



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 7th October 2025**

Present: (13)

TCC: Charles Fletcher (Chair), Janis Swan, Lyn Harris, Anne Cao-Oulton, Jane Manson, Bevin Coley

WDC: Cr Crystal Beavis, Cr Mike Keir, Geoff King

Tamahere Lions: Sue Fookes

Community: Maggie Wilcock, Sue Robertson, Don Law

1. **Apologies:** Buddy Annals, Scott Mathias, Leo Koppens, Cindy Jacobs, Peter Nation, David Ralfe, Mayor Jacqui Church, Aksel Bech

Motion: Apologies be accepted

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

2. **Confirmation of Minutes** of meeting held 2nd September 2025.

Motion: Minutes of the meeting held 2nd September 2025 are approved.

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

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

- Tamahere Forum Website review: Charles has redistributed his email, sent May 2025 to Mayor Church, with a proposal for WDC to provide all Committees and Boards with websites either from a commercial provider or via the WDC site. This review is held over until the next Tamahere Community Committee has been voted in.

4. **Correspondence (September 2025)** (76 in | 46 out) - *circulated by email prior to meeting*

Motion: Correspondence is accepted.

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

5. **Local Body Council Elections:**

- The voting period for the Local Government elections is from 9 Sept to 11 Oct 2025 and the last day to enrol to vote (Special Vote) is Friday 10 October 2025.
- Last day to cast your vote at the WDC Tamahere office is Friday 10 October (because it will not be open on Saturday). Needs to be there by 2.30pm
- Feedback on “Meet the Candidates” events
 - The Wednesday evening meeting was quite well supported with great questions coming from those attending.
 - The Saturday meeting was not so successful. The people who did come over from the Market were able to engage with the candidates for a good chat.

- Matangi held a lunchtime meeting where approx. 30 people came along.
- The candidates had found that on-line questions had been a popular way for people to interface with candidates.
- The WDC Market Day stand had been popular for people to ask questions and cast their vote. It was suggested that WDC consider having a stand at St Stephens on the previous 1- or 2-months market days.
- **Suggestions for next elections:**
 - Set up a marquee for people to meet the candidates on the Tamahere Market Day, in the parking area over the road on Tamahere Drive. Careful placement would be key to ensure there is still easy parking for marketgoers.
 - After the elections, have a review to identify improvement or suggestions to motivate greater voter participation.
 - It seems incredible that Tamahere ratepayers will pay the Council some \$38-\$40 million over the next 3 years but are not engaged with voting in the Councilors' who will decide how it is spent and vote on future rates rises.

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

- *TMRT Trail & Bridges*: Tamahere Walkway project at Bilsthorpe is now on hold. The council was close to the point of calling for tenders.
- *Tamahere Reserve*: Remedial work on the boardwalk has been approved and can now proceed.
- *Tamahere Forum*: Tamahere Forum's latest invoice has been presented.
Motion: That Planet Food News Invoice 0084 for \$875.00 (no GST), for Website management and maintenance for the period 1 October to 1 November 2025, is approved for payment by the Waikato District Council from TCC LTP funds.
Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Janis Swan **All in favour**
- *Toilets*: QS review is complete. The contractor needs to consider the information provided. Update next month.

Motion: WDC Service Delivery Report be received.

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

7. Councillors' Report

Report circulated by Crystal and accepted as read.

- *Speed Management Plan*: Cr Beavis reports that the Council is still awaiting sign-off from the Director of Land Transport. It is hoped that speed management signage will be rolled out in the new year to reflect the agreed post-consultation changes. Cr Beavis advised details of the critical changes and will confirm exact details by email to be included with these Minutes.
- *Upcoming legislation*: The draft Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development sets out the government's long-term direction for housing and urban development. It is trying to address the housing issues faced by New Zealanders. The increased high density housing resets will not be implemented in Tamahere or other similar rural areas.

Motion: Councilors' report be received.

Moved: Bevin Coley **Seconded:** Anne Cao-Oulton **All in favour**

8. Tamahere Community Committee Elections – Council to supervise

- **Date:** Tuesday 4th November at 7.30pm
- **Venue:** Tamahere Community Centre, Devine Road
- Charles has outlined the process in an email to Peter Nation which was circulated to Craig Hobbs (WDC CEO) and TCC. At the last election Geoff King (WDC) was deputized to run the TCC elections.
- Nominations will be accepted at the meeting (with the agreement of each candidate nominated). We have previously accepted nominations for up to 12 candidates with the power for the Committee to co-opt additional members if required.
- A vote, to elect nominees to the committee for 3 years, will take place as required by the Council (CEO or delegate) responsible for holding the election.
- Current committee members can indicate if they are prepared to stand again – we will circulate a nomination form for people to sign consenting to nomination.
- **Action:** Sue Robertson will forward a draft nomination form to Lyn.
- Charles has informed WDC Democracy with a request that they advertise the TCC Elections on the WDC website with details of the Date and Venue for the election.
- The TCC Elections will be promoted through the Tamahere Forum.

9. Tamahere Reserve – Further updates on Concept Plan process.

- The Council convened a meeting with Boffa Miskell (BM), to discuss the proposed Scope of Works for the preparation of the Reserve Concept Plan for the Tamahere Reserve on Thursday 18 September. Cr Keir, Cr Beavis, WDC staff, Lyn for TCC and TMRT members attended (Charles was not available).
- Lyn reported it was a constructive meeting that clarified a number of issues, particularly relating to BM's outlined costs. Under Stage 2 of the proposal the group decided that Option 1 (cost: \$3,340.00 +GST) was the preferred option.
- Cr Keir asked if he could be part of the traffic assessment/ scope of work aspect of the project as he has direct understanding of the challenges and the most efficient way of making the Woodcock Road/Tauwhare Road intersection work. An upgrade will be needed.
- A list of "stakeholders" is required for the BM consultation investigation. Lyn has emailed Rebecca Law (WDC) to try and identify who will lead the request and collation of information. There has been no response to date. Charles has followed up by phone to Rebecca & Glyn prior to tonight's meeting.
- Stakeholders identified to date (but not limited to) include:
 - TCC,
 - TMRT,
 - Matangi Community Committee,
 - Ngāti Haua, Ngāti Wairere, Ngāti Te Oro and Ngāti Koroki (Charles to phone Lance)

- PFT,
- Tourism Waikato,
- Tamahere Model Country School,
- Matangi Primary School,
- St Stephens Church (for the Church and the Market),
- Matangi Garden Club,
- Tamahere Country Club,
- Atawhai Assisi Home & Hospital,
- There is now an Iwi liaison group within WDC led by Maehe Paki. She will also be involved.

10. TCC Community Plan Update & NZTA Southern Links update

- The sub-committee has had two meetings which have resulted in good engagement. Given the proposed 50-year time frame it is proposed to formulate a template plan and build from that with 10 year milestones.
- The Community Plan will consider the future look and feel for Tamahere, including development concepts, zoning changes, resources and other considerations for each decade.
- Southern Links will change the look and feel of Tamahere because it will split part of Tamahere. At this stage we understand the Southern Links proposal will be progressed in two parts:
 - Southern part – NZTA Road of National significance linking SH 1 & 3 via the Airport. This is a project which will be 10 – 20-years from now, once approved.
 - Northern part – NZTA-HCC Road of Provincial significance which links SH3 and the Airport to the city incorporating development of the rural area on the northern side of the airport and new subdivisions including the Peacocks area in the HCC to the west and south of the Waikato River.
- We encourage input from the Tamahere public and anyone interested in contributing.

Next Meeting: Thursday 23rd October at 7.00pm at the WDC Tamahere office.

11. Reports

- **WDC LTP 2025-2034**
 - The Council CEO has restructured the Senior Management Team, reducing it from 12 leaders to 8.
 - Tony Whittaker (COO) and Alison Diaz (CFO) have already left.
 - Three positions will be amalgamated into the CFO role with no COO. Paul Conder is the acting CFO pending a permanent appointment.
- **Action:** The Committee would appreciate details of the WDC structure changes and who is responsible for what (Geoff or the Councilor's can provide).
- **CCTV**
 - Cameras are now installed and working (Scott can monitor until the handover to SaferCities).

- The Tamahere Hall Committee and WDC have now agreed and signed a proposal as to how the centralized CCTV server will operate with a new cabinet installed and the Hall will now have its own fiber connection (no longer relying on the School).
- **Civil Defence**
No further updates at this stage.
- **Predator Free Tamahere (PFT):** Jane Morgan provided a positive report for this month (circulated and taken as read).
- **Tamahere Lions:**
 - *Playground Shade Project:* This is slowly moving along. It is unlikely that funding will be forthcoming from the Gaming Trusts because it is a Council asset which it has an obligation to provide for the community. The Tamahere Lions continue to search for other sponsors for this project. In the mean-time the Council has committed \$30,000 to the project so far. Design work is complete and approved by Council.
 - *Tamahere Best Artisan Market:* The next market day is Saturday 11th October with the final one being held Saturday 13th December. Lions will not be continuing with the Best Artisan Market at Tamahere.
 - *Tamahere Piazza:* Securing approval from Council to use the Piazza has been a difficult process. Currently WDC proposes that food trucks could be set up at the far end of the car park near the Airport Road/WT Drive intersection, but this means a traffic management plan will be required. This process negates the purpose of the Piazza space.
- **Action:** There is clearly a need for Council to review how our community uses the Piazza as such events can be impromptu/short notice, so need to be without red tape or Council interference/rules/restrictions. Our community has paid for an asset it is unable to use. We have provided CEO Craig Hobbs with a report and this needs to be followed up by the new Committee members.
- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT):** Report received from Russell Gibbs and taken as read.
 - Social media pages and the website have been updated to reflect the massive amount of planting that has been undertaken. Please take some time to have a look.
 - Great work has been done by the TMRT team in the **Tamahere Reserve**, following the removal of the pine trees along Tauwhare Road.
 - **Bilsthorpe Walkway** cost issues: Last month we discussed the WDC plan to build a very significant walkway as part of the Bilsthorpe project. Substantial consultants' costs have been incurred and are ongoing with a project cost at substantially more than \$1million.
 - As a result of discussions, agreement has been reached to put the consulting work to one side and place the project on hold until there is agreement on the grade of track required (following NZ standards) and how the public is likely to use it.
- **Action:** Follow up with TMRT and Council on the track access and build standard required so that this work can be completed at a reasonable cost.

- **Tamahere Model Country School (TMCS):** Report circulated by Buddy and taken as read.
 - Ag Day – Thursday 9 October – all welcome to attend. It starts at 8.30am.
 - First Board meeting following elections – Tuesday 28 October
 - Golf Day fundraiser – Friday 28 November
 - **Tamahere St Stephens Church:**
 - Next Market Day – Saturday 18th October 2025
 - We are heading to the busiest time of the year for the church with Pet Day this Sunday and the Christmas market day on Saturday 6th December.
 - Jane understands that Nathan Sanderson (Tamahere Country Club) is looking to assist Council with improvement of Tamahere Drive when scheduled road maintenance is to be done next year. St Stephens, being right next door, would like to understand more about the plans and any impact on Church's activities (weekly scheduled events, funerals, not just market day). Councilors' Mike Keir and Crystal Beavis have had discussions with Nathan Sanderson and are sure the Church will be given the opportunity to comment on what is being suggested and for the Church to be recognized as a stakeholder.
 - **Tamahere Forum:**
 - This forum has been used to objectively/impartially provide election information and to encourage voting and engagement with candidates
 - The Forum and its email system is also our main means of communicating with Tamahere residents and ratepayers.
- Action:** Tamahere residents and ratepayers:
- are encouraged to opt into the mail system from the website, and
 - encouraged to email Scott with local information for the Forum at: scott@omnimedia.co.nz

Motion: All of the above reports be received

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Bevin Coley

All in favour

12. Submissions

- **WDC** – refer <https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it>
- **WRC** – refer <https://yourvoicematters.waikatoregion.govt.nz>
- **NZTA** – TCC has submitted on the proposed the variable speed proposal for the Raynes Road/Airport Road intersection.

13. Other Business:

- Tamahere Community Charitable Trust – The committee needs to give serious thought to establishing a Tamahere Community Charitable Trust (Charles has emailed details to the committee) as it can play a significant role in funding local projects and supporting the residents and ratepayers.
- “Peanut” Roundabout on Morrinsville Road – Sarah Loynes (HCC) has requested a catch-up meeting with TCC, Matangi CC, Tauwhare and Newstead to provide a

progress update with a focus of the road works planned from the intersection to the WDC boundary.

Action: Lyn to check venue availability for the week commencing 20 October at the Tamahere Community Centre. Time to be booked: 5.30pm – 6.30pm.

14. Date of the next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday, 4th November 2025.

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

The meeting closed at 9.12pm.

