

Whangarei District Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 7 September, 2021
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Virtual Meeting Room

In Attendance

Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai
(Chairperson)
Cr Gavin Benney
Cr Vince Cocurullo
Cr Nicholas Connop
Cr Ken Couper
Cr Tricia Cutforth
Cr Shelley Deeming
Cr Jayne Golightly
Cr Phil Halse
Cr Greg Innes
Cr Greg Martin
Cr Anna Murphy
Cr Carol Peters
Cr Simon Reid

Scribe C Brindle (Senior Democracy Adviser)

1. Karakia/Prayer

Cr Peters opened the meeting with a karakia/prayer.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

3. Apologies

There were no apologies.

4. Decision Reports

4.1 Representation Review 2021 - Final Proposal

Moved By Cr Vince Cocurullo

Seconded By Cr Simon Reid

That Council;

1. Receives this report.
2. Pursuant to section 19N of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and having considered and deliberated on submissions received to the initial proposal for the 2021 review of representation arrangements, amends its initial proposal to the following final proposal for at least the 2022 triennial local government elections:
 - (a) Whangārei District Council to comprise the mayor elected at-large and 13 councillors elected under the ward system, specifically 11 general ward councillors and two Māori ward councillors;
 - (b) Whangārei District Council to be divided into six wards, these being:
 - (i). Bream Bay general ward (represented by two general ward councillors), being the existing ward comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-4 deposited with the Local Government Commission; and with ward boundary changes as shown on Attachment 1, with the exclusion of the southern part of Cemetery Road, north of SH15;
 - (ii). Hikurangi-Coastal general ward (represented by two general ward councillors), being the existing ward comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-3 deposited with the Local Government Commission and with ward boundary changes, as shown on Attachment 2;
 - (iii). Mangakahia-Maungatapere general ward (represented by one general ward councillor), being the existing ward comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-2 deposited with the Local Government Commission with ward boundary changes as shown on Attachment 3, with the inclusion of the southern part of Cemetery Road, north of SH15;
 - (iv). Whangārei Heads general ward (represented by one general ward councillor), being the existing ward comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-7 deposited with the Local Government Commission, as shown on Attachment 4;
 - (v). Whangārei Urban general ward (represented by five general ward councillors), being the combined areas of the existing Denby ward comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-5 deposited with the Local Government Commission and the existing Okara Ward

comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-6 deposited with the Local Government Commission, as shown on Attachment 5, with the inclusion of the following

- Toe Toe Road at the south of the city;
- the Springs Flat area, including Taylor Road, Rose Place, Great North Road, Winger Crescent, Springs Flat Road and all roads to the west of Great North Road down to Station Road (including the beginning of Pipiwai Road, Hiko Road, Waipanga Road, Onoke Lane, Northcroft Drive, Oakwood Rise, east side of Dip Road, Georgia Lane, Brickworks Lane, Whitelaw Place, Butler Place, Tustian Way, Lilian Road, west side of Kamo Road to Station Road, Ford Avenue, Moehau Road, Tuatara Drive, Crawford Crescent, Iti Street and Wentworth Place);
- Redwood Rise, Westwood Lane, Taiko Street, Hihi Rise, Tieke Place, Kokako Place, Pukenui Road, Highfield Way, Pohutukawa Place, Tealmere Grove, Heron Place, Barge Lane, Beaumont Court and Rockwall Place and the northern end of Puriri Park Road, Sutton Close, Tui Crescent, the northern end of Kiwi Avenue, Le Ruez Place, Kowhai Park Road, Clarkson Crescent, Rosella Place.

- (vi) Whangārei District Māori ward (represented by two Māori ward councillors), comprising the whole area of the district as delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-1 deposited with the Local Government Commission; as shown on Attachment 6.

(c) No community boards be established.

3. The reasons for the amendment of the initial proposal to include Toe Toe Road at the south of the city in the proposed Whangārei Urban general ward are:
 - (a) to better reflect communities of interest;
 - (b) submissions supported this amendment.
4. The reasons for the amendment of the initial proposal to include Redwood Rise, Westwood Lane, Taiko Street, Hihi Rise, Tieke Place, Kokako Place, Pukenui Road, Highfield Way, Pohutukawa Place, Tealmere Grove, Heron Place, Barge Lane, Beaumont Court and Rockwall Place and the northern end of Puriri Park Road, Sutton Close, Tui Crescent, the northern end of Kiwi Avenue, Le

Ruez Place, Kowhai Park Road, Clarkson Crescent, Rosella Place) in the proposed Whangārei Urban general ward are:

- (a) to better reflect communities of interest;
- (b) so as to not to divide an established community of interest;
- (c) submissions supported this amendment.

5. The reasons for the amendment of the initial proposal to include the Springs Flat area, including Taylor Road, Rose Place, Great North Road, Winger Crescent, Springs Flat Road and all roads to the west of Great North Road down to Station Road (including the beginning of Pipiwai Road, Hiko Road, Waipanga Road, Onoke Lane, Northcroft Drive, Oakwood Rise, east side of Dip Road, Georgia Lane, Brickworks Lane, Whitelaw Place, Butler Place, Tustian Way, Lilian Road, west side of Kamo Road to Station Road, Ford Avenue, Moehau Road, Tuatara Drive, Crawford Crescent, Iti Street and Wentworth Place) in the proposed Whangārei Urban general ward are:

- (a) to better reflect communities of interest;
- (b) so as to not to divide an established community of interest;
- (c) submissions supported this amendment.

6. As the Hikurangi-Coastal general ward, the Mangakahia-Maungatapere general ward and the Whangārei Urban general ward are non-compliant with the fair representation requirement (+/- 10% rule), the final proposal must be treated as an appeal under section 19V(5) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and referred to the Local Government Commission following the appeal/objection period, for determination.

7. Notes that some submissions opposed to the initial proposal be declined on the following grounds:

- Having considered the size, nature and diversity of the District, the total number of elected members remains at 13 (plus the mayor) for the following reasons:
 - (a) to provide effective representation for the District, considering the physical size of the District and current wards and the numbers of communities of interest;
 - (b) to meet operational workload requirements;
 - (c) to provide better local representation and reflect unique ward issues;

- (d) the majority of submissions supported the total number of elected members remaining at 13;
- The ward system best reflects the District's communities of interest and provides for better representation and councillor workload.
 - The Bream Bay general ward remains as one ward, as the Bream Bay general ward provides fair and effective representation of this community of interest.
 - The Whangārei Urban general ward is not extended further than the amended initial proposal as the current boundary provides fair and effective representation of this community of interest.
 - Ngunguru Ford Road is not moved from the existing Whangārei Heads ward to the Hikurangi-Coastal general ward as the current boundary provides fair and effective representation of this community of interest.
 - The issues of the establishment of Māori wards, electoral system, electoral population statistics, survey of domicile of Māori residents, Māori electoral option and standing and election of Māori ward councillors cannot be considered as part of this review.
8. Issues a public notice that informs the public of the final proposal as adopted and providing the opportunity for objections/appeals to be lodged in the period 10 September 2021 to 11 October 2021, noting that any objection/appeal received is forwarded to the Local Government Commission for determination.

Amendment

Moved By Cr Nicholas Connop

Seconded By Cr Tricia Cutforth

That Council

1. Receives this report.
2. Pursuant to section 19N of the Local Electoral Act 2001, having considered and deliberated on the submissions received to the initial proposal for the 2021 review of representation arrangements, amends its initial proposal to the following final proposal for at least the 2022 triennial local government elections:
 - (a) Whangārei District Council to comprise the mayor elected at large, and 12 councillors elected under the ward system, specifically ten general ward councillors elected

district wide and two Māori ward councillors elected district wide.

- (b) The Whangārei District Council be divided into two wards, these being:
 - (i) Whangārei District General Ward (represented by ten general ward councillors) comprising the whole area of the district as delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-1 deposited with the Local Government Commission.
 - (ii) Whangārei District Māori Ward (represented by two Māori ward councillors) comprising the whole area of the district as delineated on Plan LG-002-2012-W-1 deposited with the Local Government Commission.
 - (c) No community boards be established.
3. Notes the reasons for the amendment of the initial proposal to elect councillors district-wide are:
- (a) This would allow for more effective, fair, diverse and democratic representation of the District.
 - (b) Some submissions supported this amendment.
4. Issues a public notice that informs the public of the final proposal as adopted and providing the opportunity for objections/appeals to be lodged in the period from 10 September 2021 to 11 October 2021, noting that any objection/appeal received is forwarded to the Local Government Commission for determination.

On the amendment being put Cr Martin called for a division:

	For	Against	Abstain
Her Worship the Mayor	X		
Cr Gavin Benney	X		
Cr Vince Cocurullo		X	
Cr Nicholas Connop	X		
Cr Ken Couper	X		
Cr Tricia Cutforth	X		
Cr Shelley Deeming		X	
Cr Jayne Golightly		X	
Cr Phil Halse		X	
Cr Greg Innes		X	
Cr Greg Martin		X	

Cr Anna Murphy	X		
Cr Carol Peters	X		
Cr Simon Reid		X	
Results	7	7	0

Vote (7 to 7)

**The amendment was Carried
On the casting vote of Her Worship the Mayor**

*On the amendment being put as the motion Her Worship the Mayor
called for a division:*

	For	Against	Abstain
Her Worship the Mayor	X		
Cr Gavin Benney	X		
Cr Vince Cocurullo		X	
Cr Nicholas Connop	X		
Cr Ken Couper	X		
Cr Tricia Cutforth	X		
Cr Shelley Deeming		X	
Cr Jayne Golightly		X	
Cr Phil Halse		X	
Cr Greg Innes			X
Cr Greg Martin		X	
Cr Anna Murphy	X		
Cr Carol Peters	X		
Cr Simon Reid		X	
Results	7	6	1

(7 to 6)

**The amendment was Carried
and subsequently Carried
as the substantive Motion**

*A short break was taken from 9.59am to 10.10am during the vote on
the amendment.*

4.2 Approve Trust Deed for Northland Events Centre (2021) Trust

Moved By Cr Phil Halse

Seconded By Cr Gavin Benney

That the Council approves the Trust Deed for Northland Events Centre (2021) Trust.

Carried

5. Public Excluded Business

Moved By Cr Greg Innes

Seconded By Cr Anna Murphy

That the public be excluded from the following parts of proceedings of this meeting. The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered		Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution
1.1	Reviewing Trustee Candidates for the Northland Events Centre (2021) Trust	Good reason to withhold information exists under Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, are as follows:

Item	Grounds	Section
1.1	To protect the privacy of natural persons	Section 7(2)(a)

Carried

6. Closure of Meeting

The meeting concluded at 11.13am.

Confirmed this 23rd day of September 2021

Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai (Chairperson)