

MINUTES

RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2021

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Ture Tangata Office
Ihipera-Koria Street
Rātana Pa

Present: Mr Charlie Mete
Mr Lequan Maihana
Mr Charlie Rourangi
Cr Brian Carter
Cr Waru Panapa
His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

In attendance: Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Administrator

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1 Whakamoemiti

Mr Meihana provided the Whakamoemiti and opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number **21/RCB/001**

That the apology for Mr Jamie Nepia be received.

Mr Meihana/Mr Rourangi. Carried

3 Public Forum

Ms Irirangi Wiringi suggested that the speed limit should be lowered along the main road into Ratana, as some vehicles are travelling too quickly, especially down the hill. The Board agreed that the current speed limit (100 kms) was too high, and noted that it is going to be reduced in future to 70 kms along the main road into Ratana, and 40 kms within the pa.

Ms Wiringi asked if there are plans to replace the temporary judder bar along the main road entrance into Ratana. The Board noted that it was difficult to know where to install a permanent judder bar due to the ongoing housing development. It was also noted that it would be difficult to install a concrete judder bar as there is only one road entrance to Ratana, and a concrete installation would require time to set (with no traffic).

Ms Wiringi also raised an issue with lighting down by the field. She regularly finds broken bottles when mowing the lawns, and this could be reduced if the field had sufficient lighting, similar to the lighting at the park. Cr Panapa noted that it was not Council owned land and that the Board will look at marae funding for this.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Mr Mete declared a potential conflict of interest with regards to item 10.3 (Public Toilets). The Mayor acknowledged Mr Mete’s declaration, but advised that in his opinion this did not warrant a conflict of interest.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Item 10.1 (Update on Ratana Playground Project) was unable to be discussed.

Item 10.2 (Maori Wards) was discussed during item 9 (Mayoral Update).

A late item was discussed (alternative venue for future meetings)

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number **21/RCB/002**

That the minutes of the Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 16 February 2021 [without amendment] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Mr Rourangi/Mr Meihana. Carried

7 Follow up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

Mr Mete noted that with regards to item 2 of this report (that the Ratana Community Board be a mediator), he acknowledged Councils decision and stated that he should have worded the original request better.

Cr Panapa noted that the road up to the cemetery has since been gravelled.

Resolved minute number **21/RCB/003**

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings' be received.

Mr Rourangi/Mr Mete. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - 11 May 2021

NZ Community Board conference

Mr Mete provided a verbal report. He attended the NZ Community Board conference. He noted that some of the upcoming changes, especially with regards to Three Waters, are looking gloomy and there is a lack of information.

Wastewater Treatment Upgrades

Mr Mete raised the topic of future wastewater treatment upgrades at Ratana. Currently there is no progress with this as they have been unable to find any suitable land.

Cr Panapa noted that one piece of land had been identified as potentially usable, but they had been forced to abandon this idea as Horizon's Regional Council stated that it was not suitable due to the plants that grow there. There was an indication from Horizon's that the Ministry for Primary

Industries would not allow any development there. The Board discussed the validity of this, and whether any future environmental concerns that may arise due to the lack of wastewater treatment facilities should outweigh current environmental concerns with plants at this site.

The Mayor provided advice to the Board on the consenting process for wastewater treatment. If the current consents expire and no new consents are able to be attained, Ratana could continue discharging but may be subject to repeated fines, at the discretion of Horizon’s Regional Council.

Mr Mete noted that the new housing development is likely to compound this issue. The Mayor stated that in some cases Council is able to negotiate cost-shares for utilities with developers. Mr Mete asked Council to look into this.

Rates Increases

The Board held a hui on 06 May 21 for the community to discuss the draft LTP. A big concern was the rates increases for Ratana ratepayers. The average increase for Ratana was nearer the higher end of rates increases across the district.

The Mayor advised that this was largely due to valuation increases in Ratana, and noted that valuations are based on both land prices and improvements (e.g. houses).

The Board noted that nearby farms are not being subject to the same rates increases. The Mayor advised that rural and urban properties are assessed within different categories across the district – farms have not increased in value to the same degree that urban properties have. There are very few houses for sale in Ratana, and so the valuations for Ratana properties was likely generalised across multiple geographic communities.

Mr Meihana advised the Board that only two ratepayers in the community had applied for a rates rebate. Mr Mete advised that people looked over the eligibility criteria at the hui and many were not eligible. The Board agreed that it would be positive for community members to share this criteria with their neighbours and other community members.

Resolved minute number **21/RCB/004**

That the ‘Chair’s Report – 11 May 2021’ be received.

Mr Mete/Mr Meihana. Carried

9 Mayoral Update

9.1 Mayoral Update - April 2021

Maori Wards

The Mayor provided advice on the process moving forwards for Maori wards. Now that Council has voted to establish a Maori ward, a full representation review will need to take place. Council would

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/006

That the 'Maori Wards' report be received.

Mr Mete/Mr Rourangi. Carried

10.3 Public Toilets

Mr Meihana raised the issue of members of the public being unable to access the public toilets.

Ms Wiringi advised that she has a key and opens the toilets up for visitors if she notices them, as she cleans the toilets on a weekly basis.

The Board discussed the possibility of making a second copy of the key and having it held by Mr Mete's family shop. It was noted that this has been tried several times in the past, but the key gets changed and the problem re-occurs.

The Mayor advised that he will communicate with the Chief Executive to have a look through the contract the Council currently has with the Board regarding the opening hours and ongoing maintenance and cleaning of the toilets. If the contract stipulates the opening hours of the toilets, this should be enforced.

The board agreed that the toilets should be open for public access.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/007

That the 'Public Toilets' report be received.

Mr Rourangi/Mr Mete. Carried

10.4 Cemetery - Access and Signage

The Board noted that the gates to the cemetery should remain locked, unless there is a tangi. This is to prevent unregistered burials. The Board would like increased signage at the cemetery that explains to people how to register with Council for burial plots.

Mr Meihana will follow up on this.

The Board also discussed the underground scanning that had been done at the cemetery. This had helped individuals locate their family members and was well received by the community.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/008

That the 'Cemetery – Access and Signage' report be received.

Mr Rourangi/Mr Meihana. Carried

10.5 Frequency of Meetings

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ratana Community Board held on 10 August 2021.

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Chairperson