

MINUTES



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MEMBERSHIP: Tony Robinson (Chair), Larry Foster, Debbie Gregory, Aubrey Ria, Teddy Thompson, Nick Tupara

MINUTES of the BYLAW SUBMISSIONS PANEL/KĀHUI TĀPAETANGA TURE Ā-ROHE Committee

Held in 18 Waitangi Street, Tokomaru Bay on Thursday 11 May 2023 at 11:10AM.

PRESENT:

Tony Robinson (Chair), Larry Foster, Aubrey Ria and Daniel Thompson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director Liveable Communities Michele Frey, Principal Community Assets and Partnerships Advisor Chris Visser, Democracy & Support Services Manager Heather Kohn and Committee Secretary Jess Taylor.

The meeting commenced with a karakia.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

3. Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

4. Acknowledgements and Tributes

Acknowledgement's from Jack Chambers:

In the past few months there has been a passing in 7 families in Tokomaru, condolences go out to them.

5. Public Input and Petitions

There were no public input or petitions

6. Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

7. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

8. Adjourned Business

There was no adjourned business.

9. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for DECISION

9.1 23-90 Submission Hearing Panel - Intention to Grant a lease Hatea-a Rangī Memorial Park

Jack Chambers spoke to his submission:

- Was present 3 times when the building was moved and excavated. At no stage was there any koiwi (human skeletal remains).
- There was a small amount of koiwi when they were doing the seating in front of the club rooms. No examination was done, however there was a karakia and blessings done with Ministers and they were taken away.
- Speaker wants to reiterate that at the present site of the building, there were no koiwi found there.
- The koiwi that are buried in the foreshore are from our people when the black plague came.
- When the club house was erected the power was run from the 4 square. A drain (3 foot deep, 2 foot wide) was laid through the rugby field. If the field was a urupa, koiwi would've been recovered but there was none recovered.
- Challenges the opposing to show evidence of it being a wāhi tapu.

Rob McKenzie, Chair of the Sports Club spoke to his submission:

- This is not a perpetual lease, never sought a perpetual lease and have no intention of doing so.
- Lillian Ward Rural Area Liaison Manager told the Hearing that three years ago Gisborne District Council(GDC) was looking at a Community Facilities Strategy and there was a commitment to seeing more investments in Ngāti Porou communities. The strategy went through it's process with the Council and then we received a letter from Trust Tairāwhiti committing funds to building a rangatahi zone. So as a result, we had 2 consultations with children and rangatahi. The concept was to have an indoor multi-purpose court, we don't have a safe one in Tokomaru Bay but we have 2 asphalt ones that are dangerous when hot. We also looked for an area for a technology zone, access to good internet for rangatahi that are disadvantaged and to have performances in there too. Young hunter gatherers needing chiller space for their hunting adventures etc. Had a Te Puni Kokiri facilitator in the consultation process with the rangatahi and they had them draw what they wanted to have in their youth space. Process has been rangatahi led.

Cara-Lee Pēwhairangi-Lawton, Member of the club spoke to her submission:

- We are mana whenua.
- The sports club has been supporting the rangatahi (not just in a regional sense but national and international). Fundraising and helping them get to where they need to be.
- It has been said that they should use marae, but marae should stick to tikanga based things whereas the sports club can be used for the other things that can host other people.
- A facility for all, united we stand united we fall.

Lee and Tiger Whakataka Whānau Trust represented by Vicki Whakataka, Alliese Whakataka, Quintin Whakataka and Tracy Takarua:

- Battle fought between Hatea-a-Rangi and Ngapuhi, Hatea a Rangi was killed, that is why it was classed as wāhi tapu. Tuturu wāhi tapu. There was a lot of koiwi lifted but there's no way all the bones were uplifted, hence the reason why the Lee and Tiger Whakataka Whānau Trust still recognize this area as a wāhi tapu.
- There has been no korero in the reports about the cultural and historical context of the whenua and it is concerning that in this day and age the Gisborne District Council (GDC) has limited information.
- In the mid 1820's an epidemic hit the Coast and those who died were buried in the sandhills below Tuatini Marae, along with those who were killed when Ngāpuhi warriors attacked Tuatini Marae. These are significant parts of history and about the East Coast Wars. There's no mention of this in the reports.
- Legislation and Acts passed since the Treaty: Land Claims Ordinance 1841, Native Land Purchase Ordinance 1846, The Native Lands Act 1865.
- New Zealand Settlements Act, that is when the crown could take the land off the people who were being rebellious fighting against the government and all these things have not been addressed.
- Hatea a Rangi Domain – taken under the Public Works Act and other Acts that followed.
- Reserve Act 1977 is which Tokomaru Bay is governed under. The Act talks about protecting and preserving significant places of the whenua in cultural, historical and archaeological ways. The Gisborne District Council is not upholding this.
- In one of the reports written by GDC staff "Community and Development Services Report 2017" it made mention that when GDC was going to upgrade the carpark that some historical midden was found. No further mahi was done even though GDC knows tāngata whenua class it as a wāhi tapu.

- Sports Park Management Plan 2015 – The only heritage values the plan mentions of this whenua is of the memorial gates, where is the other heritage significance or additional information?
- From 1997 the Whakataka whanau planted a pou at the construction site. The meaning of standing Hamo-te-Rangi there is that the Whakataka whanau come in peace as they have always known that place to be a burial site. Tracey and siblings were told by their father that if there was to be any mahi done on that whenua, that the original owners had to be consulted.
- A lot of things have happened on that field, broken necks, car blew up and caught fire, wood chopper nearly cut his leg off, a good horseman fell off his horse and broke his neck and later died from his injuries. Common tales that the paru is coming out when each accident occurs from what's been done in the past.
- Speaker speaks to the supporters of the lease "whenua has to come back to us to manage it ourselves."
- We want our whenua back and we want it back in our control. Let us be the deciders of its future. We are not going to stop the plans for our rangatahi, we know our youth is the future and are important, but they deserve the best.
- Objections:
 - Return the whenua, let us own it, hold it and heal it.
 - Short term co-governance, a partnership with GDC.
 - GDC and heritage NZ undertake a full and comprehensive research project into the history of the whenua and officially memorialising the events of the past so that it will never be forgotten.

MOVED by Cr Robinson, seconded by Cr Thompson

That the Bylaw Submissions Panel/Kāhui Tāpaetanga Ture Ā-Rohe:

1. Receives and hears submissions on the Intention to Grant a Lease to Tokomaru Bay United Sports Club for the clubrooms situated on Hatea-a-Rangi Memorial Park.

CARRIED

10. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 12:28pm.

CHAIR

Tony Robinson