

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MANGAKINO-POUAKANI REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE WHAKAMARU SETTLERS HALL, 5 ARATAKI ROAD, WHAKAMARU
ON TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2024 AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT: Cr Kirsty Trueman (in the Chair), Ms Charlene Campbell, Mr Whitu Karauna, Mr Mark Seymour, Mayor David Trewavas, Cr Yvonne Westerman

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Iwi and Co Governance Manager (D Rameka), Parks and Reserves Manager (G Hadley), Senior Community Engagement Advisor (J Charteris), Communications Advisor (R Watts), Community Engagement Advisor Northern Taupō District (C Dredge), Programme Manager (J Walton), Senior Policy Advisor (K Goode), Funding and Partnerships Advisor (E Goodwin), Iwi Engagement Partner (T W Walker), Legal and Governance Coordinator (D Periam)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: 8 members of the public

Notes: (i) *Items were discussed in the following order: 2, 4.1, 5.2 (Community Engagement and Development), 5.1, remainder of 5.2, 5.3.*

(ii) *Mr Whitu Karauna joined the meeting at 10.04am. He was not present for resolutions MP202412/01 and MP202412/02.*

1 KARAKIA

All present at the meeting said the opening karakia.

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

MP202412/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Yvonne Westerman
Seconded: Mr Mark Seymour

That the apologies received from Ms Sapphire Tanirau, Cr Anna Park (for absence) and Mr Whitu Karauna (for lateness) be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: *All members present at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution MP202412/01 above.*

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MANGAKINO-POUAKANI REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING - 15 OCTOBER 2024

MP202412/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Mark Seymour
Seconded: Cr Kirsty Trueman

That the minutes of the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting held on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution MP202412/02 above.

5 NGĀ RIPOATA | REPORTS

5.1 PUBLIC FORUM

Ms Hope Woodward introduced herself and explained she had lived in Mangakino for the past few years and expressed she was grateful for the amazing community, she thanked community representatives and elected members.

She explained she was wondering how to enhance community engagement, members of the community felt they could not always get hold of the community representatives and felt they were not being represented in the meetings. She was happy to help with more engagement between representatives and community members.

The Mangakino Library had no signage and she felt there was nothing too inviting about the space. The community had grown along with their needs. She would like to see the library grow, she suggested first focusing on the items for adults and teenagers. She suggested having teenagers/young adults showing elderly how to use a computer which would increase connection within the community.

The playgrounds in the area need a refresh with parks needing shade sails during the summer time.

It was fantastic to see the Mangakino Community Pool being used with an hour dedicated for elderly but suggested for this hour to be earlier in the morning such as 6am and she asked would a lifeguard need to be there, she suggested a survey go out to the community to assess this.

Regarding the dump station, she understood there were options however she asked why the community were not consulted first before the proposal to the committee. She felt that motorhome travellers did provide a lot of money for the district.

Chair Cr Kirsty Trueman thanked Ms Woodward for coming and explained that some of her concerns would likely be addressed in the meeting. She explained she agreed with the idea of the library opening on a Saturday and asked the Community Engagement Advisor Northern District to include this when engaging with the community about library improvements.

The General Manager Strategy and Environment and Community Engagement Advisor Northern District would work together to take forward some of Ms Woodward's suggestions.

MP202412/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kirsty Trueman

Seconded: Mr Mark Seymour

That the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group receives comments from members of the public.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution MP202412/03 above.

5.2 MANGAKINO POUAKANI SNAPSHOT

Community Engagement and Development

The Community Engagement Advisor Northern District introduced herself. She highlighted some awesome collaboration between Council and the community that had occurred recently. One example was Mangakino School entered a competition through Noel Leeming to win \$50,000 worth of school supplies, the Digital Content Creator helped film and edit the video for the school to submit to the competition. The Mangakino pool party was held on Monday 2 December, this was a collaboration between Taupō District Council, Mangakino Central Charitable Trust and Four Square Mangakino who donated some food. There were roughly 120 people at the party and it was a great day. The pool staff were excited for the season ahead.

Feedback about the senior hour at the pool had been received and overall people thought it was positive and allowed the elderly a quieter space to swim. In answer to a question, she explained that the time of the senior hour did change, all hours were on Council's website, during term time it would be between 2.00pm and 3.00pm and during school holidays it would be half an hour between 11.30am and 12.00pm. She explained that the Lifeguard Operations Team Lead was leaving Council, she had been working for Council for 13 years.

The basketball court mural had been completed two weekends ago, it had been covered up and an unveiling was scheduled on Saturday 7 December at 10am. In answer to a question, it was unclear if the artist Taumata Soloman would be available to attend the unveiling.

There was a library refresh project for the Mangakino Library, there was some money to refresh the children's space. Stakeholder engagement had been done with a small group of users and wider consultation would also be done with the project completed by the end of February 2025. She explained that this project was a library staff led project and she would be assisting with the community engagement.

Update on Community Funding

The Funding and Partnerships Advisor introduced herself and explained though the Long-term Plan 2024-34 there had been an update to the community funding policy. There were three funds, strategic partnership fund, accelerator fund and community grant fund. The first two funds were currently open until 10 December 2024. Full criteria for all funds were available on Council's website. An assessment framework process had been introduced to ensure all applications were fair across the board and the committee would be presented a hierarchy of applications. Individuals would still be able to present to the committee about their application. There was now a \$5,000 limit for these grants. There would be two grant rounds per year, the first was scheduled in March 2025 and the second date was yet to be determined. The first funding round would be an amalgamation of the September 2024 and March 2025 funding so there would be roughly \$40,000 of funding available.

In answer to questions, the following was clarified:

- The assessment framework did not make a difference to how the applicant applied, it was an administrative part of the process. This was to ensure fairness and it was across the district. The assessment framework was on Council's website for applicants to see.
- There were no funds from the previous financial year. There would be a minimum of \$40,000 for the funding round in March 2025 however it could be more, it was dependent on the strategic partnership fund.
- The team would get communications out to people about the upcoming funding round in 2025.

Long-term Plan 2024-34

The Senior Policy Advisor introduced herself and explained she was the project manager for the Long-term Plan 2024-34 (LTP). The LTP was Council's ten year plan, it was reviewed every three years, the focus was on services and operations and feedback from the community on if Council had it correct or incorrect. Councillors heard submissions from members of the public and then they made decisions on what to include in the LTP. The focus of this year's LTP was to focus on the essentials and push the nice to have projects back a few years. The four key questions that this LTP held were:

1. Have we got the balance right?
2. 'Bag it or Bin it' – Kerbside collection
3. Are we doing what we oughta when it comes to wastewater?
4. Helping to ease the housing crisis

It was determined that bags would continue for kerbside rubbish collection, short to medium term options for Taupō and Tūrangi Wastewater would be looked into while working with iwi and hapū. Council would partner with a building consortium to build affordable homes. Council received over 1400 submissions which were the most ever received. 41 submissions were from the Mangakino area. Common feedback from the Mangakino area included relocation of the dump station, ongoing development of the lakefront, road and footpath improvements. Other feedback was a bombing platform at the pool, opening hours of the Mangakino Pool, extending the footpath along Lake Road, sealing Baker Road, lighting around the basketball court, repairs to Waikato River Trails. What was planned for the LTP was the extension to the footpath on Lake Road, officers were looking at speed bumps along Rangitira Drive, maintenance for the boat ramp was part of the lakefront project. The Senior Policy Advisor explained that if there was anything else then reach out to the Community Engagement or Policy Teams.

Chair Cr Kirsty Trueman explained to members of the public present that if there were things that they

wished to see then reach out, it would be dependent on budgets however some projects might be able to be tweaked or it might need to wait until LTP. The Senior Policy Advisor explained that every year Council did an Annual Plan and this was to review what was said in the LTP, if projects got shifted then Council must consult with the community however if projects do not shift then Council did not need to consult. She explained that staff were always open to have conversations with the members of the community.

Local Water Done Well

The Programme Manager introduced herself and explained that the water reform was still happening but it was now called Local Water Done Well and Central Government was giving councils and community the opportunity to have their say on how they wanted the reform to look. Taupō District Council were looking at how they provided water services currently in the district, looking at the quality of the service and how much it cost. Part of the process required councils to look at other ways to provide water services which had included talking to other councils throughout the region. Public consultation would be completed with at least two options to choose from, possible options would likely be status quo, a Council entity or a regional entity. One of these options was Waikato Water Done Well which was looking at doing water services in an integrated way across councils in the Waikato region. Public consultation would likely be in March or April 2025 and Council would deliberate in April or May with a final decision needed by June 2025.

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- An engagement plan was currently being established and this would have information explaining what it was, how much it would cost, what it would mean for water bills. Information would be available on Council's website and there would be opportunities for conversations with the public to occur.
- The timeline had been set by Central Government, councils had provided feedback to Central Government that at least two years was required to work on this issue however the current timeline remained.

Members explained that this was information that had been a struggle to disseminate as not everyone watched the news, newspapers were closing and this was something they would work on. It was important that the community understood how its water was delivered and the quality of what was in the water.

The following items on the actions table were discussed:

Mangakino Lakefront Development

The Parks and Reserves Manager introduced himself. The Parks team worked on getting some power out there, however they did not have a power design which contractors could quote from and they did not understand what power was currently there. They needed to ensure that all needs for power could be provided, including power supply for vendors and e-bike chargers. The next step was for a consultant to look at the whole package of work. The project was through the LTP, the toilet block had been set up and the next step was to get the boat area set up and then the lakefront area would be focused on.

In answer to a question, the tender for the power was closing the following Thursday and there was work being done, it would depend on Unison however it would likely be done by Christmas 2024.

Whakamaru Basketball Court

The hoops were out from Mangakino to be used on the Whakamaru Basketball Court. Small wins funding could be used to install hoops and this was on the list to take to Council.

Dump Station Relocation

The Parks and Reserves Manager explained that at the last meeting he was asked to go away and look at the viability of 14 College Street, the Community Engagement Advisor Northern District did consultation with the surrounding neighbours. The Community Engagement Advisor Northern District explained that the majority of parties asked were not happy with it. Some of the concerns were health and wellbeing, the area was a thoroughfare for children there, children currently played with the taps in the fire station so there was a concern that they would play with the dump station. There other concerns about stench, overflow and increase in traffic. In answer to a question she explained that there were a couple of people who were happy or did not mind if the dump station was moved to 14 College Street. A member explained that perhaps a fifth option would be to remove it completely, they explained that they were not sure if the motorhome people provided much benefit to the local community. There were dump stations located in Tokoroa and Taupō.

Committee members asked that two more options were researched, the first being if a septic tank could be installed at the transfer station and it would be funded on a user pays basis. The second option to investigate was if a dump station could be installed in Whakamaru next to the wastewater treatment plant. The Parks

and Reserve Manager explained that they were working with the Sports Hub to develop some signage that could be used advising the dump station was closed, this signage would be used while the Sports Hub had events.

MP202412/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Whitu Karauna
Seconded: Ms Charlene Campbell

That the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group notes the information contained in the Mangakino Pouakani snapshot report.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution MP202412/04 above.

5.3 MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following members' reports were received:

Ms Charlene Campbell

- The team who completed the work in Whakamaru Village were amazing, they were polite and supportive and thanked the residents for letting them onto their property so that the works could be completed.
- Newspapers were no longer getting delivered to the Mangakino area which meant the community missed out on a lot of information the Council published in the newspaper. Council did have a regular spot in the Chronicle once a month. It was explained that the Taupō Times was no longer and the Taupō Tūrangi Herald might be stopping too. Members explained that this was a change for society not just for Council, no one was advertising in newspapers anymore. A member did explain that a local newspaper provided democracy, newspapers provided the community with an independent voice.

Mr Mark Seymour

- He asked what could be done about Sounds Air pulling out of Taupō and no longer providing their services. The General Manager Strategy and Environment explained the Chief Executive, Mayor and General Manager Airport were currently working on what could be done and there were negotiations with other providers to fill the gap.
- Levels of arsenic had been found along the river, he explained one of the issues with geothermal electricity was they would take the steam from three metres below the surface, this has a heavy chemical which then came back into the land and water.
- He was concerned about the damage that would be done to local roads in the Taupō District and South Waikato District due to the State Highway One closures. Chair Cr Kirsty Trueman explained that staff had been asked by NZTA to complete a preassessment and post assessment of the roads to determine if there had been damage done due to the road closure.
- Tirohanga Hall maintenance had not be completed currently, the General Manager Strategy and Environment would follow up.
- The annual Christmas party held by Tirohanga Hall was scheduled for 13 December 2024.

Mr Whitu Karauna

- Ecogas was on Broadlands Road in Reporoa, collecting food scraps from across New Zealand and turning it to bioenergy. He asked if the Taupō District food scraps would be collected by Biofuel power plant in Broadlands, Chair Cr Kirsty Trueman explained that the collection of food scraps was not happening currently and food scrap collection would eventually be mandatory through central government.
- There had been previous irrigation issues by the Mangakino Golf Course and there had been some

comments about the smell along the lakefront.

- Explained that Council and community representatives need to work more with the community to help them understand better and he suggested a regular meeting with the public. Members of the public expressed that they would like to meet with community representatives before these meetings. Members were happy to do this and suggested monthly or bimonthly meetings.
- Engaged with South Waikato and they had a Māori Standing Committee with the purpose to provide the information back to Māori. The Iwi and Co Governance Manager explained that there were currently two Māori ward councillors and Māori Representatives on five standing committees, he was interested in ways to increase Māori participation.

Cr Kirsty Trueman

- She expressed she was impressed with Camex too when putting power and footpaths in Whakamaru. Fibre could not be installed at the same time as this works was completed however Chorus had since announced that fibre would be installed in the area.

Mayor David Trewavas

- The Mangakino Christmas Markets held on Saturday were great with lots of activity on the lakefront.

MP202412/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Ms Charlene Campbell

Seconded: Mr Whitu Karauna

That the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group receives the reports from members.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution MP202412/05 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 11.26am with a closing karakia from all present.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group Meeting held on 4 March 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON