

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, LEVEL 1, 67 HOROMĀTANGI STREET, TAUPŌ
ON THURSDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 1.00PM**

PRESENT: Mayor John Funnell (in the Chair), Cr Rachel Cameron, Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Nicola de Lautour, Cr Ngāhuia Foreman, Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Kylie Leonard, Cr Steve Manunui, Cr Wahine Murch, Cr Christine Rankin, Cr Kevin Taylor, Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr Hope Woodward

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services (T Hale), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (H Tattle), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Executive Manager Mayor's Office (J Later), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Governance Quality Manager (S James), Team Leader Resource Management/Reserve Planning (E O'Callaghan), Digital Content Creator (C Hollinger), Senior Policy Advisor (H Samuel), Policy Advisor (C Pilkington), Corporate Solicitor (F Bramwell), Team Leader Corporate Planning (A Smith), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: Four members of the public.

Notes: (i) *The karakia had been said prior to workshops held earlier in the day.*

(ii) *Mayor John Funnell advised that the meeting was being recorded and livestreamed to Council's YouTube channel.*

1 KARAKIA

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

Nil

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Mayor John Funnell advised that he would abstain from voting and discussion during item 6.3 Appointment of External Representatives to Council Committees on appointing business representatives to the Taupō Airport Authority committee.

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 16 DECEMBER 2025

TDC202602/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kylie Leonard

Seconded: Cr Rachel Cameron

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 16 December 2025 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: *All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/01 above.*

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

5.1 PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor John Funnell advised that no requests to speak from members of the public had been received. Cr Duncan Campbell had requested to speak and had been declined because public forums were for the purpose of public input.

While there was support from members for him to speak, the public forum was not appropriate.

TDC202602/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor John Funnell

Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That Council does not proceed with Public Forum and therefore does not allow Cr Campbell to speak as he is not a member of the public for the purposes of this meeting.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/02 above except for Crs Duncan Campbell, Wahine Murch and Hope Woodward who voted against resolution TDC202602/02.

5.2 SUBMISSION ON THE PLANNING BILL AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BILL

The Team Leader Resource Management/Reserve Planning introduced herself and her role, and explained her team's contribution to policy work. The Senior Policy Advisor and Policy Advisor also introduced themselves and their roles.

The Team Leader Resource Management/Reserve Planning summarised key points from the report.

In answer to questions, the following was clarified:

- The goals of the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill would be considered without hierarchy provided they were relevant. Government guidance for balancing these goals was expected to be provided later in 2026.
- Retail Distribution was currently managed in Taupō District Council's District Plan and had been a deliberate approach by Council when the East Taupō Arterial was in development to ensure that a secondary town centre was not developed. Removal of retail distribution in the proposed bill posed a risk to the town centre.
- The submission would be amended to acknowledge that Council officers had not had sufficient time to engage with iwi partners and in particular joint management agreement partners when writing the submission. The submission would acknowledge support for the partners' positions.
- While Council officers had not had sufficient time to engage with iwi partners, they had had informal meetings with Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board staff earlier in the week and shared the draft submission.
- For Resource Consents, there would likely be more permitted activities under the new Bill. The current RMA required wider notification to public and affected parties than the proposed Bill so they would have less ability to input into the development of a Resource Consent.
- While the Bills would make it easier to undertake development, it remained to be seen how the effects of the development would be managed.
- Taituarā's submission was 101 pages long, it had focussed a lot on the restricted timing and short time to implement of 15 months. It also highlighted that the Regional Spatial Committees would need to be set up during this time and the regulatory relief process was not practical in its proposed format.
- Council advocated with other councils on local government matters to central government at Mayoral Forums and by being part of sector organisations such as Local Government New Zealand.

TDC202602/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Ngāhuia Foreman

That Council approves the submission on the Planning Bill and the Natural Environment Bill subject to the inclusion of amendments requested at the meeting.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/03 above.

5.3 RECOMMENDATION FROM THE RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

The Team Leader Corporate Planning advised that this report had been presented to the Risk and Assurance Committee in the previous triennium and it had been recommended that it be received by Council.

In answer to questions, the following was clarified:

- The Risk and Assurance Committee monitored Council's management of natural hazard risks and emergency management areas of activity across reduction, readiness, response and recovery which had previously been an activity of the Emergency Management Committee.
- The report was a snapshot of current risks being faced with a focus on outstanding risks. Long-term Plan funding and improvement plans were in place but it would be important to communicate the outstanding risks to the public going forward.
- High level flood mapping had been done to reduce risk and funding had been allocated through the Long-term Plan.

TDC202602/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kylie Leonard

Seconded: Cr Wahine Murch

That Council receives the Review of Climate Change Risks paper (July 2025).

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/04 above.

5.4 COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS, AND TRAINING AND CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Senior Committee Advisor advised that Cr Sandra Greenslade could no longer attend the Zone 2 meeting. Other members expressed interest in attending.

TDC202602/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Hope Woodward

Seconded: Cr Sandra Greenslade

That Council

1. Approves the attendance of Mayor John Funnell and Deputy Mayor Cr Kevin Taylor at the Local Government New Zealand All-of-local-government meeting on Thursday 26 February and Rural Provincial Sector meeting on Friday 27 February in Wellington with travel, accommodation and attendance costs to be paid by Council.
2. Approves the attendance of Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Nicola de Lautour, Cr Hope Woodward, Cr Ngāhuia Foreman at the Zone 2 Local Government New Zealand meeting on Friday 27 March in Karapiro with travel and attendance costs to be paid by Council.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/05 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

TDC202602/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Cameron

Seconded: Cr Wahine Murch

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
<p>Agenda Item No: 6.1 Confirmation of Confidential Portion of Ordinary Council Minutes - 16 December 2025</p>	<p>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 7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information Section 7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable [the Council] to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>It is necessary to protect applicants' personal information that they have provided in their cover letters and curriculum vitae, and to protect privacy of property owners and negotiations that are taking place.</p>
<p>Agenda Item No: 6.2 Oruanui Road Legalisation and Access Issues Update</p>	<p>Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(i)- the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to</p>	<p>Private property negotiations and legal opinion privilege</p>

	<p>that of deceased natural persons Section 7(2)(g) - the withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege Section 7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable [the Council] to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</p>	<p>result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7</p>	
<p>Agenda Item No: 6.3 Appointment of External Representatives to Council Committees</p>	<p>Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>It is necessary to protect applicants' personal information that they have provided in their cover letters and curriculum vitae.</p>

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/06 above.

The meeting closed at 3.31pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 February 2026.

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CHAIRPERSON