

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
ŌMOKOROA – KAIMAI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING NO. OKCB26-1
HELD IN THE PYES PA HALL, 724 PYES PA ROAD, PYES PA AND VIA ZOOM
ON TUESDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 6.00PM**

1 PRESENT – NGĀ MEMA KEI KONEI

Chairperson C Dever, Member T Akuhata, Deputy B Rakoia, Member K Wisnesky, Member M Marshall, Member T Tuhakaraina, Deputy Mayor M Murray-Benge and Cr T Coxhead

2 IN ATTENDANCE – I TAE AKE

B Singh (General Manager Infrastructure Services), H Wi Repa (Governance Systems Advisor) and P Osborne (Senior Governance Advisor)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Cr Elvin (Kaimai Ward Councillor)

3 APOLOGIES – NGĀ WHAKAPAHĀ

Nil

4 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS – NGĀ TAKE TŌMURI

Nil

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – NGĀ TUKITUKINGA

Nil

6 TRANSFER OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS – TE WHITINGA O TE AO MĀRAMA KI NGĀ TAKE MUNA

Nil

7 PUBLIC FORUM – WĀHANGA TŪMATANUI

7.1 PETER GOAD – FRIENDS OF BRAMLEY RESERVE – GRANT APPLICATIONS

Mr Goad was in attendance to speak to the Board on behalf of Friends of Bramley Reserve, who had applied for grant funding for additional fencing. He noted the following points:

- He provided Board members with an overview of the project, including how the reserve was originally established.

- The work they had done to date was well received, and had made the space useable.
- They were currently negotiating with the neighbouring residents to see if they would contribute funding. The Group hoped that they would be able to secure at least half of the funding that was required, therefore they were happy for their request to the Board to be reduced to \$4,000.

Mr Goad responded to pātai as follows:

- Friends of Bramley Reserve was a volunteer group, who took care of the reserve, including mowing in between the level of service council provided.

7.2 ALISON BADGER – ŌMOKOROA COMMUNITY BIRD GROUP – GRANT APPLICATION

Ms Badger was in attendance via Zoom to speak to the Board on behalf of the Ōmokoroa Bird Group, who had applied for grant funding for the hireage of equipment for the 2026 Godwit Festival. She noted the following points:

- The festival had grown remarkably since it first started, which she felt was a reflection of how much the festival was enjoyed by the community.
- This year, due to the age of the volunteers, they wanted to look at equipment options that meant that they did not need to carry around multiple different marquees.
- Previously the festival had been able to utilise the stage at the Settlers Hall, however if it was raining, the hall stage was not available to them. For this reason they were also wanting to hire a stage.

Ms Badger responded to pātai as follows:

- Last year it was thought that around 300-400 people attended the event. This was made up of a lot of local whānau including children.
- They advertised through the Lizard News and their own newsletter. They also undertook bird walks, and exhibits in the library.

7.3 WENDY TANKARD – ŌMOKOROA GARDEN GROUP – GRANT APPLICATION

Ms Tankard was in attendance via Zoom to speak to the Board on behalf of the Ōmokoroa Garden Group, who had applied for grant funding for the replacement of their tunnel house. She noted the following points:

- In September 2025 the roof of the tunnel house was severely damaged in a storm. This meant that they could no longer use the tunnel house to grow seedlings, or for having meetings (when the weather was bad).

- The garden supplied free fruit and vegetables to the Ōmokoroa community and foodbank, as well as provided educational opportunities for pupils at Ōmokoroa Point School.
- Volunteers worked in the garden twice a week.
- Without cover, the group were severely hindered in raising seedlings to put in their vegetable beds.

7.4 RODGER GOODMAN – APOLOGY AND TABLED ITEM

Mr Goodman was in attendance to apologise to Chairperson Dever for a verbal exchange that took place between them the week earlier.

Mr Goodman also tabled an email ([Tabled Item 1](#)) which spoke about an incident that involved a member of the community getting locked in the Precious Family Reserve toilet facility.

On behalf of Ōmokoroa Environmental Managers Incorporated (OEMI), he asked for the Board to take the time to understand what occurred and consider offering a vote of thanks to the community members who stepped forward to manage the situation at the time.

The Chairperson noted that [Tabled Item 1](#) would be passed on to appropriate staff.

Stephen Wightman (Neighbour to Precious Family Reserve) acknowledged and thanked Council’s General Manager Infrastructure Services for taking the time to come out and speak to concerned neighbours.

8 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION – TE WHAKATAU I NGĀ MENETI

8.1 MINUTES OF THE ŌMOKOROA – KAIMAI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2025

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.1

Moved: Chairperson C Dever

Seconded: Member M Marshall

1. That the Minutes of the Ōmokoroa – Kaimai Community Board Meeting held on 5 November 2025 as circulated with the agenda be confirmed as a true and correct record.
2. That the Chairperson’s electronic signature be inserted into the confirmed minutes.

CARRIED

9 REPORTS – NGĀ PŪRONGO

9.1 ŌMOKOROA-KAIMAI COMMUNITY BOARD – CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2026

The Board considered a report dated 17 February 2026 from the Chairperson. The report was taken as read, with the following points noted:

- Following the recent weather events, lots of locals in Ōmokoroa were worried about stormwater. The Chairperson and General Manager Infrastructure Services met with local engineer Stuart Reid, noting that they believed this was a productive and valuable meeting with both parties leaving them satisfied with a way forward.

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.2

Moved: Chairperson C Dever

Seconded: Member K Wisnesky

That the Chairperson's report dated 17 February 2026 titled 'Ōmokoroa-Kaimai Community Board – Chairperson's Report – February 2026' be received.

CARRIED

9.2 ŌMOKOROA-KAIMAI COMMUNITY BOARD – COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2026

The Board considered a report dated 17 February 2026 from Deputy Mayor Murray-Benge. The report was taken as read, with Deputy Mayor Murray-Benge noting the following additional points:

- It was great to see Member Marshall and Member Wisnesky attend the 'Pathways to Recovery' Council support and information event in Welcome Bay/Waitao Road. Acknowledgement was made to Council's General Manager Infrastructure Services on the way that he ran the information sessions and the compassion and empathy he brought with him.
- Council was underway with Cr Coxhead chairing the Audit, Risk and Finance Committee and Cr Sole chairing the Projects and Monitoring Committee.

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.3

Moved: Deputy Mayor M Murray-Benge

Seconded: Cr T Coxhead

That Deputy Mayor Murray-Benge's report dated 17 February 2026 titled 'Ōmokoroa-Kaimai Community Board – Councillor's Report – February 2026' be received.

CARRIED

9.3 ŌMOKOROA-KAIMAI COMMUNITY BOARD – GRANT APPLICATIONS – FEBRUARY 2026

The Board considered a report dated 17 February 2026 from the Senior Governance Advisor.

The Board spoke through each of the applications one by one, noting the Board had \$14,016 for the remainder of the financial year.

The Board acknowledged the latest weather event, and the needs within the community following this. The Board had a discussion around whether funding these projects was still appropriate considering the new community needs.

Staff advised the Board that they should consider and resolve the grant applications in front of them, and workshop how they could support grant applications in the next financial year, including whether there was a desire for a proportion of grant funding to support community resilience and risk mitigation.

Ōmokoroa Community Garden Group

- This group was supporting a lot of good in the community, and the Board was happy to support this grant application.

Ōmokoroa Bird Group

- This was a well attended festival within the community, and the Board was happy to support this grant application.

Friends of Bramley Neighbourhood Reserve (Sub-group of OEMI)

- It was noted that the Ōmokoroa Community Board Reserve Account had \$121,953 available, which was ring-fenced for Ōmokoroa only.
- Due to this project meeting the criteria to be funded from the Reserve Account, the Board decided to fund it from this account.
- The Board was happy to support this application for funding, acknowledging the work that the volunteers did within the community.

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.4

Moved: Member T Tuhakaraina
 Seconded: Member T Akuhata

1. That the Senior Governance Advisor’s report dated 17 February 2026 titled ‘Ōmokoroa–Kaimai Community Board – Grant Applications – February 2026’ be received.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.5

Moved: Chairperson C Dever

Seconded: Member M Marshall

2. That the Ōmokoroa–Kaimai Community Board approves the grant application from Ōmokoroa Community Garden Group Inc for \$3,677 (GST inclusive) to contribute to the purchase of a replacement community garden tunnel. This grant will be funded from the Ōmokoroa–Kaimai Community Board Grants Account, subject to all accountabilities being met.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.6

Moved: Chairperson C Dever

Seconded: Deputy Mayor M Murray–Benge

3. That the Ōmokoroa–Kaimai Community Board approves the grant application from the Ōmokoroa Bird Group for \$2,829.75 (GST inclusive) to hire equipment for the 2026 Godwit Festival. This grant will be funded from the Ōmokoroa–Kaimai Community Board Grants Account, subject to all accountabilities being met.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.7

Moved: Deputy Mayor M Murray–Benge

Seconded: Member T Tuhakaraina

4. That the Ōmokoroa–Kaimai Community Board approves the grant application from ‘Friends of Bramley Neighbourhood Reserve’, a community group operating from Ōmokoroa Environmental Managers Inc, for \$4,000 (GST exclusive) to contribute funding to the fencing on the side boundaries of the reserve. This grant will be funded from the Ōmokoroa Community Board Reserves Account.

CARRIED

**9.4 ŌMOKOROA-KAIMAI COMMUNITY BOARD – PROJECTS AND OPERATIONS REPORT
– FEBRUARY 2026**

The Board considered a report dated 17 February 2026 from the Senior Governance Advisor. It was noted that ‘Your Place Tō wāhi’ link in the document did not work, but the [website](#) was still available.

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.8

Moved: Member K Wisnesky

Seconded: Member M Marshall

That the Senior Governance Advisor’s report dated 17 February 2026 titled ‘Ōmokoroa-Kaimai Projects and Operations Report – February 2026’ be received.

CARRIED

9.5 ŌMOKOROA-KAIMAI COMMUNITY BOARD – FINANCIAL REPORT – DECEMBER 2025

The Board considered a report dated 17 February 2026 from the Senior Governance Advisor.

Roading Account Allocation

The Policy for the Allocation of Community Roading Funding established how Council distributed its discretionary roading funding across district-wide improvements, rural communities, rural-urban communities, and urban community improvements. Under this Policy, funding was allocated to five defined “community roading areas” (which were distinct from Community Boards). These areas were Ōmokoroa, Waihī Beach, Maketū, Te Puke, and Katikati.

As per the Policy, Community Boards had been responsible for prioritising projects within their respective areas. However, recent changes to Community Board boundaries, most notably the expansion of the Ōmokoroa and Te Puke Boards, meant the Policy no longer aligned with current Board areas. Because the Policy had not been updated, funding continued to be allocated only to the original “community roading areas.” For example, the allocation currently applied only to the Ōmokoroa area, not the wider Kaimai Ward now covered by the new Community Board boundary.

The Community Roading Allocation was funded from the district-wide roading rate, and the Policy set out how these funds may be used. If Council was to amend or replace the Policy, the allocation, including associated reserve balances, could potentially be redistributed across other parts of the district, including alignment with the new

Community Board boundaries. The Board had the ability to approve outside of policy as long as the Board was explicit why they were doing so.

Ōmokoroa-Kaimai Community Board Priorities

The Board was advised that it should determine the priorities within each sub-division, and through a workshop determine where the Board should put each priority. It was noted that this was the plan for the Board through the establishment of their Action Plan, noting that this would also give the Board rationale for spending the roading allocation outside of Ōmokoroa, if the priority aligned with their Action Plan.

RESOLUTION OKCB26-1.9

Moved: Member T Akuhata

Seconded: Deputy B Rakoia

1. That the Finance Business Partner’s report dated 17 February 2026 titled ‘Ōmokoroa-Kaimai Community Board - Financial Report – December 2025’, be received.
2. That the Ōmokoroa-Kaimai Community Board approve for the remaining committed funds from the below resolutions to be released back into the Roothing Account:

Meeting Date	Project	Account	Spent	Remaining Committed
8 April 2025 (OMC25-2.5)	Approve the installation of three new streetlights at 14 Tralee Street, 134 Hamurana Rd, 112 Hamurana Rd at an estimated cost of \$30,000 from the Ōmokoroa Community Board Roothing Account.	Roothing	(29,335)	(665)

CARRIED

10 INFORMATION FOR RECEIPT – KŌRERO TE WHIWHIA

Nil

The Meeting closed at 7.29pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record at the Ōmokoroa-Kaimai Community Board meeting held on 14 April 2026.

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Chairperson C Dever
CHAIRPERSON

Unconfirmed