

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TAUPŌ AIRPORT AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE TAUPŌ AIRPORT, ANZAC MEMORIAL DRIVE, TAUPŌ
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY 2026 AT 1.30PM**

PRESENT: Mr Chris Grace (in the Chair from Item 5.2), Cr Duncan Campbell, Mr Mark Costello, Mayor John Funnell, Cr Steve Manunui, Mr Barry Payne (Observer), Mr James Turner (Observer) (via MS Teams)

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), General Manager Airport (W Wootton) Airport Operations Manager (K Gard), Airport Safety Manager (S Petersen), Finance Business Partner (D Klue), Committee Advisor (D Periam)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: 6 members of the public

Note: (i) *The General Manager Strategy and Environment opened and closed the meeting with a karakia.*

(ii) *Items were considered in the following order: 1, 5.1, 2, 3, 4, 5.2-5.11, 6*

(iii) *Three representatives from two companies presented to the committee individually in the confidential portion of the meeting in relation to item 6.2.*

1 KARAKIA

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

Nil

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Mayor John Funnell – Lease holder at the Taupō Airport

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 TAUPŌ AIRPORT AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEETING - 23 FEBRUARY 2026

TAA202605/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Duncan Campbell

Seconded: Mayor John Funnell

That the minutes of the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting held on Monday 23 February 2026 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: *All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/01 above.*

5 NGĀ RIPOATA | REPORTS

5.1 PUBLIC FORUM

Item Withdrawn

5.2 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

TAA202605/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor John Funnell
Seconded: Cr Duncan Campbell

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee confirms that System B will be used to determine the election process for the Chairperson.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/02 above.

TAA202605/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Duncan Campbell
Seconded: Mayor John Funnell

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee elects Mr Chris Grace as the Chairperson of the Taupō Airport Authority Committee.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/03 above.

5.3 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

TAA202605/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor John Funnell
Seconded: Mr Mark Costello

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee confirms that System B will be used to determine the election process for the Deputy Chairperson.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/04 above.

TAA202605/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Chris Grace
Seconded: Mayor John Funnell

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee elects Cr Steve Manunui as the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee for the 2025-28 Triennium.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/05 above.

5.4 OPERATIONS UPDATE

The Airport Operations Manager summarised the report.

Airside bunded area

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- WorkSafe requested the change. There was electrical control gear which controlled the gates and it was too close to the bunded area which could put the tanker at risk from static electricity.
- Various solutions were being worked through with the affected parties.

Security Incident Response

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- It was a threat via a phone call, the person was known to police.
- If there was an aircraft with passengers on board during that time, passengers would not have been allowed to deplane.

Wildlife risk with black-backed gulls

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- It was a worry for aviation users that the birds could be a hazard.
- Taupō Airport Authority (TAA) monitored wildlife within the airport confines, however, the gull's flightpath fl outside of the area.
- TAA would work with Council as owner of the landfill if any action was required.

Business continuity and fuel crisis risk analysis

In answer to a question, it was explained that officers had engaged with civil defence in relation to the fuel crisis.

Airways New Zealand DVOR project

The Airport Safety Manager explained the non-directional beacon (NDB) would be kept for a year to 18 months and would run in conjunction with the new DVOR. In answer to a question it was explained that it would be placed on the eastern side of the aerodrome adjacent the boundary fence.

Passengers

The General Manager Airport explained there had been a decrease in passengers when compared to March 2025.

TAA202605/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Steve Manunui

Seconded: Mr Mark Costello

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee receives the Airport operations update.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/06 above.

5.5 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Finance Business Partner summarised the report and in answer to a question, it was explained that the next CAA recertification would be in July 2028.

TAA202605/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Duncan Campbell

Seconded: Cr Steve Manunui

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee receives the Taupō Airport Authority Finance Report for the period ended 31 March 2026.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/07 above.

5.6 TAUPŌ AIRPORT AUTHORITY CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

The General Manager Airport summarised the report.

Runway surface treatment

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- The runway was built in 1960's and resurfacing had been completed since then.
- The runway had deteriorated a lot since the last survey in 2022.
- There were also issues with the southern end of the taxi way.
- Officers were looking to complete the work over four years.
- The Ministry of Transport Observer explained that there were no noticeable patterns of runway deterioration across the five joint owned runways.

Fencing and gates

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- There was no timeframe limit on when the fencing around the perimeter could be completed.
- The airport was required to have an operational fence around the boundary.
- If the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) decided to change the security conditions of operational fencing, this could be costly.
- There may be an option to get joint funding with NZTA on the boundary with the State Highway.

For the following four financial years

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- The development of aviation and non-aviation areas was a four year rolling project and therefore it was budgeted across those four years.
- There had been very little interest in leases at the Taupō Airport until the past 6 months.

Members felt it would be good to revise the draft master plan in order to gain direction on the future of the airport.

TAA202605/08 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Duncan Campbell

Seconded: Mr Mark Costello

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee receives the capital projects update.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/08 above.

5.7 DISTRICT PLAN NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT AND PRIVATE PLAN CHANGE

The General Manager Airport summarised the report.

In answer to questions, the following was explained:

- Projected increases in aircraft indicated there would not be a huge increase in commercial aviation but likely general aviation.
- Development contributions were to cover growth and this plan change was not within the scope of what development contributions could be used for.

TAA202605/09 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor John Funnell
Seconded: Cr Duncan Campbell

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee receives the District Plan Notice of Requirement and Private Plan Change update.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/09 above.

5.8 NEW ZEALAND AIRPORTS

The General Manager Airport summarised the report.

TAA202605/10 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Mark Costello
Seconded: Cr Duncan Campbell

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee receives the New Zealand Airports information.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/10 above.

5.9 TREES

The General Manager Airport summarised the report.

TAA202605/11 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Mark Costello
Seconded: Cr Duncan Campbell

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee receives the update on trees information.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/11 above.

5.10 TAUPŌ AIRPORT CAR PARKING CHARGES

The General Manager Airport summarised the report.

TAA202605/12 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor John Funnell
Seconded: Cr Steve Manunui

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee receives the Taupō Airport car parking charges information.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/12 above.

5.11 TAUPŌ AIRPORT - RUN THE RUNWAY

The General Manager Airport summarised the report. It was explained that there were a few airports around the country that hold this event. In answer to a question, he explained that it would be done after the last commercial flight and officers would work with the general operators with the run/walk being held during daylight hours.

TAA202605/13 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Steve Manunui
Seconded: Cr Duncan Campbell

That the Taupō Airport Authority Committee receives the Taupō Airport run the runway information.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/13 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

TAA202605/14 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mr Chris Grace
Seconded: Mr Mark Costello

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	Section 7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary	Section 48(1)(a)(i)- the public conduct of the relevant part of the	It is necessary to exclude the public for consideration of this

Taupō Airport Authority Committee Minutes - 23 February 2026	to enable [the Council] to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities 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)	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	item, as the report contains commercially sensitive information provided by businesses considering development opportunities at Taupō Airport.
Agenda Item No: 6.2 Business Development Landside	Section 7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable [the Council] to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	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	It is necessary to exclude the public for consideration of this item, as the report contains commercially sensitive information provided by businesses considering development opportunities at Taupō Airport
Agenda Item No: 6.3 Business Development Airside	Section 7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable [the Council] to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	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	It is necessary to exclude the public for consideration of this item, as the report contains commercially sensitive information provided by businesses considering development opportunities at Taupō Airport
Agenda Item No: 6.4 Leases	Section 7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable [the Council] to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	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	It is necessary to exclude the public to enable the Committee to receive information relating to Taupō Airport ground leases, including rental costs.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee meeting voted in favour of resolution TAA202605/14 above.

The meeting closed at 5.05pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Taupō Airport Authority Committee Meeting held on 29 June 2026.

.....
CHAIRPERSON