



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 1st July 2025**

Present:

TCC: Charles Fletcher (Chair), Janis Swan, Lyn Harris, Jane Manson

WDC: Cr Crystal Beavis, Geoff King, Emma Rankin

Tamahere Lions: Sue Fookes

Tamahere Forum: Scott Mathias

Community: Maggie Wilcock, Sue Robertson, Cindy Jacobs, Brendon Russo, Matt Sanderson, Don Law, Aksel Bech, Ellan Geange, Grant, Connie & Emma Templeman, Peter & Ali Nation, Lisa Anderson, Andrew Pickford, Medihah Bardsley, Ed Franklin, Maninder Singh, Harleen Bharara

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and, after introductions, advised they had speaking rights and encouraged to share any thoughts or views and to ask questions.

1. **Apologies:** Cr Mike Keir, Bevin Coley, Anne Cao, Buddy Annals
(Aksel Bech for lateness as attending another meeting first, arrived 8:02)

Motion: Apologies be accepted

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Jane Manson **All in Favour**

2. **Confirmation of Minutes** of meeting held 3rd June 2025

Motion: Minutes of the meeting held 3 June 2025 are approved.

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Janis Swan **All in Favour**

3. **Matters arising (not on this agenda)**

- Matt Sanderson reported that the Sanderson Group has purchased 47B Pencarrow Road as the owners of that property wished to move into Tamahere Country Club. No development is currently planned for this Pencarrow Road property.
- Birchwood Lane. An update from Council: traffic counters are now on the road, there is one chicane and the trial will progress.

4. **Correspondence** (May 2025) – *details circulated by email prior to meeting*

Motion: Correspondence is approved and accepted.

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Lyn Harris **All in Favour**

5. **WDC Service Delivery – Tamahere Community Committee Issues Report** - Report circulated prior to the meeting by Geoff King and accepted as read.

- *TMRT Trail & Bridges:* Annual operations plan for FY 25-26 has been completed & signed.

- **Council Concept Plan for Tamahere Reserve:**
 - The Reserve is currently designated as a Local Purpose Reserve (Quarry) owned by the Council.
 - This designation is to be changed to reflect its actual purpose and use.
 - An indicative timeframe for this is dependent on the time it takes to consult with all the stakeholders.
 - Council has contractors clearing the access track to the Reserve, now that the roadside trees are gone, so that it can be re-opened to the public.
 - Boffa Miskel have been engaged to consult with TCC, TMRT and the community as part of preparing the council Concept Plan. In response to a question as to why the Council is engaging a consultant (ratepayer cost concerns) Geoff indicated it was because Council had insufficient staff resource to do this work.
- **CCTV update:** The current design and CCTV camera options have been made available for the committee members consideration
 - The location of the second toilet block near the existing one is yet to be finalized but WDC is aware that this location could have an impact on the CCTV project.
 - The proposed 6m pole is to mitigate the possibility of vandalism.The Committee agrees it is happy for the Council to proceed with the design plan as presented by the Council and AllTech.

Motion: WDC Service Delivery Report be received and the CCTV project can proceed as planned.

Moved: Janis Swan **Seconded:** Jane Manson **All in favour**

6. **Emma Rankin, WDC Economic Development Advisor**

- The Economic Development brand has been refreshed by Council. Emma circulated the new prospectus. The web site is <https://www.takitini.com>
- This development works as a small unit within WDC as it is not seen as core business.
- Tamahere and Matangi interests are the current focus for Council which wants to connect in a more meaningful way with the business community to enhance good economic development in our area and promote these businesses.
- The plan is to have a more commercial focus e.g. Pokeno industrial development and the Sleepyhead project.
- This new approach has been developed in partnership with Waikato - Tainui with a new website co-created – Takitini Waikato District Economic Development. Waikato Chamber of Commerce supports this initiative.
- The focus of the unit is:
 1. Investment and attraction
 2. Business Growth and Sustainability - there are 11, 000 businesses in the Waikato District.
 3. Work Force Development – reflects career trajectory as well as a pathway into education appropriate for businesses operating in our area.
 4. Sector Development – e.g. localism.

- Businesses between Cambridge and Hamilton have previously got together to produce a map of businesses/regular events that happen in our area. This was very positively received.
- Takitini Waikato District Economic Development would like to host a business event in late August to connect with local businesses
 - We suggested that this event should combine Tamahere and Matangi business interests.
 - An expected number of attendees being 30 – 70 guests, the team is looking for a centrally located venue. Suggestions include Hamilton Airport, Zealong Tea Estate, Fieldays facilities, Punnett Café, The Boundary Restaurant & Bar/Forever Bound Café, depending on numbers

7. Councillors' Report

Report circulated by Crystal and accepted as read.

- The community volunteers honored with a Mayoral Award in our Ward this year were: Charles Fletcher, John Sheat, Gayle & Lionel Orr. Cr Beavis congratulated these recipients and thanked them for their outstanding voluntary contributions over many years to our community.
- The LTP 2025-34 was adopted on 30 June.
- New Waters CCO Incorporated has been established. The company is called **IAWAI - Flowing Waters Limited** [NZ Company number 9352435] owned 50% by HCC and 50% by WDC.

Discussion by the committee of this section of the report followed and included the following comments:

- HCC still needs to complete the installation of water meters to all properties – planned to take 5 years.
 - TCC is concerned that this new entity will place financial strain on all people in the WDC & Hamilton area.
 - To what degree can WDC control the financial activities of the CCO? It is proposing to spend \$3.6 billion on its water business, which is almost double the current asset base of the WDC.
 - If we have concerns about our current council rates do we need to be more concerned about future water rates?
 - Will property owners providing for their own water (bore, roof collected) have to pay water charges in the future, just because CCO supply runs past their property? Not currently proposed.
- It appears Council control could be limited to the agreed by-laws and shareholders agreement as IAWAI Flowing Waters Ltd is a separate entity to WDC & HCC. Hopefully it will not follow the Auckland Transport model.
- To some extent the agreed by-laws can exert some control as the by-laws specify how the Council assets are to be used and maintained.
 - Water rates could become a major issue in time
- Neighbourhood Parks & Sports Park Management Plan review – consultation closes Monday 14 July.

Discussion by the committee of this section of the report followed and included the following comments:

- The Matangi Recreation Reserve & Sports Park is part of this review.
- \$380k has been allocated by Council to build multipurpose netball courts for the Matangi Sports Club teams for a base and for training.
 - The on-site Rugby Club building is in very poor repair and the site is normally locked so the public and local residents have no access to the park nor can they use the car park.
 - Those present were asked if they thought TCC should make a submission, they responded affirmatively expressing concern that the Council has allocated this expenditure without good stewardship being demonstrated by the club members and restricted access to the ratepaying public.

Motion: Councilors' report be received.

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Jane Manson

All in favour

8. **Tamahere Reserve:**

- Community input is required to optimize the use of this Reserve.
- TMRT has spent many volunteer hours over 14 years working in the gully area, removing blackberry, gorse and undesirable trees, planting with native trees and scrubs, building a walkway and boardwalks to provide visitors an opportunity to enjoy a fantastic gully restoration environment. This needs to be preserved.
- Bats do not live in this Reserve, but they do fly through seeking food each night (over 4,000 bats in the wider area, including Hamilton City, which fly some 100 kms per night).
- **Tamahere Community Committee is now seeking community input and ideas for the use of the entire Reserve and how it could be developed for community and education use.**
- **What are the community aspirations for this 4.7424 ha of land in the heart of Tamahere?**
- **How can the Reserve best be developed for future community use and benefit (which will determine the most appropriate designation)?**

9. **Blueprint plan Update & NZTA Southern Links update**

Blueprint: Charles explained the importance of Blueprint for prioritizing what the community wants done and the funding of that work through the LTP.

He observed that the current LTP has specifically allocated \$480,000 for work in Tamahere over the next two years and there is no other express provision for the next 9 years. During that period Tamahere ratepayers will pay the Council some \$125 million in rates.

It is time for the Tamahere community to update its Blueprint Plan as many of the tasks previously recorded are now complete. **The Tamahere Blueprint Plan reflects its community aspirations and priorities for the next decade or so. It is a vital bit of work.**

How do we, as a community, want to see Tamahere develop?

What do we need to make this happen? When?

It is critical to set priorities for the Council based on what is important to our ratepayers.

- A **workshop is proposed** to initiate this project.
- Sue Roberston, Jane Manson, Lyn Harris, Don Law, Ali Nation (volunteered by Peter) & Maninder Singh would like to be involved.
- Through the Forum we will invite suggestions from our Tamahere ratepayers.
- We will also ask someone from the Council Blueprint team to meet with us to assist with input as we finalise the Plan.

Action: A date for the first meeting to be arranged.

NZTA Southern Links: TCC (Charles & Lyn) and Cr Beavis attended a meeting today with NZTA to discuss the current roading issues that are under NZTA control. Charles will distribute the meeting report to the committee and community (via Tamahere Forum) once the notes have been approved.

10. Reports

WDC LTP 2025-2034

- Additional funding for TCC Communications (Tamahere Forum & email system) – via the LTP, TCC will continue to receive \$5,000 in funding to support our community communications. We were unsuccessful in our request for an additional \$5,000 p.a. to fully fund the Tamahere Forum. We have now applied, via the Blueprint fund, for \$5,000 for this purpose. It is possible that we will receive these funds for two years which is to be a transition period to update the Forum and its ongoing administration.
- **CCTV Update:**
 - Charles will confirm to the project team that the plans will cover the requirements as outlined in the original brief.
 - Funds have been allocated. The CCTV project can now proceed.
- **Civil Defence:** To be discussed at the next meeting (August).
- **Predator Free Tamahere (PFT):** Jane is currently away – no report this month.
- **Tamahere Lions and Playground Shade Project:** The shading project has been split into 3 stages:
 - **Stage 1:** Umbrella holders on existing seating. Umbrella to be stored in the Four Square & available on request.
 - **Stage 2:** Shade over the slide – this is the most affected because of the stainless steel surface. This should be completed for this summer.
 - **Stage 3:** Shade over the climbing frame. This is reliant on community donations/funding applications.
- **Tamahere Lions has been running for 10 years-** A community celebration is being planned. The preference was to hold a community get-together in the Piazza with food trucks & entertainment, but Council rules are making this a challenge.

Action: Charles has suggested that Sue sends the information to him, and he will interface with the Council to see what can be done.

- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT):** Russell's written report was circulated prior to the meeting and is taken as read. Refer to Geoff King's report for further details.
- **Tamahere Model Country School (TMCS):** Report circulated by Buddy and taken as read.
 - Potholes in the School carpark are creating a tripping hazard that all those using this area, need to be aware of this. A more permanent fix is being explored. It is a Ministry of Education/School problem as the land is owned by it for the school
 - Important dates: Term 3 commences Monday 14 July.
 - Tamahere Winter Gala Ball is Saturday 16 August & is to be held at the Hamilton Garden Pavilion – all welcome with tickets available from the school office.
- **Tamahere St Stephens Church:** Jane reported:
 - Next Market Day – Saturday 19th July 2025
 - The traffic management plan has now been approved by NZTA, NZ Police & WDC – great work! There have been no accidents reported reflecting the effectiveness of the traffic management plan.
 - The new bathrooms have been installed and are now in use.
- **Tamahere Forum Update:**
 - Please email Scott with local information at: scott@omnimedia.co.nz
 - Tamahere Forum's latest invoice has been presented.

Motion: That Scott's Planet Food News Invoice 0085, for Website management and maintenance for the next 3 months (1 July to 1 October 2025) for \$2,625.00 (no GST), is approved for payment by 3x monthly payments by the Waikato District Council from TCC LTP funds.

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Janis Swan **All in favour**

Motion: All of the above reports be received

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Jane Manson **All in favour**

11. Submissions

- **WDC** – refer <https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it>
 - *Neighbourhood Park & Sports Park Reserve Management Plans:* Submissions close Monday 14 July. TCC will make a submission. There are a number of other parks and reserves in or near Tamahere.
 - *Jack Foster Reserve:* A carpark is planned to be built to stop people driving across the Reserve. This has been at the request of the local community and has Councils approval.
- **WRC** – refer <https://yourvoicematters.waikatoregion.govt.nz>
- **HCC** – *Roundabout Update:* Consider at the August meeting.

12. Other Business

- *Local Council elections:* Voting opens Tuesday 9 September & close Saturday 11 October
 - Possible nominees for Committee, Ward & Mayoral positions.
 - Please let TCC know your suggestions

- *Tamahere Recreation Park* – Update at August meeting
- *Fieldays – traffic management* – Comment from those present that the traffic was heavy and the morning commute did not work so well for local residents.

13. **Date of the next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday, 5th August 2025.**

Actions: See **marked** through the Minutes above.

The meeting closed at 9.38pm.

