

Komiti Māori

Ngā Meneti Open Minutes

Commencing: Tuesday 28 June 2022, 9.32 am

Venue: Council Chambers, Regional House, 1 Elizabeth Street,
Tauranga and 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
Chairman Doug Leeder
Cr David Love
Cr Stuart Crosby

Via Zoom:

Cr Bill Clark
Cr Jane Nees
Cr Stacey Rose
Cr Paula Thompson
Cr Lyall Thurston
Cr Andrew von Dadelszen
Cr Te Taru White
Cr Kevin Winters

In Attendance:

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana: Kataraina O'Brien - Tumu Herenga Tangata - Director Strategic Engagement (Via Zoom), Sarah Omundsen - Acting Chief Executive, Chris Ingle - General Manager Integrated Catchments (Via Zoom), Nathan Capper - Pou Ngaio (Technical/Cultural), Rawiri Bhana - Senior Advisor (Treaty), Reuben Gardiner - Senior Planner (water Policy), Ashleigh Grant - Kaikarere/Communications Partner, Natalie Richards - Community Engagement Advisor, Georgia Thomson - Community Engagement Advisor, Shari Kameta - Committee Advisor; Via Zoom: Herewini Simpson (Kaihautu - Te Amorangi Lead), Anaru Vercoe (Pou Whaingā - Principal Advisor)

Externals: Julie Shepherd, Monica Nee Nee - Pou Taiao Ltd; Chrissy McLeod; Maru Tapsell; Via Zoom: James Hudson - Principal, Waiora Systems, Ian Ruru, Wolfgang Kanz - Awamoana Limited, Akuhata Bailey-Winiata, Sonny Vercoe, Daria Bell, Amy Natrass, Brooklyn Lea

Ngā Hōnea

Apologies: None

1. Opening Prayer Karakia Whakatuwhera

A karakia was provided by Cr Toi Kai Rākau Iti.

Declaration of Public Recording

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

Recording of the Meeting: [Komiti Maori Meeting - 28 June 2022 - YouTube](#)

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

None declared.

3. Minutes Ngā Meneti

Minutes to be Confirmed Kia Whakaūngia Ngā Meneti

3.1 Komiti Māori Minutes - 13 April 2022

Resolved

That the Komiti Māori:

- 1 Confirms the Komiti Māori Minutes - 13 April 2022 as a true and correct record.

McDonald/Iti
CARRIED

4. Presentations Whakaaturanga

4.1 Environment Aotearoa 2022 and Integration of Mātauranga Māori

Presentation - Innovating Mātauranga Māori - The case of Environment Aotearoa 2022: Objective ID A4126395 [↔](#)

Presented by: James Hudson - Principal, Waiora Systems

James Hudson presented on his recent experience working with the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) for the production of their recent synthesis report, *Environment Aotearoa 2022* (the report).

Key Points - Presenter:

- Central government was working more closely with Māori, using system-wide data informed by Te Tiriti o Waitangi with closer connections to wellbeing and Māori performance measures/indicators.
- In the report, MfE aimed to address four key recommendations from the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment's 2019 Report to: include drivers and outlooks; expand indicator context with broader evidence base; connect environmental issues to place; and interface with te ao Māori.
- Project group of government official leads, western science/Mātauranga Māori researchers and external pūkenga (environmental experts) developed and shaped the report using a Te Tiriti-based process.
- The report's composition:
 - Used a Matariki framework guided by Professor Dr Ranginui Mātāmua
 - Recognised connection between environmental/human wellbeing
 - Reflected an integrated eco-system approach with te ao Māori interface
 - Innovation/design/development signalled a new way of reporting
 - Integrated Mātauranga Māori content throughout the nine chapters, specific to the nine whetu (stars) of the Matariki constellation
- Identified insights/learnings from the design/development process.
- Acknowledged MfE and Statistics NZ's leadership for their openness and doing things differently.
- Innovating Mātauranga Māori was based on experience and practical application that works for everyone.

In Response to Questions:

- The report was a good first step to show what was possible. In terms of the depth of Mātauranga Māori contained in the report, the project group had been realistic in what could be produced with the limited time and resource that was available.
- Due to transitioning to a new format the report had a broader content level of data/analysis. Whether the same format would be used in future reporting remained to be seen.
- Research/data/knowledge used in the report had been informed by robust debate/wananga and it had been acknowledged there were different views and concepts held throughout the country and various rohe. Approval had been gained by the respective information providers via direct engagement and using an audit process that was in line with the WAI 262 (intellectual property) inquiry.
- The report aimed to align and where appropriate blend Mātauranga Māori with western science while maintaining the integrity of the separate streams of information.

Key Points - Members:

- Congratulated James, the working group and MfE for the transformational change and innovation used to co-create/design/develop the report.
- Regional Council Toi Moana had embarked on its own journey to look at how it integrates and applies Mātauranga Māori within its regional policy and plans.
- Commended the report and its content which would educate the wider population on Mātauranga Māori concepts.

10:36 am - Cr Crosby **withdrew** from the meeting.

- Emphasized the importance of the concept of Mātauranga Māori being told through story and maintaining its integrity, protection and application first and foremost by the holders of the Mātauranga (knowledge).

4.2 Development of a National Mahinga Kai Toolkit

Presentation - Implementing Mahinga Kai as a Māori Freshwater Value: Objective ID A4127374 [⇒](#)

Presented by: Ian Ruru and Wolfgang Kanz - Pou Whakarae | Director, Awamoana

10:46 am – Cr Crosby **entered** the meeting.

Key Points - Presenters:

- The tikanga-based solution that was used to remove mortuary waste from Turanganui a Kiwi waterways was a monumental shift to pass a bylaw and provided a practical example of Mātauranga Māori being used and applied.
- Acknowledged those who had contributed to the development of the National Mahinga Kai toolkit (kete).
- Mahinga kai was a compulsory value and practical example of giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai (TMoTW) and key principles of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPSFM). Elevation of the value was a substantial improvement to previous iterations of the NPSFM.
- The kete's primary purpose was to provide a resource to assist councils and tangata whenua to work together to enable mahinga kai to integrate with the NPSFM's National Objectives Framework (NOF) process.
- The kete provided context, tools, resources and practical examples of mahinga kai and ways to implement it.
- Mahinga kai was qualitative, different to other scientific quantitative values, connected people with place, was inter-generational, holistic and integrated with other values.
- Provided resources/visual examples to aid the process for tangata whenua.
- Engagement with tangata whenua was key.

In Response to Questions:

- Acknowledged the need to develop learning resources and different ways to articulate/communicate mahinga kai concepts that were site/tangata whenua specific.
- Considered that the NPSFM hierarchy of obligations were interlinked, which had been echoed by tangata whenua in the kete's development process.
- Mahinga kai measurements were likely to be more qualitative than quantitative, which the kete aimed to capture the non-quantitative elements for the NOF process.
- Mahinga kai attributes were personal and needed to be identified by mana whenua and could not be predetermined. However, the process undertaken with mana whenua had recognized it would be impractical to monitor too many attributes, which mana whenua would need to consider.

Key Points - Members:

- Commended the kete and visual aids provided to assist in understanding.
- Suggested that providing the kete in a documentary format for wider use.

- Considered there were still resources and gaps to be filled to help translate and assist the implementation process.

11:35 am – the meeting **adjourned**.

11:50 am – the meeting **reconvened**.

11:56 am – Cr Rose **withdrew** from the meeting.

4.3 Aroturuki Cultural Monitoring Framework and Guide

Presentation - Feasibility study for Cultural Monitor Training Framework: Objective ID A4127344 [⇒](#)

Presented by: Julie Shepherd and Monique Nee Nee - Pou Taiao Ltd

Key Points - Presenters:

- The Aroturuki Cultural Monitoring Framework and Guide clarified the role of a cultural monitor and provided a framework for developing cultural monitors' skillsets while ensuring individual autonomy, tikanga and mana of iwi/hapū are maintained.
- There was currently no online resource available/accessible to support cultural monitoring capability. Pou Taiao Ltd (PTL) wished to provide the guide as a free resource for tangata whenua and for the guide to be hosted/accessible on Regional Council's website. The guide could be utilised and adapted by iwi/hapū as a starting point.
- 'Aroturuki' was the te reo Māori term for 'monitor' which PTL wished to be used in place of the English term 'cultural monitor'.
- The demand for aroturuki within resource consenting processes had led to PTL designing the framework to support skillset development and improve participation, consistency and capability.
- Outlined the cultural monitor's role, areas of current demand, the importance of iwi/hapū creating te ao Māori synergies and maintaining mana and their individual/unique identity.
- Summarised results from a quantitative research undertaken with aroturuki, which provided insights into existing levels of knowledge/experience, and qualitative survey/insights from sectors that engage and work alongside of aroturuki in the field.
- It was important for aroturuki to be supported in their role and that the role is sustainable and afforded appropriate recognition/integrity.
- Wished to follow-up further with Regional Council staff to broaden the guide and make it more useful.
- Thanked Regional Council and staff for their support to develop the guide.

In Response to Questions:

- Ensuring aroturuki had the necessary mana/authority was an important consideration, which required the mandate from their hapū to perform the role. The guide provided guidance to ensure the right permission processes were used.
- Would like to see an appropriate status or qualification established for the role alongside the role of archaeologists.

Key Points - Members:

- Applauded Julie and Monique for developing the guide as a resource to build capability/capacity, empower and improve the level of understanding and professionalism of the role of aroturuki/tangata whenua.
- Recognised the importance for the cultural monitor role to gain a level of mana, recognition, authority and influence in the field.
- Would like to see the guide and programme trialled and rolled out across the region to give the role substance on the ground.

Key Points - Staff:

- Nathan Capper, Pou Ngaio Technical/Cultural commended and noted that the guide would empower aroturuki and their presence on earthwork sites and across Te Mana o Te Wai implementation workstreams.

5. Reports Ngā Pūrongo

5.1 Chairperson's Report

Presented by: Kataraina O'Brien, Tumu Herenga Tangata - Director Strategic Engagement

Key Points:

- Provided background on the He Toka Tu Moana (HTTM) Scholarship Fund which was established in memory of the late Awanuiārangi Black.
- HTTM scholarship recipients: Akuhata Bailey-Winiata, Sonny Vercoe, Daria Bell, Amy Natrass, Brooklyn Lea were in attendance via Zoom and Rangipurei Manley (recorded) and provided a brief kōrero of their current studies and aspirations.
- Scholarship recipients said the HTTM fund had provided invaluable support to assist financial burden and enable them to focus on their studies towards their career pathways. They expressed thanks to Council for its support in providing the scholarship.

12:47 pm – Cr Crosby **withdrew** from the meeting.

Key Points - Members:

- Congratulated the HTTM scholarship recipients.
- Noted consideration towards increasing the He Toka Tumoana Scholarship Fund in the next Long Term Plan process to further support recipients in their studies.

Items for Staff Follow Up:

- Provide a list of the Rotorua municipal water takes that will be involved in the cultural flow project as part of the reconsenting process.

Resolved

That the Komiti Māori:

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

**Iti/Thurston
CARRIED**

**6. Closing Prayer
Karakia Kati**

A karakia was provided by Cr Toi Kai Rākau Iti.

1:00 pm - the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED 16 AUGUST 2022

Cr Matemoana McDonald
Chairperson, Komiti Māori