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Minutes for a meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held via Audio Visual Conference on **WEDNESDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2021** at **10.05am** .

**Present:**

Cr A Bech (Co-Chair)  
Cr J Gibb  
Cr L Thomson

Trustee Hinerangi Raumati–Tu’ua (Co-Chair)  
Trustee Huirama Matatahi (Trustee)  
Rangita Wilson (Alternate)

**Attending:**

Mr Brendon Green (Maangai Maaori)  
Mrs Maxine Moana-Tuwangai (Maangai Maaori) from 10.40am

Mr GJ Ion (Chief Executive)  
Mr S Toka (Iwi & Community Partnership Manager)  
Mr R McCulloch (Group Manager, Service Delivery)  
Mr C Morgan (Group Manager, Community Growth)  
Mr V Ramduny (Strategic Projects Manager)  
Mr J Ebenhoh  
Mrs GJ Kanawa (Democracy Team Leader)  
Mr M Horsfield (Democracy Advisor)

Ms D Flavell (Chief Executive)  
Ms M Tukere (General Manager, Development and Wellbeing)  
Ms M Nepia (Strategy Manager)  
Mr B Croad (Planning Manager)  
Mr D Turner (Waikato Tainui )  
Mr M Toka (Waikato Tainui )  
Ms R Wilson (Waikato Tainui )  
Ms K Flavell (Taiao Intern Oranga)

Trustee Huirama Matatahi opened the hui with a karakia.

## **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Resolved: (Crs Gibb/Thomson)

THAT the:

- a) apology for non-attendance from Mayor, AM Sanson be accepted; and
- b) apologies for lateness from Mrs Moana-Tuwhangai be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/01**

## **CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS**

Resolved: (Mrs Raumati-Tu'ua/Cr Gibb)

THAT the agenda for the meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held on Wednesday, 20 October 2021 be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting.

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/02**

## **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Resolved: (Crs Gibb/Thomson)

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held on Wednesday, 14 April 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/03**

## **MATTERS ARISING**

- Mana whenua forums – Report on the agenda.
- Long-term plan consultation – completed in partnership with WDC/WT.
- Social procurement strategy – WT will need to share with Te Whakakitenga first, then will be able to socialise with WDC.
- Workplan – Noted that RMA changes had required input from WDC legal team and once they have finalised this work, WDC will share with WT. However, the overall workplan still needed to be completed (note actions below).
- Meremere project – WDC and TGH (Tainui Group Holdings) staff had met to progress project and had identified both industrial and residential opportunities in the future proof strategy. Identified that zoning is not an issue, but more work needs to be done around transport, water and wastewater infrastructure in regard to aspirations for the site.

**ACTION:** Waikato-Tainui will share their initial strategy document and Council will work on overarching holistic framework of working together.

**ACTION:** WDC will put framework together and the Co-Chairs will meet in December to provide governance input and look toward adoption of the three-year workplan at the February hui.

- Terms of reference – joint committee – WRRT still had a vacancy and another member could be appointed. Other members can be appointed as alternates and Te Whakakitenga representatives can be present and accorded speaking rights.

**ACTION:** Waikato-Tainui to appoint their vacancy and alternates then advise Council who they are.

## **REPORTS**

### Waikato Tainui Report for Joint Committee Hui with Waikato District Council

#### Agenda Item 6.1

The Waikato Tainui report was taken as read, and the following matters were discussed:

#### Representation Review

- Disappointed with level of engagement with initial proposal for representation review regarding Maaori wards but acknowledged WDC is having ongoing discussion with Donald Turner and others regarding an appeal to the Maaori ward names now that the ward had been split.
- Expectation to work hard with Council to improve the engagement ensuring sufficient time and information is provided for WT to have the opportunity to talk to our maraes to achieve consensus.

- Cr Bech was pleased to hear comments regarding engagement for Maaori ward names was continuing between WDC and WT.
- Disappointed from a partner perspective with report comments that engagement was not as WT hoped but do note as reflected in minutes formally discussed at our meetings back in July and September 2020.
- Communication and working together – connected with WDC staff regarding moving forward with Maaori ward names and appreciative of this mahitahi.
- Maaori wards kaupapa exciting and we want to continue working with WDC to achieve appropriate names with the wider community. Council also acknowledge this decision was about having the right representation for our communities.
- With population growth and movement of boundaries how do WT get involved with knowing where boundary lines have moved etc? Cr Bech responded advising that is the purpose of the representation review and as it followed on from the Long-term plan and other by-law consultation we are finding a lot of “consultation fatigue” from the community and the difficulty of having to utilise the mesh block overlays.
- Engagement with Iwi from a Council perspective has grown significantly in the past five years with the introduction of two JMA’s (with Waikato-Tainui and Ngati Maniapoto), the introduction of Maangai Maaori representatives on Council committees, Mana Whenua forums and now with Maaori wards.

**ACTION:** Council staff would continue working with Waikato-Tainui staff on how to lodge an appeal to the final proposal.

**ACTION:** Waikato-Tainui would lodge the appeal to the Local Government Commission via the Shape Waikato page.

#### Increasing Maaori engagement with elections

- Working with Cr Thomson and Taurikura NZ Ltd to recruit and support Maaori candidates to stand in the next elections. Conversations had started to encourage people to stand, vote and build a campaign behind our candidates.
- Some of the hui are via zoom due to Covid, but it is intended to hold at least one face to face hui in the future (subject to levels).

#### Covid 19 outbreak response

- Update and information to latest Covid outbreak – essentially around food and care packs, technological support through communications centre and Facebook being provided to the community.
- Rangatahi focus on encouraging vaccination and testing, noting they are lagging behind and continue to work with other Maaori providers to provide support to vaccination and testing sites.
- Ongoing discussions with council on how we will live with Covid and build resilience of our community together.

- Importance of caring for our whaanau within the rohe. An MIQ facility had been established in Hamilton at the Distinction Hotel to enable this – gifted the name “Amohia” from our King.
- Increase in cases within the Waikato which meant an increase to the numbers being cared for in this facility, so working with Waikato District Health Board to provide wrap around support for these whaanau.
- Silver lining is that everyone has worked very well together, in view of wider government and local government – wellbeing becoming clear focus for Council and Waikato-Tainui.
- Congratulations to Donald Turner and the rest of the Waikato-Tainui staff for the work they have done in regard to Covid response at marae.

**Resolved: (Mrs Raumati-Tu’ua/Cr Bech)**

**THAT the report from Waikato Tainui be received.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/04**

Mana Whenua Forums

Agenda Item 6.2

The Chief Executive spoke to the report and the following matters were discussed:

- The intent with the forums was to have each forum meeting three times a year, with Council engaging with a different cluster each month on issues that could have an impact on their community.
- Council set aside a sum of money - \$50k for remuneration of mana whenua forums and the intent is to pay this figure to a Trust (possibly WVRT) to remunerate those forum members after each meeting (based on models from other Councils).
- Don’t know time commitment as yet until we start, but have a good foundation in place to build relationships to ensure we are responsive not reactive around engagement.
- Aligns with Waikato-Tainui work programme and had been working on this with the Joint Committee for some time.
- Waikato-Tainui had asked to be involved in the design of these forums and wonder what the terms of reference are – the purpose is to keep mana whenua informed and put the people in front of who can help them within Council.
- No terms of reference as yet – but the purpose is to get the conversation going and build relationship so when we need to have challenging conversations, we can have them in a respectful way as we have a foundation in place.
- These forums don’t take the place over formal consultation. Specific engagement would still be needed for mana whenua and does not substitute RMA or other special consultative processes.

- Who are the Council people that will build the relationships – no simple answer to this, needs to be an assessment during the engagement period but it will be a mix of local councillors and staff from the various business groups.
- Terms of reference required and not just for when things are going wrong, provide information.
- Constant consultation and constant discussion with ability to bring issues to get advice and equally for mana whenua to raise issues with council.
- This will help to have a voice for rohe where kaupapa was being discussed and it reduces the burden on Waikato-Tainui regarding setting up these discussions. Good empowerment of communities and would provide assistance to the two new Maaori ward councillors who can utilise these forums to hear what local marae have to say about issues impacting on them.
- Really important that we get this right but rely on feedback from Waikato-Tainui to ensure we have the right people in place and well resourced.
- Query around clusters and how they were designed – two reasons were around geography and number of people in the room. For instance if there is just an issue that dealt with one area then we would contact that person identified in the cluster to discuss issues.
- Iwi still in place and really important that they will have a view that sometimes may differ to mana whenua so ensure that JMA relationships were utilised alongside these forums.
- Ensure all of our marae, not just who are on this list as there are some big gaps – need to socialise this, along with the terms of reference and inform Te Whakakitenga.

**ACTION:** Council’s Chief Executive to work on a terms of reference and socialise with the Co-Chairs to enable Council to start this engagement as soon as possible.

**ACTION:** WDC and WT Chief Executive’s to have further discussion around the financial arrangements.

**Resolved: (Cr Bech/ Mrs Raumati-Tu’ua)**

**THAT the Joint Management Forum support the proposal for the Mana Whenua Forums, noting that further work will be done on the Terms of Reference and socialisation with all maraes once this has been finalised.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/05**

## Update on Strategic Projects

### Agenda Item 6.3

The Strategic Projects Manager spoke to the report and the following matters were discussed:

- Future Proof Strategy was adopted for consultation on 16 September, with hearings and deliberations taking place in December. Final adoption of the Future Proof Strategy would likely occur in February/March 2022.
- Considerable input has been received from mana whenua and Ngā Karu Atua o te Wakawhich paved the way for the endorsement of the draft strategy.
- Hamilton-Waikato Metro Spatial Plan wastewater detailed business case is being project managed by Jackie Colliar with the involvement of all Future Proof partners. The governance group approved refined option 4a supporting the development of a new wastewater treatment plant in the airport precinct to service the southern parts of Hamilton and Waikato District.
- The business case also supports development of a wastewater treatment plant at Cambridge that would discharge into the Waikato River, along with an upgrades to the Te Awamutu, Matangi and Tauwhare treatment plants. The detailed business case will go to the Waters Governance Board for adoption before the end of the year.
- The Northern Hamilton business case wastewater solutions work has commenced, with a detailed business case to be adopted around June 2022, covering solutions for Taupiri, Hopuhopu, Ngaruawahia, Te Kowhai and Horotiu.
- Related to these business cases at a wider sub regional level is the three waters study which looks at intergenerational investment in three waters and supporting the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Plan.
- We are currently in Phase 2 of this work, which is the evidence gathering phase. There are several workstreams included in this, being Three Waters, Blue/Green Corridor, Environment Credit Market Rating and Maatauranga Maori.
- Relocation of historic train station building from Lake Puketerini to current site at Huntly/Raahui Pookeka has been delayed due to Covid lockdown levels and will now occur in early 2022.
- Te Huia is also grounded due to lockdown and will only be operational when we get to Level 2. The regional governance group are currently working on improved levels of service for when operations resume.
- High speed rail – government has provided funding provided for business case and a project team is being established to work on this.
- Infrastructure Accelerated fund - Council applied for \$114 million. \$100 million was for upgrading Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plan and \$14 million for a bridge over the Waikato River to connect West Huntly to the CBD and Raahui Pookeka train station.
- The above funding would have facilitated housing development in the Huntly/Ohinewai area i.e. the Sleepyhead housing development in Ohinewai, the redevelopment of state housing in Huntly, as well as supporting mana whenua aspirations for housing.

- Council has not been successful in progressing to next stage of the Infrastructure Acceleration Fund but we are on reserve list, with possibility of it being elevated to the next stage. Council will only know the outcome of this in March next 2022.
- All housing initiatives are being fed into wider Waikato Housing Initiative project, we are ensuring from a housing affordability work the scorecard that has been developed at a regional perspective captures all these projects to determine which ones resonate strongly with the government.
- Waikato District Council's Strategic Projects Manager is a key asset to the district, noting the enormous amount of forward-facing strategic work being overseen by him.
- Each project in own right is significant and acknowledged the expertise in the team and work being carried out.
- Council has budgeted \$47 million in the LTP for 2026-2030 for the upgrade to the Huntly WWTP, so investment still there but Council was hoping to bring this work forward if we had obtained government funding through the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund, but we do not have funding for the bridge over the Waikato River in our LTP, which would provide safer walking/cycling access to the rail station and the central business district.
- All is not lost yet however and a bit more work to do, but will engage with evaluation panel to see what they are looking for in applications for funding and why they didn't support this. Equally, developers are required to contribute towards the provision of infrastructure to support their developments.
- Funding was sought under the principle of acceleration and we are going to do the work, just perhaps not as quickly as we would have liked and could have unlocked housing opportunities, revitalising communities and better walking/cycling opportunities.
- Carvings for Huntly | Raahui Pookeka railway station have been completed and are in storage, with the artwork from the various schools are still in progress.
- Significant amount of work that has gone into these projects and the JMA want to acknowledge Vishal and Manaaki, particularly regarding attempts for acceleration of the work. Also need to note the importance of the focus of economic development is in Auckland to Hamilton transport corridor.
- Reaffirming workplan in regard between WDC/WT and strategic approaches/work being undertaken, noting that the Regional Council are starting work on the collection of narratives as part of the Te Huia work which includes our mana whenua history – strategic approaches.
- District Plan – Minister has granted WDC an extension until 17 January to make decision on Proposed District Plan. WDC currently looking at work required to progress the post-decision work programme and will need a contact within WT. WT noted they were recruiting at the moment and would get in touch with WDC once a person is employed.

**ACTION:** WT to contact WDC with person to be involved with post PDP work programme.



- Any impact on PDP with new entity which government announced yesterday? Future Proof Planning and Policy working group meeting to look at implications of announcement and will come back to JMA and share outside of meeting.
- It was noted that the speed of reform coming at us on a number of issues is significant at present.
- Issue of unique characteristics of some of our towns and desire to protect Ngaruawahia character, along with others.
- Decision creates opportunity because of the housing needs and rules currently in place prevent intensification, but correct about thinking about character, history and landscape aspects as well. Keep WT informed – PDP decisions – medium density zoning will help support government objectives as well.

**ACTION:** Strategic Projects Manager to get staff to share the thinking with Joint Management Committee of the implications of the recent government announcement on the Enabling Housing Bill for our district.

- PDP decisions to be released by 17 January 2022, staff will continue to liaise with WT on changes occurring that affect mana whenua.
- Rahui-Pookeka WWTP – falls outside of Hamilton-Waikato metro area in so far as the Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan DBC is concerned but Council has already budgeted some funds (\$47m) for 2026-2030 for this. The waters team to provide the necessary communications on the project at appropriate time.

**Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Gibb)**

**THAT the update on Strategic Projects be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/06**

Waikato Tainui/Waikato District Council Strategic Work Programme  
Agenda Item 6.4

The General Manager, Development and Wellbeing spoke to the report and the following matters were discussed:

- Joint Council hui in March this year where WT shared the list of strategic priorities.
- WT met with the Procurement Manager and Community Led Development Manager to ascertain how the priorities could be progressed and build work programme from that.
- Draft work programme to be sent to co-chairs by January 2022 and then forwarded to next JMA hui

**ACTION:** WT General Manager, Development and Wellbeing to distribute WT strategic priorities to the JMA and relevant Council staff again.

**ACTION:** Brendon Green (Maangai Maaori) along with Iwi and Cultural Liaison Manager for WDC will co-ordinate and work together to align strategic priorities with work programme report.

**Resolved: (Cr Bech/Thomson)**

**THAT the Waikato Tainui Waikato District Council Strategic Work Programme report be received.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/07**

Update from Maangai Maaori  
Agenda Item 6.5

Mr Green discussed the following:

- Acknowledged good work being done around how Council supported Maaori wards.
- Acknowledged work by Iwi and Cultural Liaison Manager around Mana Whenua Fora.
- Korero around work plan puts korowai around spirit of partnership.

Mrs Tuwhangai-Moana discussed the following:

- Council in tricky position in offering itself to take advice and guidance from Maaori because there are so many ways that Maaori can have input to consultation. Recently with the Three Waters issue marae (not in Waikato) said their input had not been sought and Council's needed to find a way in which local voices could be heard.
- Would not like to see Iwi level position only considered by Council, as often at hapu and marae level their opinions get tipped as it differs from Iwi position. Need to find a way to ensure we balance all levels of input.
- Council had made significant steps to engage at all levels and support Mana Whenua Fora being activated in the not too distant future.
- WT supportive of collaboration and utilise forums on what our people want.

**Resolved: (Cr Thomson/Gibb)**

**THAT the verbal updates from the Maangai Maaori representatives be received.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2104/08**

## General Business

### Agenda Item 6.6

#### Meeting dates for 2022

- The Democracy Team Leader advised that dates needed to be set for hui next year. It was proposed that the dates be 13 April and 5 October 2022.
- Co-chairs to meet every three months prior to hui to progress issues.

**ACTION:** WT General Manager, Development and Wellbeing to confirm that these dates are available for WT members of the JMA and Co-Chairs to quarterly.

## **CLOSING COMMENTS FROM CO-CHAIRS**

Trustee Hinerangi Raumati–Tu’ua:

- Acknowledged the staff and management teams for both WDC and WT, the workload was significant, given the reforms that both organisations are involved with and Covid on top of business as usual.
- These hui are so important for the long term and if we can get the work programme working in a visionary way, capturing what is important with a Te Reo Maaori lens would add meaning to the mahi being done and value to both organisations.
- Covid has increased our mahi and we are all trying to keep up with business as usual.
- Thanks to everyone for their contributions to this forum.

Cr Bech:

- Endorse comments, current members are finding our way following changes on both parties after the last elections.
- We are doing good work to re-establish, reconnect and realign so that as we move forward. Our work improves community outcomes right across the rohe.
- JMA forum is not about just rubber stamping issues, saw evidence at this hui that a significant amount of work had been done, with a lot more work to come.
- Thanks to everyone for their aroha for the rohe which is reflected in their work.

Closing Karakia

The Iwi and Community Partnership Manager closed the meeting with a karakia.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 12.05pm.

Minutes approved and confirmed this                          day of                          2021

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AM Sanson  
**HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR**

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Ms H Raumati-Tu'ua  
**CO-CHAIR AND TRUSTEE**