

Tauranga Moana Advisory Group

Ngā Meneti Open Minutes

Commencing: Friday 22 November 2024, 09:30am

Venue: Council Chambers, Regional House, 1 Elizabeth Street, Tauranga and via Zoom (Audiovisual meeting)

**Heamana
Chairperson:** Cr Matemoana McDonald (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)

**Heamana Tuarua
Deputy Chairperson:** Charlie Tawhiao (Ngāi Te Rangi)

**Ngā Kopounga
Members:** Te Pio Kawe (Ngāti Ranginui)
Cr Kat Macmillan (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
Cr Andrew von Dadelszen (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
Cr Kevin Schuler (Alternate) (Tauranga City Council)
Cr Murray Grainger (Western Bay of Plenty District Council)
Cr Allan Sole (Western Bay of Plenty District Council)

In Attendance: BOPRC: Cr Jane Nees (via Zoom), Reuben Fraser – General Manager Regulatory Services, Elsa Weir – Senior Planner, Tone Nerdrum Smith – Senior Advisor Governance

Jim Summers – Environmental Programme Leader (Tauranga City Council)

**Ngā Hōnea
Apologies:** Pia Bennett (Ngāi Te Rangi); Rehua Smallman (Ngāti Pūkenga); Keepa Smallman (Ngāti Pūkenga); Cr Stuart Crosby (Alternate); Cr Hautapu Baker (Tauranga City Council); Cr Mikaere Sydney (Tauranga City Council)

Chairperson Cr Matemoana McDonald welcomed those present and noted that this hui was not livestreamed nor recorded.

1. Karakia Whakatuwhera Opening Prayer

A karakia was provided by Charlie Tawhiao.

2. Ngā Hōnea Apologies

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

- 1 Accepts the apologies from Pia Bennett (Ngāi Te Rangi); Rehua Smallman (Ngāti Pūkenga); Keepa Smallman (Ngāti Pūkenga) [resigned]; Cr Stuart Crosby (Alternate); Cr Hautapu Baker (Tauranga City Council); Cr Mikaere Sydney (Tauranga City Council) tendered at the meeting.

Macmillan/Sole
CARRIED

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

None declared.

4. Ngā Meneti Minutes

Kia Whakaūngia Ngā Meneti Minutes to be Confirmed

4.1 Tauranga Moana Advisory Group Minutes - 17 May 2024

Resolved

That the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group:

- 1 Confirms the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group Minutes - 17 May 2024 as a true and correct record.

Grainger/Tawhiao
CARRIED

9.40 am - Cr Jane Nees entered the meeting via Zoom

5. Whakaaturanga Presentations

5.1 Tauranga System Management Plan Update

Presentation - TGSP - TMAG 22 November 2024 pdf: [Objective ID A4834820](#) ⇨

Presented by: Elsa Weir - Senior Planner

Key Points:

- Noted the previous update at the May 2024 hui of the Advisory Group (TMAG)

- Noted the uniqueness of the Tauranga Geothermal System, compared to other systems in the Bay of Plenty region
- Outlined the intended structure of the Tauranga System Management Plan (TSMP)
- Clarified the management approach, specifying the high level goals, accompanied by the more detailed 'how to' plan
- The draft TSMP was currently out for public feedback, scheduled to close 31 January 2025, with adoption later in 2025
- Recognised the significant resource burden the current legislative changes represented, which meant engagement and obtaining feedback could be challenging
- Noted that the receipt of feedback had been relatively slow at this stage, with the main concerns being:
 - Slow/costly/difficult consent process
 - Protection/capacity of the water resource
- If no TSMP was adopted, i.e. the status quo was retained, the water resource would continue to be managed through the Regional Natural Resources Plan, i.e. a less structured/consistent approach. It also meant each individual consent application process tended to be drawn out and complicated due to the lack of an overarching System Management Plan
- The temperatures in the Tauranga system were too low for the water to be effective for power generation
- Impact of discharge, e.g. where water had been used for heated pools, was being discussed, with differing views on impact and potential mitigation.

Key Points - Members:

- Commended staff on the mahi to date, and recognised the need for clarity in the consenting process for users/owners, as well as Council
- Would be useful to include the main user locations, e.g. Mount Hot Pools, Fernland Spa, in the public consultation maps.

6. Ngā Whakamārama a Ngā Rōpu Update from Partners

6.1 Ngāi Te Rangi

Charlie Tawhiao - Key Points

- Had recently attended the skilled migrant exhibition
- Noted the Treaty Principles Amendment Bill hikoi to Wellington
- Matakana Island: Possibility of establishing solar farms was being explored. A sizeable dairy farm was already operating on solar. With power challenges for the island, the possible addition of solar power had significant interest and value
- Attended the opening of the waterfront park in the Tauranga CBD
- Tauranga Moana Treaty settlement had been further delayed due to ongoing discussions/conflicting views between central government, Ngāi Te Rangi, and Hauraki Iwi
- Noted that the differences represented a negligent component of the overall settlement discussions, and that progress on the larger component should be possible. 'Official' reason for no progress was that a settlement could only be enacted when 'full and final'.

- Current Minister of Treaty Negotiations, Hon Paul Goldsmith appeared engaged and open to listen to advice
- Recognised that the two iwi had to work through the outstanding issues, which was challenging. The 10 year period had however enabled TMAG to be established and provide guidance on the desired co-governance structure once the settlement was finalised.
- Noted that the University of Waikato would be presenting an honorary award to Tamati Tata (Ngāi Tamarāwaho) recognising his service to the University.

6.2 Ngāti Ranginui

Te Pio Kawe - Key Points (via Zoom):

- Tauranga Moana Iwi Collective was currently in a hiatus phase until it was possible to move forward
- Had attended the activation (hikoi) in Te Whanganui a Tara (Wellington) to protest against the Treaty Principles Bill this week, and recognised the privilege of participating in such a positive event
- Ngāti Ranginui was working towards settling its Treaty claim by the middle of 2025, with the settlement progressing towards becoming an Act. This would be the final settlement for Ngāti Ranginui.
- Considered that the transfer of a number of responsibilities from Te Arawhiti to Te Puni Kōkiri to be a positive development.

6.3 Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Cr Allan Sole - Key Points:

- Athrenree Gorge boardwalk was progressing well with the intention to seek community feedback over the Christmas 2024/25 period, and the resource consent application to be lodged in early 2025
- Wastewater project: Was progressing in getting a better understanding of wastewater assets at Matakana Island and recognised this as an opportunity to build relationships. A meeting with Iwi in December 2024 would focus on developing terms of reference and project scope.

Cr Murray Grainger - Key Points:

- Kaimai Ward Reserve Management Plan review was progressing with initial consultation undertaken and a draft Plan being prepared for public feedback
- Panepane Point Wharf upgrade was continuing
- The final WBOPDC representation review proposal had been agreed to and would be submitted to the Local Government Commission for consideration. The proposal was to create three district wide community boards with 'subdivisions' to provide a level of consistency across the region
- Noted that the proposal was quite a significant change from the current representation.

6.4 Tauranga City Council

Jim Summers - Key Points:

- Noted the developments in water/stormwater education, including appointment of new staff and the review of the Stormwater Bylaw
- Three larger wastewater capital projects were in progress
- Wastewater operational renewals were ongoing

- TCC was well prepared for any blue/green algae breakout during the summer period.

Key Points - Members:

- Noted the current investments in the Tauranga CBD, including the upgraded waterfront and installation of public artwork
- Any decisions regarding the establishment of a museum and performing arts centre would form part of TCC's Annual Plan 2025/26 discussions.

6.5 Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Presentation - BOPRC Update - TMAG 22 November 2024 pdf: Objective ID A4834620 [⇒](#)

Reuben Fraser - Key Points:

- Noted that resource consent had been partially granted for the Stellar Passage project and that the Port of Tauranga was working with iwi/hapu in the development of a harbour plan.

Cr Macmillan - Freshwater Update:

- Noted the extended and highly involved freshwater plan change that had progressed to the point where a draft proposal could be released for feedback, followed by formal notification in September 2025
- However, central government had released an urgent legal change, preventing any notifications until the new National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) was introduced or no earlier than December 2025, which had stopped Council's progress
- A decision would be made in December 2025 whether to release the draft or cease progress at this stage
- Various aspects of the freshwater management plan change required public feedback.

Cr Andrew von Dadelszen - Navigation Safety Bylaw Update:

- Provided an outline of the Navigation Safety Bylaw review process
- Final recommendations had been presented to Council, with some parts still to be agreed to as the Committee was unable to reach the required 75% majority decision (e.g., Hunter's Creek ski lane)
- Noted the issue of small vessels anchoring for fishing purposes in the slipping lanes, creating significant hazards, and that this would be further addressed by Maritime New Zealand
- Noted the new Bylaw provision that life vests were also required in smaller/recreational vessels, providing consistency with other districts.

7. Ngā Take Tōmuri Hei Whakaaroaro Consideration of Items not on the Agenda

Treaty Principles Bill - Possible Submission:

- Noted that the Treaty Principles Bill was now out of public consultation and queried if TMAG would consider submitting in opposition to the Bill.

Key Points - Members:

- Noted that the Rangitāiki River Forum had resolved to make a submission in opposition to the Bill
- Did not expect this to be a Bill that WBOPDC would naturally submit on and there had been no discussion/guidance on this topic provided to WBOPDC Councillors
- Noted that TMAG was a separate entity from councils and had the opportunity/authority to make its own decision
- Councils should be able to represent all communities and no discussions regarding this had taken place at the various councils/partner organisations
- Questioned if it would be appropriate to submit on a Bill where the Prime Minister had clearly expressed it would not progress beyond select committee stages
- Queried the appropriateness of TMAG entering into the 'political sphere' to make a submission
- Noted that members did not have a mandate on this matter as individual partner organisations' discussions had not taken place on this matter
- Concerned that if no submissions were put forward, it might incorrectly be interpreted as indicating support of the Bill
- Concerned that taking no action would have significant/negative impacts further down the track
- Although there was no general support by TMAG for making a submission, members had the opportunity to make individual submissions to the Bill
- Ngāti Rangi would be making a submission, including drawing attention to the establishment of TMAG as positive and valuable
- If there was discussions/direction provided at Council levels, this could guide the views expressed by members today.

**8. Rā Hui Whai Ake:
Next Meeting Date: Friday 2 May 2025****9. Karakia Kati
Closing Prayer**

A karakia was provided by Te Pio Kawe (via Zoom).

11.30 am - the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED

Cr Matemoana McDonald
Chairperson, Tauranga Moana Advisory Group