

Minutes of the Maori Committee Meeting held at Te Pākira Marae, 16 Tryon Street, Whakarewarewa, Rotorua on Thursday, 28 April 2011 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

Present:

Chairman: T Eru

Councillors: R Bennett, J Mansell, T Marr, D Owens, L Thurston

In Attendance: K Belshaw (Māori Policy Manager), T Himona, M McDonald, J Waldon (Māori Policy Advisors), R Rogers (Student), A Grayling (Rotorua Lakes Project Manager), S Weiss (Pollution Prevention Acting Manager), S Kameta (Committee Administration Officer)

Attendance in part – J Barber (Senior Environmental Scientists), B Robson (Senior Planner), W Murray (Group Manager Land Management), P Sisam (Senior Communications Advisor)

The external attendance of the following was recorded:

Dr C Battershill and Professor Hamilton (University of Waikato), Wally Tangohau (Te Puni Kokiri), Maude Edwards (Whakatōhea/Upokorehe), Evelyn Forrest (Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa), J Harawira, R Mokai-Young, K Akuhata (Ngāti Awa/SWAP), T Bidois, G Mohi, T Bidois (Ngāti Rangiwewehi), G Rice (Tapuika), M Brown (WBOPDC), R Mihinui (Te Arawa Lakes Trust), P Haira, W Lee (Tūhourangi)

Absent: Councillor J Mansell

Apologies: Chairman J Cronin (Ex-Officio), Councillor T Marr, Councillor P Thompson, B Bayfield (Chief Executive), A Bruere (Lake Operations Manager), Eddie Grogan (Group Manager Water Management)

External apologies of Hera Naera and Pia Bennett

1 **Adjournment**

The meeting opened and adjourned at 9.30 am until the opening mihi had finished.

Resolved

That the Māori Committee:

- 1 **Adjourns the Māori Committee meeting.**

**Eru/Bennett
CARRIED**

2 **Chairman's Announcement**

The meeting reconvened at 10.00 am with Chairman Tai Eru welcoming everyone to the meeting and introducing the committee members.

Chairperson Eru advised that there would be a change in the order of business to that stated in the agenda. Items 4.1 and 4.2, external presentations from Wally Tangohou and Roku Mihinui, and Item 3.6 would be taken first to allow the presenters and tangata whenua representatives to attend prior engagements.

Resolved

That the Māori Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 **Accepts a change to the order of items listed in the agenda.**

**Eru/Bennett
CARRIED**

3 **General Business and Tabled Items**

Resolved

That pursuant to section 46A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 the following items be considered at this meeting.

3.1 **Contaminated Sites at Puarenga Stream Sites – Walton Lee**

Reason

The matter has just come to hand and should not be delayed until the next Māori Committee meeting scheduled in June 2011.

**Eru/Thurston
CARRIED**

4 **External presentations**

4.1 **Summary of recently released Te Puni Kokiri reports (presented by Wally Tangohou)**

Refer Tabled Document No.1.

*Refer Te Puni Kokiri Reports: ISBN 978-0-478-34502-5 (February 2010);
ISBN: 0-478-26072-5 (October 2007)*

Mr Wally Tangohou (Regional Manager for Waiariki, Te Puni Kokiri) presented the latest findings from recently released reports that highlighted the barriers, strengths, opportunities and strategic intent to enable māori economic development. Mr Tangohou provided an update of Treaty Settlements within the region and noted that the settlement process was the beginning of the journey. He advised that the Māori Futures Document (to be released in May) highlighted key drivers for future change and progress, including local investment opportunities. Mr Tangohou circulated copies of the publication 'For Māori Future Makers' to members.

The Committee thanked Mr Tangohou for his presentation and said it looked forward to future updates from Te Puni Kokiri.

4.2 **Te Arawa Lakes Progress Report (presented by Roku Mihinui)**

Refer Tabled Document No.2.

Mr Roku Mihinui (Chief Executive, Te Arawa Lakes Trust) gave an overview of the Te Arawa Lakes Trust structure and strategic priorities, and highlighted the Trusts involvement and management in resource management, investment ventures, training and research opportunities and leadership goals. Mr Mihinui also provided an overview of the Lake Rotomahana Project (an underwater study of the pink and white terraces).

Mr Mihinui provided clarification on questions about subsidy support for the Maketū wastewater scheme, awareness of soil contamination at Tikitere and how better to utilise spring water. Mr Mihinui said the Trust welcomed any collaboration and engagement that would enhance Iwi capabilities.

5 **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned for a short break at 11.28 am and reconvened at 11.35 am.

6 **Reports**

6.1 **Lodgement of Ngati Whare's Iwi Management Plan (IMP)**

Refer Tabled Document No.3.

Jane Waldon (Māori Policy Advisor) provided a brief overview of the report that recommended Ngati Whare's Iwi Management Plan (IMP) be received by Council. Ms Waldon introduced Ngāti Whare representatives Tuahau Iraia, Lena Brew (Trustees) and Laurence Tamati (Project Manager) who presented their IMP to the committee. Mr Iraia and Mr Tamati thanked the Regional Council on behalf of Ngāti Whare, noting that the opportunity and process they had undertaken to develop their IMP had enriched their Iwi

It was agreed that Ngati Whare report back to the committee on their experience of how Council's IMP process can assist other iwi to advance their capabilities to develop iwi management plans. Kataraina Belshaw (Māori Policy Manager) explained that the template Ngati Whare used was a pilot that had worked well, and noted that a workshop with Ngati Whare and relevant staff was scheduled in May to introduce and ensure the plan would be integrated into Council processes.

Resolved

That the Maori Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Lodgement of Ngati Whare's Iwi Management Plan.**
- 2 Officially receives the Ngati Whare Iwi Management Plan.**

**Thurston/Owens
CARRIED**

6.2 Rotorua geothermal system - an overview

Refer Tabled Document No.4.

Janine Barber (Senior Environmental Scientist) provided a presentation on the Rotorua geothermal system. Ms Barber advised that the geothermal system had reached its natural state and that geothermal pressure had stabilised. She said that in order for this to be sustained, reinjection and system management would be important tools. Bridget Robson (Senior Planner) then provided an overview of Council's policy regime in respect of its management of the geothermal resource in the region. She advised that the current development of the Proposed Regional Policy Statement included various protection areas for geothermal use, noting this was being undertaken in collaboration with Environment Waikato.

Clarification was provided on questions from members of the public on proportion of domestic use, geothermal chemistry and compliance.

Resolved

That the Maori Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 **Receives the report, Rotorua geothermal system - an overview.**

Owens/Thurston
CARRIED

6.3 Update on Rotorua Lakes Programme

Refer Rotorua Lakes Protection and Restoration Action Programme Report: State of the Rotorua/Te Arawa Lakes 2009-2010

Anna Grayling (Rotorua Lakes Project Manager) gave an update on key achievements and progress being made on the Rotorua Lakes Programme. A copy of the State of the Rotorua/Te Arawa Lakes 2009-2010 report was circulated to Committee members. Ms Grayling advised that the final ROTAN report would be reported at the next meeting of the Operations, Monitoring & Regulation Committee, which could be presented to the Maori Committee if needed.

Resolved

That the Maori Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 **Receives the report, Update on Rotorua Lakes Programme.**

Owens/Thurston
CARRIED

6.4 Presentation of the Rotorua Lakes Restoration Programme – Implementation

Professor David Hamilton (Bay of Plenty Chair in Lakes Management and Restoration, Waikato University) provided a brief overview of his portfolio to increase the opportunities and capabilities of Māori students within water science and gave a presentation on the lakes monitoring programmes and state of health of the lakes. In his presentation he highlighted potential district council stormwater issues at Lake Tikitapu and the deterioration of Lake Rotokakahi following 30m setback of native

forest revegetation. Dr Hamilton also made special note of the inclusion of feeder lakes when developing the Lake Tarawera Action Plan, and linking nutrients to water quality and key biodiversity in action plans.

Resolved

That the Maori Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Presentation of the Rotorua Lakes Restoration Programme - Implementation.**

**Thurston/Owens
CARRIED**

7 External presentation

7.1 Indigenous Experiences in Torres Straight (Chris Battershill, Coastal Science Chair, University of Waikato)

Dr Chris Battershill (Coastal Science Chair, University of Waikato) introduced himself and outlined his role as the Bay of Plenty Coastal Chair in providing education, training and research opportunities for Bay of Plenty communities including Iwi. Dr Battershill explained the research studies undertaken on biodiversity marine inventories and the potential benefits to coastal communities from innovations with marine materials. He provided the Torres Strait example where aquaculture farming is providing economic benefits and training opportunities to remote coastal communities. Dr Battershill noted their experience with native title issues and the importance of Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA).

The Committee thanked Dr Battershill for his presentation. Dr Battershill provided clarification on questions raised by members of the public on similar opportunities for our coastal communities and remedial uses of marine products.

8 Reports

8.1 Making Good Decisions Sponsorship

Kataraina Belshaw (Māori Policy Manager) provided an overview of the report noting that applications for sponsorship of the Making Good Decisions course were now open. Ms Belshaw advised that this was a Council initiative for the purpose of building iwi capability. It was noted that the 2010 applicants that went through in the last round were Laurence Tamati and Gina Mohi. Applications for this round close 10 June 2011 and will be approved and notified on 30 June 2011.

Resolved

That the Maori Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Making Good Decisions Sponsorship.**

**Owens/Thurston
CARRIED**

8.2 Update on the Rangitaiki River Forum

Ms Belshaw (Māori Policy Manager) presented the report that updated the Committee on upcoming legislation that will enact the Rangitaiki River Forum. Ms Belshaw advised Committee members that the Forum would be a joint committee of Council and that a decision would need to be made soon on which members would sit on the Forum.

Resolved

That the Maori Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Update on the Rangitaiki River Forum.

Thurston/Owens
CARRIED

8.3 Post Meeting Action Table from the Maori Committee Meeting held at the Whakaue Kaipapa Marae, Maketu on the 24th February 2011

Ms Belshaw (Māori Policy Manager) updated the Committee on the post meeting action table from the previous Committee meeting of 24 February 2011, noting that some matters were still being followed up with by Council staff.

Committee members asked for an update on the following matters:

1. Tangata whenua presentation Item 3 (Māori Capability Conference) - Ms Belshaw advised she had raised the issue with the Chief Executive, and that it was possible for a conference to be organised later in the year but budget for this was still to be approved.
2. Tangata whenua presentation Item 4 (Resource Consent Applications – Pia Bennett) – Councillor Owens noted that he and Councillor Bennett were following up on this issue. Ms Belshaw advised that the Consents Manager had responded directly to the Chief Executive on this matter.

Resolved

That the Maori Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Post Meeting Action Table from the Maori Committee Meeting held at the Whakaue Kaipapa Marae, Maketu on the 24th February 2011.

Owens/Thurston
CARRIED

9 General Business and Tabled Items

9.1 Contamination at Waipa and Puarenga Stream Sites - Walton Lee

Mr Walton Lee of Tuhourangi hapu presented a DVD recording of his research into contaminated sites within his local community. Mr Lee spoke to the DVD highlighting

site walkovers he had undertaken at the Tureporepo dump site, the old Waipa sawmill site and the Whakarewarewa irrigation scheme near the Puarenga Stream.

Mr Lee raised serious concerns of the impacts he had experienced from effluent seepage and chemical discharges on the surrounding environment, waterways and the health of his local community and hapu. In his presentation Mr Lee mentioned past accounts of his elders and tipuna and the impacts and exposure they had experienced from the contaminated sites.

The Committee congratulated Mr Lee on the research he had undertaken and for bringing this matter to its attention. Members asked questions of clarification noting Mr Lee had raised this matter with the Regional Council who had acknowledged and showed support for his research and findings. .

The Committee requested that given the adverse environmental impacts that these contaminated sites inflict on this community, that the matter warrants further investigation by the Regional Council. The Committee agreed that this matter be forwarded to Council for its consideration and recommended staff investigate and provide scientific information on the contaminated sites mentioned.

10 **Closing karakia**

T Bidois.

The meeting closed at 2.12 p.m.