

MINUTES for a meeting of the Ngāruawāhia Community Board held in the Ngaaruawaahia War Memorial Hall, Galileo Street, Ngaaruawaahia on **TUESDAY, 2 APRIL 2024** commencing at **5.00pm**

Present:

Ms K Morgan (Chairperson)
Mr J Ayers – *from 5.10pm*
Ms D Firth – *from 5.15pm*
Mrs K Hooker – *from 5.44pm*
Cr E Patterson
Ms V Rice
Cr T Turner
Mr G Wiechern

Attending:

Cr P Storey (Chairperson, Waikato Regional Council)
Mr K Abbot (Executive Manager, Projects & Innovation)
Ms E Saunders (Senior Democracy Advisor)

The meeting was opened with a karakia.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Agenda Item 1

Resolved: (Ms Morgan/Ms Rice)

THAT the Ngāruawāhia Community Board accept the apologies from:

- a. **Mr J Ayers, Mrs D Firth & Mrs K Hooker for lateness.**

CARRIED

NCB2404/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item 2

Resolved: (Mr Wiechern/Cr Turner)

THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Ngāruawāhia Community Board held on Tuesday, 2 April 2024 be confirmed:

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

CARRIED

NCB2404/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Agenda Item 3

There were no disclosures of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Agenda Item 4

Resolved: (Cr Patterson/Ms Morgan)

THAT the minutes for a meeting of the Ngāruawāhia Community Board held on Tuesday, 20 February 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED

NCB2404/03

PUBLIC FORUM

Agenda Item 5

There were no members of the public present.

REPORTS

Discretionary Fund Report – 14 March 2024

Agenda Item 6.1

The report was received [*NCB2404/02 refers*] and the following discussion was held:

- An invoice from the Huntly Aquatic Centre for the Ngaaruawaahia Community Day at the Town Pools has been received and will be forwarded to Democracy.
- Anzac Flags invoice from the Ngaaruawaahia RSA has been received and paid since the report was written.

Resolved: (Ms Morgan/Ms Firth)

THAT the Ngāruawāhia Community Board approve the Huntly Aquatic Centre payment of \$350.00 for the Ngaaruawaahia Community Day from the Ngaaruawaahia Rail Bridge 50% Pool Subsidy Commitment

CARRIED

NCB2404/04

Ngaaruawaahia Works & Issues Report

Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received [*NCB2404/02 refers*] and the following discussion was held:

Street Naming:

- No further discussion was held.

ACTION: Item to remain on the schedule.

Point Public Toilet:

- No further discussion was held.

ACTION: Item to remain on the schedule.

Infrastructure Acceleration Fund:

- No further discussion was held.

ACTION: Item to remain on the schedule.

Ngaaruawaahia War Memorial Hall:

- No further discussion was held.

ACTION: Item to remain on the schedule.

Galbraith Street/Festival Way Development:

- The works are progressing and there is a lot of dust and debris around the site.
- There is a 300% increase in housing since the original Galbraith Street road was built and the question was raised in regards to the regulation width of the road and whether it was still fit for purpose.
- Are the affected residents being kept informed of the works that are happening on Galbraith Street? Cr Patterson advised that the Council contractors have been very good at keeping residents informed but cannot speak to the engagement from Watercare.
- Cr Patterson advised that there is a 5-day road closure for the south end of Old Taupiri Road which is a couple of weeks away and affected residents have been informed.

ACTION: The Executive Manager, Project & Innovation to check the standard width of the road on the original strip of Galbraith Street.

Ngaaruawaahia Aquatic Centre:

- Fencing at the Town Pools – completed.
- Cr Patterson advised of engagement with school principals over the winter period to discuss access into the pools and how the new entrance is effecting any sports days.

ACTION: Item to remain on the schedule.

Structure Plan Update:

- No further discussion was held.

ACTION: Item to remain on the schedule.

Kelm Road Works – Council Facebook Post on Tuesday, 12 September:

- No further discussion was held.

ACTION: Item to remain on the schedule.

Other business/new items:

- No further discussion was held.

ACTION: Item to remain on the schedule.

Chairpersons Report

Agenda Item 6.3

The Chairperson provided a verbal report on the following items:

- The Chairperson acknowledged the presence of Cr Pamela Storey from Waikato Regional Council.
- The Chairperson has attended quite a few meetings at Council over the last few weeks with another one today on Sport Waikato.
- The Chairperson advised she is trying to work with in with everyone and their schedules for the out of cycle workshops as there are quite a few Council teams wanting to touch base to keep the Board informed. It was noted that it was important for members to turn up to workshops
- The Chairperson acknowledged both Mr Ayers and Mr Wiechern who attended the Regatta and took part in the Council engagement tent.

Councillors Reports

Agenda Item 6.4

The Councillors provided verbal reports on the following issues:

- There have been quite a few meetings and workshops attended to date and now the elected members are heading into the Enhanced Annual Plan engagement sessions with the Community.
- It was noted that elected members are going to have to work together with our community members especially with the cost of living crisis and affordability issues that are wide-spread.
- It was acknowledged that there have been quite a few projects completed in Ngaaruawaahia like the Panther Club Carpark, Paterson Park Lights and the new entrance into the Town Pools so there are positive stories to share with the community.
- Cr Turner gave an update on the mana whenua forums which have been put on hold but it is hoped to have the forums up and running in September 2024.
- The Chairperson commented that as a member of the maaori electorate it is pleasing to see the mana whenua space being worked on; this is great for our people.
- The Street Naming project requires mana whenua engagement and Cr Turner along with the Executive Manager, Projects & Innovation and the new Executive Manager, Maaori Partnerships will discuss this offline.

Community Board Members Reports
Agenda Item 6.5

The Board Members provided verbal reports on the following issues:

- Ms Rice is still working with the Community Led Development Advisor and CityCare on the Beautification of Ngaaruawaahia Project and there is a scheduled walk around the streets of Ngaaruawaahia tomorrow. Ms Rice is also working with the Graham Dingle Foundation to work on the hanging baskets for Matariki and the township.
- It was noted that the "Beautification" signage images is still yet to be decided by the Board.
- A service request for more speed signs down at the point reserve has been sent through to the Executive Manager, Projects & Innovation.
- An update was provided on the Park Road, Horotiu – link road to Bridge project. The plan was to have this completed at the very end of May 2024 and this is still on track.

Waikato Regional Council Long Term Plan Presentation
Agenda Item 6.6

Cr Pamela Storey (Waikato Regional Council Chairperson) addressed the Community Board, gave a verbal presentation on the Long Term Plan and the following discussion was held:

- It was noted what areas of the wider Waikato district the Regional Council covers and it was advised that the Waikato Regional Council are the 4th largest in the country.
- Cr Storey feels that the Regional Council have struck a good balance with this Long Term Plan keeping in mind the affordability strains on our communities.
- Consultation Period runs from Tuesday, 2 April to the 4th of May at 4pm followed by Hearings during the month of May.
- The Regional Council are looking at a 6% rate rise in Year 1, 8% rate rise in Year 2 & a 3% rate rise in Year 3.
- Cr Storey gave the Board an in-depth look at the impact of the rate rises over the 3 year period including the Catchment Management Schemes, Public Transport and Other Targeted Rates.
- An update was provided on the Biodiversity Charge and the preferred option of Regional Council to increase the Natural Heritage rate to \$8.68 per annum, with further increases for the proposed work programme after this/

- The Regional Council Public Transport rate was explained with a question raised around charges for properties within 5km of a bus route. It was noted that this would work for Hamilton residents but in the Waikato District area it's quite a long and windy walk to get to a bus route.
- Cr Storey outlined the reason for going with the preferred option (Option 1) and the conversations had with different communities. At the moment public transport rates are collected by Waikato District Council and if this preferred option goes through it will be Waikato Regional Council collecting the rates.
- Cr Patterson also added that Waikato Regional Council have a different charging method for each Council in the Regional area unlike other Regional Councils who charge all their District & City Councils the same.
- A question was raised in relation to the Te Huia train service: is it breaking even or costing too much? It was noted by Cr Storey that it is very rare that public transport ever breaks even and it is about finding the balance for those that do utilise public transport.

The meeting ended with a karakia.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 6.09pm.

Minutes approved and confirmed this day of 2024.

Ms K Morgan
CHAIRPERSON