

Minutes of a meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held in the Te Whakakitenga o Waikato Chambers, Hopuhopu on **THURSDAY 16 JULY 2020** commencing at **12.00PM**.

Present:

His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson (Co-Chair)
Cr JM Gibb [*until 12.33pm and then from 12.40pm*]

Trustee Rukumoana Schaafhausen (Co-Chair) [*until 1.40pm*]
Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tuu'a
Trustee Patience Te Ao

Attending:

Mr Brendon Green (Maangai Maaori)

Mr GJ Ion (Chief Executive)
Mr T Whittaker (Chief Operations Officer)
Mrs S O'Gorman (General Manager Customer Support)
Mr C Morgan (General Manager Community Growth)
Mr S Toka (Iwi & Community Partnership Manager)
Mr V Ramduny (Strategic Projects Manager)
Mrs J Dolan (Economic and Community Development Manager)
Mr J Ebenhoh (Planning and Policy Manager)
Mr W Gauntlett (RM Policy Team Leader)
Mr B Stringer (Democracy Manager)
Mr N Pirsoul (Democracy Advisor)

Ms J Colliar (Board Member of Te Aratuaara and Strategic Manager for Infrastructure, Hamilton City Council)
Mr D Turner (Board Member of Te Arataura)
Ms M Tukere (General Manager Oranga)
Mr T Paki (General Manager – Rights and Interests)
Ms M Nepia (Strategy Manager)
Ms R Raupita (Secretariat, Governance and Legal Team)
Ms H Pere (EA to General Manager Oranga)

Trustee Schaafhausen opened the meeting and acknowledged the collective work undertaken by Council and Waikato-Tainui during the Covid-19 lockdown.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Trustee Te Ao/Cr Gibb)

THAT an apology be received from Crs Bech and Thomson and Ms Donna Flavell.

CARRIED

JMA2007/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Trustee Schaaflhausen/Mayor Sanson)

THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held on Thursday, 16 July 2020 be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting.

CARRIED

JMA2007/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr Gibb disclosed an interest in item 4.3 – *District Plan Review Update* and noted that this should not give rise to a conflict if discussion remained on the issues covered in the staff report.

REPORTS

COVID-19 Analytics Report – Update

Agenda Item 4.1

The Economic and Community Development Manager summarised the report and process undertaken to collate the survey. The following matters were discussed:

- An increase in number of people seeking welfare support was expected due to adverse economic impact of Covid-19.
- A decline in optimism across key industries in the District was noted.
- Important for the Council and Waikato-Tainui to work collaboratively with other stakeholders (e.g. MBIE, MSD) to deliver to the District's communities.
 - An opportunity to re-set relationships between local government, iwi and central government departments.

ACTION: Council and Waikato-Tainui staff to connect to work out next steps on building capability in the communities. Council staff to be invited to Waikato-Tainui's hui on 19 August 2020 for this purpose; Council staff to connect with the General Manager Oranga prior to that date.

- Ethnicity statistical data was not collected in initial survey and could be considered for the proposed second survey, to identify respondents who were Waikato-Tainui members.
- Survey participants were ratepayers and other customers (e.g. those with dog licences).
- The Caring for Communities Oversight Committee, which had an overview of welfare, social, environmental, and cultural wellbeings. The respective Chief Executives from Waikato-Tainui and Council were involved.

Resolved: (Cr Gibb/Trustee Raumati-Tuu'a)

THAT the report from the General Manager Community Growth be received.

CARRIED

JMA2007/03

Trustee Schaafhausen acknowledged the Council's appointment of Maangai Maaori to Council committees and the powhiri held for Brendon Green and Maxine Moana-Tuwhangai. The expertise and Te Ao Maaori perspective that Brendon and Maxine would bring were welcomed.

Waikato Tainui Iwi Resilience Plan

Agenda Item 4.2

Trustee Schaafhausen referred to Waikato-Tainui's presentation at the morning's hui and the 'deep dive' hui that would be held on 19 August 2020. The following matters were discussed:

- The alignment between the Council and Waikato-Tainui's plans, which provided opportunities for greater collaboration.
- The Resilience Plan was aspirational; but deliverables were expected in the next 9-10 months.

Resolved: (Cr Gibb/Trustee Raumati-Tuu'a)

THAT the report be received;

AND THAT staff from Waikato-Tainui and Waikato District Council work together to identify and confirm specific actions that contribute to the achievement of the Taniwha projects and the Council's 2020/21 Annual Plan objectives.

CARRIED

JMA2007/04

District Plan Review Update

Agenda Item 4.3

The RM Policy Team Leader provided a summary of the background and project for the Proposed District Plan and hearings. He noted that staff would be presenting Stage 2 to Council for formal notification on Monday, 20 July 2020. The following matters were discussed:

- Difficulty encountered by some marae to resource and participate in the PDP process; there was reliance on the iwi team to assist marae.
- Ohinewai (Ambury) development, while high profile, would be considered in the same way as any other development, including an assessment of its environmental impact. Waikato-Tainui's submission on the development was noted.
- Council staff had worked hard to focus on pa sites and other sites of significance for Maaori, noting that further work was to be done by the Council in this area. There had been a significant step change from what Council previously recorded.

Resolved: (Trustee Schaafhausen/Mayor Sanson)

THAT the report from the Chief Executive, Waikato District Council be received.

CARRIED

JMA2007/05

Cr Gibb declared a non-financial conflict of interest in the above item and withdrew from the meeting at 12.33pm during discussion. Cr Gibb returned to the meeting at 12.40pm at the conclusion of the above item, and did not take part in voting.

Major Developments and Consents in District

Agenda Item 4.4

The General Manager Customer Support presented a verbal update to the Committee on the following major consents:

- Great South Road, Ngaruawahia
- Ohinewai (Ambury) – consents were on hold pending Proposed District Plan hearing.
- TaTa Valley (Pokeno) – Farm tourism venture; use of Waikato River for water taxi service from Mercer - currently on hold awaiting further information.
- Singleton subdivision (Whatawhata) adjoining Taitua Arboretum.
- Glesson & Cox – managed landfill in Huntly. Consents lodged with Waikato Regional Council as well.
- Rangitahi Peninsula, Raglan - 140 lots titled and consented.
- Lakeside, Te Kauwhata – 359 consent applications received and being processed. Some lots have been on-sold to Kainga Ora, with which developer was working.
- Open Country Dairy, Horitou.
- Te Kauwhata lands appealed, but consents approved.
- Ports of Auckland – 4 stage subdivision, industrial park zone. Staff were working through some of the titles for Stage I.
- Mercer Mushrooms consented in December 2019.

There was discussion on the following matters:

- Useful for the Committee to receive an update at each meeting.

ACTION: Waikato-Tainui staff to engage with Customer Support team to discuss any consents where further information was required.

- Infrastructure to support the noted developments. The General Manager Service Delivery, supported by the Chief Executive, noted the following points:
 - Staff were currently reviewing Council's 30-year Infrastructure Strategy with Watercare, including consideration of capacity issues and upgrades.
 - Watercare's consent application for Te Kauwhata wastewater plant would involve both Waikato Regional Council and Waikato District Council.
 - Developers were required to provide details on how provision of water and discharge of wastewater would be processed sustainably as part of the consent process. Council's consent team requires good quality information from developer's engineers to make informed decisions; previous examples where poor-quality

information was provided was discussed. The contract with Watercare was expected to improve the quality of information received.

- Growth of wet industries in Waikato and the impact and challenges this brought.
- Difficulties in preventing private plan change which complied with legislation.

ACTION: Waters reform to be included in the Committee's next agenda.

Resolved: (Cr Gibb/Mayor Sanson)

THAT the verbal report from the General Manager Customer Support be received.

CARRIED

JMA2007/06

Update on the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Initiative
Agenda Item 4.5

The Strategic Projects Manager, Waikato District Council spoke to the report. The following issues were highlighted in response to questions:

- Sub-regional water study
 - Phase 1 complete. The strategic business case was uploaded on Futureproof website.
 - Phase 2 reliant on central government funding, for which a decision would be some time away.
 - Three waters steering group had met; a report would be presented to the Chief Executive Advisory Group at the end of July 2020, to outline options for councils to consider at end of July 2020. This would include external funding options; expectations of private funders would need to be carefully managed.
 - Ms Colliar updated the Committee – the study promoted doing things in a different way with a boundaryless view of servicing in Waikato, to achieve best outcomes for the Waikato river and communities. The push for central government funding would continue.
- Metro Hamilton wastewater project underway; separate funding stream. Project to look at 'business as usual', centralisation, investing in and maintaining infrastructure in a different way, to consider potential new ownership model.
- Hamilton to Auckland rapid speed rail service business case – Council staff would share once completed. Commencement of normal rail service was expected to be operational in November 2020; a date to be confirmed in the next couple of weeks. Completion date for rail stations noted. Council staff's work in this area was acknowledged.
- River communities spatial intent; it was no longer a plan.

- Document would be updated to provide greater emphasis on marae aspirations, supporting 32 marae in river community from Tuakau to Huntly. Focus was on design and to provide for sustainable growth. Waikato Tainui's Strategy Manager had been involved in the work with communities.
- Development of schools e.g. Huntly College; social housing and other community facilities.
- Longer term industrial aspirations, staff were working with Tainui Group Holdings.
- Public transport – bus service from Pokeno to Pukekohe operational before end of 2020 to improve connectivity.
- Hamilton Waikato spatial plan had been endorsed by Futureproof and would be presented to Cabinet for endorsement. Final draft expected in December 2020.
 - Hopuhopu, Taupiri and Ngaruawahia joined as a cluster to help plan development in an integrated manner.
- Department of Internal Affairs pilot project – 4 short-listed projects factored into modelling work. This would provide a better understanding of how other projects in relation to H2A could be funded; further information would be shared once available.

Resolved: (Cr Gibb/Trustee Schaafhausen)

THAT the report from the Chief Executive, Waikato District Council be received.

CARRIED

JMA2007/07

Updates on Strategic Projects

Agenda Item 4.6

The Council's Chief Executive provided an update on the following matters:

- Te Paina – proposed transfer of land with Department of Conservation, though staff were not expecting the matter to be resolved soon. The General Manager Oranga noted it had taken 9 years already and offered Waikato-Tainui's assistance to progress the issue, if that would help.
- Embedding Maangai Maaori roles into the JMA Schedules. A report was to be presented to the Strategy & Finance Committee on 22 July 2020 to recommend this matter be progressed.
- Raglan wastewater consent – interim consent had been applied for to provide time up for a sustainable long-term approach to be designed, working with mana whenua and the community. Several options had been identified. An overview of the work timetable was discussed.

- Te Kauwhata wastewater issue – acknowledged that previous engagement with the community in relation to the plant was not the best, which staff were now looking to rectify.
 - Letter received from Waikato-Tainui in relation to mana whenua concerns; Council would respond to the letter.
 - Response sent to Waikato Regional Council on how Council proposed to address the abatement notice. An MBR plant was recommended for Te Kauwhata from the Mid-Waikato Study, which was consistent with mana whenua aspirations in original discussions. Several options had been considered.
 - The Study would be discussed with Waters Governance Board in the week commencing 20 July 2020, and then would be discussed with mana whenua.
 - Development of an MBR plant would take a couple of years; Watercare had proposed a ‘fast-track’ process. Council had requested that the WRC abatement notice period be shifted to the end of 2022 to enable completion of the plant. Some improvements had been implemented, though not enough to be compliant.
 - Moratorium on growth until a solution was in place given capacity of current Te Kauwhata plant.

The recent work undertaken by the Council to address mana whenua concerns on this matter (including the moratorium and proposed mana whenua fora) was acknowledged.

- The Mid-Waikato Study recommended option, contemplated discharge into Lake Waikere via MBR plant. The issues with a land-based disposal option were discussed.
- Capacity of proposed new plant unknown at this stage; the study contemplated the plant would be operational for 50 years.
- Other options canvassed in the Mid-Waikato Study; MBR plant was the preferred option. Exploration of re-use of wastewater should be explored given the significance of water and to address potential drought issues in the future.

Resolved: (Trustee Raumati-Tuu’a /Cr Gibb)

THAT the report from the Chief Executive, Waikato District Council be received.

CARRIED

JMA2007/08

Trustee Schaafhausen retired from the meeting at 1.40pm during discussion on the above item, and Trustee Te Ao assumed the Co-Chair at that time.

Ms Colliar joined the Committee as an alternate member for the remainder of the meeting.

Representation review – Maaori Wards

Agenda Item 4.7

The Democracy Manager, Waikato District Council, introduced the report and provided an overview of the process to establish Maaori wards.

The Iwi & Community Partnership Manager summarised discussions on mana whenua fora and proposed 4 clusters across the District, which would take time to establish. The Chief Executive would discuss the issue with Councillors on Monday, 20 July 2020.

Mayor Sanson referred to the high-quality candidates appointed as Maangai Maaori; the same standard might not be achieved via Maaori wards. The wider delegations held by Council committees this term meant that appointed Maangai Maaori were decision-makers. Mana whenua fora would enable better engagement at a local level.

The following matters were discussed:

- Effectiveness of mana whenua fora - individual members being able to hold own views; the time and resource required from members; importance of appropriate grouping of mana whenua. It was noted that Council would leave hapuu to advise their preferred approach in relation to clusters.
- Maaori wards – Waikato Tainui would need to discuss this further internally.
 - Difficulty with a public poll overturning a Council decision; explore Waikato councils and Waikato-Tainui jointly advocating a change to legislation. Mayor Sanson noted previous discussions with Minister Mahuta on that matter.
- Maaori representation should be viewed as a multi-tiered approach. Explore other options to ensure representation at every level of Council.
- Whether fora needed to have flexible membership to ensure the right people attended at the right time/for the right issue.
- Mana whenua fora needed to be appropriately resourced and remunerated.

ACTION: Waikato Tainui staff to look into, and provide advice to their Committee members on, Maaori wards and mana whenua fora.

Resolved: (Trustee Raumati-Tuu'a /Cr Gibb)

THAT the report from the Chief Executive, Waikato District Council be received;

AND THAT Waikato Tainui provide feedback on the establishment of:

- a. Maaori wards; and**
- b. mana whenua forum/fora,**

by the Council.

CARRIED

JMA2007/09

Strategic Work Programme 2018-2021
Agenda Item 4.8

The following matters were discussed:

- Appointment of Maangai Maaori was completed.
- Growth and Strategy – still some work to be done.
- Waters infrastructure – formation of the Waters Governance Board to govern the waters' issues.
- Planning documents – alignment between the Council's Annual Plan/Long Term Plan and Waikato-Tainui's 5-year plan. Needed to review how the objective was described in the Work Programme as current focus was more on the recovery of the Waikato District.
- Capability building - the General Manager Oranga noted the work rests with Waikato-Tainui, which was underway. Reference made to the jointly-funded scholarship.

ACTION: Council and Waikato Tainui staff to review the Work Programme to consider changes required to be future-focussed.

Resolved: (Trustee Te Ao/Mayor Sanson)

THAT the report from the Chief Executive, Waikato District Council be received.

CARRIED

JMA2007/10

General Business

Agenda Item 4.9

No other business was raised.

CLOSING COMMENTS FROM CO-CHAIRS

Mayor Sanson encouraged the Committee to have more regular contact to pre-empt issues.

Trustee Te Ao thanked staff for the mahi undertaken, and congratulated the appointed Maangai Maaori.

An annual regional JMA hui with other regional councils was supported.

Closing Karakia

Mr Turner closed the hui with a karakia.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 2.36pm

Minutes approved and confirmed this

day of

2020

AM Sanson

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

Ms R Schaafhausen

CO-CHAIR AND TRUSTEE