

# Minutes of the Komiti Māori Meeting held in Te Hokowhitu A Tu Marae, 25B Keepa Road, Coastlands, Whakatane on Tuesday, 4 December 2018 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

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## Present:

**Chairman:** Arapeta Tahana

**Deputy Chairman:** Tipene Marr

**Councillors:** Lyall Thurston, David Love, Bill Clark, Matemoana McDonald

**Ex Officio:** Chairman Doug Leeder

**In Attendance:** Bay of Plenty Regional Council: Fiona McTavish – Chief Executive, Kataraina O'Brien - Strategic Engagement Manager, Shari Kameta – Committee Advisor, Natalie Ridler – Community Engagement Advisor, Anaru Vercoe – Māori Policy Team Leader, Herewini Simpson, Clarke Koopu – Senior Advisors (Treaty), Reuben Gardiner, Sandy Hohepa, Katerina Pihera-Ridge – Māori Policy Advisors, Moana Stensness (Technical/Cultural), Rawiri Bhana – Kaupapa Māori Advisor, Lisa Tauroa – Internal Services Officer, Sam Rossiter-Stead – Communications Manager, Maia Eruera and Winiata Tahau-Anderson – Summer Students;

Presenters: Dr Te Arani Barrett, Tani Wharewera - Ngāti Hokopū, Kere Akuhata – SWAP/BOPFS, Eula Toko – SWAP/Cultural Monitor/Ngāti Hokopū, Robert McClean, Ben Dickson – Ministry for the Environment;

Tangata Whenua and Members of the Public: Mac Kingi, Tumihitai George Raerino, Matekino Raerino – Ngāti Hokopū Kaumatua, Josephine Smith, Linda Wharewera, Rihi Elizabeth Wharewera, Adrian Te Uara Jaram, Riripeti Kingi, Cheree Latham, Marianne Devos, Rina Savage, Kelly Walker, Keita Wharewera Ballard, Talei Swanson – Ngāti Hokopū/Te Hokowhitu a Tu Marae; Mario Newton, Te Poari Newton – Ngāti Tura/Te Ngakau, Maru Tapsell – Te Arawa, Rachel Turner – Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi, Hoko Horne – Ngāti Whakahemo, Mawera Karetai - Labour Waiariki, Wetini Paul – Ngai Tamaoki/BOPDHB; Donna Mason – Te Waimana Kaaku/Omuriwaka Marae, Danae Lee – Parliamentary Service MP Support to Tamati Coffey

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## 1 Pōhiri/Welcome

A pōhiri took place at 9.30am before the start of the meeting at 10.47 am.

## 2 Karakia Whakapuare/Opening Prayer

A karakia was provided by Kaumatua Hori Raerino.

### 3 **Apologies**

Nil

### 4 **Order of Business**

The Chair advised that the Tangata Whenua presentation relating to the Kopeopeo Canal Remediation Project item as identified in Agenda Item 9.2 would be received after Agenda Item 8.1.

### 5 **General Business**

Nil

### 6 **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

Nil

### 7 **Previous Minutes**

#### 7.1 **Komiti Māori Minutes - 9 October 2018**

##### **Matter Arising**

Minute item 10.1, agenda page 17 – Regarding the issue raised by Mr Eru George in the Open Forum. It was explained that Māori Policy had been working alongside compliance and consent to address the matters raised at the previous Komiti Māori hui. Mr George was contacted and advised that a site visit had taken place to investigate a possible dam breach at Tree Tops Lodge, with no breach of the dam found. Kearoa Marae is located outside of Bay of Plenty Regional Council's (BOPRC) boundary, and therefore assistance with erosion would need to be address by Waikato Regional Council (WRC). It was noted that the resource consents for the Tree Tops Lodge had been historically issued by WRC.

##### **Resolved**

**That Komiti Māori:**

- 1 Confirms the Komiti Māori Minutes of 9 October 2018 are a true and correct record.**

**Thurston/McDonald  
CARRIED**

### 8 **Presentations**

#### 8.1 **Key Issues and Aspirations for Ngāti Hokopū Hapū – Dr Te Arani Barrett**

*Refer PowerPoint Presentation [A3079239](#).*

Ngāti Hokopū representative Dr Te Arani Barrett gave a presentation on behalf of Te Hokowhitu-A-Tu Marae that highlighted key challenges and aspirations for Ngāti Hokopū Hapū.

Key points:

- Provided background on the establishment of Te Hokowhitu-A-Tu Marae as a strategic move for crop growing, hapū links with Wairaka Marae and Te Whanau-a-Apanui and erection of the Wharenuī as a memorial and whare tipuna in remembrance of World War I soldiers;
- Manaakitanga was important to the hapū, with past fundraising and support given to World War I Te Rau Aroha army truck and food supplies and present day commemoration and support of Armistice Day, community events and as a marae welfare centre;
- 50 years of development challenges during the 1950s to 1970s had included: land acquisitions taken for state highway realignment, sewage treatment, industrial and urban development and toxic waste dumping, along with impacts from air pollution from the Whakatane Board Mills and contamination of Kopeopeo Canal (1970-1980's) leading to the loss of a cultural food source;
- Development issues had separated the hapū and alienated them from their whenua, resulting in enduring memories of loss of land and concerns of long-standing health impacts on affected whanau;
- Discussed the land negotiations associated with the Kopeopeo Bioremediation and the importance of land exchanges that gave appropriate consideration to the surrender of Māori land, access and links to whakapapa, as a form of cultural capital, while providing for the best interests of the community;
- Noted that past practices had improved since the enactment of the Resource Management Act, which included specific provisions for consultation with Māori
- Highlighted that when power is shared (and interfaces can be found), possibilities of true partnership can begin to emerge;
- Hapū aspirations were simple but important to: increase car parking to improve marae access and activity, retrieve land for papakāinga and kaumatua housing, have control over dust, noise and security issues, undisturbed use of the marae for cultural purposes; and to apply to the Historic Places Trust to make the Wharenuī a historic building;
- The Hapū had a sincere desire to work together in the future.

## 8.2 Māori Perspective of Kopeopeo Canal Remediation

*Refer PowerPoint Presentation [A3077344](#).*

A presentation was provided by Kopeopeo Canal Remediation Project Community Liaison Group representative Mr Tani Wharewera, Sawmill Workers with Poisons (SWAP) Chairman and BOP Facilitation Service (BOPFS) representative Mr Kere Akuhata and SWAP/Cultural Monitor Ms Eula Toko on the Māori perspective of the remediation of the Kopeopeo Canal.

Key points:

- Mr Wharewera acknowledged those involved in the aspects of the health and contamination of their people, land and waters from the contamination from the former Whakatāne Sawmill;
- Noted the timeline of activity from 1990-present day involving: Government lobbying, engagement with tangata whenua, the community and Government agencies; bioremediation trials and involvement with CHH Kinleith Mill (2005-2006); establishment of the BOP Facilitation Service (BOPFS), Kopeopeo Remediation

Project, SWAP and community input, engagement and setup of the Community Liaison Group (CLG) (2010-2018);

- Acknowledged the late Joe Harawira and SWAP who had played a major role in the issue and outcome;
- SWAP's philosophy and vision was to: represent the health of man and the land, which went hand in hand; and the health and wellbeing of future generations; SWAP mahi was tikanga-Māori driven; and their logo represented Papatuanuku, SWAP and its fallen workers, toxins of the land, reversal of contamination through bioremediation, collective response and honesty;
- Ms Toka provided background on: her involvement as a science technician and representative for Ngāti Awa during the 2005 bioremediation trials; the fungal trial process; utilisation of Ngāti Awatanga Mātauranga knowledge, overseas testing and validation, successful outcome results of 87% degradation of contaminant; knowledge sharing with other contaminated sites within New Zealand; and her new role as Iwi cultural monitor for potential discovery of koiwi that provided continued involvement for Ngāti Awa;
- Outlined the bioremediation process for: extraction, transfer, isolation and containment of contaminated soil at containment sites; health and safety; quality assurance; contingency processes for canal marine life; potential contamination incidents; bioremediation and restoration utilising phytoremediation and poplar planting;
- Next steps comprised: bioremediation at 27 sites; investigating gaps in knowledge at other sites; removal of dioxins insitu; progress of trials; and development of a toolkit for science degree students to build capacity and soil treatment knowledge;
- Acknowledged SWAP workers who had passed on; SWAP's perseverance and the confidence placed in fungal bioremediation by the late Joe Harawira; the significant journey and involvement taken by SWAP, Ngāti Awa kaumātua, scientists, technicians and officials during the bioremediation trials; and the collaborative efforts of the local councils, community and above-mentioned.
- Acknowledged the Regional Council for providing the community a level of comfort in the process; and recognised the utilisation of western science alongside Ngāti Awatanga in the process.

In response to questions:

- Ms Toka noted that a documentary ([The Green Chain](#)) had been made, which followed the story of the late Joe Harawira and his battle to reveal the impact of workplace toxins on his community (refer link: <https://www.boprc.govt.nz/our-projects/cleaning-up-the-kopeopeo-canal>).

Members' Comments:

- Commended SWAP and CLG representatives and the use of Ngāti Awatanga-Mātauranga Māori in the process;
- Noted that the Kopeopeo Canal Remediation Project had been the subject of Council's Audit and Risk Committee for the past 8-9 years and that despite the challenges with the science and contaminated soil, Council was committed to getting rid of contaminated sites and supporting the education of future generations.

## 8.3 Ministry for the Environment – NES-FM and Crown Māori Relations

Refer PowerPoint Presentation [A3078723](#).

Ministry for the Environment (MfE) Officials Mr Robert McClean and Mr Ben Dickson gave a presentation on the MfE's new approach to the Crown/Māori Relationship for Shared Interests in Freshwater.

Key points:

- Outlined the Government's key priorities: zero carbon, freshwater and making housing affordable; and advised of Resource Management Act (RMA) provisions, which were under review to: reinstate the discretion for councils to notify subdivision consents; introduce higher infringement fines for RMA breaches; with further Government reforms planned after the next election to strengthen environmental protections and look at better ways to build houses;
- MfE's Essential Freshwater objectives as part of the new approach for shared interests in Freshwater were to: stop further degradation and loss, reverse past damage and address allocation;
- Actions would include: amendments to the RMA and NPS; introduction of a new National Environmental Standard for Freshwater to be in force by 2020; targeted action and investment in at-risk catchment; wide engagement on developing options for allocating water resources; and ongoing future policy framework development, underpinned by a planned approach for transition;
- An advisory network incorporating a range of perspectives had been setup to assist the Government that included a Kahui Wai Māori Freshwater Forum to gain Te Ao Māori perspectives;
- MfE would undertake wide consultation on preferred options in 2019 before final decisions were made by Ministers;
- Minister for the Environment had released a two-staged approach to RMA reforms in November:
  - Stage 1: contained a narrow set of changes including provisions for regional councils to upgrade groups of consents in line with updated Standards to help speed the clean-up of rivers, was anticipated to be introduced into Parliament in 2019; opportunity for input via the select committee process;
  - Stage 2: a more comprehensive review of the system to commence in 2019;
- The Three Waters Review had commenced by the Department of Internal Affairs, as part of an ongoing reform programme to transform drinking water, wastewater and stormwater; would incorporate recommendations on regulatory arrangements for drinking water and wastewater anticipated in mid-2019; discussion on service delivery and economic regulation with options expected by end 2019;
- The document titled, 'Shared Interests in Freshwater – A new approach to the Crown/Māori Relationship for Freshwater (October 2018)' outlined options for consideration, with copies made available and accessible from MfE's website;

In response to questions:

- Regarding how MfE could assist councils to ensure tangata whenua had capacity to participate in the process, was something that MfE grappled with and did not have the answers to, but were striving to achieve engagement that was equitable and reflective of all viewpoints;
- Noted that the 'Shared Interests in Freshwater' document's appendix discussed engagement with Māori and Central and Local Government support, which options would be advised by the Minister in the coming weeks;

- MfE did not have a position on water bottling and the selling of water for profit, which would be addressed and directed by Central Government in 2019; but did have a position on wider water environment and moving New Zealand into a circular economy of reducing waste, recycling and re-use;

## 9 Reports

### 9.1 Update - He Korowai Matauranga (Matauranga Māori Framework)

*Refer Tabled Document Number 1.*

Strategic Engagement Manager Kataraina O'Brien presented the *He Korowai Mātauranga Framework* document (HKM) (refer Tabled Document 1) and Roadmap for endorsement.

#### Key points:

- HKM was approved by Komiti Māori in 27 February 2018 however, had undergone refinements;
- Noted HKM had been informed by a series of interviews with tangata whenua practitioners across the rohe;
- HKM implementation would be an important programme of work for the Council, with the draft implementation plan anticipated in June 2019. The development of the implementation would require cross-organisation input and commitment.

#### In response to questions:

- Implementation was fit for purpose to: bridge the gap, build knowledge and capacity between western science and Mātauranga Māori;
- Development and rollout would involve collaboration, feedback and commitment of relevant staff groupings from across the organisation;
- Regional Direction and Delivery (RDD) Committee's role in the implementation rollout was yet to be decided and was subject to feedback, following completion of the draft implementation plan in June 2019.

#### Members' Comments:

- Staff to consider collaborating with other councils in the region who had the same requirements, opportunities for competency training for the benefit of tangata whenua across the rohe;
- Questioned whether the budget needed to be reviewed to match the needs of implementation as it evolved;
- Sought consideration of enabling tangata whenua capacity to participate and respond to the implementation process;
- Sought consideration for the final HKM implementation plan to be socialised with Council and/or RDD, viewing it as being vital to the future business of Council.

## Resolved

### That Komiti Māori:

- 1 **Receives the report, Update - He Korowai Matauranga (Mātauranga Māori Framework);**

- 2 **Endorse the Finalised He Korowai Mātauranga Framework document, an internal staff resource.**
- 3 **Endorse the He Korowai Mātauranga Roadmap (outlined under section 5 of the report) to develop an Implementation Plan that is fit for purpose.**

**Tahana/Marr  
CARRIED**

## **Change to Order of Business**

The Chair advised that agenda item 9.3 'Other Matters of Interest' report would be received next on the agenda.

### **9.2 Other Matters of Interest**

*Refer Movie Clip [HandsOnWater\\_5min\\_V04](#)*

Strategic Engagement Manager Kataraina O'Brien highlighted key points from the report and introduced summer students Maia Eruera, Hannah Bakker and Winiata Tahau-Anderson who gave a brief kōrero on their studies and initial perspectives of working at Council.

A video was played highlighting the Hands on Water event that was held on 14-15 November 2018.

## **Resolved**

**That Komiti Māori:**

- 1 **Receives the report, Other Matters of Interest.**

**Tahana/Thurston  
CARRIED**

### **9.3 Toi Moana Komiti Māori 2018 Highlights**

Strategic Engagement Manager Kataraina O'Brien summarised points from the report.

Key points:

- Noted Komiti Māori was unique in that it held all of its meetings on marae to enable councillors to engage with tangata whenua and the community;
- Highlighted Komiti Māori's support of: the summer student internship programme; He Korowai Matauranga – Mātauranga Māori Framework; He Toka Tumoana – Toi Moana Environmental Scholarship; Hearing Commissioner sponsorship for Iwi representatives; providing input and feedback into Māori engagement; monitoring responsiveness to Māori; Pou Ngaio and RMA training for Māori;
- Acknowledged Council's endeavours to support and assist tangata whenua capacity;
- Komiti Māori's support had led to a new Mātauranga Māori Scientist role and RMA Māori Planner being established through Council's Long Term Plan, both of which would be recruited in 2019;

## **Resolved**

**That Komiti Māori:**

- 1 **Receives the report, Toi Moana Komiti Māori 2018 Highlights;**
- 2 **Notes the Terms of Reference may be amended in 2019 to give effect to related outcomes in the Long Term Plan (2018-2028).**

**Thurston/McDonald  
CARRIED**

**10 Open Forum****10.1 Mr Te Poari Newton - Ngāti Tura/Te Ngakau**

- Acknowledged Council's efforts in relation to banks repairs undertaken at Parawai Marae, Ngongotahā, prior to the April 2018 floods;
- Noted high level E.coli readings in the Ngongotahā and Waitetī streams in Rotorua had been reported at a recent catchment meeting, which was raised as a concern for tangata whenua. Mr Newton noted that tangata whenua had not been informed of the results and wished to be informed of such matters in future;
- Informed of a breakdown in communication where Ngāti Tura/Te Ngakau and Ngāti Whakaue had not been notified of Resource consents 68220 and 67343 regarding disposal of contaminated waste at Kahikatea/Waikuta wetlands and at the top of Paradise Valley Spring, which Mr Newton requested to be addressed.

**10.2 Mr Maru Tapsell - Waitaha representation on Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority**

Mr Tapsell raised for consideration the unresolved issue of Waitaha's joint membership on Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority (TMOK), as a result of the 2012 Tapuika Treaty Settlement and the requirement for planning documents to take into account the Waitaha Deed of Settlement.

A member acknowledged the ongoing issue, noting the challenge and how Council was unable to resolve the matter due to TMOK being established by Crown Settlement.

**11 Closing Karakia**

Kaumatua George Raerino acknowledged Komiti Māori and speakers before closing the meeting with a karakia.

**The meeting closed at 1.42 pm.**

**CONFIRMED: DATE**

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Chairperson