

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE TAUPŌ EAST RURAL REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING  
HELD AT THE RIVER ROAD COMMUNITY HALL ON THURSDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2024 AT 11.00AM**

**PRESENT:** Mr Mark Wynyard (in the Chair), Ms Evelyn Forrest, Mr Patrick Hart, Cr Danny Loughlin, Mayor David Trewavas

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive (J Gardyne), Infrastructure Manager (R Stokes), Events & Venues Manager (S Giles), Senior Policy Advisor (H Samuel), Policy Advisor (H Wood), Senior Community Engagement Advisor (J Charteris), Northern District Community Engagement Advisor (C Dredge), Committee Advisor (N Turnbull)

**MEDIA AND PUBLIC:** 14 members of the public

**1 KARAKIA**

Ms Evelyn Forrest opened and closed the meeting with a karakia.

**2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES**

**TERR202410/01 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Mr Patrick Hart

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That the apologies received from Cr Kylie Leonard, and Cr John Williamson be accepted.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Taupō East Rural Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution TERR202410/01 above.*

**3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil

**4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**4.1 TAUPŌ EAST RURAL REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING - 4 JULY 2024**

**TERR202410/02 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Ms Evelyn Forrest

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That the minutes of the Taupō East Rural Representative Group meeting held on Thursday 4 July 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

**. CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Taupō East Rural Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution TERR202410/02 above.*

## 5 NGĀ RIPOATA | REPORTS

### 5.1 PUBLIC FORUM

The Events and Venues Manager introduced himself to the group and introduced his guest Mr Wayne Reardon, IRONMAN'S Senior Operations Manager for the Oceania team. They provided an update on the upcoming IRONMAN event happening in December 2024, and answered questions from the group. The following key points were noted:

- Certain areas of State Highway 5 and Broadlands Road would be closed off during event hours.
- All road closure notifications and details had been made public on Council's website. Further publications would be advertised during November 2024.
- There would be paid staff operating the road closures, allowing residents access to their homes during event hours.
- Certain roads would have rolling road closures which meant that the paid staff would be operating the closures as athletes crossed, and would open them again after athletes had continued down the road.
- A further mail drop was planned for November which would provide maps and accurate event timing details.

A member of the public requested to view the economic analysis of the event and any potential gain that the River Road community would receive. The Events and Venues Manager advised that those details could be found on Council's website.

### TERR202410/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Patrick Hart

Seconded: Ms Evelyn Forrest

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group receives comments from members of the public.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Taupō East Rural Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution TERR202410/03 above.*

### 5.2 UPDATE ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND CHANGES FOR THE DISTRICT PLAN

The Policy Advisor and Senior Policy Advisor introduced themselves to the group and provided updates on the Future Development Strategy and changes to the District Plan.

The Policy Advisor explained that the Future Development Strategy (FDS) was an update to the existing strategy which looked at the growth of the district over the coming 35 years. It used population projections to identify how much growth was anticipated for that period. The current population projections indicated that over the coming five years, 5,000 residents would call Taupō home, and it was estimated that an additional 4,000 homes would be required to accommodate growth.

Council was planning to consult on the FDS during November and December 2024. It would be published on Council's website for members of the public to view.

In answer to a member's question regarding how Taupō District Council (TDC) planned to mitigate growth, infrastructure, and wastewater management in rural areas. the Senior Policy Advisor explained that in the FDS, the focus of the growth was around the urban areas so they would be serviced most efficiently.

The Senior Policy Advisor answered further questions of clarification from the group. The group thanked the Policy Team for providing the updates.

**TERR202410/04 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Mr Patrick Hart

Seconded: Ms Evelyn Forrest

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group receives the information on the Future Development Strategy and changes to the District Plan.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Taupō East Rural Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution TERR202410/04 above.*

**5.3 ITEMS OF INTEREST****Water Scheme**

The Asset Manager – Water introduced himself to the group. He provided an update on the district-wide project that included upgrades of all the property connections (water tobys) to ensure there was appropriate backflow. That project was a requirement of the Water Services Act 2021. In other areas, there would be ongoing upgrades to electronic water meters on a smaller scheme which was driven out of the water loss strategy, meaning that the focus of those meters was not to charge, but to understand what water was being used. He explained that demand issues in rural areas were impacted but minor leaks could have losses of around 10 cubic metres each day which was why the readings were important to understand for future mitigation of water loss.

He addressed the concerns regarding fire risks and potential use of a water pump for fires in the area. Council had investigated it and it was not currently in the Long-term Plan 2024-34. Further information would need to be discussed with the New Zealand Fire Service.

He addressed the water pressure concerns that were occurring in the River Road area. He advised that Council's operations team was aware of the pressure issue and had installed some pressure loggers that were monitoring the pressure and making appropriate steps to find a resolution.

**Community Engagement**

The Northern District Community Engagement Advisor introduced herself to the group. She explained to members of the public that the community representatives were available in between meetings to discuss any concerns. The group thanked the Northern District Community Engagement Advisor for her hard work in building relationships between the community and the Council.

She provided a Civil Defence Emergency Management Update which included the River Road community that had the opportunity to come together and form a response plan for emergencies.

**Transportation**

The Infrastructure Manager introduced himself to the group and provided the following updates:

- The high pressure sodium light was installed and working well at the intersection of Broadlands Road and River Road.
- In the Long-term Plan 2024-34, Council had budgeted for funding to be provided by New Zealand Transport Agency for capital projects. Unfortunately, the funding provided was less than anticipated which would mean that Council would need to reprioritise some projects.
- The Link Road upgrades were about to begin to improve 1.7km of the road.
- Plans were being put in place to upgrade areas of Broadlands Road and White Road in the coming years.
- Around 18km of resealing was planned for the summer months.

**Local Waters Done Well**

The Chief Executive provided an update on the ongoing Three Waters Reform.

She explained to the group that prior to the last government elections, the Three Waters Reform was changed to Local Water Done Well. Local Water Done Well was the coalition Government's plan to address New Zealand's long-standing water infrastructure challenges. Councils were required to develop Water

Services Delivery Plans by 3 September 2025.

In answer to a member's question regarding if Council was joining the Waikato Water Done Well collective, she explained that Council was participating in the initial investigations.

#### **TERR202410/05 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Mr Patrick Hart

Seconded: Mayor David Trewavas

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group receives the Items of Interest information provided.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Taupō East Rural Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution TERR202410/05 above.*

#### **5.4 MEMBERS' REPORTS**

##### **Mr Mark Wynard:**

- Expressed concerns around the increased traffic volumes expected over the following years on Broadlands Road. Improvements to the roading would be required and Council's roading team needed to be aware.

##### **Ms Evelyn Forrest:**

- There was a lack of sufficient engagement between Council and Ngāti Tahu, and Ngāti Whaua regarding event management.

#### **TERR202410/06 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Ms Evelyn Forrest

Seconded: Mr Patrick Hart

That the Taupō East Rural Representative Group receives the reports from members.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Taupō East Rural Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution TERR202410/06 above.*

#### **6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

Nil

**The meeting closed at 12.41pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Taupō East Rural Representative Group Meeting held on 6 March 2025.**

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**CHAIRPERSON**