



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 7 April 2026**

Present: (15)

TCC: Charles Fletcher (Chair), Lyn Harris, Anne Cao-Oulton, Jane Manson, Peter Nation, Mark Manson, Peter Mayall, Sue Robertson, Maggie Wilcock

WDC: Mayor Aksel Bech, Cr Crystal Beavis, Cr Mike Keir, Rochelle Deane, Aram Goes

Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT): Nil

Tamahere Forum: Nil

Community: Sue Burns, St Stephens Church

1. **Apologies:** Lauren McLean, Sue Fookes, Scott Mathias

Motion: Apologies be accepted

Moved: Sue Robertson **Seconded:** Mark Manson
All in Favour

2. **Confirmation of Minutes** of meeting held 3rd March 2026.

Motion: Minutes of the meeting held 3rd March 2026 are approved.

Moved: Mark Manson **Seconded:** Anne Cao-Oulton
All in Favour

3. **Matters arising (not on this agenda):** Reporting Correspondence – Nil

4. **Correspondence (26 February to 31 March 2026 (46 in | 34 out)- circulated by email prior to meeting**

Motion: Correspondence is accepted.

Moved: Maggie Wilcock **Seconded:** Jane Manson
All in Favour

5. **WDC Service & Delivery Report and Tamahere Community Committee Discretionary Fund** - Reports circulated prior to the meeting by Rochelle Deane and accepted as read

Discussion on items listed in reports. Details of the Contract for the new toilet block may be able to be released to the committee at the next meeting. Currently the Procurement Process is being worked through.

Details of the expiry date (2028) for the TMRT targeted rate (set for 5 years) were discussed and what the plans going forward to use it for were discussed, this will be focused on in the TMRT Forward Plan Mike Keir has asked TMRT to prepare under the

MOU between the Council and TMRT. Some of the TMRT work is associated with Council funding for tracks and streams e.g. Bilsthorpe.

The WDC Discretionary Fund balance at 1/4/26 is \$5,421.52. This money is primarily tagged going forward to meet the payments for the Tamahere Forum (PFN is paid for running the Forum). New Invoices from PFN for the Forum work have been received for payment to cover, April, May, June 2026 need to be approved.

Motion: To receive Invoices 100, 101 and 102 from PRN for \$875 (no GST) each AND APPROVE Invoice 100 \$875 for payment this month.

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Lyn Harris
All in favour

Motion: To approve Inv 101 and 102 for \$875 (no GST) each for payment in each of the next two successive months i.e. inv 101 in May and Inv 102 in June,

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Mark Manson
All in favour

Discussion on the progress on the coming together of **lawai** – the new water entity for WDC and HCC. Cr Beavis advised that the value of water assets to pass to the new waters CCO would be \$832M from WDC. Cr Keir confirmed that WDC would own one third of the assets but as the two councils HCC and WDC own half each of the shareholding both councils would have equal say.

lawai does not have its systems set up yet so WDC will still charge WDC ratepayers for water charges for the first 2 years, starting 1 July 2026. HCC will take 5 years to bring their infrastructure up to date (installing water meters)

Motion: WDC Reports be received.

Moved: Maggie Wilcock **Seconded:** Jane Manson
All in favour

6. Councilors' Report - Report circulated by Crystal and Mike and accepted as read.

Points to note:

Progress with setting up **lawai** is going well as detailed in report. The strategy was out for consultation until 6 April. it is a 10-year plan.

The WDC Long-Term Plan 2027-37 is soon to be reviewed and Council is currently updating its Annual Plan required for setting next year's rates – expectation is that those rates will less than this year's rates plus 4%. The 2026 Annual Plan should be finalized this week and, as the resulting rates charges will be within the limits of the LTP, there will be no need for consultation.

District growth projections have been investigated. Looking at 270,000 by 2070. It is worth noting that Tamahere is described as a low growth area in the **Waikato 2070 - Growth & Economic Development Strategy Report adopted by WDC on 19 May 2020**. TCC and our Councillors will have to work hard to ensure that our area is treated fairly, given its rates

contribution of \$12.5m pa. Currently Ngaruawahia and Pokeno are the main focus of Council spending. Growth in Tamahere needs to be reassessed and more clearly spelt out.

The WDC District Plan has three Environment Court appeals to be resolved. These affect areas near Ngaruawahia, Pokeno and Pukekohe Bucklands. These appeals are close to resolution. WDC has received Government approval to finalise the outstanding appeals to start with a clear slate ahead of the current RMA reforms.

The Unsanitary/Dangerous Buildings Bylaw update is out for consultation. Submissions closing 4 May 2026.

LTP work will roll on after the 2026 Annual Plan is finalized. It is hoped that some of the Council's forward contracts somewhat help cover the impacts of cost escalations for projects. Otherwise, there will be impacts with many price increases associated with current fuel price increases which will see all related goods and services increasing going forward.

An Expressway, Southern Links, NZTA update is required. A meeting is to be arranged with Charles, Mike, Crystal and NZTA. One issue is the WTR development access to/from the Expressway to the proposed new race tracks. We need to be proactive, probably with central Government political support to ensure that the existing Tamahere local roads do not carry the traffic load for this development.

WDC will commence issuing lifetime metal dog registration tags from 1 July this year and move to a paperless system of annual registration. Annual Dogs "Pool Party" on Saturday 11 April 10am -1pm friendly dogs, and 1-2pm for small and nervous dogs (under 20kgs) at Ngaruawahia Pool. This is the last day before the pools close. Cost \$15.

Motion: Councilors' report be received.

Moved: Jane Manson

Seconded: Sue Robertson
All in favour

7. Chairmans Report:

- Charles will be attending a Matangi Recreational Reserve Meeting on 14 April 2026.
- Maniapoto Pa Trustees are still in discussion about a meeting date with TCC regarding the Tamahere Reserve, land adjacent and other matters. Still no progress on a date and time.
- The Tamahere Reserve Draft Report was expected on at the end of March but has still not arrived. Charles has followed up with Matthew and Megan at WDC.
- The upgrade of the Tamahere Forum web site is almost complete. Charles has had a discussion with Scott Mathias today and learned his sister has died very suddenly and unexpectedly (funeral in Auckland later this week – committee expressed condolences. Scott Mathias has been doing the web site redevelopment using AI tools (no HTML programming) at no extra cost to his current monthly charge (he has spent \$100 for this project) – the link to the site is available and **Lyn will circulate**

to the Committee. Charles showed the Committee what it currently looks like and proposed that Scott be authorised to launch it as soon as practical – this was agreed.

- Follow the discussion on the Tamahere Forum signage, Charles showed a preferred option. It was agreed to 'Just get on with the preferred option'.
- Charles reported on the TCC sub-committee meeting with WTR and the work being done by the Phil Harris led residents' group who have also had a meeting with WTR. WTR will submit their "FastTrack Application" by 17 April and there is a small window to engage with inputs (+/-6 weeks) before the substantive application is completed for consideration by the Expert Panel. At this stage WTR are still working through design options, site access considerations, etc. Council has very limited ability to submit its views.

Motion: The Chairs report be received.

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Peter Nation

All in favour

8. Tamahere Drive Upgrade:

- The plans for this road upgrade are referred to TCC for community consideration and approval. A meeting was held last month, after our last meeting, with St Stephens Church, the Country Club, Aram Goes for Council and Charles for TCC to agree on the scope of works.
- WDC has the reconstruction of Tamahere Drive included in its works program (which is expected to provide 40 years of life for this section of road). The Country Club has offered to contribute to the cost so that additional enhancements can be made. The Church had requested consideration for parking to be maximized close to the Church grounds and would prefer to see a January 2027 start to the project (Council was planning to start in October). The Church activities are busiest Oct-Dec. There are 116 on-road parking spaces in the new plan, less than the current situation. The new plan shown by Council is currently undergoing a safety audit so may result in more changes. The Church and the Country Club are in agreement as to what their expectations are, so just need Council and Community support.
- Proposed that TCC receive this report from WDC and, once the Safety Audit is complete, the final plans. The Council is to share this information with the Country Club and the Church for their final comment, TCC will then refer to the community for consideration and final sign off by TCC.

9. Reports:

- **Civil Defense:** Peter Nation is organising a committee. There is a desktop training opportunity with Waikato Civil Defence on 22 April 2026.
 - Flooding is a potential issue in our area.
 - Funding is available from Council to put together the plan and logistics. Requirements of funding will be worked on as soon as a committee is put together.
 - Looking at making the **Tamahere Community Centre** a Civil Defence Centre. The Tamahere Community Centre Committee will have to be involved as the facility will need solar panels, plugs for generator support, water tanks, etc

- The Country Club are happy to support local Civil Defense as it has kitchen, hospital facilities and room for overnight accommodation in the event of a local disaster.
- **Matangi Community Committee Update:** Anne there has been no meeting so nothing to report.
- **Predator Free Tamahere:** Janes report was circulated. Congratulations on progress.
- **Tamahere Lions:** Nothing new to report.
- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT):** Three report items received, these show a lot of work has been achieved.
 - Thanks to Mike Keir for his support for the projects, especially the work to complete the switch back access to Bilsthorpe from 200 Matangi Road RoW at a cost of approx. \$37,000, reduced from the proposed \$500,000 plus the Council had planned before the elections with a lot of money spent on Consents and Consultants
 - TMRT to sort out items under the MOU with WDC and considerations for the future of the targeted rate for. Maybe there needs to be a review of the catchment area for the targeted rate? In year 4 consult ratepayers/voters for the catchments and willingness to renew the targeted rate alongside a description of what has been achieved and what is proposed.
 - TMRT needs to consider Succession Planning, and posting updates on the Forum with achievements, the future vision, and links to the TMRT videos.
- **Tamahere Model Country School (TCMS):** Report Received, excellent information, Thank you.
- **Tamahere Saint Stephens Church:** Refer to the discussion already had above on Tamahere Drive. The Church has submitted two entries in the Creative Spaces Competition, awaiting judging. The 2025 Christmas Festival gave away approximately \$43,000. A great effort.
- **Vision Tamahere 2075 – Community Plan Update | NZTA Southern Links:** This sub-committee is continuing with fortnightly meetings.
 - This is a very large task and the sub-committee will need a lot more assistance (Council spent approx. \$400,000 on reports for Ngaruawahia, Taupiri and Hopuhopu, which it will not be approving for anyone else at this level).
 - The meeting with Rebecca Law and James Fuller from WDC was very helpful. They are currently organising information for the Vision Tamahere 2075 sub-committee
 - Maggie raised a concern that haphazard developments in Tamahere will have adverse outcomes to the Tamahere community and there needs to be quality planning done so that we do not get overrun with unwelcome consequences. The WTR Greenfields development is a consequence of inadequate planning for Tamahere.
 - The Hamilton Southern links expressway (connecting SH1 to SH3 with direct access to the Airport) will have a major impact on Tamahere.
 - There is a lot going on in and around our Ward so all has to be considered.

Motion: All of the above reports be received

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Jane Manson

- **All in favour**

10. Tamahere Community Charitable Trust Update:

Currently awaiting sign-off by the Charities Commission. Then we will set up banking and operative procedures.

11. Submissions:

WDC – refer <https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it> ‘Have your say’ to keep updated

WRC – refer <https://yourvoicematters.waikatoregion.govt.nz> ‘Have your say’ to keep updated

HCC – refer ‘Have your say’ & Morrinsville Road Upgrade update.

12. Other Business:

- **Value of new Toilet Block**, discussed above, not public yet.
- **Time with Waikato MP (Tim van der Molen: Wednesday 8 April 5.00 – 6.30pm**
@ The Boundary Restaurant & Bar. Peter Nation, Charles Fletcher and Sue Robertson to attend.
- **School bus shelters & bus stop signage down Woodcock Road/ Windmill Road.**
This is not an issue that our committee can resolve. Education Ministry do not provide these as the routes and number of children change from time to time. Locals could look at building a portable stop or seeking assistance from Waikato Sheds who have assisted with one in Eureka Road.

13. Date of Next Meeting – 7.30 Tuesday 5th May 2026.

Peter Nation records his apologies.

Actions: See marked through the Minutes above.

The meeting closed at 9:38 pm.