
MINUTES of a meeting of the Te Kauwhata Community Committee held at St John's Ambulance Rooms, 4 Baird Avenue, Te Kauwhata on **WEDNESDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2025** commencing at **7.00pm**.

Present:

John Cunningham (Chairperson)
Tim Hinton
Courtney Howells
Ian Wrigley
Angela van de Munckhof
Liz Tupuhi
Cr Marlene Raumati

Apologies:

Lauren Hughes
Jo Gurnell
Estelle Jonathan

Elected Members and staff attending:

Mayor Jacqui Church, Mayor of Waikato District Council
Vishal Ramduny – Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships Manager, Waikato District Council
Jason Marconi – Community-led Development Advisor, Waikato District Council
Sheryl Flay – Senior Communications Advisor, Waikato District Council
Tofeeq Ahmed – Programme Manager (Placemaking), Kainga Ora

Public attending:

Tom Edwards
Kane Thompson

1. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOLVED: (JOHN CUNNINGHAM / IAN WRIGLEY)

THAT apologies from Estelle Jonathan, Jo Gurnell and Lauren Hughes be received.

CARRIED

TKCC2502/1

2. CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: (TIM HINTON / ANGELA VAN DE MUNCKHOF)

THAT the agenda for the meeting of the Te Kauwhata Community Committee being held on Wednesday 5 February 2025 be confirmed and:

- a. That all items therein be considered in open meeting.**
- b. And further that all reports be received.**

CARRIED

TKCC2502/2

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

RESOLVED: (JOHN CUNNINGHAM / IAN WRIGLEY)

- Tim Hinton (as per disclosure of interest form).

CARRIED

TKCC2502/3

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: (MARLENE RAUMATI / JOHN CUNNINGHAM)

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Te Kauwhata Community Committee held on Wednesday 4 December 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct.

CARRIED

TKCC2502/4

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- There were no items from the public forum.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Discretionary Fund Report

RESOLVED: (JOHN CUNNINGHAM / IAN WRIGLEY)

- THAT the Te Kauwhata Community Committee receives the report for the Te Kauwhata Discretionary Fund to 20 January 2025 and the North Waikato Development Fund report to 20 January 2025.**

CARRIED

TKCC2502/5

Discussion

- Cr Marlene Raumati enquired about the \$600 commitment to the Te Kauwhata Fire Brigade for its annual lollie gifting event has been invoiced. John Cunningham to seek an update from the Fire Brigade for the next meeting.
- Cr Raumati also requested staff to check the status of the funding allocated in the 2023/2024 Financial Year to the Te Kauwhata Community Response Group. The

Committee passed a resolution (TKCC2403/5) in March 2024 allocating \$3000,00 from the Discretionary Fund for the Community Emergency Response Group for 2023/2024 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.

6.2. Te Kauwhata Works and Issues Report

RESOLVED: (ANGELA VAN DE MUNCKHOF / LIZ TUPUHI)

6.2.1. THAT the Works and Issues report be received.

6.2.2 AND THAT funding for the survey work on KiwiRail land for the Saleyard Road Walkway Project be paid out of the North Waikato Development Fund.

Discussion:

- Dog park project
 - Tim Hinton advised that minor clean-up work and seating installation under the sails remains to be done.
 - Ian Wrigley volunteered to post a question on the Dog Park Facebook page regarding a small dog area.
 - Cr Raumati advised that it is important that when engagements are held with the community on projects that they understand that any capital work will have a subsequent rate impact.

- Saleyard Road Walkway project
 - John Cunningham informed the Committee that he has been advised by the Council's Strategic Property team that survey work is required on the Kiwi Rail land as a prerequisite for accessing a grant. The cost of the survey will be funded from the North Waikato Discretionary Fund (expected to be about \$3500).

- Community Identity Strategy project
 - Jason Marconi and Tofeeq Ahmed presented the final Community Identity Strategy document.

- Mr. Marconi and Mr. Ahmed thanked the project team (Courtney Howells, Estelle Jonathan, Lauren Hughes, Liz Tupuhi and Jo Gurnell) for their contribution and guidance.
 - Mr. Marconi indicated that the key challenge now is to ensure that the Strategy is implemented.
 - John Cunningham thanked Mr. Marconi, Mr. Ahmed and the project team for their work noting that the engagement was done well. He suggested that the team identify the short term priority actions to guide implementation.
 - Liz Tupuhi also acknowledged the work done by Mr. Marconi and Mr. Ahmed and noted that there are some short term actions that are already underway.
 - Courtney Howells also thanked Mr. Marconi and Mr. Ahmed for their work and indicated that the schools also played a key role in informing the Strategy.
 - Marlene Raumati also thanked Mr. Marconi, Mr. Ahmed and the project team for their work and reminded the team to bear in mind the impact of any project on the general rate as she has a responsibility to ensure that ratepayers are not adversely impacted when Council is trying to keep rate increases low. She suggested that we look at other funding sources such as the Lions. She also suggested that activities like sunset movies in the park can be marketed district-wide to attract external (to Te Kauwhata) visitors. Consideration can therefore be given to procuring external funding for the projects.
 - Mr. Ahmed acknowledged Cr Raumati's comments and agreed that certain events can be used to raise funds.
 - Mr. Marconi indicated that the group has done initial thinking on fundraising.
 - Ian Wrigley advised that the project team could also look at sponsorship and naming rights.
 - Action for the next meeting: The project team to develop a priority project plan for implementing the Te Kauwhata Community Identity Strategy
- Te Kauwhata Domain Walkway
 - Stage 2 of the project is dependent on funding through the Council's 2025-2034 Long Term Plan.
 -
 - Security cameras

- Vishal Ramduny indicated that the Council's Facilities team has advised that detailed design is currently in progress. This phase of the project is expected to be completed by the end of February. He advised that the Facilities team had anticipated that this would be completed by mid-February, however the scope had to change to make the roll-out of cameras more cost effective by utilizing the existing network and infrastructure. Once a detailed design is received the findings will be shared with the Council's elected members. The Project Manager engaged with Te Kauwhata Police to identify camera locations based on surveillance statistics.
- A further update will be provided in March 2025.
- Domain Rongoa Garden project
 - Liz Tupuhi confirmed that there is funding for two years from the Waikato River Authority for the planting of the kahikatea forest.

CARRIED

TKCC2502/6

6.3. Councillors Report

RESOLVED: (JOHN CUNNINGHAM / TIM HINTON)

THAT the verbal update from Cr Marlene Raumati be received.

Update:

- Marlene Raumati confirmed that she is standing for re-election at the 11 October 2025 Local Government Elections.
- Cr Raumati provided an overview of the status of LTP 2025-2034 noting that, for Te Kauwhata, there were several capital projects / upgrades planned over the next nine years to include:
 - Minor road upgrades
 - Te Kauwhata Roundabout (year 9) upgrade
 - Te Kauwhata to Rangiriri footpath upgrade
 - Water supply pump extensions and upgrade
 - Upgrades to the Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Plant
- John Cunningham indicated that Te Kauwhata is well serviced as far as water and wastewater treatment is concerned.

- Cr Raumati advised the Committee that Council's new Chief Executive, Craig Hobbs, has commenced his duties.
- Mayor Jacqui Church acknowledged the involvement of chairperson John Cunningham in the LTP workshops. She informed the committee that the general rate currently sat at 4.25% (which includes the removal of the public transport general rate, which is expected to be collected by the Waikato Regional Council from 1 July 2025 should this approach be adopted by that council).
- In response to a question from Ian Wrigley, the mayor confirmed that Council uses the 'growth-pays-for-growth' approach for development and developers pay for infrastructure cost for their development. However, Council still has an obligation to provide for bulk supply that may have a wider community benefit.

CARRIED

TKCC2502/7

6.4. Chairperson's Report

RESOLVED: (IAN WRIGLEY/TIM HINTON)

THAT the verbal report from John Cunningham be received.

Update:

- John Cunningham commented that the Te Kauwhata Community Committee Plan was finalised in January 2025 and that it is now being printed.
- Mr. Cunningham advised the Committee that there is training scheduled by Council staff for all community boards and committees on their respective committee/board plans for 4-6 March 2025 in Huntly.
- Mr. Cunningham attended a Code of Conduct and Interest Register training course in which it was agreed that, for Community Committee purposes, only information relevant to the Waikato is required to be disclosed.
- Mr. Cunningham advised that he is drafting an article for The Chatter.

CARRIED

TKCC2502/8

7. **Any other business**

- There were no other matters for discussion.

8. **ACTIONS**

Follow-up Actions	
Action	By whom
Follow up with the Te Kauwhata Fire Brigade regarding the invoicing of the \$600 commitment made to it from the Discretionary Fund for its annual lollie gifting event.	John Cunningham
Check the status of the funding allocated in the 2023/2024 Financial Year to the Te Kauwhata Community Response Group. The Committee passed a resolution (TKCC2403/5) in March 2024 allocating \$3000,00 from the Discretionary Fund for the Community Emergency Response Group for 2023/2024 and \$500,00 per annum for subsequent fiscal years on the understanding that these (combined) will be a total commitment to draw upon when needed by the Group.	Vishal Ramduny
Canvas members of the dog park Facebook page regarding a small dog area.	Ian Wrigley
Develop a priority project plan for implementing the Te Kauwhata Community Identity Strategy	Community Identity Strategy Project Team

Minutes confirmed by the Chairperson on 9 th day of February 2025 for approval at the next Committee meeting.

JOHN CUNNINGHAM
CHAIRPERSON