
MINUTES of a meeting of the Meremere Community Committee held at Meremere Community Hall, 17 Heather Green Avenue, Meremere on **THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2026** commencing at **7.00pm**.

Present:

Mr B Brown (Deputy Chairperson)
Ms C Heta (*Arrived at 7:15pm and departed at 7:25pm*)
Mr B Peters (*Arrived at 7:52pm*)
Mr J McGregor
Ms T Hall
Mrs C Macgregor
Councillor M Raumati

Staff attending:

Mr T Rowland (Democracy Advisor)
Mrs K Wellington (Enterprise Project Management Office Manager)
Ms S Flay (Strategic Advisor – Communications)

The meeting opened with a karakia.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved (Mr Brown/Councillor Raumati)

THAT the Meremere Community Committee:

- a) **accepts the apologies from Mr Haydn Solomon, Ms Okeroa Rogers and Mr Benjamin Peters for non-attendance; and,**
- b) **accepts the apology from Ms Cecillia Heta for lateness.**

CARRIED

MMCC2602/1

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA

Resolved (Councillor Raumati/Mr McGregor)

THAT the agenda for the Meremere Community Committee held on Thursday, 19 February 2026 be confirmed:

- a) with all items therein being considered in open meeting; and**
- b) all reports be received.**

CARRIED

MMCC2602/2

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interests.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved (Councillor Raumati/Ms Hall)

THAT the Meremere Community Committee confirms the minutes of the meeting held 27 November 2025 as a true and accurate record, with the following amendment:

- *noting that under the appointment of Chairperson, the name of "Mr Grainger" to be corrected to Mr Solomon.***

CARRIED

MMCC2602/3

PUBLIC FORUM

Sports Waikato

- Sports Waikato spoke about the Tu Manawa and how best this fund could be used to support the community.

- Sports Waikato noted that this fund could be used for initiatives such as transportation to and from school with skateboarding equipment.
- Sports Waikato noted that they believed the Meremere Community was missing out on securing this type of funding for their community.
- The committee noted that the community struggled in the past for volunteers when running these initiatives and would investigate how other communities have used such funding.

Resignation of Ms Heta:

- Ms Cecilia Heta entered the meeting at 7:15pm and noted that after careful consideration, that she would be stepping down from the Meremere Community Committee.
- The committee thanked Ms Heta for all her hard work within the community and noted that she was still welcome to join them at any time.

REPORTS

5.1 Discretionary Fund Report

The report was received (MMCC2602/02) with no further discussion or questions from the Committee.

5.2 Works, Actions & Issues Report

The report was received (MMCC2602/02) and further discussion took place:

- The Senior Leadership Representative spoke to the report noting that the CCTV Project Team required direction from the committee on the options presented.
- The committee noted that option one would be seen as a phase one for the community, however the committee noted that they wanted to see the completion of the project in its entirety.
- Members of the committee noted that feedback was sorted by Council staff through an email and that it was noted there was no feedback provided by the committee.

- Members of the committee noted that discussions had taken place that they were not involved in and wanted clarification around support for the options provided in the report. The member noted that they believed the objective of this work was to have full coverage across Te Puea Avenue, Taniwha Street and the Playground and that the committee should continue advocating for that project.
- Members of the committee noted that LTP Engagement was already underway and that this was the time to be advocating for these projects.
- Members of the committee noted that discussions around these projects should be held between all committee members for clear and transparent communication.
- The committee noted that the main concerns for the CCTV project does not cover both entrances into the village.
- The committee noted that option one provides north end coverage, noting that there is central coverage already, albeit through an older network. The committee noted that the southern end still had some concerns.
- The committee noted the history of the CCTV project for both Meremere and Te Kauwhata, noting that funding was affected after it became a district-wide program. The committee noted there was DIA funding that was granted; however it was swallowed up early on.
- The committee noted that the project has now been brought in house with investments from the Council in their own system.
- The committee noted they wanted to do due diligence with the project and have cameras at both entrances to Meremere, however with infrastructure already in place at the playground it would not be cost effective to not already use the infrastructure in place.
- The committee agreed an email would be written by the Deputy Chair on behalf of the committee to the ward councillor and council staff to note that they would still want the project completed in its entirety.
- The committee noted they would like to understand the workflow that led to this decision.

ACTION: A report to be presented back to the Meremere Community Committee on the history of the CCTV Project and the timeline leading up to the options presented back to the April 2nd Meremere Community Committee with the project lead requested to come and present to the committee

- The committee noted they could not see where some of the value from the allocation of funding towards Meremere had gone, noting some costs could have gone into the initial development.
- The committee noted that they wanted clarification over the cameras that would be installed at the playground, noting that an APR camera would be the priority for the committee.
- The committee noted that emails requesting consultation from staff could be responded to by all members of the committee.

Resolved (Councillor Raumati/Ms Hall)

THAT the Meremere Community Committee:

- a) receives the Works, Actions & Issues report; and**
- b) approves option one: proceeding with the Priority 1 locations and completing the playground camera installation; and**
- c) noting that the committee sees this as stage one of the project and requests that the project is completed in its entirety.**

CARRIED

MMCC2602/4

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr Benjamin Peters entered the meeting at 7:52pm

- The committee noted that there were several actions of the committee that have not been completed by committee members due to the holiday season.
- The committee noted whether they would proceed with their Community Committee Plan with staff noting that wider work was on-going around the plan and will be reviewed shortly.
- The committee noted that a messaging group had been set up to allow members to discuss issues, however it was noted that some members of the committee were not included in the group.
- The Democracy Advisor reminded the committee that the committee cannot predetermine decisions outside of the public meeting sphere.
- It was noted that a messenger group could be used to discuss issues, however a clear and open mind must be brought to committee meetings around decisions.

- It was noted that replying to Council emails around preferred options was still covered under the Local Government Official Information Meetings Act, and it was a correct and proper channel to respond to such issues.
- It was noted that the Meremere Community Committee has a responsibility to delegate public funding through its Discretionary Funding and as such proper procedures should be followed.
- It was noted by the Democracy Advisor that Council staff would reach out with more information around Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, and the Waikato District Council Governance Structure to provide further clarity for members.
- The committee discussed the use of Discretionary Funding to gift former members of the committee for their services to the committee, with the Democracy Advisor noting that the Discretionary Fund could not be used for individuals.
- It was noted that the Discretionary Fund Guidelines would be included in the next Meremere Community Committee agenda.

CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting finished with a karakia.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was declared closed at 8.27pm.

Minutes confirmed and approved on day of 2026.

Mr Ben Brown

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON