

Date 9 June 2020, 10.40am

Venue: Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford

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| Members | Councillors | C L Littlewood N W Walker M G Davey M J McDonald D H McIntyre C S Williamson E D Van Der Leden M P Joyce D N MacLeod | Committee Chairperson Committee Deputy Chairperson ex officio ex officio |
| Representative Members | Councillors | C Young S Hitchcock G Boyde | South Taranaki District Council New Plymouth District Council Stratford District Council |
| | Messrs | P Muir P Moeahu | Federated Farmers Iwi Representative |
| | Ms | L Tester B Bigham | Iwi Representative <i>Via zoom</i> Iwi Representative |
| Attending | Councillor | D L Lean | |
| | Messrs | B G Chamberlain G K Bedford A D McLay S R Hall C Spurdle R Phipps T McElroy S Tamarapa P Ledingham T Davey | Chief Executive Director - Environment Quality Director - Resource Management Director - Operations Planning Manager Science Manager Hydrology/Biology Environmental Scientist – Marine Biology Iwi Communications Officer Communications Adviser Communications Adviser |
| | Mrs | V McKay | Science Manager Chemistry |
| | Miss | L Davidson | Committee Administrator |
| | Ms | S Mako | Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust |
| | | S Gibson | Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust |
| | Messrs | J Clough | |

B Jansma
K Holswich
M Ritai

Two members of the media, Taranaki Daily News and Radio New Zealand.

Apologies There were no apologies received.

**Notification of
Late Items**

Ms B Bigham requested an update on the Mana department of the Whakahono a Rohe agreement.
The freshwater reforms have been released by government, more information on these will be available once staff have had time to have a proper look at them.

1. Minutes – Tuesday 4 February

- 1.1 The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 4 February and the minutes from the “whole of committee” meetings held Tuesday 7 April and Tuesday 19 May were attached.

Resolved

That the Policy and Planning Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the confirmed minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 4 February 2020 at 10.30am
- b) receives the confirmed minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held via audio-visual link (zoom) on Tuesday 7 April 2020 at 10.30am
- c) receives the unconfirmed minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held via audio-visual link (zoom) on Tuesday 19 May 2020.

Donald/Davey

Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

2. Lakes380: National Lake Health Research Project

- 2.1 Mr R Phipps, Science Manager – Hydrology/Biology, spoke to the memorandum introducing the Lakse 380 project, the work being carried out in Taranaki as part of the project and progress on work to date and answered questions arising.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum describing the *Lakes380* research project
- b) notes that sampling of eight lakes in Taranaki as part of the project has been completed and that results of this work will be reported once available

- c) notes the engagement of the Council and local iwi as participants in the project.
Williamson/McDonald

3. Te Āhua o Ngā Kūrei – Ngāti Mutunga Estuary Project (Curious Minds)

- 3.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director – Environment Quality, introduced Mr T McElroy, Environmental Scientist – Marine Biology and Ms Anne-Maree McKay and Marlene Benson, Ngāti Mutunga, who gave a presentation providing Members with an update on the progress of the Te Āhua o Ngā Kūrei – Ngāti Mutunga Estuary Project.
- 3.2 Acknowledgement was given to Emily Roberts, Education Officer, Taranaki Regional Council, who had significant input into the project.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the update on Te Āhua o Ngā Kūrei – Ngāti Mutunga Estuary Project
- b) notes the work that has been accomplished to date, and the remaining work to be completed.

Van Der Leden/Young

4. Update on Environment Court Mediation on the Proposed Coastal Plan for Taranaki

- 4.1 Mr A D McLay, Director- Resource Management, spoke to the memorandum updating Members on the progress with the Environment Court mediation on the *Proposed Coastal Plan for Taranaki* (the Proposed Plan).

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum entitled *Update on Proposed Coastal Plan for Taranaki: Appeals*
- b) notes the progress in resolving appeals to the Proposed Plan lodged with the Environment Court.

Joyce/Walker

5. Tai Whenua, Tai Tangata, Tai Ao

- 5.1 Mr A D McLay, Director –Resource Management, introduced Ms Sera Gibson and Ms Sarah Mako who gave a presentation for Members information on an Iwi management plan recently produced by Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust entitled *Tai Whenua, Tai Tangata, Tai Ao, Te Atiawa Iwi Environment Management Plan 2019* (the plan).
- 5.2 Such plans are also useful in the consent process in identifying affected parties.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum and the Tai Whenua, Tai Tangata, Tai Ao, Te Atiawa Iwi Environmental Management Plan (2019)
- b) notes that the Plan outlines the expectations and the position of Te Atiawa Iwi on matters relating to the environment in their rohe
- c) notes that the Plan will be taken into account during the review of the Council's Resource Management Act policy documents concerning air, freshwater, soil and coastal resources; and
- d) recognises that the Plan is a positive step forward in clarifying the policy position of Te Atiawa Iwi on environmental matters.

McDonald/Van Der Leden

6. Key Native Ecosystems Update

- 6.1 Mr S R Hall, Director - Operations, spoke to the memorandum presenting for Members information an update on the identification of seventeen new Key Native Ecosystems (KNE) sites and answered questions arising.
- 6.2 Councillor N W Walker declared an interest in two KNE sites, Georges Elephant and Orions Belt.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum and the attached inventory sheets for Georges Elephant, Piraunui, Fairy Forest, The Moeawatea, McColl's East Bush Block, Allerby's Bush, Orions Belt, Fern Grove, Vujcich Piakau Stream Forest, Fisher Family Bush, Waha o Tane, Watatao, te Kahu, PKW Farm 7 Inaha Stream, Green School, Cornwall Park Bush Remnants, McKenzie Wetland
- b) notes that the aforementioned sites have indigenous biodiversity values of regional significance and should be identified as Key Native Ecosystems.

MacLeod/Muir

7. Regional Monitoring Programme for Inhalable Particulate: 2016-2020

- 7.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director - Environment Services, spoke to the memorandum providing Members with a report on the first four years monitoring data from a programme tracking the concentration of fine particulate matter in the air in urban New Plymouth. The programme is one of the suite of programmes monitoring air quality in the region.
- 7.2 The COVID-19 lockdown had a large impact on the air quality around the country however, Taranaki's monitoring system suffered a breakdown at the start of lockdown so no data is available for that period.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum *Regional Monitoring Programme for Inhalable Particulate: 2016-2020*

- b) notes the recommendations contained therein.

Williamson/Boyde

Councillor S Hitchcock, New Plymouth District Council, left the meeting at 11.55am

8. Update on Old Man's Beard Control Programme – Waingongoro River

- 8.1 Mr S R Hall, Director – Operations, spoke to the memorandum updating members on the progress with the implementation of the Old Man's Beard control programme along the Waingongoro River.
- 8.2 The Old Man's Beard programme is to control and minimise the spread rather than to eradicate it.
- 8.3 Iwi engagement has been undertaken for this project and some of the work has been tendered out to an iwi owned business.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum *Update on Old Man's Beard control programme – Waingongoro River*.

MacLeod/Davey

9. Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi

- 9.1 Mr B G Chamberlain, Chief Executive, spoke to the memorandum providing background information of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, outlining what reference to the principles is made in the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and in the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and advising whether, as a result, Council must provide iwi representatives on Council committees with iPads or equivalent devices.
- 9.2 Mr P Moeahu, Iwi representative, noted that he was not surprised by the outcome of the report. He believes that Council is not giving Iwi representatives the same opportunities as Councillors and that they are not regarded in the same light.
- 9.3 Mr P Moeahu, requested that Council reviews its policy on providing Iwi representatives with devices.
- 9.4 Ms B Bigham, Iwi representative, felt that this was a small request that has now become a legal matter as opposed to just answering the question. Other councils around the country provide devices to Community Board members and representatives. Not being provided a device does not give members the same opportunity to take part in the meetings.
- 9.5 Councillor E Van Der Leden felt that it was a fair question to be asked and noted that this is an opportunity where Council can change.
- 9.6 The TRC Chairman, Mr D N MacLeod, noted that everything Council does they go about it in the right way and seek legal advice where needed. Everyone around the table wears different hats at times and participation is important however, everyone is still able to fully participate in discussions at the committee meetings without a

Council device and they are provided with the exact same information as members with a device.

- 9.7 It was noted that different Councils around the country take different stances on the matter.
- 9.8 Mr P Muir, Federated Farmers representative, noted that if you start providing for one committee representative you then need to provide for all and doing so would open the floodgates.

Recommended

That the Taranaki regional council:

- a) requests a review of the policy on providing iwi representatives with a device in consultation with Iwi.

Moeahu/Bigham

In favour – 5 (Mr P Moeahu, Ms B Bigham, Councillor E Van Der Leden, Councillor C Young, Ms L Tester)

Against – 10 (Councillors C Littlewood, N Walker, M Davey, M McDonald, D McIntyre, C Williamson, D MacLeod, M Joyce, G Boyde, Mr P Muir)

Motion lost

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum *Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi*
- b) notes that the Council continues to meet its statutory obligations regarding the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
- c) notes that the Council is not obligated nor is it required to supply iPads to iwi representatives under the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

MacLeod/Joyce

In favour – 13

Against – 2 (Ms B Bigham, Mr P Moeahu)

Motion carried

Mr P Moeahu left the meeting at 12.16pm

Ms L Tester left the meeting at 12.16pm

10. Iwi Member Inductions

- 10.1 Mr B G Chamberlain, Chief Executive, spoke to the memorandum informing the committee of the reconvening of the postponed iwi representative inductions following the next Consents and Regulatory and Policy and Planning Committee meetings.
- 10.2 The invitation is extended to all members of the committee.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) approves the induction programme.

Williamson/Van Der Leden

11. General Business

11.1 Mana Whakahono a Rohe agreement

Mr A D McLay, Director Resource Management, gave a brief update on the department of the joint Mana Whakahono a Rohe agreement. Covid-19 had upset the process and currently Councils are meeting before re-engaging with iwi.

There being no further business, the Committee Chairperson, Councillor C L Littlewood, declared the meeting of the Policy and Planning Committee closed at 12.21pm.

Confirmed

Policy and Planning

Chairperson: _____

C L Littlewood

Tuesday 21 July 2020