

MINUTES

TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 12 February 2025

Time: 5.30pm

Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
2 Kokako Street
Taihape

Present

Mr Peter Kipling-Arthur
Ms Emma Abernethy
Ms Gail Larsen
Mr Les Clarke
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Jeff Wong
HWTM Andy Watson

In attendance

Mrs Carol Gordon, Deputy Chief Executive
Ms Gaylene Prince, Northern Area and Property Manager

Order of Business

1	Welcome / Prayer	3
2	Apologies	3
3	Public Forum	3
4	Conflict of Interest Declarations.....	3
5	Confirmation of Order of Business	3
6	Confirmation of Minutes	3
7.1	Follow-up Action Items from Taihape Community Board Meetings	3
7	Chair's Report	4
8.1	Chair's Report - February 2025	4
8	Reports for Information.....	4
9.1	Verbal Update- Northern Area and Property Manager	4
9.2	Small Projects Fund Update - February 2025.....	6
9.3	Mayor's Report - 12 December 2024	7
9.4	Consultation Tracker - December	8
9.5	Funding Schemes Update - February 2025	8
9.6	Inward Correspondence	8
9	Discussion Items.....	8
10.1	Workshops for 2025	8
10.2	Traffic Issues	8
10.3	Rangitikei District Council Consultation: Gambling Venue (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venue Policy	9
10.4	Letter from Rugby Club on Taihape Granstand.....	9

1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Mrs Gordon to the meeting. Mrs Gordon will commence her role as Council's Chief Executive on 1 March.

2 Apologies

No apologies received.

3 Public Forum

Mary Haggie and Lily Alabaster, Taihape Netball Centre Inc., spoke to their submission requesting \$500 from the Taihape Community Board Small Projects Fund for Taihape Netball's upcoming Children in Sport Workshop.

The Mayor left the meeting at 5.40 pm.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no Conflict of Interest declarations.

The Mayor returned to the meeting at 5.41 pm.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

The Chair accepted a verbal report from Taihape Community Development Trust as item number 10.5.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/001

That the minutes of Taihape Community Board Meeting held on 11 December 2024 **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.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Ms G Larsen. Carried

7 Follow-up Actions

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Taihape Community Board Meetings

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/002

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

Ms E Abernethy/Cr G Duncan. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - February 2025

The Chair noted the following amendments to his report:

- Glen Transport NZ should read Land Transport NZ
- Final paragraph, second sentence "I would like ..." should read "Taihape Community Board would like ..."

The Chair asked for clarification on the amount allocated to the Taihape Community Board Small Projects Fund, noting the amount stated as available in the report on the Agenda was different to the amount stated on Council's website.

The Chair advised that the Board would like consideration to be given to indexing their annual small projects funding to CPI in future years.

Undertaking

Mrs Gordon to clarify the correct allocation for the Taihape Community Board Small Project Fund.

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/003

That the Chair's Report – February 2025, as amended, be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Verbal Update- Northern Area and Property Manager

Ms Prince provided a verbal update to the meeting:

Welcome to the District Billboards

- Report was presented to the Board in August regarding the intention to replace the current signs. The Billboards are about to be printed, and we'll then start replacing the old signs.

Parks & Reserves

- Taihape Cemetery – Previous request for hand washing entranceway taps – staff have commenced investigation and costing to renew a number of below ground water lines at the Cemetery. Installation of hand washing facilities at each entrance is also being investigated and costed.
- Taihape Main St Litter Bin Refurbishment – The Parks team hope to commence the re-staining of litter bins throughout the Main Street over the next 2-6 weeks. Bench seats/picnic tables will also be included if time/weather conditions allow.

Mataroa Road Watermain Renewal

- The project is progressing well. The major milestone of having the mainline pipe installed has been achieved and the contractors are now installing all the fittings, such as hydrants and isolating valves, service connections and the fitting required to connect to the existing pipes. This should be completed this week. Disinfection and testing will then occur. Assuming this goes as expected the cut over to the new system will occur in the next few weeks. At this stage the project is expected to be completed in February as planned.

Roading

- Taihape Napier Road – on going maintenance following heavy traffic damage (extra traffic from mill closures).
- Reseal Programme in and around Taihape is underway and should be complete by end March.
- Road Maintenance and Services Contract will be considered by Council (public excluded) on 26 February.

Main Street Better Off Funding Programme

- Town Map – drafting is underway. This is taking some time due to staff capacity and priority in other areas.
- Outback area – quotes are being sought for a covered picnic area. Once pricing is agreed, the location will be confirmed and construction can begin.
- Gumboot Park at the Gumboot Sculpture – work is underway to design improvements, which include walkways, safety improvements and garden planting.

Taihape Grandstand:

- As advised at the last meeting, Three concept strengthening options were presented to Council. Only one of those was close to the remaining available budget. Also as noted at the last meeting, the design option does not allow for the lower level to be used by the community. Feedback was received at the last meeting from Taihape Rugby that they wished to continue to use the Grandstand. Council is waiting for feedback from the community to discuss a way forward.

Taihape Town Hall:

- Maycroft presented their concept seismic design along with estimated costs during to the December 2024 Council meeting, public excluded. These designs and the costings have been peer reviewed by specialist consultants. Maycroft will now continue to work on the rest of the project scope and return with estimated cost for the whole project. It is anticipated this will be for the March 2025 Council meeting.
- As part of their presentation for the Dec 2024 council meeting, Maycroft put in alternate proposals for Council's consideration (no designs were presented), which are:
 - Lowering the fly tower roof to the same height as the hall roof. The stage area has no insulation and any building space reduction will help reduce the impact on the heating system.
 - Retain the front two storey structure along with the library, but demolish and re-build the Hall and stage area. This option will provide a new building that is easy to build, operate and maintain.
- Staff organised a meeting with the User group on 3rd February to provide a progress update along with discussing Maycroft's proposed alternate options. Only two of the members from the User Group attended the meeting. Information from the meeting was shared with the User Group today, to enable feedback from the whole of the group.

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/004

That the 'Verbal Update' be received.

Ms E Abernethy/Ms G Larsen. Carried

9.2 Small Projects Fund Update - February 2025

The Board discussed:

- Tagging another \$300 for rural workshops. It was noted that Annual Plan, and Local Water Done Well consultations would be held in March/April. Board members agreed to wait for dates for these meetings before considering their workshop schedule.
- It was agreed that \$200 be tagged for replacement directional signage for the Dog Exercise Park.
- The Board discussed Taihape Netball Centre Inc's request for \$500. Noting that Taihape Netball had two events planned, the Board encouraged Taihape Netball to apply to the Event Support Scheme for funding, but confirmed earmarking \$500 for Taihape Netball, that could be used for either event if required.

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/005

That the report 'Small Projects Fund Update – February 2025' be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/006

That \$500 be earmarked for the use of Taihape Netball Centre Inc., for their use, should it be required for either the Children In Sport Workshop, or the proposed 2-day Net-Fix workshop

Cr G Duncan/Ms G Larsen. Carried

9.3 Mayor's Report - 12 December 2024

The Mayor congratulated, and presented a Certificate to Mr L Clarke, on his King's Service Medal.

Further to his report, the Mayor spoke/acknowledged:

- the death of Dame Tariana Turia.
- the Rātana Celebrations.
- the implementation of a daily logging train, now taking logs from Tangiwai to the Napier Port, via train, instead of trucking them across the Taihape Napier Road, which had caused considerable road damage.
- Local Water Done Well, noting that Ruapehu District had not yet confirmed their preferred option for delivery of water services (Rangitikei's preferred option was a multi Council Controlled Organisation with Whanganui and Ruapehu District Councils).
- Rates Pegging, explaining to Board members that in the Government's view, rates were excessively going up, and explained that the Government could set a rates peg (cap) as a way of managing rates increases across the country. It was noted that depreciation had a big impact on Council's rate percentage.
- Bench-marking, the Government had also signalled its intention to begin bench-marking Councils before the local body elections.
- Mayor's Task Force for Jobs (MTFJ) – acknowledged the good result of Council's MTFJ Mahi Tahi, but noted that the amount of funding had been reduced for 2025/26. Rangitikei was in Tier 2 for funding.

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/007

That the Mayor's Report – 12 December 2024 be accepted.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Cr J Wong. Carried

9.4 Consultation Tracker - December

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/008

That the report 'Consultation Tracker - December' be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Cr J Wong. Carried

9.5 Funding Schemes Update - February 2025

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/009

That the Funding Schemes Update – February 2025 be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Ms G Larsen. Carried

9.6 Inward Correspondence

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/TCB/010

That the inward correspondence be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Ms E Abernethy. Carried

10 Discussion Items**10.1 Workshops for 2025**

Noting the Annual Plan, and Local Water Done Well Consultations, this item was not required.

10.2 Traffic Issues

Board members raised the following items:

- Mirror at Paradise Terrace/Kaka Road – this was previously investigated in 2018, with notes from that time noting that while there is a problem, it was not considered that a mirror was the answer. If Board members considered there was still a problem a Request for Service should be logged.
- Signage advising of Public Toilets, Ngā Awa – Request for Service should be logged requesting signage.
- Gretna intersection: islands and signage – NZTA had asked their contractor to tidy up the Gretna corner, reinstate the centre island, and include new pedestrian poles. This should happen shortly.
- Tui Street/Robin Street – no Give Way signage which was confusing for motorists. A Request for Service should be logged requesting that this be investigated.

Footpath near Brown Sugar (Tui Street) – Full remedial work would require extensive excavation, so Council and Higgins were working on options to fix the trip hazards.

10.3 Rangitikei District Council Consultation: Gambling Venue (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venue Policy

Councillor Duncan explained the reason for the Policy consultation. If Board members wished to submit they would do so as individuals.

10.4 Letter from Rugby Club on Taihape Grandstand

The Chair asked if Rugby could continue to use the Grandstand for the 2025 season. The Northern Area and Property Manager reiterated her advice as provided to Rugby representatives at the December meeting; the grandstand could be used while it was safe to do so (noting the current earthquake notifications on the building), however if any other safety issues arose, the Chief Executive could determine that the building be closed to use effectively immediately.

The Chair determined that this item was not required.

10.5 Verbal Update from Taihape Community Development Trust

Mr L Clarke provided a verbal update on behalf of the Trust, highlighting:

- 2024 Christmas Dinner
- CCTV project
- Coaching – Junior Tennis

- Signage – street banner system – it was noted that if contractor wished to access the Town Hall Street Banner system, they needed to be aware that the building was closed because of high risk to life in the event of an earthquake, and that there was a requirement for working at heights certification.

Undertaking:

That this item (Update from Taihape Community Development Trust) be added as a standing item to future Board Agendas.

The meeting closed at 7.22pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Taihape Community Board held on 9 April 2025.

.....

Chairperson