



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 1st September 2026**

Present: (18)

TCC: Charles Fletcher (Chair), Lyn Harris, Anne Cao-Oulton, Peter Mayall, Maggie Wilcock, Peter Nation, Mark Manson
WDC: Cr Crystal Beavis, Cr Mike Keir, Rochelle Deane, Mayor Aksel Bech
Tamahere Lions: Sue Fookes, Robert McHugh
Tamahere Forum: Scott Mathias
Community: Mohan Lala, Nathan Sanderson, Mark Smith, David Ralfe

1. Apologies: Sue Robertson, Jane Manson, Lauren McLean

Motion: Apologies be accepted

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Lyn Harris

All in Favour

2. Confirmation of Minutes of meeting held 4th August 2026.

Motion: Minutes of the meeting held on 4th August 2026 are approved.

Moved: Mark Manson **Seconded:** Peter Nation

All in Favour

3. Matters arising (not on this agenda):

- Mark Manson reported that his neighbours, Mihir & Kinnari Patel, are missing following the devastating floods near the Nepal-China border. Our thoughts go out to their friends & family. Sue Fookes offered Tamahere Lions support.
- Cr Keir reported that there is a person sleeping under the underpass near Hillcrest New World. The Committee suggested that Salvation Army should be made aware of her in case they can help.

4. Correspondence (31 July 2026- 27 August 2026) (38 in | 48 out) - circulated separately

Motion: Correspondence be received and/or approved.

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Maggie Wilcock

All in Favour

5. WDC Service & Delivery Report | Tamahere Community Committee Discretionary Fund | Summary of Consents | SNA's – Rochelle Deane (circulated separately)

- **Summary of Consents:** Rochelle sent a report to Charles, which he displayed on the screen for the meeting. TCC remains interested in developments on Tamahere Drive – what has been applied for/consented? (None on the list)
 - **Action:** Charles to send a request to Rochelle for follow-up.
- **Significant Natural Areas (SNA's)** are now mapped throughout Tamahere. These areas were established by WDC under the Resource Management Act 1991 at the request of the Waikato Regional Council. During the Covid19 era hearings for the

SNA overlay on the Tamahere Gully System were held. The Commissioner's decision changed a general SNA to the classification of ecological corridor. At this point there was no communication with landowners of the decision; nor the impact it would have on their property rights.

This has created serious issues for local residents. Council may have rights to control the SNA's/ecological corridor, but landowners know nothing about the Council's rights.

SNA's were very controversial. During the consultation, submission and hearing process Council assured property owners that due to flora and fauna variance in the gully system all properties had to be "ground truthed" prior to any overlay being applied. Some early work was carried out by Gerry Kessels, an independent Ecologist. Mayor Aksel Bech indicated that, because the current RMA reform is rights based, giving land owners an entitlement to compensation if any property rights are lost, he did not think anything further would be advanced until central Government has replaced the RMA.

- **Reclassification of the Piazza:** Three submissions were received. Submitters will be notified of the Council's decision, which will now be determined on Wednesday 7 October.
- **Piazza Use and Events:** TCC made a submission to Council, including a need for the public of Tamahere to use this area as originally intended, without Council interference. Committee concern is the ongoing challenge for holding events, under Council restrictions/controls, in the Piazza area. Robert McHugh explained Lions had such a drama with Council and its paperwork which made it impossible to proceed with an event using the Piazza. Mayor Aksel Bech is aware of the issue and contemplates the Council will review to resolve this obstacle.
- **Council Speed Limit Review:**
 - People who submitted to this review will be notified of the outcome during the next 2 months.
 - Speed sign changes are being rolled out through the Waikato District currently.
 - No timing could be provided regarding moving 60km/hr speed limit signs on Tauwhare Road, near Woodcock Road, further East towards Bruntwood Road. This is a major concern for Woodcock Road residents as well as those accessing Tamahere Reserve on Tauwhare Road.
- **Playground slide and Shading:**
 - Tamahere Lions have the costings to shade the stainless-steel slides at Tamahere Recreation Park if Council would like to review the information.
 - When the Tamahere Structure Plan was developed (as Plan Change 3), now in the Operative District Plan – Waikato Section, Tamahere Village Business Zone 23B.25.1 (Site development information) the plans to develop the playground at Tamahere Recreation Park included shading. This has not been done.
 - **Action:** Rochelle to feed back to the Council team regarding the Operative Plan playground requirements.
- **Tamahere Park Toilet block:** There is no confirmed delivery date. Indicatively the toilet block was a 6-week off-site build. The contract was confirmed 17 August – suggesting a 28 September delivery date.
 - **Action:** Rochelle to keep our Councillors updated.

- **Discretionary Fund:** As at 31 August Net Funds remaining are \$3,570.64 (with Tamahere Forum paid to 30 September).
- **Momentum Waikato Community Foundation:** Mayor Aksel Bech suggested TCC could apply for funding to facilitate the work being done for Vision Tamahere 2075. Rochelle will forward information regarding application for the funds to Lyn. The fund is designed to provide long-term benefit to the community. The funding round is expected to open in mid-September and close mid-October – approx. \$600,000 contestable.
- **Road reseal programme:** Council's summer road resealing programme is now available. The full resealing schedule & further information can be found on the Council's website <https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/services-facilities/roads-travel-and-parking/roads-and-transport/road-and-footpath-maintenance/roads-being-resealed-this-summer>
- **Bird flu (H5N1) update:** Council is working with MPI, Dept of Conservation, WRC, Health NZ, Iwi partners and other agencies to prepare for any local impacts. MPI is the lead agency for bird flu information. **NOTE:** If 3 or more sick or dead birds are found in the same location, they should be reported to the Biosecurity NZ Exotic Pest & Disease Hotline – **0800 80 99 66**.
- **Tamahere Forum:** TCC committee members and the public are invited to provide feedback on current issues, on the Tamahere Forum. We want to encourage others to add their feedback. This is open to everyone in Tamahere.

Motion: That the Planet Food News Invoices, presented to Council, be paid by the Waikato District Council from TCC LTP funds as follows:

- **Invoice 0115** for \$875.00 (no GST), for consultancy media & communications management of tamahereforum.org for the period 1 October 2026 to 31 October, is approved for payment by 1 October 2026
- **Invoice 0116** for \$875.00 (no GST), for consultancy media & communications management of tamahereforum.org for the period 1 November 2026 to 30 November, is approved for payment by 1 November 2026
- **Invoice 0117** for \$875.00 (no GST), for consultancy media & communications management of tamahereforum.org for the period 1 December 2026 to 31 December, is approved for payment by 1 December 2026

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Mark Manson

All in favour

Motion: WDC Service Delivery Report and the Discretionary Fund Report be received.

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Peter Nation

All in favour

6. **Councilors' Report** - Report circulated by Crystal and Mike and accepted as read.

- **Waikato District Long Term Plan (LTP) consultation:** Council and its Councilors' want to know what residents want for the LTP 2027 review. Cr Keir has made some suggestions for consideration.

Vision Tamahere 2075 is a critical part of this process to prioritize what is important to Tamahere residents. Consultation through Tamahere Forum is intended, in addition to a proposed Open Day/Workshop in Tamahere.

TCC has engaged a Planning Team, in consultation with the Council, comprising Ben Petch, Jim Ebenhoh and Sam Foster, to provide professional input to the plan development while WDC staff restructure proceeds. Stage one will be for the next three years and Stage two, to be completed within 12 months, is to be the bigger picture through to 2075 and including Ngāti Hauā, Matangi and some of Tauwhare.

- **Action:** Councilor's to set a date for the community consultation – TCC will provide key community topics to help guide this consultation. Suggested date is Sunday 4 October or later in October as Cr Keir will be away later this month.
- LTP will focus on the next 3 years only. Usually the LTP is updated every 2 years but HeadStart and Local Body reforms are likely to see significant changes.
- Cr Beavis noted that more funds are required for stormwater. The budget is tight. The level of service provided by Council needs to be sensible.
- **Fast Track Update:** Waikato District Council has the most FastTrack project applications in New Zealand and almost 50% of these projects are in the Woodlands-Tamahere Ward. Concern expressed at unintended consequences if each application is considered in isolation and without a unified vision/plan.
 - WTR: Held a community meeting Sunday 23 August (2.00pm – 5.00pm) to receive local feedback and share details of their updated plans.
 - Hamilton Southern Links is a FastTrack project.
- **Proposed Sand Quarry** on Cambridge Road: Cr Beavis reported that the Waipa DC was still waiting for further information to be provided by the applicants before the application can be fully considered. TCC has contacted the Applicant.

Motion: Councilors' report be received.

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Maggie Wilcock **All in favour**

7. Roothing

- **Tamahere Drive upgrade:**
 - Aram Goes has circulated the approved Tamahere Drive road project and work is scheduled for January – March 2027.
 - Nathan Sanderson (Tamahere Country Club) has suggested the bus stop continues to be outside the Country Club as this is a safe place for people to get on and off the bus rather than on the North bound on-ramp. Waikato District Council will consult with Waikato Regional Council regarding a suggested route change.
- **Meeting with NZTA:** Scheduled for 2 September 2026
 - Maggie, Peter, David, Charles & Lyn will be attending this meeting tomorrow. Charles suggested that it would be great if Aram (WDC Roothing) could attend. Cr Beavis & Cr Keir have confirmed their attendance.

- Focus will be Southern Links, road network resilience, safety concerns around Narrows Bridge and Pencarrow Road intersection with Airport Road and how we can constructively facilitate this work proceeding as soon as practical.
- **WTR Fast Track proposal:**
 - Mayor Aksel Bech provided the meeting with the updated WTR Project Overview Report given to Council today (this can be shared publicly).
 - The WTR proposal is complex in that it has 5 key stakeholders, and consensus is required for the proposal to proceed.
 - The WTR team are working hard to get the required information to the Government prior to the November elections.
 - Waipa District Council have been asked for their feedback regarding this project.
 - Directly affected residents are being listened to, the Stakeholders are adjusting their plans to accommodate concerns.

8. Vision Tamahere 2075

- Meeting Minutes from 26 August have been circulated to the committee.
- We need planning assistance/expertise for this project.
- Stage 1 focus is on the next 3 years for Tamahere.
- Stage 2 will be scoped to include our Ngāti Hauā, Matangi and Tauwhare neighbour's, who are in support of this work being done with a broader focus.
- Both stages are being scheduled for completion within the next 12 months.
- Mayor Aksel Bech indicated that the Council is looking at funding for the current budget at \$60,000 + GST and is keen for TCC to seek funding (as indicated in 5 above) elsewhere so some of the cost (especially Stage two) can be covered. His biggest concern is any escalation of cost and opening the door for other areas (e.g. Raglan) who might want similar work done soon. Charles responded that Tamahere rates, over the last 3 years have been approx. \$35 million and the next 3 years will be in the order of \$40 million, no other area comes close to the \$75 million Tamahere is paying in rates to the Council with maybe a \$1.2 million capital spend back in Tamahere along with core services, so the cost of this work is the very least Council should be willing to meet. It is vital to the District and the impacts of future growth of both Hamilton and Cambridge. This work will include Blueprint and Future Proof work and a foundation for a new Structure Plan for the area (given that none exists now) and/or a Spatial Plan for how the Airport, Rukahia, Peacocks, Tamahere, Matangi, Hautapu, Cambridge, Silverdale, Ruakura (especially the inland port) will grow including the critical roading infrastructure to meet traffic and freight movement (Auckland – Hamilton – Tauranga) by road and air. This work is necessary for core Council planning and is too big and significant for our volunteer committee to do alone without expertise from Council, or outsourced if staff do not have resources available at this time.
- Charles is keeping in touch with Titoki Sands and Regal Haulage to understand their future plans. He suggests contacting larger landowners in the area, to find out indicatively what their long-term plans/preferences are likely to be, is also desirable.
- He has also had discussions with Ngāti Hauā about the historical Marae site by the Tamahere Interchange and its future development (given that it is part of our front

door). The trustees are pleased with the work TMRT has been doing in the Tamahere Reserve and happy for TMRT to help them regain control of the Marae site.

Motion: That the Tamahere Community Committee:

- Confirms its support for the development of the **Vision Tamahere 2075** plan, as a community-led project in consultation with Council and Ngāti Hauā, to set guidelines for the long-term future outcomes for Tamahere, Matangi and some of Tauwhare including the local Marae.
- Recognises that professional planning and consultancy expertise is required to translate the community's aspirations into a credible actionable plan with useable costings for Council; and
- Requests that Waikato District Council immediately approve \$60,000 + GST to fund the Planning Team to facilitate this work, based on the scope and fee proposal agreed with Ben Petch, Jim Ebenhoh and Sam Foster. This will cover the work for Stage one of Vision Tamahere 2075, the Scope of Stage two and what is needed for the Council to consider for the 2027 LTP review

Moved: Peter Mayall

Seconded: Peter Nation

All in favour

- The Tamahere Forum will be used to push consultation for this project forward. Committee members contributions and feedback for this consultation is essential.

9. Chairmans Report:

• **Matangi Recreation Reserve:**

- There is a Workshop scheduled for tomorrow afternoon @ 3.00pm
- The Final stage of the Concept Plan will be presented which has been approved by the Steering Committee.

• **Tamahere Reserve:**

- This project has stalled. Matthew (WDC) is expecting information back from Boffa Miskell about now, so it should be available before our next meeting.

• **Tamahere Forum Signs:**

- These are available from Mark. Signs are going up around the Tamahere area. Assistance from everyone would be appreciated to erect more.

• **Tamahere Community Charitable Trust (TCCT):**

- Charles is awaiting signatures to complete the ASB requirements (Sue will be back on 4 September).
- The Trustees are to consider a request from the Tamahere Community Response Group (Civil Defence) to facilitate banking and funds management.

Motion: That the Chairpersons Report be received.

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Anne Cao-Oulton

All in favour

10. Reports:

- **Tamahere Community Response Group (Civil Defence):** Report received & circulated separately

- **Matangi Community Committee Update:**
 - Charles has invited Matangi Community Committee along with Tauwhare & Ngāti Hauā to be part of the Tamahere Vision 2075 project.
- **Predator Free Tamahere:** *Report received and circulated separately.*
 - We appreciate the update and the record of their appreciation for receiving a Mayoral award.
- **Tamahere Lions:** The Lions group are looking for new projects – suggestions welcomed.
 - Lions tried to organize a Berry Festival to be held in the Tamahere Piazza for February 2027, but the Council requirements made it too difficult to put together. You can't get stallholders confirmed until you have confirmation that the event can be staged!
- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT):** *Report received and circulated separately.*
- **Tamahere Model Country School (TCMS):** *Report received and circulated separately.*
 - Last day of Term 3 is Friday 25 September.
- **Tamahere Saint Stephens Church:** Saturday 19th September is the next market day.

Motion: All of the above reports be received

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Peter Mayall

All in favour

11. Submissions:

- **Local Government (Management of Local Authorities) Amendment Bill:** Public submissions are open on the proposed changes to The Local Government Act. Submissions close on Friday 18 September. For more information visit <https://bills.parliament.nz/>
- **Building Amendment Bill:** The Government is seeking feedback on a wide-ranging package of building system reforms aimed at reducing costs and delays, including changes to liability, professional indemnity insurance, building warranties, solar energy approvals, and granny flat regulations. This is a significant opportunity for communities, homeowners, and the building sector to influence proposed changes, with submissions closing 15 November 2026. For more info visit <https://bills.parliament.nz/>
- **Waikato District Council consultation:** Livestock movement bylaw will progress over the coming months. More information will be provided for next meeting cycle.
- Waikato Regional Council is reviewing the fare policy in the Waikato Regional Public Transport Plan 2022–2032. Submissions close 5pm on Monday, 5 October 2026
- Waikato Regional Council consent applications of community interest - <https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/services/consents-and-compliance/resource-consents/rc-applications/>

12. Other Business:

Committee member, Mark Manson, has sold his home in Tamahere and is moving to Taupo in October. He has given notice of his intention to resign once he moves to Taupo.

The Committee is keen to see the promotion of **Social activities in Tamahere**, using the Piazza if appropriate, and has asked interested persons to contact the Committee with ideas and suggestions. If someone would like to be the **Convener**, that would be awesome.

13. Date of Next Meeting – 7.30pm on Tuesday, 6th October 2026.

Actions: See **marked** through the Minutes above.

The meeting closed at 9.33pm.

