

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MANGAKINO-POUAKANI REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE MANGAKINO SPORTS HUB, WAIRENGA ROAD, MANGAKINO , 3421
ON TUESDAY, 1 JULY 2025 AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT: Cr Yvonne Westerman (in the Chair), Cr Kirsty Trueman (via MS Teams), Mr Whitu Karauna, Mayor David Trewavas

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Parks and Reserves Manager (G Hadley), Iwi and Co Governance Manager (D Rameka), Community Engagement and Development Manager (T Russell), Parks Advisor Planning and Operations (B Vi), Communications Specialist (A Taylor), Senior Engineering Officer Transportation Operations (M Giddy), Infrastructure Project Manager (J Dayne), Community Engagement Advisor Northern Taupō District (C Dredge), Committee Advisor (D Periam)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: 12 members of the public

1 KARAKIA

All present at the meeting said the opening karakia.

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

MP202507/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor David Trewavas

Seconded: Mr Whitu Karauna

That the apologies received from Ms Charlene Campbell, Mr Mark Seymour and Ms Sapphire Tanirau be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution MP202507/01 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MANGAKINO-POUAKANI REPRESENTATIVE GROUP MEETING - 22 APRIL 2025

The minutes were amended in the following manner:

On page 6 under dump station relocation, the wording was changed from "it would not be possible to move the current dump station closer to the wall.." to "it would not be possible to move the current dump station closer to the fence line.."

MP202507/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor David Trewavas

Seconded: Cr Kirsty Trueman

That the minutes of the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting held on Tuesday 22 April 2025 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record, as amended.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution MP202507/02 above.

5 NGĀ RIPOATA | REPORTS

5.1 PUBLIC FORUM

Three members of the public spoke to the Mangakino Pouakani Representative Group:

Mr Glen Fraser

Mr Fraser explained he was speaking on behalf of holiday home owners and local rate payers regarding the boat ramp at Lake Maraetai. He explained that the boat ramp needed fixing. Mangakino rate payers paid the same rates as Taupō and should receive the same services. It was the only public boat ramp in the area and the road cones have been on the ramp for many months. People need to stand next to their trailers and with having one less lane available it meant there would be more congestion for utes and trailers which was a hazard for pedestrians.

He expressed that Mangakino was a good community of permanent residents and holiday makers and they wanted a return on the rates they pay. He understood that there was a plan to upgrade the lakefront but he wanted the boat ramp fixed as a priority.

The General Manager Strategy and Environment explained that Council was aware of the issues of the boat ramp and a project to upgrade the lakefront had begun. Part of the scope of the project was upgrading the boat ramp. He assured Mr Fraser that the project would not take 10 years to complete. The purpose of the project was to provide a solution for the entire lakefront and was expected to be completed in the next 12 months. In answer to a question the General Manager Strategy and Environment explained that when the cost of the project was capitalised, the cost of renewals was factored into future budgeting.

The Parks and Reserves Manager explained that the boat ramp in Taupō was not funded by rates as it was run by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) and it had a charging system. The issue of the boat ramp would be addressed by the lakefront development project.

Ms Hope Woodward

Ms Hope Woodward explained that she was advocating for the Mangakino community and she had some feedback she had received from the community.

She acknowledged Council's recent update about the Mangakino Lakefront development on the local community page and it was great to see the design phase was underway. The community want to ensure that their feedback was being used. The community wanted a clear timeline including key milestones and when public input would be invited.

She had the following questions regarding the lakefront development:

- Was it correct that the project being funded through the Destination Infrastructure Fund which was a fund focused on tourism outcomes and if it was correct why was it being funded through that?
- Who had the contract for the design and who would be contracted to build the project?

The boat ramp was being used as a single lane at the moment and while she was pleased that it was part of the improvements, she wanted something done in the short term to ensure safety. She asked if the maintenance of the boat ramp could be made urgent and prioritised to be completed first. She asked if the public would have input into the design of the boat ramp.

The Mangakino Bridge had flooding issues and she wished to confirm who was responsible for the maintenance and management of the Mangakino Bridge, was it Council or New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA)? She asked, if it was NZTA could Council support the community to get the bridge fixed. The flooding was quite dangerous and it was an accident waiting happen. Flood signs and lower speed signs were put out once the flooding has happened and it would be better for the signs to be put out before the flooding starts.

From 1 August 2025, cash would no longer be accepted at transfer stations across the district, including Mangakino due to recent thefts and property damage. She explained that while this might be an issue

elsewhere, she was not sure this was an issue in Mangakino. This felt like it was a blanket rule with no consideration for the local communities. The cashless system would exclude kuia and kaumātua who don't have eftpos cards, whānau without internet banking or mobile phones, visitors, seasonal workers and those who live rurally and rely on cash. When people could not legally dispose of rubbish, they could start dumping it illegally. She understood that the transfer station was operated by EnviroNZ but Council held the contract. She asked Council to stand for rural communities. She held a community hui last Thursday and she had a petition asking for cash to be brought back into the community and she had received quite a few signatures.

She had been contacted by a community member who wanted speed bumps installed on the road outside the pensioner flats as this area was being used by drivers to speed through. It was directly opposite the school and public pool which has high foot traffic when open. This was a serious safety concern for tamariki, kaumātua and all pedestrians. She wondered if this could be considered for review. In answer to a question, it was clarified that it was Karamū Street.

She was looking forward to the update and timeline for the Dump Station relocation project.

She was looking forward to the reopening of the library and the refreshed children's area which was a project herself and another community member helped get off the ground. She hoped the space continued to grow into a vibrant space for all ages.

Some other ideas for the library she had included:

- A teen space
- Lego/brick clubs
- Digital support sessions for our elderly
- Reading competitions or book clubs to encourage our young readers

The toddler time sessions were running well and other parents had suggested that weekly sessions rather than fortnightly would make it easier to remember and plan around.

The General Manager Strategy and Environment thanked Ms Woodward for speaking and acknowledged the time she had taken to get community feedback. He was aware that Ms Woodward had a service request and request for information with Council so officers would respond to her queries via email.

Mr Fenton Ahipene

Mr Fenton Ahipene explained he wanted to meet with Council's Chief Executive to discuss the ownership of Mangakino Town.

MP202507/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Whitu Karauna

Seconded: Mayor David Trewavas

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 MP202507/03 above.

5.2 DELIBERATION REPORT OF GRAZING LICENCES IN WHAKAMARU AND MANGAKINO

The Parks Advisor Planning and Operations introduced herself and summarised the report.

In answer to a question she clarified the following:

- Both lease holders had held the leases for a long period now.
- An increase of fees had not been explored yet but would be as part of a cost recovery process and Consumer Price Index adjustment.

MP202507/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Whitu Karauna

Seconded: Mayor David Trewavas

That the Mangakino Pouakani Representative Group agree to:

1. Grant a licence to L P Martin to occupy part of Whakamaru Recreation Reserve for the purpose of grazing under section 74 (2) of the Reserves Act 1977, for a term of 5 years commencing 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2024 with a right of renewal for 5 years commencing 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2029; and
2. Grant a licence to P R & K M Hilhorst to occupy Tirohanga Recreation Reserve for the purpose of grazing under section 74 (2) of the Reserves Act 1977, for a term of 5 years commencing 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2029.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group meeting voted in favour of resolution MP202507/04 above.

5.3 MANGAKINO POUAKANI SNAPSHOT**Community Engagement and Development**

The Community Engagement Advisor Northern Taupō District wished everyone a happy Matariki and explained she had the privilege of celebrating with the Mangakino community at the Light It Up for Matariki Day.

The library refresh was continuing with the children's area refresh happening at the moment. She reminded everyone that the hours had changed and was now open on Saturday from 10.00am till 1.00pm. She thanked the community members who were involved and explained there would be a formal acknowledgement at a later date. The completion date was yet to be determined but it would likely be in the next couple weeks. She thanked all community members who provided feedback and she hoped it would be a well-used space.

Community grants had opened and were open until 26 July at 4.00pm. There was information on Council's website and she encouraged the community to come speak to her if they had any questions. This funding round was the last one for the year. The grants were normally in September however this had been pulled forward due to the elections. Applicants could apply for up to \$5,000.

There were more Capacity and Capability Building workshops coming up. Council had teamed up with Community Waikato to provide these free workshops. The next one was called 'Understanding the changes to the Incorporated Society Act 2022' being held on 30 July in person 10.00am – 12.00pm and again 5.30pm – 7.30pm in Taupō. The online workshop would be the following day on 31 July 6.00pm – 7.00pm. There was information on Council's website and posters around Mangakino town.

Community-led planning was when people who live in a place come together and decide what they would like to change within their community. The community would be at the heart of the process with Council supporting. It was about planning for a community by a community and the Mangkino Community would be asked if they wanted to be a part of this.

Council had a focus to support the newly established Taupō Disability Focus Group with some initiatives including the globally recognised sunflower hidden disability lanyard campaign and accessibility to Lake Taupō via a beach mat. They had a quarterly hui with the next one planned in August.

The Halberg's All Ability Day was coming up and she encouraged the public to come along and see what accessibility activities were available in our district.

Local Water Done Well

The Community Engagement Advisor Northern Taupō District thanked everyone that provided feedback and explained Council received 220 submissions. 74% were supportive of Council's preferred option which was to keep water services inhouse for now. The second decision of joining Waikato Water as a limited Shareholder had 45% support, 25% against and 30% unsure.

Mangakino Lakefront Development

The Infrastructure Project Manager introduced himself and explained that he was the project manager for the Mangakino Lakefront Development. The design had been awarded to Bespoke Landscape Architecture in partnership with Davis Coastal Consultants. They had provided some designs and were looking at the budget to see what was possible. Council would come to the community in August with the designs and seek community feedback.

In answer to a question the Parks and Reserves Manager explained that the lakefront was originally intended for water power but the way this was addressed legally was it had an operating easement on the land. Some land was purchased by Council and others by Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) and there was an easement on it and it meant Mercury could use some of it.

Whakamaru Basketball Courts

The Parks and Reserves Manager explained that TR Construction had been awarded the contract to install the basketball hoops, there was no timeframe confirmed yet. In answer to a question, the Whakamaru Basketball Hoops were an agreement between the community and Mercury and the installation was being done by Council on behalf of the community.

Dump Station Relocation

The Parks and Reserves Manager explained that this had not progressed any further and the feedback received from the community was they did not want the dump station located anywhere else in town. Possible options included:

- Leaving it as status quo and operating it with a closed sign on it when the Sports Hub was being used.
- Move it elsewhere.
- Block it off.

The only other option was moving it to Whakamaru Wastewater treatment Plant however there was a lot of work needed on this option including engineering feasibility. At this stage there was no budget for this option but a business case could be included in the next Long-term Plan.

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association (NZMCA) did not want to set up a user pay dump station however they would lease sites on local authority or private owners land. NZMCA were happy with lease agreements but this would mean finding the land and it would be turned into a campground similar to the sites in Taupō and Tūrangi.
- If the dump station was closed then a plumber would come in and close it off, the kit could be given back to NZMCA if they wanted it.

It was explained that there were local community members who used the dump station and community feedback indicated that they did not want the dump station removed from the community.

Trees on Pokuru Road North

The Senior Engineering Officer Transportation Operations introduced himself and explained he helped manage the local roads and the maintenance contract, organised mowing along rural roads and cutting trees too. The trees on Pokuru Road North had been looked at and at this stage there were other trees deemed more dangerous that needed to be prioritised. These trees had withstood a lot of the bad weather received recently. An arborist would be coming to assess the trees and he explained he would follow up with the arborist to see when this would be. In answer to a question he explained that there was ongoing communication with community members living on Pokuru Road North.

He explained that the bridge on the way to Mangakino was owned by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) and so any maintenance was the responsibility of NZTA. Previously, he had passed any service requests to the NZTA Taupō contractor however he was not aware that it was happening so often. He would follow up with NZTA regarding this issue.

MP202507/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor David Trewavas

Seconded: Cr Kirsty Trueman

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 MP202507/05 above.

5.4 MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following members reports were received:

Cr Kirsty Trueman

- Mangakino Lakehop was scheduled for 27 September 2025. Vehicle registrations were now open and cost roughly \$30.
- The cashless system for the transfer stations would be implemented throughout the district and she explained that as far as she was aware the Mangakino transfer station had always been cashless with customers needing a sticker or eftpos. The only exception was the second-hand goods store and providing a koha when purchasing second-hand goods however this money was not received by Council and went to community groups.

Mr Whitu Karauna

- He agreed with Cr Kirsty Trueman that cash was not accepted at the Mangakino Transfer Station.
- He commended the community for getting together and having a hui to discuss issues within the community. He explained that the Community Engagement Advisor Northern Taupō District was the person to speak with as she could narrow down what issues were operational and which issues needed to come to the representative group.
- With regards to community-led planning, he explained that DIA had worked with five communities roughly seven years ago and Mangakino was one of these communities. He felt it fell a little bit short and openness from the community was needed to discuss issues and find community solutions. It would be important for the community-led development that a balance of local residents and holiday home owners were involved.
- It was good that the Mangakino Lakefront Development work was progressing.
- He was happy for someone who wanted to work with NZMCA to provide some land to NZMCA.
- Thanked the community for attending the meeting and he reminded everyone that local elections were coming up this year.

Mayor David Trewavas

- It was great to see the community attending the meeting.
- The Mangakino Sports Hub looked amazing and he thanked the community members who looked after it.

MP202507/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Yvonne Westerman

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 MP202507/06 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 11.12am with all present at the meeting reciting the closing karakia.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group Meeting held on 5 August 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON