

MINUTES

RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 5 October 2021

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Ture Tangata Office
Ihipera-Koria Street
Rātana Pa

Present

- Mr Charlie Mete
- Mr Jamie Nepia
- Mr Lequan Meihana
- Mr Charlie Rourangi
- Mrs Soraya Peke-Mason (TRAK representative)
- Cr Waru Panapa
- HWTM Andy Watson

In attendance

- Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
- Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager – Democracy and Planning
- Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

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1 Whakamoemiti

The meeting opened at 6.32 pm. Cr Panapa read the whakamoemiti.

Mr Benadie and Mrs Gordon introduced themselves to the Board.

2 Apologies

Nil.

3 Public Forum

No Public Forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Item 11.2 (Possibility of Rezoning the Boundary Lines of the Ratana Community Board) was discussed after item 10.1 and before item 10.2.

Item 10.5 (Late Item – Land Purchase for Ratana Cemetery Extension) was discussed after item 11.3 and before the other two late items (12.1 and 12.2).

Three late items were discussed at the meeting:

1. Land Purchase for Ratana Cemetery Extension (Item 10.5)
2. Road Names (Item 12.1)
3. Flooding in the Village (Item 12.2)

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/022

That the minutes of Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 10 August 2021, as amended, be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Amendments:

Mr Meihana and HWTM were recorded as present, however they did not attend the meeting.

Item 4.1 Ratana Playground Group: Josephine Renata's last name was spelt incorrectly. It should be 'Renata', not Ratana.

Mr L Meihana/Mr C Rourangi. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings

The Board requested that the item regarding Seamer Street and Rangatahi Road kerb and channel installation remain as a standing follow-up action, with any new updates to be provided for future meetings.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/023

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings' be received.

Mr J Nepia/Mr C Rourangi. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - October 2021

The Board discussed whether non-residents should be charged extra for purchasing plots at the cemetery.

The locks at the toilet block have been replaced, and both shop owners have a key.

Ms Peke-Mason advised that work on the Ratana Playground will begin in the new year.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/024

That the 'Chair's Report – October 2021' be received.

Cr W Panapa/Mr L Meihana. Carried

9 Mayoral Update

9.1 Mayoral Update - September 2021

Three Waters

The Mayor advised that public feedback on Three Waters was overwhelmingly negative, with most respondents expressing an opinion against the reform proposals. Some of the common concerns were:

- Whether the new water entity would treat the Rangitikei with any priority (as we are a small district compared to others within the entity boundaries),
- Respondents not wanting Council to relinquish control of our water assets, and
- Disagreement with the proposed co-governance model between the entity board and iwi.

Forestry

Regarding the forestry letter from the Tararua and Wairoa District Council's, Ms Peke-Mason advised that this is particularly relevant as there is a lot of forestry in this area. There are strong incentives for landowners to invest in carbon credits, but there is a lack of consideration about what will happen to the trees on these plantation blocks in the future.

Landlocked Land

The Mayor advised that this is a tricky issue as there are often competing claims about which iwi are the mana whenua of certain areas of land. Additionally, a lot of landlocked land is under control of the Crown and the tribunal will need to rule on whether the Crown should open up access ways to landlocked parcels of land.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/025

That the Mayoral Update – September 2021 be received.

Mr L Meihana/Mr C Rourangi. Carried

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Community-led Development of Council Owned Facility Guide

The Board received this guide positively, noting that it will be useful for future projects.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/026

That the report 'Community-Led Development of Council Owned Facilities Guide', including the attachment, to the Ratana Community Board 5 October 2021 meeting be received.

Mr J Nepia/Mr C Rourangi. Carried

10.2 Representation Review 2021 - Initial Proposal

The Mayor encouraged the Board to make a submission and proposed three questions that they may want to consider:

- Whether there should continue to be a Ratana Community Board,
- Whether there should be Maori wards, and
- Where the boundary line between the two proposed Maori wards is appropriate.

Mrs Gordon advised that there were electoral restrictions regarding the boundary line, with each ward needing to have a certain percentage of the included population on the Maori electoral roll in order to ensure fair representation.

The Board agreed that the Ratana Community Board should remain and agreed there should be Maori wards, although there was some discussion around whether there should be one or two Maori wards. The Board agreed to write a submission to Council following the meeting.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/027

That the report 'Representation Review 2021 - Initial Proposal' be received.

Mr L Meihana/Mr J Nepia. Carried

10.3 Funding Schemes Update - October 2021

Taken as read.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/028

That the Funding Schemes Update – October 2021 be received.

Mr C Mete/Mr C Rourangi. Carried

10.4 Change to Collection of Payments for Council

Mrs Gordon thanked Josephine Hotu on behalf of Council staff for her assistance in providing a payment service for rates payments. She noted that there were two users of this service within the last 18 month period. From 01 January 2022, rates payments will no longer be able to be made through Josephine Hotu's shop.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/029

That the report 'Change to Collection of Payments for Council' be received.

Mr L Meihana/Mr C Mete. Carried

10.5 Late Item - Land Purchase for Ratana Cemetery Extension

This report was tabled in the meeting. Mr Benadie advised that in his opinion this proposal was an ideal solution to address capacity concerns at the current cemetery. There isn't a formal easement over the current site and staff are trying to formalise the existing access.

Mr Nepia requested that staff consider providing better facilities for volunteers who dig new plots. Mr Benadie advised that staff will consider this during the design.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/030

That the Late Item "Land Purchase Ratana Cemetery Extension" be received.

Mr L Meihana/Mr J Nepia. Carried

11 Discussion Items

11.1 Request Regarding Discretionary Fund for Ratana Community Board

Mrs Gordon provided some clarity around the Small Projects Fund for the Ratana Community Board. During the 2009-2019 Long Term Plan, it was proposed that a discretionary fund of \$5,000 be made available for both the Taihape and Ratana Community Boards. Taihape agreed, but Ratana did not, due to the funding mechanism for the fund being through a targeted rate to residents. The Ratana Community Board of the time stated that they would undertake consultation with residents during year 2 of the 2009-2019 Long Term Plan, but it appears that this did not take place.

Mrs Gordon advised that Council could consider a nominal fund for the Ratana Community Board to cover the remainder of the 2021-22 year, and then consider a more permanent solution during the 2022-2023 Annual Plan process. A recommendation to this effect was made below.

Ms Peke-Mason asked if Ratana residents contribute towards the Turakina Community Committee's Small Projects Fund. Mrs Gordon believed that they do, but she will double check this.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/031

That Council provide the Ratana Community Board with a discretionary fund of \$500 for the 2021/22 year, recognising that any future fund needs to be considered as part of the 2022/23 Annual Plan.

Mr L Meihana/Mr J Nepia. Carried

11.2 Possibility of Rezoning the Boundary Lines of the Ratana Community Board

The Board discussed the current zoning of the Ratana Community Board, noting that several houses in the Pā currently sit outside of the zone. The Board asked staff if these properties outside of the boundary are connected to the Ratana infrastructure (e.g. water) and whether the new developments would exceed the current water facility. Mr Benadie advised that there will be enough capacity with regards to drinking water and wastewater. Mrs Gordon advised that staff will look into the boundary lines and confirm exactly which properties are excluded. She also advised that Council could approach Stats NZ to consider a re-zoning, but that this would not be able to be finalised until the election cycle in 2025.

Resolved minute number 21/RCB/032

The Ratana Community Board recommends that Council approach Statistics NZ and request that they reconsider the Ratana Community ward boundary line.

Mr L Meihana/Mr J Nepia. Carried

11.3 Alternative Venue for Future Meetings

The Board agreed that they would not hold meetings during a tangi and that as a general rule, they would cancel any future meetings that cannot be held. Staff advised that they were happy to allow the Board to hold meetings at Council Chambers, if the need arose.

12 Late Items

12.1 Late Item - Road Names

Ms Peke-Mason queried who was responsible for naming new streets. The Mayor advised that this sits with the Board.

Mr Meihana noted that the new housing development at the back of the Pā may have a new street, but that this will be outside of the Ratana Community Board area under the current boundary lines. The Mayor noted that in this case, the street naming would sit with Council for a decision. In these cases, Council would generally be open to a name suggestion from a housing developer.

12.2 Late Item - Flooding in the Village

Cr Panapa raised an issue of flooding along Taitokorau Street, and whether further culverts along the back of the houses would allow water to flow better. He also queried if the new housing developments would be likely to compound the issue of flooding in the future. Mr Benadie advised that the upper housing development has a retention area for stormwater. He further advised that unfortunately it was impossible to build stormwater capacities for all possible storm events, as this would be cost-prohibitive. The current NZ standard is to create pipes that can accommodate a “1 in 10 year rain event” – any event more serious than this would overwhelm stormwater capacities and could result in flooding. He will double check with the housing developers that all stormwater considerations have been included in the design process. He also clarified that the new housing developments would not result in greater levels of flooding – they would be neutral to pre-existing levels of water volume.

The meeting closed at 8.57 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ratana Community Board held on 7 December 2021.

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Chairperson