

MINUTES



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MEMBERSHIP: Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz (Chair), Josh Wharehinga (Deputy Chair), Colin Alder, Andy Cranston, Larry Foster, Debbie Gregory, Ani Pahuru-Huriwai, Rawinia Parata, Aubrey Ria, Tony Robinson, Rob Telfer, Teddy Thompson, Rhonda Tibble and Nick Tupara

MINUTES of the SUSTAINABLE TAIRAWHITI /TOITŪ TAIRĀWHITI Committee

Held in Te Ruma Kaunihera (Council Meeting Room), Awarua, Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne on Thursday 16 March 2023 at 9:00AM.

PRESENT:

Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz, Deputy Mayor Josh Wharehinga, Colin Alder, Andy Cranston, Debbie Gregory, Ani Pahuru-Huriwai, Rawinia Parata, Aubrey Ria, Tony Robinson, Rob Telfer, Daniel Thompson, Rhonda Tibble, Nick Tupara, Josh Wharehinga.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Nedine Thatcher Swann, Director Liveable Communities Michele Frey, Director Engagement & Maori Responsiveness Anita Reedy-Holthausen, Chief Financial Officer Pauline Foreman, Chief of Strategy & Science Jo Noble, Māori Responsiveness Manager Gene Takurua, Strategic Planning Manager Charlotte Knight, Principal Policy Advisor Janic Slupski, Democracy & Support Services Manager Heather Kohn and Committee Secretary Charlotte Taylor.

Secretary note: Cr Parata attended via audio visual link.

The meeting commenced with a karakia.

1. Apologies

MOVED by Cr Wharehinga, seconded by Cr Cranston
That the apologies from Cr Foster be sustained.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

Cr Alder declared an interest in report 23-22 as he owns property on the valley of the Te Arai River.

Cr Tupara declared an interest in report 23-22 as he is from Te Whanau a Kai.

Cr Tibble declared an interest in report 23-22 regarding past involvement with Te Aitanga a Mate resource consents.

3. Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes

3.1 Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes - Traffic and Parking Sub Committee 2 February 2023

MOVED by Cr Cranston, seconded by Cr Gregory

That the Minutes of 2 February 2023 be accepted.

CARRIED

3.2 Action Sheet

Noted.

4. Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

5. Acknowledgements and Tributes

There were no acknowledgements or tributes.

6. Public Input and Petitions

There were no public input or petitions.

7. Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

8. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

9. Adjourned Business

There was no adjourned business.

10. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for INFORMATION

10.1 23-22 Freshwater Planning Update (March 2023)

Discussions included:

- Te Arai and Waipaoa rivers exist in separate freshwater management units and will be managed separately, though they belong to the same catchment area plan.
- Area of concern around little mention of Te Mana o te Wai in the report which now sits in the centre of national objective framework. It gives directive to be used by all local Councils on how Te Mana o te Wai must be used to inform the implementation of NPSFM 2020. In order to give effect to Te Mana o te Wai the 6 principals must be implemented.
- Staff are working with Ngāti Porou representatives in the Waiapu space for research around gravel. We have LiDAR information from 2019, and some from 2022, the idea is that through the LiDAR catchment - which gives us an understanding of the way the material moves across the river system, we can start to calculate what the bedlow transfer is on an annual basis. This information will be used to inform provisions of the Waiapu Catchment Plan around gravel management. Staff have been working with our Ngāti Porou representatives on a fortnightly basis to work through some of these dimensions as well as sharing the LiDAR and aerial photography.

- Council has a working relationship with iwi, and it would be beneficial to let them guide us through engagement at this time.
- Engagement is important, especially when involving tangata whenua and mana whenua. The Māori Responsiveness team have worked with the Freshwater Planning team to facilitate the foundations for what that looks like. Staff started the journey with the outgoing Council to adopt a te tiriti compass to create a foundational base line to improve and create a collective understanding of Councilor's role as decision-makers in the context of being an enduring treaty partner.
- Staff plan to engage tangata whenua first to define what objectives and values looks like from their perspective, then to take those to a wider catchment planning group or a wider stakeholder discussion.
- Councillors would like to see the tangata whenua engagement in future reports like Gene provided in the meeting.
- Use the te tiriti compass as a foundational platform and allow Council's decision-makers to have a different conversation about our contribution, how are we assisting the current dynamic. The capacity challenges are there - what we would like to know is how we are going to step into these conversations, what solutions we will bring to this environment to allow hapu and iwi to make different decisions and have different abilities about the way they can engage.
- A timeframe extension will give us the opportunity to cultivate the engagement space in a meaningful way, and then progress to planning development so that when it comes to publicly notifying our plans, we can have confidence that our plans reflect and represent our communities' interests.
- Time extension is not a guarantee, it is up to the Ministers to approve whether they will extend the 2024 deadline.
- The effect on the fish species from the floods is unknown but we follow up at our environmental monitoring sites with EDNA. The Ministry for the Environment is interested in understanding what the effects of the cyclones are. We can only assume with the volume of sediment that was liberated by the storms that the ecosystem health was affected, but we will have to determine that in testing.
- Councilors support on application to Central government to move the deadline for the catchment plans at least 24 months.

MOVED by Cr Parata, seconded by Cr Ria

That the Sustainable Tairāwhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

CARRIED

10.2 23-30 National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (Implementation Update)

- There is only a grace period if you already had a resource consent application lodged and in train. Staff are looking closely at the effects of individual applications and whether they are really having a meaningful impact on the reduction of highly productive land - but it is a new piece of policy that everyone must work through.
- The default position under the National Policy Statement is land use classes 1, 2 and 3. We can then refine that mapping to some extent within the criteria given in our Regional Policy Statement, but the default applies until we've gone through that process.
- This potentially will impact on smaller communities that are wanting to build on land depending on how the land was zoned. If the land was zoned rural or rural production the National Policy Statement will have an impact and potentially make it harder, but we are taking a case-by-case approach.

MOVED by Cr Wharehinga, seconded by Cr Ria

That the Sustainable Tairāwhiti/Toitū Tairāwhiti Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

CARRIED

10.3 23-61 Development Contributions Policy Review

Presentation and discussion by Charlotte Knight and Malcolm Thomas (Thomas Consulting).

Discussions included:

- Note that this was written in October 2022, so the recent weather events are not included.
- Recent cyclones and Three Waters Reforms will impact this policy by: impacting businesses, residents, and Council.
- Many possible major impacts on assumptions, and process if Long Term Plan is deferred.
- Council has a legal and strategic obligation around growing the community and providing housing etc.
- Currently the Development Contribution Policy is charged only for Gisborne urban area, there is no expectation that this would extend up the coast.
- If a dwelling was moved to a different location on the same property, there would be no development contribution charge.
- Councilors have an opportunity to challenge the assumptions in upcoming workshops.
- In the graphs comparing Gisborne District Council against other Councils, the figures are generated by from the Long Term Plan (LTP) in terms of the project, and the growth related parts of these projects generate the final figure. There is an ability in the Local Government Act and in the Development Contributions Policy to index the number by the producer's price index and construction index - this will be part of the fees and charges discussion.

- Lifelines and Regulatory teams do look at developer agreements that consider those specific circumstances - balancing up charges vs contributions and other dollars.
- Timeframes for the review are based on the LTP timeframes as we need those project costs and breakdowns. The intent was to have a draft policy towards the end of 2023 based on what the LTP timeframes were looking like. But this timeframe will be confirmed later after a review of staff resourcing following Cyclone Gabrielle.
- Communication to the public would be helpful so people know upfront the amount they are being charged.
- Although the population is going to increase, the demographic is likely to change.
- Population estimates have substantially increased in the past 3-4 years.
- There is a whole lot of change expected with people leaving the country and more arriving from overseas.

MOVED by Cr Cranston, seconded by Cr Ria

That the Sustainable Tairāwhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

CARRIED

11. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 11:25 am.

Rehette Stoltz

MAYOR