



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 3 December 2024**

Present:

TCC: Charles Fletcher (Chair), Lyn Harris (Secretary), Janis Swan, Anne Cao, Buddy Annals, Jane Manson

WDC: Cr Crystal Beavis, Cr Mike Keir, Geoff King

Tamahere Forum: Scott Mathias

Tamahere Mungaone Restoration Trust (TMRT): Leo Koppens

Community: Maggie Wilcock, Daniel Woods, Sue Robertson, Sue Goudie, Cindy Jacobs, Rebecca Early

1. Apologies: Sue Fookes, Bevin Coley, Russell Gibbs

Motion: Apologies be accepted

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Janis Swan

All in Favour

2. Confirmation of Minutes of meeting held 5 November 2024.

Motion: Minutes of the meeting held 5 November 2024 are approved

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Anne Cao

All in favour

3. Matters arising (not on this agenda): Nil

4. Correspondence (November 2024) - circulated by email prior to meeting - Attached.

- Heritage Signs: Jane Manson followed up by phoning Geoff Pooch regarding the historical signboards.

Motion: Correspondence is accepted

Moved: Lyn Harris

Seconded: Jane Manson

All in favour

5. WDC Service Delivery – Tamahere Community Committee Issues Report - Report circulated prior to the meeting by Geoff King and accepted as read.

- *CCTV and Crime Prevention Project:* Councillors will be provided with an alternative cost option in the new year which will only provide retrospective footage. Councillors are seeking a more affordable option. Charles has requested that someone from the project team contact him directly. Our Councillors report that Charles is likely to be invited to join the Councils CCTV Planning Committee.
- **Action:** Geoff King will follow this initiative up. Charles is happy to attend the next meeting
- *TMRT MOU:* The MOU is now signed.

- *Piazza Promotion and Community Events*: Booking events through the Council is an essential step for any activity in Tamahere Recreation Park. It needs to be noted that whilst the temporary event rule is operative, many of the rules within the Open Spaces Zone are still under appeal. Daniel Wood, a resident attending this meeting, expressed concern over some of the changes proposed in the District Plan with respect to Temporary Events. He has previously sought answers as to why some of the changes have been proposed. Charles has suggested that Daniel needs to start a direct dialogue with Council staff to progress the issues further. Cr Beavis suggested Carolyn Wratt may be able to help as she is still working on the, now operative, Proposed District Plan. Cr Beavis is happy to assist Daniel.

Motion: WDC Service Delivery Report be accepted

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Anne Cao
All in favour

Motion: Invoice 0064 for Website management and maintenance for 3 months presented by Scott (Planet Food News) for \$2,625.00 (no GST) is approved for payment by the Waikato District Council from TCC funds.

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Jane Manson
All in favour

6. Councillors' Report

Report circulated by Crystal and accepted as read.

- *SH1 Telephone Road re-opening in 2025*: NZTA are contributing to make this possible. The Council's CEO, Gavin Ion, has made a difference to achieve this outcome.
- *Drinking water is safe despite elevated arsenic levels*: Arsenic levels are now reducing. The increased level has been attributed to geothermal activity.
- *3 Waters CCO and new roading contracts*: The decision to establish a Waters CCO (council-controlled organisation) with either HCC or a group of other councils will, hopefully, be made next week.
- **Action:** Our Councillors will send out to TCC which CCO option has been decided by Council.
 - Waikato District Council controls the land drainage system around Tamahere – this is an unusual set-up as this normally is under the control of WRC.
 - Two water reservoir tanks are planned to be located on council land next to Matangi Road. One will serve to backup the Tamahere trickle feed system and the other is for Matangi backup.
 - The Southern Scheme for wastewater may be finished in the next 7 years. This will assist in the growth of Tamahere. TCC needs a plan for future growth based on the development of the Southern Scheme.
- *Tamahere Reserve*: A meeting was held yesterday involving members of TCC, Ngaati Hauaa, Council staff and Councillors. It was a very helpful and informative meeting. Our Councillors, Cr Tilly Turner and Geoff from Council attended along with Charles, Lyn, Jane, Leo, Russell (see report under item 9 below).
- *Tamahere Response Plan*: Cr Beavis is looking for volunteers that are willing to be involved as coordinators in the event of a disaster e.g. an earthquake. Might be an

idea to understand the nature of the event we are planning for so the right people can become involved.

- **Action:** Cr Beavis will provide a draft of the Response Plan for the next TCC meeting (Tuesday 4 February).
- *NZTA Roadworks:* Night closure to resurface Narrows Bridge is scheduled during the night week beginning 15th of December.

Motion: Councilors' report be received.

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Jane Manson **All in favour**

7. Tamahere Park & Piazza: Charles circulated his report with photos prior to the meeting.

- Paul Johnson is happy with the final outcome for the two exercise areas but is disappointed about the light & its affordability.
- Charles has invited Paul to lead & promote a fundraiser. TCC members support this event.
- **Action:** Charles will contact Steph Loughnan (WDC Open Spaces Operational Team Leader) to confirm that the current Piazza lights are still working.
- TCC would like to again acknowledge Tony & Council staff for what they have put together to promote the Piazza at Tamahere Park following our last meeting – thank you.

8. NZTA – HCC roundabout for SH 26

- Charles circulated a report forwarded to him from Sarah Loynes at HCC covering the latest developments to upgrade Morrinsville Road between Cambridge Road and Matangi Road.
- With regard to the Matangi, Morrinsville & Silverdale Roads roundabout – the HCC voted in favour of Option 2 – a roundabout with raised crossings is planned to be built and light controlled crossing across Morrinsville Road.

9. Tamahere Reserve – Reclassification & renaming

- Lance Repana (Chair of the Tauwhare Marae) met with Council staff, Charles, Jane, Lyn, Leo, Russell, Crs. Turner, Beavis & Keir to discuss Tamahere Reserve, its Maori history and the history associated with Maniapoto Paa.
- Lance gave a very complete outline of the history of the Tamahere area (pre-1880) including the three fortified Paa sites built by Ngāti Hauaa. It was clearly stated that combining the two names – Tamahere & Maniapoto was not appropriate as they evolved from very different parts of Māori history and hapu.
- Prior to the formal start of this meeting, we all met up at the Reserve and took a walk around the very spacious area up top. If the Council mowed this it would be a brilliant destination for locals to walk their unleashed dogs, picnics and as a landing or starting point for the walkways down to the Mangaone Stream and through the native plantings which have been developed by community volunteers over the last 14 plus years now under the supervision of TMRT.
- Leo, for TMRT, expressed his frustrations at slow progress and responses from the Council for work to be done in this reserve and the red tape that is continually being thrown in his face. He is despondent and thinking others may have to take over this project.

- Charles has since spoken to Dallas Fisher (Chair of TCC in 2018) regarding the naming of Tamahere Recreation Park to get a clearer understanding as to the affect its name would have on the commonly used name of Tamahere Reserve. This is an issue the Council staff raised at the time the Council approved Tamahere Recreation Park for the land between the new Village, the school and the Community Centre. It is still not resolved, and the Council staff remain concerned that it may result in confusion (because Park and Reserve are considered to be interchangeable).
- There was further discussion about the classification options and the name considerations. This will need to be resolved. The Council started a formal consultation process earlier this year. TCC and TMRT were the only submitters, both opposing the Councils recommendation. A decision is needed.
- Cindy has suggested “**Piazza at Tamahere Park**” or “**Piazza at Tamahere Village**” could be adopted for the designated Piazza area as this will help with marketing. Tony and Council staff have added a pin for the Piazza on Google maps, since our last meeting.
- **Action:** At our next TCC meeting we need to have a full name and classification rethink with the objective of concluding our recommendation to WDC. Charles will review the Reserve Act 1977 classifications before the next meeting.

10. Tamahere Forum

- We have temporary funding for the Tamahere Forum which will only go through to June 2025. Mayor Church confirmed that a mistake was made internally for the funding approved for this year (\$10,000) which Council will honour and pay, but it will be reviewed for next year. Her concern is to be “fair” to all Committees and Boards.
- Charles has pointed out to Mayor Church that the Council wants community engagement and our professional approach is working really well with at least 75% opening of our emails (twice a month unless something urgent comes up) and web-site engagement. Council has had the benefit of this on a number of occasions when it needs to get out information locally. The Discretionary Fund provided by the Council is solely used for community communications via the Tamahere Forum.
- We need to maintain community engagement. Scott has consistently reported the high rate of community engagement with each Forum post. We had been led to believe that this was the level of connection the Council was striving for in our communities and the Forum has been used by Council to get important information updates out to the community promptly.
- Social media has come in second place as the preferred communication method provided by Council.
- On the recommendation of Cindy Jacobs, Scott has applied as a not-for-profit organisation for a 50% discount from RocketSpark.
- TCC has not submitted a formal complaint regarding a Ukrainian using tamahereforum.co.nz, plagiarizing (without permission) information from the previous tamahereforum.co.nz website as well as our current tamahereforum.com website. We will revisit this in the new year.
- Aksel reserved 2 domain names: tamaherepark.nz & tamaherepark.co.nz – both these domain names lapsed in June 2024. There is no appetite to commit funds for these names.

- TCC and its Councilor's will address what works for the next financial year (July 2025/2026) to keep the Tamahere Forum operating.

11. Reports

- **CCTV Update:** as previously reported
- **Civil Defence:** as previously reported
- **Predator Free Tamahere (PFT):** Jane Morgan's report was circulated prior to the meeting and is taken as read.
 - Next Speaker event is scheduled for 9th December at the Tamahere Community Centre. The guest speaker is Annemarie Robb from Waikato Regional Council on the topic of pest plants.
- **Tamahere Lions:** No report (Sue is not available today)
- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT):** Russell's written report was circulated prior to the meeting and is taken as read.
 - The 15-year anniversary of TMRT working in Tamahere Reserve is coming up shortly. The Trust is finding the lack of Council interest disheartening. There is no WDC plan in place for the development or maintenance of Tamahere Reserve which is under the administration of WDC.
 - Cr Keir stated that TCC & TMRT need to sort the name and classification for the Reserve by way of a motion by each group. Once this is complete, he has undertaken to support the process to move WDC along to the formation of a Concept Plan.
 - Leo confirmed that there is currently no signage for the Reserve. The only signs are those relating to "No Dumping".
- **Tamahere Model Country School (TMCS):** Buddy's written report was circulated prior to the meeting and is taken as read.
 - Current Roll: 422 (as at 26 November)
 - Prizegiving – Wednesday 11 December at School
 - Christmas Carols in the Piazza at Tamahere Village – 5.00pm – 6.30pm, Friday 13 December.
 - Last day of term – Wednesday 18 December. School closes at 12.30pm.
- **Tamahere St Stephens Church:**
 - **Next and final Market Day for 2024 –** Saturday 21st December 8.30am – 1.00pm.
 - **2024 Christmas Festival –** Has started and will run until – Saturday 21st December 10.00am – 4.00pm (closed on Sundays)
 - **School & Community choirs in the church –** Monday 2nd December – Friday 6th December at 10.30am, 1.30pm and Monday 9th December – Friday 13th December at 10.30am only.
 - **Twilight Market –** Saturday 7th December 4.00pm – 8.00pm.
- **TCC Community Plan 2024-26:** Hold until 2025
- **LTP Workshop feedback:** These workshops will continue through the beginning of 2025.

Motion: All of the above reports be received

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Jane Manson
All in favour

12. Submissions

- WDC Speed Management Plan 2024 – Closed Wednesday 27 November. TCC made a submission. There were a number of individual submissions made as well.
- WRC - Nil

13. Other Business

- Off leash Dog Park at Tamahere Park: The area currently used as an overflow carpark for Tamahere Park (next to the Tamahere Community Centre) is now the designated off leash dog park area in Tamahere. It was approved in the last Dog Bylaw update. The area does not need to be fenced to be a designated off-leash area. Dogs must be always kept under control.
 - **Action:** Lyn to contact Roger McCulloch to clarify the off-leash dog park area.
- Resource consent currently underway between WRC & WDC: Maggie raised the concern that there are currently drawings showing a pathway plan to build across private land in the gully. The landowners and neighbours have not been part of this discussion.
 - Transparency is required to clarify the situation as those affected are very concerned.
 - It is also a concern that a “stouch between Councils” has required a formal RMA Application for consent to be made by WDC at a cost of ratepayers, believed to be some \$100,000.
 - Pamela Storey is the Tamahere Councillor on WRC and has visited the site with TMRT. Multiple people have let her know that WRC red tape is over the top as far as ratepayers are concerned.

Motion: TCC to invite James Matenga (WDC) to provide TCC with the documentation seeking the WRC consent and to attend a TCC meeting early in 2025 to discuss the Resource Consent process and discuss the planned pathway route.

Moved: Janis Swan **Seconded:** Jane Manson
All in favour

At the close of the meeting Charles spoke to **Geoff King** expressing our appreciation for his role as the senior Council staff representative, attending our meetings and responding to our concerns and queries. For the record, Geoff is a professional who does a great job and is a credit to the Council. Geoff, all of TCC acknowledges you as a great advocate for Council and in assisting our Committee, thank you. Everyone was wished a Merry Christmas, keep safe for next year.

14. Date of next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday, 4th February 2025.

Actions: See marked through the Minutes above.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm