

## **POKENO COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of meeting of Pokeno Community Committee held at 7.00 pm at Pokeno Hall on Tuesday 22 April 2025

### **Present**

Allen Grainger (Chair), Helen Clotworthy (Deputy Chair), Ginny Bullock (Secretary), Bronwyn Heath, Mike Holroyd.

Councillors: Vern Reeve, Kandi Ngataki

Visitors: Craig Hobbs (CEO WDC), Will Gauntlett (WDC), Pamela Storey (Chair WRC), Noel Smith (WRC), Aksel Bech, Stephanie Henderson, various members of the public

### **Apologies**

Janet Baillie, Haupai Montgomery

Moved Kandi Ngataki

Seconded Ginny Bullock

Allen Grainger welcomed everyone to the meeting

### **Confirmation of Status of Agenda**

Moved Allen Grainger

Seconded Ginny Bullock

### **Confirmation of previous minutes 10th March 2025**

Helen Clotworthy asked that the words December 2025 be added to her advice regarding funding for the Santa Parade

This has been done

Moved Helen Clotworthy

Seconded Mike Holroyd

### **Disclosures of interest**

The register of disclosures of interests is no longer included on agendas but PCC members still have a duty to disclose any interests under this item to the Chairman

## PUBLIC FORUM

### Presentation from Pamela Storey, Chair Waikato Regional Council

Kia ora Chair Allen,

Thank you for providing an opportunity to speak to your Committee on 22 April. It was a pleasure to connect with your members in person and discuss the proposals set out in the 2025/26 Annual Plan consultation document. I encourage the Committee members to share your views with Council.

Waikato Regional Council opened consultation on its Annual Plan for 2025/26 on 1 April. I have attached a copy of the consultation document for your information and review. As discussed in the meeting on 22 April, I wish to draw your attention to consultation topics that may be of interest to you.

- The Long Term Plan adopted last year indicated a rates rise of 8.2% in Year 2, and the good news is that this has been reduced to 5.9% in our draft annual plan.
- Waikato Regional Council is introducing a regional Public Transport (PT) rate to collect the rates needed to plan and deliver PT across the region. We have developed this rating approach based on principles including efficiency, transparency, fairness (those with greater access should pay more), and recognition that PT is a public good and we should all pay something even if it's not accessed by everyone. The proposed rate will fund bus services, Total Mobility services, and Community Transport in the region. We are proposing 5 different ratings categories across three areas based on the level of PT services available. The per property rates proposed within the Waikato District Council area range between \$76.69 per annum for a serviced Central Waikato property (that included Huntly, Ngaruawahia and Raglan)/\$38.35 for an unserviced Central Waikato property or \$26.84 per annum for a serviced Regional Waikato property (that includes Pokeno, Tuakau and Te Kauwhata)/\$11.50 for an unserviced property. **Please see page 6-9 of the consultation document for details and please visit [2025/26 Annual Plan | Mahere ā-Tau | Waikato Regional Council](#) for a rates calculator to determine the proposed rate for your property.**

- We are also proposing a rates remission policy for the primary industry compliance rate that will give a full discount on the primary industry compliance rate for any portion of land that covered in native bush and therefore not utilised for primary industry.
- We have also included information in our consultation document regarding a new river and catchment management targeted rate proposed for the Wharekawa Coast (Kaiaua), fare increases for public transport, our prior year surplus, and changes to our fees and charges.

Our consultation is open until 30 April so please visit our [website](#) and have your say on these matters. If you or any of your committee members have any questions, feel free to ring me directly on 027-245-4006 or via email at [Pamela.Storey@waikatoregion.govt.nz](mailto:Pamela.Storey@waikatoregion.govt.nz).

I look forward to attending another meeting soon.



202526APCD.pdf

A discussion was held on the future of bus 44 between Pokeno and Pukekohe via Tuakau regarding the viability of this service. We were advised that 4132 passengers have used this service in the past 12 months.



Route 44 stats -  
2024 and 2025.pdf

Mayor Jacqui thanked WRC. She advised that Te Huia is not under this plan and the trial ends in June 2026

Regarding rivers and drainage, Noel advised that a boat has been obtained from Whangarei to start removing debris from the Waikato River. It will be moored at Meremere. Debris will be put on the riverbank and then when it has dried out a bit will be mulched to be used around the district for gardens, etc and could be sold to the public. Debris removal will be funded 50% by WRC and the rest from affected landowners/ratepayers. Work hopefully to commence in the next 6-8 weeks

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

In: Various emails from WDC forwarded by Secretary Ginny Bullock to all committee members.

## **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Cr Kandi Ngataki reported on WDC LTP meetings throughout the district.  
There has been a Sports Masterplan meeting at Pokeno School  
Anzac Parade starting at truck stop at 9.00 am on Friday.  
A discussion on alcohol outlets is coming up soon

Cr Vern Reeve advised there is no funding for widening the bridge on Pokeno Road near the school and ultimately it is the parents' responsibility to get their children to school safely.

However there is a chance that a bailey bridge might be obtained and installed which might mitigate the problem.

Traffic calming signs/ warnings regarding children near the bridge discussed at the meeting but there is still no funding

Vern confirmed he was continuing to work on this situation and will report back on progress at the next meeting

Mayor's Awards nominations close 01 May – vote online

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Strategy and Growth / Pokeno Realm**

At a WDC meeting a couple of weeks ago we were advised that the work on the Hub should be commenced by the end of the year. There is a problem with flooding from a local stream which has made planning more difficult.  
Funding is already in place for this

### **Treasurer's report**

No payments/receipts 11 March-23 April 2025



\_ PCC Financial  
Report 11 March 20:

Moved Helen Clotworthy  
Seconded Ginny Bullock

## **Facilities**

Further preparation work should be completed for the Sports Park by end of 2025.

There has been a delay because council is having difficulties obtaining weed-free topsoil to put down so this has delayed the grassing. It was suggested to move the water bore closer to the carpark and use it as a source for sprinklers for the sports fields

Still waiting for report on skate park design

No funding for improvement to Munro Road and bridge

Alan to contact Joel from Tata Holdings regarding access through Helenslee Road to the sports park

Bronwyn Heath advised that a new roof and water tanks have been built at the Tennis Club and it is being widely used by the community. She is very happy with the progress and says that heating will be installed for the winter with new carpet and curtains.

## **Events**

Anzac Day 25<sup>th</sup> April. Morning tea provided by Lions Club

Police were supposed to attend today's meeting but this was not possible so they will attend next meeting.

## **Communications**

Work is being done on the website to connect to minutes and to Vision Statement. 1200 visitors from all over the world. Looking at different language sections. Also looking at automated Hall bookings  
Waikato District Council website should have a link to Pokeno website

A discussion was had regarding the stolen wood from the Dogpark which is being sold as firewood. Difficult to prove the origin of the wood but it is in the hands of the police

A motion was passed to give a gift basket, or similar, to the contractor who moved the wood from the Dogpark to the MenNZ Shed without cost

Moved Mike Holroyd

Seconded Ginny Bullock

## **NEIGHBOURING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

## **OPEN FORUM**

### **O'Leary Road update**

Janet McRobbie advised the Committee that NZTA has advised the work to mitigate this dangerous intersection is due to start this Sunday

### **MENZ Shed**

There has been a delay in the opening due to unforeseen circumstances

## **KEY WORKS PROGRAMMES**

### **Will Gauntlett**

#### **Capital Works Programme**

Details can be found on the WDC website including LTP consultations

### **Security Cameras**

Detailed design is now complete and council is now prioritising sites and procuring suppliers to undertake installation

## **Roading**

### **Munro Road upgrade**

In relation to the delay in the development of Munro Road, the Pokeno Committee asks for a further discussion owing to the fact that Munro Road is vital to the development of the new Sports Park. No date set for reconstruction of the road and bridge due to lack of funding

Meeting closed at 8.10 pm

### **MEETING DATES 2025**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Possible date for AGM and Election