

Minutes for a meeting of the Waikato District Council held in the Council Chambers, 15 Gallileo Street, Ngaaruawaahia on **MONDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2023** commencing at **9.30am**.

**Present:**

Her Worship the Mayor, Mrs JA Church (Chairperson)  
Cr C Beavis  
Cr J Gibb  
Cr M Keir  
Cr P Matatahi-Poutapu (*from 10.04am, until 11.10am*)  
Cr K Ngataki  
Cr E Patterson  
Cr M Raumati  
Cr V Reeve  
Cr L Thomson  
Cr P Thomson  
Cr T Turner  
Cr D Whyte

**Attending:**

Mr GJ Ion (Chief Executive)  
Mr TG Whittaker (Chief Operating Officer)  
Ms M May (General Manager, Service Delivery)  
Mr W Gauntlett (Acting General Manager, Community Growth)  
Ms A Diaz (Chief Financial Officer)  
Ms C Pidduck (Legal Counsel)  
Ms K Ridling (Senior Solicitor)  
Ms P Collins (Solicitor)  
Dr M Hong (Principal Analyst)  
Mr J Fuller (Senior Environmental Planner)  
Mrs GJ Kanawa (Democracy Manager)

The Council and staff opened the meeting with a joint karakia.

**APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Resolved: (Crs Ngataki/Reeve)**

**THAT the Waikato District Council accepts the apology from Cr C Eyre for non-attendance.**

**CARRIED**

**WDC2310/01**

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

Agenda Item 2

**Resolved: (Crs L Thomson/P Thomson)**

**THAT the agenda and supplementary public excluded agenda for a meeting of the Waikato District Council held on Monday, 9 October 2023 be confirmed:**

- a. with all items therein being considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda items 8, which shall be considered with the public excluded; and
- b. notes a deputation from Synlait Limited will be heard following Item 4 [Confirmation of Minutes] on this agenda; and
- c. Item 6.3 [Papahua Reserve, Raglan] be withdrawn from the agenda to provide Ngaati Maahanga more time to consider the options in the report; and
- d. all reports be received.

**CARRIED**

**WDC2310/02**

## **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Agenda Item 3

Cr Raumati declared an interest in the Performance & Finance Strategy report – Te Nehenehenui Joint Management Agreement as the alternate member should Cr Turner not be available.

Her Worship the Mayor, noted the confirmation of minutes appointed her as a member to Momentum Trust.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Agenda Item 4

The report was received [*WDC2310/02 refers*] with no further discussion held.

**Resolved: (Crs Beavis/Patterson)**

**THAT the Waikato District Council confirms the minutes as a true and correct record for meetings held on:**

- a. **Monday, 28 August 2023 (Ordinary); and**
- b. **Wednesday, 27 September 2023 (Extraordinary).**

**CARRIED**

**WDC2310/03**

## **DEPUTATION**

Mr Glenn Laing (Manufacturing Director) and Mr Jacob Deadman (Site Manager, Pookeno) spoke on behalf of Synlait Limited application for an increase to their tradewaste consent referred to under PEX Item 3.1 [Waters Governance Board Recommendations – 5 September 2023], and the following points were made:

- Mr Laing provided background on their request for an increase to their tradewaste consent capacity and the importance of this request for the continued growth of the facilities in Pookeno.
- It was noted that Synlait chose Pookeno as its location due to the close proximity to the farms they serviced as well as providing employment within a growing community.
- It was noted that they were at Stage 2 of their development and had previously indicated there would be a further two stages in the future expansions of the plant, which would require further discharge capacity.
- They believed they had negotiated a comprehensive development agreement to discharge to Council's wastewater treatment plant at Pukekohe, with the knowledge of future growth and additional discharge requirements (noting that new agreements would be required for each stage of growth).
- Council queried the level of employees from our District, where it was noted only approximately 20% of employees came from outside of the District.
- If Council decided not to grant the increased consent conditions, they would be restricted in development plans for future growth and could result in the plant moving out of the District, which also meant additional employment opportunities would be lost within the community.
- Council further queried Synlait's long-term commitment to the environment and ways of decreasing discharge over time. Synlait have an environmental strategy that focussed on reduction in water use and a reduction in their overall carbon footprint. However, a portion will always be required to be discharged to the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Pukekohe.
- If there is a seasonal effect, could this discharge for the plant based products to be moved to the off season. It was noted the plant based products do not have the seasonal peaks as per milk production.
- Council queried if the plant based products had a NZ base, but it was noted that not at this stage as they had to be approved suppliers from international clients, for which NZ suppliers were not currently on that list, other than for oil supplies.
- Synlait's master plan is to grow Stage 3 (around 40-45 jobs) within five (5) years and Stage 4 (further milk plant with similar growth). Overall the plant will grow to approximately 200 employees within ten (10) years and these stages will all include further discharge requirements to meet the volumes and demands coming from the business growth.

## **ACTIONS REGISTER**

The report was received [WDC2310/02 refers] and no further discussion was held.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Performance & Strategy Committee Recommendations – 11 September 2023*

Agenda Item 6.1

*Te Nehenehenui (previously Ngaati Maniapoto) Joint Management Agreement (P&S2309/04) & (P&S2309/05)*

The report was received [WDC2310/02 refers] and no further discussion was held.

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

- a. **THAT the Waikato District Council approves the following recommendations of the Te Nehenehenui Joint Management Committee:**
- i. **That, to discharge its responsibilities more effectively and efficiently, the Te Nehenehenui Joint Management Committee assumes the responsibilities of the Ngaa Wai o Waipaa Co-Governance Forum in addition to its own, and the membership structure of the Forum; in accordance with the law by taking all necessary actions including:**
    1. **executing a joint management agreement between the six member agencies incorporating the responsibilities of the Committee and the Forum and the membership structure of the Forum.**
    2. **approving the amended terms of reference for adoption by Te Nehenehenui Joint Management Committee incorporating provisions necessary to achieve the purposes of both the Committee and Forum under the Committee's name.**
    3. **confirming the continuation of the current Co-Chairs and Deputy Co-Chairs until, and if, the member agencies indicate new appointments in accordance with the Terms of Reference.**
    4. **the disestablishment of the Forum when all necessary actions to merge the Committee and the Forum are complete.**
- b. **THAT the Waikato District Council:**
- i. **approves the draft Te Nehenehenui Joint Management Agreement;**
  - ii. **authorises Cr Tilly Turner (as Waikato District Council's elected representative on the previous Ngaa Wai o Waipaa Co-Governance Forum and, by default, Council's representative on the Te Nehenehenui Joint Management Agreement Committee) to sign the final agreement (including any subsequent amendments to the draft) on Council's behalf;**
  - iii. **that the name of the Ngaa Wai o Waipaa Co-Governance Forum be changed to the Te Nehenehenui Joint Management Agreement Committee in Council's Governance Structure.**
- c. **THAT the Waikato District Council:**
- i. **appoints Cr M Raumati as Waikato District Council's alternate member in the event that Cr Turner cannot attend.**

**CARRIED**

**WDC2310/04**

Performance & Strategy Committee Recommendations – 11 September 2023

Agenda Item 6.1

Hearings and Deliberations for the proposed Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy 2023 (P&R2310/06)

The report was received [WDC2310/02 refers] and no further discussion was held.

**Resolved: (Crs Beavis/Ngataki)**

**THAT the Waikato District Council:**

- a. **adopts the Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy 2023 (Option 1), and**
- b. **revokes the Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy 2018.**

**CARRIED**

**WDC2310/05**

**REPORTS**

Zero Harm

Agenda Item 7.1

The report was received [WDC2310/02 refers] and the following discussion was held:

- The Chief Executive provided an overview of the dashboard, noting that most activities were green, some were amber, but none were red.
- Councillors noted the presentation on wellbeing from Jehan Cassinder was excellent and appreciated being invited to this session, where there was standing room only and a number of staff online also.
- It was noted that the result for reporting was amber, if we have achieved the mechanisms set out would there be no opportunity to continue reporting incidents? Council's Zero Harm approach has always encouraged reporting and it was a healthy sign of a good safety culture.
- The graphic on Page 32 was illegible and requested to be worked on for future reports, the Chief Executive explained the bowtie this was demonstrating, which could also be found on the windows outside the virtual hub.
- A query was raised whether Hakanoa campground was part of Council. Yes it was and both them and the Tuakau library had received the workplace violence refresher training courses.

**ACTION:** Graphs and pictures within the agenda to be more legible (larger) – Zero Harm to work on for future reports.

Submission to the Minister for the Environment on the Biodiversity Credit System for Aotearoa New Zealand, Discussion Document  
Agenda Item 7.2

The report was received [WDC2310/02 refers] and the following discussion was held:

- Incredibly thorough submission and great focus on outcomes rather than actions.

**ACTION:** Submission to be finalised and submitted on behalf of Council as per the resolutions below.

**Resolved: (Crs Keir/L Thomson)**

**That the Waikato District Council:**

- approves the Waikato District Council's submission on the BCS Discussion Document to the Ministry for the Environment (Attachment I); and**
- delegates the Chief Executive the authority to finalise and submit the submission on behalf of the Waikato District Council.**

**CARRIED**

**WDC2310/06**

Papahua Reserve, Raglan  
Agenda Item 7.3

This item was withdrawn from the agenda [WDC2310/02 refers].

**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Agenda Item 8

**Resolved: (Crs Beavis/P Thomson)**

- 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
Item PEX 2 – Confirmation of Minutes for a meeting held on Monday, 28 August 2023 and Wednesday, 27 September 2023	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 6 or Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)
Item PEX 3 – Actions Register		
Item PEX 4.1 – Waters Governance Board Recommendations – 5 September 2023		
Item PEX4.2 – Development Agreements Committee Recommendations – 6 September 2023		
Item PEX4.3 – Performance & Strategy Committee Recommendations – 11 September 2023		
Item PEX 5 – Chief Executive Issues		
Item PEX 6 – Mayoral Issues		

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item No.	Section	Interest
Item PEX 2 – Confirmation of Minutes for a meeting held on Monday, 28 August 2023 and Wednesday, 27 September 2023	Refer previous minutes for reasons for exclusion.	

