

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE TŪRANGI CO-GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE TE MATAAPUNA, TŪRANGITUKUA PARK, HIRANGI ROAD, TŪRANGI  
ON WEDNESDAY, 5 MARCH 2025 AT 11.00AM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair until 12.30pm), Poumatua | Co-Chair Christian Asher (in the Chair from 12.30pm), Member Lauren Fletcher, Cr Sandra Greenslade, Member Amanda Martin, Member Te Takinga New, Cr Kevin Taylor, Member Amy Walker

**IN ATTENDANCE:** General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Acting General Manager People and Community Partnerships (H Tattle), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks), Iwi and Co-Governance Manager (D Rameka), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Parks and Reserves Manager (G Hadley), Senior Solicitor (K Hollman), Co-Governance Management Partner (S Mavor), Iwi Engagement Partner (T Waaka), Senior Policy Advisor (K Scott), Parks Advisor – Planning and Operations (B Vi), Southern Lake Taupō Engagement Partner (M Isherwood), Iwi and Co-Governance Advisor (A Kereopa), Infrastructure Project Manager (J Dayne), Committee Advisor (D Periam), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts)

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

Notes: (i) *The meeting was opened and closed with a karakia by all present, led by Poumatua Christian Asher.*  
(ii) *Mayor David Trewavas left the meeting at 12.30pm. He was not present for resolutions TCG202503/07-08.*  
(iii) *Mayor David Trewavas chaired the meeting until 12.30pm and then Poumatua Christian Asher resumed the Chair.*

**1 KARAKIA**

**2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES**

Nil

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

Nil

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

**4.1 ORDINARY TŪRANGI CO-GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING - 6 NOVEMBER 2024**

**TCG202503/01 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Poumatua | Co-Chair Christian Asher

Seconded: Cr Sandra Greenslade

That the minutes of the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting held on Wednesday 6 November 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

Note: All members present at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TCG202503/01 above.

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

### 5.1 ELECTION OF CO-CHAIR | POUMATUA FOR THE MEETING

The Environmental Services Manager explained that while the recommendation was for Poumatua Christian Asher to chair the hui, he and fellow Co-Chair Mayor David Trewavas had changed this.

#### TCG202503/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Sandra Greenslade  
Seconded: Member Lauren Fletcher

That the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee elects Co-Chair Mayor David Trewavas to Chair this hui.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TCG202503/02 above.*

### 5.2 PUBLIC FORUM

The following four speakers had registered to speak during this item:

#### Ms Muriel Ellison

Ms Ellison introduced herself to members and advised that she worked for Tūwharetoa Health. A few weeks previously, a community event had been held for suicide prevention. At the event, whānau present were asked for their ideas. One of the ideas was to make a memorial garden where the old playground used to be next to Te Kapua papa tākaro. The garden would have a few bench seats, trees, flower garden and a place where people could put a rock of remembrance. The Department of Corrections had donated a bench seat.

The Parks and Reserves Manager advised that this could be considered as part of the Tūrangi Reserve Management Plan work.

#### Ms Melanie Albert

Ms Albert introduced herself to members and explained that she was representing her partner Adam Puhi from Adam's Drainage and Tu Henry from Henry Contracting.

She advised that Adam had been a qualified registered drain layer for 25 years. He had worked in Auckland and on subdivisions around the Taupō district. Since moving back to Tūrangi he had worked for Dempsey Contractors. He had previously done work in the rohe at various Tūwharetoa marae and put in the ground work at Te Mataapuna in Tūrangi.

She asked how he could strengthen his relationship with Council, and in particular those that contracted out the work, so that he could do the mahi for the rohe and for the community. He needed assistance, feedback and guidance to ensure that if there was a tender, he could get to the next level and be considered for the work.

The Parks and Reserves Manager advised that the Council team could assist with onboarding Mr Puhi to the agreed pool of contractors that Council used but there were minimum requirements such as Health and Safety plans.

Members were keen that Mr Puhi and others around Tūrangi were given every chance to upskill and be considered for employment by Council. This was also an aspiration of the Mana Whakahono. It was requested that a workshop or wānanga be arranged to empower the self-employed contractors to understand the correct processes, put them in spaces for them to uplift their capability, and develop the Health and Safety plans and other requirements.

#### Ms Melanie Albert

Ms Albert also wanted to inform members that her daughter Bella Albert-Puhi had been a Mana Whakahono intern with Council over the summer. She thanked members for giving her daughter the opportunity and advised that it had increased her confidence and that she had learned a lot. It had opened her eyes to possible future work environments and she had enjoyed it.

**Mr Mike Bowie, Tūrangi Development Lead for Amplify**

Mr Bowie presented on behalf of Ms Sue King, Strettons Accountants. For context, he explained that Strettons managed seven properties in the Tūrangi town centre and Ms King regularly met with tenants.

Mr Bowie talked to the PowerPoint presentation that had been emailed to the committee (A3724257) using the presentation notes (A3724258).

In addition, Mr Bowie asked that the maintenance of the Town Centre, including the glass canopy, be carried out routinely rather than be required to be added to the Annual Plan or Long-term Plan. It was an asset owned by Taupō District Council and as such should have a programme of maintenance to bring it up to standard.

**Mr Mike Bowie, Tūrangi Development Lead for Amplify**

Mr Bowie presented on behalf of Ms Christina MacIntyre. Her PowerPoint presentation had been emailed to the committee with the agenda (A3724254).

Mr Bowie explained that Ms MacIntyre had put together and launched a Tūrangi directory that was not just for business, but for activities as well. It was intended to be a focal point for both the community and visitors to Tūrangi. He asked for support of the directory from the committee and their agreement that there was value in having this directory.

From Amplify's perspective, it was a useful asset, an impressive directory and was user friendly.

**TCG202503/03 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Sandra Greenslade

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee receives comments from members of the public.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TCG202503/03 above.*

**5.3 GRANT OF RIGHTS OVER RESERVES AND ROAD TO THE LINES COMPANY LIMITED AND TESLA NEW ZEALAND ULC**

The Senior Solicitor summarised the report and explained the recommendation to members.

It was clarified that Ngāti Tūrangitukua had a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lines Company. They were currently engaging regarding artwork on the transformers to beautify them.

Should there be a licence fee for the licence to occupy, it was agreed that the Council Chief Executive would communicate with the Chairs of the Ngāti Tūrangitukua entities before negotiating this. Additionally, if the status of the land changed from road to reserve, this would be communicated to the Chairs of the Ngāti Tūrangitukua entities.

**TCG202503/04 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Sandra Greenslade

**NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee:

1. Agrees to grant easements in gross and/or licences to occupy to The Lines Company Limited and Tesla New Zealand ULC in relation to each company's assets within the following:
  - a. Ringakapo Street Reserve - 0 Puataata Road – Lot 11 DP 50584;
  - b. Mawake Street Reserve – 0 Mawake Place - Lot 43 DP 28221;

- c. Mihipeka Grove Utility Reserve – 2 Mihipeka Grove – Lot 132 DP 28174;
  - d. The Town Centre – 3 & 83 The Town Centre – Lot 2 DP 60862 and Pt Lot 34 and Lot 48 DP 31159;
  - e. The Town Centre carpark – public road;
  - f. Ohuanga Road Reserve – Ohuanga Road – Lot 2 DP 76954;
  - g. Te Whakarau Street Plantation Reserve – Te Whakarau Street / State Highway 1 / Noni Street - Lot 7 DP 344694.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive to negotiate the final terms of the easements;
  3. Approves on behalf of the Minister of Conservation the grant of electricity easements over the said reserves to The Lines Company Limited;
  4. Approves on behalf of the Minister of Conservation the grant of an electricity easement over 3 and 83 The Town Centre to Tesla New Zealand ULC;
  5. Authorises the Chief Executive and the Mayor to do and sign an Authority and Instruction, easement instrument/s and any certificate of consent needed for the purpose of registering the easements at Land Information New Zealand at Land Information New Zealand at the cost of The Lines Company Limited and Tesla New Zealand ULC.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TCG202503/04 above.*

#### **5.4 TAUPAHI ROAD - REQUEST FOR TREE REMOVAL**

The Parks Advisor – Planning and Operations introduced herself and the Parks and Reserves Manager. She summarised the report and explained that a resolution was required to move forward.

In answer to a question, the Parks and Reserves Manager advised that the replacement tree was suggested to be a smaller species so that it did not grow so tall to touch powerlines and create other issues. The process for replacement trees was for the team to get feedback from residents in the area and follow other processes as set out in the Tree and Vegetation policy.

The General Manager Strategy and Environment advised that Council had received the independent report investigating what had happened. The main failing was that the contractor did not read the work order correctly and had read “removal” instead of “maintenance”. The report had included recommendations for Taupō District Council to improve processes and communication. Council staff were working with the legal team to see how much of the report could be released publicly. Council intended to release as much as it could and would also provide a media release summarising what had occurred. Council would be talking to the arborist company about recovering costs associated with any resource consent to continue with removal of the tree (including the tree stump), the cost of a replacement tree, and any other related costs.

The Parks and Reserves Manager clarified that usually if a tree was going to be removed, residents in the area would be notified in advance and other processes would be followed. These had not been done in this case because a small maintenance job had been requested, rather than a removal.

A member asked that reports be personalised and detailed to acknowledge the appropriate hapū in the Māori Engagement section. In this report, it would have been more appropriate to be specific and acknowledge Council's partnership with Ngāti Tūrangitukua when referring to the engagement that had occurred.

A member pointed out that the tree in its current form was not safe and questioned whether the requirement for a resource consent could be negated because the removal required was remedial work. The General Manager Strategy and Environment understood that it was an onerous task to proceed with a Resource Consent but advised that Council needed to show it was doing the right thing. He and the team would take into consideration the comments around requiring a resource consent.

**TCG202503/05 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Sandra Greenslade  
Seconded: Member Lauren Fletcher

That the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee agree to remove the Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) outside number 43 – 47 Taupahi Road, Tūrangi, subject to a resource consent obtained by council officers.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TCG202503/05 above.*

**5.5 OPERATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATES FOR TŪRANGI****Commercial Signage**

The Environmental Services Manager advised that further to the update to the Committee in October 2024, nearly all of the non compliant signs at the corner of Omori Road and State Highway 41 had been removed. There was an ongoing piece of work to remove non compliant signs at the corner of Grace Road and State Highway 1. Council's Resource Consents Manager - Monitoring continued to work with business owners in Tūrangi to get everyone compliant.

The Southern Lake Taupō Engagement Partner advised that former Council employee Libby O'Brien was going to start a new role as the Ruapehu Operations Manager at the Department of Conservation. There would be a whakatau held the following Tuesday at 11am at Whakapapa.

**Long-term Plan - Community Champions**

The Southern Lake Taupō Engagement Partner had closed the loop with submitters to the Long-term Plan 2024-34 from the western bays through to Hatepe and including Tūrangi. The feedback received was mixed and useful. It would be valuable for future Annual Plans and the next Long-term Plan.

**Motutere Recreation Reserve Management Plan**

The Southern Lake Taupō Engagement Partner caught up with those that had made submissions to the reserve management plan review, and committee members at the beginning of 2025. The policy team and the committee members shared a lunch and whakawhanaungatanga to close the mahi that had been done. This helped the policy team to take learnings forward for how it would work alongside committees in these projects.

**Tūrangi Men's Shed**

The Southern Lake Taupō Engagement Partner advised that they were still on the look out for a suitable space. There were still interested retirees wanting to have a space to meet so if anyone knew of somewhere to set them up, she asked that they get in touch with her.

**Tūrangi events**

The volunteer events team were so proactive and had contributed to a number of events. At Christmas they had the town and surroundings looking very festive. The pallet trees donated from the Department of Corrections were a huge success and the team was planning for Christmas 2025. Christmas in the Park was set for 13 December.

The group would reach out to hapū to plan something together to celebrate Matariki. They hoped to make it a full day event and end with a night market.

**Tūrangi Reserve Management Plan**

The Southern Lake Taupō Engagement Partner advised that she was working with the Senior Policy Advisor on this kaupapa and the first engagement session held two weeks prior at the Tūrangi market had been successful. Many were surprised at the number of reserves in the town and there were a lot of questions and excitement about what could be done with these. A number of submissions had already been received. That afternoon a session would be held with Tūrangi rangatahi.

**Local Water Done Well**

The project team was working on finalising options. Once this was done, Council would go out to the

community for public consultation. More information would be added to the website as it was made available.

### **Team collaboration**

The Community Engagement and Development and Iwi and Co-Governance teams at Council had met earlier in the week for whakawhanaungatanga and how they could work together. Mahi included looking at the Māori wards referendum and civic education. They wanted to get community understanding in a better place when it came to voting and ensure that the community understood the importance of voting.

### **Community gardens**

These were still going strong. Whānau from the marae had been working alongside Mr David Booker from Rotary to teach interested members of the community how they could garden at home. In addition, the Department of Corrections had been making raised garden beds for families to take home, and providing seedlings.

### **Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs**

The Iwi and Co-Governance Advisor introduced herself to members and gave an update on the Tūrangi rangatahi in mahi project on behalf of Gina Pohe. She advised that the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs was a nationwide mayor project and funding was distributed from the Ministry of Social Development. The project was made up of 33 councils and 17 mayors governed it. Ms Pohe was the project lead and the Iwi and Co-Governance Advisor supported her.

The Iwi and Co-Governance Advisor presented a PowerPoint (A3724805).

She explained that 19 rangatahi were currently enrolled and the outcome sought was for 20 rangatahi placed in jobs by the end of June 2025. Of the 19 rangatahi enrolled, five were currently in mahi. Ms Pohe was supporting the others to get skills including obtaining driver licences.

The Iwi and Co-Governance Advisor clarified that if the job placements were not made by the end of June, the funding would have to be returned. This was the first time that Tūrangi had received funding so there were a lot of learnings. The journey was being documented so that the team could try and keep this work going in the future.

### **Trees in Tūrangi**

The Parks and Reserves Manager advised that as part of the kerb and channel project, new trees had been planted on a number of streets and the maintenance of them now fell under the Parks and Reserves team. An arborist would start the following Monday on the maintenance for the new trees.

Tree trimmings would be undertaken on Te Rangitautahanga Road, mostly crown lifting and clearance for buses and fire engines. This work would be carried out by Groundzone who had the necessary skills and equipment.

The Parks and Reserves team was following up with the designer and contractor for Te Kapua papa tākaro because one of the silver beech trees was dying. The team were working on trying to revive it and the other trees which were showing signs of distress. A shade plan had been drawn up for shade structures and there was a possibility that there could be room for new plantings of trees. Natives were favoured because they were evergreen, grew better, and would be more suitable for the long term.

### **Tūrangi Transfer Station**

The Infrastructure Project Manager explained that the extension to the shed was reusing as many materials as possible. Unfortunately the budget was small and they were not able to extend it further to provide space for the Men's Shed.

### **TCG202503/06 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Sandra Greenslade

That the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee receives the updates on operations and community engagement in Tūrangi.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TCG202503/06 above.*

## 5.6 MANA WHAKAHONO WORKPLAN UPDATE

The Co-Governance Management Partner introduced herself to members. She talked through the dashboard report attached to the report and noted the following:

- Joint Working Group member Ms Tina Porou had prepared scope for the cultural values assessment.
- Clauses 24.1 and 26.2 were at Amber status due to the timeframe. There was work due to be done but it had been reprioritised for the timebeing.
- Clause 36.3, the Tūrangi Reserve Management Plan work was progressing well. Draft wording would be brought to the joint working group and then through to the committee.
- The next four matters related to reserves were being progressed and would be brought to the next Joint Working Group meeting.
- Clause 45.3, Training and Capacity Building by providing summer interns had gone well. The next step was to debrief and take any learnings into the next year.

The Parks and Reserves Manager clarified that the public cemetery fencing materials had been obtained to replace the roadside fence. The Reserve Management Plan would only include the cemetery and urupā if the whenua was classified as reserve.

*Mayor David Trewavas left the meeting at this point (12.30pm). Poumatua Christian Asher resumed the Chair.*

It was requested that clause 10.35, Communications plan be updated to ongoing rather than complete.

The Policy Manager explained that with regards to Schedule 2, Appointment of Hearings Commissioners, at the time of the Mana Whakahono being developed, a process was looked at across the district to involve all iwi partners. However, once it was discovered that there were very few formal hearings requiring commissioners, Council asked Ngāti Tūrangitukua to identify potential commissioners so if a hearing was required, training and appointment could be done at that time.

## TCG202503/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Member Lauren Fletcher

That the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee receives the Mana Whakahono workplan update (A3720662).

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TCG202503/07 above.*

## 5.7 MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following members' reports were received:

### Member Lauren Fletcher

- Gave a mihi to the Iwi and Co-Governance Advisor and supporting staff for their help with the Ngāti Tūrangitukua Waitangi Day event which was successful.
- Gave another mihi to the Iwi and Co-Governance Advisor who had worked with the three Mana Whakahono interns. A lot of manaakitanga was required and she thanked her for her mahi. She was keen that a debrief meeting was held to gather learnings.
- The Ngāti Tūrangitukua Charitable Trust was carrying out roof, soffits and veranda repairs to 69 Town Centre. The next stage could be earthquake strengthening.

### Member Amy Walker

- Hapū had met at their monthly meeting earlier in the week and were concerned about the upcoming road closure between Tūrangi and Taupō that would be imposed by Waka Kotahi, the New Zealand Transport Agency. Hapū would make a submission and ask for continuous access for those that

needed it.

- Thanked the Iwi and Co-Governance Manager and Mr Rowan Sapsford for attending the hapū hui and giving an update on the Māori Purpose Zone which was open for feedback as part of Plan Change 47 of the District Plan until 2 May 2025. Their knowledge had helped hapū members and they would now consider what it would mean for them.

#### **Cr Kevin Taylor**

- Would be attending the Regional Transport Committee meeting in Hamilton the following Monday and would raise with the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) representative face to face the road closure concerns between Tūrangi and Taupō. He was also due to meet with another senior staff member at NZTA and would raise this with him. He would be advocating strongly that the Taupō district not be cut in half and would keep members informed.

#### **Member Te Takinga New**

- Was disappointed that no work had progressed since the committee members had set goals as a committee for Tūrangi.
- Requested that Ngāti Tūrangitukua also be acknowledged when events happened on reserves and parks in Tūrangi.

#### **Cr Sandra Greenslade**

- The updated Motutere Recreation Reserve Management Plan had been received well and positively by the community.
- The Tūrangi airfield was achieving positive outcomes for the community.
- Council had allocated funding for the Strategic Partnership and Accelerator Funds at its meeting on 25 February 2025. She noted that for the Community Grants, the Tūrangi Tongariro rohe had \$50K of funding available.
- Had a virtual meeting with NZTA Principal Communications and Engagement Advisor Jane Thompson regarding the proposed road closure between Tūrangi and Taupō. She advised that NZTA were also part of the facebook group and looked at comments relating to the road closure.
- Urged the community to take note of updates on Local Water Done Well which was an important piece of work.
- The Civil Defence Community Plan was still being worked on for Tūrangi.
- Encouraged members and the community to have their say on speed limits on the NZTA website.
- Acknowledged the passing of Dave Lumley who had died recently. He would be missed and had contributed so much to the community. He had worked for 50 years for the Department of Conservation and retired the previous year.

#### **Member Amanda Martin**

- Advised that the recycling shop at the transfer station could be contracted out and managed by a separate organisation to provide work.
- Was shocked at the state of some of the buildings in the town centre. Many needed improvements and were being advertised to be rented out. The building owner would only make improvements to bring it up to standard once they had found someone to rent it.

#### **Poumatua Christian Asher**

- Advised that a lot of the school lunches were arriving too late in the day.
- Had met with others on the Civil Defence Community Response Plan the previous week.
- The Tūrangi Fire Brigade would soon be marking its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- The Waitangi Day event was great but it was noted that there was a lack of shade on the park, especially over the benches.
- The Tūrangi Foodbank was very busy and had lots of customers.
- The Community Dinners every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday were popular.
- Police were concerned at the lack of safety for crossings for school students. One was not replaced after the kerb and channel project was completed going from the kura at Mawake Place across Te



Rangitautahanga Road.

- The Neighbourhood Watch and Safe Tūrangi were looking to amalgamate.

#### **TCG202503/08 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Sandra Greenslade

Seconded: Member Lauren Fletcher

That the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee receives the reports from members.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TCG202503/08 above.*

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

Nil

The meeting closed at 1pm with a karakia from all present, led by Poumatua Christian Asher.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee Meeting held on 2 April 2025.

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**CHAIRPERSON**