

Minutes of the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group meeting held in the Cruise Deck, Club Mount Maunganui, 45 Kawaka Street, Mount Maunganui, on Thursday, 24 August 2017 commencing at 9.35 am

Present:

Chair: Cr N Bruning (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)

Members: Cr M McDonald (Bay of Plenty Regional Council), Cr K Clout (Tauranga City Council), Crs: P Mackay, M Dean (Western Bay of Plenty District Council), R Tuanau (Ngāi Te Rangi), R Nelson, (Ngāti Ranginui), T Kawe (Ngāti Ranginui)

In Attendance: Crs: S Crosby and J Nees (Bay of Plenty Regional Council), S Omundsen (Tauranga Catchments Manager), N Poutasi (Water Policy Manager), J Low (Water Policy Team Leader), N Green, R Feist (Senior Planners), P Watson (Western Bay of Plenty District Council), T Barach, T Plane (Tauranga City Council), K Ellis (Ngāi Te Rangi), S Macdonald (Senior Community Engagement Advisor), E Grogan (General Manager Regulatory Services), S Kameta (Committee Advisor)

Apologies: C Tawhiao (Ngāi Te Rangi), R Smallman (Ngāti Pūkenga), Councillors: C Stewart (Tauranga City Council), P Thompson, A von Dadelszen (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)

1 **Opening Karakia/Mihi**

The meeting opened with a karakia and mihi provided by Reon Tuanau.

Chair Bruning welcomed those in attendance, in particular member Riki Nelson to his first meeting with the Advisory Group.

2 **Apologies**

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

- 1 **Accepts the apologies of Charlie Tawhiao, Rehua Smallman, Councillors Catherine Stewart, Paula Thompson and Andrew von Dadelszen tendered at the meeting.**

**Bruning/Clout
CARRIED**

3 **Guest Presentation**

3.1 **St Thomas Moore Primary School: Student Monitoring**

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2678180.

St Thomas Moore Primary School students Phoebe, Stevie and Jake, supported by parent Emma Richardson, presented their learnings and experiences of estuary monitoring, which they had carried out in the Tauranga Harbour at Matapihi during 2016 and 2017. They informed of their objective to gather information to ensure the health of the estuary for the next generation and outlined their survey methods, transect findings and interpretations. The students thanked their teachers, parents and Regional Council's environmental scientists for their support; and expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to present to the Advisory Group.

The students responded to members' questions. They noted that approximately 70 Year 5-6 students had been involved with survey monitoring and that they would be looking to extend their survey to include other ecology attributes within the harbour.

Members commended the students and school for their learnings and efforts in the field, and considered that as future kaitiaki, the students were setting a good example for others to get involved within the harbour.

4 **Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 **Previous Minutes**

5.1 **Tauranga Moana Advisory Group Minutes – 26 May 2017**

Regarding minute item 8 and the appointment of a new Deputy Chairman (page 10 of the agenda), Ngāi Te Rangi member Reon Tuanau and Sarah Omundsen confirmed that Charlie Tawhiao had accepted his nomination as Deputy Chair.

Correction

Minute item 9.1 – it was noted that the presenter's first name was spelt incorrectly and should be corrected to 'Kia Maia'.

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

- 1 Confirms the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group Meeting Minutes of 26 May 2017, with the foregoing correction.**

**McKay/Dean
CARRIED**

6 **Update from Partners**

6.1 **Tauranga Moana Iwi**

Updates from the previous meeting were still a work in progress, with no further additions to report.

6.2 Western Bay of Plenty District Council

- Te Puna West and Ongare Point wastewater schemes were underway and expected to be on time and budget.
- Reconsenting process for the Katikati wastewater scheme pipeline and outfall had commenced.
- Work continued on cycleways and connecting with Tauranga City cycle ways.
- Discussions were being held with Te Rereatukāhia Marae to find solutions for their urupa, which was at capacity and at risk of bank instability and erosion.

6.3 Tauranga City Council (TCC)

Updates were provided on:

- TCC's new Environment Strategy, with a presentation to be provided later on the agenda.
- Stormwater management - preparation work had commenced on the five-year review report for the Citywide Comprehensive Stormwater Consent, which would be a significant project involving evaluation of monitoring data and development of mitigation strategies to address water quality issues.
- Wastewater management:
 - TCC's wastewater overflow protocols had been updated and provided to tangata whenua for feedback.
 - The Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Fund was being reviewed for completion and delivery in 2018.
 - Completion of the Southern Pipeline was anticipated late 2017. A minor incident had occurred on 20 July, where drilling mud leaked onto the estuary foreshore. Response protocols were followed and the majority of the spill was cleaned-up with minor impact.
- Litter clean-ups – a further five clean-ups were planned for the remainder of the year. The next event would be held around the Waimapu Estuary with Bellevue Primary School on 19 September.
- Groundwater levels - over winter, levels across Tauranga were the highest recorded. A number of areas were impacted and solutions were being investigated to remedy inundated areas.

6.4 Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Matters reported were:

- Opureora Channel dredging – had commenced with three weeks until project completion.
- Sea lettuce – significant accumulations had appeared in the middle of the harbour between Matahui and Ōmokoroa. A cleanup would be arranged at Pahoia, which was noted as the earliest intervention required to date.

- Kaimai Mamaku Catchments Forum – would be holding a Forum event on 6 October to discuss options for working together. Department of Conservation, Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regional Councils were committed to supporting the Forum to improve the health of the Kaimai Mamaku ranges and catchments.

Attendance

Te Pio Kawe entered the meeting at 10:03 am.

The following advice was provided in response to questions raised:

- 1) Mitigation of animal pest issues in the Kaimai Mamaku catchment – impacts (e.g. from goat populations) had been observed, but not quantified. DOC, Waikato Regional Council and BOPRC would be contracting a specialist to prepare a pest management plan, which would include options for tangata whenua, agencies and the community to consider.
- 2) Erosion issues with koiwi at Tutaitaka Island (urupa) – Western Bay of Plenty District Council was aware of the issue and would be working with tangata whenua to look for a solution.

Reserves and Facilities Manager Peter Watson advised that WBOPDC's new Harbour Erosion Policy related only to council-owned land.

- 3) Regarding major issues being faced with storm events and sea level rise - Toolkits were available to property owners on soft options for stabilising land; however a lot of issues were more significant and required hard options, with cultural considerations considered as part of the consenting process.

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

- 1 **Receives the verbal update reports from the Advisory Group partners.**

**Bruning/Tuanau
CARRIED**

7 Presentations

7.1 National Policy Statement Freshwater Management

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2682404

Water Policy Manager Namouta Poutasi and team members Nicola Green and James Low gave a presentation that introduced and sought feedback from the Advisory Group on timing and foundation-setting stages of the Freshwater Futures - Tauranga Moana Water Management Area (WMA) project.

The presentation highlighted:

- Key objectives of the amended National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2017 (NPS-FM), which directed the need for recognition of Te Mana o Te Wai; and for regional councils to change regional plans with the involvement of Iwi and hapū, the community and resource users.
- Proposed stages for foundation setting for the Tauranga Harbour WMA would take place during 2017/18 and 2019/20 and initially include information

gathering, as part of the 2017/18 Tauranga Moana Annual Work Plan. It was noted that early commencement had been supported by the Advisory Group at its 26 May 2017 meeting.

- Starting principles for the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group would be to receive updates, look for integration and partnership opportunities; and input on the development of the work programme and key decisions points.
- The collaborative process accommodated in the RMA offered an alternative to the existing Schedule 1 process and narrowed the scope of appeals. The process had not been tested throughout New Zealand.

Members responded with the following feedback:

- Recognition of Te Mana o Te Wai and how it would be implemented was queried. Staff advised that scoping would need to be undertaken to consider how Te Mana o Te Wai would flow within the WMA framework.

It was requested that Tina Porou, Technical Advisor to the Freshwater Iwi Leaders' Group be invited to present to the Advisory Group at a future meeting, with the suggestion that it be facilitated by the Māori Policy Team.

7.2 Environmental Indicators

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2678644

Coastal Scientist Rebecca Lawton presented a proposed framework for development of State of the Environment reporting for Tauranga Moana. Ms Lawton outlined key selected indicators, project outputs and scope to include additional indicators, such as for Mātauranga Māori.

It was clarified that:

- Mātauranga Māori indicators would be incorporated with collaboration of respective research groups, such as Manaaki Te Awanui.
- Short and long term sediment data was being collected; however it was noted that long-term data would provide more comprehensive data for establishing the state of water quality in the harbour.
- To establish consistency, benchmarking and standardisation, comparisons had been made with the selected indicators and were similar to other regional councils. Where no guidelines were available, staff had relied on existing research and frameworks.

Members commended the proposed framework and looked forward to seeing data turned into information that could be articulated to the community and a range of audiences.

The importance of integrating Mātauranga Māori was raised. It was noted that Toi Moana-BOPRC's Mātauranga Māori Framework was near completion and it was hoped that a presentation on the framework could be provided to the Advisory Group at a future meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 am and reconvened at 11:16 am.

7.3 TCC Environment Strategy

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2679117

Tauranga City Council's Strategic Manager Tracy Plane gave a presentation on development of TCC's Environment Strategy.

- The Strategy's scope would incorporate: resource, recovery and waste; three waters; natural environment; air quality; natural hazards and climate change mitigate; would have a city-wide focus and integrate with other existing plans and activities;
- Development would be in collaboration with others. A design thinking approach was being used with timeframes established for the three stages: collection of baseline data (June-September), strategy creation (October); and prototype delivery (Nov-March 2018).
- Baseline data would include: stocktake of existing environmental strategies, policies and plans, state of environment reporting, community carbon footprint and community views.
- Key themes, issues and aspirations would be decided, following data analysis and engagement feedback.
- Phase 4 would involve development and implementation of action plans to achieve outcomes that could include integration of plans, development of new policy and monitoring and review of their effectiveness against targets.

Members were encouraged to submit feedback to the online survey, which was open until 1 September.

In response to questions, members were advised:

- Emission sources excluded shipping, as these were unable to be quantified due to complexities. It was noted that Toi Moana-BOPRC had written to Central Government regarding air quality results and associated issues, in relation to shipping.
- Forestry emissions were also excluded and not recognised within the urban area; however it was noted that discussions would be needed to consider biodiversity.

8 Reports

8.1 Tauranga Moana Programme update

The report provided the 2017/18 Annual Work Plan for the Tauranga Moana programme.

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

- 1 Receives the report, Tauranga Moana Programme update.**

Bruning/Clout

CARRIED

9 Long Term Planning workshop

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2681835

Ruth Feist (Toi Moana-BOPRC), Peter Watson (WBOPDC) and Toby Barach (TCC) presented an overview of work planned for the Tauranga Moana Programme within the three councils' Long Term Plans (LTPs) for 2018-2028.

Highlights of key points from the LTP projects and processes under Appendix 1 of the report were outlined as follows:

- Recognition of holistic vision and outcomes encompassed within the Tauranga Moana programme.
- Tangata whenua involvement and engagement would span all projects and LTP processes;
- Catchment management - existing work would be ongoing; science would cover a wide range of information demands; pollution prevention would increase monitoring at the Port of Tauranga and Tauranga Airport, including some discrete project work;
- A wide range of region-wide planning would be occurring, along with Tauranga Moana specific plans, including the Tauranga Moana WMA. It was noted that SmartGrowth was excluded as a separate budgeted item.
- Three Waters - TCC's critical projects included the City-wide Comprehensive Stormwater Consent, wastewater service review, wastewater overflow protocols work and upper Rangataua discharge consent. WBOPDC's key projects included Ongare, Te Puna and Ōmokoroa wastewater reticulation.
- Natural Hazards and Climate Change - was noted as a key topic that would become increasingly important over time, with consideration required on sea level rise and infrastructure. The Government was setting direction for 30-year infrastructure capacity planning, which was being worked into council LTPs and civil defence lifelines. This was a new area of work for councils, who would need to build on previous work and studies that had been done.
- Maritime – no additions from existing work planned.
- Community and engagement – existing work would be ongoing; TCC and Toi Moana-BOPRC would be involved in estuary cleanup programme and hold 10 annual events.

Feedback from members was sought on all areas of LTP work, with the following discussion and comments raised:

- 1) Further consideration was needed on the Te Ture Whenua Act and building a relationship with the Māori Land Service was considered important;
- 2) Effects of climate change implications needed to be emphasized, including through environmental work programmes and when engaging with the community. Members considered it important to provide leadership on this matter.

- 3) Incorporating the inner islands as part of catchment management was queried. Staff confirmed they would be supported and were often prioritised within Hapū Management Plans.
- 4) Consideration of heritage management and how new assets would be managed was queried. Staff thanked the member for their comment and considered that while the Tauranga Moana programme generally related to the work of the three Councils, to improve the harbour and catchment environment, the programme did need to articulate how it considered heritage management to enable the preservation, protection and management of sites, and to help identify values of new sites
- 5) A query was raised on partners' positions in relation to mangrove removal. Members were advised that the Regional Coastal Environment Plan provided for removal of mangroves as a permitted activity in areas where they had previously been managed under a resource consent. It was noted that Ngāi Te Rangī Iwi had started considering their position on mangroves.

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

- 1 Receives the report, Tauranga Moana Programme**

**McKay/McDonald
CARRIED**

10 General Business

No general business matters were raised.

11 Next meeting – 24 November 2017

Noted.

12 Closing Karakia

The meeting closed with a karakia/prayer provided by Reon Tuanau.

The meeting concluded at 12:14 pm.