



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 3 February 2026**

Present: (19)

TCC: Charles Fletcher (Chair), Lyn Harris, Anne Cao-Oulton, Jane Manson, Lauren McLean, Mark Manson, Peter Mayall, Sue Robertson, Maggie Wilcock

WDC: Mayor Aksel Bech, Cr Crystal Beavis, Cr Mike Keir, Geoff King, Rochelle Deane, Elizabeth Saunders

Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT): nil

Tamahere Forum: Scott Mathias

Community: Sue Fookes (Lions) and several others (names not recorded).

Community Awards

In opening the meeting Charles Fletcher indicated that this would be Geoff Kings last meeting as the WDC representative and that he would like the Committee to acknowledge the awesome job Geoff has done over the years. He had an Award which he thought appropriate to present to Geoff. The Committee agreed and it was signed and presented to **Geoff King** with our grateful thanks for his service. This was accepted by Geoff along with an indicated he is still a Tamahere resident so will most likely attend future meetings in his private capacity.

Rochelle Deane was introduced to the Committee as the new WDC representative for TCC. She lives in Cambridge.

Charles also indicated that many people in the community were impressed with the Christmas lights display **Regal Haulage** had erected on Airport Road so proposed TCC recognize their efforts with a Community Award – this was produced and signed for presentation with the full approval of all present.

1. **Apologies:** Leo Koppens, Peter Nation

Motion: Apologies be accepted

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Peter Mayall
All in Favour

2. **Confirmation of Minutes** of meeting held 2nd December 2026.

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

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Anne Cao-Oulton
All in Favour

3. **Matters arising (not on this agenda):** Reporting Correspondence – see next item.

4. **Correspondence (December/January 26)** (160 in | 70 out) and a further (33 Inwards and 40 out to 3-2-26)- *circulated by email prior to meeting*

Motion: Correspondence is accepted.

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Anne Cao-Oulton

All in Favour

Discussion about the reporting of Correspondence, how it is communicated and how detailed it needs to be. Liz Saunders (WDC Democracy team leader) confirmed TCC provides the most comprehensive report on Correspondence of all Boards and Committees and could exclude the internal correspondence items. Other Community Committees do not provide details of Correspondence to WDC or for their public records.

The Committee has two email addresses. The TCC correspondence email is Tamaherecommunity@gmail.com (this is read by the Chairperson and the co-secretaries) and communitycommitteetamahere@waidc.govt.nz (which goes to all elected committee members) for all of the committee and Councilor's. Where Charles, Lyn, or Sue get Committee related emails to their private emails they move them into the Tamahere Community address for completeness.

It was decided to keep the recording of correspondence in the same manner for the present, summarized and linked to topics. External correspondence is very important to keep track of. Most of the committee read the correspondence summary prior to each meeting.

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

Geoff advised this will be his last meeting with the Council representatives reshuffle and formerly introduced us to our new WDC rep, Rochelle Deane.

- The New CCTV signs for the park and village are up and working well.
- Tenders for the new toilet block closed on Friday 30-1-26. The new toilets will match the existing ones. A contract will be awarded in February for a summer build. TCC asked for information about the quotes and Geoff advised Mel is involved in the procurement, but Abdul will be able to give an update.
- Bus passenger numbers are down as expected for December and probably January. The 4 month closure of Morrinsville Rd is expected to cause problems, especially for bus route 28. The committee feels route 28 needs to travel much further down Matangi Rd and turn around at Assisi home before going back to Matangi.
- Sue suggested that people requiring urgent travel to hospital etc could come down Annebrook Rd and park, walk the bridge and meet an uber at the parking area on the SH1C side. Crystal said HCC has offered to pay for Ubers for Medical staff etc.

- The formation of a Charitable Trust by the Committee has been discussed previously, with the advantages for handling money, indemnity for the trustees, etc. Crystal indicated another community was looking at incorporating as a Society as an alternative option. Pokeno is a committee and has a separate Charitable Trust which is working well for them.

Motion: WDC Service Delivery Report be received.

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Maggie Wilcock

All in favour

6. **Councilors' Report** - Report circulated by Crystal and Mike and accepted as read. Crystal outlined a huge amount of change and reform coming from the Government which will affect Councils. WDC will be dealing with this positively. Keep an eye on all the submissions open at the moment they are closing in February.

Mayor Aksel Bech: The Mayor congratulated the Committee on the Open Day held last Saturday – it was the best response seen for such an event and very successful.

The Mayor advised that WDC will focus on 3 or 4 major pieces of Government law reform submitting on the major issues, not everything. Submissions will be short and pithy, looking at what we can change.

There will be a big focus on loawai, the new water CCO. Council is looking at strategy and service provision with fresh eyes. They are now up to the transfer of assets and land, this is not straightforward, with many activities occurring on the same pieces of land. This needs to be stood up by 1-7-26. Council is not expecting loawai to reticulate to Tamahere residents, however it will go to Matangi Village and Tamahere Village for their commercial activities. Ultimately, in time there will be a growth of the reticulation.

| Council | Water Assets | Water Debt | |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|--|
| WDC | 700 M | 250 M | 40% - multiple treatment plants |
| HCC | 3 Bi | 750M | 1 Treatment Plant, a 2 nd to be built |

HCC and WDC will all be rated at the same rate for water – HCC water rates will see a big increase as they are currently rated on CV until water meters are installed. In response to a question, Mayor Aksel indicated that no “poo pipes” will be available throughout Tamahere or Matangi, to the new treatment plant in Rukuhia for some time so all ongoing development will still need water tanks and septic tanks.

Council is concerned that the WDC credit rating doesn't go down with the loss of the water assets and liabilities. A meeting has been held with Fitch Ratings to ensure the current AA+ credit rating is retained by WDC.

Motion: Councilors' report be received.

Moved: Jane Manson

Seconded: Sue Robertson

All in favour

7. Tamahere Reserve

- TCC needs to make a submission for the consultation relating to the new Concept Plan – Sue, Lyn and Charles will prepare for TCC. Everyone personally is encouraged to make a submission.
- At the Open Day the Council/Boffa Miskell team spoke to a lot of people, approx 60 hard copy submission forms were taken with more people saying they would do an online submission.

Action: (Scott) The consultation form and/or link to go on the Forum so submissions can go straight to WDC.

Titoki Sands were really pleased with the Open Day and feed-back so far.

The **Maniapoto Pa site**, adjacent to the Reserve, was donated by Titoki Sands to a Ngaati Hauaa Tribal Trust years ago and proposed rebuilding a replica Pa Site and establishing a tourism venture from the site. Nothing has been done. Charles has been trying to meet with the trustees of the Ngati Haua Mahi Trust to discuss options for working in with the Tamahere Reserve and to understand what might be helpful to Maniapoto Pa Site and its future. There has also been a suggestion of building a hotel on the Pa site but we have no current information or understanding of the trustees intentions.

8. Tamahere Community Open Day (held 31 January 2026) - Feedback

- Excellent Feedback received from all sources. The letter box drop was very constructive in alerting residents to the event and was very worthwhile. It was surprising how the letter box drop was the only thing many of the attendees had seen – not the Forum, TCC emails, social media or WDC comms. A lesson for the future!
- The groups that attended to provide information all felt it was an excellent opportunity and were very happy with the 600+ attendees.
- Lauren McLean has offered to collate all the information TCC gathered from residents for Vision Tamahere 2075 so we can discuss at the next sub-committee meeting.
- Maggie did a great job dealing with public enquiries at the **HCC** static stand for the Morrinsville Road closure – the materials supplied by HCC have been returned by Peter Nation.
- Russell Fergusson, a director **Titoki Sands**, was very pleased with the public interest and suggestions for the future of the site once sand mining comes to an end. He really appreciated the invite to participate.
- WDC with Boffa Miskell were well staffed for the consultation for the **Tamahere Reserve**.
- **Waikato Thoroughbred Racing** were well represented and fielded a lot of enquiry about their proposed new greenfield development of a race track on Pencarrow Road. Bruce Harvey indicated that some 30-35% for enquiry supported the concept but there was also a lot of opposition/concerns.
- Charles expressed his thanks to all of the Committee who assisted with the preparation and attendance for the **Vision Tamahere 2075** information and

questions. Some people indicated they were overwhelmed with all of the information and questions, with many very happy to still provide their opinions. We will put questions and information up on the Forum and invite responses using the TCC email and other media options.

- Council has arranged for Will Gauntlett (General Manager Strategy & Growth) to assist the Committee and he will arrange for expert Planning input once we are at that stage
- Geoff (Communications team) offered to print the material for the letterbox drop, but it could not be done in time. Sue arranged with a printer for the job to be done. Charles collected and paid for the first batch of 1000 leaflets and Peter collected and paid for the second batch of 1500 leaflets. For future reference, a letterbox drop will require at least 3,000 leaflets to do the whole of Tamahere. Charles and Peter have sent the payment receipts to Geoff (Communications team) for reimbursement. Maybe this cost should be funded from the Tamahere Reserve consultation budget (Crystal will look into this). Charles also purchased the paper and pens for the public to record their feedback and comments for the Vision Tamahere 2075 consultation.

9. Vision Tamahere 2075 – Community Plan Update | NZTA Southern Links – Charles.

- Next meeting for the **Vision Tamahere 2075 sub-committee** is 12 February at Council Office Tamahere starting at 7pm.
- Lauren is working on a report of all of the responses received on the Open Day
- Peter Mayall has also prepared a summary of the comments
- NZTA will have their plans for the Hamilton Southern Links (SH1 to SH3) completed by late March 2026 and we will then receive a briefing – so will the Council (Mike can keep us apprised of developments).

10. Reports

- **CCTV Project** – This is now fully operational and the Police have recently made two arrests using evidence captured by the CCTV system at the Village. This is a WDC job well done signed off and completed with a lot of extra work included. Already helpful in solving problems.
- **Civil Defence for Tamahere** – Crystal reported **Peter Nation** has agreed assist with leading this project.
- **Predator Free Tamahere** – Report circulated. This group is looking for new storage option possibly in the Reserve or nearby for their traps and stock. Ideally this would be a larger building with storage for them and others. We need to submit on the Reserve Concept Plan. **Action: Scott** to do article on the Forum to ask if anyone has suitable storage available.
- **Tamahere Lions** - Sue Fookes provided an update saying that WDC would provide \$30,000 in funding but only when all the other funding is in place. We need to have this project in our blueprint and be pushing its priority in the Annual Plan (needs to be High Priority). The project needs funding of \$150,000 so it is a big task. Lions are happy to facilitate the funding need but will not build the project for the Council. Biggest problem is the Council has responsibility for shading in play areas in the district (specified in the District Plan) and some donors will not support

the Council (as opposed to a public amenity) to provide assets for the Council. The temporary partial fix of umbrellas is going well, with Georgina from the 4 Square doing a wonderful job of putting up and down the umbrellas. We need to try all the funding options we can come up with. Sue is talking to other funders who may be interested in supporting this project. **Action: Scott** Forum to publicize the fundraising opportunity with some words from the Lions to emphasis this local project.

- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT)** - Report received from Russell Gibbs and taken as read.
 - Ongoing clearing, weeding and planting has occurred in both the Reserve and Bilsthorpe Lane.
 - Damaged boardwalks in the Reserve have now been replaced.
 - People counters with manual data collection are now in place at both sites.
 - A new chemical and implement shed has been installed at Bilsthorpe gully from fundraising.
 - A soft reopening planned with media and new signage.
 - Numerous emails and meetings have occurred with WDC and TCC.
 - Work on Concept Plan
 - Bilsthorpe Reserve Walking Track is now on hold due to issues with the track needing to be on private land, and initial arrangement becoming void if property owner sells. Now talking to WDC Property group re further tools available to allow a further extension to the walkway encountering private property.
- **Tamahere Model Country School (TMCS)**
 - No report or representative appointed yet. **Lyn/Sue** to check with the School for details of who their rep will be on TCC.
- **Tamahere St Stephens Church - Jane**
 - Next Market Day 21st February 2026 – Saturday
 - Ongoing parking for the Market is a big concern. Aram Goes the WDC Rooding Manager has been out to the Market and seen the transport issues. Everyone is now asking marketgoers to use the underpass on SH21 and park on the school side. And in Regals front car park which is now available.
- **WDC LTP 2025-2034**
 - WDC hoping to have earlier engagement this year on the updating of this Plan and workshops will start in a few months. The new LTP will include the Local Government Reforms and it will remove the 'Well-being's' pillar
 - All should become involved with these plan updates.
 - Some rates costs to user pays charges to circumvent the 4% rates cap? At this stage it seems to be too soon for a definitive answer but Craig is aware of the implications to Council going forward.

Motion: All of the above reports be received

Moved: Anne Cao-Oulton

Seconded: Jane Manson

All in favour

11. Submissions

- **WDC** – refer <https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it>
- **WRC** – refer <https://yourvoicematters.waikatoregion.govt.nz>

12. Other Business:

- **Tamahere Community Charitable Trust** – It was agreed that the Committee needs proper protection and consideration if it is being asked to do more for the Council and handle \$50k pa for smaller projects. Charles explained the best option is for all elected TCC members (excluding Councilor's) be the trustees who have a meeting each month after each TCC meeting, to approve matters being dealt with by the Trust. After a brief discussion it was agreed to proceed with the Charitable Trust (everyone has the draft trust deed). Charles will bring the paperwork for signing next month.
- **Bus Service trial** - Decisions/Submissions need to be made to WDC as to whether we think the Bus trial should continue, and if yes, with what changes (if any) are required. January and February stats will be important. Some people have noted the cost of each person taking the bus is a lot of money and it would be cheaper for the Council to pay for them to take an Uber.
- **Te Huia train service (Hamilton – Auckland)** – we also need to see what January and February statistics look like and then choose whether we as ratepayers wish to submit on keeping and funding/subsidizing this service
- **TCC Meetings** - It was agreed that TCC will meet in July 2026.
- **Action: Charles** will arrange the following meetings through the next month:
 - Will Gauntlett of WDC for Vision Tamahere 2075 work
 - Sir Peter Vela for Vision Tamahere 2075 and the WTR options/considerations
 - Scott McHardy of Regal Transport for Vision Tamahere 2075
 - Maori trustees for the Maniapoto Pa site – Jane was asked to go with him
 - Matangi Committee AGM – Tuesday 10 February 7.30pm – Charles to attend

Motion: That the Tamahere Community Committee meetings be held on the first Tuesday of the month from February 2026 to December 2026.

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

13. Date of the next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday, 3rd March 2026.

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

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.