

Minutes for a meeting of the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee of the Waikato District Council held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaaruawaahia on **WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2023** commencing at **9.30am.**

Present:

Cr L Thomson (Chairperson)
Cr C Beavis
Cr C Eyre
Cr M Keir
Cr K Ngataki
Cr E Patterson
Cr M Raumati
Cr P Thomson
Cr T Turner
Cr D Whyte

Attending:

Mr C Morgan (General Manager Community Growth)
Mr K Abbott (Executive Manager – Projects & Innovation)
Ms K Davis-Miller (Resource Management Policy Manager)
Ms D Tracey (Strategic Planning Manager)
Ms L Kellaway (Strategic Advisor – Heritage)
Mr S Bult (Emergency Management Advisor)
Mr G Ormsby (Community Resilience Strategic Advisor)
Mrs LM Wainwright (Democracy Advisor)

Cr L Thomson opened the meeting with a Karakia.

Councillors thanked Mr Morgan for his passion, enthusiasm, and support during his time at Council.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Crs Keir/Ngataki)

That the Sustainability & Wellbeing Committee:

- a. accepts the apologies from Her Worship the Mayor, Mrs JA Church, Cr J Gibb and Cr P Matatahi-Poutapu for non-attendance.

CARRIED

S&W2309/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Crs L Thomson/Patterson)

THAT:

- a. the agenda for a meeting of the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee held on Wednesday, 20 September 2023 be confirmed;
- b. all items therein be considered in open meeting;
- c. all reports be received; and
- d. in accordance with Standing Order 9.4 the order of business be changed with agenda item 6.2 [*Local Area Blueprint Update*] being considered the first item and that other items be considered as appropriate during the course of the meeting.

CARRIED

S&W2309/02

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: (Crs Raumati/Patterson)

THAT:

- a. the minutes for a meeting of the Sustainability & Wellbeing Committee held on Wednesday, 9 August 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED

S&W2309/03

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

ACTIONS REGISTER

Agenda Item 5

The report was received [*S&W2309/02 refers*] and discussions were held on the following item:

Recovery Plan – Cyclone Gabrielle

ACTION: This item to be closed and removed from the schedule.

REPORTS

Local Area Blueprint Update

Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received [*S&W2309/02 refers*] and the Strategic Planning Manager spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- Feedback had been received from most community groups outlining their blueprint initiatives.
- The Tauwhare Community Committee had developed a document identifying community initiatives, based on the blueprint template. A staff proposal to recognize the initiatives provided in the Tauwhare Community Plan was debated as the community wished to be included under the blueprint umbrella.
- The Tamahere Community Committee had provided a more extensive commentary on their respective Local Area Blueprint. Their feedback suggested that because the existing Blueprint projects were largely underway, they saw an opportunity to add several initiatives.
- It was noted that the Mayor's Feedback in the agenda could be seen as influencing the Blueprint process. Councillors requested that the mayoral comments be removed from the agenda report as they were inappropriate as feedback was sought specifically from Community Boards and Community Committees. Note: This paragraph would not be pulled from Council's website as it had already been viewed by 25 people.
- Council strongly supports any community that goes through robust engagement within their communities.
- Tauwhare community would like to see a playground in their area as families were having to travel quite a distance to the nearest playground.
- Timing needed to be considered when engaging with communities as the rural sector had certain times of the year where they were extremely busy and unable to engage.
- Blueprints were living documents owned by each community and Council must be mindful of reaching everyone in the community as some people could not understand the process. Communities must be encouraged to engage and take ownership of their initiatives for their towns/villages.

- It was noted that the Awaroa Maramarua Ward did not have a blueprint for their area.
- Staff workload was discussed. Community aspiration documents could be held by Council but when the document was brought to life it required significant work for staff. The LTP process would be required for each project/blueprint requirement.
- There must be an informed process on how we consider and resource the blueprints from a community and Council perspective.
- It was noted that whilst the Tauwhare Community plan had not gone through the formal Blueprint process, a robust engagement process was undertaken with the community.
- It was noted that the purpose of the Blueprint documents was to form part of the strategic planning documents. Concern was raised that Council had moved away from the original purpose and the Blueprint documents had now become wish lists from communities.

ACTION: A workshop was requested to assist councillors in understanding how community plans vs aspirations were integrated into the Blueprint process.

ACTION: That the community plans from Glen Afton and Pukemiro be considered at the workshop.

- It was noted that the Marae resilience plan was the strategy around whanau centred, community led and government enabled. These form the core of community aspirations.
- There was a separate page on Waikato District Council's website for community plans.

ACTION: The Tauwhare Community plan be placed on the website under Community Plans. The plan would supercede the 2017 Tauwhare Community Plan.

ACTION: That all community plans on Council's website have the plan dates listed beside them.

ACTION: That a reference be placed on the Blueprint website page referring to community plans.

- Community Plans could be accessed as follows:
<https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/your-council/plans-policies-and-bylaws/plans/community-plans>

Resolved: (Crs Keir/Ngataki)

That the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee:

- a. approves the amendments to the Local Area Blueprints, as provided for in Attachment 1;
- b. notes the other comments provided by some communities on the Local Area Blueprints, as provided for in Attachment 2; and
- c. include the additional initiatives proposed by Tamahere Community Committee, as provided for in Attachment 3, as an addendum to the existing Tamahere Local Area Blueprint.

CARRIED

S&W2309/04

Resolved: (Crs Patterson/Eyre)

THAT the Sustainability & Wellbeing Committee defer the decision on the Tauwhare Community Plan, Option D of the report, pending further discussions on whether to adopt the plan into the Blueprint process.

CARRIED

S&W2309/05

The meeting adjourned at 11.10am and resumed at 11.31am.

Maaori Sites and Areas of Significance Project Fund Report
Agenda Item 6.3

The report was received [S&W2309/02 refers] and the Resource Management Policy Manager spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- There were four (4) appeals still outstanding and the process could not proceed until all appeals had been resolved.
- It was noted that Council must be aware of how we can facilitate people who cannot understand the process as it was not the intention to remove the ability of people who wish to apply to the project.
- Council did not continue to support funding of SNAs (Significant Natural Areas) through the last LTP process.

ACTION: That Council reassess District Plan related funding through the upcoming LTP process.

ACTION: That a workshop be held to assist Council in understanding the funding review process.

- Application forms for funding must be understandable for communities. Examples on the funding forms would assist with this.
- The sites of significance for iwi or mana whenua were often in crown ownership and were dealt with in a different way.

Resolved: (Crs Eyre/Turner)

That the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee approves the:

- Sites and Areas of Significance to Maaori fund guidelines and application, and the process recommended by staff; and**
- establishment of the Sites and Areas of Significance to Maaori (SASM) Fund Assessment Panel.**

CARRIED

S&W2309/06

Marae Resilience Strategy

Agenda Item 6.1

Cr Ngataki advised members of the Committee that she would declare a non-financial conflict of interest this item as she was Co-Chair of Huakina Development Trust.

Cr Raumati advised members of the Committee that she would declare a non-financial conflict of interest this item as she was a member of FENZ and St John at Te Kauwhata.

The report was received [*S&W2309/02 refers*] and the Community Resilience Strategic Advisor, supported by the Emergency Management Advisor and the Executive Manager – Projects & Innovation, spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- The Marae Resilience Strategy was a community led initiative. Marae resilience adheres to a unified methodology and approach which was consistent with Council's partner organisations.
- Short term goals identify opportunities where we work strategically with other providers. Long term goals identified infrastructure requirements and how these would feed into the LTP process.
- A draft agreement was in place with Mangatangi Marae.
- The Te Kauwhata community response group, in collaboration with St John, were providing mental health training and free first aid training (level 1) to assist in building resilience within communities.
- Work was being carried out in tandem with Waikato Tainui.
- The resilience strategy would be a living document and was designed to manage expectations. Each Marae would have different requirements and capacity.

