

Komiti Māori

Ngā Meneti Open Minutes

Commencing: Tuesday 22 February 2022, 9.30 am

Venue: Via Zoom (Audio Visual Meeting)

Heamana

Chairperson: Cr Matemoana McDonald

Heamana Tuarua

Deputy Chairperson: Cr Toi Kai Rākau Iti

Ngā Kopounga

Members:

Cr Norm Bruning
Cr Bill Clark
Cr Stuart Crosby
Chairman Doug Leeder
Cr Jane Nees
Cr Paula Thompson
Cr Andrew von Dadelszen
Cr Te Taru White
Cr Kevin Winters

In Attendance:

Bay of Plenty Regional Council: Kataraina O'Brien (Director, Strategic Engagement), Fiona McTavish (Chief Executive), Namouta Poutasi (General Manager, Strategy and Science), Chris Ingle (General Manager Integrated Catchments), Helen Creagh (Rotorua Catchments Manager), Herewini Simpson (Kaihautu - Te Amorangi Lead), Anaru Vercoe (Pou Whaingā - Principal Advisor), Reuben Gardiner (Senior Planner - Water Policy)

Externals: Akira McTavish-Huriwai, Anaru Palmer, Summer Bell, Te Rua Wallace, Te Waikamihī Lambert, Megan Ranapia, Haukapuanui Vercoe, Associate Professor Dr Kura Paul-Burke, Kia Maia Ellis (Tauranga Moana Iwi Customary Fisheries Trust), Eugene Berryman-Kamp (Ringatohu/ Director - Partnerships, Ministry for the Environment);
Attendance in part: Te Rangimarie Williams (Te Papa Ahurewa), Nicki Douglas (Environmental Manager, Te Arawa Lakes Trust), Arapeta Tahana (Trustee, Te Arawa Lakes Trust)

Ngā Hōnea Apologies:

Cr David Love
Cr Stacey Rose
Cr Lyall Thurston

1. Opening Prayer Karakia Whakatuwhera

A karakia was provided Cr Te Taru White.

Chairperson's Opening Statement on Public Recording

The Chairperson welcomed those present and advised that the public section of the meeting was being recorded, and that the recording would be made available on the Bay of Plenty Regional Council website and archived for a period of three years.

Recording of Meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7jlsJMxll0>

2. Apologies Ngā Hōnea

Resolved

That the Komiti Māori:

- 1 Accepts the apologies from Cr David Love, Cr Stacey Rose and Cr Lyall Thurston tendered at the meeting.

White/von Dadelszen
CARRIED

3. Order of Business Raupapa o Ngā Take

Agenda Item 8.5, Presentation Update on the National Three Waters Steering Group was withdrawn due to the unavailability of the presenter, Karen Vercoe.

4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest Whakapuakanga o Ngā Take Whai Taha-Rua

None declared.

5. Minutes Ngā Meneti

Minutes to be Confirmed
Kia Whakaūngia Ngā Meneti

5.1 Komiti Māori Minutes - 14 December 2021

Resolved

That the Komiti Māori:

- 1 Confirms the Komiti Māori Minutes - 14 December 2021 as a true and correct record.

Nees/Iti
CARRIED

6. Presentations Whakaaturanga

6.1 Toi Moana Summer Experience Programme Update

Presented by: Summer Bell, Anaru Palmer, Akira McTavish-Huriwai, Te Waikamihī Lambert and Te Rua Wallace

Kataraina O'Brien, Director Strategic Engagement noted the success of the Summer Experience programme which had been going for many years. A video recording from students had been well received at the recent Council meeting. The students' korero would focus on their future aspirations, which was themed around Mokopuna Futures/future generations.

Key Points:

- Overall experiences noted from the students' internships at Toi Moana were a sense of empowerment, personal growth and gratitude from the learning opportunities gained under the korowai (cloak) of Toi Moana.

Summer Bell

- Was pursuing a pathway in Māori/rangatahi/community mental health. Her wero (challenge) to elected members was to encourage diversification, new ways of thinking and to support rangatahi to thrive and become involved in local government decision-making.

Anaru Palmer

- Future aspirations were focused on rangatiratanga (leadership), te reo Māori, kaupapa Māori and contributing further to his Te Rereatukahia whānau and future generations.

Akira McTavish-Huriwai

- Was inspired to pursue a pathway in public policy and planning, noting that her time and mahi at Toi Moana had brought a focus on the impact and inequities within communities.

Te Waikamihī Lambert

- Would be completing her Bachelor of Science majoring in marine science and minoring in te reo Māori/te Ao Māori, followed by pursuing a Master and PhD and to develop a mauri assessment tool for her whānau. She thanked her mentors Gina Mohi, Kura and Joe Burke and her parents. Her aspiration in life was to become exemplar in the way of her mentors.

Te Rua Wallace

- Had life aspirations to live a happy and joyful life surrounded by her mokopuna and taiao, and where te reo Māori is spoken in a tight-knit community and ensuring the taiao is protected, including within legal frameworks. Her wish was for rangatahi (youth) to be engaged and that lowering the voting age would empower/encourage rangatahi involvement; and to encourage inter-generational collaboration/solutions between pakeke (adults) and rangatahi.

Members reserved their comments until the conclusion of the He Toka Tumoana Scholarship recipient presentations.

6.2 He Toka Tumoana Scholarship Update

Presentation - Megan Ranapia - Scholarship Update: Objective ID A4050849 [⇒](#)

Presentation - Haukapuanui Vercoe - Scholarship Update: Objective ID A4039916 [⇒](#)

Presented by: Megan Ranapia and Haukapuanui Vercoe

Kataraina O'Brien introduced Megan Ranapia and Haukapuanui Vercoe who were recipients of the He Toka Tumoana Environmental Scholarship.

Megan Ranapia:

- Currently undertaking a doctorate with the University of Waikato, Megan provided background on her Bachelor of Science research study on the suitability of kutai (green lipped mussel) location in Ōhiwa harbour; and her doctorate research topic to co-develop Mātauranga Māori and marine ecology for seastar management and mussel recovery in Ōhiwa Harbour. Megan was working closely with the Rōpu Kairangahau iwi advisory group (Ngati Awa, Te Upokorehe).
- Seastar research would feed into a wider seastar/shellfish action plan for Ōhiwa to be implemented by BOPRC. Future aspirations were to carry out further research in Ōhiwa harbour on the seastar outbreaks and to work with other communities on shellfish restoration.
- Thanked Toi Moana for the scholarship and all those involved in the research studies.

Haukapuanui Vercoe:

- Pursuing a Bachelor of Engineering with honours, specialising in civil and environmental engineering at the University of Auckland.
- Thanked Toi Moana for the scholarship, which had alleviated financial stress and allowed to focus on study.
- Provided background on a taiao-related project completed in 2021 that investigated the resilience of 16 Te Arawa marae to natural hazard events. Research reports were disseminated to whānau/marae and local emergency management and interested Māori and government organisations in December 2021.
- Future aspirations were to complete post-graduate study and a PhD on improving marae performance of three water infrastructure in natural disasters, which was a timely topic given the Three Waters reform.

Key Points - Members:

- Councillors acknowledged the commitment, value, contribution and inspiration that the Summer Experience students and He Toka Tumoana scholarship recipients brought to the community.
- Wished the students all the very best for a prosperous year of study.

6.3 Mātauranga Māori in Practice - Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whakahemo Marine Restoration Tohu and Climate Change Research Project 2022

Presentation - Is the kina still fat when the Pohutukawa bloom?: Objective ID A4052460 [⇒](#)

Presented by: Associate Professor Dr Kura Paul-Burke

Key Points:

- Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whakahemo and Pukehina Marae were leading a Mātauranga-led project that was funded by the Deep South National Science Challenge to understand the impacts of changing climate change conditions on traditional inter-generational tohu and mahinga kai at Motunau/Plate Island.
- Project timeframe was from July 2022 - December 2023.
- Provided background on tohu (indicators) used by Māori to identify trends or changes in the state of species and spaces.
- Noted that tohu were no longer in sync with mahinga kai.
- Increases in sea temperature/conditions in 2019 were predicted to have an impact on kina production and traditional practices.
- Coastal/hapū iwi were alert to these issues and the project was looking at mātauranga-led actions to utilise and better understand, adapt and respond to the changing climate, tohu and mahinga kai in coastal waters.
- Free-diving and technology monitoring wānanga would be undertaken with Ngāti Whakahemo kaitiaki and taiohi (youth) to be involved in the research study.
- Highlighted the holistic Te Ao Māori world view and responsibility to ensure our food basket is sustained, alongside the inter-relationship between indigenous cultural diversity and biodiversity.
- The project provided an opportunity for Mātauranga-led climate change research on mahinga kai and to create space for indigenous peoples' contributions, knowledge and practices to be supported, recognised and implemented.

Members reserved their comments until after the next presentation.

6.4 Mātauranga Māori in Practice - Enhancing the Sustainability of Koura in a Changing Climate - Tauranga Moana Mātaitai Reserve

*Presentation - Enhancing the sustainability of Kōura in a changing climate:
Objective ID A4050048 [⇨](#)*

Presented by: Kia Māia Ellis on behalf of the Tauranga Moana Iwi Customary Fisheries Trust

Key Points:

- Kia Māia Ellis' doctorate research project was being undertaken in collaboration with Dr Kura Paul-Burke, Megan Ranapia and Kiri Reihana and was a transdisciplinary Mātauranga Māori and science research approach that would provide for the knowledge gap in Mātauranga.
- The study proposal was being submitted to the University of Waikato and had been accepted by the Sustainable Seas National Science Challenge.
- The study would look at enhancement of kōura to support the declining at risk taonga species in the Tauranga Moana rohe and to understand climate change effects.
- Pēpi (baby) kōura would be collected from under Port of Tauranga wharves, monitored, on-grown and released back into the wild stock.
- Project would be led by the Tauranga Moana Iwi Customary Fisheries Trust.
- Outlined the research framework and Mātauranga/science objectives.
- Highlighted the need for a global collective shift in mindset to activate kaitiakitanga.

- Acknowledged Tauranga Moana iwi and those who were supporting and involved in the project.

In Response to Questions - Dr Paul-Burke and Kia Maia Ellis:

- Differences in over-fishing and environmental climate change impacts on species could be determined by the quantity and condition of the species.
- Bi-product/waste from commercial and recreational harvesting was used to assist with marine research projects.
- Customary reserves, use of rāhui and habitat restoration were potential options that could be used to restore at risk taonga species.

Key Points - Members:

- Thanked the presenters for their presentations and the examples provided to support the use of Mātauranga Māori.
- Acknowledged the importance of collaboration to get the best outcome for our communities, places and spaces.

6.5 Ministry for the Environment - Kaupapa Māori Update

Presentation - Te Mana o Te Wai Implementation & Partnerships: Objective ID A4050066 [⇒](#)

Presented by: Eugene Berryman-Kamp, Ringatohu/Director - Partnerships and Te Mana o Te Wai, Ministry for the Environment (MfE)

Key Points:

- Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) were well placed to respond to Te Mana o Te Wai (TMoTW) under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM).
- Highlighted fundamental NPSFM policy and considerations for how regional councils must give effect to TMoTW and actively involve tangata whenua
- Policy reinforced the need for multi-level local approaches.
- Outlined MfE's TMoTW vision, purpose and implementation workstreams.
- An implementation partnerships team would be established in July 2022 to connect local/regional/central government and Iwi/Māori at place locally, including executive roles to connect with local government counterparts.
- Preliminary conversations had been held with Taumata Arowai to combine engagement for Iwi/Māori that could also look to include local government.
- Sought feedback from BOPRC on role expectations and connections with the regional sector.

In Response to Questions:

- Acknowledged the complexity of engaging tangata whenua at the whānau/hapū level and that a coordinated effort was needed to reduce engagement fatigue, which needed to be worked through.
- Major challenge and concerns around the expectations regarding capacity, capability and resourcing at the hapū, whānau and land trust level had been communicated to the Minister and was being considered by MfE.

Key Points - Members:

- Further discussion to provide feedback to MfE could be discussed at the Komiti Māori Workshop on 23 February 2022.

- Noted the potential loss of interaction and expertise between the Freshwater Implementation Group and Kahui Wai Māori.

11:55 am – the meeting **adjourned**.

12:05 pm – Chairman Leeder and Cr Winters **withdrew** from the meeting.

12:05 pm – the meeting **reconvened**.

7. Reports Ngā Pūrongo

Information Only Hei Pānui Anake

7.1 Te Papa Ahurewa - Part One Report

The Chair advised that Te Rangimarie Williams, Te Papa Ahurewa Manager had been called away from the meeting due to an emergency. In her absence, Helen Creagh gave a brief overview of the covering report, which was followed by Arapeta Tahana, Te Arawa Lakes (TALT) Trustee who spoke in support of Te Papa Ahurewa.

Key Points - Staff:

- Te Papa Ahurewa had met its deliverables for the first six months of its establishment, which included: the appointment of the Te Papa Ahurewa manager, establishment administration structure and website, completion of a capacity and capability study, engagement rollout for the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management implementation in Te Arawa and ongoing consent work.
- Further deliverables for the following six months had been agreed for completion by June 2022.

Staff in Response to Questions:

- Considered that further time was needed for Te Papa Ahurewa to increase its provision of services as it continued to establish relationships and levels of trust with further Te Arawa iwi/hapū.

Key Points - Arapeta Tahana:

- Confirmed and suspected that it would take further time for Te Papa Ahurewa to establish internal relationships and trust between TALT and the various Te Arawa hapū and iwi.
- Te Arawa had approximately 50 hapū which created a level of complexity
- Thanked Toi Moana for having the courage to provide funding and test something new and viewed Council and iwi needed to try to work innovatively and collaboratively.
- Highlighted the difference in the way that Te Papa Ahurewa had been rolled out in comparison to the Canterbury model, which was established directly by hapū, whereas Te Papa Ahurewa had been driven top-down from a settlement entity.
- Considered there was value in the model and from the perspective of a Ngāti Pikiao representative, Mr Tahana welcomed the support, however

further time would be needed by Ngāti Pikiao to consider what support they required.

12.12 pm – Cr White **entered** the meeting.

- Noted the challenges that iwi faced regarding the continuous changes in legislation and policy coming through from central and local government, which Te Papa Ahurewa could assist with.
- Encouraged Toi Moana to continue to have the courage to allow the process to unfold, anticipating that it would make life easier for Council and iwi/hapū.
- The space would continue to be complex however, noted that it reflected our natural environment and its diversity.

Key Points - Members:

- Acknowledged Te Papa Ahurewa's operation was a work in progress as they worked to establish themselves further.
- Thanked and commended the korero provided by Arapeta.

12.20 pm – Cr von Dadelszen **entered** the meeting.

- Looked forward to future updates from Te Papa Ahurewa on how the hub was progressing.

Resolved

That the Komiti Māori:

- 1 Receives the report, Te Papa Ahurewa - Part One Report.**

**Iti/Thompson
CARRIED**

7.2 Chairperson's Report

Presented by: Kataraina O'Brien, Director Strategic Engagement, Anaru Vercoe, Pou Whaingā – Principal Advisor and Reuben Gardiner, Senior Planner (Water Policy)

In Response to Questions - Staff:

- In regard to Te Hononga, Te Arawa Primary Sector (TAPS) had submitted a proposal to establish an advisory group that had an extensive reach across Te Arawa land trusts.
- Provided an overview of the sub-regional hui that was held two weeks earlier and the work being progressed with and by Te Papa Ahurewa and the current status of engagement.
- Commonalities for tangata whenua across the sub-region were capacity and competing priorities and time.
- Exploring other funding streams and working in collaboration with other research agencies was a consideration of staff.

Key Points - Members:

- Congratulated the outstanding presentations provided at the meeting.
- Applauded the Chair and staff for their exemplar leadership in the Te Hononga space and commended non-Māori councillors for engaging in the journey and process.

- Raised the need to enable people to input, come up to speed and participate post-implementation of legislative reform.
- Noted the benefit of having all elected members on Komiti Māori as Council navigated through this legislative landscape.

Items for Staff Follow Up:

- A copy of Tina Porou's presentation to the Freshwater Implementation Group on government arrangements was requested by Cr Thompson.

Resolved

That the Komiti Māori:

- 1 Receives the report, Chairperson's Report.**

**Clark/Crosby
CARRIED**

**8. Closing Prayer
Karakia Kati**

A karakia was provided Cr Te Taru White.

12:50 pm – the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED 13 APRIL 2022

Cr Matemoana McDonald
Chairperson, Komiti Māori