



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd June 2025**
(meeting commenced at 7 42pm on completion of the Council public meeting)

Present:

TCC: Charles Fletcher (Chair), Janis Swan, Anne Cao, Bevin Coley, Lyn Harris, Jane Manson
WDC: Cr Crystal Beavis, Geoff King
Tamahere Community Centre: Graham McAdam
Tamahere Lions: Sue Fookes
Tamahere Forum: Scott Mathias
Community: Maggie Wilcock, Sue Robertson, Joey Smith, Lauren McLean, Paula Cooper

1. **Apologies:** Buddy Annals, Cr Mike Keir, Cindy Jacobs

Motion: Apologies are accepted

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Anne Cao **All in Favour**

2. **Confirmation of Minutes** of meeting held 6 May 2025.

Motion: Minutes of the meeting held 6 May 2025, as circulated, are approved.

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

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

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

Motion: Correspondence is accepted.

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

In addition to the list of correspondence - Tamahere Lions had requested a letter of support from TCC for the Tamahere Recreation Park Playground shading project. Charles read the proposed letter out.

Motion: The TCC letter supporting the Tamahere Lions Club lead for the Tamahere Recreation Park Playground shade project be approved.

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Janis Swan **All in Favour**

5. **Tamahere Community Centre – Graham McAdam**

- Charles introduced Graham, Chair of the Tamahere Community Centre, to those attending the meeting.
- Graham confirmed that the Community Centre operate two primary bank accounts: Savings – Balance approx. \$307k and Everyday Account – Balance approx. \$60k.

- The Community Centre receives three payments per year (aprox \$38k each) from the Council funded by the \$70/year/dwelling targeted rate. It has been this rate for the last 15 years.
- The Hall is heavily booked with the school having exclusive access during school hours.
- Due to the number of bookings Graham now employs people to manage the on-site aspect of the booking. It is too big a job to expect volunteers to do this job.
- The Community Centre Committee are contemplating extending the Centre to be more community oriented.
- Charles asked if Tamahere Community Committee and Tamahere Community Centre could work together to achieve common community outcomes and benefits. What does the community want? Graham agreed.
- Currently the Community Centre has no comprehensive Business Plan and there is currently no requirement to spend funds from the Savings account.
- It is the Centre's objective to save \$75k/year for future growth/development and expecting a major spend on maintenance every 10 years.
- Tamahere Model Country School (TMCS) office takes all the bookings and invoices people as required – they do a fantastic job.
- The Community Centre has its own web site residents are encouraged to visit <https://www.tamaherecommunitycentre.co.nz>
- Graham is happy for the Tamahere Forum to report on activities at the Community Centre and any local good news stories.

6. **WDC Service Delivery – Tamahere Community Committee Issues Report**

Report circulated prior to the meeting by Geoff King and accepted as read.

- *Tamahere Reserve Pine Trees:* The Council contractor has felled the mature pine trees, required for safety reasons, and left the site. There are no more pine trees to be felled at this stage. Another contractor has offered to clean up the existing felled trees, removing them from site, at no cost to the Council or ratepayers given the value he can gain from the timber. Weather permitting the Tamahere Reserve will reopen in two weeks.
- *Location of 2nd toilet block in the Recreation Park:* The Council proposed a second toilet block to be located diagonally opposite the current block and closer to the road and car park. TCC has always contended for a second two pan block immediately adjacent to the existing two pan block and understands all services (plumbing, water and power) are in place to simply attached to. For economy and safety reasons the committee would like to see the second block placed near (perhaps back-to-back) the existing block to create a cluster. One of the community attendees noted, as a mother, she thought it safer for the second toilet block to be further back from the car park and moving cars, so supported the TCC suggestion of the back to back location. The design will copy the existing structure. Sue Robertson expressed serious concern at the cost of the first toilet, indicating she could have built a 3 bedroom house with 2 toilets for the cost the Council had paid. Geoff

explained it was the prototype for the new generation of toilets the Council is rolling out through the district.

Action: Geoff to discuss with Council staff and confirm details for the second block, its location and design together with the projected costs and timing of construction.

- *TMRT trail & bridge work:* This work is progressing to plan.
- *CCTV update:* Charles has reached out to the WDC CCTV team to get a further project update. Geoff reported that the Council was still awaiting further information from the supplier.
- *Update on Sanderson Group land purchase:* Geoff confirmed that another piece of land has been purchased by the Sanderson Group, which has the potential to connect the Tamahere Country Club to Pencarrow Road. No consents have been lodged by the Sanderson Group, for further development on this new acquisition, which may just be land banking by them.

Motion: The WDC Service Delivery Report be received.

Moved: Bevin Coley **Seconded:** Janis Swan

All in favour

7. Councillors' Report

Report circulated by Crystal and accepted as read.

- *Birchwood Lane:* Council staff will consider the outcome following tonight's public meeting (prior to the TCC meeting) to formulate a way forward.
- *LTP update:* Councilor's have completed the public hearing of submissions and their deliberations.
 - ◆ There was clear feedback from the community that the joint CCO with Hamilton City Council was the best choice. This will proceed.
 - ◆ The LTP will be reworked to accommodate the outcome of submissions accepted through Councilor's deliberations.
 - ◆ Cr Crystal Beavis reported that the Council is expected to adopt the LTP at its meeting on 30 June.
 - ◆ TCC had requested additional funds (\$10k annual grant) to continue running the Tamahere Forum. The Council has approved \$5k (in deliberation three Councilor's made it clear they did not support this and, with Mike away, Crystal did not get the numbers to support her). She suggested seeking the additional funds required through the Blueprint fund or alternatively, the Economic Development team can assist with seeking Rural Fund support (a formal submission from TCC is required for this funding).
- ***Have your say on Reserve Management Plans for Neighbourhood Parks and Sports Parks*** – This includes the plan for new facilities at the Matangi Sports Club and anything for Tamahere Park. Submissions close on Monday 14 July.
- *Fieldays Traffic Management:* This is not a Council issue. The plan is similar to last year with a few minor changes near the Fieldays site and for Pencarrow Road. For more detail contact marketing@nznfs.co.nz or their traffic management consultant, Joseph Rosendaal on joseph@riss.co.nz
- Cr Keir is away overseas for 2 months.

- Antenno app needs to be promoted through Tamahere Forum.

Motion: The Councilors' report be received.

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Anne Cao

All in favour

8. Birchwood Lane:

This meeting immediately follows a public meeting promoted by the Council to hear local residents' opinions on the Birchwood Lane traffic calming measures.

As a committee, Tamahere Community Committee records its appreciation that the Council arranged this public meeting and has extended an apology to the residents for the lack of consultation before implementing the traffic calming trial.

Motion: Tamahere Community Committee invites the Waikato District Council to consider the following:

- Leave the speed limit at 50km/hr, as Birchwood Lane was never designed or built to the standard of Newell Road as a feeder road, but budget to upgrade this road as soon as it can.
- Erect more speed signs on Birchwood Lane and Alfred Main Drive, including painting the speed limit on the road itself.
- Abandon current chicane traffic calming measures immediately and remove the chicanes still in place.
- Instead, paint a median strip, the length of Birchwood Lane to the Village roundabout (or at least where the chicanes were erected), to provide road narrowing for traffic calming.
- Update the traffic numbers currently using Birchwood Lane and Alfred Main Drive and compare those numbers with the numbers projected by NZTA before the Expressway opened.
- Check and repair the road surface and edges along Birchwood Lane, eroded by heavy traffic use, as required (especially the big corner opposite Figgmartin Lane and at the Vintners Lane intersection).
- Reopen the northern end of Newell Road to allow traffic to turn left onto Cambridge Road (SH1C), in consultation with NZTA. This has the advantage of reducing traffic volume on Birchwood Lane and may allow redirection of trucks away from Birchwood Lane – Devine Road. This could operate as a trial for a period.
- Consider how to restrict "rat run" traffic, particularly truck movements, through Birchwood Lane from Airport Road (SH21) to Hamilton city.
- Obtain up to date speed data for Birchwood Lane to see if the traffic calming initiatives have had the desired outcome.
- Paint and signpost a pedestrian crossing, approx. 50 – 100 meters from the Village roundabout end, on Birchwood Lane, for a trial period. If this facilitates safe pedestrian movement and acts as a traffic calming measure, a more permanent crossing could then be built (maybe on a slightly raised platform).

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Janis Swan

All in favour.

TCC has sent an email to NZTA (copied to Council) seeking a meeting to address a number of State Highway issues in and through Tamahere including:

- the congestion at the Tamahere Interchange, especially Airport Road (SH21) which is driving “rat run” responses,
- consequences to the Tamahere School on Devine Road with extra traffic using Wiremu Tamihana Drive-Devine Road-Birchwood Lane-Alfred Main Drive,
- reopening the Hamilton City end of Newall Road to allow traffic to exit Tamahere with a left turn only onto Cambridge Road (SH1C) to Hillcrest, preferably with a slip lane to allow traffic to merge up the hill
- cost of road repairs to Birchwood Lane due to the high traffic volume, especially trucks (impacts on Council rates)
- update on the Southern Links project, especially the staging and timing; e.g. when is the bridge across the Waikato River going to be built? Is the priority to link SH1 and SH3 ahead of the Peacocks roading link to Hamilton City?
- what is a realistic date for completion of Southern Links (and relief off Airport Road)?
- what is the plan for the proposed “roundabout” at the Airport Road - Wiremu Tamihana Drive intersection? Proceeding or shelved?
- Cambridge Road (1C) “finishing” from the Hamilton side of Alfred Main Drive to Hillcrest, Hamilton City - the road surface is in a poor state, the footpath and cycle way has never been constructed and is dangerous to people seeking walk or cycle this section of road, and no fencing of the “effluent pond” on the west side of the road at the bottom of the hill.

Action: Cr Crystal Beavis to follow up with Andrew Corkill at NZTA to confirm arrangements for the meeting with TCC. Suggest that WDC Roding personal also attend.

9. Local Council Elections

- **Voting Dates: Tuesday 9th September – Saturday 11th October 2025**
- The current committee term ends 1 month after the elections (this will be at the end of our meeting scheduled for 4 November 2025).
- **Aksel Bech** has confirmed his nomination for Mayor of Waikato District Council.
- **TCC Candidates Meeting:** TCC will want to hold a public meeting for the voting public to meet the candidates and understand their skills, experience and objectives in seeking to be elected to the Council.

Action: Cr Crystal Beavis to confirm when nominations for the Council open and close so that consideration can be given for possible candidates for the Woodlands-Tamahere Ward. Crystal is going to stand, but we are not sure of Mike Keir’s position.

10. TCC Reports

- **WDC LTP 2025-2034.** Additional funding for Tamahere Forum – \$5k in the LTP is approved by the Council, TCC need to work with the Council to find the additional \$5k funding to continue running the Tamahere Forum.
- **CCTV Update:**

- Charles has had no direct Council update following on from his meeting in March. He will follow this up.
- Geoff's Report indicates that the council is waiting for further information from the supplier.
- **Civil Defence:** Tamahere still needs to find a willing volunteer to lead the Civil Defence response for Tamahere. Cr Beavis and her team have worked out a community response plan and there are volunteers that are prepared to lead certain parts of this response plan. Perhaps there is someone now living in the Tamahere Country Club who could consider this.
- **Predator Free Tamahere (PFT):** Jane Morgan's report was circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read.
 - ◆ Looking forward to the Reserve being reopened to continue the great work in the Reserve.
 - ◆ Congratulations on the Bat Signage Project.
- **Tamahere Lions and Playground Shade Project:**
 - ◆ Sue had requested a letter of support from TCC. This is approved and Charles has sent this to the Lions Club. Council funding has been approved in the LTP and Lions are now looking to finalize shading options and cost together with funding to complete this project.
 - ◆ Stage 1 – provision for umbrellas over the seating around the playground has been completed.
- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT):** Russell's written report was circulated prior to the meeting and is taken as read.
 - ◆ A suggestion has been made to have a community gully planting event – this could include the School, Church, the retirement villages, Tamahere Country Club and the local community – 200-300 people for several hours could plant a lot of plants and trees.
 - ◆ Tamahere Lions are working with Leo to organize a Club working bee to assist with preparation and planting.
- **Tamahere Model Country School (TMCS):** Report circulated by Buddy and taken as read.
- **Tamahere St Stephens Church:** Jane reported:
 - ◆ Next Market Day – Saturday 21st June 2025 – no Fieldays clash!
 - ◆ The toilet block at the Church is undergoing an upgrade.
- **Tamahere Forum:**
 - ◆ The Forum is now gaining in its reach to the community. The plan is to upgrade the look and feel of the Forum (which started with a basic design for cost reasons)
 - ◆ The email list is now almost 800 (our target is 2,000)
 - ◆ Anyone with skills in running or updating a web site is encouraged to let Charles know as we are working on a two year window to upgrade and be sustainable, offering the community information that is current and relevant
 - ◆ Scott encourages anyone with a local interest story to email an outline of the information, and he will write up an article to reflect the information provided
 - ◆ Anyone can email Scott at: scott@omnimedia.co.nz with material for the Tamahere Forum to consider and publish

Motion: All of the TCC reports be received

Moved: Anne Cao

Seconded: Jane Manson

All in favour

11. Submissions

- **WDC** – refer <https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it>
 - ♦ *Community Pools Strategy:* This does not affect Tamahere as there are no local WDC community pool facilities.
 - ♦ *Alcohol Control Bylaw:* Primary area of interest are the dry areas within our communities. There are no dry areas in Tamahere.
 - ♦ *Neighbourhood Park & Sports Park Reserve Management Plans:* Opened 12 May & submissions close Monday 14 July. TCC need to make a submission on this as there are a number of affected parks and reserves in or near Tamahere.
- **WRC** – refer <https://yourvoicematters.waikatoregion.govt.nz>
- **HCC – Roundabout Update:** There has been a follow-up meeting held with HCC which focused on the “peanut” roundabout.
 - ♦ Consideration had been given to the feedback received from both Tamahere & Matangi.
 - ♦ The start date has not yet been confirmed. NZTA has capped the funds for the upgrade costs so the sooner it begins the better to manage rising costs.
 - ♦ After completion HCC will *“commit to undertaking monitoring of traffic issues in this area post construction. As discussed at the meeting the key for the project is that it is safe and people do not get killed or seriously injured. I suspect we will only come out to talk about that again if there are issues arising from that monitoring or at your specific request.”*

We are grateful to the HCC for its consideration of issues raised by representatives of Tamahere and Matangi and its commitment to work in with the WDC so that project works can be co-ordinated – WDC is responsible for upgrade works on the LIC side of the expressway, from the overbridge to the LIC roundabout.

12. Other Business

- *Fieldays Traffic Management:* Information has been circulated and follows a similar plan to last year.
- **Kings Birthday Honours 2025** – congratulations to Tamahere residents:
 - ♦ Peter Nation – ONZM for services to the agricultural industry and governance
 - ♦ Marilyn Yeoman – MNZM for services to education and the community

13. Date of the next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday, 1st July 2025.

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

The meeting closed at 9.29pm.