**Minutes of the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group meeting held at the Cruise Deck, Club Mount Maunganui, 45 Kawaka Street, Mount Maunganui, on Friday, 17 May 2019 commencing at 9.30am**

**Present:**

**Chairperson:** Cr Norm Bruning - Bay of Plenty Regional Council

**Members:** Pia Bennett - Ngāi Te Rangi

Te Pio Kawe - Ngāti Ranginui

Cr Mark Dean - Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Cr Peter Mackay - Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Cr Kelvin Clout - Tauranga City Council

Cr Catherine Stewart - Tauranga City Council

Cr Matemoana McDonald - Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Cr Paula Thompson - Bay of Plenty Regional Council

**Observer:** Jeff Milham - Department of Conservation

**In Attendance: Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC)**:

Sarah Omundsen - General Manager Regulatory Services; Pim De Monchy - Coastal Catchments Manager, James Low - Team Leader Policy (Freshwater); Toby Barach - Principal Advisor, Coastal Catchments; Clarke Koopu - Senior Advisor (Treaty); Reuben Gardiner - Senior Planner (Water Policy) and Merinda Pansegrouw - Committee Advisor

**Tauranga City Council (TCC)**:

Radleigh Cairns - Consents Officer, Growth & Infrastructure; Cheryl Steiner - Strategic Planner; Clinton Bowyer - City Project Analyst

**Western Bay of Plenty District Council (WBOPDC)**:

Chris Nepia - Māori Relationships & Engagement Advisor; Jodie Rickard - Senior Policy Analyst

**Apologies:** Charlie Tawhiao - Ngāi Te Rangi, Riki Nelson - Ngāti Ranginui and Cr Paula Thompson - Bay of Plenty Regional Council for lateness

# Opening Karakia

Te Pio Kawe opened the meeting with a karakia.

# Apologies

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

1. Accepts the apologies tendered by Deputy Chairperson Charlie Tawhiao, Riki Nelson and Cr Paula Thompson for lateness.

**Bruning/McDonald**

**CARRIED**

# Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Nil

# Previous Minutes

## Tauranga Moana Advisory Group Minutes – 15 February 2019

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

1. Confirms the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group Meeting Minutes of 15 February 2019, as a true and correct record.

**Clout/Stewart**

**CARRIED**

# Update from Partners

## Ngāi Te Rangi

Refer item 5.2.

## Ngāti Ranginui

Te Pio Kawe provided the following verbal update:

Key Points

* Attended the Waitangi Tribunal Inquiry Hearing in Wellington during the week of 8 to 12 May 2019
* Similar to the Environmental Court, evidence was given by the six iwi who had grievances against the Crown's handling of the Pare Hauraki Treaty settlement
* The outcome of the inquiry was expected by August/September 2019
* Maintained mana whenua over Tauranga Harbour and hoped for recognition of tikanga Māori as a culturally appropriate way to find a solution
* From an iwi/hapū perspective, supported the continuation/momentum of the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group’s activities to progress the engagement and contribution of iwi/hapū to the Tauranga Moana Programme and to facilitate an effective decision-making process.

## Ngāti Pukenga

Nil

## Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Western Bay of Plenty District Council Councillors Peter Mackay and Mark Dean provided a verbal update highlighting the following:

Key Points

* Overview of the history relevant to Te Rereatukahia Marae Wastewater Connection
  + Although a sewer system was in place within 50m of the marae, there was currently no connection to the marae
  + All parties were keen to make the connection; however, the current challenge remained the cost of the connection
  + Confirmed that current discharges from Te Rereatukahia Marae were not causing any adverse effects
* Ongare Point Wastewater Scheme had been completed
* Tahataharoa Land Purchase and Restoration Project was on track
* Cycleway link between Omokoroa and Tauranga was progressing well.

Point Raised by Members

* Tahataharoa wetland was a culturally-sensitive/waahi tapu area – evident by the fact that matters had previously been addressed in the Environment Court; advised that a cautionary approach be followed by relevant staff during the engagement process with Pirirakau hapū.

In Response to Questions

* A report on the outcome of an investigation into the status of wastewater treatment services at marae around Tauranga Moana was considered by the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee of Bay of Plenty Regional Council. The report was currently confidential as it involved complex and highly sensitive issues, particularly with respect to Māori obligations to kaitiakitanga in freshwater. As a next step, staff intended to engage with trustees from relevant marae in Tauranga Moana to discuss ways in which Regional Council could facilitate discussions on these matters.

Item for Staff Follow-up

* A copy/version of the report on the outcome of the investigation into the status of wastewater treatment services at marae around Tauranga Moana to be provided to the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group once the confidential report had been released from public excluded status.

## Tauranga City Council

Cr Catherine Stewart highlighted TCC key work streams as follows:

Key Points

* Construction of the new sludge thickening and dewatering plant at Te Maunga Waste Water Treatment Plant was complete and commissioning was continuing. All thickened sludge was now transported to Hampton Downs
* As part of the City Water's drive to reduce wastewater blockages in the network, the wet wipe campaign "Save our pipes from wipes" was progressing well and continued to raise awareness with local communities. Data on the decrease in blockages due to wet wipes since the campaign started would be provided at a future meeting
* As part of the Industrial Stormwater Audit Programme over a 100 industrial sites in the Waimapu Estuary catchment had recently been audited by TCC and BOPRC; a detail report would be provided in due course
* Work was currently underway in the Mount Industrial catchment area to improve stormwater flow
* Good progress had been made with reinstating the coastal edge as part of the Kulim Park Redevelopment Project.

In Response to Questions

* TCC’s Parks Department was currently investigating the installation of soft engineering options/ecological features at Kulim Park as part of the coastal restoration of the Redevelopment Project, developing the park in a sustainable manner.

## Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Cr Norm Bruning outlined BOPRC priorities:

Key Points

* Kaimai Mamaku Catchment Forum had been successful in getting the Kaimai Project through to Stage 2 of the Predator Free 2050 funding round. $4.6 million had been applied for
* Funding from the Provincial Growth Fund had been provided to Predator Free 2050, with the expectation that successful projects would specifically build iwi and hapū capacity and capability
* Kaitiaki in Tauranga Moana were recently engaged to undertake a cultural flow checklist on ten streams of significance
  + The work was undertaken following the extremely low flows experienced before Christmas; a report had been prepared on the results of the work
  + Staff were working with Ngāi te Rangi on securing Ministry for the Environment funding for cultural flows
* Port of Tauranga Stormwater Discharge Consent Application had been heard at a limited hearing last week
  + TCC was the only submitter present at the hearing, with tangata whenua having withdrawn their submission
  + All parties were in support of consent being granted, subject to addressing some technical and legal matters through the consent conditions
  + Commissioner Greg Hill adjourned the hearing and instructed BOPRC, the Port and TCC to each provide comments on a final set of conditions that would be considered when making a final decision on the application.

# Conservation Update

## Department of Conservation

Department of Conservation District Manager Jeff Milham provided a verbal update, outlining the following:

Key Points

* Kaimai Mamaku Kauri Protection
  + Recently appointed a project co-ordinator role to drive the kaupapa
  + National (Kauri dieback) Pest Management Plan proposal: to be live in September, pending ministerial sign-off
  + Upgrading of tracks progressing well
  + Physical closure of six walking tracks in the northern Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Park to protect kauri was ongoing and a necessary measure to keep the disease from spreading
  + Track Ambassadors Pilot Programme Initiative for the Kaimai Ranges launched today

10.05 am – Cr Thompson entered the meeting.

* Kaimai Mamaku Catchments Forum
  + Good progress had been made - supported by DOC and councils
  + As part of the funding process, Jeff Milham and Department of Conservation Director Operations, Central North Island Region, Damian Coutts would meet with BOPRC Chief Executive Fiona McTavish
* Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy
  + Over the last year, the draft strategy had been reviewed; timeframes would be extended to review conversations/consultations.

# Reports

## Strategic Context: Freshwater Futures update

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Team Leader Policy (Freshwater) James Low presented the report and responded to questions:

Key Points

* Government’s Essential Freshwater and Three Waters Policy Programmes were likely to be released in July/August 2019 as proposed discussion documents
* Pre-mediation meetings had been held with all appellants of Proposed Plan Change 9 – Region-wide Water Quantity. An appeals sub-committee has been formed and has had its first meeting. Multi-party mediation meetings were underway
* The Plan Change 10 hearing was currently adjourned and an interim decision on Stage 1 would be made by the Environment Court in due course. No date for the stage 2 Hearing had been set
* Baseline work was largely complete for the Tauranga (Plan Change 16). Initial discussions with Waikato University have highlighted the possibility of using their harbour model to support the freshwater policy work. Further consideration was required before any decision could be made.

In Response to Questions:

* In response to a question relating to the membership/representation on the Regional Water Advisory Panel, the following was provided

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Members of the Regional Water Advisory Panel** | | |
| **Sector/Interest** | **Organisation** | **Member** |
| Māori |  | Roku Mihinui –CEO of Te Arawa Lakes Trust |
|  | Karamea Insley |
| Environmental | Forest and Bird | Rebecca Stirnemann – Central North Island Regional Manager |
| Fish and Game | Eben Herbert - Resource Management / Habitats Officer |
| Department of Conservation | Michel Dedual - Science Advisor |
|  | Linda Conning – Consultant |
| Economic Development | Bay of Connections | Anthony Olsen – Māori Business |
| Tanira Kingi – He Mauri Ohooho (alternate) |
| Energy | Trustpower | Nicola Foran – Lead Environmental Advisor |
| Forestry | PF Olsen | Kit Richards – Environment Manager |
| OJIFS | Philip Millichamp – National Environmental Manager |
| Agricultural | Dairy NZ | Justine Young – Senior Policy Advisor |
| Horticulture NZ | Chris Keenan – Natural Resources and Environment Advisor |
| Beef and Lamb | Corina Jordan – General Manager, Market Access |
| Federated Farmers | Rick Powdrell - Past BOP Provincial President |
| Irrigation NZ | Andrew Curtis – CEO |
| Te Puke Fruitgrowers Assn | Ross Bawden |
| **Observer** | Martin Meier | Federate Farmers Senior Reg. Policy Advisor |

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

1. **Receives the report, Freshwater Futures Update dated 10 April 2019.**

Mackay/Clout

CARRIED

## Tauranga Moana Programme Update

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Coastal Catchments Manager Pim De Monchy presented the Tauranga Moana Programme Update Report:

Key Points Highlighted

* He Korowai Mātauranga, BOPRC’s regional mātauranga Māori internal staff framework had been prepared which would assist Toi Moana in working with tangata whenua. The draft implementation plan was due 30 June 2019 and would give effect to three Muka or strands: (1) developing cultural responsiveness tools to support staff; (2) preparing a relationship strategy that will enhance staff capability to respond to tangata whenua; and the interfacing of mātauranga with science, and (3) development of a repository of mātauranga that was centralised and managed in collaboration with Māori
* Summer had seen significantly lower volumes of sea lettuce washing up around the inner harbour beaches
* A seagrass ecosystem health trial had been undertaken in Tauranga Harbour and would measure a range of seagrass health metrics
* Planning was underway for the 2020 Happy Harbour Fun Day
* As part of the BOPRC Annual Plan 2019/20 submissions process, Regional Council had received a request for the capital purchase of land on Matakana Island for use as a regional reserve, to be potentially co-managed
* Currently focusing on the following four Tauranga Moana tributaries with a higher degrees of tension: Uretara Estuary, Te Mania/Project Parore, Kopurereroa Valley and Waitoa
* Kaimai Mamaku Catchments Forum Biodiversity Group was working through a process to develop a pest animal management plan for the Kaimai Mamaku with help from pest control experts

Points Raised by Members

* Noted that the science relating to Swan Control would be presented by Fish & Game at the next meeting of the Advisory Group
* Long term plan priorities raised by Ngāi Te Rangi and Ngāti Ranginui:
  + Currently the Tauranga Moana Framework was a mechanism whereby iwi/hapū put their priorities forward via the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group
  + This process, however, needed to be reconsidered; an alternative effective process whereby iwi/hapū priorities/projects for the Tauranga Moana Framework were resourced and scoped through the long term plans of the various district/city and regional councils was required
  + Iwi/hapū should be given an opportunity to put forward their own aspirations and priorities for Tauranga Moana
  + Currently iwi/hapū was involved in the programme activities purely as a consequence of them domiciling in the area where the projects were occurring and being mana whenua
  + This should be changed: iwi/hapū should put forward their issues by means of the following: (1) the actions contained in the two Tauranga Moana Management Plans needed to be scoped/funded/refined into the programme and (2) the effective engagement and participation of hapū: a submission had been prepared as part of the BOPRC Annual Plan 2019/20 process for the formation of Tauranga Moana Kaitiaki Te Awanui Forum to allow opportunity for tangata whenua discussion/prioritisation, with the appropriate technical advice and secretarial support, feeding into the different agencies
  + Required a stock take of the two Tauranga Moana Management Plans (Te Awanui Tauranga Harbour Iwi Management Plan 2008 and the Tauranga Moana Iwi Management Plan 2016 – 2026) on what actions had been completed/progressed and what actions were still outstanding.

Items for Staff Follow-up

* A report to be submitted to the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group on the outcome of additional water quality monitoring taking place in the Kaiate catchment to determine the load of E-coli coming from the beginning of the Otawera stream, tributaries and from the bush
* All parties to have an initial conversation on how the proposed Tauranga Moana Kaitiaki Te Awanui Forum could look like and what the capacity building of hapū/iwi would involve.

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

1. Receives the report “Tauranga Moana Programme Update” containing the Tauranga Moana Programme Dashboard dated May 2019.

Bruning/Clout

CARRIED

# Presentations

## WBOPDC Environment Strategy

*Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A3241351*

Western Bay of Plenty District Council (WBOPDC) Senior Policy Analyst Jodie Rickard, by means of a PowerPoint Presentation, provided an overview of the WBOPDC Draft Environment Strategy:

Key Points of the Presentation

* Purpose of the Strategy
  + Prepared under the Local Government Act 2002
  + Guided Council’s investment and work programme and the actions Council would take
  + Actions related to Council’s functions (did not cover all things environmental, covered the things Council was responsible for)
  + Strategy would be included in the Long Term Plan – activity plans would deliver on the strategy
* Highlighted the alignment between the Tauranga Moana Programme and the WBOPDC Draft Environment Strategy in terms of vision/outcomes and goals
* Tauranga Moana Work Programme Actions included the following:
  + Tauranga Harbour Inundation and Coastal Erosion models / Margins Project / Stream works
  + Coastcare
  + Predator Free BOP
  + Katikati Hills to the Ocean – H2O Improvement Project
  + Project Parore
  + IP3 Hazardous Activities and Industries List activity audits
  + Regional Wastewater Overflow Forum
  + Water craft and general harbour access surveys
  + Tahataharoa Land Purchase and Restoration Project
  + District-wide natural environment support
  + Ongare Wastewater Scheme / Katikati Wastewater Treatment Scheme
  + Seawalls
  + Omokoroa to Tauranga Cycleway
  + Proposed Kerbside Rubbish Collection (Rates funded)
* Next steps:
  + Draft Strategy to form part of the Long Term Plan 2021-2031
  + Continuation of work on strategy/actions and alignment with other strategies/plans/actions plans
  + Long Term Plan would include reviews of work programmes and budgets, including opportunities to prioritise actions.

Point Raised by Members:

* WBOPDC’s Community Matching Fund of $140,000 provided specifically for an Environmental Fund of $40,000 for projects benefiting the natural environment.

10:40 am The meeting **adjourned**.

11:00 am The meeting **reconvened**.

## Proposed Coastal Pathway

Tauranga City Council Strategic Planner Cheryl Steiner, supported by City Project Analyst Clinton Bowyer, provided a verbal update on progress made with the recent consultation process and proposed Memorial Park to City Centre coastal pathway:

Key Points of the Presentation

* Recently completed a consultation process regarding the community’s views on the proposal to develop a coastal pathway connecting Memorial Park and the City Centre via The Strand
* The project had been talked about for a number of years as it was a key connection identified in city centre strategies and the wider walking and cycling network
* Captured a range of views people had to better understand whether the community wanted it to proceed and any issues or opportunities that may need to be considered. Also talked directly to affected landowners to understand their views on the proposal
* Would provide feedback to Council where a decision would be made on whether to do further investigation into the viability of the pathway. If further work was undertaken, this would involve a detailed look at mitigation and design options which would determine the cost, design and location of the pathway
* If the project proceeded to the next stage, the project cost and recommended funding approach would be included in the next Long Term Plan process (2021)
* Highlighted the benefits of the coastal pathway
* Provided coastal pathway examples from Auckland Council and New Plymouth District Council
* Potential environment impacts of the pathway:
  + The design would need to consider the retention as far as possible of the natural character of the foreshore, however it would change the outlook and character from what it currently was
  + The design solution would need to be cognisant of climate change, coastal erosion, environmental values and rising sea levels
* Riparian rights
  + Whether particular work interfered with a private riparian right would depend on the nature and extent of the work, and its location and design
  + This could be worked through with property owners to provide access to the water via boat ramps, stairs or other engineered solutions
* Next steps
  + Outcomes of consultation to be reported to Council in July 2019
  + If project proceeded - detailed design to follow
  + Project to be consulted on in Long Term Plan (March/April 2021)

Points Raised by Members

* Lessons should be learned from the adverse effects the construction of the Southern Pipeline has had on the residents of Matapihi: notwithstanding opposition from the residents, construction continued and had caused continuous harm due to cultural sensitivities. Suggested that a forum of residents be formed to be consulted and that every effort be made to include the entire community
* Staff to be aware that not all places along the coastal pathway should be for public viewing: should be mindful of tikanga requirements relating to dolphin/whale recovery and waka paths
* Critical to take the necessary steps to protect the natural environment by being mindful of natural processes
* Staff should be conscious that the practice of consultation with mana whenua forums was not an ideal model for kaitiaki as mana whenua were not always RMA technicians/experts
* Reiterated the importance of telling the stories of the area and its people from all difference perspectives for the communities to understand history and context. The work programme should be resourced accordingly.

Items for Staff Follow-up

* Since discussion between TCC staff members and tangata whenua relating to the telling of stories had commenced, further discussion between tangata whenua and BOPRC/WBOPDC to be pursued.

11.41 am – Te Pio Kawe withdrew from the meeting.

## Swan Control

Following an apology received from Senior Fish & Game Officer Matthew McDougall, the presentation on Swan Control was deferred to the next meeting scheduled for 16 August 2019.

Item for Staff Follow-up

* Inclusion of the Swan Control Presentation on the agenda of 16 August 2019.

## National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management – Te Mana o Te Wai

Item addressed under item 7.1.

## Tauranga Moana Wai Māori Strategy Update

Ngāi Te Rangi Representative Pia Bennett provided a verbal updated as follows:

Key Points

* Provided perspective on Treaty Settlements as well as treaty responsibility/partnerships: The Crown and iwi were partners; however, the Crown had delegated its responsibilities to councils
* In terms of the Treaty Settlements, Māori had sensitivities that needed to be provided for at all levels of planning – this was also applicable to Plan Change 9: Māori needed to be given sensitivity as a treaty partner. Developed a document elaborating on a relief package for submission to the BOPRC Appeals Subcommittee for consideration
* Recently undertook cultural flows in liaison with BOPRC on ten streams of significance, looked at extremely low flows following the recent warm weather. Information had been shared with BOPRC; Dr Gail Tippers’ Cultural Flow Preference Methodology had been used.

# Consideration of General Business

**Tauranga Moana Iwi Management Plan 2016 – 2026**

* Noted that the matter relating to the Tauranga Moana Iwi Management Plan 2016 – 2026 not replacing the 2008 Te Awanui Tauranga Harbour Iwi Management Plan had been resolved and that the BOPRC web page would be updated accordingly.

# Next Meeting – 16 August 2019

The next meeting had been scheduled for Friday, 16 August 2019.

# Closing Karakia

Cr Matemoana McDonald closed the meeting with a karakia.

# The meeting concluded at 12:34 pm.

**Confirmed** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
 Councillor N Bruning, Chairperson Date

Tauranga Moana Advisory Group