

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE WAIORA HOUSE, 100 KAIMANAWA STREET, TAUPŌ
ON TUESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 1.00PM**

PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair until 3.40pm), Cr Kevin Taylor (in the Chair from 3.40pm until 4.20pm), Cr Karam Fletcher (via MS Teams until 2.23pm), Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Kylie Leonard, Cr Danny Loughlin, Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin (until 3.14pm), Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kirsty Trueman, Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services (T Hale), Acting General Manager People and Community Partnerships (H Tattle), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks via MS Teams), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Legal and Governance Manager (N McAdie), Events and Venues Manager (S Giles), Business Excellence Manager (L Chick), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Iwi and Co-Governance Manager (D Rameka via MS Teams), Project Management Office Manager (P Fletcher), Executive Manager Mayor's Office (J Later), Environmental Impact Manager (B Aitken), Senior Policy Advisor (H Samuel), Property Management Lead (P Handcock), Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor (B Forlong), Senior Community Development Advisor (G Smith), Southern Lake Taupō Engagement Partner (M Isherwood), Community Engagement Advisor – Northern Taupō District (C Dredge), Policy Advisor (M Parnwell), Funding and Partnerships Advisor (E Godwin), Project Manager PMO (T Perry, via MS Teams), Community Development Advisor (A Hendricks), Governance Quality Manager (S James), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: Mr Andrew Bateman, Mr Roger FitzGerald and Ms Katie Beith from Forsyth Barr.

- Notes:
- (i) All present opened and closed the meeting with a karakia.
 - (ii) Items were considered the following order: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.4-5.10, 5.1-5.3, 6.1.
 - (iii) Cr Karam Fletcher left the meeting at 2.23pm. He was not present for resolutions TDC202502/09-11, TDC202502/19, and TDC202502/C01.
 - (iv) The meeting was adjourned at 2.23pm and reconvened at 2.45pm.
 - (v) Cr Christine Rankin left the meeting at 3.14pm. She was not present for resolutions TDC202502/09-11, TDC202502/19, and TDC202502/C01.
 - (vi) Mayor David Trewavas left the meeting at 3.40pm. He was not present for resolutions TDC202502/10-11, TDC202502/19, and TDC202502/C01.

1 KARAKIA

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

TDC202502/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That the apology received from Cr Duncan Campbell be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/04 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Yvonne Westerman was Chair of Waiora Community Trust and was not present at discussion for community well-being during item 5.1.

Cr John Williamson advised that he was a School of Music trustee (Item 5.2). He did not participate in the discussion for this item regarding the School of Music.

Cr Sandra Greenslade was a trustee for Maru Trust and was not present at discussion for community well-being during item 5.1.

Crs Danny Loughlin and Yvonne Westerman both declared interests in Kids Greening Taupō.

Cr Danny Loughlin abstained from voting on item 5.7 Harvesting of Omori Forest because his brother-in-law was a trustee for New Zealand Forest Managers.

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 NOVEMBER 2024

TDC202502/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 26 November 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/05 above.

4.2 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 10 DECEMBER 2024

TDC202502/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson

Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 10 December 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/06 above.

4.3 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 17 DECEMBER 2024

TDC202502/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 17 December 2024 (public and confidential portions) be approved and adopted as true and correct records.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/07 above.

4.4 EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 20 DECEMBER 2024

Cr Westerman advised that she had tried to join the meeting online from Mangakino but was unsuccessful which is why she had not apologised for her absence.

TDC202502/08 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That the minutes of the extraordinary Council meeting held on Friday 20 December 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record, as amended.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/08 above.

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

The meeting reconvened at this point (2.45pm).

5.1 ALLOCATION OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FUND (2024 - 2027)

The Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor thanked members for listening to the presentations given by applicants earlier in the day. She summarised the report and confirmed that all applicants would be notified of the results and provided with rationale.

Members worked through the five Council priorities identified in the report and the Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor reiterated the outcomes sought through the fund.

Sport, recreation, and reserves planning

Members supported the score made by the assessment team which was in favour of Sport Waikato. They noted that Sport Waikato had a district wide lens.

Arts, culture and ngā toi and cultural well-being

Members favoured Creative Taupō because they were already working well with Council and had a proven track record. Creative Taupō had helped to develop the ngā toi action plan.

Climate risk and environmental well-being

Members supported the score made by the assessment team which was in favour of Greening Taupō.

Community wellbeing

Cr Yvonne Westerman left the meeting at this point (3.13pm).

Cr Christine Rankin left the meeting at this point (3.14pm).

Cr Sandra Greenslade left the meeting at this point (3.15pm).

Members supported Waiora Community Trust which had been scored highest by the assessment team. However, they also wanted to support Mangakino Central Charitable Trust. It was agreed that in the future when the Long-term Plan was reviewed, there was the possibility for the policy to be changed, as well as the funding allocated to each priority.

Sustainable transport choices

Crs Sandra Greenslade and Yvonne Westerman re-entered the meeting at this point (3.22pm).

Members supported the score made by the assessment team.

Members acknowledged all of the applicants to this fund which was both heartening and concerning. It was heartening that there were so many organisations out there but concerning that so much support was

needed and unfortunately some would be disappointed.

TDC202502/09 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council:

1. Considers applications to the Strategic Partnership Fund for the 2024 – 2027 period.
2. Allocates up to \$300,000 excluding GST, to a maximum of five recipients under the Strategic Partnership Fund and directs Council to prepare and enter into funding agreements until 30 June 2027 with the following organisations:

Sports, recreation, and reserves planning:

\$50,000 per annum, excluding GST, with Sport Waikato

Arts, culture and ngā toi:

\$50,000 per annum, excluding GST, with Creative Taupō

Climate risk:

\$60,000 per annum, excluding GST, with Greening Taupō

Community well – being

\$70,000 per annum, excluding GST, with Waiora Community Trust

Sustainable transport choices

\$70,000 per annum, excluding GST, with Bike Taupō Advocacy Group Incorporated

3. Directs Council officers to notify all applicants.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/09 above.

5.2 ALLOCATION OF ACCELERATOR FUND (2024 - 2027)

The Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor summarised the report and reiterated that each organisation could not be allocated more than \$20k of funding.

Mayor David Trewavas left the meeting at this point (3.40pm), and Deputy Mayor Cr Kevin Taylor resumed the Chair.

The Acting General Manager People and Community Partnerships reassured members that unsuccessful applicants would still receive support through workshops and other funding opportunities.

TDC202502/10 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Kirsty Trueman

That Council:

1. Considers applications to the Accelerator Fund for the 2024-2027 period.
2. Allocates up to \$160,000, excluding GST, to a maximum of eight recipients under the Accelerator Fund and directs Council to prepare and enter into funding agreements until 30 June 2027 with the following organisations:

\$20,000 per annum with Mangakino Central Charitable Trust

\$20,000 per annum with Tūrangi Rangatahi Hub

\$20,000 per annum with Taupō School of Music

\$20,000 per annum with Volunteer Great Lake Taupō

\$20,000 per annum with Kids Greening Taupō (under Tongariro Natural History Society)

\$20,000 per annum with Taupō Sculpture Trust

\$20,000 per annum with Lake Taupō District Sports Advisory Council

\$20,000 per annum with Safe Tūrangi

3. Directs Council officers to notify all applicants.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/10 above.

5.3 ALLOCATION OF FUNDING TO THE ONE-OFF COMMUNITY FUNDS (2024 - 2027)

The Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor summarised the report and confirmed that the remaining funding of \$240K could be distributed across these three community funds.

TDC202502/11 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson

Seconded: Cr Kylie Leonard

That Council approves the remaining available budget for the 2024-2027 community funding programme to be allocated to the following three community funds:

\$40,000 excluding GST to the Mangakino Pouakani Community Fund per annum (until June 2027)

\$50,000 excluding GST to the Tūrangi Tongariro Community Fund per annum (until June 2027)

\$150,000 excluding GST to the Taupō and Taupō East Rural Community Fund per annum (until June 2027)

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/11 above except for Cr Sandra Greenslade who voted against resolution TDC202502/11.

5.4 TEL FUND UPDATE

Mr Andrew Bateman and Ms Katie Beith from Forsyth Barr introduced themselves and talked through the slides attached to the report.

In answer to questions, they clarified the following:

- Any changes to tariffs and the exports from New Zealand would not affect the fund, only the interest rates. This would be mitigated through diversification.
- Decarbonisation was occurring over time but not as quickly as anticipated. Forsyth Barr would continue to look at it year on year and use current best practice.
- Geopolitical objectives would impact the fund but could be mitigated.
- Volatility was expected so Forsyth Barr would not try to time the market but would stay invested in the long-term and keep the balance right of growth versus conservative.

TDC202502/12 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Kylie Leonard

That Council receives the report on the performance of the TEL fund to 31 December 2024 and the environmental, social and governance compliance from Forsyth Barr.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/12 above.

5.5 CONTRACT CN523 WASTE SERVICES

The Environmental Impact Manager summarised the report and clarified that this would be renewing the existing contract which included the same transfer stations. He was pushing for rubbish collection at Kuratau School to be included.

He clarified that the contract was being kept separate from the resource consent for the Broadlands Road landfill and the two would not affect each other.

While greenwaste was not part of the contract negotiation, Envirowaste was looking at green waste private collection. It was expected that other companies could start other user pays services such as collection of food scraps. Council would facilitate this as required.

TDC202502/13 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kirsty Trueman

Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council approves unbudgeted solid waste expenditure of \$121,917 + GST (ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN DOLLARS) for the purpose of awarding contract CN523 for Waste Services for the financial period from 2025/26 to 2031/32.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/13 above.

5.6 CRUSHED CONCRETE CONTAMINATION AT BROADLANDS ROAD LANDFILL

The Business Excellence Manager summarised the report and noted that going forward, the Broadlands Road landfill would not resume crushing concrete.

In response to a question, the Environmental Impact Manager advised that a lot of waste had been diverted from landfill by offering crushed concrete disposal as a service. However, as had been explained, the risk of

contaminated material and being in this position again was why they would stop this service. Asbestos was not accepted at the Broadlands Road landfill so was being diverted to other facilities.

There was potential for a private company to undertake crushing concrete and recycling it if they were prepared to accept the risk.

In response to a question, the General Manager Organisation Performance advised that the funds for this unbudgeted expenditure would be taken from a cash reserve which would not affect rates but could affect cashflow.

The Chief Executive clarified that once funding was resolved, delegation sat with her to sign the contract.

Regarding health and safety, the Business Excellence Manager confirmed the following:

- There were no Council staff at the landfill, the staff were all contractors for Envirowaste.
- An incident investigation was undertaken after the contamination was discovered to ensure that everyone who was in contact was safe or had the opportunity to do the tests. This covered Council as the 'person conducting a business or undertaking' (PCBU).
- The independent investigator advised that Council had done all it could in terms of notifying the public. No public were present onsite when concrete was being crushed.

TDC202502/14 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That Council:

1. Receives the report relating to crushed concrete contamination at Broadlands Road Landfill; and
2. Approves unbudgeted expenditure of \$850,000 (EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS) + GST to the 2024/25 budget for the safe disposal of asbestos contaminated crushed concrete, to be funded from prior year cash reserves.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/14 above.

5.7 HARVESTING OF OMORI FOREST

The Property Management Lead summarised the report and explained that following approval, the harvesting would hopefully be completed during this financial year.

In response to questions, he clarified the following:

- The area was too small to qualify for the carbon credit scheme so no credits would be lost if replanted later.
- New Zealand Forest Managers' advice was to harvest rather than prune these trees.
- Council had an agreement with New Zealand Forest Managers for the harvesting.
- The main forest management contract would be up for tender at the end of the financial year.

TDC202502/15 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council approves unbudgeted expenditure of \$680,000 + GST for the purpose of harvesting Omori Forest.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/15 above except for Cr Danny Loughlin who abstained from voting on resolution TDC202502/15.

5.8 FINAL CONSIDERATION OF PLAN CHANGE 42 (GENERAL RURAL AND RURAL LIFESTYLE ENVIRONMENTS) AND PLAN CHANGE 43 (TAUPŌ INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENT)

The Policy Advisor introduced the report.

In response to a question, the Senior Policy Advisor clarified the following:

- Contact Energy had been very interested in changes to the rural lifestyle zone and looked at it very carefully, resulting in an opposition to the plan change. Further submissions allowed members of the public (landowners) who opposed Contact Energy to submit again. Contact Energy appealed the changes in the next round of appeals. Following this, landowners could have joined the appeal under section 274 of the Resource Management Act 1977 but had not. This resulted in Council and Contact Energy mediating to decide if land was zoned as rural lifestyle or general rural. There were multiple points for landowners to interact and the amount of land that stayed as general rural environment was in small pockets.
- Anyone affected in the geothermal areas would be advised of changes.

TDC202502/16 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Kirsty Trueman

That Council:

1. Gives final approval of Plan Change 42 (General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments) and Plan Change 43 (Taupō Industrial Land) under clause 17 of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991. This shall be effected by affixing the Taupō District Council seal to the Plan Changes; and
2. Pursuant to clause 20 of Schedule 1 to the Resource Management Act 1991, directs officers to publicly notify the date on which the Plan Changes will become operative.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/16 above.

5.9 TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT - JANUARY 2025

The Chief Executive was proud that the World Ironman event in December 2024 was such a success and that Taupō had been named among the top ten places to visit in the world. In answer to a question, she clarified that service requests were triaged when urgent and limited staff were working (such as on statutory holidays).

The Project Management Office Manager advised that the spend on capital delivery was on target at \$45m. She highlighted parts of the portfolio report attached to the agenda item and noted that the Southern Trunk Main project was 95% completed and road cones had been removed from Lake Terrace. She explained that Project Quantum was no longer a centralised project and had been moved to business as usual in the Digital Transformation team. The digital programme as a whole would be reported on to the Risk and Assurance Committee going forward.

In answer to a question, the Project Management Office Manager advised that Te Aonini carpark sealing project in Tūrangi was actually two projects running parallel, one for sealing and the other for drainage. They had been grouped together because they affected the same stakeholders.

The Finance Manager explained that some of the expenditure was under but it would even out in the last part of this financial year. Capital expenditure was sitting at 63.5% of the delivery target. She clarified that the report in March would include an update on the forecasts.

TDC202502/17 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Yvonne Westerman

Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council notes the information contained in the Performance Report for the month of January 2025.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/17 above.

5.10 COUNCIL ENGAGEMENTS MARCH 2025, APPOINTMENTS, AND TRAINING AND CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Senior Committee Advisor advised that an additional workshop had been added which was the Speed Limit Update on Thursday 13 March from 1pm – 2pm.

The Chief Executive explained what the working group was, and the elected member attendance at the Local Government New Zealand conference as per the report.

TDC202502/18 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That Council:

1. Receives the information relating to engagements for March 2025.
2. Appoints Crs Danny Loughlin and Yvonne Westerman to the Broadlands Landfill Consent Working Group.
3. Approves the attendance of Deputy Mayor Cr Kevin Taylor and Cr Kirsty Trueman at the All of Local Government meeting on Thursday 27 February and Rural Provincial meeting on Friday 28 February 2025 in Wellington with the costs of travel and accommodation to be paid by Council.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/18 above.

Chair Mayor David Trewavas adjourned the meeting at this point (2.23pm).

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**TDC202502/19 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

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

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48[1] of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution	Plain English reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter
Agenda Item No: 6.1 Confirmation of Confidential Portion of Ordinary Council Minutes - 26 November 2024	Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	Section 48(1)(a)(i)- the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7	The confidential minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 November 2024 contain summaries of discussions about candidates, so while the resolutions have been released, the minutes are retained in confidence to protect personal privacy

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/19 above.

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

6.1 CONFIRMATION OF CONFIDENTIAL PORTION OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MINUTES - 26 NOVEMBER 2024

TDC202502/C20 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin
Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That the confidential portion of the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 26 November 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202502/C20 above.

The meeting closed at 4.20pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 March 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON