

ORDER PAPER

RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 10 February 2026

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Rātana ICT Hub
4 Taihauauru Street
Rātana Pa

Chair: Mr Charlie Mete

Deputy Chair: Mr Jason Hihira

Membership: Ms Grace Taiaroa
Ms Ruthie Lawrence
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
HWTM Andy Watson

For any enquiries regarding this agenda, please contact:

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Notice is hereby given that a Rātana Community Board Meeting of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the Ture Tangata Office, Ihipera-Koria Street, Rātana Pa on Tuesday, 10 February 2026 at 6.30pm.

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AGENDA

1 Whakamoemiti

2 Apologies

3 Public Forum

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, [enter item number](#) be dealt as a late item at this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The minutes from **Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 25 November 2025** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Rātana Community Board Meeting - 25 November 2025**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 25 November 2025 [**as amended/without amendment**] 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.

MINUTES



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

UNCONFIRMED: RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 25 November 2025

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Ture Tangata Office
Ihipera-Koria Street
Rātana Pa

Present

Mr Jason Hihira
Ms Ruthie Lawrence
Ms Grace Taiaroa
Mr Charlie Mete
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
HWTM Andy Watson

In attendance

Mrs Carol Gordon, Chief Executive
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor
Ms Melanie Bovey, Heritage, Culture and Committee Support Officer

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1 Whakamoemiti

Ms Taiaroa spoke the whakamoemiti and the hui opened at 6.31pm.

2 Apologies

There were no apologies received.

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Follow up Action Items from Previous Meetings

6.1 Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/019

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

Ms G Taiaroa/Mr C Mete. Carried

7 Reports for Decision

7.1 Declaration by Ratana Community Board members

The declarations were taken in this order.

- Ruthie Lawerance
- Grace Taiaroa
- Jason Hihira
- Charlie Mete

7.2 Election of Chair and Deputy Chair - Ratana Community Board

Chairmanship moved to Mr Mete after this item.

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/020

That the Ratana Community Board, for the purpose of electing or appointing persons under Clause 25, adopt System B.

Mr C Mete/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/021

That Charlie Mete be appointed Chair of the Ratana Community Board.

Ms G Taiaroa/Ms R Lawrence. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/022

That Jason Hihira be appointed Deputy Chair of the Ratana Community Board.

Ms G Taiaroa/Ms R Lawrence. Carried

7.3 Ratana Community's Representative for Te Rōpū Ahi Kā

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/023

That the report Ratana Community's Representative for Te Rōpū Ahi Kā be received.

Mr C Mete/Mr J Hihira. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/024

That Grace Taiaroa be nominated as the Ratana community's representative on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā for the 2025-28 triennium.

Mr C Mete/Mr J Hihira. Carried

7.4 First Meeting of the Ratana Community Board

The meetings will be held at the Ratana ICT Hub for the coming year.

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/025

That the report First Meeting of the Ratana Community Board be received.

Mr J Hihira/Mr C Mete. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/026

That the first meeting of the Ratana Community Board be held on Tuesday, 10 February 2026 at 6.30pm.

Mr C Mete/Mr J Hihira. Carried

8 Reports for Information

8.1 Laws Affecting Elected Members (Including Ratana Community Board Members)

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/027

That Laws Affecting Elected Members (Including Ratana Community Board members), be received and the information noted.

Ms G Taiaroa/Mr J Hihira. Carried

8.2 Code of Conduct and Standing Orders

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/028

That the report Code of Conduct and Standing Orders be received.

Mr C Mete/Mr J Hihira. Carried

8.3 General Business.

Rātana Cemetery – Lawn Cemetery

A request from a member for a concrete slab on a grave was referred to the Rātana Communal Board. The Board were concerned that once permitted, this could become the norm.

Local Government

Prior to the board meeting it was announced on the news that there were potentially major changes for Regional Councils. It was acknowledged that there were still a number of questions regarding this.

Ongoing odour

There was a discussion from the Board about an issue with the nearby farm regarding the smell. Ms Bovey undertook to circulate contact details for Horizons Regional Council.

Resolved minute number 25/RCB/029

That the Ratana Community Board strongly supports the Ratana cemetery continues to be a lawn cemetery.

Mr C Mete/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

The meeting closed at 7.41pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ratana Community Board held on the 10 February 26.

.....
Chairperson

Unconfirmed

ITEM 7.1**7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings****7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings**

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Ratana Community Board meetings. Items indicate who is responsible for follow up, and a brief status comment.

2. Decision Making Process

- 2.1 Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision-making provisions do not apply.

Attachments:

1. **Follow-up Actions Register** [↓](#)

Recommendation

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

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	08-Oct-24	Corrosion of the road at the intersection entering Ratana	Mel Bovey/Darryn Black	Ms Bovey undertook at the last meeting to look into this. This has been notified to NZTA	In progress
2	12-Dec-23	Speed bump on the road coming into Ratana has not been replaced- what has happened?	Roading team	RFS 2403615- The roading team is trying to find something that will stick without being worn away fast.	In progress
3	05-Oct-21	<p>With regards to the Ratana Cemetery Extension: Staff to consider providing better facilities for volunteers who dig new plots.</p> <p>Update 08 Feb 22: The Board clarified that the request was for water access, for both contractors and visitors. The Board advised that they would like a water source that is aesthetically pleasing (i.e., not just a tap in a post).</p> <p>Update 09 Aug 22: The Board asked that this be reconsidered, as the owner of the adjacent farm has given verbal approval for the existing water line on his property to be used (the water does not need to be drinkable). Ms Bovey undertook to follow-up on this request.</p>	Mel Bovey / Arno Benadie	This request is being investigated by the Parks Team who will look at potential options in conjunction with a similar request from Taihape residents for their cemetery. This is being done across the District as part of the Long Term Plan.	In progress

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8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - February 2026

Author: Charlie Mete, Chair

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 A verbal report will be provided during the meeting.

Recommendation

That the Chair's Report – February 2026 be received.

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Mayor's Report - December 2025

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

Good afternoon

Council is starting to wind down a little towards Christmas, however there is still so much happening and crucial decisions to be made. The new Councillors' commitment to workshops, training and meetings throughout the district has been incredible and I thank them.

Government continues to make many significant changes with the promise of more to come before Christmas. Cynically, I would suggest that the changes made before Christmas, especially for those that need consultation, is a deliberate ploy to put them out now so that the consultation period includes the holiday break. There are a number of things I wish to comment on and hopefully I will know more as legislation is being drafted allowing me to expand on later.

1. **Changes to Regional Councils** – for some time several Government ministers and officials including the Prime Minister have hinted about the need to look at Regional Councils with indications of possible changes. This is what I think we know at this stage –

- Minister Bishop has announced that Regional Council Governorship will be replaced by the Mayors in some form of regional body.
- This is not law yet and we have yet to see detail.
- Timeframe – the Minister has said that recently elected councillors to Regional Councils may not serve their entire time, so this appears to be fast-tracked.
- Regional Councils are a regulatory body covering such things as compliance to matters involving the environment, flood control, pest control, public transport, Regional Civil Defence functions and many other roles. Presumably all of these functions will move to the "Mayors" to govern but will remain in place.
- There are a number of Regional Councils facing court action and possible claims arising from such things as flood events etc. It would be concerning to me if the responsibility for these passes to ours and other councils.
- Staffing should remain however the Government has also suggested some of the changes should remove duplication, gain efficiencies and enable a faster track to consenting.
- This comes at a time when Councils are facing changes to many other reforms.

2 **Indications of other major reforms:**

- Local Water Done Well (LWDW) and the supporting of new regional entities. As I have reported several times, we are one of the new regional entities to deliver waste water services, water and storm water with Palmerston North City and Horowhenua District

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Councils. That work is on track but has significant work ahead over the Christmas period. The shareholders committee should be put in place by the three Councils over the next few days and is highlighted within this Council meeting. The search for Board membership is in place now and should be finalised early next year.

- The reform of the RMA (Resource Management Act) is a process that is known but as a reminder, “The Government is reforming the RMA to make it easier, faster and simpler to get projects approved. The goals are to remove complexity, improve environmental protection and support housing and infrastructural growth”. The RMA will be replaced by two new acts, which concern land use planning and natural resource management with a focus on the enjoyment of private property rights. These acts include the standardisation of consenting approaches throughout the country and new regulatory bodies. Essentially development should be easier but with an aim to reduce costs, fast track consents and drive GDP growth.
- Government has announced the Local Government Systems Improvement Act. This bill seeks to return Local Government to limit Councils’ spending and rates to core services. There is more to this bill and the description of what are core services is not complete. For example, does Council have a responsibility for employment? Perhaps not under the bill but at the same time Government has asked Local Government through the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs to find work for those on unemployment registers. There will also be, as part of the bill, a naming and shaming of Councils that are not performing.
- The Government has also signalled changes needed in roading with a move to regional roading entities.
- Government has too signalled the introduction of a rates pegging legislation which will limit the ability of rate increases by authorities in the future. Key points are –
 - i) Legislation is yet to be passed but it is indicated that it will apply from 2027/2029 on.
 - ii) The Minister for Local Government has said that although legislation will be from 2027 his expectation, and public demand, is that Councils should comply with this immediately, i.e. the Annual Plan for next year.
 - iii) Some sections of Local Government rates will be exempt, such as delivery of Three Waters services, which will mean that the picture is not quite clear yet where it will apply and hence the average increase right across all Council rates.
 - iv) The legislation will support a range of rate increases permitted, at present looking to be a band between 2-4% increases.
 - v) There will be an appeal process, for example a significant event such as Cyclone Gabrielle, but the threshold for appeal will be extremely high.
 - vi) The 2-4% range was selected by reference to the CPI (Price Index) sitting around 3.5%. I will note that roading cost increases which are the significant cost to our Council are well beyond that in recent years.

- vii) Councillors and staff will continue to look to make rates affordable and will certainly look to comply. Inevitably the consequence may be increased charges and lower levels of service. This will be incredibly challenging for all Councils.

All of these reforms, in particular the Regional Council reforms, Water reforms and RMA will drive Councils towards amalgamation. Government has said that talks of possible Council amalgamations are not being forced but that is the likely outcome. Amalgamation will undoubtedly gain efficiency and the argument often repeated by Government that we have about 80 authorities for a small population while Japan has about 13? is valid. However, the outcome from amalgamation is loss of local voice.

3. **Roading** - as part of the induction for new Councillors, Council roading staff, Downer contractors, the Chief Executive and Elected Members took part in a road trip to look at significant roading issues in our district. With reduced funding available, maintenance of our roads is a serious challenge. In particular the Gentle Annie Road running between Taihape and Hastings needs significant reinstatement and resealing work over the summer amounting to around \$3.5m. This needed expenditure will limit spend on other required roading issues in the district. Much of the damage is associated with forestry cartage and I am in discussions with commercial interests and rail to see if I can review the log train contract due to expire at the end of January. I will report back on this later in the new year.

4. In August I received an email from Sandy Paterson, Company Sergeant Major of 2nd Workshop Company located in Linton, Palmerston North. Part of Sandy's job is taking care of the history of the unit and ensuring all traditions are carried out. Sandy informed me that the Corps of Royal New Zealand Electrical and Mechanical Engineers currently hold the Freedom of the Borough for Taihape which allows them the honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Borough with drums beating, band playing, colours flying and swords drawn. It also imparts the honour of viewing and inspecting the Corps on the Mayor.

In 1997 the Royal New Zealand Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers was disbanded, and all Maintenance Support trades were merged with those of Combat Drivers, Logistic Specialists, Movements Operators, and Caterers, forming the Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Corps, RNZALR. The charter for the freedom of the borough of Taihape was not transferred to the RNZALR and the last parade was conducted in 1996 or 1997.

Sandy believes the 2nd Workshop Company, as part of 2nd Combat Service Support Battalion and the RNZALR is the best unit to transfer this charter to. They have strong ties with the community of Taihape, parading at ANZAC Day commemorations and engaging with the community through the local RSA.

With the above in mind, Sandy has requested if Council would consider transferring the charter for the freedom of the borough of Taihape to 2nd Workshop Company. This would formalise the relationship between us and allow the company to conduct a parade in Taihape either once a year or once every second-year dependant on the council's appetite for formal occasions.

I have attached a series of documents and photographs to this report.

5. **The Tornado** – earlier this month we had a localised tornado hit Dudding Lake. One caravan in particular was lifted into the air and dropped upside down with a person inside. He was very fortunate to escape with relatively minor issues. Other caravans were lifted, small buildings demolished and many trees uprooted or damaged. Power sources to the camp were also lost.

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Carol our Chief Executive has acted quickly and the camp was restored over a couple of days – many thanks go to staff, Lance and Tiff onsite and contractors who worked hard to reinstate. I have included some images to illustrate the damage.

6. Onto some great news –

- The Marton Op Shop is currently I think, at the time of writing this report, in the race to be called The Best Op Shop in the Country. Of course they are!! Voting will have closed on Saturday 13 December but I have looked at how I could promote this through Facebook before the deadline. The Op Shop is largely serviced by volunteers, donations and governed by church and service groups etc. The service the Op Shop provides is amazing, so please support them. Drop them a card to say Merry Christmas – it will be appreciated.
- The Tender Documents have been sent out for the roof replacement of the Marton Pool with expected decisions early in the new year. This is great news and a significant step forward. Yes, it will mean another summer without the pool and Council will see how we can support local Learn To Swim programmes etc.
- The next fortnight is full of local events such as Christmas Parades, Marton Market Day, school prizegivings and wind-ups and myself and Councillors will be at as many as possible. I understand that the Op Shop is also looking to sell tickets to the Marton Christmas Community Lunch this year – I have yet to see details but of course I will look to support it this year.

Finally, in case I don't get a chance later – Councillors and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, travel safely.

Mayor's Engagements

December 2025

1	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Joint Iwi Waste Water Standards Hui</p> <p>Attended 3-CL Mayors/CEs meeting with Waikato/Hawkes Bay Councils to discuss water entities</p> <p>Attended Regional Mayors/CEs meeting</p> <p>Attended Mayoral Forum</p>
2	<p>Attended Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Regional Transport Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Erehon Rural Water Scheme Meeting</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
3	<p>Attended fortnightly Marton Water Strategy meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended Council Workshop</p>

4	Attended Rooding Control Authority Forum in Wellington
5	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended MTFJ meeting with James Towers and Louise McCoard Attended Standing Orders Training Workshop Attended meeting with Taihape Station Owners
6	Attended Marton Market Day Attended FENZ Gold Star Presentation to Chris Hope
7	Attended Otiwhiti Graduation Ceremony Attended RSA Christmas Lunch Attended Marton Christmas Parade
8	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended Hunterville Rural Water Scheme Meeting
9	Attended meeting with Robert Martin Attended MTFJ Mayor's Update online meeting Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
10	Attended monthly Governor's Q&A session with Executive Leadership Team Attended Crown Response into Abuse in Care Team Webinar - Survivor Support and Recognition Fund for Unmarked Graves
11	Attended Council Induction and Workshop Attended Council Meeting
12	To attend meeting with Chief Executive To attend monthly meeting with Police To attend Marton School Prizegiving To attend Council End of Year Function
13	To attend Taihape Christmas Parade To attend Bulls Community Christmas at the Domain
15	To attend meeting with Chief Executive To attend MTFJ Governance Group online meeting
16	To attend Regional Transport Matters Regional Chiefs' fortnightly catch-up To attend Citizenship Ceremony To attend weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor To attend Defence Hub End of Year Function
17	To attend fortnightly Marton Water Strategy meeting with staff
18	To attend Council Workshop
19	To attend meeting with Chief Executive To attend CDW meeting in Palmerston North To attend staff End of Year function

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22	To attend meeting with Chief Executive
23	To attend weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
24	To attend Hunterville Christmas Parade
25	To attend Marton Community Christmas Lunch

Attachments:

1. Freedom of the Borough of Taihape - letter of request [↓](#)
2. Freedom of the Borough of Taihape - letter from Buckingham Palace [↓](#)
3. Freedom of the Borough of Taihape - historical photographs [↓](#)
4. Freedom of the Borough of Taihape - Charter [↓](#)
5. Dudding Lake Pic 1 [↓](#)
6. Dudding Lake Pic 2 [↓](#)
7. Dudding Lake Pic 3 [↓](#)
8. Dudding Lake Pic 4 [↓](#)
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14. Dudding Lake Pic 10 [↓](#)
15. Dudding Lake Pic 11 [↓](#)
16. Dudding Lake Pic 12 [↓](#)

Recommendation 1

That the Mayor's Report – December 2025 be received.



Farrier Lines
Building D76
Linton Military Camp
Palmerston north, 4830

From: Company Sergeant Major, 2nd Workshop Company.

19 November 2025

Rangitikei District Council
Private Bag 1102
Marton, 4741

Dear Members of the Rangitikei District Council

Reconfirmation of the Freedom of the Borough Charter for Taihape

In 1973, the Royal New Zealand Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RNZEME) was granted the Freedom of the Borough of Taihape, with the Corps first exercising this honour during a parade on 14 December 1973.

Following the amalgamation of RNZEME into the Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Regiment (RNZALR) and the restructuring of local governance—where Taihape Borough became part of the Rangitikei District Council—the charter has not been exercised since approximately 1996.

2nd Workshop Company (2 WKSP Coy), based in Linton, recently engaged with Rangitikei District Council to clarify the status of this historic charter. Having not been exercised for nearly 30 years, we see this as an opportunity to reaffirm the enduring relationship between the New Zealand Army and the Rangitikei District, and to honour the historical significance of this tradition.

Permission is being sought from the Chief of Army for approval to reconfirm the Freedom of the Borough of Taihape and this letter serves to request the same from Rangitikei District Council. On approval planning can begin on the formal ceremony and details of the charter.

With the council's permission, the suggested form of resolution to be passed by the council, as outlined in the NZ Army publication NZ P6A, NZ Army Ceremonial, would look like the below.

“That in appreciation of the honourable traditions of the Second Workshop Company and recognition of its long and intimate association with the Borough of Taihape the Council confer upon the Second Workshop Company the rights, privilege, and honour of marching through the streets of Taihape on all ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating, and colours flying ; that the Corporate Seal be affixed to the necessary Deed of Grant and that the name of the second Workshop Company be inscribed on a panel in the Town Hall.”

This reference also contains the format for the Charter outlined below.

(Crest)

Community of Taihape

Charter

Second Workshop Company

WHEREAS the Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of Taihape being sensible of the honourable record and traditions of the Second Workshop Company and being desirous of recognising, cementing, and fostering the intimate association which is now and has for so long been enjoyed between the City and the Company in which so many of its citizens have been proud to serve.

NOW THEREFORE the Mayor and Councillors of the Rangitikei District Council, on behalf of the borough of Taihape, do hereby confer upon the said Second Workshop Company the right and privilege, without further permission being obtained, of marching (when such processions are approved) with drums beating, band playing, colours flying, bayonets fixed, and swords drawn, through the streets of the Town of Taihape

AND

DO HEREBY accept the honour of viewing the Second Workshop Company or part thereof, when approved, for the purpose of an inspection by His/Her Worship the Mayor

AND

DO HEREBY accept the further honour of having an officer of the said Company in uniform in attendance upon His/Her Worship the Mayor on important official occasions in Taihape.

The Common Seal of the Body)

Corporate called the Mayor,)

Councillors, and Citizens of)

the *City of Blanktown* was) Mayor

hereto affixed pursuant to a)

resolution of the said) Town Clerk

Council this)

day of20.....)

in the presence of -

I attach at enclosure 1. A photo of the charter of Foxton as an example.

On approval from the Rangitikei District Council and the Chief of Army, 2nd Workshop Company will engage with the council in order to begin planning of the formal ceremony to bestow the charter.

A rough outline would look like 2nd Workshop Company marching through the main road of Taihape to the front of the town hall. Once in place the Company will give a general salute then be inspected by the Mayor and a senior representative of the NZ Army. On completion of the inspection the mayor will ask 2nd Workshop to accept the charter conferring on it the honour of freedom of entry into the borough on ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating, and colours flying. The charter will then be read. The Company will once again give a general salute then march off. The ceremony will take less than half an hour.

On approval of the above 2nd Workshop Company look forward to engaging with the council and members of the community of Taihape and reaffirming our relationship with the community.

Kind regards

Sandy Paterson
Digitally signed by
Sandy Paterson
Date: 2025.11.26
12:08:27 +13'00'

SANDY PATERSON

Warrant Officer Class Two
Company Sergeant Major

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

I am delighted to hear that the relationships between the Corps and the citizens of Taihape are so good that they are to receive formal recognition in the offer of the Freedom of the Borough.

I send my warmest congratulations to the Corps of Royal New Zealand Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and I hope it will be a very happy occasion for the Corps and for the citizens of Taihape.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Philip', is written in a cursive style.

1973.



FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH
TAIHAPE
6 December 1985

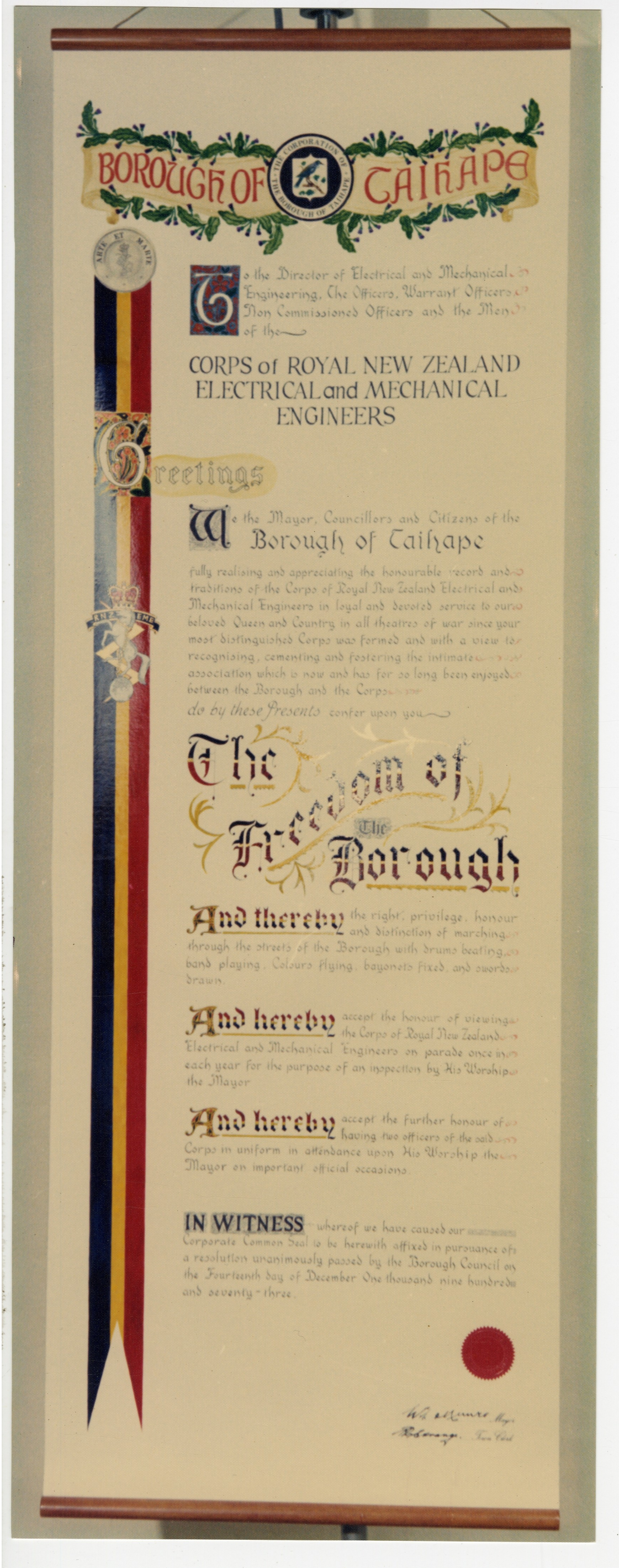


PARADE COMMANDER: MAJ D.J. MOWAT
 2IC: CAPT H.P. SEBBORN
 RSM: WOI A.R. BAKER

CHARTER BEARER: 2LT M.T. WILLIAMS
 ESCORTS: WOI C.P. DAVIS
 WOI M. ALTY

PLATOON COMMANDERS: 2LT A.E. COE
 2LT A.D. McLEAN
 2LT F.J. RZOSKA

MARIA GALLERY
PHONE 58-381
38 TAUPU QUAY
WANGANUI.





ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 6





ITEM 9.1
ATTACHMENT 8



ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 10





ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 12





ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 14





ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 16



9.2 Update on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti

Author: Grace Taiaroa, TRAK Member

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 A verbal report will be provided during the meeting.

Recommendation

That the Update on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti be received.

ITEM 9.3**9.3 Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project - Update**

Author: Arno Benadie, Deputy Chief Executive

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 This update has been extracted from the Project Management Office report that was provided to Council.
- 1.2 It is provided here for the Board's information.

2. Rātana Wastewater Discharge to Land (Project Manager – Steve Carne)

- 2.1 The project is in a holding pattern awaiting approval to proceed with track pricing and hard stand construction, needed to enable the pipe materials to be delivered. Work on designing the large dam that will store the treated wastewater, up to Building Consent status, continues with WSP and external experts.
- 2.2 A pre-hearing meeting with all three submitters to the new Ratana consent was held at Horizons Regional Council. A full hearing date has not been set yet.
- 2.3 Investigation of the engineering feasibility of an alternative arrangement involving long distance pumping of Ratana effluent to the new Whanganui District Council / Kaitoke Prison wastewater connection is almost complete.
- 2.4 The estimated cost of this alternative solution is \$4.6M which is approximately 60% of the estimate of the previously adopted solution.
- 2.5 A second alternative of reticulating Koitiata and receiving flows at Koitiata from Ratana and discharging these flows via a small ocean outfall at Koitiata is also being considered for its engineering feasibility and costs.

Recommendation

That the Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project – Update be received.

9.4 Funding Schemes Update - February 2026

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Overview

- 1.1 Council currently administers four funding schemes for the Rangitikei District, these are:
- Community Initiatives Fund
 - Events Sponsorship Scheme
 - Creative Communities Scheme
 - Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

2. Community Initiatives Fund

- 2.1 This is a Council fund intended to support community-based projects in the Rangitikei District that develop community cohesion and community resilience.
- 2.2 Council allocated \$30,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 2.3 Decision was made at the Community Grants Committee meeting on the 11 September 25 to allocate the funding to the below groups:
- Scotts Ferry Community Committee
 - Marton Returned Services Association (Incorporated)
 - Alzheimer's Whanganui
 - Scout Association of New Zealand
 - The Parkinson's New Zealand Charitable trust
 - Itty bitty kitty committee
 - Cancer Society of NZ Whanganui Rangitikei Waimarino Centre Inc
 - Taihape Art Club (Society)
 - Manawatu Multiple Sclerosis Society Incorporated
 - Marton & Surrounds ICT Hub Charitable Trust Board
 - Marton & District Historical Society Incorporated
- 2.4 Round 2 2025/26 is now open and closes on 31 March with the decision date the 30 April 26.

3. Events Support Scheme

- 3.1 This is a Council fund intended to support events in the district that help to develop community cohesion and reinforce economic growth.
- 3.2 Council has allocated \$25,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 3.3 Decision was made at the Community Grants Committee meeting on the 11 September 25 to allocate the funding to the below groups:
- Hunterville Huntaway Festival
 - Hunterville Squash Racquets Club Inc
 - Bulls & District Community Trust
 - Marton Country Music Festival

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- Marton Arts & Crafts Centre
- Opaea Marae
- Rangitikei Shearing Sports Inc
- Taihape Dressage
- Taihape Area Show Jumping

3.4 Round 2 2025/26 is now open and closes on 31 March with the decision date the 30 April 26.

4. Creative Communities Scheme

4.1 This fund is supplied by Creative NZ and administered by Council. Applications are encouraged from community groups and individuals whose projects:

- Demonstrate growth over time
- Develop and support local artistic communities
- Encourage a transfer of artistic skills
- Support diversity and inclusion
- Projects with a youth focus are also encouraged

4.2 Creative NZ has allocated \$24,397.80 + GST to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis, and this is distributed across two separate funding rounds.

4.3 Decisions for round one for 2025/26 were made on the 12 November 25 and below are the successful groups.

- RuapehuREAP - He Taonga Tuku Iho - Korowai Wānanga
- Bulls & District Community Trust - Bulls 148th Annual Rose Show
- Art4Arts Sake 2026
- Flynn's Celtic Strings
- Beautify Bulls - Bulls Rugby Club Mural
- Turakina Caledonian Society Incorporated

4.4 Round 2 2025/26 is now open and closes on 30 April with the decision date the 20 May 26.

5. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

5.1 This fund is supplied by Sport NZ and administered by Council. The fund is targeted at young people aged between 5 and 19 years and is open to rural sport club teams and rural school club teams with eligible members who require subsidies to assist with transport expenses to local sporting competitions.

5.2 Sport NZ allocated \$9,500 (+ GST) to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis. There is one funding round per year.

5.3 The round will be opened 11 August 25 and will close 29 March 2026. Decision will be made by the Sport NZ Travel Committee in April 2026.

6. Further Information

6.1 More details about these funding opportunities can be found on the Council website (link below) and this is also where applications can be submitted:

<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/community/grants-funding>

Recommendation

That the Funding Schemes Update – February 2026 be received.

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10 Discussion Items

10.1 Next agenda

Author: **Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor**

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 Opportunity for the Board to propose items for inclusion on the agenda.

Recommendation

If needed:

11 Meeting Closed.