Leonard left the meeting at this point (4.35pm).

609 – Mr Ken Harris and Mr Richard Atkinson, Taupō Disc Golf Club

Mr Harris shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3603371) to support the submission. In answer to questions, he advised that discs could be purchased for around \$30 – \$40 or rented. There was no cost for the school groups as the club supplied the discs. The disc golf players were considerate of others using the park and had a spotter to help with management of discs.

676 – Ms Hollie West

Ms West summarised the submission and in answer to a question, advised that two funding rounds for Community Grants funding would be preferable, around March and October each year.

1359 – Ms Christine Robb, Taupō Sculpture Trust

Ms Robb shared a PowerPoint presentation (A3611507) to support the submission.

Cr Sandra Greenslade left the meeting at this point (4.56pm).

1214 – Ms Alana Delich, Taupō Climate Action Group

Ms Delich summarised the submission and reiterated that talking about climate did not cost more so Council would not need to spend more to do this.

1077 – Ms Toni Sullivan, Creative Taupō

Ms Sullivan highlighted key points from the submission.

1343 – Mr Phil Edwards, Great Lake Taupō Hockey Club

In answer to questions from members, Mr Edwards clarified the following:

- The current turf would get worse over time but could be managed by gluing and temporary fixes if the replacement was brought forward by two years.
- The club were looking at using a corner of the turf for advertising as a possible way to raise funds.
- Any injuries related to the turf were reported to the hockey club.

The meeting was adjourned again at this point (5.20pm) until the following day.

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
RECONVENED AT TE MATAAPUNA, TŪRANGITUKUA PARK, HIRANGI ROAD, TŪRANGI
ON TUESDAY, 30 JULY 2024 AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT: Cr Kevin Taylor (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Karam Fletcher, Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Kylie Leonard (via MS Teams), Cr Danny Loughlin, Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin (via MS Teams), Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kirsty Trueman, Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (L O'Brien), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services (T Hale), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Project Management Office Manager (P Fletcher via MS Teams), Iwi and Co-Governance Manager (D Rameka), Community Development and Engagement Manager (H Tattle via MS Teams), District Customer Relations Manager (T Russell), Team Leader Corporate Planning (A Smith), Senior Policy Advisor (K Goode), Senior Policy Advisor (P Caruana via MS Teams), Senior Project Manager (P Bradshaw via MS Teams), Asset Manager Transportation (C Sharland via MS Teams), Team Lead – Transportation Operations (I Cruz via MS Teams), Project Manager – Stakeholder Specialist (T Perry via MS Teams), Co-Governance Management Partner (C Dempsey), Policy Advisor (A Wilson), Iwi and Co-Governance Advisor (A Kereopa), Southern Lake Taupō Engagement Partner (M Isherwood), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts), Legal and Governance Coordinator (D Periam)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: 29 members of the public, some via MS Teams.

WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES**TDC202407/05 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Karam Fletcher

That the apologies received from His Worship the Mayor David Trewavas and Cr Yvonne Westerman be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/045 above.

NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

Hearing of Submissions

The following submitters spoke to their submissions and answered questions, with key points as noted below:

639 – Mr Stephen Sanderson, Residents of Whareroa Village, Kuratau

Mr Sanderson thanked Council for the the level of engagement over the consultation period of the Long-term Plan 2024-34. He tabled a letter regarding the rating of his neighbour to support his submission (A3613384).

461 – Ms Ngaire Grainger

Ms Grainger emphasised key points from the submission.

1399 – Ms Tina Porou – Ngāti Tūrangitukua Charitable Trust (via MS Teams)

Ms Porou thanked Council for the strong engagement during the Long-term Plan 2024-34 consultation period and highlighted key points from the submission.

552 – Mr Tuarti Humphrey

Mr Humphrey supported submission 461 by Ms Ngaire Grainger.

1360 – Mr Paul White, Taupō Lakes and Waterways Group

Mr White summarised the submission and in answer to questions, clarified that the Tūrangī wastewater treatment plant had performed very badly in 2005 which had contributed to the high nitrogen discharge.

1127 – Ms Amy Walker

Ms Walker acknowledged Ms Tina Porou and supported the submissions made by the Ngāti Tūrangitukua Charitable Trust and the Tūrangī Co-Governance Committee. She advised that the speed limit reduction on Hirangi Road had not made a difference to traffic speeding down the road.

1424 – Mr David Potaka

Mr Potaka shared a handout to show the land relating to the submission (A3613341). In answer to a question, he confirmed that if the land was returned, the Trust that looked after the papakāinga would be responsible for it. Any further growth to the ūrupa would be up the hill, not closer to the lake.

The meeting was adjourned at this point (11.13am) and reconvened at 11.27am.

Hearing of online submissions via MS Teams**1096 – Ms Jane Penton**

Ms Penton highlighted the main points of the submission and supported the submission made by the Taupō Climate Action Group.

737 – Mr Simon Smith

Mr Smith summarised the submission and asked that members remembered who was not in the room. There were many who did not have time to make a submission to the Long-term Plan 2024-34 but wanted to make the Taupō district a better place to live.

1365 – Dr Jeremy Mayall, Creative Waikato

Dr Mayall summarised key points from the submission and confirmed the following:

- Creative Waikato worked with Hamilton City Council and a number of other councils in the Waikato region.
- Creative Waikato was interested in a strategic partnership agreement with Taupō District Council similar to Sport Waikato.

1165 – Mr Shane Brodie and Mr Matthew Cooper, Sport Waikato

Mr Brodie and Mr Cooper summarised the submission and confirmed that the funding required for the

Regional Connectivity Coordinator (South) was \$50k.

1345 – Ms Jade Kent, Film Bay of Plenty

Ms Kent summarised the submission and confirmed that Film Bay of Plenty would require funding of \$27k per annum for operational costs.

Hearing of submissions (in person)

1337 – Ms Margaret Sagar, Pūkawa Property Owners Association

Ms Sagar highlighted the main point of the submission which was regarding waste collection. She encouraged staff and elected members to visit Pūkawa to speak to residents of the community.

413 – Mr Gerald Grenier

Mr Grenier summarised the submission.

1198 – Ms Gina Pohe and 10 students, Tūrangi Rangatahi Hub

Ms Pohe and the students presented a PowerPoint presentation to support the submission (A3614993).

In answer to questions, it was confirmed that the Rangatahi Hub had 20 leaders who attended a leadership course in the first week of each school holidays and taught younger children in the second week. The highest priority for the Rangatahi Hub was an events centre in Tūrangi.

1239 – Mr Te Takinga New – Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee

Mr New supported the rangatahi's submission and asked that Council support it.

He highlighted key points from the submission and noted that the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee was keen to present its strategic plan to the elected members.

1207 – Ms Angela Littlewood

Ms Littlewood summarised main points from the submission.

440 – Mr Phil Shields

Mr Shields shared a PowerPoint Presentation to support his submission (A3615059).

728 – Angel-lee Lenoel

Mr Lenoel was representing students of Te Kura o Hirangi.

He appreciated the beautiful papa tākaro Te Kapua park that reflected the taiao. He asked that Council consider basketball courts and playground equipment for the older students to complement the papa tākaro.

The meeting was adjourned again at this point (1.08pm) until the following day.

TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
RECONVENED AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON WEDNESDAY, 31 JULY 2024 AT 9.00AM

PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair, until 1.31pm), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Karam Fletcher, Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Danny Loughlin (via MS Teams), Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin (in person initially, via MS Teams from 12.34pm until 3.42pm), Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kevin Taylor (in the Chair, from 1.31pm), Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (L O'Brien), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services (T Hale), Project Management Office Manager (P Fletcher, via MS Teams), District Customer Relations Manager (T Russell, via MS Teams), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Senior Financial Planner (J Caldwell), Iwi and Co-Governance Manager (D Rameka, via MS Teams), Senior Infrastructure Specialist Long-term Planning (D Lewis), Environmental Impact Services Manager (B Aitken), Events and Venues Manager (S Giles), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks), Community Engagement and Development Manager (H Tattle, via MS Teams), Communications Manager (L McMichael), Infrastructure Manager (R Stokes), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Team Leader Corporate Planning (A Smith), Senior Policy Advisor (K Goode), Senior Policy Advisor (T Wood), Senior Policy Advisor (P Caruana), Policy Advisor (A Wilson), Programme Manager (J Walton, via MS Teams), District Venues Manager (B Green), Acting District Events Manager (S Ashton), Senior Solicitor (K Hollman, via MS Teams), Project Manager Stakeholder Specialist (T Perry, via MS Teams), Communications Advisor (R Watts, via MS Teams), Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor (B Forlong, via MS Teams), Funding and Partnerships Advisor (E Godwin, via MS Teams), Contracts Engineer (P Zareie, via MS Teams), Waste Minimisation Officer (S Hanson, via MS Teams), Financial Asset Data Specialist (K Fear, via MS Teams), Digital Communications Specialist (D Petry, via MS Teams), Infrastructure Project Manager-Operations (E May, via MS Teams), Asset Manager Stormwater (P Burt, via MS Teams), Community Engagement Advisor (R Prisk, via MS Teams), Community Development Advisor (A Hendricks, via MS Teams), Community Engagement Advisor Northern (C Dredge, via MS Teams), Asset Manager Water and Waste (M Cordell), Asset Manager Transportation (C Sharland), Team Leader Transport Operations (I Cruz), Transportation Engineer (J Kuchlein, via MS Teams), Development Manager (R Leblanc), Co-Governance Manager (C Dempsey, via MS Teams), Iwi Engagement Partner (TW Waaka, via MS Teams), Property and Development Manager (C Haskell), Commercial Manager (P Handcock), Museum and Library Manager (L Haines), Senior Project Manager (P Bradshaw, via MS Teams), Senior Technical Support Analyst (J Johnson), Governance Quality Manager (S James)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: Four members of the public

- Notes:
- (i) *Items were discussed in the following order on Wednesday 31 July 2024: Apologies, Conflicts of Interest, Late Submission, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.9, 5.7, 5.8*
 - (ii) *His Worship the Mayor left the meeting at 1.31pm. He was not present for resolutions TDC202407/13-14. Deputy Mayor Cr Kevin Taylor chaired the meeting from that point until the end of the day.*

WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES**TDC202407/06 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Christine Rankin

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That the apologies received from Crs Kirsty Trueman and Yvonne Westerman be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/06 above.

NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Sandra Greenslade declared a conflict of interest in relation to agenda item 5.9 Rating Differentials. She abstained from voting on that item.

Introduction to deliberations

The Policy Manager referred to the agenda, which contained reports to support the Long-term Plan deliberations. These reports had been prepared prior to the hearings, so officers could provide updated advice based on the information presented during the hearings. Officers' advice would in no way constrain Council's decision-making. It was the role of elected members to take into account all submissions received, everything heard and presented via the hearings, and officer advice, before making decisions.

The Senior Policy Advisor explained that the Motuoapa Residents' Association had contacted Council the day before to advise that their submission had not been lodged properly. The submission had been circulated via email since then. There was a need to formally accept the submission by resolution.

LATE SUBMISSION – MOTUOAPA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**TDC202407/07 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Sandra Greenslade

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council accepts the late submission from the Motuoapa Residents' Association.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/07 above.

Additional requests and items added to the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34

The Policy Manager advised that an 'Addendum' had been prepared and uploaded to Diligent Boards (A3622214). This document outlined requests raised by submitters during the hearings, in addition to their written submissions.

The General Manager Organisation Performance advised that a number of items had come to light since the draft Long-term Plan was initially prepared. These were outlined in the tabled document entitled "Officer recommended changes" (A3601653). These additional proposed changes included:

- Urgent expenditure approved during the public excluded part of the Council meeting held the day before, 30 July 2024.
- \$100k increase to the finance budget to complete audit processes.
- Increases to Business and Economic Research Limited (BERL) indexes.
- Reduction in cost of funds managed by Bancorp.

5.2 REVIEW OF THE KERBSIDE WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

The General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services and the Infrastructure Manager summarised the background to the review of Council's kerbside waste collection service, as detailed on the agenda. The three potential options were: Move to a bin collection service including food scraps (this was the option consulted on via the draft Long-term Plan); move to a bin collection service for the main urban areas excluding holiday settlements (this would require further consultation); or retain the *status quo*, being a bag service without a food waste collection.

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

- The initial engagement did include remote settlements.
- Discussions with tenderers were on hold pending the outcome of Council's decision-making.
- Cost and a 'one size fits all' approach were two key issues raised by submitters opposed to moving to a bin collection service.
- Bin trucks were different to bag trucks. For Taupō District Council, it was not feasible to have a mixed contract. Council needed to have one type of service, which would then dictate the structure of the contract.
- Council was already doing really good work to support waste minimisation, including the repair café; activities in local schools; and composting workshops. Submitters had also provided ideas which could be considered going forward.
- There were private bin collection services people could access if the *status quo* was retained.
- The contract term was seven years. This duration allowed for the most efficient depreciation of the infrastructure assets required for the service (i.e. the trucks).
- Council could negotiate the inclusion of a food scraps collection service in the future if mandated by central government.
- A bin collection service would require fewer 'runners' than the bag collection service.
- There was only one council in New Zealand which had taken on the risk of waste collection service delivery in-house. Waste contractors were operating in a specialist environment, with knowledge of intricate health and safety requirements, so an in-house operation was not recommended. It would also be difficult for a relatively small organisation like Taupō District Council to operate in the recovery materials market to recover value from those materials.

Members decided to continue the *status quo* for kerbside waste collection, excluding a food scraps collection.

TDC202407/08 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That Council directs officers to prepare the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34 on the basis of continuing the status quo rubbish bag service, excluding a food scraps collection.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/08 above.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (9.57am) and reconvened again at 10.06am.

5.3 NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY (NZTA) FUNDING

The General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services, the Asset Manager Transportation and the Team Leader Transport Operations were present and it was explained that New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) funding cycles did not always align with Long-term Plan timeframes. It was officers' recommendation to continue with funding as detailed in the draft Long-term Plan.

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

- The biggest portion of the transport programme funding was the pothole prevention programme, which included maintenance and renewals.
- Taupō District Council applied for \$29m; indicative funding of \$27m had been confirmed.
- NZTA encouraged councils to retain (and not reduce) their allocated share of funding for transport.
- Council's 'local share' of any given transport investment was 49% and NZTA's share was 51%.

Members agreed that Option 2 was the most sensible approach in the current economic climate.

TDC202407/09 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council adopts Option 2, retaining its 'local share' for transport programme funding in the Long-term Plan 2024-34, without any additional funding to cover the shortfall not received from the New Zealand Transport Agency.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/09 above.

5.4 TŪRANGI WASTEWATER SOLUTION

In answer to questions, the General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services and the Asset Manager Water advised that:

- Disposal of wastewater to land was a lot more expensive than disposal to wetland and water (approximately \$18.5m to land, with \$400k additional annual operational costs). If this option was selected, there would also be a requirement to remediate areas of the current site.
- Discharge to land at the current site was not an option. Officers and the steering group would continue to investigate alternative sites.
- The current site was in need of some improvements. The mechanical plant was dated, but working well.
- The steering group had completed a lot of work over a significant period of time, working with stakeholders and investigating solutions to a complex issue.
- The funding included in the draft Long-term Plan for a short to medium term solution was a conservative amount, to continue the resource consent work and make required improvements to the plant.
- Wastewater discharges were expected to increase over time, as Tūrangi's population was growing.
- Discharge was currently measured at the end of the plant, so data gathered did not take into account the natural processes of the wetland after the wastewater exited the plant.
- Regardless of which option Council decided to select, the resource consent would still need to be progressed.

Cr John Williamson noted his role as co-chairperson of the steering group and his regret at having to support inclusion of the short to medium term solution in the draft Long-term Plan. The approach was supported by the majority of members, with some dissent and abstention as noted below.

TDC202407/10 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council confirms the short to medium term solution for the Tūrangi Wastewater Treatment Plan provided for in the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/10 above, with the exception of Crs Karam Fletcher and Sandra Greenslade who both voted against the motion, and Cr Duncan Campbell who abstained from voting.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (11.09am) and reconvened again at 11.20am.

5.5 TAUPŌ WASTEWATER SOLUTION

The following was noted during questions, answers and related discussion:

- The Nukuhau Private Plan Change enabled 780 sites to be developed on the northern side of the Control Gates Bridge, of which 140 could go ahead prior to any changes in either wastewater or transportation at the bridge. The retirement village was out-of-scope.
- The most recent growth model available to Council showed that district growth was expected to be greater than previously projected. There was enough wastewater capacity for Taupō for close to 30 years, but new solutions would need to be identified to be in place after that point.
- Council needed to provide a 'level playing field' for developers north of the Control Gates Bridge, in light of its EUL land holdings. Providing for management of wastewater on the northern side of the river would support that 'level playing field' approach.
- It was acknowledged that Council had received a Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) and would need to continue to be conscious of the matters raised in the CIA in future.

Members agreed to confirm the short to medium solution for the management of wastewater of the residential areas on the northern side of the Waikato River. This would provide network resilience and certainty for development in the short to medium term, while enabling work to continue on potential long-term options.

TDC202407/11 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That Council confirms the short to medium term solution for the management of wastewater of the residential areas on the northern side of the Waikato River in the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/11 above.

5.6 LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34 - EAST URBAN LANDS DEVELOPMENT

The General Manager Organisation Performance and the Property and Development Manager answered questions and the following points were noted:

- A relatively small number of homes would be built initially, expected to be approximately 13 homes. Other homes would be built as they were sold. That way, should the market conditions change, Council could hold land and sell at a later date.
- The titles would include some covenants, however officers did not recommend inclusion of a cat covenant.
- The consortium was involved in Stages 1A, 1B and 2 only. The details of future stages of the 10-year programme had not yet been determined.

TDC202407/12 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council:

1. Directs staff to progress with the ten year budget for the proposed development of Council's East Urban Lands, as part of the Long-term Plan 2024-34; and
2. Approves partnering with a consortium to provide quality first home options for Stages 1 and 2 of the East Urban Lands.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/12 above.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (12noon) and reconvened again at 12.34pm, at which time agenda item 5.9 was considered. Agenda items 5.7 and 5.8 were considered after item 5.9.

5.7 LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34 - FEES AND CHARGES HEARINGS AND DELIBERATIONS

The Policy Advisor (A Wilson) advised that dog control fees had already been set.

Officers answered questions of clarification. It was noted that the proposed fees and charges were consistent with Council's draft Revenue and Financing Policy.

In relation to housing for the elderly, although rents were proposed to increase, tenants would be eligible for increases from Work and Income New Zealand to cover their rent costs. They may also qualify for rebates.

His Worship the Mayor left the meeting at this point (1.31pm) and Deputy Mayor Cr Kevin Taylor chaired the meeting from this point until the end of the day.

Members decided to adopt the fees and charges as proposed, with the exception of building fees and charges. They asked officers to provide more information about building fees, including the building consent inspection fee charges, to be considered later on during deliberations.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (2.23pm) and reconvened again at 2.47pm.

TDC202407/13 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council:

1. Pursuant to sections 12, 83 and 150 of the Local Government Act 2002, adopts the fees and charges for 2024-25, as per the schedule attached to the agenda, with the exception of building fees and charges; and
2. Defers adoption of building fees and charges to later in the 2024-34 Long-term Plan deliberations, subject to staff reporting back and providing proposed options for these fees and charges with a separate resolution to adopt these.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/13 above.

5.8 LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34 - DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY

The Senior Policy Advisor (P Caruana) summarised some of the key aspects of the draft Development Contributions Policy. He and the Team Leader Corporate Planning answered questions and the following points were noted:

- The Cheal submission raised interesting points and these would continue to be discussed. An evidentiary basis would be required in order to provide discounts for smaller houses. The gross floor area approach was simple and harder to circumvent, compared to the 'number of bedrooms' approach taken by some other councils.
- If a group of people could be identified as benefiting from a development, then that group should be charged accordingly. If the entire district benefited, then costs should be spread across the district.
- The approach to assessing development contributions for transport was more challenging, because everyone had access to the networks.
- It was clarified that clauses 84 and 85 of the draft Development Contributions Policy related to who would or would not be charged i.e. developers, so if a developer were to build a bridge, Council could not charge development contributions for it.
- The draft Long-term Plan 2024-34 included a secondary bridge structure entirely for growth; this was not a replacement of an existing bridge, nor was it a case of one structure performing multiple functions (in which case the approach may be different).

The Infrastructure Manager added that the existing bridge structure was currently under capacity on one lane at peak times in one direction for one hour, representing a 10% factor. This had been taken into account when calculating the 85% growth / 15% level of service share for locals in the draft Development Contributions Policy. The modelling had also taken into account people most likely to be commuting at peak times which included traffic from Kinloch, Oruanui and Link roads, but not Wairakei village.

Officers continued to answer questions, and the following points were noted:

- The Development Contributions Policy and the Long-term Plan documents were based on assumptions. Development contributions had to be applied to what they were collected for.
- It was possible for development contributions to be refunded.
- It was important that councils collected enough development contributions to support infrastructure upgrades and new infrastructure in the future.
- The Kinloch urban area was almost completely developed and based on current information, additional reserve land in Kinloch was not required and this was reflected in the draft Development Contributions Policy.

TDC202407/14 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That Council directs officers to amend the draft Development Contributions Policy (2024) by:

1. Including a definition of non-residential development.
2. Including a catchment area map for reserves in Mapara in Part 3 of the policy document and reproduced in Attachment 1.
3. Including the number of proposed Household Unit Equivalent (HUEs) for each project in Schedule 1 of the policy document.
4. Remove one of the grounds for reconsideration that is not specified in the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) being "*developers can show that the demand per HUE of their development is lower than one HUE*".

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/14 above.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (3.42pm) and reconvened again at 3.48pm. When the meeting reconvened, Cr Christine Rankin was no longer present via MS Teams.

Hearing of submitter not heard earlier in the meeting #1355 – Tauhara Te Maunga Rugby League and Sports Club Incorporated

Tauhara Te Maunga Rugby League and Sports Club Incorporated representatives Kylee Murray, Tina Emani, Sammy Morgan and Nareen Katene spoke to the submission and answered questions. The following points were noted:

- The purpose of the club was to promote spiritual, physical and emotional awareness to foster rugby league and other sports within the Bay of Plenty. Financial gain was not one of the club's purposes.
- Hickling Park was an important venue for various sporting groups. The ground was used for training, games and competitions. The current lack of adequate facilities was hindering the experience for players, coaches and supporters. The facilities should be enhanced to accommodate the needs of the community.
- The club supported a long-term goal of a permanent sporting facility with more space.
- It may be possible for Tauhara Te Maunga Rugby League and Sports Club to 'hub' with other sporting groups at Owen Delany Park.
- Council elected members and staff were keen to continue to carry on the conversation and support the club to investigate solutions.

Note: Item 5.9 was considered after item 5.6 and before item 5.7, but is recorded below in the same order as items appeared on the agenda.

5.9 RATING DIFFERENTIALS

The General Manager Organisation Performance summarised the proposal and the process followed, which included an opportunity for engagement in addition to Long-term Plan requirements. In answer to questions, she advised that:

- All Electricity Generators and Utility Assets/Networks would be affected if the proposal went ahead, including Council utilities, Unison and The Lines Company.
- In relation to valuations, Council engaged specialist independent valuers to assess Electricity Generators. The valuation methodology was different to valuations for commercial and residential properties.
- Although this had not formed part of officers' assessment and recommendation, officers believed Electricity Generators and Utility Assets/Networks were aligned with industrial/commercial properties for rating at other councils, although differentials vary around the country. The focus when considering the proposal for this Long-term Plan had been Taupō district.
- A letter had been sent to Electricity Generators and Utility Assets/Networks in February 2024. Two organisations had contacted Council for more information.
- It was acknowledged that the increase was large, however the proportion of the rates take from the affected organisations had reduced proportionally over time and arguably this change could have been made a lot earlier.

Members decided to proceed with the proposal to change differential rating factors, including alignment of Electricity Generators and Utility Assets/Networks with all other industrial/commercial properties for rating purposes. Points made during discussion included:

- The environment was different the last time Council considered aligning Electricity Generators and Utility Assets/Networks with all other industrial/commercial properties.
- Every other business in the district had to pay the 1.8 differential. The approach should be fair, and having a different approach to rating for Electricity Generators and Utility Assets/Networks had not been fair.
- If the rating differentials were not aligned for all commercial businesses then other ratepayers, such as our residential ratepayers, would have higher increases.

TDC202407/15 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council:

1. Considers submissions on the proposal to change differential rating factors, following public consultation as part of the Long-term Plan 24 – 34; and
2. Considers the funding needs of Council, in line with section 101(3) of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA); and
3. Directs officers to prepare the Long-term Plan on the basis of treating all industrial/commercial properties the same when assessing the general rate and align the Electricity Generators and Utility Assets/Networks with all other industrial/commercial properties.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/15 above, with the exception of Cr Sandra Greenslade, who abstained from voting.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (4.02pm).

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
RECONVENED AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON THURSDAY, 1 AUGUST 2024 AT 9.06AM**

PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Karam Fletcher (from 9.18am), 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 John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (L O'Brien), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services (T Hale), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Communications Manager (L McMichael), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks), Community Engagement and Development Manager (H Tattle), Project Management Office Manager (P Fletcher), Iwi and Co-Governance Manager (D Rameka, via MS Teams), District Customer Relations Manager (T Russell, via MS Teams), Property Manager (S Attenborough), Property and Development Manager (C Haskell), Facilities Manager (R Nienaber), Acting District Parks Manager (J Gordon), Acting Senior Reserves Planner (G Hadley), Events and Venues Manager (S Giles), Acting District Events Manager (S Ashton), District Venues Manager (B Green), Senior Infrastructure Specialist Long-term Planning (D Lewis), Infrastructure Manager (R Stokes), Asset Manager Transportation (C Sharland), Team Leader Transportation Operations (I Cruz), Team Leader Corporate Planning (A Smith), Senior Policy Advisor (K Goode), Policy Advisor (A Wilson), Policy Advisor (H Wood, via MS Teams), Senior Financial Planner (J Caldwell), Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor (B Forlong), Programme Manager (J Walton), Infrastructure Project Manager Operations (E May), Asset Manager Water (T Swindells, via MS Teams), Co-Governance Manager (C Dempsey, via MS Teams), Iwi Engagement Partner (TW Waaka, via MS Teams), Community Engagement Advisor (R Prisk, via MS Teams), Funding and Partnerships Advisor (E Godwin, via MS Teams), Community Engagement Advisor Northern (C Dredge, via MS Teams), Community Development Advisor (A Hendricks, via MS Teams), Customer Support Team Leader (K Smith, via MS Teams), Digital Content Creator (C Hollinger), Senior Technical Support Analyst (N Ramos), Governance Quality Manager (S James)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: Nil

- Notes:
- (i) *Items were discussed in the following order on Thursday 1 August 2024: Apologies, Conflicts of Interest, 5.10, 5.1 (being discussion on draft Long-term Plan 2024-34 groups of activities), the remainder of 5.7 (Building Fees and Charges), 5.11, 5.1.*
 - (ii) *Cr Karam Fletcher entered the meeting at 9.18am. He was not present for resolutions TDC202407/16-17.*
 - (iii) *Cr Kylie Leonard left the meeting at 11.53am and re-entered the meeting at 2.32pm. She was not present for resolution TDC202407/18.*
 - (iv) *Cr Christine Rankin left the meeting at 3.28pm. She was not present for resolutions TDC202407/19-20.*

WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES**TDC202407/16 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That the apologies for Cr Karam Fletcher (for lateness) and for Cr Yvonne Westerman (for absence) be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/16 above.

NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

5.10 RATES REMISSIONS AND POSTPONEMENT POLICIES

The Finance Manager advised that no changes were proposed to the draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policies as a result of consultation.

The Chairperson of the Emergency Management Committee, Cr Anna Park noted the positive effect of the policy changes on community, sporting, churches, Marae and other organisations. This would support Council's relationships with these organisations, recognising also that venues often became community hubs in times of need.

TDC202407/17 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council directs officers to make the proposed changes to the Rates Remissions and Postponement Policy 2024.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/17 above.

Continuation of deliberations – draft Long-term Plan 2024-34 groups of activities

Cr Karam Fletcher entered the meeting at this point (9.18am).

Members worked through draft Long-term Plan 2024-34 groups of activities via the Submission Response Report, which was attached to the agenda as “Attachments Under Separate Cover 2” (A3626071). Officers answered questions of clarification. Key discussion points and requests from members for changes to the draft submission responses are noted below.

Facilities/Venues

- Submission point 321 – expand on the response to explain that a Māori Land Court process was underway in relation to the Tūrangi holiday park land.
- Submission point 324 – draft the response in a way that recognises the Tūrangi Badminton Club is a community group, not a commercial group.
- Submission point 325 – expand response to include reference to Council being happy to support the community to secure external funding for a bombing platform at Mangakino pool.
- Submission point 327 – response should state simply that Council is investigating alternative sites for the waste dump station in Mangakino.
- Submission points 328 and 330 – include more details in the response about funding allocated for a feasibility study into a community centre for Kinloch.
- Submission point 332 – include reference in the response to the work being done to investigate alternative sites for a toilet in Kinloch. In relation to swamping issues on the Kinloch Domain, the Acting District Parks Manager advised that funding had been moved out to 2030 to alleviate pressure on Years 1 and 2 of the Long-term Plan. Members and officers agreed that it would be valuable to start discussing this with the community now.
- Submission point 305 – the Acting District Parks Manager explained that the main toilet block in the Tūrangi town centre was managed by the facilities team. There were many issues with the toilet block, including the fact that it was at the end of the water line and so filters needed to be cleaned regularly; and ongoing vandalism.

Community Engagement

- The Facilities Manager advised that the Kinloch Golf Club was planning to refit and install an industrial kitchen. The draft Long-term Plan included funding for Council to undertake maintenance on the building, including installing a new roof, cladding and carpet.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (10.24am) and reconvened again at 10.38am.

Transport

- Submission point 102 – include more detail in the response about intersection safety, explaining that funding for installation of a roundabout at the Napier Road / Lake Terrace intersection was included in the 2031-32 year. The intersection was difficult to navigate due to the mix of multi-modal movements.
- Submission point 104 – Cr Sandra Greenslade asked whether a crossing could be installed at Hīrangī School. The Asset Manager Transportation advised that specific school sites could be investigated.
- Submission point 139 – the Asset Manager Transportation explained that footpaths would not normally be installed on rural roads with relatively low traffic, however the team could consider what could be done to improve safety on Hīrangī Road.
- Locky Dock stations were expected to be installed prior to Christmas 2024.

Tūrangi Town Centre

- Submission point 57 – add more detail in to the response, explaining that the Tūrangi spatial planning exercise would consider areas beyond the Tūrangi town centre; and as many landlords as possible would be invited to be involved in the exercise.

Wastewater

- The inclusion of a new project to connect the public toilets within the Waipahihi Botanical reserve to Council’s wastewater system was supported.

- Submission point 182 – the General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services advised that a lot of work still needed to be done before Council could confirm the details of the project to remediate the Pukawa Pond.
- The General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services advised that a small number of residents had raised some issues with odour at the Taupō wastewater treatment plant. The Asset Manager Water and Waste had been working with the local community to address the issues and he had identified some improvements to minimise odour. Members did not support inclusion of increased funding in Years 1 and 2 of the Long-term Plan in light of measures already underway to address odour and the relatively small number of residents affected, but the funding could be included in later years of the Plan.

Water

- In answer to a question, the Environmental Impact Manager advised that Council's contractor had a supply of aluminium fish which could be installed on stormwater outlets on request.
- Submission point 199 – update the part of the response which states that the team are unaware of any issues in relation to stormwater in the River Road area.

Cr Kylie Leonard left the meeting at this point (11.53am).

Parks and Reserves

- The Acting Senior Reserves Planner advised that black backed gulls had stopped nesting in the Tūrangi town centre. Officers would investigate solutions with building owners to prevent the gulls from nesting in the area in the future.
- Submission point 242 – add sentence in to the response advising that residents in the vicinity of the Two Mile Bay reserve would be consulted as part of the Long-term Plan project to better provide for parking associated with boat ramps on the reserve.
- Submission point 260 – add in to the response that Council would assist members of the community to apply for external funding for lighting at the Mangakino basketball court.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (12.27pm) and reconvened again at 1.14pm.

Solid Waste

- Submission point 374 – add in to the response that currently plastics 1, 2 and 5 were recycled.

Sustainability and Climate Change

- The Team Leader Corporate Planning advised that key messages about carbon credits could be provided to elected members.
- Submission point 419 – add in to the response that Council would talk to Kids Greening Taupō about a strategic way forward.

Rating Policy

- Submission point 445 – members agreed to keep a watching brief on other councils' approaches to the rating of Airbnb-type accommodation providers.

5.7 LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34 - FEES AND CHARGES HEARINGS AND DELIBERATIONS (CONTINUED)

The General Manager Strategy and Environment tabled a memorandum dated 31 July 2024 and entitled "Fees and Charges: Building Consent Inspection Fee" (A3625713). The memorandum provided an explanation of the rationale for the proposed 2024-25 building consent inspection fees, and based on submitter and elected member feedback, some revised recommended options, being a \$181 charge for the first 45 minutes, with fees after that to be charged pro rata in 15 minute blocks. Members agreed with this approach.

TDC202407/18 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That Council pursuant to sections 12, 83 and 150 of the Local Government Act 2002, adopts the building fees and charges for 2024-25 as per the fees and charges schedule with one amendment to Building Control Site Inspections all classes to \$181 (45-minute minimum charge) and the addition of a pro-rata charge at 15-minute increments.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/18 above.

The meeting adjourned again at this point (1.59pm) and reconvened again at 2.32pm. Cr Kylie Leonard re-entered the meeting at this point.

5.11 COMMUNITY FUNDING POLICY AND ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

The Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor summarised the process followed to date to review Council's Community Funding Policy, and the proposed changes. The following points were noted during questions, answers and related discussion:

- It was acknowledged that some submitters had raised concerns on behalf of the arts sector, about potential bias towards sport.
- The Events and Venues Manager advised that contestable arts funding was proposed to increase by \$50k per annum via the Nga Toi Action Plan. This would bring the total funding 'pool' to \$650k per annum, plus the \$50k currently allocated to Bike Taupō.

Cr Kylie Leonard left the meeting again at this point (2.58pm) and re-joined the meeting via MS Teams.

- The Strategic Partnership Fund would support Council's strategic vision, while the Accelerated Fund would support community aspirations.
- The Community Engagement and Development Manager advised that sustainability was at the heart of the proposed changes. The changes would support organisations to become self-sufficient after three years.
- The Creative Communities Scheme was administered by Council and funded by central government. This was another avenue for funding for the arts sector.
- There was an anomaly with the membership of the Taupō/Taupō East Rural Community Grant Distribution Committee, because there were no community members appointed to the committee, unlike other groups with responsibility for distributing community grants. Members asked officers to bring this back to Council for consideration at a later date.

Cr Christine Rankin left the meeting at this point (3.28pm).

Members agreed to adopt the Community Funding Policy and Eligibility Assessment Framework with amendments. The amendments included changing the Policy and Framework to enable community groups to receive up to two grants per year, to address members' concerns about certain groups in small communities taking responsibility for multiple events over the space of a year.

TDC202407/19 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Sandra Greenslade

That Council:

1. Hears and deliberates on the draft Community Funding Policy (2024) and draft Community Funding Eligibility and Assessment Framework (2024); and
2. Adopts the Community Funding Policy (2024) and Community Funding Eligibility and Assessment Framework (2024) with the following amendments:
 - a) Community Funding Policy (2024), Funding Determination section, clause 14, add the following words to the end of the clause: *...which will be adopted separately by Council. The Community Funding Eligibility and Assessment Framework may be amended via resolution at any time.*
 - b) Community Funding Policy (2024), Funding Process section, delete clause 24.
 - c) Community Funding Policy (2024), Funding Process section, clause 26, change "...one grant per year..." to "...up to two grants per year...".
 - d) Community Funding Eligibility and Assessment Framework (2024), Definitions section, in the definition of 'Community grant fund', change the frequency of grants from *once* to *twice* per year.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/19 above.

CHANGES TO DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34 AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Members considered the "Officer recommended changes" (A3601653) and the Chief Executive and General Manager Organisation Performance answered questions of clarification. The following points were noted:

- With all changes taken into account, the updated average rates increase figure was 11.9%.
- The \$25k annual funding for public art was not included in the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34, but the contestable funding remained.
- A media release would be issued, explaining the changes Council had made following the public consultation process.

Members thanked officers for all the work done across multiple teams to get to this point in the Long-term Plan process.

A summary of changes requested during deliberations was shown on the screens in the Council Chamber. Members agreed to direct officers to make those changes. It was noted that the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34 document and all supporting information would be prepared in accordance with Council's decisions, and provided to Audit New Zealand. The final Long-term Plan 2024-34 would be adopted by 30 September 2024.

TDC202407/20 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That Council:

1. Directs officers to make the following changes to the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34;
 - a. Include \$250,000 in year two for the connection of the botanical Gardens Toilet;
 - b. Include \$250,000 in year four and \$1,250,000 in year five for the Taupō Wastewater Treatment Plant odour mitigation;
 - c. Move the existing footpath funding for River Road to Wairakei Drive;
 - d. Move \$35,000 of the capital funding for youth play spaces from year 10 to year one to provide for immediate outcomes throughout the district;
 - e. Move \$50,000 per annum from the Museum budget to the contestable grants fund;
 - f. Move \$50,000 (previously identified for Bike Taupō) from the economic development budget to the contestable grants fund; and
 - g. Those outlined in Attachment 5 Officer Recommended Changes Version 2 (A3601653).
2. Directs officers to make any consequential changes to the Financial Strategy and Infrastructure Strategy and other supporting information as a result of decisions made during deliberations.
3. Directs officers to prepare responses to submitters in accordance with guidance provided through the deliberations process.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202407/20 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 4.09pm on Thursday 1 August 2024 with members and officers reciting Taupō District Council’s closing karakia.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 September 2024.

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CHAIRPERSON