

Agenda for a meeting of the Meremere Community Committee to be held at the Meremere Hall, 21 Heather Green Avenue, Meremere on **THURSDAY, 12 June 2025** commencing at **7.00pm**.

1. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

2. CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA

3. PUBLIC FORUM

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The register of interests is no longer included on agendas; however, members still have a duty to disclose any interests under this item.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of minutes for the meeting held on Thursday 1 May 2025 3

6. BOARD REPORTS

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7. REPORTS

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7.3 Councillors Report 15

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

CL Hobbs

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Meremere

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE PLAN

Taiao

Supporting the enhancement of our environment.

Kotahitanga | Unity

Valuing our diverse community.

Engagement

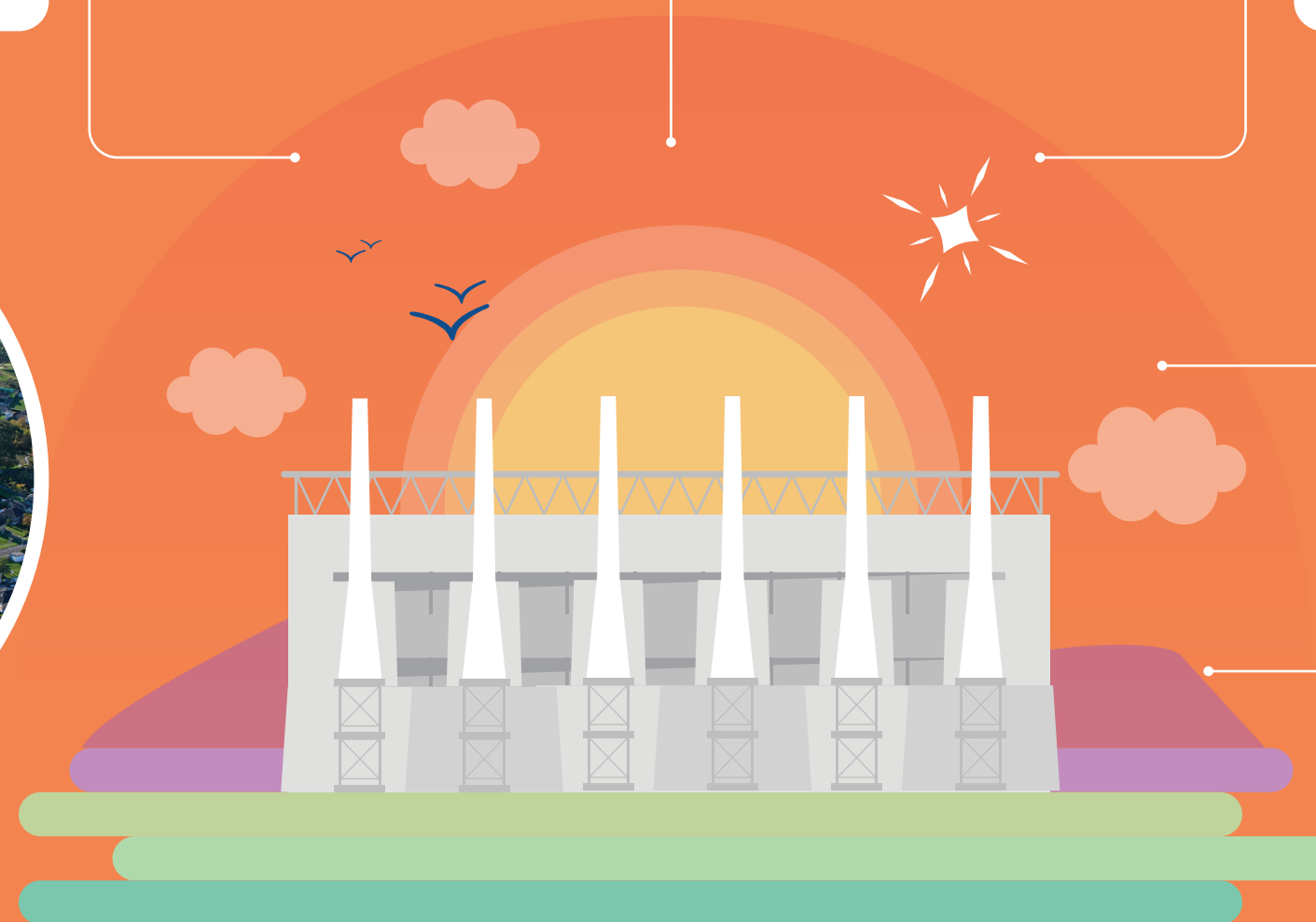
Connecting our community to what matters most.

Successful and thriving

Helping the community prosper.

Inclusive

Advocate for community strength.



Vision

Listen to and work with our diverse community, mana whenua partners and other organisations to protect and enhance the environmental, social, cultural and economic wellbeing of Meremere.

1. Apologies and Leave

All present

Moved: Lauren Wismans

Seconded: Ben Brown

2. Confirmation of Status of Agenda

Moved: Lauren Wismans

Seconded: Ben Brown

3. Public Forum

No public submissions

Moved: Lauren Wismans

Seconded: Ben Brown

4. Disclosures of Interest

No New Disclosures

Moved: Lauren Wismans

Seconded: Ben Brown

5. Confirmation Of Minutes

Moved: Cecilia Heta

Seconded: Lauren Wismans

6. Reports

6.1 Discretionary Fund Report

Moved: Ben Brown

Seconded: Lauren Wismans

6.2 Meremere Works and Issues Report

A verbal update at the infrastructure council meeting by the Deputy GM for Service Delivery WDC yesterday where they confirmed the next step for CCTV cameras is to gain pricing. The plan has pivoted from the previous plan of incorporating the network with Hamilton City council to having an independent CCTV network as it presented as more cost effective.

6.3 Whangamarino Action Plan

John and Liz came to speak regarding the Whangamarino Wetland Action Plan. Liz has been Contracted to undertake the community liaison for that plan.

An Action plan is being developed for the Whangamarino Wetland and Lake Waikare areas because the situation is worsening. Every year there are more and more outbreaks of avian botulism, which occurs when water is not oxygenated. Lack of Oxygen in the water is killing increasing numbers of bird and fish life across the areas. The intention of the plan of action is to reduce the death rate of wildlife moving forwards and improve the Wetland Environment. Since the 1980's the water quality at the wetland and Lake Waikare continued to decline significantly. The plan is to rehabilitate the area, And at present measures are being taken to investigate how we do that.

Right now the opportunity to take action is greater than it has ever been because there is a hunger within local government and some funding is set aside to move forward, Community Support is the essential ingredient required to really drive this.

Koi-Karp are a noxious fish that also present a major problem in the Lake and local water bodies. Fishing and Killing of the Karp is strongly Encouraged, Good locations to fish the noxious fish include the most North East and most South East Sides of the Lake.

Liz and John are trying to inform the community of the issues at large, formulate an action plan to move forward and gain support for funding to action a recovery plan.

Question Asked: What research has been done to ensure there is no danger to humans from Avian Botulism

Response: Research has been done to ensure that Avian Botulism is not harmful to Humans, To date there is no evidence of cross contamination.

6.4 Chairperson Report

Moved: Cecilia Heta

Seconded: Lauren Wismans

6.5 Councilors Report

Moved: Marlene Raumati

Seconded: Lauren Wismans

6.6 Long Term Plan Strategy and Implementation.

Group discussion was held on identifying specific projects within our primary overarching goals and assigning individual committee members to care for the overarching goals.

ASSIGNMENTS of Primary Goals:

Kotahitanga - Ben Peters and Lauren Wismans

Successful and Thriving – Cecilia Heta and Hayden Soloman

Taiao – Jacob Calvert

Inclusive – Marlene Raumati, Ben Peters, Cecilia Heta

Engagement – Ben Peters, Committee Chairperson Jim Katu, Hayden Soloman

Cllr. Marlene Raumati championed generating greater interaction between this committee and other key local groups such as Maniphenua and the Development committee. Marlene suggested we should look to foster stronger lines of communication and interaction.

7. General Business

- Haydn Solomon Mana Whenua representative for the Community Committee spoke to the group regarding ongoing Treaty action within the area. Hayden shared that within our backyard there are 2 significant treaty claims that effect the village, Claims wai.2035 and wai.30. The impact to the community is intended to be positive. Direct negotiations with the Crown have been entered into. What's happening in this space is a consortium of Iwi and Hapuu have come together to go into direct negotiations. Haydn States that ultimately what's being proposed is a devolution back to Mana Whenua which will allow the community to have a direct input through the Mana Whenua.

Haydn added for interest and transparency that Waikato-Tainui are currently going through a restructuring process that allows for devolution which will be of wider benefit for the community as a whole.

Marlene Asked – Given there are marginal strips that have come back in to the Waikato Tainui portfolio, Will Mana Whenua take custodial care of those blocks after they are returned.

Hayden – Yes absolutely

Marlene Asked - What does this mean for our community?

Haydn – It's a good thing for the community. You will have contingent assists in your backyard that you have a say over through Mana Whenua. At the moment the community have these assets, but they have no control or say over them, the Aim with Settlement is to remedy that situation.

Haydn added, There will be a referendum during the elections with regards to Māori Seats. It looks like there is plenty of momentum to retain the seats, Support for Seat Retention is encouraged.

Marlene asked - With regards to Mana Whenua and the Community Committee, Is there an opportunity for a reciprocal relationship where a member from the Community Committee can attend Tainui Meetings to work together in Partnership on issues that relate to the Meremere Community.

Haydn responded – We could look to do that.

There was discussion around the Category of the lands being discussed being classed as schedule D. Land that is in schedule D is for example the local Tennis pavilions

Jacob asked – What’s happening with the ‘Schedule A’ land where Mana Whenua have an interest or claim, are those and other classifications of land also being looked at?

Haydn Responded - That is also being negotiated as a part of ongoing treaty negotiations.

Haydn Added - Mana Whenua will look to take the lead on a local Matariki Event, They will come back to us on how to move forward with that.

- Committee Funding structure clarity to be sought from Democracy. The committee would like to know if they receive salaries which are being redirected to the discretionary fund. Kirsty Wellington and Dominique Thurlow to investigate.
- Community Day to be held for Whangamarino Wetland on May 17th at Red Shed 9:30am to 3:30pm.
- Rachel from WDC to be invited to the next meeting to present the Community resilience Aspirations.
- Kirsty to add Haydn Solemon to the official council documents for the community and also Haydns email to be added to the data base.

To	Meremere Community Committee
Report title	Meremere Community Committee Plan update – June 2025
Date:	12 June 2025
Report Author:	Thomas Rowland, Democracy Advisor
Authorised by:	Gaylene Kanawa, Democracy Manager

1. Purpose of the report

Te Take moo te puurongo

Providing an opportunity for the Meremere Community Committee to report back on the delivery of their action plan.

To provide organisational updates that tie in with the actions/outcomes within the Meremere Community Committee plan.

2. Executive summary

Whakaraapopototanga matua

The Meremere Community Committee adopted their Community Board Plan in 2024, which outlined their vision for the following two (2) years.

Following the adoption of the plan the Community Led Development Advisor continued to work with the board on the action plan which would determine the outputs for which the Board could report on and measure achievements.

The Democracy Team have worked with the Community Led Development Advisor to create a report template which would provide each of the actions and for future reports will request updates from members prior to the agenda closing to enable these to be placed against the action plan.

This report also provides an opportunity for the organisation to provide updates on activities/initiatives they are involved with that tie into the plan.

This will enable the community to see prior to the meeting whether there is something they would like to provide the board with feedback on and provide another mechanism for the community to engage with the Board at their six-weekly meetings.

3. Staff recommendations Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

THAT the Meremere Community Committee receives the Meremere Community Committee Action Plan update for June 2025.

4. Background Koorero whaimaarama

In June 2023, Her Worship the Mayor invited Community Board and Committee members to meet with her and Councillors to workshop how the partnership with Council could be improved and strengthened, to drive better outcomes for communities.

Follow up meetings between Board and Committee members with Council Managers from Democracy and Economic and Community Led Development agreed that Boards and Committees would focus on leadership on the 4 Wellbeing's, Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental.

In November 2023, a dedicated Council staff resource to this work programme was identified and has been working closely with members of Boards and Committees to develop their framework and future work programme of focus.

It could also enable more regular updates from the organisation that tie in with board priorities. As a result, a number of hui have been held with the Community Committee to identify to establish its direction and priorities for the next two (2) years. To this end, it has developed a plan for a two year period that outlines its goals and aspirations that it is wanting to achieve under each of the 4 well-beings, including goals around engagement.

5. Community Committee Priorities Ngaa Whakaarotau o te Komiti Hapori

The Meremere Community Committee five (5) priorities are as follow:

1. Te Taiao – Supporting the enhancement of our environment.
 2. Kotahitanga (Unity) – Valuing our diverse community.
 3. Engagement – Connecting our community to what matters most.
 4. Successful and thriving – Helping the community prosper.
 5. Inclusive – Advocate for community strength.
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5.1 Te Taiao (Environment)

- 5.1.1 *We will work with others to develop an awareness of the existing organisations, community groups and individuals working on environmental projects and initiatives.*
- 5.1.2 *We have a unique environment with the Whangamarino Wetland, which covers 7,000ha in the Waikato. It has major recreational, historical and economic values and has been designated an international Ramsar site in recognition of its status as an area of outstanding biodiversity. We will partner with others to understand the recovery and implications on the Whangamarino Wetland.*

June Update

No June update provided - members may have verbal update to add.

5.2 Kotahitanga (Unity)

- 5.2.1 *We will actively promote and celebrate local events that focus on significant cultural events in Meremere.*
- 5.2.2 *We will continue to build and strengthen our relationship with Mana Whenua.*

June Update

No June update provided - members may have verbal update to add.

5.3 Engagement (Tuuhononga)

- 5.3.1 *As representatives of our community, if Council want to engage on specific matters, we will engage our community using various channels, in partnership with the Council, to increase engagement on these on matters of interest to ensure the voice of our community, including the voice of mana whenua, is well represented on matters relating to Meremere.*

June Update

No June update provided - members may have verbal update to add.

5.4 Successful and Thriving (Te Houkura me te Toonuitanga)

5.4.1 *Promote and advocate for local employment opportunities.*

5.4.2 *Understand future planning for Meremere and advocate for economic opportunities that benefit the community.*

June Update

No June update provided - members may have verbal update to add.

5.5 Inclusive (Kauawhi)

5.5.1 *Social cohesion is key to ensuring our community feel connected, safe and welcome. To do this we will advocate and work with others to enhance our public spaces.*

5.5.2 *We will undertake a stocktake of what social services and social activities are available for our community,*

June Update

No June update provided - members may have verbal update to add.

6. Next steps Ahu whakamua

The committee will report back at the next meeting in six weeks with its updated reports on the delivery of its action plan.

7. Attachments Ngaa taapirihanga

There are no attachments for this report.

Open – Information only

To	Meremere Community Committee
Report title	Discretionary Fund Report to 27 May 2025
Date:	12 June 2025
Report Author:	J Schimanski, Support Accountant
Authorised by:	Alison Diaz, Chief Financial Officer

1. Purpose of the report

Te Take moo te puurongo

The purpose of this report is to update the Meremere Community Committee on the Discretionary fund spend to date, commitments and balance as at 27 May 2025.

2. Staff recommendations

Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

THAT the Meremere Community Committee;

- a) receives the report and note, no minutes have been received for the following meetings held: 2 May 2024, 13 June 2024, 25 July 2024, 5 September 2024, 17 October 2024 and 28 November 2024.**
- b) passes a resolution to set a maximum commitment to the Te Kauwhata Community Response Group from the existing discretionary fund allocation, to allow for the multi-year support that has been requested previously.**

3. Attachments

Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 – Discretionary Fund report to 27 May 2025

MEREMERE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE DISCRETIONARY FUND REPORT 2024/25 (July 2024- June 2025)
As at Date: 27-May-2025

	GL	10-2090-0000-00-25904
2024/25 Annual Plan		1,550.00
Carry forward from 2023/24		13,448.61
Total Funding		14,998.61
Income		
Total Income		-
Expenditure		<i>excl GST</i>
18-Oct-24 Commitment of \$500.00 to the Community Response	MMCC2308/01	500.00
Group per year		
Total Expenditure		500.00
Net Funding Remaining (Excluding commitments)		14,498.61
Commitments		<i>excl GST</i>
Commitment of \$500.00 to the Community Response	MMCC2308/01	500.00
Group per year		
Total Commitments		500.00
Net Funding Remaining (Including commitments)		13,998.61

Open – Information only

To	Meremere Community Committee
Report title	Meremere Works & Issues Report – June 2025
Date:	12 June 2025
Report Author:	Karen Bredesen, Executive Assistant to the General Manager Service Delivery
Authorised by:	Kirsty Wellington, Enterprise Project Management Office Manager

1. Purpose of the report Te Take moo te puurongo

To update the Committee and provide information on works and issues raised at previous meetings.

2. Staff recommendations Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

THAT the Meremere Works & Issues Report be received.

3. Attachments Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 – Works and Issues Report – June 2025

Works and Issues Report – June 2025

	Issue	Area	Action
1.	CCTV Update	Mel Tarawhiti, Facilities Services Manager	The tender process for the implementation of the CCTV network has been undertaken in two stages. The tender for the enabling works has been completed and we are about to award a contract for that part of the project. The tender for the supply of the camera hardware closes at the end of May and staff will then advising communities when the installation works will be commencing in their town.

Open – Information Only

To	Meremere Community Committee
Report title	Councillor's Report
Date:	Thursday 12 June 2025
Report Author:	Cr Marlene Raumati Waerenga-Whitikahu Ward

Purpose of the Report - Te Take moo te Puurongo

To provide an update on the activities of Councillor Raumati since the Meremere Community Committee Thursday 01 May 2025.

Staff recommendations - Tuutohu-aa-Kaimahi

THAT the report from Cr Raumati for the May – June 2025 period be received.

Executive Summary - Whakaraapopototanga Matua

Council Committees May 2025

Sustainability and Well-Being

The May 2025 meeting of the Sustainability and Well-being Committee welcomed Waikato Regional Councillors, Storey, Nickel and Smith, into Chambers. Cr Jennifer Nickel presented an overview of the climate adaptation initiatives across the Waikato region. Her presentation shared insights from the Wharekawa 2120 project, emerging adaptation projects such as Hauraki Plains, Otorohanga, and Hamilton, while touching on collaborative initiatives like the Waikato-Tainui Councils Climate Alliance.

Regional Councils Manager for Environmental Science Mike Scarsbrook presented on two collaborative projects, of particular importance to our community, namely the Whangamarino Action Plan project, that at a sub-committee level is led by Te Kauwhata based Environmental Scientist and Te Kauwhata Community Committee member Liz Tupuhi, and the Motukaraka Scheme – a trial of infrastructure investment decision making, involving a community panel of landowners, DoC, Waikato-Tainui and Mana Whenua representatives.

Council Consultations

Long-Term Plan 2025-2034 Consultation

Council has recently completed its consultation process for the Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2025-2034, an essential roadmap outlining the district's strategic priorities and budget for the upcoming decade. This comprehensive plan aims to address various critical issues, including infrastructure development, environmental sustainability, community facilities, and economic growth.

During the consultation period, residents and stakeholders were encouraged to provide their feedback, on proposed projects and initiatives. Following numerous community engagement sessions, workshops and online forums, to ensure constituents voices were heard, Council received 555 written submissions. The feedback has assisted the Mayor and Councillors to shape a final document. Council aims to balance fiscal responsibility and making significant

investments while striving to ensure the plan aligns with the district's needs and aspirations. As Council moves forward, it remains committed to keeping our communities informed and engaged in the decision-making process. The finalised document will be presented for adoption at a full Council meeting Monday 30 June 2025.

Alcohol Control Bylaw 2020 Review Consultation

Council is currently seeking your input on the review of the Alcohol Control Bylaw 2020, a crucial document that regulates the public consumption of alcohol in our community. This consultation presents an excellent opportunity for locals; to voice their opinions and influence the way alcohol-related activities are publicly managed in our district.

The potential impacts of this bylaw are significant. A well-defined bylaw can help promote responsible drinking, reduce anti-social behaviour, and enhance public safety. It can also address local concerns such as noise disturbances and community safety, ensuring that our community remains a safe and welcoming environment for families and individuals alike. Public consultation is an important part of the review process, allowing residents to express their views on the bylaw and its implications.

Whether you are in favour of stricter regulations or believe the current framework works, your feedback matters. You are encouraged to participate through the submissions process, ensuring the voices of Te Kauwhata residents are heard. The consultation process provides an opportunity to balance fun and safety for everyone. Don't miss this chance to engage and make a difference! Have your say before Sunday 15 June 2025 at www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it

Council Meetings

Sustainability and Well-Being	12 May
Online Briefings	19 May
LTP Hearings	20 May
LTP Hearings	21 May
Council	26 May
LTP Deliberations	27 May
LTP Deliberations	28 May
LTP Deliberations	29 May

Community Events and Other Meetings

In-Person LTP Consultation TK Library	16 April
In-Person LTP Consultation Meremere Library	16 April
MCC Meeting and LTP Consultation	01 May
TKCC Meeting and LTP Consultation	07 May