



## Te Kārearea Meeting Minutes

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, 20 February, 2019</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Council Chamber Forum North, Rust Avenue Whangarei</b>
<b>In Attendance</b>	<b>Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai (Co-Chairperson) Takiri Puriri (Acting Co-Chairperson) Cr Vince Cocurullo Cr Tricia Cutforth Cr Sue Glen Cr Greg Innes Cr Sharon Morgan Cr Anna Murphy Delaraine Armstrong Janelle Beazley Violet Sade</b>
<b>Not in Attendance</b>	<b>Taipari Munro (Co-Chairperson) Cr Crichton Christie Allan Halliday Deborah Harding Merepeka Henley Sharon Kaipo</b>
<b>Scribe</b>	<b>Jennie Thomas (Democracy Adviser)</b>

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Also in attendance: Sandra Hawken, Maia Nova, Waimarie Kingi, Myllie George, Dominic Kula (General Manager – Strategy and Democracy), Simon Weston (General Manager - Infrastructure), Aperahama Edwards (Māori Relationship Manager), Rob Forlong (Chief Executive), Debbie Taylor (EA to General Manager – Strategy and Democracy), Emma Cribb, Richard Martin (Opteon), Stephen Davey (Opteon) and Avella Collopy (Opteon)

- 2. Karakia/Mihi** - Takiri Puriri and Aperahama Edwards
- 3. Apologies**

Taipari Munro, Cr Crichton Christie, Mike Kake, Allan Halliday, Deborah Harding, Joanne Hammon, Merepeka Henley, Te Warihi Hetaraka. Rob Forlong for late arrival.

**Moved By** Cr Anna Murphy

**Seconded By** Cr Sue Glen

That the apologies be sustained.

**Carried**

#### **4. Introductions (Whakawhanaungatanga)**

Introductions were given by those present at the meeting.

#### **5. Previous Minutes**

##### **5.1 Minutes Te Kārearea 19 December 2018**

**Moved By** Janelle Beazley

**Seconded By** Delaraine Armstrong

That the minutes of the Te Kārearea Strategic Partnership Forum meeting held on Wednesday, 19 December 2018, having been circulated, be taken as read and now confirmed and adopted as a true and correct record of proceedings of that meeting.

*Noted and to be amended the correct spelling for Jason Cooper.*

**Carried**

#### **6. Reports:**

##### **6.1 Action Log February 2019**

**Moved By** Cr Anna Murphy

**Seconded By** Cr Sharon Morgan

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

**Carried**

There was a request for confirmation that the Marae Resource Kits have been distributed to marae – to be added to Action Log.

The correct spelling of Tarewa was noted, to be amended in the Action Log.

Dominic Kula advised that the District Plan changes (Urban and Services) that have been conversed at Te Huinga and the Ngunguru marae are being workshopped with Councillors presently. Following this the plan changes will go through the public notification process.

This plan change will be of interest due to the changing of zone names and it will also include strategic direction.

Dominic referenced the rating discussion from the previous Te Kārearea meeting and advised that the point raised of having a representative from the Māori Land Court to Te Kārearea to discuss rating of Māori land had been noted. There may be further points of discussion raised here today on the rates revaluation presentation from the Opteon staff which could be of relevance also.

Cr Murphy updated the meeting on the Focus on Youth. The Youth Advisory Group (YAG) applications have just closed with 30 applicants who would be interviewed in the next few weeks. The selection criteria and Terms of Reference for YAG had been updated and are available on Council's website [link](#). An emphasis has been placed on 'lived experience.' There are two existing members who will remain as members of YAG.

## **6.2 2018 General Revaluation Te Kārearea**

**Moved by** Cr Greg Innes

**Seconded by** Cr Sharon Morgan

That the Te Kārearea Strategic Partnership Forum notes the presentation.

**Carried**

Alison Puchaux (Manager – Revenue) introduced Opteon staff Richard Martin, Stephen Davey and Avella Collopy. Richard and Stephen took the meeting through their presentation on the General Revaluation process and results.

The revaluation is undertaken every three years. The key trends from this revaluation were residential and lifestyle properties showing the biggest moves. The years 2015 and 2016 showed the biggest increase in values with the trend plateauing off due to Loan to Value restrictions (LVR).

The capital value movements for certain residential suburbs are still influenced by people moving into the market, first home buyers and homes being bought by often Aucklanders for rental properties. Lowered valued properties prior to the revaluation (percentage wise) lifted more than the top end of the housing market through the 2018 revaluation.

The rural lifestyle movements have been influenced by Auckland buyers and locals wishing to move into the country. The rural productive properties from an economic view are relatively flat but this has been countered by strong increases of the lifestyle market which has lifted values on well located rural land. The Mycoplasma Bovis outbreak is having some negative effects on rural values.

The Whangarei CBD pedestrian count has shown a declining trend over the last four years which reflects national trends. This has been caused largely by bulk retail and online sales. Despite these factors, there is a vibrancy in the CBD with lower retail vacancies compared to three years ago. The Cameron Mall street-scaping has been well received.

Demand for high quality commercial property is strong. Small retail and small industrial properties are experiencing the strongest demand.

There is a poor supply of A Grade office space but an overabundance of B-D Grade offices.

The valuation of Māori Land for rating purposes has been in accordance with Office of the Valuer-General (OVG) guidelines. The values are based on the highest and best use and are treated as free hold equivalents. Adjustments are made for multiple ownership dependant on the number of owners of the land. Additional adjustments for Sites of Special Significance are made to a maximum of -5%.

The objections to valuations period closed on 15 February 2019. Objections will be processed through to May 2019.

It was questioned what input Te Kārearea could have in regards to adjustment to Māori land values.

Alison Puchaux noted that marae were not rateable and she was of the belief that these had all been identified. She also advised that in the Whangārei district a rates remission policy was used for unoccupied Māori land. The remission applied was dependent on the percentage of land that was unused and unoccupied. There is also the option of postponing rates if an arrangement for current rates can be made. There has been engagement with different groups over the last six months and a lot of discussion and examination of arrears on land. The rates staff are always open to coming to marae to discuss rating and specific rates on properties but staff do wait to be invited. Janelle noted that in the last rates demand information packs had been included. To make contact with rates staff regarding rates, arrears etc it is best to email [mailroom@wdc.govt.nz](mailto:mailroom@wdc.govt.nz).

Richard Martin advised members that there is a review being undertaken by the Valuer General which includes adjustments percentages. If members had suggestions regarding discounts they could email the Valuer General or email Opteon [avella.collopy@opteonsolutions.com](mailto:avella.collopy@opteonsolutions.com).

### **6.3 Infrastructure Operations Report Update - February 2019**

**Moved by** Janelle Beazley  
**Seconded by** Cr Vince Cocurullo

That Te Kārearea note the Infrastructure Update Report.

**Carried**

Simon Weston provided an update on the Three Water Review by the Department of Internal Affairs and the Revised Ministry of Health (MoH) Drinking Water Standards.

The MoH released changes to the drinking water standards in November 2018 which will come into effect this March. The last revision was undertaken in 2008. These latest changes were considered minor by the MoH therefore there was no consultation undertaken. The changes are not far reaching and mainly relate to testing clarification and streamlining some of the documents. MoH have advised of a more comprehensive review which will be carried out by an independent drinking water advisory committee. Public consultation will take place early in July 2019.

Water New Zealand have responded to the drinking water standards revision. They support some but not all the changes. They consider the changes to be non-urgent and question why they have been introduced through a compliance period. They requested implementation to be delayed to enable consultation. The response from the MoH will be relayed.

The Three Waters Review will be completed before the end of 2019. Part of the review is a waste water study. They are reviewing how well Local Government are managing wastewater. At present, every Council has different standards on the disposal of waste water. There has been some discussion on whether a single standard should apply. The Regional Council is contributing a very valuable piece of work to this aspect of the study.

Delaraine Armstrong queried whether regionalising of services was still a possibility and whether this would be part of the consultation undertaken in July. The consultation in July will be solely on drinking

water standards. Regulation will still be part of the Three Waters Review.

The Minister has been advised that there has not been a lot of work completed on private water supplies, including marae. A large percentage of the population rely on private water supplies. Local Government are voicing those concerns but it would be good for the Minister, who is driving the process, to hear from a collective voice.

The Hikurangi Sewer Rehabilitation Stage 2 worth \$1.8m has begun. CCTV is being used to identify problems and pipes are being realigned or replaced if not up to standard.

The new Whau Valley Water Treatment Plant site was blessed this morning. Council have designed the plant and Broadspectrum have won the contract with construction taking place over a 20 month period. The Plant will provide better treatment programme and a larger volume of supply for the next 50-100 years.

The Teal Bay stormwater system is being upgraded in order to handle storm events.

The Parihaka War Memorial renewal project is currently determining the scope of works required on the structural integrity. Next year, better signage and improved access is anticipated. Cr Morgan advised that next year the signage on the path up to, and at the entranceway, of the memorial would include interpretation.

Takiri Puriri noted that ceremonies are held at the Parihaka Memorial and members have been cleaning the memorial for the last few years.

Violet Sade advised Simon of ongoing problems of stock getting into the Horahora river. NRC have been advised on several occasions. Simon to follow up.

The Kamo shared path Fisher Terrace underpass was installed in the short time frame of only three days. How the underpass will be decorated to make it more attractive is being considered.

Cr Morgan advised Simon that there was inconsistent planting in the Kensington supermarket area of the pathway. There was further discussion on the planting plan. Simon will investigate and provide an update to the meeting.

The Porowini Avenue/Tarewa Road intersection has been completed and is working well. The project took longer than expected as bad ground had been struck. The Porowini Avenue/Maunu Road intersection is the next being worked on. There was some discussion on whether the bridge will be widened. Simon will confirm and advise.

It was suggested and noted that when new curbing is being undertaken around marae disabled access be considered and implemented with a portion of lower curbing.

It was noted that the new bus bay outside the Terenga Paraoa has provided further parking. Hui has begun on the impact of the intersection on the marae.

There was discussion on the wetland regeneration work that will be undertaken as part of roading project at the roundabout at the Porowini intersection.

Delaraine advised of the hapu group that is part of the freshwater agreement which are looking for public projects for wetland regeneration. WDC do not attend but possibly should be part of the conversation. Simon advised that Opus were looking at managing water flows as part of the overall management of stormwater at present. It is not straight forward – Simon will provide further information.

The Northland road toll long term statistics place Northland above the average. One of the biggest contributing factor associated is the not wearing of seatbelts. Simon invited members to take that message out to the wider community.

Further detail of the statistics regarding the toll were queried. We don't have the level of information compared to what is available internationally. Simon advised that he has queried the MoT regarding how much analysis has gone into their safety campaigns. Passing lanes do reduce accidents and NZTA are aware of this and support passing lanes but it is more the case of funding these.

There was discussion on the Whangarei Heads road and the number of accidents, including the latest fatal one, occurring on this road. Both the speed and increased volume of traffic were discussed. Locals are trying to influence driver behaviour, both slow and speeding drivers, through social media. The use of pull off lanes was suggested.

Janelle Beazley noted that all our rural roads have issues. The Otaika end of SH15 experiences speeding drivers that have been identified often as locals ignoring signage. Janelle advised that they have a group that sits with NZTA. As leaders within the community this an issue that needs to be raised on a regular basis.

There was a request for a footbridge from the Hub to Pak n Save to improve safety for pedestrians. Simon advised that while looking at improving connectivity to the Town Basin a foot bridge was considered but to comply with standards the bridge would have to be extremely

long and of a zig zag design. If the bridge is a long walk and awkward for pedestrians it would not be used. Staff are working on a connectivity plan.

The total of Customer Request Management Services (CRMs) were nearly 9000 for waste alone in 2018. There were less CRMs than in 2017 but similar to 2016. The higher numbers are as a result of people moving into our district but also the rising bar of customer expectations. Wetter years also create more issues.

## **7. General Business**

Cr Morgan gave an update on the first in 30 years Mangakahia Axeman carnival held on Saturday 9 February 2019 at the Mangakahia Sports Complex. This was a collaborative event between Poroti School, Maungarongo Marae and the Mangakahia Community and Sports Complex. There was good attendance in spite of the rain. The event will run again next year.

Cr Morgan also advised of a fund raising event being held at Pakotai Recreation Centre on 13 April 2019. There will be live music and a hangi. Tickets are \$25.00 each and there is accommodation available at the marae.

Cr Cutforth advised of Whanau at the Falls event which will be held on Saturday 16 March 2019 at the Tikipunga Falls. Whangarei District Council will have a container there to be used as a base to consult with the Tikipunga community on the Annual Plan. Tiki Pride is running the event. Cr Cutforth acknowledged the work undertaken by Kath McKenzie in particular. The Whangarei Harbour Catchment group will be present along with Northland Regional Council staff with focus on water quality especially around the Hatea. This should be a great event this year including food stalls.

Cr Innes noted the Kiwi Release held at Parua Bay on Sunday 17 February 2019 in which about 500 people attended. He also advised that the Bream Head Conservation trust are working towards re-establishing Te Kārearea (NZ Falcon). There has also been a lot of mahi in establishing Petrel fledglings in Bream Head. The trust has a good relationship with Northpower, Northport and Refinery New Zealand. There have been sustainable containers located on Bream Head as the Trust's headquarters. Cr Innes reported that Refinery New Zealand are looking at producing hydrogen and solar as alternative energy sources.

It was noted that a rahui is to be put in place at the Mermaid Pools at Matapouri to give the pools time to recover and to work with the Department of Conservation to come up with a sustainable management plan.

Janelle Beazley noted that it has been announced that Te Matatini 2029 will be held in Whangārei. The committee was well prepared for this bid after



missing out to Christchurch in 2013. This will be a huge event for Whangārei with numbers attending predicted to generate as much or more income as the Rugby World Cup did. Okara Stadium is an option being investigated for holding Te Matatini. It is not just Whangārei but the whole of Tai Tokerau that will benefit from this event. Funding will be sought from the four Councils and iwi. Suggestion was made that a member of the Community Development team attend one of the committee meetings.

Her Worship the Mayor updated the meeting on the signing of the Taitokerau Iwi Chairs Forum and the Northland Mayoral Forum agreement at Waitangi. Her Worship advised she was invited to, and did, speak at Waitangi. Her speech referenced the concerns of hapū around the signing of the agreement and reinforced that Whangārei District Council had resolved not to sign the agreement.

Her Worship noted that the Pacifica Fusion Festival is to be held this Saturday 23 February 2019. Hopefully, attendance will not be effected by the predicted rain.

Her Worship advised that the Annual Plan consultation provides a good opportunity to advise the community what Council is planning for 2019-2020 as well as to seek feedback from the community regarding the direction we are heading, and in which areas they feel may need adjustment. There will not be a lot of scope for change to Council's financial plan. Consultation will provide information on where money is being invested but also on the operational day to day levels of service costs on an annual basis.

Consultation will occur at a number of community events. An innovative container will be used with interactive visual presentations featuring a bicycle being ridden through the district identifying various projects and operations.

A resolution will come to Council's next meeting on Thursday 28 February 2019, to adopt the draft and then formal consultation will take place. A schedule of consultation meetings and community event dates and venues will be provided once the draft has been adopted. Council consultation staff will also meet with Te Huinga on 7 March and attend the 20 March Te Kārearea meeting.

Sandra Hawken queried whether the consultation would include an analysis of value for money for the ratepayers on services provided by Council. It was explained that there are measures and targets that Council are required to measure throughout the Annual Plan. These measures are monitored by customer surveys.

It was stated that a good point had been raised around how we connect with communities and to ensure that they are confident that the district is being governed well. Disgruntled ratepayers can often be the most strident and

decisions could be made on biased opinions if feedback is not received from the whole community. Council's Facebook page and revamped website are useful tools to gather feedback.

**8. Closure of Meeting – Karakia – Takiri Puriri**

The meeting concluded at 11.31am