

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the Te Kauwhata Community Committee held at St John's Ambulance Rooms, 4 Baird Avenue, Te Kauwhata on **WEDNESDAY, 6 MARCH 2024** commencing at **7.00pm**.

**Present:**

Tim Hinton  
Courtney Howells  
Ian Wrigley  
Estelle Jonathan  
Liz Tupuhi  
Jo Gurnell  
Cr Marlene Raumati

**Apologies:**

John Cunningham  
Angela van de Munckhof

**Not present:**

Whitney Totorewa

**Staff attending:**

Vishal Ramduny – Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships Manager, Waikato District Council  
Jason Marconi – Community Led Development Advisor, Waikato District Council  
Tofeeq Ahmed – Programme Manager – Placemaking, Kāinga Ora

**1. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**RESOLVED: (JO GURNELL / LIZ TUPUHI)**

**1.1. THAT apologies from John Cunningham and Angela van de Munckhof be received.**

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/1**

## **2. CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**RESOLVED: (IAN WRIGLEY / LIZ TUPUHI)**

- **THAT the agenda for the meeting of the Te Kauwhata Community Committee being held on Wednesday 6 March 2024 be confirmed, and all items therein be considered in open meeting.**
- **AND THAT all reports be received.**

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/2**

## **3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

**RESOLVED: (IAN WRIGLEY / COURTNEY HOWELLS)**

- Tim Hinton (as per disclosure of interest form)
- John Cunningham is also Chairperson of the Te Kauwhata Water Association.

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/3**

## **4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLVED: (IAN WRIGLEY / JO GURNELL)**

**THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Te Kauwhata Community Committee, held on Wednesday 7 February 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record bar the following amendment:**

- **That Liz Tupuhi was recorded as both present and being an apology. This should be an apology only.**

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/4**

## **5. PUBLIC FORUM**

- Adele Theron and Jeff Lyons briefed the Committee on the work that an organisation called *Kiwis for Responsible Solar* is doing with regards to wanting to stop industrial solar plants being set up unregulated as they are harmful to certain fauna and cause localised heat islands.
  - It was noted that since the establishment of these solar farms are happening through central government's Fast Track Consenting process the Council cannot really do anything apart from being aware of the unintended and/or unknown consequences.
  - The Chairperson thanked Ms. Theron and Mr. Lyons for their presentation.
- Glen Whittaker from the Community Emergency Response Group advised the Committee that the Group was now established and operational. Its area of jurisdiction includes Te Kauwhata, Meremere, Waerenga and Rangiriri.
  - Mr. Whittaker advised the Committee that the Meremere Community Committee has committed \$3000 as a once off allocation and \$500 per annum to the Group. He enquired if the Te Kauwhata Community Committee wished to do the same
  - The Chairperson thanked Mr. Whittaker for his verbal presentation and advised that the Committee will discuss a funding commitment later on the agenda through its Discretionary Fund.

## **6. REPORTS**

### **6.1. Discretionary Fund Report**

**AMENDMENT TO RECOMMENDATION: (LIZ TUPUHI / COURTNEY HOWELLS)**

**RESOLVED: (JO GURNELL / IAN WRIGLEY)**

**6.1.1. THAT the Te Kauwhata Community Committee receives the report for the Te Kauwhata Discretionary Fund and North Waikato Development Funding report to 26 February 2024 and**

**6.1.2. THAT the Te Kauwhata Community Committee allocates \$3000,00 from the Discretionary Fund for the Community Emergency Response Group for the 2023/2024 financial year and \$500,00 per annum for subsequent financial years on the understanding that these (combined) will be a total commitment to draw upon when needed by the Group.**

Discussion:

- A discussion was held regarding Mr. Glen Whittaker's earlier presentation during the public forum. It was agreed that the Committee should be proactive and support the Community Emergency Response Group.
- The Funding Project Accountability report from the Te Kauwhata Events Committee for the Christmas Parade was acknowledged.

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/5**

**6.2. Te Kauwhata Works and Issues Report**

**RESOLVED: (MARLENE RAUMATI/LIZ GURNELL)**

**6.4.1. THAT the Works and Issues report be received**

Discussion:

- Dog park project
  - Tim Hinton advised that the contractor was in the process of manufacturing the steel posts for the shade sail. It was expected that the posts would be installed by the end of March 2024 followed by the shade cloth.
  - The dog agility equipment is likely to be installed in April 2024.
  - Communications on this project will be done through the community Facebook page.
- Saleyard Road Walkway project
  - Estelle Jonathan advised that Ngaa Muka has done an assessment of the Whangamarino Wetland which has revealed that the water is relatively

clean. To retain the cleanliness and clarity of the water, it was recommended that the adjacent walkway be constructed with barriers and anti-litter signs.

- Community Identity project
  - Courtney Howells advised that the first community open day regarding the identity strategy is scheduled for 24 March 2024. The purpose of the open day is for the project team to introduce the project and for the community to share its aspirations.
  - The open day will be followed by a workshop scheduled for 8 April 2024 at which the thinking from the open day will be crystallized and for the team to think about implementation.
  - It was noted that the messaging to the community is that the development of this strategy is led by the Te Kauwhata Community Committee.
  - It was also noted that the action plan would be updated for the next Committee meeting (May 2024).
- Te Kauwhata Domain
  - It was noted that Stage 1 is progressing and that the concrete is expected to be laid imminently.
- Security cameras
  - It was noted that the development of a memorandum of understanding with Hamilton City Council is in progress.
- Rongoa Garden project
  - Estelle Jonathan advised that kaumatua has advised that there should not be a rongoa garden next to the kai garden. An alternative site proposed is underneath the kahikatea at Lakeside.
  - A site visit to the proposed area is scheduled for 13 April.
  - The project team to reassess the project in May 2024.

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/6**

### **6.3. 2024-2034 Long Term Plan Update (verbal)**

**RESOLVED: (ESTELLE JONATHAN / TIM HINTON)**

Discussion:

- Cr Marlene Raumati advised that Waikato District Council has agreed to delay the 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan by twelve months and instead focus on an enhanced Annual Plan for the 2024-2025 financial year. This decision is driven by:
  - a) the need for Council to further consider crucial financial planning decisions due to changes set in motion by central government, especially in the areas of water reform and infrastructure funding through the Water Service Act Repeal Bill, and
  - b) the need to consider how we are going to manage our three waters post June 2026 now that Watercare will no longer be our waters service provider after this date. This work needs to start urgently.

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/7**

### **6.4. Chairpersons Report**

**RESOLVED: (IAN WRIGLEY/LIZ TUPUHI)**

**6.7.1. THAT the verbal update from Acting Chairperson Tim Hinton be received.**

Discussion:

Tim Hinton advised of the following:

- Of John Cunningham's participation in Council's Long Term Plan workshops.
- Community Plan – bios like that done by John Cunningham is required for all the Committee members. He further advised that the next meeting for the Community Plan is scheduled for 25 March at 6:30am.

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/8**

## **6.5. Councillors Report**

**RESOLVED: (ESTELLE JONATHAN / TIM HINTON)**

**6.8.1. THAT the report from Cr Marlene Raumati for the January 2024 to March 2024 be received.**

**CARRIED**

**TKCC2403/9**

## **7.2. Any other business**

- There were no additional matters for discussion.

With no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8:15 pm.

Minutes confirmed by the Acting Chairperson this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024 for approval at the next Committee meeting.

**TIM HINTON  
ACTING CHAIRPERSON**