

Minutes of a meeting of the Iwi Consultative Committee held at the Kahotea Marae, Kahotea Road, Otorohanga on Wednesday 1 September 2010 commencing at 10.00am

1 PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor AD Livingston

Members

Councillors –DL Sharpe;

C Maikuku (Kaumatua), H Maniapoto (Puniu), G Roberts (Nga Iwi Toopu o Waipa), K Hodge (Wharepuhunga), D Walters (Kakepuku), J Charman (Pirongia) Val Ingley

Chief Executive (G Dyet); Manager Heritage & Community Facilities (T Roxburgh); Te Takawaenga (C Davis); District Plan Project Co-ordinator (S Brennan); Secretary (S King)

2 KARAKIA

3 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

7/10/20

That the apologies received from G Serancke; Cr Webber; L Doyle, Te Ra White for non attendance be received.

K Hodge/Cr Sharpe

4 LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

5 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 01-89-08

RESOLVED

7/10/21

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

Mayor Livingston/Cr Sharpe

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

File: 01-89-08

Minutes of meeting held on 2 June 2010.

RESOLVED

7/10/22

That the minutes of the meeting of the Iwi Consultative Committee held on 2 June 2010, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.

Mayor Livingston/Walters

7 QUARTERLY REPORT FROM TE TAKAWAENGA

File: 01-84-34

Report of Te Takawaenga dated 23 August 2010.

RESOLVED

7/10/23

That the report of Te Takawaenga dated 23 August 2010 be received.

G Roberts/K Hodge

8 NGA IWI TOOPU O WAIPA BUSINESS

File: 62-01-01

Chairperson Gaylene Roberts said that they were working with Fiona Hill on the District Plan but there were no changes since the last meeting. Still having a few hiccups with the Consent Notices but these were being worked through.

9 FUTURE PROOF (SUB-REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY) UPDATE

File: 01-89-08

Southern Sector Study

Beca Consultants have completed a second draft of the Southern Sector Study for consideration by the partner councils at the Joint Committee meeting of 24 August. The report provides a number of recommendations relating to the long term land use and infrastructure provision in the area from Matangi to Rukuhia. An update on progress will be provided at the meeting.

Employment Land Study

Staff of the partner councils have been working with consultants from Latitude Planning Services and Property Economics Limited to complete a study of employment land (industrial, commercial and retail) in the sub-region. An evaluation of likely demand for employment land over the duration of the study to determine uptake patterns is has been undertaken. Scenarios of various development options have been modelled and evaluated to assist in a prioritisation process for development of employment land in the sub-region.

The results of the study are expected to be included in the built environment section of the reviewed Regional Policy Statement which Environment Waikato intend to notify in November of this year. Prior to this the study will be considered by the Future Proof Joint Committee at its 24 August meeting. An update on progress will be provided at the meeting.

10 DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW - UPDATE

File: 65-06-36

1. Introduction

Work has been progressing on the District Plan review. Several meetings have been held with Nga Iwi Toopu O Waipa to discuss District Plan matters, in particular relating to the recording of archaeological sites within the Plan, the concept of cultural landscapes and a marae zone. In addition discussions have been held with Tainui, and contact has been made with Raukawa and Maniapoto Iwi authorities. Options for further engagement with Tainui are being explored, and Raukawa Charitable Trust and Maniapoto Maori Trust Board have indicated they will be available once Treaty settlements are finalised. The timing of this has implications for the District Plan Review timetable which will need to be considered by Council.

2. Marae Zone

It is proposed to enable the development of existing marae within the District through a Marae Zone. The Zone is proposed to apply to: Pōhara, Maungatautari, Mangatoatoa, Te Kōpua and Pārāwera. The proposed provisions recognise that the zone may be applied to other locations at a later date. The concept of the Marae Zone and the proposed Plan provisions have been workshopped with Nga Iwi Toopu O Waipa at a number of meetings.

3. Archaeological sites

It is proposed to identify archaeological sites from the New Zealand Archaeological Site database on the District Plan Maps. This approach has been supported by Nga Iwi Toopu O Waipa. There is ongoing discussion with NZHPT about whether or not the sites are also categorised. This could mean that some sites / areas would require consent under the District Plan as well as the Historic Places Act.

4. Cultural Landscapes

The concept of 'Cultural Landscapes' has evolved from discussions about the sensitivity of some cultural sites (some of which are not identified on any planning maps) and the need to ensure that developments do not adversely affect the values sites have to tangata whenua. While identified archaeological sites require an authority from Historic Places Trust to be obtained before any site is altered, unidentified cultural sites do not have that protection. From discussions with Nga Iwi Toopu o Waipa it is apparent that many of these unidentified sites are in areas of particular significance to tangata whenua.

In order to recognise the significance of these areas it is proposed to identify their general location on the planning maps as a 'Cultural Landscape' and include an explanation of the area within the District Plan. In this way some of the currently unidentified sites would have a level of protection without the need for formal identification. When development is proposed within these areas the developer would need to consult with tangata whenua which could result in a requirement for a 'Cultural Impact Assessment' to be obtained.

Potential areas of cultural landscape identified so far include:

Hingakākā/Ngāroto, Paterangi, Pirongia Mountain (including Matakītaki Pa), Rangiaowhia, Orakau, Kakepuku, Pohara, Maungatautari, Pukekura, Te Ko Utu, Topehaehae Stream Catchment/ Maungatautari and Mangamaru.

The concept of cultural landscapes has been presented to the Council who have indicated general support for the idea. The Council were receptive to the idea of Cultural Impact Assessments being undertaken where tangata whenua values could be affected and developments being designed to address potential effects. The Council felt it was inappropriate to have Plan provisions which would mean that all development would be declined in cultural landscape areas.

Work is continuing with Nga Iwi Toopu o Waipa representatives to define the extent of cultural landscape areas and the explanatory text to be included within the District Plan.

11 CAMBRIDGE - KARAPIRO CYCLEWAY

File: 55-28-33

Work has commenced on the Cambridge-Karapiro Cycleway/Walkway, with Downer/McFall appointed the main contractors. The project will see a 3 metre wide concrete path constructed within the road reserve alongside Maungatautari Road, with the path traversing private property and Mighty River Power land through the Crowsnest section to Hydro Road. Due to the topography, a cantilever structure is required to support the section across the Mighty River Power property.

It is expected that seating, planting and interpretive signage will enhance the cycleway. Council has been liaising with Ngati Koroki Kahukura in relation to design and construction, and the need to appropriately recognise and reflect the history of as part of the project. Construction of the cycleway is expected to be completed by the end of September, with an official opening planned for mid-October. The project has been timed to coincide with the World Rowing Champs.

12 BUS SERVICES

File: 55-53-02

Community Van Services

Environment Waikato has announced that Go Bus Limited will provide the new bus services connecting Kihikihi/Te Awamutu and Cambridge with Hamilton. The services, which will be contracted to Environment Waikato, will operate at a standard similar to services within Hamilton, and are expected to be integrated within the wider Hamilton public transport network. Council will fund 25% of the net cost of the services (fare revenue deducted), with the remainder funded by Environment Waikato and the Government (through the NZ Transport Agency).

The new services, for which new buses are being constructed, will commence towards the end of 2010. In the meantime, existing services will continue to run. Timetables for the new services are expected to be finalised within the next two months.

At this stage there will not be a service connecting Cambridge and Te Awamutu, although this remains a possibility for the future.

The new services will be available to SuperGold Card holders, which provides free off-peak travel from 9am-3pm and after 6.30pm weekdays, and anytime weekends and public holidays. Currently only the current Cambridge-Hamilton and Kihikihi-Te Awamutu services are available for SuperGold card holder use. In 2009 Council facilitated the establishment of a group in Te Awamutu to look at community transport needs in Te Awamutu. As a result the Te Awamutu Community Health Transport Trust has been established, and the Chief Executive said the group are looking for drivers and attendants. Donations are required and details on the timetable and commencement will be advertised.

13 MAUNGATAUTARI

File: 01-85-26

Request to Restrict Access to the Southern Enclosure

Council received a request from the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust to use the adopted Maungatautari Scenic Reserve Bylaws 2006 to restrict public use of the enclosure to day light hours only. The purpose of restricting entry to day light hours was reduce potential for vandalism to signage and buildings within the enclosure and to reduce the risk of wildlife being harmed. Council has approved the request subject to the necessary public notification and approvals from the Manager Community Facilities.

Day to Day Control of the Scenic Reserve

At the request of Ngati Koroki Kahukura (NKK), Council is considering the future control, management and governance of the Crown and Council-owned land classified as Scenic Reserve.

Matters influencing this decisions are:

- The Treaty Claim lodged by NKK for the Crown and Council administered land within the fenced perimeter;
- The review of the MEIT structure and representation of stakeholder groups; and,
- The security Council has provided the MEIT to meet their financial commitments.

MEIT Operational Funding

Council continues to receive and to distribute, funds to the MEIT as per agreements signed between Environment Waikato and the Department of Conservation. Changes in the accounting processes within MEIT has lead to minor difficulties in collating matching invoices with the funding sources. This highlights the complexity and difficulty in managing such a large project and the determination of the volunteers doing administration tasks. MEIT are advertising for an Office Manager. It is hoped this appointment will address the difficulties encountered and ease the burden shouldered by the volunteers in the Trust's Office.

Landowner Issues

There has been reported growing 'unease' amongst landowners adjoining the Maunga. Much of this unease appears to be lack of progress in resolving issues around acknowledging the contribution landowners have made to the project, access issues across private land and, an appropriate mean of securing the fence on private land. Using covenants as a means of legally securing land inside and under the fence results in significant costs to landowners.

The option based on transferable entitlements which was promoted by Council, does not appear to be acceptable to a number of land owners. Council staff are working with land owners and their legal advisors to identify alternative options. The primary concerns identified are:

- Perceived inequities between what has been offered to owners of small properties compared with what has been offered to larger property owners;
- Adequately compensating landowners for wear and tear on farm infrastructure and disturbance to farming regimes, from repeated and frequent visits by MEIT volunteers and staff; and,
- Costs associated with surveys and legally securing covenants on property titles.

It is hoped these concerns can be resolved and a process to affect the necessary changes agreed, so these can be included in the draft District Plan as necessary.

Marking the Mountain Track

Concern has been expressed around the increasing number of persons that have become disorientated due to the high number of marked monitoring and trapping lines they encounter while walking the mountain track.

There have also been occasions where walkers have become lost and required the services of search and rescue teams. It is recommended by staff that the main track be re-marked and that signage be placed at both the Hicks and Tari Road ends to clearly remind walkers of the markers that should be followed.

Purchase of Property on Tari Road.

Council staff are considering options to acquire additional land at the end of Tari Road to enable the car park to be completed, to bring water and power to the road end and, to secure access to the Tari wetland.

14 NGAROTO ROAD BRIDGE SITE

File: 55-03-06

The upgrade of the over head Rail Bridge on Ngaroto Road, has resulted in land on the north eastern side of the bridge, being available for other purposes. Due to the significance of the general location, this site is well placed to interpret the history and significance of the Hingakaka Battle, Yarndley Bush Scenic Reserve and the Ngaroto Railway Station. Before the contractors left the site, the land was levelled and a surface of metal applied. The works associated with the bridge upgrade, and in particular the opening of the ground involved representatives from Ngati Apakura, Ngati Hikairo, the Historic Places Trust. A qualified archaeologist was present during the initial works to ensure any artefacts uncovered were handled appropriately.

The opportunity to link both sites and create more promotion around the battle site and Yarndley's bush. In response to comments about the steepness of the walk back from Yarndley's bush, Mr Roxburgh said there may be potential to construct a carpark at the bottom for less abled people.

15 WAIPA PEAT LAKES

File: 50-01-07

Lake Ngaroto

The resource consent authorising Council to operate the outlet weir expires in October this year. Council staff have commissioned Wildlands Environmental Consultants to identify what the most appropriate water level management regime should be to ensure the requirement under the Reserves Act 1977 are met.

The report points out that the existing regime is likely to impact on wetland birds / waterfowl and recreational use of the lake during autumn and spring periods. They further suggest that a fixed minimum level and permitting the lake to fluctuate naturally through the year would be better. Unfortunately the consequences of adopting such a regime would likely attract objections from several landowners adjoining the lake reserve. Such a change would likely see around 22ha of land inundated and soils saturated for extended periods during the winter months. Council staff are meeting with staff from Environment Waikato to determine a way forward.

Lake Rotopiko (Serpentine)

Council is considering whether it will be party to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) being promoted by the National Wetland Trust of NZ. The MOU is seeking Council support to assist the Trust in advocating for the protection of wetlands within the District and to establish a National Wetland Centre at Lake Rotopiko. The Trust propose to build the Centre on Recreation Reserve land administered by Council.

The development will include:

- A track network around East lake and through a kahikatea stand;
- Quality interpretation associated with the track;
- A predator proof fence surround approximately 14ha of lake wetland;
- Introduction of threaten wetland wildlife;
- A car park at the entry off SH 3; and,
- A building that will house reference and educational material, wetland displays, a retail area, small café, seating and office space.

In assessing the proposal, it is Council's view that such development will support endeavours to protect the natural heritage of Waipa and in particular help promote the significance of the Waipa peat lakes and associated wetlands.

16 NGAWAERO MARAE

Letter from the Ngawaero Marae Development Trust.

RESOLVED

7/10/24

That the letter from the Ngawaero Marae Development Trust be received.

G Roberts/K Hodge

17 CLOSING KARAKIA

Committee Member W Clarke provided the closing Karakia.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.57am

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

CHAIRPERSON: _____

DATE: _____

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: _____