

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
KAIMAI WARD FORUM MEETING NO. KWF21-2
HELD AT THE LOWER KAIMAI HALL, STATE HIGHWAY 29, LOWER KAIMAI
ON THURSDAY, 1 JULY 2021 AT 7.00PM**

1 PRESENT

Cr M Dean (Chairperson), Cr M Murray-Benge, Cr M Grainger, Cr D Thwaites and Mayor G Webber

2 IN ATTENDANCE

M Taris (Chief Executive Officer), C Irvin (Senior Governance Advisor) and P Osborne (Senior Governance Advisor)

11 Members of the public, including Councillor James Denyer.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

6 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Nil

7 PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairperson outlined the protocols relating to the Public Forum section of the meeting as set out in the Standing Orders for the Kaimai Ward Forum. Attending members of the public were invited to take part in the public forum.

PUBLIC FORUM ADJOURN MEETING

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.1

Moved: Cr D Thwaites

Seconded: Cr M Grainger

That the meeting adjourn for the purpose of holding a public forum.

CARRIED

David Riley – Whakamarama Community Inc (WCI)

Mr Riley sought clarification on the “what now” following the latest announcement from Waka Kotahi regarding Stage Two of Takitimu Northern Link. Mr Riley thanked both His Worship the Mayor and Councillor Don Thwaites for advocating for the Ōmokoroa Interchange at the BOP Regional Transport Committee meeting. Mr Riley also noted that it was great to have Councillor Thwaites advocate for the Whakamarama Intersection, as residents would like to see this intersection treated similarly to Ōmokoroa.

WCI would like to have a conversation with Council and the BOP Regional Land Transport Committee, about the future improvements to the Whakamarama Intersection.

His Worship the Mayor advised Mr Riley that there was no funding for Stage Two at this time, however the letter to the Minister of Transport, Michael Wood, in regards to the Ōmokoroa Interchange, had been written. His Worship the Mayor also noted that, as of 1 July 2021, expressions of interest for the Infrastructure Accessibility Fund (IAF) were open, which Waka Kotahi had encouraged Council to apply for, in relation to the Ōmokoroa Interchange. Responses from both the letter and the application would not be received until late August 2021.

Bruce McCabe – Ōmokoroa Residents and Ratepayers Association

Mr McCabe was in attendance to speak to the Committee on two matters, noting the below points:

- He sought clarification on what investigations were taken into consideration regarding the safety aspects of the current Ōmokoroa Intersection, including what the requirements were for Waka Kotahi (NZTA).
- He questioned whether there had been any consideration for interim safety measures that could have been undertaken to help manage the current issues, providing the below examples;
 - A 'pull out bay' for those turning North out of Ōmokoroa; and
 - Slip lanes for traffic heading towards Tauranga, to help with visibility issues for those who are unable to see past vehicles turning north.
- The Bike Rack outside the 'Alma Eatery' was not being used, as some potential users believed that the angles were wrong, and therefore did not hold the bikes correctly. Mr McCabe was informed that Council adhere to the best practice guidelines; however, the Committee will ask Council staff to follow this up.

His Worship the Mayor noted that he was of the opinion the Ōmokoroa Intersection upgrade would take place in the next 5-10 years, as they were approaching this from a safety perspective, to increase the prioritisation of this project for Waka Kotahi.

Don Thwaites reiterated the time aspect of a project like this, due to the fact that multiple parcels of land still need to be purchased.

PUBLIC FORUM MEETING RECONVENED

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.2

Moved: Cr M Grainger

Seconded: Cr M Murray-Benge

That the meeting reconvene in formal session at 7.20pm.

CARRIED

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 MINUTES FOR RECEIPT

9.1 MINUTES OF THE KAIMAI WARD FORUM MEETING HELD ON 10 MARCH 2021

The Committee considered the minutes of the Kaimai Ward Forum meeting held on 10 March 2021. The minutes were taken as read.

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.3

Moved: Cr D Thwaites
Seconded: Cr M Murray-Benge

That the Minutes of the Kaimai Ward Forum Meeting held on 10 March 2021, be received.

CARRIED

10 REPORTS**10.1 KAIMAI WARD FORUM MINUTE ACTION SHEET**

The Committee considered a report from the Senior Governance Advisor. The report was taken as read, noting that the Speed Limit Review will remain with the Territorial Authorities.

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.4

Moved: Cr M Grainger
Seconded: Cr M Murray-Benge

That the Governance Support Administrator's report dated 1 July 2021, titled 'Kaimai Ward Forum Minute Action Sheet', be received.

CARRIED

10.2 DISCUSSION TOPICS FROM THE KAIMAI COUNCILLORS CLINIC

The Committee considered a report from Councillor Dean, who provided the Board with a brief overview of each item that was raised during the Councillors Clinic held 16 June 2021.

There was a particular emphasis on the communication regarding Ward Forums. The Chairperson asked members of the public to ensure they registered at the beginning of the meetings, and provide Council with the correct information regarding Community Group Chairs and contact information. This would allow the invitations for both the Councillors Clinic and Ward Forums to go to the correct contacts. Councillor Murray-Benge also noted that advertisements in the school newsletters would be a good way of spreading the word regarding upcoming Ward Forum meetings in the area.

A member of the public noted that it would be useful to see the list of attendees for the Councillors Clinic. The Chairperson noted that minutes were not taken, because it was an informal meeting, however future notes taken could include those in attendance.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.5

Moved: Cr M Murray-Benge

Seconded: Cr D Thwaites

A motion was moved that the Kaimai Ward Forum suspend standing orders.

CARRIED

11 WORKSHOP

11.1 WORKSHOP ITEMS

An update was provided by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on the proposed plans for the Three Waters Reform, noting the points listed below:

- The Reform was being conducted by Central Government's Department of Internal Affairs (DIA), and was being led by Honourable Nanaia Mahuta (Minister for Local Government and Foreign Affairs).
 - Three Waters referred to drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater.
 - In conjunction with the Three Waters Reform, multiple other reforms were happening at the same time, such as changes to the Resource Management Act (RMA), as well as a Freshwater Reform.
 - The CEO was a representative on the Local Government Steering Committee for the Three Waters Reform. This was to provide the DIA with an understanding of how Local Government, and the sector as a whole, functioned.
 - At this stage the Three Waters Reform was proposed to remain voluntary.
 - Currently there were 67 Territorial Authorities, however the proposal was to reduce this down to four entities, which would be an amalgamation of Councils within the area specifically for this purpose. It was noted that the proposal identified the Bay of Plenty, Waikato, Coromandel and Taranaki Regions as 'Zone 2'.
 - Council would be rolling out both the communication and engagement strategy later in 2021, which would include outcomes for Councils who 'opted-in' to the reform.
 - The Government was looking at transferring assets to the new public entity. The government structure had not been confirmed, however it was likely to be a mixture of the existing Territorial Authorities and Tangata Whenua. It was made clear that the ownership of the assets would remain with the original Councils.
 - Western Bay of Plenty District Council (WBOPDC) was in a reasonably good position due to the fact that the majority of its debt was within the Three-Waters space. The Government was proposing that the debt associated with the assets would also be transferred over to the new public entity.
 - The DIA released further detail on Wednesday 30 June 2021 following information provided by the Territorial Authorities. This included a 30-year picture for Councils who chose to 'opt-in' as opposed to those who continued to operate as they were.
 - The information gathered by the DIA was done under a detailed Request for Information (RFI), where Councils supplied information to 'Scottish Water' (a Scottish Statutory corporation that provided water and sewerage services across Scotland) who were engaged as consultants. This RFI formed the detailed information for the assessment undertaken and released by the Government, and peer reviewed by the consultancy companies;
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Scottish Water, Beca, Farrierswier and Deloitte. Feedback from the review supported the direction of the proposal from the DIA.

- The expected transition was to be over three years, with the goal of ensuring that changes are seamless for the public.

The Chief Executive Officer responded to questions as follows:

- The transfer of the Three Water assets would take approximately one third of WBOPDC assets, and close to 70-75% of WBOPDC debt.
- The revenue will be collected by the new entities, not Council.
- The majority of the Western World had moved to this proposed model.
- Part of the rationale behind the proposed 'co-governance' of the new entity was to address equity and access issues to the Three-Waters for Tangata Whenua.
- Residents who were currently using private providers (due to their rural location) were not part of the initial tranche.
- The fluoridation issue would be addressed by the new entities, noting that the standard would be set by Taumata Arowai through the Water Services Bill.
- The DIA had looked at approximately 20 different zone combinations, before settling on the zones that were proposed. This was due to the fact that in order to be advantageous, there needed to be over 800,000 connections within each Zone.
- The DIA had considered multiple options before deciding on the proposed model. However, none of them addressed the issues around water safety and consent consistency, which needed to be resolved across New Zealand. Each outcome was reviewed by members of the steering group, in order to get an understanding of how the DIA decided on the model they had proposed.
- The CEO emphasised that this was an information update, some of which was still to be confirmed, and was subject to change.

In wrapping up the discussion, the Chairperson thanked the Chief Executive Officer, Miriam Taris, for the work that she had undertaken over the last 14 years at Council, and wished her luck for the future, following her final day at Council on 16 July 2021.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.6

Moved: Mayor G Webber

Seconded: Cr M Murray-Benge

A motion was moved that the Kaimai Ward Forum resume standing orders.

CARRIED

MEETING BE ADJOURNED

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.7

Moved: Cr M Grainger

Seconded: Cr D Thwaites

That the meeting be adjourned until Tuesday 13 July 2021 at 1.00pm in Council Chambers.

CARRIED

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
KAIMAI WARD FORUM RECONVENED MEETING NO. KWF21-2
HELD AT THE WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON TUESDAY, 13 JULY 2021 AT 1.00PM**

PRESENT

Cr M Dean (Chairperson) and Mayor G Webber (Ex-Officio)

Via Zoom: Cr M Grainger, Cr M Murray-Benge and Cr D Thwaites

IN ATTENDANCE

P Osborne (Senior Governance Advisor)

MEETING RECONVENED

The Chairperson opened the reconvened meeting and welcomed all present.

APOLOGIES

APOLOGY

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.1

Moved: Cr D Thwaites

Seconded: Cr M Murray-Benge

That the apology for absence from the Chief Executive Officer be accepted.

CARRIED

12 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL/COMMITTEE

12.1 TE PUNA CYCLEWAY

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.2

Moved: Mayor G Webber

Seconded: Cr M Grainger

The Kaimai Ward Forum request a staff report on the safety progress of the Te Puna Cycleway.

CARRIED

12.2 LONG TERM PLAN (LTP) - ELDER HOUSING

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.3

Moved: Cr M Grainger

Seconded: Cr D Thwaites

The Kaimai Ward Forum request for staff to send Bruce McCabe a link to the Elder Housing paper on the Western Bay of Plenty District Council website.

CARRIED

12.3 COMMUNICATION TO KAIMAI WARD COMMUNITY GROUPS AND RESIDENTS

RESOLUTION KWF21-2.4

Moved: Mayor G Webber

Seconded: Cr M Murray-Benge

The Kaimai Ward Forum request for Council staff to look into the possibility of communicating through local school newsletters on upcoming Ward Forums in the area.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 1.17pm.