

# ORDER PAPER

## TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

**Date:** Wednesday, 15 December 2021

**Time:** 5.30 pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber  
Taihape Town Hall  
90 Hautapu Street  
Taihape

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**Chair:** Mrs Ann Abernethy

**Deputy Chair:** Ms Michelle Fannin

**Membership:** Ms Emma Abernethy  
Ms Gail Larsen  
Cr Angus Gordon  
Cr Tracey Hiroa  
Cr Gill Duncan  
HWTM Andy Watson

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**Notice is hereby given that a Taihape Community Board Meeting of the Rangitikei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Taihape Town Hall, 90 Hautapu Street, Taihape on Wednesday, 15 December 2021 at 5.30 pm.**

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## **AGENDA**

### **1 Welcome**

### **2 Apologies**

### **3 Public Forum**

No 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:** Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

#### 1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The minutes from **Taihape Community Board Meeting on 6 October 2021** are attached.

#### Attachments

1. **Taihape Community Board Meeting - 6 October 2021**

#### Recommendation

That the minutes of the Taihape Community Board meeting minutes held on 6 October 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.

# MINUTES



**RANGITIKEI**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
*Making this place home.*

## **UNCONFIRMED: TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING**

**Date:** Wednesday, 6 October 2021

**Time:** 5.30 pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber  
Taihape Town Hall  
90 Hautapu Street  
Taihape

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**Present** Ms Michelle Fannin  
Ms Emma Abernethy  
Ms Gail Larsen  
Cr Angus Gordon  
Cr Gill Duncan  
HWTM Andy Watson

**In attendance** Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services  
Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner  
Ms Jen Britton, Strategic Advisor – District Promotions  
Ms Dawn Hesketh, Community Services Officer

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## 1 Welcome

Ms Michelle Fannin took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2 Apologies

**Resolved minute number** 21/TCB/022

That the apology from Mrs Ann Abernethy be received.

Ms G Larsen/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

## 3 Public Forum

No Public Forum.

## 4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No Conflicts of Interest were declared.

## 5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There were no changes to the Order of Business.

## 6 Confirmation of Minutes

### 6.1 Confirmation of Taihape Community Board Minutes - 16 June 2021

**Resolved minute number** 21/TCB/023

That the minutes of the Taihape Community Board meeting minutes held on 16 June 2021, 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.

Ms M Fannin/Ms G Larsen. Carried



## 7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

### 7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Taihape Community Board Meetings

**Resolved minute number** 21/TCB/024

That the Taihape Community Board ask that Council request Waka Kotahi to reconsider the turning bay project at Winiata subject to available funds.

Cr G Duncan/Ms M Fannin. Carried

**Resolved minute number** 21/TCB/025

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

Ms M Fannin/Cr G Duncan. Carried

## 8 Chair's Report

### 8.1 Chair's Report - October 2021

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number** 21/TCB/026

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

Ms G Larsen/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

## 9 Mayoral Update

### 9.1 Mayoral Update - September 2021

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number** 21/TCB/027

That the Mayoral Update – September 2021 be received.

Ms M Fannin/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

## 10 Reports for Information

### 10.1 Upcoming Projects

Taihape Events Board.

Mrs Fannin advised that she had received a quote of \$800.00 from Laser Craft to replace the northern events signage board. The Committee agreed to accept the quote and ask that Council cover the \$800.00 cost from revenue received from advertising fees.

The Board were all in favour of a blue whale and gold colour scheme for this project.

It was noted that Taihape New World would cover costs to have their sign installed on the new events signage board

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/028**

That Council fund the \$800.00 cost of the new northern events signage board by revenue collected from advertising fees received for advertising on the Taihape Community events notice boards.

Ms G Larsen/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

It was noted that Ms Fannin would discuss the possibility of moving the southern events board with Council's Roading Advisor.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/029**

That that report 'Upcoming Projects' be received.

Ms G Larsen/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

### 10.2 Update from MOU Partnering Organisations

Ms Pania Winiata, Project and Events Co-ordinator for the Taihape Community Development Trust spoke to her report.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/030**

That the verbal/written updates from 'MOU partnering organisations' to the 06 October 2021 Taihape Community Board be received.

Ms M Fannin/Ms G Larsen. Carried

### 10.3 Funding Schemes Update - October 2021

Cr Gill Duncan enquired as to what was to happen with the funding that had already been paid out for events that have been cancelled due to Covid 19. HWTM Andy Watson replied that the funds would be returned to Council. If the event is to be rescheduled then the organisers would need to reapply.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/031**

That the Funding Schemes Update – October 2021 be received.

Ms M Fannin/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

**10.4 Small Projects Fund Update - October 2021**

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/032**

That the 'Small Projects Fund Update – October 2021' report be received.

Ms M Fannin/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

**10.5 Naming of the Taihape Amenities Building**

Ms Michelle Fannin suggested that a stall be set up at the Christmas Parade and Gumboot Day seeking suggestions for names for the new amenities building with the idea that this could be made into a competition.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/033**

That the report 'Naming of the Taihape Amenities Building' be received.

Cr A Gordon/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

**10.6 Community-led Development of Council Owned Facility Guide**

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/034**

That the report 'Community-Led Development of Council Owned Facilities Guide', including the attachment, to the Taihape Community Board 6 October 2021 meeting be received.

Ms M Fannin/Ms G Larsen. Carried

**10.7 Taihape Community Development Trust MoU Partnership 2021-2022**

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/035**

That the report 'Taihape Community Development Trust MoU Partnership 2021-2022' and the verbal report on the Mahi Tahi Programme to the Taihape Community Board 6 October 2021 meeting, be received.

Cr G Duncan/Ms G Larsen. Carried

ITEM 6.1 ATTACHMENT 1

### 10.8 Rangitikei Destination Management Plan 2050

Ms Jen Britton, Strategic Advisor–District Promotions, spoke to the Rangitikei Destination Management plan 2050. She advised that she would hold drop in sessions in Taihape to engage with the community regarding their thoughts as part of the Destination Management Plan consultation.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/036**

That the report 'Rangitikei Destination Management Plan 2050' be received.

Cr A Gordon/Ms M Fannin. Carried

### 10.9 Representation Review 2021 - Initial Proposal

Ms Fannin said she would contact Mrs Anne Abernethy in regards to putting forth a submission on behalf of the Taihape Community Board. It was noted that submissions close noon on Friday 8th October 2021.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/037**

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

Ms E Abernethy/Cr A Gordon. Carried

## 11 Discussion Items

### 11.1 Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond

Ms Gray spoke to her report and asked for feedback from Board members.

In reply to a question, Ms Gray advised that Council may be able to rezone some land, but it would be up to the landowners wanting to sell or develop to request this.

**Resolved minute number 21/TCB/038**

That the report 'Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond' be received.

Ms M Fannin/Cr G Duncan. Carried

## 12 Late Items

### 12.1 Handwashing Facilities at our Cemeteries

Ms Emma Abernethy spoke about handwashing facilities at the entrance/exit of the Taihape and Mangaweka cemeteries.

It was agreed that Ms. Anne Abernethy meet with Ms Alison Dorrian and Councils Parks & Reserves Manager to discuss eco-friendly options.

### 12.2 Taihape Area School Farm

Cr Gill Duncan spoke concerning the ombudsman's finding regarding the land banking of Taihape Area School farm.

It was suggested that the Chair of the Taihape Community Board offer support to the Taihape Area School Board of Trustees in assisting to rectify this situation.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Taihape Community Board held on 15 December 2021.

.....  
Chairperson

## **7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings**

### **7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Taihape Community Board Meetings**

**Author:** Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

#### **1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Taihape Community Board meetings. Items indicate who is responsible for each 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 Taihape Community Board Meetings' be received.

**Current Follow-up Actions**

From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
6-Oct-21	Regarding the naming of the Taihape Amenities Building: Ms Michelle Fanni suggested that staff consider setting up a stall at the Christmas Parade and Gumboot Day seeking suggestions for names for the new amenities building, with the idea that this could be made into a competition.	Adina Foley	All Christmas parties have been cancelled and Gumboot Day may or may not take place given COVID-19 restrictions. Staff are now at the stage of iwi engagement with the naming of the Taihape Amenities Building.	Closed

## 8 Chair's Report

### 8.1 Chair's Report - December 2021

**Author:** Ann Abernethy, Chair

#### Community Board Comments

In this current climate of uncertainty with continuing viral mutations and “traffic light” systems it is hard to remain positive at times. However, one thing I am positive about is the future of our community. Taihape has always been a “stop over” site but gradually other attractions such as the Hautapu river Park and walkway are adding to the experience. I understand the Garden Trail was a big success with visitors from other districts many of whom commenting that “we had no idea that the Taihape country side was so outstanding” – perhaps the natural attributes of the Rangitikei should be a focus for tourism, Our Dog Park is becoming well known and it is pleasing to still be receiving messages of appreciation as the Park is now one year old!

Plus, I see no reason to change the Easter Sunday trading arrangements.

While I have not been able to be “out and about” I have continued to keep the Board’s projects moving along. By now I will have met with Murray to discuss the landscaping of the Outback, the Clock Tower and Gumboot Park. I have invited representatives from TCDT and KTB to join us as we continue to work together. Once plans are proposed these will be available for community comment.

Extra signage directing travellers to the Dog Park is in place in the Outback and service lane behind Quickstop. Signage for Memorial Park re. dogs on playing fields has been discussed with Murray. I thank those who have suggested names for the new amenities block. My preference would be for the “Awa Block” with the names of the four main rivers for the changing rooms.

The Board has agreed on the wording for the plaque to be placed on the seat we donated to the Hautapu River Park and this will be printed and in place before the busy summer period.

Similarly, the storyboard for the Tamatea Cairn in Gumboot Park has been translated to Te Reo for the Board and a big thankyou goes to local iwi for their support--- nga mihi nui. Once the storyboard is in place landscaping will complete the project. I look forward to this as it gives relevance to the Cairn and contributes to the history of Mokai Patea and the history of Taihape. The upgrade of the Events Board at Gumboot Park is underway with a quote received and currently before Council.

Talking of history—the Board is appreciative of the input of the Rangitikei District Council to the preservation of our grandstand and its support in general. We also thank all members of the community who work so hard in a voluntary capacity to make Taihape the community it is. I won’t start naming people and organisations because I am sure to miss someone out! I thank all board members for their input and Michelle for stepping into the role of Chair during my absence.

The importance of the railways to the history of Taihape is to be a focus in the new year and the board would love some input from community members.

Finally, it is disappointing that so many functions have had to be cancelled including the Taihape Country Show but let’s be positive as we look forward to 2022.

Best wishes to all. Kia Kaha

Ann



**Recommendation**

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

## 9 Mayoral Update

### 9.1 Mayoral Update - November 2021

**Author:** Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

1. As I write this report it is pouring outside and has done so for the last couple of days. While any rain at this time of the year is appreciated, as we need to desperately build up soil moisture levels, at the moment this is the cropping window for our district. The crops being planted are vulnerable for a very short time before germination has occurred and there will be a large number of cropping farmers nervous. While I'm on the farming sector that we absolutely rely on for our district I will make comment around where the markets are at. The red meat sector, driven by freezing works schedules, is incredibly buoyant, dairy payments are high and virtually every sector is showing somewhere between a 20-30% increase on last year. However, the cost of raw supply has also dramatically increased, the cost of freight and fertiliser in particular means that the net benefit over the last year is there but only to a slight extent.
2. What we are now seeing is the slow crawl of Covid southwards from Auckland. It is a matter of when not if we have Covid within the Rangitikei. It is now in the Wairarapa, South Taranaki Tararua and Taupo Districts and it is inevitable we will be hit. I would encourage everybody to get vaccinated and for those people who elect not to do so, I respect your personal choice. What I am seeing around the country at the moment is an incredible amount of unrest and demonstrations around not only the anti-vax position but other Governmental positions such as Three Waters. We are undoubtedly facing uncertain times. Like many organisations such as schools and prison services Council needs to go through its own process, driven by the Chief Executive, as to how we handle Covid and vaccination status as an organisation. It is likely that in Council buildings areas will be split between general public access and areas that only vaccinated staff can work in. Latest updates can be found on our website or via the [covid19.govt.nz](https://covid19.govt.nz) website. The threat and risk of Covid means that a number of things have to change. We have already had a number of events cancelled throughout our region and Covid does impact on Christmas Parades so we have made the decision now that Christmas street parades are unable to proceed this year. Several of our communities are looking at alternatives and when we know exactly what will happen, we will put the information on our website. Equally for Councils, the Regional Chiefs (who are the Mayors, Chief Executives and Councillors) meet through what we call Zone meetings and Rural & Provincial meetings where we discuss Government's position over legislation etc. These meetings are all having to go to Zoom which to be honest are second choice. It is important they still happen but Zoom doesn't offer the same level of engagement that face-to-face meetings provide.
3. There are a number of issues that I would like to take the opportunity to update Council and the community on:
  - a. Three Waters – like most Councils in the country our Council has written to the Minister and Government expressing concerns over where the reforms are at. Our Council, like virtually every other Council, has agreed in principle that there needs to be changes and we welcome the new water regulator Taumata Arowai that officially came into position (taking over from the Ministry of Health) on Monday, 15 November. At the moment we are still unsure exactly what the role of that new regulator will be and how regulations will change. The Government has responded to the Mayors saying they accept the concerns of the Local

Government sector around such things as review of the governorship or leadership model of the entities, the role of the economic regulator and how the rural water schemes will be managed. To do this the Government has formed a series of working parties involving a number of Mayors throughout New Zealand so we wait now until we hear what changes could be possible. It is still certain though that the Government will mandate the Three Waters segment by way of legislation. These entities will become law. Our website is kept up to date with information as it comes to hand.

- b. There are a number of things that Council can celebrate. Finally, we have been able to purchase land for the Ratana Wastewater Project which will see a land disposal of wastewater therefore removing contamination of Lake Waipu. I would like to congratulate the Council staff, Ratana community and Iwi as to how they have been able to work together to make this possible and we appreciate the Government money that has largely funded this project. We would expect construction of the pipelines etc to take place over the next 6-12 months.
- c. Our spatial planners are starting to engage with communities on spatial planning – Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond. This is a helicopter view over our district and looks long term at where growth should occur, where we want leisure and recreational facilities, combined with how our infrastructure will be provided etc. If you get the opportunity to attend a community session around spatial planning please take it up – this is your chance to influence what the district will look like in the next 30 years.
- d. The Marton Memorial Hall is another project that has gone on for some time and we are in the final stages of painting, redecoration, rewiring, asbestos removal and all of the other upgrades that were required. Once again this is a project that has been funded by the Government under Minister Jones' PGF fund and we appreciate the chance to bring a magnificent public facility back up to where it should be.
- e. Later this month we are involved in what is called CouncilMARK - an evaluation of our Council and district. This is a Local Government review done independently that looks at Council's performance. This is the second time that Council has taken this opportunity and it is a "warts and all" look at our governance, our operational team, our financing and our connection with communities. The initial review that we did some time ago, while illustrating we were performing okay, pointed us in terms of what some other Council are doing as leaders in the sector. We have taken this review very seriously where we have looked for some time at how we operate in effect. That, together with the review of the Te Matapihi building project has brought about, for instance, the Project Management Office and the use of a better business case study when we are undertaking major projects. It will be interesting to see how Council is reflected under the second review. As I've said Council is now using the Better Business Case Study model which is an internationally recognised process for determining the decision making around capital works. We have started this process for the potential Marton Council Facility rebuild, as required under earthquake prone legislation.
- f. On 11 November we recognised Armistice Day and I apologise that I could not be there as I was away on urgent Council business, however the Deputy Mayor and some Councillors and staff attended the RSA service held at the Marton Cenotaph. However, I did attend a Memorial Service at St Stephen's Church on Sunday and this was a chance to recognise the servicemen who have given their lives not only in WWII but in all other conflicts around the world.
- g. On 11 November I attended the Climate Action Joint Committee Workshop at Horizons which is made up of Regional Mayors, authorities and Iwi representatives. We have obligations under current laws and proposed law changes with the revision of the Resource

**ITEM 9.1**

Management Act (RMA) and international accords for climate change. We need to set local priorities, work plans and future direction with regards climate change to be tabled in these discussions. Like many of our neighbouring Councils we are still yet to effectively do the work that is required. As part of this report, I request that Council set policy direction early in the new year as to how we handle climate change. Whereas many districts in New Zealand focus on sea level rise as the major factor of climate change, for us, while that is important, the frequency of storm events and flooding in our district is possibly the major consideration of climate change. The reform of the RMA into 3 separate pieces of legislation is a key part of how the country will handle climate change. These reforms that the Government has already mandated are possibly some of the most significant pieces of legislation to come before Parliament over the last decade. One of the principles of the RMA reform is that local Councils will not make their own planning decisions – they will be made on a regional basis and this is again where our local voice is being lost.

4. I have received a request from Mayor Don Cameron of Ruapehu District Council seeking our support in engaging with iwi/hapu as part of the business case work on the North Island Regional Passenger Rail which is proposed to be a key element within a resilient and sustainable transport network providing opportunities for regional communities to grow. The work is situated along the length of the North Island Main Trunk Railway and the leadership and support of iwi is crucial.

Improved access between regions will enable stronger whanau and better jobs, education and health benefits while respecting the principles of Kaitiakitanga. It is anticipated that we will meet and inform iwi prior to a hui being set in December/early new year to discuss views and feedback. I propose an item be taken to Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa on 14 December. The letter and background paper from Ruapehu District Council is attached for your information (Attachments 1 and 2).

**Attachments**

1. **Background Informaton on the North Island Regional Passenger Rail**
2. **North Island Regional Passenger Rail - Iwi / Hapu Engagement**

**Recommendation**

That the Mayoral Update - November 2021 be received.

## Mayors Engagement

November 2021

1	Attended lunch with Marton Memorial Hall painters
2	Attended Three Waters Zoom - Mayor Helen Worboys Attended Whanganui DHB Impact Collective Meeting – Covid Resurgence Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
3	Attended monthly Executive Leadership Team Meeting for Q&A Attended Three Waters Entity B Working Group Zoom
4	Attended Regional Leadership Group Zoom Attended Monthly RDC/Police Update with Area Commander Nigel Allan Attended BakerAg Agribusiness Industry Update – Manawatu Region
5	Attended Accessing Central NZ Governance Group Meeting at HRC
8	Attended Three Waters Zoom – Mayor Helen Worboys Attended PAG/GSAG Zoom meeting Attended Kensington Road project meeting
9	Attended weekly meeting with Chief Executive Attended Civil Defence Hui#2 with Ngāti Hinemanu Ngāti Paki Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
10	Attended Marton Civic Centre Better Business Case Workshop 3 Attended Rangitikei College Scholarship Interviews
11	Attended Climate Action Joint Committee Workshop at HRC Attended Council Workshop
13	Attended Motorbike Day Taihape
14	Attended Armistice Day Remembrance Sunday at St Stephens
15	Attended New Staff Orientation Day morning tea Attended Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond Advisory Group Meeting#4 Attended Zone 3 Zoom discussion Attended Creative NZ Committee Meeting
16	Attended Regional Chiefs Transport Matters Fortnightly Zoom Worked from Te Matapihi for morning Attended Tutaenui Scheme Liaison Committee Meeting Attended Oceania & Rangitikei – Aged Care Investment phone conference Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor Attended Three Waters/Spatial Plan meeting with Scotts Ferry community

ITEM 9.1

**ITEM 9.1**

17	<p>Attended Kanoa/RDC Catchup Meeting</p> <p>Attended fortnightly discussion on Economic Development</p> <p>Attended online Regional Relationship Meeting with Waka Kotahi</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Rangitikei College Senior Prizegiving</p> <p>Attended meeting with Denis O’Callahan re Chief Executive’s Performance Review</p> <p>Attended Taihape Community Response Group Meeting – preparing for Covid illness</p>
18	Attended Zone 3 Meeting Whanganui (online)
22	Attended Three Waters Zoom – Mayor Helen Worboys
23	<p>Attended breakfast meeting with Mayor Helen Worboys</p> <p>Attended meeting with Kanoa – Alex Matheson</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p> <p>Attended Marton Development Group Meeting</p>
24	<p>Attended Finance &amp; Performance Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Council Meeting</p> <p>Attended Marton Development Group Meeting</p>
25	<p>To attend Rural &amp; Provincial Sector Zoom Meeting</p> <p>To attend Three Waters Update – Mayors, Chairs &amp; CE’s</p>
29	<p>To attend weekly meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>To attend Three Waters – Entity B Working Group Zoom</p>
30	<p>To attend CouncilMARK Councillor Session with Assessors</p> <p>To attend CouncilMARK Communication and Engagement session</p> <p>To attend Whanganui DHB Impact Collective Governance Zoom – Covid Updates</p>



## RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

11 November 2021

### Background information on the North island Regional Passenger Rail

Roughly 2.5 million people currently live alongside the NIMTR. According to information provided by StatsNZ (Tatauranga Aotearoa), more than three out of four people live in Te Ika-a-Māui - North Island. The population of North Island will increase by an average of 0.9 percent a year between 2018 and 2048, from 3.8 million to 4.8 million (medium projection). International case studies show that these population numbers can suit passenger rail networks.

A key focus is "Connection" and the opportunities for regional communities to grow. For our communities to prosper, access needs to be inclusive. Better access between regions will enable stronger whānau, and better jobs, education, health and opportunities. Good connections between people spark great ideas that enable a better future.

We now inhabit a changed world that revolves around Zoom meetings and Teams calls.

However, sustainable connectivity also requires face to face contact. This means transport infrastructure investment that respects Kaitiakitanga principles. Kaitiakitanga includes the conservation, replenishment and sustainability of the environment. It is about safeguarding the future. Aotearoa - New Zealand is required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The recent release of the Emissions Reduction Plan, by the government, helps identify what is needed, to change the configuration of our communities.

A North Island reconfiguration should not assume Auckland must continue to be the focus of population growth, along with accompanying infrastructure and housing challenges. Another way to respect Kaitiakitanga principles, may be to provide an attractive, low carbon transport network, to "connect" our communities, and encourage the growth of our people, through-out Te Ika-a-Māui.

We propose that North Island Regional Passenger Rail, will be a key element within a resilient and sustainable transport network. Steel wheels on rails powered by renewable electricity = the lowest possible carbon footprint.

The work done to date, builds upon the business case development, by Greater Wellington and Horizons Regional Council, for a brand new lower North Island fleet of trains. These modern vehicles will be "tri-mode". Powered by a mix of overhead catenary electric power, battery electric power, and on-board diesel power to assist re-charging of batteries, the new trains will transform regional connectivity in the lower North Island.

Our investigations also build upon the pioneering work for the Te Huia passenger train service, led by Waikato Regional Council, with partners KiwiRail, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Hamilton City Council, Waikato District Council and Auckland Transport.

Te Huia is the first new regional passenger train for many years. It is trail-blazing the challenges and opportunities, that come with a start-up service. When the COVID-19 alert level drops back to 2, the Te Huia train service is to re-start. All services will operate all the way into central Auckland, a new stop at Puhinui to connect to the airport has been provided, along with additional frequency. The services to date have been a mix of highly popular weekend trains, but also less than successful early morning weekday services. Te Huia will continue to evolve, to meet customer demand, and long-term growth in the Waikato region.



## RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

11 November 2021

Dear Mayor or Chair

### **NORTH ISLAND REGIONAL PASSENGER RAIL – ENGAGEMENT WITH IWI / HAPU**

Further to the high level Feasibility Study being agreed by the participating Councils and delegated to this Council to progress following discussion with Mayors, Chairs, Chief Executive, key staff and stakeholders, we are looking to further this as a key element within a resilient and sustainable transport network.

We would like seek your support in engaging with your respective iwi / hapu as part of the business case work which will ramp up during 2022. We are looking for suggestions as to how that crucial engagement can be done in an effective and meaningful way.

We would anticipate that you set the scene with your iwi / hapu so that we can hold an online hui online either in December or the New Year to discuss and consider their views. As this work and proposal is situated along the length of the North Island Main Trunk Railway, the leadership and support of iwi / hapu in a Rangitiratanga role is crucial to this exercise.

Would you please gauge the support for this suggestion with your iwi / hapu and provide some feedback around the possibility of a hui in December or the New Year.

I attach an attachment some background information which may be useful for your discussions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Cameron'.

Don Cameron, JP  
**MAYOR**

Distribution:

Mayor Allan Sanson  
Mayor Andy Foster  
Mayor Andy Watson  
Mayor Anita Baker  
Mayor Bernie Wanden  
Mayor Campbell Barry  
Chair Daran Ponter  
Mayor Helen Worboys  
Mayor Jim Mylchreest

Mayor Grant Smith  
Mayor John Robertson  
Mayor K Gurunathan  
Mayor Max Baxter  
Mayor Paula Southgate  
Mayor Phil Goff  
Chair Rachel Keedwell  
Chair Russ Rimmington  
Mayor Wayne Guppy

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## 10 Reports for Decision

### 10.1 Consideration of Names for the Amenities Block

**Author:** Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

#### 1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 At its meeting 24 Nov 21, Council recommended two different naming options for the whole Amenities block, as per resolution 21/RDC/412.
  - a. Hautapu Pavilion for the whole Amenities block, with Totara, Matai, Kahikatea, and Maire (or similar tree species names) for individual rooms
  - b. Ngā Awa Block for the whole Amenities block, with Rangitikei, Hautapu, Moawhango and Kawhatau for individual rooms
- 1.2 Council have requested that the Taihape Community Board consider these two naming suggestions and endorse a preferred option.

#### Recommendation 1

That the report 'Consideration of Names for the Amenities Block' be received.

#### Recommendation 2

That the Taihape Community Board endorse the names **[delete one]**:

- Hautapu Pavilion for the whole Amenities block, with Totara, Matai, Kahikatea, and Maire (or similar tree species names) for individual rooms.

**OR**

- Ngā Awa Block for the whole Amenities block, with Rangitikei, Hautapu, Moawhango and Kawhatau for individual rooms

## 11 Reports for Information

### 11.1 Funding Schemes Update - December 2021

**Author:** Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

#### 1. Overview

1.1 Council currently administers five funding schemes for the Rangitikei District:

- a. Community Initiatives Fund
- b. Events Sponsorship Scheme
- c. Parks Upgrades Partnership Fund
- d. Creative Communities Scheme
- e. 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 allocates \$30,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds. \$11,910 was distributed in Round 1 (2021/22), leaving \$18,090 available for Round 2 (2021/22).
- 2.3 The current funding round (Round 2, 2021/22) is OPEN for applications and closes 24 March 2022. The Finance/Performance Committee will meet to consider funding applications on 24 April 2022.

#### 3. Events Sponsorship 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 allocates \$50,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds. \$17,900 was distributed in Round 1 (2021/22), leaving \$32,100 available for Round 2 (2021/22).
- 3.3 The current funding round (Round 2, 2021/22) is OPEN for applications and closes 06 March 2022. The Finance/Performance Committee will meet to consider funding applications on 31 March 2022.

#### 4. Parks Upgrades Partnership Fund

- 4.1 This is a Council fund and is the only one available for capital purchases. The Council provides up to 33% in cash of the value – in cash or in kind - of the contribution from the community for small-scale, community-led, capital projects.
- 4.2 Applications may be submitted at any time and will be considered at the next available Assets/Infrastructure Committee meeting.

**5. Creative Communities Scheme**

- 5.1 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
- 5.2 Creative NZ has allocated \$43,615.63 to the Rangitikei District Council for 2021/22, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds. \$11,550 was distributed in Round 1 (2021/22), leaving \$32,065.63 available for Round 2 (2021/22).
- 5.3 The current funding round (Round 2, 2021/22) is OPEN for applications and closes 28 April 2022. The Creative NZ Committee will meet to consider funding applications on 02 June 2022.

**6. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund**

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 Sport NZ has allocated \$9,500 to the Rangitikei District Council for 2021/22. There is one funding round per year.
- 6.3 This funding round opened for applications 16 November 2021 and closes 18 March 2022. The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund Committee will meet to consider applications on 28 April 2022.

**7. Further Information**

- 7.1 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 – December 2021 be received.

**11.2 Small Projects Fund Update - December 2021****Author: Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor****ITEM 11.2****1. Allocation**

- 1.1 The yearly allocation of the 2021/22 Small Projects Fund for the Taihape Community Board is \$5,379.00.
- 1.2 The yearly allocation aligns with the financial year, from 01 July to 30 June. In February 2016 Council resolved to allow a carry-forward from one financial year to the next, of up to 100% of the annual allocation for any Committee or Board's Small Projects Fund<sup>1</sup>, with the proviso that this be a specific resolution from the Committee.
- 1.3 At its meeting 24 June 2021, Council resolved to carry-forward 100% of the annual allocation from the 2020/21 year (\$5,379.00) to the 2021/22 year<sup>2</sup>.
- 1.4 The total allocation of the 2021/22 Small Projects Fund for the Taihape Community Board is now \$10,758.00.

**2. Breakdown**

- 2.1 No grants have been made so far in 2021/22.

**3. Remaining Budget**

- 3.1 This leaves a remaining budget for the 2021/22 financial year of **\$10,758.00**.

**Recommendation**

That the 'Small Projects Fund Update – December 2021' report be received.

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<sup>1</sup> 16/FPE/010

<sup>2</sup> 21/RDC/191

### **11.3 Update from MOU Partnering Organisations**

**Author:** Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor

#### **1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 Verbal updates will be provided from MOU partnering organisations.

#### **Recommendation**

That the verbal updates from 'MOU partnering organisations' be received.

**11.4 Upcoming Projects**

**Author:** Ann Abernethy, Chair

Enhancement of Hautapu Street / S.H.1

I have yet to canvas business owners as to the provision of planter boxes for which the Council would provide annual plants. Business owners would be responsible for tending them.

Some small changes have already been made to enhance the street and I am currently looking at photographs and displays for empty shops.

Tamatea Pokai Whenua Cairn.

The storyboard for the Tamatea Cairn in Gumboot Park has been translated to Te Reo for the Board and a big thankyou goes to local iwi for their support---- nga mihi nui. Once the storyboard is in place landscaping will complete the project. I look forward to this as it gives relevance to the Cairn and contributes to the history of Mokai Patea and the history of Taihape.

Events Board

The upgrade of the Events Board at Gumboot Park is underway with a quote received from Lasercraft for new signage and paintwork. This is for the northern Events Board as the southern Events Board is on hold awaiting feed-back from Waka Kotahi. I understand that New World will continue sponsorship. Michelle has put a proposal to the District council that revenue generated from previous years and left unspent be used to fund the upgrade. We are waiting feed-back before progressing.

Upgrade to Outback

A recent discussion with Murray focussed on plans for landscaping in this area and once these are drawn up they will be available for community comment. Original planting plans have had a cultural theme to acknowledge the first settlers to this area. This links into the Heritage Walkway leading to the main street tpdya. This is very much in the planning stage.

With the Outback being such a popular stop-over area the Board may need to look at more seating again this will be discussed in the coming year.

As I have mentioned in previous reports the importance of the railways to the history of Taihape is to be a focus in the new year with a display on/or near the site of the old station. The Board has support from the Museum and will be seeking further input from members of the community and Heritage NZ.

**Recommendation**

That that report 'Upcoming Projects' be received.

## **12 Next Meeting**

The Taihape Community Board is scheduled to meet on the below dates in 2022. Meetings will run from 5.30pm to 7.00pm and take place at Council Chambers, Taihape Town Hall.

- 16<sup>th</sup> February
- 20<sup>th</sup> April
- 15<sup>th</sup> January
- 17<sup>th</sup> August
- 5<sup>th</sup> October
- 14<sup>th</sup> December

## **13 Meeting Closed**