



Unconfirmed

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MAORI COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday 18 November 2020

Time: 11.00am

Venue: Council Chamber
Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
NAPIER

Present: M Paku – Co-chair
M McIlroy – Co-chair
J Brown
Cr R Graham
R Hiha
H Hilton
K Kawana
R Maaka
Z Makoare
Cr H Ormsby
A Robin
P Sciascia

In Attendance: J Palmer –Chief Executive
P Munro – Te Pou Whakarae Māori Partnerships
C Edmonds – Acting Group Manager Strategic Planning
L Hooper – Team Leader Governance

1. Welcome/Apologies/Notices

Haami Hilton offered a karakia to open the meeting, followed by a mihi whakatau from the Chair, Mike Paku.

MC43/20 Resolution

That the apologies for absence from Cr Charles Lambert, Cr Rick Barker, Peter Eden, Marei Apatu and Bill Blake be accepted.

**Robin/Hilton
CARRIED**

2. Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

3. Alternate Members for 18 November 2020 Meeting

MC44/20 Resolution

The Māori Committee agrees that Joella Brown be appointed as a member of the Māori Committee of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council for the meeting on Wednesday, 18 November 2020 as alternate attendee for Heretaunga.

**Ormsby/McIlroy
CARRIED**

4. Confirmation of Minutes of the Māori Committee meeting held on 9 September 2020

MC45/20 Resolution

Minutes of the Maori Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 9 September 2020, a copy having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record.

**Ormsby/Robin
CARRIED**

5. Take Ripoata Ā Takiwā – Taiwhenua Representatives' Updates

- Wairoa Taiwhenua – Michelle McIlroy highlighted her appreciation for the opportunity to attend the Making Good Decisions course, and requests that cultural impact and mahinga kai assessments are carried out in relation to unfenced waterways and 1080 use for possum control. Katarina Kawana highlighted Wairoa District Council wastewater consent hearings on 30 November, engagement with the Ministry for Primary Industries in relation to Wairoa fishing boundaries to determine kaitiaki, the Ruamoko project in partnership with GNS science and the taiwhenua's last meeting for the year unanimously supported Maori wards for HBRC. Michelle McIlroy also raised Katarina Kawana's acceptance of her nomination by Rongomaiwahine to the National Eel Forum Working Group as the representative for Mai Paritu tae atu ki Turakirae Fisheries Forum.
- Taiwhenua o Heretaunga – Mike Paku – disappointment from tangata whenua that Clive River dredge material will need to be disposed to the coastline this time rather than on land as proposed and that the dredging won't be extended up to Kohupatiki Marae.
- Taiwhenua te Whanganui a Orortu – Rose Hiha – over 100 people attended the Taiwhenua AGM and opening of their new building, and te Taiwhenua has been heavily involved in the welfare response to the Napier Flood last week, led by Chair Hori Reti and CE Tania Eden.
- Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea – Dr Roger Maaka – AGM 28 September result to ramp

up taiwhenua activities and revitalise operations. CHBDC has produced a Māori Engagement Strategy and engaged taiwhenua on the District Plan through a pre-notification consultation process, Māori Tipuna restoration of pa sites around Waipawa, a flurry of Tehei Tamatea conservation related economic development projects for implementation in January 2021, Ngā Pekapeka o Ngā Motu Rākau o Ruataniwha project with DoC rehabilitating bats and the Whatuma Management Group restoration of what used to be DoC reserve land.

- Paora Sciascia – advised that the newly appointed Te Angiangi marine reserve manager is Ngati Kere which brings mana whenua into the picture and makes the rohe boundaries real, and work to commemorate old soldiers and restore pa sites in Porangahau as well as initiatives to employ young people so they will stay in the community.

MC46/20 **Recommendation**

That the Maori Committee receives and notes the “*Take Ripoata ā Takiwā – Taiwhenua reports*”.

**Sciascia/McIlroy
CARRIED**

7. HBRC Chair and Chief Executive's Verbal Updates on Current Issues

Chairman Rex Graham introduced the item, beginning with evidence of Climate Change displayed by last week’s Napier rainfall event and the work of the Coastal Hazards Joint Committee, and highlighting:

- Right Tree Right Place initiative to help address erosion and sedimentation of waterways, which is a key LTP consultation topic
- Increasing partnerships with hapu, similar to the Hawea Park model, including initiatives with Rongomai Wahine and for further discussions about Te Rongo Park

James Palmer highlighted economic impacts of Covid-19 and recovery initiatives with focus on local businesses and Māori employment, leveraged with Central Government funding including Jobs4Nature which has been granted \$11M regionally. Council operations are working flat out on business as usual and meeting increasing demands from the community and Central Government like giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai, biodiversity restoration, development of and engagement on the Kotahi co-design process, and implementation of new Finance and Telephone systems.

MC47/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives the “*HBRC Chair and Chief Executive’s Verbal Updates on Current Issues*”.

**Sciascia/McIlroy
CARRIED**

6. Follow-ups from Previous Māori Committee Meetings

The item was taken as read as all items listed are being addressed.

MC48/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives the “*Follow-up Items from Previous Māori Committee Meetings*” report.

**Ormsby/Hiha
CARRIED**

8. Kotahi

Ceri Edmonds introduced the item and made a presentation covering the drivers and rationale for Kotahi:

- a single Plan to replace the Regional Resource Management Plan and Regional Coastal Environment Plan in a better, more holistic way that reflects ki uta ki tai approach for resource management in the Hawke's Bay region
- constraints and risks include resourcing to actively engage with iwi, community expectations, plan alignment with TLAs plus external factors outside of Council's control, for example further RMA or other legislative reform
- genuine opportunity to meaningfully incorporate principles of ki uta ki tai with a wider view that previous freshwater focussed plan change processes did not have
- proposing that dedicated teams (Science lead, Policy/Planning Lead, Māori Partnerships Lead) take the community and iwi through the process for each catchment
- exploring ways to resource iwi, including remuneration policy for participation in hui, to actively and effectively participate in co-designing each catchment 'chapter' and incorporating the principles of Te Mana o Te Wai into Kotahi
- Plan is to first approach PSGE representatives to determine the hapu, iwi and/or marae to engage with in each of the catchments
- 'pop-up' agile engagement or consultation will be used for wider community 'pre notification engagement' after the co-design has been done in partnership with tangata whenua
- 'no new science' means that new, unprogrammed HBRC scientific investigations will not be added into the plan change process but be programmed and budgeted as a future work stream

MC49/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the "Kotahi" staff report.

**Makoare/Maaka
CARRIED**

9. HBRC Response to Climate Change

Jenny Keown, Kathleen Kozyniak and Rebecca Ashcroft-Cullen introduced the item and made a presentation covering a recently commissioned report from NIWA on climate change projections and impacts for Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay, and the Regional Council's climate action campaign. Discussions traversed:

- Key messages that in HB we need to be prepared for more extremes, heavier rainfall and more frequent droughts in excess of forecast national averages, as well as sea level rise
- Matauranga Māori observations reinforce significant climate change under way
- Collision of two weather systems caused last week's Napier flood event, and the frequency and intensity of these events is predicted to increase
- Climate Action Campaign messaging is around the climate crisis being the biggest threat to our communities, positioning Council as the lead agency and taking action in several ways to empower whanau and communities to build resilience and mitigate their own carbon footprints

MC50/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the "*HBRC Climate Change Response*" staff report.

**Makoare/Maaka
CARRIED**

Haami Hilton said grace and the meeting adjourned at 1.02pm

The meeting reconvened at 1.35pm with Rose Hiha absent.

11. 2021 Schedule of Meetings

The item was taken as read.

MC51/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the “2021 Schedule of Meetings”.

**Sciascia/Hilton
CARRIED**

12. Reports from Regional Council and Committee Meetings

The item was taken as read, with Api Robin noting tangata whenua requests for input into the Regional Land Transport Plan in relation to improvements to rural roads, signage around marae and papakainga housing., as well as commentary in relation to pest management and the proposed Whakatu Inland Port.

MC52/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives and considers the “*Reports from Regional Council and Committee Meetings*”.

**Sciascia/Hilton
CARRIED**

13. Significant Organisational Activities Through November 2020

The item was taken as read, having been mostly covered by the CE’s update.

MC53/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the ***Significant HBRC Activities through November 2020*** staff report.

**Sciascia/Hilton
CARRIED**

14. October 2020 Statutory Advocacy Update

The item was taken as read.

MC54/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the “*October 2020 Statutory Advocacy Update*” staff report.

**Sciascia/Hiha
CARRIED**

10. Hawke’s Bay Coastal Bird Survey

Keiko Hashiba introduced the item and made a presentation about the purpose of the first of what will become a 5 yearly coastal bird survey which will be undertaken starting in mid December and running through January. Alongside the survey, it is planned to hold interactive workshops to introduce people to the survey, demonstrate how to carry out a survey so they can participate, and to share knowledge and stories about coastal birds and habitats.

MC55/20 **Resolution**

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the “*Hawke’s Bay Coastal Bird Survey*” staff report.

**Sciascia/Ormsby
CARRIED**

15. Māori Representation on Hawke's Bay Regional Council

Pieri Munro introduced the item, and discussions traversed:

- Dr Roger Maaka advised Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea met this week and extended its unambiguous, unanimous support for Council to establish of Māori constituencies

Roger Maaka left the meeting at 1.51pm

- RPC tangata whenua views were provided in a hui held yesterday morning, and subsequently by an email from Maungaharuru Tangitu – unanimously in favour of Council establishing Māori constituencies by resolution
- Additional commentary from RPC tangata whenua expressed the need for a significant community engagement process to communicate the resolution foster understanding of why it's a good thing
- Understand there may be a demand for a poll however expressed the view that tangata whenua are ready so "bring it on"
- the number of Māori representatives/constituencies for the region is determined by a specific calculation in the Local Electoral Act, based on the number of councillors on the Council and the population of the region
- korero has been going on for a long time and tangata whenua were very disappointed with the previous Council's decision not to establish Māori constituencies the last time it was considered in 2017
- Māori are mindful that Māori elected in general constituencies don't have the mandate of tangata whenua which they will have if they are elected by Māori constituencies
- Wairoa Taiwhenua considered this at their AGM and unanimously supported the establishment of Māori constituencies and were very disappointed when this was previously rejected by Council by a slim majority
- Tangata whenua have been waiting a long time and are hopeful that the time is right and that the Tipuna are with Māori today its weighs in favour
- The Treaty promised rangitiritanga and kaitiaki of the environment and tangata whenua want to have a real partnership with equal rights
- Heretaunga Taiwhenua were supportive in 2017 and have not changed their position while remaining mindful of the pros and cons
- despite fears and apprehension associated with a potential poll all tangata whenua consulted with say to Council "show leadership, show strength, and vote in favour of Māori constituencies"
- if Council does resolve to establish Māori constituencies that must be notified by 30 November and there is then the potential for 5% of voters enrolled at the last election to demand a poll to overturn the Council's decision. Should the result of a poll overturn Council's decision that would be effective for two elections and the next time Council would be able to consider the establishment of Māori constituencies wouldn't be until after the 2025 election.
- View expressed that a referendum is a waste of time and Council should advocate to central government to change the law to legislate Māori seats
- Two regional councils and one district council with Māori seats currently. Seven councils have recently resolved to establish Māori wards or constituencies under current LEA provisions
- Unanimous response from tangata whenua at the Māori Committee table when asked whether they are prepared to take the risk of a poll was "yes".
- Māori have always had to challenge the status quo, they have never got change because it was the right thing to do.

MC56/20

Resolutions

That the Māori Committee:

1. Receives and considers the Māori Representation staff report
2. Puts forward an agreed view in support of Council resolving to establish Māori Constituencies for Hawke's Bay.

Haami Hilton offered a karakia, before Hinewai Ormsby led the group in waiata to close the meeting.

Closure:

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2.45pm on Wednesday 18 November 2020.

Signed as a true and correct record.

DATE:

CHAIRMAN: