



Te Kārearea Meeting Minutes

Date:	Wednesday, 19 June, 2019
Time:	9:00 a.m.
Location:	Council Chamber Forum North, Rust Avenue Whangarei
In Attendance	Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai (Co-Chairperson) Mike Kake (Acting Co-Chairperson) Cr Vince Cocurullo Cr Tricia Cutforth Cr Sue Glen Cr Greg Innes Cr Sharon Morgan Cr Anna Murphy Deborah Harding Delaraine Armstrong Janelle Beazley Sharon Kaipo Takiri Puriri Aorangi Kawiti
Not in Attendance	Taipari Munro (Co-Chairperson) Cr Crichton Christie Allan Halliday Merepeka Henley Violet Sade
Scribe	Jennie Thomas (Democracy Adviser)

Also in attendance:

Rob Forlong (CE), Dominic Kula (General manager Strategy and Democracy), Simon Weston (General Manager Infrastructure) Edith Brady, Peter and Ru Vaughan, Emma Cribb

- 1. Open Meeting**
- 2. Karakia/Mihi - Aperahama Edwards - Mike Kake**

3. **Apologies** – Cr Christie, Taipari Munro, Alan Halliday, Merepeka Henley, Violet Sade, Crs Cocurullo and Murphy for lateness, Crs Glen and Morgan for absence for a period of time, Andre Hemara, Sandra Hawken

Moved by Cr Innes

Seconded by Takiri Puriri

That the apologies be sustained.

Carried

4. **Introductions (Whakawhanaungatanga)**

5. **Previous Minutes**

Moved by Cr Innes

Seconded by Takiri Puriri

5.1 Minutes Te Kārearea 17 April 2019

That the minutes of the Te Kārearea Strategic Partnership Forum meeting held on Wednesday, 17 April 2019, having been circulated, be taken as read and now confirmed and adopted as a true and correct record of proceedings of that meeting, subject to minor typographical errors and noted on Page 11 that Te Huinga members are part of the Councils' working group.

Carried

6. **Reports:**

6.1 Action Log Update June 2019

Moved by Janelle Beazley

Seconded by Deborah Harding

That Te Kārearea Strategic Partnership Forum note the attached Action Log.

Carried

Dominic Kula advised that of the 38 new actions on the action log, 29 had been addressed with some good responses and outcomes for the communities. Some of the issues raised had not been able to be resolved, due to budgetary restraints or other considerations.

Points to note included:

Most of the signage and fencing was in place for the protection of sites.

The issue of higher seasonal usage of the public toilets at freedom camping sites will be/is addressed with the use of temporary portaloos and increasing the frequency of daily cleaning. Investigation taking place regarding securing funding for further toilets from Central Government.

There were concerns raised regarding the project management of the coastal erosion of Sandy and Matapouri Bays not being linked back to the community. The Parks Manager has discussed with Sandra Hawken, there is an intention to hold a further meeting to work through concerns with hapū and the community once options are known.

Modelling of a flood gate or similar is underway regarding Ngunguru stormwater issues. Andre Hemara is looking to arrange a separate hui to discuss with the community.

There was discussion on the no stop zones which were seen as quick fixes for the increased Matapouri traffic flow. Council has limited ability to control the volume of traffic through Matapouri and given issues are at peak summer periods traffic management plans will not address these.

There was discussion on the RMA Commissioner training and what is the most effective way to build understanding of the RMA consent process. The Resource Consent process is seen as the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff compared to the District Plan and the influence that can be formed. It was noted that commissioner training might be beneficial, but so would hapū management plans. It was stated that this would be supported but there had been a focus on iwi management plans. There is an issue with capacity which causes problems with articulation.

Delaraine Armstrong advised that she would like to receive training in the RMA process. The RMA Amendment, from a hapū perspective, have taken away so many of the rights from Te Tiriti o Waitangi that is has left us unable to inform on a whole lot of activities. Largely our feedback and role in this process has been diminished if not ignored. At this point it is reactive and Te Huinga would like to find opportunities to work together at another point. If development goes ahead without tangata whenua, then the people making decisions don't see our view as valuable.

Deborah Harding queried whether it would be appropriate for Jacki Cooper along with YAG members to attend a Te Huinga meeting to provide a youth perspective and to look at what can be achieved collaboratively. Cr Cutforth suggested the Chair and Co-Chair of YAG could attend Te Huinga.

It was noted that the increase in registration of Tai Tokerau youth in the last election was achieved with youth engaging with youth.

Dominic assured the meeting, that the point Delaraine had made in relation to the Resource Consent versus the District Plan process was being worked on. We are looking at how we can earlier and better respond. There are a lot of factors involved. This is included on the action plan and will be brought back to Te Kārearea.

Aorangi Kawiti queried if a resource was available to assist with the steady stream of RMA applications. There is difficulty with responding in the timeframes and to the number of requests. Dominic advised that, what Council can do to support hapū

capability and capacity, is one of the things that is being worked through. There is a limited budget however, but what is available will be reviewed.

Delaraine advised that issues would be reduced, if regulatory compliance and preparation of the consent conditions is undertaken by Regional and Council effectively.

6.2 Okara-Old Boys Rugby Lands

Moved by Aorangi Kawiti

Seconded by Cr Murphy

That the Te Kārearea Strategic Partnership Forum note the discussion paper received from Te Iwitahi Manihera whanau.

Carried

Peter and Ru Vaughan addressed the forum on the amended discussion paper (attached) from Te Iwitahi Manihera whanau.

Peter advised that the original document was in draft form when it was presented to Te Huinga. Peter presented the discussion paper which he summarised as having an overarching principle of focus on a plan to seek justice and build unity.

In response, Her Worship the Mayor thanked both Peter and Ru for presenting to Te Kārearea and advised that it would no decisions or comment on this paper could be made by this forum. HWM acknowledged her appreciation of Te Iwitahi Manihera paper and advised that she would like to have further discussion with staff and councillors to investigate how to respond appropriately from Council, rather than from Te Kārearea.

Deborah Harding acknowledged the fact that Peter had presented this paper to Te Huinga in the first instance.

Deborah queried the status of the land in question. It was advised the land was mainly open space.

6.3 Freedom Camping from Matapouri to Sandy Bay

That the Te Kārearea Strategic Partnership Forum note the discussion regarding Freedom Camping from Matapouri to Sandy Bay.

Item 6.3 was deferred to a future agenda.

6.4 Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy

Moved by Cr Greg Innes

Seconded by Cr Tricia Cutforth

That Te Kārearea Strategic Partnership Forum notes this report on the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy.

Carried

Dominic Kula ran through a presentation on the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy. He provided a brief background to the draft strategy. The strategy is a full review of Sustainable Futures 30/50 in response to the requirements of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity (NPS-UDC). The NPS-UDC has classified the Whangarei urban area as high growth. This classification has resulted in a number of requirements to plan for and monitor housing and business capacity.

The growth strategy provides a vision for how the District will grow and develop over the next 30 years. The strategy sets out actions which will help ensure that planning, infrastructure investment and decision making is coordinated.

Dominic identified and elaborated on some of the key issues which our District will encounter over the next 20-30 years. The key issues include:

- Providing enough housing to meet demand
- Providing enough business land to meet demand
- Housing affordability and choice
- Better design of development and subdivision
- Three Waters
- Transport network
- Integrating planning and infrastructure
- Place based planning and decision making

The key outcomes were listed:

- Enable housing and business land capacity to meet demand
- Focus development in our urban area and growth nodes
- Maintain and grow industrial and business land
- Enable housing choice and affordability to meet the needs of our community
- Integrative infrastructure to align with growth
- Provide quality open space to support our growing population
- Maintain our valuable natural environments and productive land
- Co-ordinate growth through an integrated approach across Council, hapu, community and agencies
- Monitor and review the Strategy to ensure we stay on track to provide the land for housing and business that our community needs

Implementation of the plan:

- Spatial Planning Programme – how growth meets the strategies key outcomes. This is key, linking to growth areas and working with the community, landowners, businesses, hapū and key stakeholders in developing spatial plans. The spatial plans influence planning outcomes by development when they are incorporated into the District Plan.
- Future Development Plan – will set out our plan for future development. It will identify future opportunities for growth aligned with infrastructure.
- Actions – the range of actions includes monitoring and reporting on key indicators for housing and business land. There will be a focus on monitoring and reporting key indicators, like building consents and house prices, every quarter. An interim report will be produced every year which will inform a full review of the strategy every 3 years.

Next steps:

The Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy is out for public feedback until 24 June 2019. Council will then review the feedback and amend the document as necessary. Council will continue to work with hapū and key stakeholders as we implement and report on the strategy. Spatial planning will be prioritised and the ongoing monitoring programme will commence.

Discussion:

Deborah Harding queried if there is anywhere in the document that identified how growth is managed without high environmental impact. Growth nodes are designated that accommodate this growth. Cr Innes advised that there are mandates that have to be followed based on National Planning Standards. The National Policy Statement directs that we have to cater for growth. Infrastructure has to be provided to mitigate environmental impact.

The priority of Ultra-Fast Broadband (UFB) for the district was identified to assist planning and infrastructure. It was stated that access for all to UFB for this district should be a priority for the Government. The message has been that communities in remote areas are not able to contribute due to black spots in the Rural Broadband Initiative (RBI).

HWM advised that she preferred to consider this as development strategy rather than a growth strategy, as growth can have negative connotations. Projections of growth in population are necessary to ensure we are prepared. Population growth impacts associated infrastructure.

Comment was made that we have to consider the demographic in 30 years time to ensure that housing development is fit for purpose.

Deborah Harding suggested there is this discussion around land scoping for housing and business and the associated infrastructure, but as representatives of hapu there are concerns on the impact on availability of our own land, and this should be given consideration. There will be more intensity around these areas as treaty negotiations continue. Whenua is important for us and growth and infrastructure needs to be sensitive around those lands. Some engagement around what that looks like and how it would impact individuals or as a hapu would be useful.

6.5 Infrastructure Te Kārearea Operational Report - June 2019

Moved by Cr Tricia Cutforth

Seconded by Janelle Beazley

That Te Kārearea note the Infrastructure Update Report.

Carried

Simon Weston ran through the presentation on the Infrastructure Operational Report for June 2019. Highlights included:

The 2021 Women's Rugby World Cup has been secured. There is a need to improve the lighting at Okara Stadium for international coverage. A consent may be required for this project.

Resource consent engineering assessment statistics were provided to highlight the amount of development occurring. Pre-application meetings are offered to the public free of charge and include:

- Development Engineer
- Development Contributions Officer
- Council Planner
- Infrastructure Engineers where applicable
- Parks staff member of infrastructure planner
- Urban designer

This service assists with engineering and planning for developments in the planning stage to assist developers to avoid problems going forward.

Several planned and in progress developments and the implications for infrastructure and planning were discussed.

The Porowini Avenue and Maunu Road intersection improvement contract has been awarded to United Civil. Over the next few months there will be work completed on realigning services.

Slow streets projects are scheduled and some are undergoing consultation at present.

Cr Cutforth queried what the process was for consultation regarding slow streets. Simon advised that households were visited and everyone effected were contacted a year before the project commenced. There was discussion on using the correct mechanism for slow streets and considerations that must be taken into account.

Janelle Beazley queried the schedule and consultation of a project in Raurimu Avenue and the effects in relation to the school and kōhanga in the area. Simon to investigate this.

Quite a few footpaths are being constructed including in Paranui Valley Road, Ngunguru Road from the marae to the school and the school to the hall, Okara Drive, Porowini Avenue and Woods Road.

Staff have secured replacement bulbs for Te Matau a Pohe which will replace those fitted to the guardrail. The bulbs have been sourced from Germany and will take 12 weeks to be delivered but come with a 10 year warranty. Staff are anticipating there won't be the ongoing failures as were experienced with the previous bulbs. The new lights will have same luminary as the previous but there should not be any strobe effect which was caused by failed bulbs.

The weather has been unusually dry since Christmas. Dam levels are below average with Whau Valley at over 60% volume and Wilsons at 70%. We like to see levels at 90% going into summer. There may articles in the paper regarding dam levels if we don't get enough rainfall in the next few months. It was queried whether water restrictions should be in place now. Simon advised that there would be very little gain from restrictions at present as people are not watering gardens etc. If you do notice any water leaks please report them to Council.

Sharon Kaipō asked for an update on the request for toilets to be constructed at Twin Bridges. Simon advised that this is not on the schedule at present but toilets have been constructed at Parakao and Poroti. Council are putting in an application for funding through the Tourism Infrastructure Fund (TIF) for further toilets but he doubted that an application would be successful for Twin Bridges. There were comments made that this area is seeing more tourist and trucking traffic and it is an alternative arterial route North. Simon advised that we are always willing to reconsider but at the moment there are higher priority areas such as Ruakaka beach due to higher tourist numbers.

Aorangi Kawiti queried the non-compliance of ammonia levels at the Ngunguru waste water treatment plant. Simon advised that staff are working with NRC on that issue. The problem is associated with the wet lands. Investigation is taking place on additional aerators.

Mike Kake queried the Sands Road development off Ngunguru Road and the effect this would have on traffic coming into Whangarei. The traffic congestion from work traffic in this area and others that would be heightened from various developments was discussed.

The issue of on-site sewerage systems being allowed on sections particularly in relation to developments in the vicinity of waterways was discussed. Simon advised that Council's preference would be to have the developments hook into Council services. In some instances developers decide, and are able, to use on site systems. At present the District Plan allows onsite disposal on 2000m² sections. Cr Murphy advised there is an opportunity to have input on this as the Urban Plan Changes are open for submission.

It was questioned whether odour levels from the Kioreroa Road waste plant were heightened at night. Simon advised that Council have engaged the firm Becca to help resolve the odour issue. If we were to cover the ponds there are problems accessing those sites to work on and also issues with corrosion. Protection lids would be expensive costing potentially tens of millions of dollars. The solutions are not straight forward, there is also a chemical way of resolving the issues and Council is looking at the best solution both cost wise and for the environment.

The excess of road cones on Whangarei's streets and roads was commented on. Simon noted that roading works are a two-edged sword. Roading projects underway will help solve issues in the long term but do cause disruptions to traffic.

Simon advised of a project Council are undertaking that involves the creation of plaques for historical information. We are looking for assistance with information on historical facts and stories and the areas that they relate to. Agreement to identify areas for discussion and take to Te Huinga.

7. General Business

Before Item 6.5 Alan Adcock (General Manager Finance and Corporate) addressed the meeting regarding the new Council Civic Centre. He advised that there would be discussion regarding the community being able to utilise the facilities after hours for various functions. Council would like to receive hapū input regarding meeting protocols, pōwhiri etc early in the project. We would like the opportunity to come and talk to Te Huinga and investigate how you would like to engage with us. This is just the start of the process but we are looking for the best outcome for all parties. Alan advised that at the next meeting there will be discussion on how Te Huinga would like to engage with Council on this.

Mike Kake advised of the Local Government symposium being held at the Copthorne Waitangi on Thursday 27th June. Registration is required but attendance is free. Acknowledgement to Council for the contribution towards the running of the symposium.

8. Closure of Meeting – Karakia – Takiri Puriri

The meeting concluded at 11.38am