

MINUTES for a meeting of the Taupiri Community Board held in the Memorial Hall, Greenlane Road, Taupiri on **MONDAY, 15 MAY 2023** commencing at **6.00pm**.

Present:

Ms J Morley (Chairperson)
Ms S Cocup-Hughes (Deputy Chairperson)
Ms D Lovell
Mr H Lovell

Attending:

Mr J Ebenhoh (Planning & Policy Manager)
Ms G Shaw (Democracy Advisor)

The Planning and Policy Manager opened the Taupiri Community Board meeting with a Karakia.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Ms Lovell/Mr Lovell)

THAT the apology from Cr Gibb for non-attendance be accepted.

CARRIED

TCB2305/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Ms Cocup-Hughes/Mr Lovell)

THAT:

- a. the agenda for a meeting of the Taupiri Community Board held on Monday, 15 May 2023 be confirmed, with all items therein being considered in open meeting; and
- b. all reports be received.

CARRIED

TCB2305/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: (Mr Lovell/Ms Cocup-Hughes)

THAT the minutes for a meeting of the Taupiri Community Board held on Monday, 5 April 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

TCB2305/03

REPORTS

Works and Issues Report

Agenda Item 6.1

The report was received [*TCB2305/02 refers*] and the following discussion was held:

Community Plan

- Noted that this project was ongoing. The Board had recently held a workshop on this topic and work was progressing in this area.

Wel Green Boxes/Chorus Building/Mural Painting

- Ms Lovell noted that a suggestion had been made by the local marae to utilise kowhai in the artwork and keep it relevant to Taupiri. The designer will alter the artwork accordingly. It was proposed to include the five (5) birds of Taupiri to maintain the connection to the area. Ms Lovell would liaise with the marae for further information/input.

ACTION: Ms Lovell to continue liaison with the local marae and local residents regarding mural artwork.

- Noted there were 26 WEL Energy boxes in the area, therefore, projects would be ongoing in this space.
- There was discussion about the history of the area, as well as consideration for including a QR code for each box, in both languages (Te Reo Maaori and English).
- The Planning and Policy Manager shared information about the recent appointment of a Heritage Advisor, Laura Kellaway, who could provide valuable insights for future meetings.
- Mr Lovell mentioned a local resident, who possesses extensive knowledge about the history of Taupiri.
- Various members acknowledged that different parts of town hold distinct histories, which could be reflected through the artwork in each location.

Proposal for Walkway and Cycle Track in Taupiri

- Noted uncertainty about future tranches of Better Off Funding due to the effects of recent flooding in the district.
- Board noted that the Taupiri Charitable Trust now has a registration number and the Board and Trust plan to come together once the Trust was ready to discuss how they could work together.
- Noted that the Board advocates for the community, while the Trust is a channel for funding projects. For example, the Trust was instrumental in raising funds for the walkway project which could not have been done without their establishment.
- The Board was the catalyst that initiated the Trust, noting the Board cannot accept donations as there is no mechanism in place to receive them. This arrangement is being closely watched by other boards as an example of how this set-up can be successfully implemented. It is hoped that with a clear understanding of each group's role, great things can be achieved with the Board and the Trust working together.
- It was emphasised that the Board is elected and represents the community, while the Trust is not. Nonetheless, building a good relationship between the two entities is crucial.
- The identity of the Board and the Trust were also discussed in terms of their individual roles and responsibilities.

Emergency Procedures

- Noted that Cr Gibb had sent members a draft flier or one-pager that is intended for distribution throughout the Taupiri community.
- Additionally, there were plans in motion to coordinate a gathering at the marae. In regard to the aforementioned flier or one-pager, it is requested that 350 copies be printed at the cost of the Board. This action would require approval/further information to proceed.

ACTION: Staff to investigate printing/costing options for 350 fliers that the Taupiri Community Board intends to distribute locally. Staff to report back to the Board with costing/printing options and next steps.

Neighbourhood Support

- The Chair had held a meeting with local Police representatives. During the meeting, it was suggested that Taupiri consider installing CCTV cameras in the community, similar to those already in place in Ngaruawahia and Huntly.
- The Police recommended that cameras be strategically placed at various locations throughout the community. It was suggested that the project start with six (6) CCTV cameras and progress from there, with pricing and a business case to be provided.

- Members emphasised the need to install cameras in residential areas, as well as along the main street and within the village, to combat criminal activity in the area.
- The Chair suggested that the Police put forward a funding case to support the installation of the cameras. The group agreed to gather pricing details, and it was mentioned that the Community-Led Development Team had already been consulted on the matter.

ACTION: Community-Led Development Team to support/meet with the Chair regarding the above project/s.

Picnic Tables

- There seems to be a delay in the completion of some tasks assigned to City Care (e.g., delivery of the tables). Despite the passage of several months, no progress has been made on this item.
- Staff noted that an action could be recorded for the staff member who is responsible for managing the contract between City Care and Council, emphasising that action needs to be taken to address the issue.
- Three (3) of the tables are for Taupiri School, three (3) are for the Christ Church, while the remaining one (1) is for EduCare. All parties concerned have been duly notified.

ACTION: Council staff responsible for managing Council's City Care contract to investigate delay in delivery of tables to Taupiri School Christ Church Taupiri and Taupiri Edu Care, in liaison with the Taupiri Community Board.

Ngaruawahia, Hopuhopu & Taupiri Structure Plan/Ngaruawahia Town Centre Plan Update

- It was noted that a relevant meeting relating to this item would be held later in the week.

Roading signs

- It was recommended that appropriate signage be installed at the new Taupiri development location, as it poses potential safety hazards such as narrow roads that are frequently frequented by trucks and young children on bikes.
- Additionally, the need for cautionary signals like 'Watch for Children' signs and safe crossings ought to be considered on Te Putu Street, where there is a school and increased pedestrian activity.

ACTION: Staff to investigate placement of 'Watch for Children' signs and safe crossings on Te Putu Street, as it is frequented by school children.

- The growing enrolment at the school in the area highlights the importance of addressing safety concerns in the community. Therefore, it is proposed that staff from the Roading Team report directly to the Board about possible solutions at a future Community Board meeting.

ACTION: Roading Team to attend a future Taupiri Community Board meeting to address the above issues and answer questions posed by elected members.

- Moreover, the possibility of installing a speed counter or speed camera on Te Putu Street should be discussed with the Police to ensure that speed limits are adhered to.

ACTION: Chair to liaise with Police regarding a speed counter or speed camera on Te Putu Street.

Update to Variation 3 of the Proposed Waikato District Plan

- The Planning and Policy Manager confirmed that Taupiri was not in scope for this initiative.

Gardens at Taupiri Mangawara Bridge

- It had been observed that the garden located at Te Putu Street and Gordonton Rd had been subjected to activity causing the plants to be severely pruned back and withered. Hence, Ms Lovell would undertake the task of logging the issue with City Care, who can take necessary measures to rectify it, or provide further information on the matter.

Lighting at Taupiri Mountain

- Staff were still waiting for WEL Networks to resolve. Once resolved, WDA lighting team would work with Waka Kotahi to work on repair of the streetlights.

Footpaths/Road Signs/Lighting/Tunnels

- The drainage issue on Onslow Avenue had been passed onto Waikato District Alliance (WDA) to investigate. The Team is currently working on high priority work (cyclone damage).
- The footpath request has been added to the list of potential projects for the next LTP.

ACTION: Staff to investigate the entrance to the recently constructed Taupiri residential development from Button Lane. The concern is that the signage, lamps and other objects placed by the development are occupying space along the road, leading to traffic congestion problems.

Franklin Vets – Potential Mural Opportunity

- Mr Lovell had initiated a conversation with the manager of Franklin Vets in Taupiri regarding the mural opportunity. The manager assured him that they would relay a message about the mural to the business owner/relevant parties.

- It was noted that the owner of the business had also expressed concern regarding graffiti on the site in question.

Civil Defence Workshop

- The Board was continuing to progress work on this item.

Additional Points Noted by the Board:

Walkway/s at the Pa Site

- Concerns have been raised regarding the state of the Taupiri Pa site paths, in particular the presence of noxious weeds, the lack of signage for the walkway, and the dumping of rubbish in the area.
- In addition, the Chair had expressed concerns regarding the state of Orini Road leading up to the BP station, as it appears to be overgrown and unkempt. A suggestion had been made to tidy up the area and introduce native trees to improve its aesthetic appeal. These matters have been noted and it was hoped they would be addressed accordingly to ensure the upkeep of the environment for the benefit of the community.

ACTION: Staff to investigate walkway and general concerns as outlined in the points above.

Discretionary Fund Report

Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received [TCB2305/02 refers] and the following discussion was held:

- The Chair and Ms Lovell attended Discretionary Fund Training last month.
- Brief discussion was held regarding the Board's budget and population.

ACTION: Staff to advise why Taupiri's Discretionary Fund budget had not increased, despite population increases in the area over the past few years.

Early Engagement Feedback for the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2023

Agenda Item 6.3

The report was received [TCB2305/02 refers] and the following discussion was held:

- During the discussion on potential restrictions in Taupiri, the group did not come to a clear consensus on the issue. Some members raised concerns about campervans being parked in certain areas, like Murphy Lane at the reserve. One questioned why Bob Byrne Park was not included in the restricted areas.

- The group noted that after 25 May 2023, there would be an influx of campervans arriving in the community. While some, argued that they did not harm anyone, others raised concerns about long-term stays and enforcement of bylaws.
- Ultimately, it was resolved that members would consider a submission to help prevent long-term stays in cars, and the Chair was tasked with making a submission.

ACTION: Chair to submit feedback on the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2023 prior to 5.00pm, Friday 19 May 2023.

Resolved: (Mr Lovell/Ms Lovell)

THAT the Taupiri Community Board:

- notes the early engagement feedback for the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2023 is due by 5.00pm Friday 19 May 2023.**

CARRIED

TCB2305/04

Waikato District Council Senior Leadership Update
Agenda Item 6.4

- It was noted that Laura Kellaway commenced her role as a Strategic Advisor for Heritage last week, with the Planning and Policy Manager her direct supervisor.
- Additionally, the LTP (Long-Term Plan) is showing positive progression, with discussions covering community outcomes, strategic priorities, and growth having been undertaken.

ACTION: Planning & Policy Manager to invite the Strategic Heritage Advisor to the next Taupiri Community Board meeting.

Chairperson's Report
Agenda Item 6.5

- A plan was discussed to plant 5,500 daffodil bulbs in the community. The idea was to scatter them around in various areas. It was decided that Ms Lovell would take responsibility for planting some. Suggested some be planted at Bob Byrne Park and under the trees on Murphy Lane. Additionally, the Chair suggested reaching out to the community to request extra assistance with planting the bulbs.

Councillors' Reports
Agenda Item 6.6

- Both Councillors were absent, therefore, no discussion was held. However, members noted how busy the Councillors were, as their schedules demonstrated in their reports.

Community Board Members' Report
Agenda Item 6.7

- Ms Cocup-Hughes noted that she attended an Effective Chairs workshop via Council.

PROJECTS

Community Planting and Maintenance
Agenda Item 7.1

- Noted the feijoa trees in the community require pruning. Board would follow up with City Care around this.

Taupiri Structure Plan
Agenda Item 7.2

- No discussion was held.

Taupiri School Update
Agenda Item 7.3

- No updates were available.

Emergency Procedures – Civil Defence
Agenda Item 7.4

- Update had been covered at an earlier stage of the meeting.

Halls
Agenda Item 7.8

- An arrangement was made to have a group of cleaners visit a Taupiri Hall for a thorough cleaning, which incurred a cost of \$1500.
- The Hall Committee is currently devising a plan to set up fencing in the backyard area of the Taupiri Memorial Hall to establish privacy. The committee is also looking to set up BBQs and tables out the back to enhance the outdoor experience for the guests.

Additional Point Raised by the Chair

- The Chair requested that copies of the opening and closing karakia, in English and Te Reo Maaori, be provided to the Community Board for future meetings.

ACTION: Staff to provide the Chair with copies of the opening and closing karakias, in English and Te Reo Maaori and Communications Team or the team responsible for Council halls to consider distributing copies of the karakia to all Hall Committees.

The Planning and Policy Manager closed the meeting with a Karakia.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 7.42pm.

Minutes approved and confirmed this day of 2023.

J Morley
CHAIRPERSON