

Matawai-Motu

Township Plan 2011



Foreword

Tena koutou

Township plans are an important tool for our communities.

It was pleasing to see a good number of interested community people participate in the Matawai-Motu township workshops, and I thank you all for the wonderful ideas you have contributed.

I am particularly pleased to see our young people have made their ideas known. As we say, they are our future and what a wonderful opportunity for them to get involved now.

The Councillors and I appreciate your ideas and we say thank you, you make our jobs easier by telling us what you hope for.

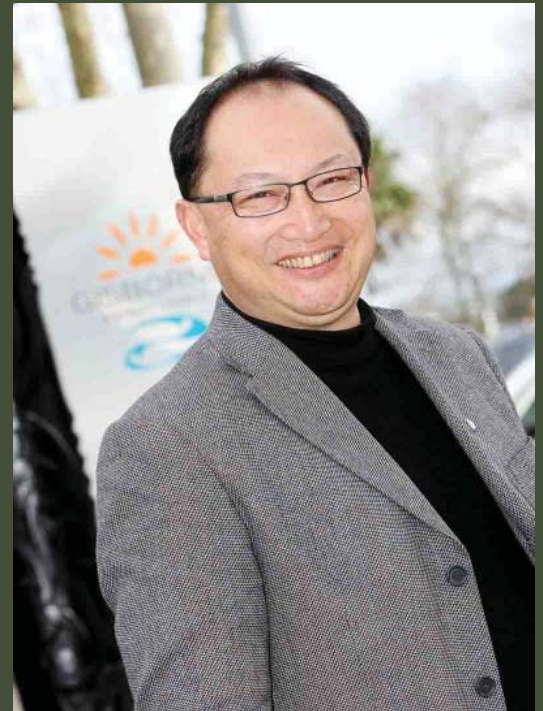
It is great to dream and put those ideas onto paper. We need to have courage to explore new ideas that will meet the needs of the township, ones that will allow us to stand out as a unique and special community in which to live and visit.

From now it takes action - an action plan I am committed to with your agreement. I look forward to the progress we are going to make in your township, and we hope that your community will be inspired to do more and complement what has been proposed.

Be inspired, be courageous and most importantly of all, take action.

Meng Foon

Mayor - Gisborne District



Acknowledgements

Thanks to the following people who contributed to the development of our Township Plan:

Ali Gibson
Allen Smith
Anne Tohill
Beatrice Taylor
Bruce Coster
Bruce Marriott
Carol Fisher
Dan Griffin
Danny Larson
Don Welch
Essie Langley

Esther Henderson
Grant McDonald
Jenny Colbert
Jonette Kerekere
Len Casey
Lisa Dixon
Maera Boyce
Mauru Larson
Mutu Noanoa
Neville Tohill
Ngairi Holland

Nik House
Noeleen Welch
Paul Cornwall
Priscilla Taylor
Richard Barbarich
Roger Haisman
Simon Hustler
Starr Rutene
Stuart Russell
Tracy Gebert
Vin Scott

This Township Plan was a joint effort between the Matawai – Motu community and the Gisborne District Council.



Thanks to the following groups and agencies that have assisted the community and Council with the development of our Township Plan:



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Matawai School
Motu School

Historic images courtesy of Tairawhiti Museum
Photographs courtesy of Kim Smith, Richard Loudon, Bev Muir and Yvette Kinsella



Contents

Foreword...	i
Acknowledgements...	ii
Contents ...	iii
Introduction	1
Our Community.	2
Gateway to the Gisborne District	
What are our key goals?	4
What are our priority projects?..	4
How will we make it happen?....	5
How will we measure success?	6
A healthy river for all to share	
What are our key goals?	8
What are our priority projects?..	8
How will we make it happen?....	8
How will we measure success?	9
Appendix 1: All our ideas	10



Introduction

The Matawai – Motu Township Plan 2010 captures our community's long-term vision for Matawai and Motu townships. The Plan is a living document with the potential to evolve as our community grows and changes.

Community engagement

The Gisborne District Council (GDC) facilitated the development of the Plan and have pulled together our contributions from:

- the strategic planning workshop in February 2010
- ideas boxes around the community
- the implementation workshop in June 2010

Content of the Plan

Our Township Plan identifies two vision statements:

- Gateway to the Gisborne District
- A Healthy River for All to Share

It describes each vision statement in terms of key goals and eight priority projects for the townships to be achieved over the next few years. All our ideas identified during community engagement are listed in Appendix 1.

Community commitment

The Township Plan is an expression of our community's aspirations for the future and will need to be driven by a cohesive and concerted community effort supported by Council and other agencies as appropriate.

Gisborne District Council commitment

The Plan will guide GDC in planning for the future development of our place over the next 20 years. It will be an important consideration in the development of Council's 10-year Plan and will also be considered by all GDC staff where their activities may have an effect on the Matawai – Motu communities.

Each priority project has an implementation table detailing specific actions with costs, timeframes, funding options and a progress indicator. Where no funding is currently confirmed, Council will consider the action for inclusion in their next 10-year Plan.

GDC has committed to working with us and other agencies to meet the key goals and deliver the priority projects.

So we can keep track of our progress, Council will report annually on what has been achieved on the Township Plan through its Annual Report and the Plan will be reviewed in five years.

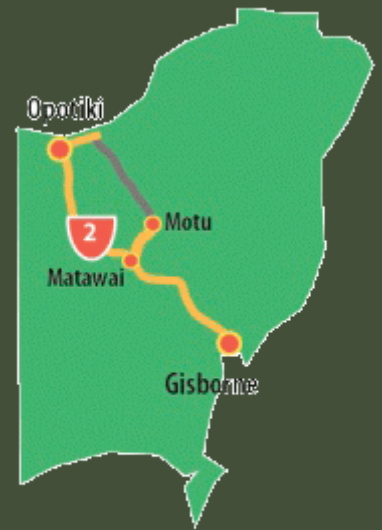


Our Community

Matawai is a small town on State Highway 2 midway between Gisborne and Opoitiki. It is the last stop for food and petrol for at least 50km either way so is a popular resting point for locals and visitors to and from the District. A turn-off in the centre of town takes you to Motu 14km away.

The Matawai – Motu area has a proud pioneering history. A key part of the District's timber industry, the area was noted for its high altitude and big trees, arguably some of the best timber in New Zealand.

By 1940 most of the easily accessible timber had been harvested and the mills closed. Now the area is a well established and productive farming community.



Above: Timber mill at Motu (early 1900s).

Left: Workers with some of the millions of tonnes of timber cleared from the Matawai-Motu area in the early 20th century.



Above: Forming the Old Motu Coach Road with pick axes and horse-drawn carts.

The formation of the Old Motu Coach Road, at one time a major New Zealand highway, is another example of the pioneering spirit of the area – it was carved out with pick axes and horses.

The Road passes through several scenic reserves on the way to the Bay of Plenty and is being developed in 2011 to provide a scenic and heritage experience for recreational cyclists as part of the National Cycleways project.

The project will bring with it opportunities for local economic development and the Matawai-Motu community is keen to make the most of those opportunities.

Locals are particularly proud of the friendly family community vibe of their place. It is a safe place for families with a wealth of outdoor activities like hunting and fishing.

The area is serviced by two primary schools – Matawai Area School and Motu School – and both schools have strong community connections.

Aside from the laid back and peaceful lifestyle, locals have a wealth of recreational opportunities in the natural playground at their doorsteps.

Special attractions include the Motu Scenic Reserve (featuring a rare form of oxbow lake), the Motu Falls and the Whinray Scenic Reserve (with bush walk).



Above: Swing Bridge at Motu Falls; native bush at Motu Lake; picnic area at Motu Falls.

Left: Motu Falls from the swing bridge.

Several small businesses are also established in the area including a general store/café, petrol station, the historic Matawai Hotel (with its impressive collection of memorabilia and historic images reflecting the area's sawmilling history), an art gallery, a farm supplies and services store, a kiwi house and a campground.



Above: Matawai and Motu community members working with Council staff at a strategic planning workshop in February 2010.

Other: Community members developing an action plan with Council staff at an implementation workshop in June 2010.



Gateway to the Gisborne District

At the western most border of the Gisborne district, Matawai is the first port of call for visitors to Gisborne after a long drive through the scenic Waioeka Gorge. First impressions matter and we want to make the most of our place as a popular rest stop for travelers to and from the District. With construction of the Motu cycleway due to be completed in October 2011, enhancing visitor amenities is one of our top priorities.

We believe promoting local activities and attractions is important to encouraging longer visitor stays and encouraging return trips to the area. Attractive streetscapes that create a point of interest in for the area are also important.

What are our key goals?

- To promote Matawai – Motu as a great place with lots to see and do
- To have infrastructure and amenities to support increased visitor numbers
- To ensure our streets are safe and vibrant

What are our priority projects?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a theme for the main streets of Matawai and Motu that creates interest, is a source of local pride and encourages the increased visitor numbers to stay for longer.	Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve visitor amenities, particularly rest areas and public toilets, and promote the wide range of visitor activities in Matawai – Motu through well-placed signage.	GDC/Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upgrade the Motu Community House to accommodate visitors overnight.	Motu Community House Trust
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design entrances to Matawai to encourage responsible driver behaviour, particularly at the eastern town entrance.	NZTA
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure existing infrastructure and services, particularly drainage, stormwater, public toilets, roads and footpaths, are operating effectively.	GDC/NZTA

How will we make it happen?



Complete



On target



Behind Schedule



- Develop a theme for the main streets of Matawai and Motu that creates interest, instils pride in locals and encourages more visitors for longer.

Task Description	Cost (est)	Funding Options	Timeframe	Progress
1. Develop theme.	Nil	NA	December 2010	





- Improve visitor amenities consistent with the main street theme, including public toilets and rest areas, and promote the wide range of visitor activities in Matawai - Motu through well-placed signage.

Task Description	Cost (est)	Funding Options		Timeframe	Progress
1. Prepare funding strategy for work to support the cycleway.	Nil	GDC business as usual		February 2011	
2. Develop themed rest areas - Motu and Matawai: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Build 	\$3,000 \$50,000	GDC business as usual ECT/GDC/Community	(tbc)	February 2011 October 2011	
3. Upgrade public toilets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matawai Motu 	\$30,000 \$10,000	LTCCP GDC business as usual	(tbc)	2019 October 2011	
4. Erect information boards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matawai Motu 	\$15,000 \$15,000	ECT/Cycle Trail Trust ECT/Cycle Trail Trust	(tbc) (tbc)	October 2011 October 2011	
5. Erect town signs.	\$20,000	NZTA business as usual	(tbc)	October 2011	



- Upgrade the Motu Community House to accommodate visitors overnight.

Task Description	Cost (est)	Funding Options		Timeframe	Progress
1. Prepare funding strategy for work to support the cycleway.	Nil	GDC business as usual		February 2011	
2. Upgrade Community House to accommodate visitors.	\$40,000	Community		October 2011	

- Design entrances to Matawai to encourage responsible driver behaviour, particularly at the eastern town centre near the Motu Road turnoff.

Task Description	Cost (est)	Funding Options		Timeframe	Progress
1. Erect corner warning signs.	\$20,000	NZTA business as usual	2010	October 2011	
2. Erect repeater 50km signs.	\$20,000	NZTA business as usual	2010	October 2011	
3. Paint 200mm road edges through town.	\$5,000	NZTA business as usual	2010	December 2010	
4. Trim vegetation to improve visibility of signs.	\$1,000	NZTA business as usual	2010	December 2010	

- Ensure existing infrastructure and services, particularly drainage, stormwater, public toilets, roads and footpaths are operating effectively.

Task Description	Cost (est)	Funding Options		Timeframe	Progress
1. Prepare stormwater assessment.	\$8,000	LTCCP	2010	December 2010	
2. Complete stormwater remediation.	\$28,000	LTCCP	2011	June 2011	
3. Complete footpath and kerb and channel remediation.	\$100,000	LTCCP	(tbc)	Not yet scheduled	

How will we measure success?

- Completion of all priority projects within timeframes and budgets
- Percentage increase in visitor numbers and nights stayed
- Visitor feedback on quality of the Matawai – Motu experience
- Reduction in Council requests for service re drainage problems
- Reduction in number of traffic accidents

We will measure perceived success from the perspectives of community members, stakeholders and agencies, Gisborne District Councillors and Council staff through:

- Satisfaction with community and stakeholder engagement process
- Satisfaction with the Township Plan document
- Satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of implementation



A healthy river to share

The Motu River is an important economic, educational and recreational asset for our communities. Many of the things we are proud of and that attract visitors to the area are related to our wild and natural environment. We want to protect it. Our young people are actively involved in learning about our river system and we will work with them and with our neighbours to restore riparian planting. We can have a big impact on water quality in the Motu River.

What are our key goals?

- To work together to restore the health of the Motu River through good land use practices.
- To minimise any costs to individual landowners of restoration works.

What are our priority projects?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research riparian management options for Motu River including external funding available. 	GDC/Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a Motu River landowners group to oversee riparian transformation. 	Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore riparian areas of the Motu River upstream of the Motu Falls. 	Community/Landowners

How will we make it happen?



Complete



On target



Behind Schedule


- Research riparian management options for Motu River including external funding available.

Task Description	Cost Estimate	Funding Options	Timeframe	Progress
1. Get ecological advice on riparian management.	\$20,000	Envirolink	June 2011	
2. Research riparian planting funding options.	Nil	GDC business as usual	June 2011	

- Establish a Motu River landowners group to oversee riparian transformation.

Task Description	Cost Estimate	Funding Options	Timeframe	Progress
1. Establish a Motu River landowners group to advocate and co-ordinate work.	Nil		December 2010	

- Restore riparian areas of the Motu River upstream of the Motu Falls.

Task Description	Cost Estimate	Funding Options	Timeframe	Progress
1. Complete riparian planting upstream of the Motu Falls.	?	Landowners MAF DoC GDC	2021	

How will we measure success?

- Completion of all priority projects within timeframes and budgets.
- Percentage increase in area of riparian planting along the Motu since June 2010.
- Improvement in water clarity as shown in Motu School monitoring.

We will measure perceived success from the perspectives of community members, stakeholders and agencies, Gisborne District Councillors and Council staff through:

- Satisfaction with community and stakeholder engagement process
- Satisfaction with the Township Plan document
- Satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of implementation

Appendix 1

All ideas submitted - raw data from community engagement.

LIKES	
Street lights are good	
Location "a world of our own"	
Recreation area (skateboard, netball, field - cricket and touch)	
Like the smallness and safeness of the community - safety	
The motu reserve	
Quiet	
Swimming pool	
Native bush	
Pub as a historical landmark for the main street	
Squash court, hall, tennis court, nurse, police	
Hotel for its history/appearance, Motu pig-hunting competition, Motu Challenge	
Fire brigade, school, bus service to TKK, Robb Bros, dump	
Maintain stop banks (flood protection)	
Having public toilets	
Maintain sealed roads	
Town verges maintained	
Mountain bike opportunities	
Solitude	
It snows!	
Shop fronts and pub show the character and town history	
Opportunity for peace and quiet at the campground	
Nice and quiet	
The wekas biting my daughter's toes	
Flags are great in Main Street	
Squash club	
Hall	
Primary school	
Wrightsons	
Hotel	
Positive community with very little drug problems	
Natural environment – Motu falls and kiwi farm	
Clean green image	
Fire brigade - wonderful service and grounds	

Danny Larsen's influence has greatly enhanced the main street	
Pub reflects the history – like a museum with photos and the building itself	
Night sky is magnificent – clear and still	
The big tree	
The people	
Motu falls	
Improved arrangement for transfer station	
Wonderful school - fantastic grounds	
Quiet and beautiful with not many vehicles	
Sunny and everyone is nice	
Beautiful views	
Lots of history to be proud of	
Eel monitoring in the Motu opposite the school	
Reserve off Kerei Street attractive and useful – give the school the money to maintain it	
Hall is an important community facility - need regular funding stream	
DISLIKES	
Dogs barking at night	
Location of hall - would be great by the school to create a hub or centre for the community	
Over-flowing rubbish bins in main street - have recycling bins, need drinking fountain	
Footpaths - need to increase width in Kerei Street and Raumatī Street	
Untidy buildings	
Trout fishing is fickle	
Only place to stretch legs is at the toilet and the playground is not promoted or visible	
Signposts to attractions - Kiwis, Motu Transport Museum, Pakihi Track, Motu Falls etc	
Motu falls lacks a turning bay and access	
Signs on the bend needed – could be tourism information corner with shelter from NW wind	
Town needs to look brighter and lively	
Traffic needs to be slowed – need to talk to NZTA	
Dust from gravel roads gets into cars and washing	
Turning around on the Road to Motu falls is really hard	
Unemployment	
School roll fluctuates and uncertainty re staffing levels	
Footpaths need repair	
Slow down the traffic through town	
Flower bed	
Stock wandering into the Motu River - pollution of the river	
Chemical run-off - preserve the waterways	
Improve footpaths	
No street lights on Kerei Street	
Big open drain along Kerei Street	

Regularly blocked drain corner of Kerei and Main streets	
Improve approaches to town	
Road aren't wide enough	
No parking at Motu falls	
The road to the Falls needs to be tarsealed	
Old Motu road needs to be tar sealed	
Toilets are dirty - need to be cleaned	
Loose stones flick up from unsealed roads	
Old houses in main streets need painting	
Road to the Falls is narrow and too hard to turn around	
Rough footpaths	
Glass and rubbish on footpaths and verges	
Move signage further out	
Drains can't handle high rainfall and some properties flood	
Stock trucks park and release effluent	
Rubbish around sign to Motu - need native plantings	
Flags not good when shabby	
IMPROVEMENTS	
Bigger rubbish bins with lids as rubbish flies out of them - not drums	
Improve Motu Road bridge to make two lanes	
Paint buildings in the Main Street	
New footpaths - full of holes, wooden kerbing, dangerous	
Signpost the toilet facilities in Matawai	
Spruce up the toilet facilities and rest spot	
Advocate to keep the post office facilities in Matawai and Motu	
Upgrade the rubbish bins to fit with theme but also to be more practical and not get hit by trucks	
Bird-proof the toilets	
Improve the community hall	
Get buildings on main street to have a fresh coat of paint and maintained	
"Gateway to the Bay" – have a giant archway over the road like a gateway	
Potential for street markets	
Need community support – community to come together and work together	
Get better cell phone coverage	
Put better signs in	
Get a playground to play on	
Replace exotics with native trees	
Tell the history of the area	
Theme could be hunting, farming and heritage	
Some trees need to be cut down	
Motu needs tables and rubbish bins	
Motu picnic area should have a solar powered light	

Move the post office to Motu community house – have a waterproof verandah on the house for post office boxes	
Improved street lighting on both sides	
Install nice planter boxes and recreational seats – inviting for locals and visitors to stay	
Convince DoC to improve access to the Lake	
No parking outside the pub	
Traffic slowed down – speed humps, speed camera or diagonal lines	
Tidy up footpaths – kerb is wood and tar	
Fix drainage issues outside the dairy – localised pooling of water	
Install safe crossing for pedestrian outside toilets	
Drainage - always floods outside policeman's house, chews up side streets when raining - contractor not doing a good job - Council to check performance of spraying and keeping side roads mowed	
Heritage includes railway to Gisborne (1906 start build and 1922 open – tool timber out and fertiliser in	
Widen bridge to Motu	
Fix problems turning into Motu Road	
Theme should be hunting, fishing and historic, timber – not Waioeka Gorge rocks	
Could have a deer sculpture and fish sculpture	
Heritage stories throughout town	
Need more activities for kids to do and some adventure	
Flying fox, slide and bike track in Motu	
Motu - Cut down some trees and level the ground by the bridge for more parks and tables	
Plaques to tell history of the Motu area	
Playground next to the Motu picnic stop	
Nicer planter boxes in Main Street	
More shade trees around the recreation area along the fence (west)	
Pedestrian crossing in main street outside shop	
Use hall space to build a rest area, park or playground	
Put in an ATM machine, improve cell phone coverage and reliable high speed broadband	
Develop relationships with key agencies - DoC, GDC, Transit NZ to get things done	
Move community hall to school and use space as a rest area and display info about Motu and Matawai (historic) and run the Waioeka theme through the township	
Carry the gorge rock theme through the village, put up interpretation signs with history and maps in Matawai and Motu, improve landscaping, consistent theme, gardens with natives	
Landscaping	
Gardens	
Help with improvements to community house and moving post office to community house	
Ten year plan for Motu River - fence and plant, keep cattle out of waterway & stop erosion	
Have a coordinated approach to riparian planting of Motu River	
Do a study of the River – best practice, land use, state of the river, benefits of riparian planting	
Do planting for soil erosion on banks of the Motu	
Get some funding so not expensive for landowners	
Maintain that whole cemetery – at the moment not fully maintained	
Fix the Motu public toilet	

More picnic tables at Motu	
More rubbish bins and emptied more regularly	
Upgrade the Matawai toilets – tidier and cleaner	
Create more job opportunities	
Put more colour into the main street	
Change the planter boxes	
Change the parking layout as too many people park in front of the toilets	
Paint buildings in main street	
Improve appearance of shop and quality of what is offered and increase the hours it is open	
Open a garage to service vehicles and do WOFs	
Make public toilets bird proof	
Form a community entity to apply for funding for projects and priorities	
Signage for cycle trail	
Rubbish bins	
Signage for kiwi enclosure	
Maintenance of urupa	
Enhanced playground and family stop not outside the toilets to promote people to stop - families stop and spend money in town	
Info board to promote what to do, where to stay outside of Matawai	
Picnic spot near old railway bridge	
Sawmilling theme to reflect the heritage of the area	
Develop a common theme for the towns based on heritage, timber and railways	
Have banners in main streets that represent themes	
Have good signage and an i-site visitor information centre or place	
Clear sky night - low spill street lamps	
Add supplementary water tank to Motu toilets to ensure reliable supply for increased visitors	
Change maintenance practice for cycleway road verges so cyclists can pull off easily and safely and edges can be mowed easily	
Flower bed near the phone booth	
Gateway to Motu	
Transform Motu Community House into accommodation to provide casual employment	
Support township celebrations - history, heritage, milling, railway	
Continue to develop and support community centre	
Preserve and protect the waterways - ensure rivers, streams, creeks are fenced and planted	
Whinray Reserve	
Keep the school open	
Info and map board with shelter near the bridge	
Clear sky night - improve street lamps to promote stars	
How to promote cycleway - cottage industry? Keep numbers in rural NZ	
Install a permanent speed camera to fund future development	
Do something with the land on Kerei Street - who owns it?	
Improve first impressions and attractiveness of the village main street	

Play area/rest area on the main street	
Gardens, plants large rocks under and around 50km sign at both entrances - school keen to maintain	
Improve entrance to Motu Road - native plants, boulders	
Council assistance with yearly contribution to ongoing maintenance	
Hotel	
Have a playground for our kids	
Improve the skateboard park	
Drinking fountain in the main street of Matawai	
Murals on the walls	
Erect interpretation boards reflecting the history of the area	
Have a nice rest area with seating and playground	
Themes for main street could be hunting, bush, school-related, signs with school colours	
Do recycling	
Have banners reflecting our environment, river, mountain and bush	
Have lower priced groceries in town	
Better shops to minimise trips to town	
Plant more trees to make the town centre attractive	
Replace footpaths through main street of Matawai and put up bollards to stop people parking on them	
Underground services in the main street	
Have more 50 kph signs at entrance to Matawai so traffic has slowed down by the bend	
Fix up the parking outside the toilets and shop so its clear where driveways and parking are	