

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE KINLOCH REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE KINLOCH COMMUNITY HALL , MATA PLACE , KINLOCH
ON THURSDAY, 3 JULY 2025 AT 3.00PM**

PRESENT: Cr Christine Rankin (in the Chair), Mr Matt Andrews, Mr Tim Brittain (via MS Teams), Mr Pat Kane, Cr Rachel Shepherd, Ms Belinda Walker

IN ATTENDANCE: Community Engagement and Development Manager (T Russell), Senior Community Engagement Advisor (J Charteris), Senior Project Manager PMO (E May), Senior Resource Consents Planner (L Wood), Legal and Governance Coordinator (M Cammell)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: 14 members of the public

Notes: (i) Deputy Chairperson Mr Matt Andrews opened the meeting with a karakia and Cr Rachel Shepherd closed the meeting with a karakia.
(ii) Ms Belinda Walker received permission to film the committee members and council staff presenting to the committee from the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. She then livestreamed to the Kinloch Families' Trust Facebook page.

1 KARAKIA

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

KIN202507/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Mr Matt Andrews

That apologies from Mayor David Trewavas and Cr Duncan Campbell be received and accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Kinloch Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution KIN202507/01 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 KINLOCH REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING - 1 MAY 2025

KIN202507/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Matt Andrews

Seconded: Mr Pat Kane

That the minutes of the Kinloch Representative Group meeting held on Thursday 1 May 2025 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Kinloch Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution KIN202507/02 above.

5 NGĀ RIPOATA | REPORTS

5.1 PUBLIC FORUM

The following individuals spoke at the public forum:

Miss Aria Walker

Miss Aria Walker presented an idea for differentiating safe versus dangerous dogs through a tag system. A green tag would be for a safe dog, yellow to indicate caution, and red for dangerous. She thought it would be beneficial to setup a time where volunteers would test dogs for safety and distribute an appropriate coloured tag. The Chair thanked Miss Walker for her suggestion and noted that she had not heard of that before and would send it on to the dog team.

Mr Simon Smith

Mr Smith sent in a question in advance. He wanted to know the Council's views on the proposed changes to the Building Act 2004 and Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to allow "granny flats" up to 70sq.m to be built without building or resource consent. He was wondering if the changes would override existing consent requirements in Kinloch. He noted that he was inquiring out of his own interest because he had just purchased a section and wanted to put a granny flat on it. He said that there was a lack of affordable housing and solutions like granny flats could be beneficial.

In response, the Chair read a response from the Environmental Services Manager which stated that she could not comment on the Council's view of legislative change but there was a specific District Plan rule in Kinloch around a second dwelling on the property. While a "granny flat" would be exempt from a building consent, a resource consent would still be required as second dwellings were a discretionary activity.

Mr Glen Bunting

Mr Bunting represented himself and other members of the community who had concerns over the speed of traffic on Whangamata Road. He was a traffic engineer for over 40 years and worked for the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) setting speed limit rules and working with traffic control devices. When the Council went out to consult regarding the Whangamata Road project he made a submission and many of his suggestions were implemented including adding parallel parking instead of diagonal parks at the trailhead off of Whangamata Road. He brought a few documents that he presented to the committee including one titled "Guidelines for urban-rural speed thresholds" (A3785818). Mr Bunting suggested the following:

- Establish measures to change the environment of the road to make it more obvious that there was a decrease in speed limit.
- Post a "Welcome to Kinloch" sign to also denote a change in environment.

The Chair found Mr Bunting's suggestions to be very sensible and thanked him for his time.

KIN202507/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Tim Brittain

Seconded: Mr Pat Kane

That the Kinloch Representative Group receives comments from members of the public.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Kinloch Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution KIN202507/03 above.

5.2 KINLOCH SNAPSHOT

Community Engagement and Development and Local Water Done Well

The Senior Community Engagement Advisor provided the following updates:

- Funding applications for the Taupō/Taupō East Rural Community Grants were open from 27 June to 4.30pm 25 July.

- Funding was distributed by the committee on 5 August and each applicant could apply for up to \$5000 per round.
- The Waste Minimisation Fund and Creative Communities Scheme were not affected by elections and opened in September. More information could be found on the website or by emailing funding@taupo.govt.nz.
- Capacity and Capability workshops were coming up. The first was an in-person workshop titled "Understanding the Changes to an Incorporated Society Act 2022" on 30 July from 10am-12pm and 5.30-7.30pm. The online workshop was on 31 July from 6-7pm.
- Two new initiatives were coming soon. The first was Community-led Planning. This was when the people who lived together came together to help shape a society. More details on this initiative would be forthcoming.
- The second was the Disability Initiative. This had a focus on advocating and raising awareness in the disability sector specifically through initiatives like the sunflower hidden disability lanyard campaign and Lake Taupō beach mats.
- On 30 July there was a Halberg's All Ability Day from 10am-2pm at the Taupō Events Centre.

Local Water Done Well

The Senior Community Engagement Advisor thanked the community for coming out to the two sessions held in Kinloch. In total, they received 220 submissions with 74% being supportive of Council's preferred option-keeping water services inhouse. 45% of the submissions were in support of the second option of joining Waikato Water as a limited shareholder; 25% were against and 30% were unsure.

On 24 June, Council had hearings and deliberation and decided that services would remain inhouse for now with a review in two years. Next, the delivery plan would be submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs by 2 September and work would begin to establish a separate business unit with full financial separation as required by the Commerce Commission.

Local Elections and Kinloch Commercial Centre

The Community Engagement and Development Manager gave the following update on elections:

- Candidate nominations open on 4 July and close at noon on 1 August.
- Public notification of candidates will follow soon after.
- Voting closes at noon on 11 October.
- Preliminary results would be available Saturday 11 October and information would be posted on the Taupō District Council website.
- The Candidate Briefing evening was well attended.

She also said that there was a limited notification on the Kinloch Commercial Centre and submissions closed on 24 June. They received one submission at 4.57pm on closing day.

Water Treatment Plant Upgrade

The Senior Project Manager PMO provided an update on the Kinloch Water Treatment Plant. It was on track to be completed by late August. They swapped the two old intake pumps in the intake chamber and the control panel that controls the pumps with new ones. Once they had a definitive date they would look at details for an opening ceremony. He acknowledged that this has been a long, 3-year process and the community had been great in bearing with them.

In response to questions, the following was clarified:

- The fencing on-site would likely come down in August once the concrete was done and everything was finished.
- There was a proposed site for the reservoir but officers wanted to do some local engagement before sharing any updates.

Resource Consents

The Senior Resource Consents Planner discussed the Kinloch Commercial Centre and their choice to go with limited notification. The localised affects of this development were potentially minor. They notified 16 residential properties with only one submission in opposition. They did not want to be heard at a hearing. The applicant was negotiating and hoping to come to an agreement with the submitter and they may or may not withdraw their submission. If the submitter did not withdraw, the decision would be made by a

commissioner. The Resource Consents team's current recommendation was to approve the application. If approved, there would be a café/restaurant, supermarket and space for seven retail tenancies.

There had also been a plan for an early childhood centre approved at 44 Okaia Drive.

A public notification went out for the Seven Oaks development earlier in the year. They received 33 submissions with 28 in opposition. A hearing was scheduled for 27 and 28 of August after which a commissioner would make a decision.

In response to queries, the following was clarified:

- After the hearing the commissioner would take time to officially close it then they would have 15 working days to issue a decision and write it up.
- Consent numbers 250141 and 250142 complied with the minimum subdivision sizes.

The Chair emphasised that people with holiday homes could vote in an upcoming election with special permission from ElectionsNZ.

KIN202507/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Matt Andrews

Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That the Kinloch Representative Group notes the information contained in the Kinloch Snapshot report.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Kinloch Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution KIN202507/04 above.

5.3 MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following members' reports were received:

Mr Pat Kane

- He was following up on the resource consent for the kindy. They were making progress with drawings and feeling good about approaching potential funders.
- Thanked the Senior Community Engagement Advisor and her team for her work in engaging with the community.
- Maintenance was needed on the eastern beach driveway. Passing cars elected to go off the asphalt onto the grass causing the berm to deteriorate and water to come up under the tar seal.

Mr Matt Andrews

- Thanked Mr Pat Kane and Mr Ron McPhail for the gentle reminders about the beach mats. He was working on chasing that up and they were not far off. He hoped to have an answer before the next Kinloch Representative Group meeting.
- There was some privately owned land on the eastern beach where there could be some changes to paths and tracks. This had raised some concerns in the community.

Mr Tim Brittain

- He was looking forward to a positive result with the beach mats and an update on the replacement poplars.
- Attendance for the Field Day on the stream trails was not great. They would repeat the event in the summer to get more people involved.
- Expressed his concerns over the entrance fee for the Kinloch market and wondered why there should be a fee when it was being hosted on a public reserve.
- Acknowledged the passing of Mr Rex Pitt, a longtime resident of Kinloch, one of the original fire chiefs and member of the Kinloch Community Association.

Ms Belinda Walker spoke to the entry fee charge for the Kinloch Market. They charged a \$5 fee for adults.

Children could enter for free. The organisers partnered with Kinloch Families Trust and gave 20% of the entry fee earnings to them which would then go towards the kindy. They charged an entry fee largely to make the events more sustainable and manage traffic.

In response to the query around the poplars, the Community Engagement and Development Manager said that the trees were on the workplan, they were just waiting on the best time to plant, and public consultation.

Cr Rachel Shepherd

- Highlighted that the community grant applications for Taupō/Taupō East Rural were open.
- She attended a Local Water Done Well pop-up in Kinloch and had a few good conversations. Generally, the community was happy they were there and accessible.
- The decision to go with the inhouse separate business unit option was the biggest decision the Councillors had made in the last decade. The decision would be reviewed in two years. They would have a procurement agreement with Waikato Waters and look for efficiencies in staff and materials. The Chief Executive did a good job negotiating with Waikato Waters.
- She was happy to discuss how she found her first term on Council for anyone interested in standing in the upcoming election. She considered this first term her 'apprenticeship' and planned to run again.

Ms Belinda Walker

- Thanked the councillors who regularly attended the Kinloch Representative Group meeting.
- Thanked the public forum presenter, Mr Glen Bunting, for sharing his expertise. If a "Welcome to Kinloch" sign came to fruition, they would like to have the Māori name represented with "Welcome to Whangamata Bay" on a sign as well.
- The Matariki event had been postponed to 6 July due to weather. The event was held at 11 Kahikatea Drive. There was an opportunity to share lollie scrambles, go on a treasure hunt, do some planting and share ideas for the Terrain Park.
- Thanked the organisers of the Kinloch Market for selecting the Kinloch Families Trust as the recipient of 20% of the entry fee.
- Thanked Mr Pat Kane for his work on the kindy project. The approval for which came through on the anniversary of Mr Jack Jenkins' passing.
- The Kinloch Families Trust trolley derby would be held in November. A call to get involved would be coming soon.
- There was a community catch up where a few questions were raised including what was already addressed by Mr Bunting regarding Whangamata Road safety. Another question was raised about the Oakdale Drive footpath and encroaching grass and whether a service request could be put in.
- Rockclimbing at Kawakawa point was not permitted- it was private land.
- There had been a meeting about the bus stop and bus parking that morning. They were concerned about whether buses would still be able to park in the area off of Mata Place. The bulk of families and families still to come would be coming from the far side of Kinloch. They were wondering if it would be possible to have a 15 minute bus stop/pull-in area off of Lisland Drive.

KIN202507/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Ms Belinda Walker

That the Kinloch Representative Group receives the reports from members.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Kinloch Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution KIN202507/05 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 4.09 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Kinloch Representative Group Meeting held on 4 September 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON