



**Minutes of Tamahere Community Committee Meeting at
Tamahere Community Centre, 7.30pm on Tuesday 6 May 2025**

Present:

TCC: Charles Fletcher (Chair), Janis Swan, Anne Cao, Bevin Coley, Lyn Harris, Jane Manson, Buddy Annals
WDC: Cr Crystal Beavis, Cr Mike Keir, Greer Gisborne, Craig Hobbs, Mayor Jacqui Church
Tamahere Lions: Sue Fookes
Community: Maggie Wilcock, Cindy Jacobs (part), Aksel Bech (part), Sue Robertson, Connie Buchanan

1. **Apologies:** Russell Gibbs, Leo Koppens, Geoff King, Scott Mathias

Motion: Apologies be accepted

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Buddy Annals **All in Favour**

2. **Confirmation of Minutes** of meeting held 1 April 2025.

Thank you to Pamela Storey for her comments and additional information provided following the meeting.

Motion: Minutes of the meeting held 1 April 2025 (as distributed) are approved.

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Janis Swan **All in Favour**

3. **Matters arising (not on this agenda)**

Pamela Storey's feedback, following TCC meeting held 1 April, includes further information and details, as follows:

- The Waikato Regional Plan (WRP) comes into effect 1 July 2025.
- The WRP introduces a Regional Public Transport Rate affecting regional public transport only.
- Wharekawa Coast rating does have an effect on Tamahere rates via the General Rate portion of rates set. The rating funds provide river and catchment management to the Wharekawa Coast area only.
- Primary Industry Compliance Rate remission policy – this is a new policy applicable only to primary industry land.
- Current Resource Management Reform is looking for a regional spatial plan so that one plan covers all aspects of the region's resource management activities i.e. not the region's development.
- The Resource Management Reform is unlikely to have an effect on the PC1 outcome. The legislation is not yet available, so this is still to be determined.
- **Tamahere Gully project:** Consents sought by WDC were issued in February 2025.
 - Work had begun on the restoration project without WRC knowledge. A WDC consultant invited WRC to the restoration site and as no consent had been

applied for, all work ceased and no further work could proceed until the required WRC consents had been obtained.

- The application for resource consent required assessment under both the WRP and the Environmental Standards for Freshwater.
- Specific areas of the project were identified and WRC & WDC worked together to develop workable conditions.
- The total WRC cost for processing the applications was \$10,709.40 (incl GST). This was charged to WDC as is standard practice within the Council that it will not differentiate between applicants.

4. **Correspondence (April 2025)** - *circulated by email prior to meeting*

Motion: Correspondence is accepted.

Moved: Lyn Harris **Seconded:** Buddy Annals **All in Favour**

5. **WDC Service Delivery – Tamahere Community Committee Issues Report** - Report circulated prior to the meeting by Geoff King and accepted as read.

- *Tamahere Reserve:* Some weeks back Megan May offered to assist with the development and repurposing plans for Tamahere Reserve.
- It is understood that there is a potential plan that will see all the pine trees harvested at a zero net cost to WDC. This was welcome news to the committee.
- *Tamahere Park seats:* TCC wanted to develop a forward plan for where further donated park seats/benches could be placed within the recreation park. Following consultation with WDC, the Regal Haulage boundary has been identified as a great place for this purpose.
- We are aware that the Tamahere Community Centre is considering an extension to the community hall. A coordinated plan needs to be worked on with consideration being given to cricket, lacrosse and football requirements as well as what is required to encourage activation of the Piazza area.

Motion: WDC Service Delivery Report be received.

Moved: Charles Fletcher **Seconded:** Janis Swan **All in favour**

6. **Councillors' Report**

Report circulated by Crystal and accepted as read.

- *Planning new facilities at Hillcrest-Matangi Sports Club:* Currently this building is in a shabby condition. Charles suggested that the lease should only be renewed on an annual basis until the club fixes, upgrades and maintains the building appropriately. \$380,000 represents a large amount of money to be spent on this site and the clubrooms need to reflect the standard which attract the community (in a rundown state the building could attract undesirables including a place for drugs distribution).
- *SH1B Telephone Rd rail crossing:* Unless KiwiRail can find a safe way to reopen the rail crossing earlier this access will not open until late July (with railway signals in place).

- *Sports Waikato Survey:* WDC is encouraging all Waikato District residents to complete a Sports Waikato online survey which is now open until Friday 30 May. The survey targets school leavers and adults over 18 with an aim to identify and overcome barriers to people taking part in physical activity and to enhance opportunities to stay active in the district.

This needs to be promoted through the Tamahere Forum.

Motion: Councilors' report be received.

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Janis Swan **All in favour**

7. Tamahere Reserve:

- Council has contracted the removal of trees on the Tauwhare Road boundary and that work is almost complete. Council is to be congratulated on this work and the community is very pleased with progress.
- All logs would be winched out of the gully rather than being left to rot. This means TMRT will have the opportunity of creating a plan for restoration for this part of the gully.
- Thank you to Glynn and his team for following the project of pine tree removal through to a successful conclusion.
- **Action:** Craig Hobbs has offered to speak to Megan May seeking her availability to work on the plan for the Tamahere Reserve (following the completion of LTP consultation) and the community consultation for its future use options.
- Cr Keir reported that the remaining pine trees may be removed from the Tamahere Reserve on a cost neutral basis.
- Mayor Jacqui noted that the jagged tops of the trunks of fallen trees can be a health and safety problem so Glynn and/or Council staff need to ensure the Contractor makes these safe (usually chain sawing the top of the stump to leave a smooth finish is the best).
- **Action:** Craig Hobbs offered to speak to staff to ensure the Contractor leaves the tree stumps safe.

8. Local Council Elections

- **Voting Dates: Tuesday 9th September – Saturday 11th October 2025**
- The current committee term ends 1 month after the elections (this will be at the end of our meeting scheduled for 4 November 2025).
- **Action:** Current Committee members need to consider if they would like to stand again and whether they are aware of other people in our community who would like to be active members on the Committee.
- Woodlands-Tamahere Ward need nominees to stand for Council. Crystal is planning to stand for re-election. Mike is unsure of his position.
- Mayoral candidates will also mean a vote (unless Mayor Jacqui is elected uncontested).
- Only 30%+ of eligible voters exercised their right to vote in the last election. We need to encourage a better turn-out for 2025.
- WDC will support "Meet the Candidate" events hosted by TCC leading up to the election as we did prior to the last election.

- Mayor Jacqui also noted that there is a referendum on whether or not WDC keeps separate Maori Ward representation.

9. Reports

▪ WDC LTP 2025-2034

- Via **Tamahere Forum** we have encouraged people to submit their thoughts on the plan. The **submission opportunity closes on Sunday 11 May**.
- The online submission tool does not take long to complete but tends to lead you down a funnel already preferred by Council.
- **Action:** Charles will send an email to committee members to get their input for a TCC submission. This will be compiled to address issues our community need considered and sent to Council.
- This is an opportunity to encourage the Council to change the Tauwhare Road/Woodcock Road intersection e.g. by adding a slip lane and a central area for right turning traffic. This is a potentially dangerous intersection and is included in the Council plan for a roundabout, but this is on hold due to the lack of NZTA funding for the next two years. The slip lane could be a far cheaper and effective solution for the next few years and enhances access to the Tamahere Reserve as a bonus.

▪ CCTV Update:

- Charles has had no Council update following on from his meeting last month and the project re-pricing which has recently been submitted to the Council. Once the pricing has been accepted by the Council this project can proceed.
- Geoff's Report indicates that the council is looking to award the installation contract within the next 2-3 weeks.

▪ Civil Defence:

- Cr Beavis plans to put an information piece together to publish in the **Tamahere Forum**.
- The Civil Defence team in council has accepted the plan as a first stage but the plan still requires a local "lead" person.
- **Action:** Charles will catch up with Cr Beavis to progress this further.
- The group of volunteers, that have engaged with this plan, meet on-line regularly to help build an understanding of what each member can provide.
- There is a limited amount of funds available to help promote the Civil Defence response process to the community but Crystal confirms that \$3,000 has been made available for our plan work.

▪ Predator Free Tamahere (PFT): Jane Morgan's report was circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read.

- Thank you to the PFT for their continued work in the gullies and properties in Tamahere.

▪ Tamahere Lions and Playground Shade Project:

- Sue and Anne attended the Funding workshop recently hosted by WDC. Anne reported that the learnings from the workshop were helpful and the Convener could come to a meeting if we needed assistance for a particular project.

- Lions continue to work on the Playground shade project.
- Lions craft market will be held this month at Tamahere Community Centre – Saturday 10 May as well as next month – Saturday 14 June.
- **Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust (TMRT):** Russell's written report was circulated prior to the meeting and is taken as read.
 - This was a very brief report.
 - Connie Buchanan is interested in the restoration of the Tamahere gully system and is keen to meet with TMRT members. It was suggested that Bruce Clarkson was also an important person to contact when it comes to gully restoration.
 - Maggie observed that many different consultancy groups have been engaged in the gully restoration with Peak Consultants being the most recent addition. Why are so many consulting groups required?
 - **Action:** Craig Hobbs offered to follow this up on our behalf.
 - **Action:** Maggie will put a summary together and send it to Geoff for Council comment/feedback.
- **Tamahere Model Country School (TMCS):** Report circulated by Buddy and taken as read.
 - Kowhai 4 building has been demolished and will be replaced with a green area as a replacement classroom is not required.
- **Tamahere St Stephens Church:** Jane reported:
 - Next Market Day – Saturday 17th May 2025.
 - The April market (during the Easter break) was very disappointing with a number of vendors not attending. The weather forecast had been bad but in reality, it was a lovely day! Those attending had a great day.
 - The June Market Day is not on the same weekend as Fieldays!!
- **Tamahere Forum Update:**
 - Cindy would like to see a plan for the Forum to progress how it is presented.
 - Connie (as a first-time user) observed that the first date that pops up is for 2023 – Connie thought it was not an active site until she realized that this represented the first post. This should be changed.
 - **Suggestion:** Local stories (human interest) should be included rather than just factual information plus increase the visual aspect with more photos.
 - **Email reach:** Charles has set a target of increasing the number of email subscribers by 400% by the 9 September.
 - Charles had a discussion with the Pokeno Chair regarding community information channels. The Pokeno Committee have a Facebook page which has recently received negative activity including personal attacks on committee members. This has created an unsafe environment within the community.
 - **Suggestion:** The Waikato District News could promote the Tamahere Forum. TCC needs to connect with Janette Williams – a member of the WDC communications team.
- **Traffic Management for Fieldays:** Traffic will be confined to one way into Fieldays from the Expressway, Airport Road to the Fieldays site in the mornings and the

reverse in the evenings. This has not been publicized well and we will contact Fieldays management to ask for greater awareness for the Tamahere Community

Motion: All of the above reports be received

Moved: Charles Fletcher

Seconded: Anne Cao

All in favour

10. Submissions

- **WDC** – refer <https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it>
Long Term Plan – consultation closes Sunday 11 May
- **WRC** – refer <https://yourvoicematters.waikatoregion.govt.nz>
- **HCC** – *Roundabout Update*: Sarah Loynes has requested a follow up meeting with Tamahere and Matangi community committees.
 - **Action:** Charles will circulate the date once it has been confirmed.

11. Other Business

- Tamahere Recreation Park: Seats & Lighting: Aksel's feedback on seats received. Council has approved a plan for future seating and the first is funded for placement.
- Mayor's Community Awards 2025 Nominations: TCC nomination submitted.
- Traffic calming measures for Birchwood Lane: The proposed traffic calming trial has been stopped due to feedback from a Hamilton City Council roading engineer who is a Tamahere resident.

12. Date of the next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday, 3rd June 2025.

Actions: See **marked** through the Minutes above.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.