

MINUTES

TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 11 February 2026

Time: 5.0pm

Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
2 Kokako Street
Taihape

Present

- Ms Gill Duncan
- Ms De-Anna Green
- Mr Peter Kipling-Arthur
- Ms Melanie Pera
- Cr Diana Baird
- Cr Jeff Wong

In attendance

- HWTM Andy Watson
- Ms Gaylene Prince, Northern Area and Property Manager
- Ms Sheryl Srhoj, Administration

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1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting.

2 Apologies

No apologies received.

3 Public Forum

Taihape Neighbourhood Support

On behalf of Taihape Neighbourhood Support Incorporated, Ms Lynda McKnight-Wilson presented the Chair with a piece of artwork depicting a historic Taihape main street scene. The Board were very appreciative of the amazing artwork by artist Julie Oliver.

This was the second piece of art that the group had donated. The intention being that the artwork would be displayed in the Taihape Town Hall, once it reopened.

Taihape Rotary

Mrs Hodgson spoke on behalf of Taihape Rotary. She said that after 80 years, the Taihape Rotary Chapter would no longer exist due to the lack of membership numbers as required by law to continue as an official club. The Chapter were seeking the Boards permission to display 4 of their Honorary Boards at the Kokako Street hall.

The Taihape Chapter intends to complete the Taihape Rotunda project.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Wong and Mr Kipling-Arthur declared a conflict of interest in regard to Item 9.4 - Event Board Sign- Taihape Neighbourhood Support Incorporated.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/001

That the minutes of Taihape Community Board Meeting held on 19 November 2025 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 D Green. Carried

7 Confirmation of Minutes

7.1 Taihape Community Board Workshop Notes

As discussed at the Boards workshop, it was agreed that a meeting review be undertaken and that this be included as an item in the June Agenda.

Undertaking:

Item to be added to the June Order Paper.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/002

That the Taihape Community Board Workshop Notes be received.

Ms G Duncan/Mr P Kipling-Arthur. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - February 2026

The Chair spoke to her tabled report.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/003

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

Ms G Duncan/Ms D Green. Carried

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Mayor's Report - December 2025

The Mayor took his report as read.

Further to his report, the Mayor noted the following items:

- Attended the Ratana 25th celebrations which unfortunately had clashed with the Taihape Shearing Sports event of which had taken place at Erewhon Station due to weather conditions.
- Met with representatives from Friends of Taihape to view new trackwork. Acknowledged the work that had been undertaken. Once completed this would be a valuable asset to Taihape.
- Spoke briefly on end stages of build projects – all of which were well supported by Council.
- Outlined the relevant points regarding the proposed Rates Capping Legislation

- Provided an update on the newly formed three waters entity called Central Districts Water.

Members reiterated the importance of communities having access to Councillors to discuss these and other matters. It was agreed that they support Council by continuing with the 'Talking Table' in Taihape. The Mayor would be more than happy to attend when possible.

(Cr Baird arrived at 6.05pm)

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/004

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

Ms G Duncan/Ms D Green. Carried

9.2 Verbal Update- Northern Area and Property Manager

The Northern Area and Property Manager provided a verbal update on the following activities;

Community Led Projects

Hautapu River Bridges.

The third bridge has been completed. Friends of Taihape have been successful in obtaining funding for the remaining 2 bridges.

Gumboot Park Rotunda.

A path is to be installed from the footpath to the rotunda entrance. The existing sign to be replaced with a refreshed one which will acknowledge the joint venture partners.

Taihape Grandstand Restoration Group

The Group met in January, where they discussed scope options for beneath the grandstand, compliance considerations, and funding opportunities. Staff have also commenced work on the agreement of roles, responsibilities and processes. A further meeting is scheduled for next week.

Property

Taihape Town Hall and Library Redevelopment

Maycroft completed the preliminary design in November, however since the construction budget was exceeded the design review has been put on hold until such time as Maycroft make the necessary changes to bring the cost back within budget. The heating system is the primary cause of the cost increase with the rest coming from stage and lighting support requests from the community.

Ngā Awa

Council received nice feedback from the Equestrian Show Jumping. They noted it was an asset to their show and that they had lots of new competitors this year who loved the facility, with many comments about it being the nicest showering facilities they'd used for a horse show.

Cr Wong reported that he had received positive feedback regarding the condition of the Taihape Memorial Park grounds and Taihape cemetery.

Taihape Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements –

To improve current plant operations and increase consent compliance outcomes an investigation into possible short term operational improvements and longer term capital works improvements is being undertaken. A strategy for network inflow and infiltration has been developed and as part of this a house to house and manhole inspections program was completed in January. These works identified a range of improper stormwater connections to the wastewater network, which are the responsibility of the property owner to resolve. If successfully completed these works should reduce wet weather flow at the wastewater treatment plant by 10-15%. Other CCTV inspection works of sewers to identify 'easy to fix' sources of inflow and infiltration will be carried out in April - June, and at the conclusion of these works an Inflow and Infiltration strategy will be developed.

Following further discussions on the Taihape Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements, the Chair asked that Council keep the Board informed of timelines in order for them to offer their support in communicating this process to the community.

Undertaking:

Board members asked that this be shared with the community, noting affected streets on social media and via Talk Up Taihape if timing allowed.

Roading

Taihape Napier Road was closed for a week at the start of February to allow road repavement work to be undertaken by contractors. A method has been used called Foam Bitumen Stabilisation, which is when the old road pavement is broken down and reused for the new pavement. There is a short video clip on Council's Facebook page if members would like to see more about this process.

Resurfacing will commence in town at the beginning of March.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/005

That the Verbal Update - Northern Area and Property Manager be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Ms M Pera. Carried

9.3 Updates from Taihape Community Development Trust

No update was provided.

9.4 Small Projects Fund Update - February 2026**Event Board Sign- Taihape Neighbourhood Support Incorporated**

As agreed at the June 2025 meeting, the Taihape Community Board had set aside \$2,400 from the Small Project Fund to fund applications for any Northern and Southern Events Board signage for volunteer groups.

Taihape Neighbourhood Support Incorporated were seeking funding of \$414.00 to cover signage costs for a promotional sign to be installed on the Northern Events Board.

Taihape Pool Project

Staff provided further information on the proposed painting project which Community Leisure Management were keen to undertake.

Cr Baird noted that pool staff had done a great job of brightening the interior walls and was supportive of this funding request. Other members agreed that it was important to support our local pool.

The Board were unanimous in their decision to fund the paint for this project from the Small Project Fund.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/006

That the report Small Projects Fund Update – February 2026 be received.

Ms G Duncan/Cr D Baird. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/007

That the Taihape Community Board fund \$414.00, from the allocated \$2,400 to the Taihape Neighbourhood Support Incorporated to cover signage costs.

Ms D Green/Ms M Pera. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/008

That the Taihape Community Board agree to fund the purchase of paint to the value of \$585.15 to paint the exterior Taihape Swim Centre block walls.

Ms M Pera/Ms D Green. Carried

9.5 Funding Schemes Update - February 2026

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/009

That the Funding Schemes Update – February 2026 be received.

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Ms M Pera. Carried

10 Discussion Items**10.1 Hospital Ground Trees**

After some discussion, the Board agreed that the appropriate process would be for this matter to be communicated directly to the Taihape Health Trust.

The Chair noted that this was a timely reminder for Board members to encourage locals to log any such issues through Councils Request For Service process.

Undertaking:

Cr Wong to refer this matter to the appropriate agencies.

The meeting closed at 7.00pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Taihape Community Board held on 15 April 2026.

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Chairperson