



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 2 July 2024**

Present:

TCC: Charles Fletcher, Bevin Coley, Lyn Harris, Buddy Annals, Anna Cao

WDC: Cr Crystal Beavis, Cr Mike Keir, Tony Whittaker, Cr Tilly Turner

Tamahere Lions: Sue Fookes

Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT): Russell Gibbs

Tamahere Patrol New Zealand: Candice Upperton, Jasmine Corban

New Zealand Police: Jeff Penno

Community: Maggie Wilcock, Sue Robertson, Godfrey Bridger, Scott Mathias,
Medihah Bardsley, Dave Oakley, Bronwyn Smits.

1. **Apologies:** Janis Swan, Geoff King, Jane Morgan, Cindy Jacobs, Jane Manson

Motion: Apologies be accepted

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Bevin Coley

All in Favour

2. **Confirmation of Minutes** of meeting held 4 June 2024.

Motion: Minutes are approved

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Bevin Coley

All in favour

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

4. **Correspondence (May 2024)** - *circulated by email prior to meeting* - Attached.

Motion: Correspondence is accepted

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Anne Cao

All in favour

5. **Guests attending meeting:**

• **Jeff Penno – Waikato District Road Policing Manager**

- Presented a snapshot of NZ Police's approach to crime and how Waikato Police are working around the district.
- Focus is on prevention – crime is not random, it requires, an offender, a victim and a location. By removing one of these things the crime will not occur.
- Ideally Waikato Police have 727 staff to cover Waikato East, Waikato West and Hamilton City. This constitutes a really large area. A recruitment process is ongoing in the Waikato district. Our district is currently 40 staff short.
- The most prevalent call outs are: Domestic call out (Family harm), Road Trauma, driving complaints, Suspicious person/vehicle, public disorder, Vehicle crash,

- Burglary, Assault, Theft, Assist other emergency services, Mental disorder (often part of family harm. Police are keen to follow the UK experience of pushing mental behavior concerns back to the Ministry of Health as they are not a crime)
 - The Waikato District focuses on: Organised crime & drugs, public place disorder (including retail crime/ram raids) and illegal street racing activity.
 - When asked to comment on the long-awaited CCTV coverage for the Tamahere Village area Jeff didn't see Tamahere as a high crime rate area but there is always value in having CCTV operating.
 - Jeff reminded us to phone **105 to report any suspicious activity**. If it looks wrong, then it probably is. If a crime is being committed or you feel threatened, then call 111
- **Candis & Jazz from Tamahere Patrol New Zealand (TPNZ)** – ex Police officers and Tamahere residents.
 - Initiated an official community patrol covering Tamahere and Hamilton East.
 - Currently 16 active patrollers (many ex-police officers or contemplating joining the profession) patrolling on a voluntary basis. There is no regular roster as patrolling occurs when volunteers are available, and intelligence is received e.g. may follow a courier as they are making deliveries if this is required.
 - The patrol car is directly connected to Waikato Police via a vehicle radio.
 - Tamahere residents are encouraged to follow TPNZ Facebook page.
 - Funding (operating expenses) is always an issue for TPNZ, and they are looking for people who can assist them in this area. There is a Rural Board Fund (Waikato District Council) that may be applicable to assist with ongoing funding.

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

Tony Whittaker attended the meeting to answer any queries and report back to WDC.

- *Tamahere Park Toilets:* Thank you to Waikato District Council for upgrading the toilet block (work completed today).
 - The community will appreciate the additional services installed.
 - Tony was reminded that the plan has always been 6 toilets to be installed at Tamahere Park in total.
 - Four toilets at current location and another two near the Piazza stage facility.
 - The Riff Raff toilet block seemed to be an economic option when proposed.
 - Now that it has been confirmed that it is not feasible to upgrade the Riff Raff toilet to an appropriate standard (Council is free to use this elsewhere) – the need remains to have a toilet block (with 2 toilets) installed near the stage area as the Piazza is used more by the public, especially for regular events.
- *CCTV:* Council has a district wide CCTV strategy being led by Anthony Averill, including Tamahere. Anthony will be leading the July workshop. Charles has agreed to attend the workshop and, in the meantime, has a meeting scheduled with Anthony to discuss the emails of the last two days.
 - HCC MoU has been an issue, now looks to be sorted. Councilor's have approved funding for the HCC agreement to provide CCTV monitoring for the camera

- systems installed throughout the Waikato District. The funding is a combination of operational funding (approx. \$200k pa) and capital funding.
- *Committees v Boards*: WDC provides specific support to Tamahere Community Committee to assist communication channels linking council to community. Tamahere has a high level of engagement with Council.
 - **Action**: The Chair asked if the Council could provide TCC with an opinion/report explaining the advantage and disadvantages of being a Committee or a Board and the process to change from a Committee to a Board. Tony will arrange this.
 - *Tamahere Forum*: Tamahere Community Committee is very pleased with the effectiveness of the Tamahere Forum as a means of communication to Tamahere residents so is very aware that we need to future proof maintaining the Tamahere Forum website, email and news service. Ongoing funding is the priority.

Motion: WDC Service Delivery Report be accepted

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Bevin Coley
All in favour

7. Councillor Tilly Turner - Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward Councillor

- Cr Turner outlined the work that she has undertaken in her role as Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward Councillor.
- Cr Turner is well connected to our two local councilors, regularly attending meetings with them where Maaori issues are involved.
- There are 36 marae in the Waikato District and 38 in the Waikato Federation. The marae play an essential role in keeping the community connected.
- Cr Turner is aware that the only Maaori you see at Council are councillors and staff. Her concern is the poor engagement of local Maaori with the Council, particularly when it comes to making submissions or commenting on issues which the Council is dealing with.
- One of her objectives is to create space for mana whenua.
- The current Government proposal, to require the Council to hold a referendum for the Maaori seats (two in Waikato since the last election), may mean the voting public will not support the two seats for WDC, so it may be another generation before things change.

The Chair thanked Cr Turner for attending our meeting and for her commitment. An invitation was extended to her that she is always welcome to attend these meetings.

8. Councillors' Report

Report circulated by Crystal and accepted as read.

- *General rates rise*: After further budget trimming Waikato District Council (WDC) has reduced the general rate increase to 11.9% (a 1.85% reduction).
- *QV revaluation 2024*: Released 19 June. Objections to be lodged by 24 July. You can check out your new rates now via the WDC website.
- *Bylaw Consultation*: Proposed Keeping of Animals Bylaw is now open for consultation. Submissions close Monday 29 July.

- *New draft policies are now open for consultation:* Road Closures for Motor Sport Events Policy and Gambling Venues Policy. Submissions close for both these policies Monday 29 July. Cr Beavis pointed out that the Motor Sport Events don't come down this way and we have no gambling facilities in our area. We are still welcome to express our views.

Motion: Councillor's report be received.

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Bevin Coley
All in favour

9. CCTV Update:

- Charles will update the committee following his meeting with Anthony Averill on Thursday (4 July).

10. Tamahere Community Plan: (Feedback from first draft)

- The Chair proposed we form a sub-committee to review the first draft circulated to the committee and develop it for comment.
- Tony was asked what the purpose of this proposed new plan was, as far as Council is concerned (given that Tamahere has done two previous plans plus the Blueprint with updates).
- Tony explained that many of the committee/board members did not have a clear understanding of their role or purpose when elected, so having a local plan recording our purpose and strategy is intended to assist with a local focus on purpose and how to make things work.
- Charles indicated that TCC has a clear understanding of its role and purpose so this plan may not be as important here.
- The sub-committee is to consider and report back the next meeting. Focus will include key stakeholders in the community. Once a plan is completed (if required) it will be approved by the Committee, put out for community consultation and the final result will be forwarded to Dominique Thurlow.

Motion: Tamahere Community Committee sub-committee is formed to review the Tamahere Community Plan. Members will include Charles, Lyn, Maggie, Sue, Janis, Jane. Lyn to arrange first meeting next week.

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Bevin Coley
All in favour

11. Tamahere Reserve – reclassification & renaming

- WDC Gazette notice wording from Rebecca not yet received. This is needed to progress this issue.
- At the beginning of this process Ngaati Hauaa were consulted by Council and asked for their preferred name for Crawfords Quarry, locally known as the Tamahere Reserve.
- Tamahere Community Committee and TMRT (who have led all the restoration work) were asked what their preferred name was. Options were provided to Council.
- Sometime later Council reported the new name was to be **Maniapoto Reserve**. TCC was not happy and did not agree.

- After further consultation and historical referencing, to understand why “Maniapoto” was an appropriate name, both TCC and TMRT agreed that the community preferred name was **Tamahere Maniapoto Reserve**.
- There appears to be Council staff opposition to this and we do not understand why. It may be due to Maaori considerations but we have had no direct discussions and that seems to be a shame.
- Cr Turner has agreed to assist by talking someone at Ngaati Hauaa and maybe facilitating a meeting/discussion to help us understand the issues relating to the name change considerations and a possible solution.

12. Rating Valuations:

- TCC is looking for transparency regarding Tamahere rates (including targeted rates) and its total contribution to the Waikato District rate take.
- Last year we had to get a targeted rate to ensure our high priority Blueprint project (gully restoration) could continue, because Council “had no money” for Tamahere. \$700,000 is on the books unspent because Council has prioritized other areas.
- Tamahere makes a significant rates contribution to WDC.
- The community expects Tamahere Village to grow as the population grows. To do that we need more local land to secure the Tamahere Village as the community Centre. We have been told by WDC that this will not happen due to lack of funds & other priorities. Recently Council property has been sold in Tamahere, but these funds are all being distributed elsewhere in the district.
- The Blue print priorities funds through the LTP. Although we have updated the Tamahere Blue print Plan we have had no input into the funding considerations as this is done by Council staff behind closed doors.
- TCC would like engagement at this level so it knows the cost implications before being settled in the LTP and a regular flow through of funds for real activity in Tamahere.

Action: Tony will work with us to provide the information we are looking for without the need to seek it via an Official Information request. Tony has requested a 2-month timeframe. TCC will review this in two months’ time.

13. Tamahere Forum/ TCC website and communications:

- We are getting a great click through when the Forum is being sent out.
- Scott wants to focus on salient points affecting the community.
- The Forum provides the ability to create surveys if required.
- Geoff King has requested a running invoice system moving forward to prevent delays in paying invoices.

Action: Scott is invited to provide this invoicing system at the next meeting.

Motion: Invoice 0052 for Website management and maintenance for 3 months at \$2,625.00 (no GST), presented by Scott (Planet Food News), is approved for payment by the Waikato District Council from TCC funds.

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Bevin Coley
All in favour

14. Reports

- **Civil Defence:** The second meeting is being set up. The first meeting talked about the facilities in the area for a community response. Scott Bult is putting together a pro-forma draft for our community response.
- **Heritage Report:** Storyboard panels are being made. There has been a meeting with Lianne Van den Bemd and the works manager and it has been agreed where to place the panels. Just awaiting the finishing and then they will be put in. The Tamahere one will be near the playground in Tamahere Park and the explanation of the artwork for the underpass will go on the Church side in a garden area close to the road
- **Predator Free Tamahere (PFT):** Report received from Jane Morgan which was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. Making a difference.
- **Tamahere Lions:**
 - Tamahere Lions will be fundraising this weekend at the NI Secondary Schools Cycling Event as on-course Marshalls and Volunteers.
- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT):** Russell's written report was circulated prior to the meeting and is taken as read.
 - Great plants have been supplied this year which means the survival rate should be good.
 - Walking track requirements are now being initiated with a meeting this week. This is a positive move forward and requires work between WRC and WDC.
 - Targeted rate funding process is now working more smoothly.
 - MOU has not been renewed since it expired 30 June. Tony has a team meeting on Thursday afternoon (4 July) to assist with the renewal of the MOU.
- **Tamahere Model Country School (TMCS):** Buddy's written report was circulated prior to the meeting and is taken as read.
 - There are fewer 5-year-olds enrolling at TMCS than expected. It appears the children will not start school until they are 6.
 - This could create a problem for next year as a greater number of students arrive at the school.
- **Tamahere St Stephens Church:**
 - Next Market Day – 20th July
 - June market went well, but down on numbers as it coincided with Fieldays.

Motion: All of the above reports be received

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

15. Submissions

- Proposed Keeping of Animals Bylaw
- Review of Road Closures for Motor Sport Events Policy
- Review of Gambling Venues Policy
- Decision of Commissioner on the expansion of Tamahere Country Club

16. Other Business

- Tamahere Park Toilet Block –Project complete

- Tamahere Park Exercise Equipment – Lighting price has come through but not sure if it has been actioned. **Action:** Cr Keir will follow-up.
Action: Charles is going to catch up with Paul to discuss formulating instructions on how best to use the equipment and to review the list of people who we need to acknowledge.
- Succession planning/new Members – Ongoing. Charles noted that it would be good to have Sue and Maggie rejoin the committee and that he has spoken to Cindy Jacobs who is interested in joining.

Actions: See marked through the Minutes above.

- 17. Date of next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday, 6th 2024.**
Meeting closed at 10.15pm