

# MEETING — AGENDA —

*Ngā Take*

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Western Bay of Plenty  
District Council

# COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

*Komiti Hapori*

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**Additional Items Pack  
Pikau Korero  
CC12  
Thursday, 30 August 2018**

# Open Items

## Community Committee No. CC12

### Additional Items

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**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Western Bay of Plenty District Council**

## Overview of Katikati Community Centre Research with Tongan & Indian Communities

### Background:

The Community Centre wanted to ensure that it was delivering relevant and meaningful programmes and services to the community

5 different community groups were identified for in-depth face to face interviews – these were: Working Mothers; Elderly, Indian, Pacifica (Tongan focus initially), and Maori.

The first 4 groups have been interviewed and this overview focuses on results from the most recent 2 projects with the Tongan & Indian communities.

The interviewer was local researcher Lizzie Fisher who completed these projects at generously discounted rate.

### Sample Characteristics:

#### 1. Tongan

11 individuals, all Tongan and resident in Katikati – 7 women, 4 men, age range from 20 to 70. 3 community leaders, 5 working parents, 2 young adults, and 1 elderly male. People were invited to participate via networking and “shoulder tapping”. All were interviewed face to face either in a group or individually.

#### 2. Indian

10 individuals, all Indian – 4 working women, 3 elderly women, 2 working fathers, 1 community leader. People were identified by Indian community leader and invited to participate. All were interviewed face to face.

### Survey Outline

In both communities the survey contained the following elements:-

1. What does it mean to be Tongan, or Indian?
2. What does community means to you?
3. What do we need in the community?
4. What you value about the Community Centre?
5. What tweaks/changes could be made at the Community Centre?
6. What is needed in the future?
7. How can we communicate better with your community?

This overview focuses on the general findings that have broader community importance, rather than those related specifically to the Katikati Community Centre.

## Tongan Community Feedback

### 1. What does it mean to be Tongan?

To understand Tongan people here you need to understand Tongan life in the Islands; life revolves around the village, typically people own their own homes, grow their own food and make their own clothes. Self-sufficiency and community are central.

Things that are important to Tongans are:

- Church and Faith
- Respect
- Family
- Happiness
- Sports
- Work

There are five Tongan congregations in Katikati following different expressions of Christian faith. Each congregation looks after the spiritual and emotional needs of its followers. They raise funds and host activities and work hard to keep the young people engaged in Christian and Tongan values and culture.

Respect in Tongan culture is a strong value. It is woven in to every aspect of Tongan culture from rules around family relationships and communication to clothing.

*"Pakeha don't understand the whole respect thing. In the workplace when one of the boys jokes and everyone laughs but your brother is there and you can't. That type of thing isn't taboo in your culture but it is in ours. It's worse in school when you're in the same class as your brother and talking about human bodies."*

The Tongan community is made up of family (family) and kainga (extended family). The family is an expression of Christian values - people support and help each other and child minding by extended family is preferred - more economic and it is culturally based. In line with this, gift giving and celebrations are very important and staying within the family (older children and grandparents) is a sign of love.

The Tongan community work to live and enable their children to have a better life. Opportunities and certainty of employment is an ongoing stress for families and the community as a whole. *"We are really hard workers. If you are not working hard it's just straight poverty."*

The Tongan community is passionate about sport, especially sports that are team based and sports that younger people can be part of. Volleyball is played by all, and netball, Rugby / Rugby League teams are common.

Happiness Is Health And Wealth - To Laugh Is To Be Tongan.

*"Lots of fun, laughing, noise, lots of people in and out. People show up unexpected. When something is on, extras turn up without invites. Doesn't matter if food is not enough - doesn't matter, it's ok."*

## 2. What does community mean to you?

The church is a shared and sacred place that enables all families to keep connected in some way.

*"Twice a week we have church service where we meet with other families. Anything anyone needs, everybody just gets into it. A phone call to the church leader and it gets done. We value sharing among families. We support one another. We help each other out with babysitting. If someone is in trouble, we try to help."*

Community Relationships Are Nurtured By Food. Every event in the community requires food and to eat is to show love and receive love. The cultural value of food and the type of food most commonly eaten (high in fat and sugar) is hurting the community – diabetes, heart problems and weight are important concerns in the community.

Music and dance are a big part of Tongan culture. Singing, drums and guitars, dancing.

Tongan culture is changing in NZ but Respect, Church and Community are still strong. Younger Tongans walk a path between Tongan and New Zealand cultural values and that can be hard for them.

*"I always wanted to go on the KCC trips, but Tongan parents are really strict. They won't allow girls to go on trips. Boys get more freedom, a trip or a club would have to be girls only."*

In a mixed group, if someone is swearing, or making lewd jokes, the Tongan youngsters in particular will not feel safe and will disengage quickly

## 3. What do you need in the community?

At an emotional level, for Tongan parents especially, Katikati is 'home away from home'.

*"Life here is quiet, safe, slow and relaxed – great for bringing up children."*

The key issues that concern the Tongan community are:

1. Affordable housing
2. Access to jobs and certainty of work
3. Health - affordability, getting to appointments and fitting them into busy lives
4. Access to sporting facilities and opportunities and exercise for old and young
5. Help with form filling: Visas, immigration and funding applications to support community projects
6. Cross-cultural integration for all youth
7. A neutral place to meet and celebrate

Finding affordable housing is getting harder. *"Many people leaving because of no houses. A lot of families doubling up in houses. State houses in Tauranga but not enough here."*

Access to jobs is a concern. *"Working to put food on the table - but seasonal jobs make life uncertain." "Not many jobs. Only pack houses. Nothing much for uni students. Too far to travel. Some people can't afford gas for travelling to Tauranga or Waihi."*

Lack of job opportunities for young people strikes at the core of Tongan family values and culture.

*"A lot of young students are taking courses for business and admin and getting qualifications but there is a lack of office jobs here. ....You end up with no job, no money, making your parents poor, being a burden on your family when they have no money."*

*"It is hard when the children leave school because we want them to stay with us, we don't want them to go away, so we need more jobs here so that the families can be together."*

The Tongan community in Katikati is young with few elders, but health issues are appearing and people are worried. The Tongan community have high regard for Plunket, and value and trust the Medical Centre but for many, the costs are too high to go regularly and getting appointments at the right time is hard for busy working parents.

Access to sporting facilities and opportunities. Sports affirm many Tongan values of togetherness, and love of fun and play and exercise is increasingly important as health issues loom.

*"We are not very motivated to exercise because there is nothing to do here. We need something fun. One place where everyone goes there. Netball, basketball. There is the school but something might happen (vandalise buildings)."*

There are several things in the Katikati community that the Tongan community have no idea of; for example the food bank and the Community Van for health appointments. The Tongan community is willing and able to help themselves but busy lives, language barriers and shyness are excluding them from much word-of-mouth social knowledge in the wider community, and access to help with visas and form completion. *"Some older people need help with filling out forms and stuff. Some people just feel shy to ask."*

Cross-cultural integration for youth is seen as important. The Tongan community is concerned about keeping the wider community in harmony and avoid the situation in Auckland where Tongan and Samoan youth are fighting against each other

*"Something to entertain the youth. Doesn't matter who you are, Tongans, Indians, Samoan, English. All youth. Music festival or*

*something. People interact and get to know each other. The reality is that the Katikati population is growing. New generations need to work together, to get to know a generation you need to interact with them somehow. Bring them together. Singing. Have a festival, get together, music or performing festival in the community. Multi-cultural day or week. Have a feed after."*

A neutral and affordable place to get together for social events and meetings is wanted by the community.

*"In the Tongan community we get together quite often. Maybe another place we can use. A hall or something. Memorial hall, school hall. Not many places because people using it so have to book in. Somewhere affordable with a big hall so you can have lots of people doing lots of things at the same time and a kitchen for food, food is very important part of our togetherness."*

There is a desire to help Pacific children in their schooling and homework and increase confidence and links between the school and Pacific parents

*"The Pacifica Trust in Tauranga. Their service is right up there. We need something here in Katikati. ....we could have a Mentoring centre where they can do homework.. Island kids don't like asking for help at school. One on one session would help them to be more open. They go to one in Tauranga called Power up. We could have one in KK."*

## **Indian Community Feedback**

### **1. What does it mean to be Indian?**

The concept of '**Indian culture**' is a very complex and complicated matter because Indian citizens belong to diverse ethnic, religious, caste, linguistic and regional groups.

In Katikati the Indian community are mainly from Punjab or Gujarati and belong to the Sikh or Hindu religions.

Punjab is one of the most fertile regions in India - the "Granary of India" - Punjabis often work in agricultural and production back home. So Kiwifruit and orchards offer a familiar stepping stone in New Zealand before branching out into other work.

Guajarati's are prominent in industry and key figures played an historic role in the victory of the 1947 Indian Independence movement Religious interdependence, tolerance, assimilation and community cohesion are a hallmark of modern-day Gujarati society.

Despite differences in regions and religions, traditional Indian family values centre around:

- *family honour and duty*
- *conforming to prescribed gender roles*
- *respect for elders*
- *following parental advice on decisions such as marriage*

Festivals play a significant role in uniting the community and affirming cultural and religious values e.g. *Bandi Chhor Divas (Diwali), Mela Maghi, Hola Mohalla, Rakhri, Vaisakhi, Lohri, Teevan and Basant.*

New demands in a new country mean that some attitudes have shifted, for instance beliefs about the role of women, and expectations about living with extended family

And the Indian families in Katikati strive for the same material possessions as other families – cars, a home, big screen TV's, a good living.

Despite land and home ownership back home, the Indian community often arrive with nothing in NZ. They work hard, save and support each other – because creating a future for their children is paramount

The family remains at the centre of New Zealand Indian life, and children especially. Extended families mean strong support for many –

*"The grandmother cooks breakfast, looks after the children. We don't need day care. My kids are safe. The grandparents are there for us all the time"*

## 2. What does community mean to you?

The Indian community in Katikati is well connected and strong but not well integrated with the wider Katikati community.

*"I am mostly connected to everyone at work but I do not feel part of the wider community in Katikati, we are shy because of the language but if you approach us we will come forward and take part"*

For the women especially, the expression of culture through dance, decoration and design is an integral part of life. Festivals, weddings and social occasions keep the community connections strong, everyone has a role to play and everyone contributes.

Sikhs and Hindus have different beliefs and expressions of worship but prayer and religious practice is core to identity in the Indian community.

Food plays a central role in keeping family and community bonds strong – it is an act of love and giving. Highly commercialised fast food is not a strong concept in the Indian community.

## 3. What do you need in the community?

*"Katikati is beautiful, peaceful, everybody says 'hello, how are you?', they are open and friendly, we are really happy here, everyone knows everyone else"*

The key issues that concern the Indian community are:

1. Language / translation / English comprehension
2. Access to facilities for religious practice or togetherness
3. Understanding civil engagements and rights



4. Integration with Kiwi culture
5. Opportunities to show Indian culture

The Indian community are settled and self-sustaining but they lack knowledge and confidence to integrate more with the Katikati community. They want to get more involved but find it hard to understand and to be understood.

*"I feel a shyness around the language, it makes me feel unconfident, especially with the doctor we need a translator so people can explain their problems"*

Not everyone has extended family, so finding childcare can be hard. *"It would be good to have help with child minding in the weekends – we love to work in the weekends but then the kindy's are shut"*

*"We need a dedicated room for prayers for every religion, Fridays and the weekends, with access to a kitchen - at the moment we meet in each other's homes but that means that less people can attend"*

Many in the Sikh community want a temple. Others are wary of building anything that separates Indians further from each other or the wider community. Some feel that a dedicated room for meetings and prayer is sufficient.

Language difficulties create an opaqueness to things that locals take for granted. Many of the Indian community would appreciate guidance and help to understand how things work.

The Indian community want to feel fully part of the local community.

*"We try and blend in with the Kiwi lifestyle –and it's important to blend in because sometimes the Indian community is staying quite isolated and sometimes that is because we don't know the kiwi rules and etiquette like I know that Kiwis don't like to be stared at.. we see their culture but they don't see ours"*

The desire to know Maori culture was mentioned several times during the interviews. The connection between Maori and Indian culture is a shared belief in the importance of the spiritual realm in daily life.

The Indian women especially are keen to demonstrate their culture, traditions and food. They are very open to opportunities to do this in shared festivals, classes, competitions – anything where people can participate

David Marshall

Chairman Katikati Community Centre Board

24<sup>th</sup> August 2018 |

## 2018/19 Community Matching Fund application recommendations with cost descriptions

<b>Environmental</b>		
Aongatete Forest Project	\$4,000.00	Interpretative environmental signage
Aongatete Outdoor Education Centre	\$8,000.00	Environmental Educational equipment
Friends of Puketoki Reserve Whakamarama	\$2,000.00	Equipment for maintaining bait station and monitoring lines through reserve.
Kotukutuku Gully Maketu	\$6,000.00	Control of difficult weed pest species in inaccessible places
Rotehu Ecological Trust	\$10,000.00	Marking 30 kilometres of bait station lines at Pongakawa Ecological Area
Te Whakakaha Conservation Trust	\$10,000.00	Tree planting, weed control, culvert repairs, signage , track management
<b>General</b>		
<b>Kaimai</b>		
BOP Garden and Art Fest Trust	\$2,000.00	BOP Garden and Art Festival Event
Loved 4 Life (Omokoroa Community Chapter 15)	\$1,800.00	Materials for new quilts, brochures and other materials
The Oropi Settlers Incorporated	\$ 4,200.00	Funding for commercial dishwasher.
<b>Katikati/Waihi Beach</b>		
Citizens Advice Bureau	\$ 500.00	Provide CAB services from Waihi, specifically the purchase of accounting software.
Katikati Community Centre	\$1,000.00	Purchase of equipment for I.T education project.
Katikati Long Journey Band Group	\$5,000.00	Purchase musical instruments
Katikati Mpowa Youth	\$4,100.00	Run a 'Top Town' event for youth
Katikati Sport and Recreation Centre	\$1,000.00	Legally correct establishment of the administrative body.
Katikati Welcoming Communities	\$5,000.00	First time multicultural event in Katikati. Venue and equipment hire, promotion, transport for seasonal workers.
Pakeke Lions Club	\$4,000.00	Outdoor exercise facility at Diggelman Park
St Peter's Anglican Church	\$2,000.00	Support Seasons programme for loss and grief for 5 -18 year olds
<b>Maketu/Te Puke</b>		
Maketu Community Led Development and Projects	\$5,000.00	Exhibition costs and venue hireage
Maketu Rotary	\$4,000.00	Outdoor exercise station facility
Te Ara Kahikatea Incorporated	\$2,000.00	Upgrade sections of popular track.
Te Puke Centre Steering Committee	\$5,000.00	Costs associated with a community hub and broker setup. Project manager/ consultant, stationery.
Te Puke Community Events	\$3,150.00	Equipment to support events
Te Puke Community Garden	\$1,000.00	Fruit trees, timber, compost, signage and materials
Te Puke Community Menz Shed	\$1,750.00	Purchase of a container for storage
Te Puke Toy Library	\$1,000.00	Restructure, development and upgrade the Te Puke Toy library to a larger resourced organisation
The Search Party Charitable Trust	\$3,500.00	Contribution towards running costs of a vehicle for 'Daily Lift' service
Vector Group Charitable Trust	\$3,000.00	To support the provision of Art workshops for youth