

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

**Minutes of Meeting No. CC15 of the Community Committee
held on 14 February 2019 in the "The Gallery", Te Puna Quarry Park, Tauranga
commencing at 10.00am**

Present

Councillor P Mackay (Chairperson), Councillors G Dally, M Dean, D Marshall, M Murray-Benge, J Palmer, J Scrimgeour, D Thwaites, M Williams and His Worship the Mayor G J Webber

In Attendance

M Taris (Chief Executive Officer), M Dowd (Acting Group Manager Technology, Customer and Community Services), C Lim (Community Team Leader), B Wilson (Community Relationships Advisor), G Ayo (Community Relationships Advisor), M Barns (Community Engagement and Development Coordinator), J Rickard (Senior Policy Analyst), K Elder (Governance Manager), M Parnell (Governance Advisor) and L Nind (Governance Advisor)

Community Boards

M Grainger (Chairperson, Omokoroa Community Board)

Other

Nine members of the public.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Lally and K Marsh and an apology for lateness from Councillor J Scrimgeour.

Resolved: Murray-Benge / Mayor Webber

THAT the apologies for absence from Councillors M Lally and K Marsh and the apology for lateness from J Scrimgeour be accepted.

The Chairperson advised that parts of the meeting would be recorded, in accordance with clause 11 Standing Orders, for training purposes.

CC15.1 Community Team

The Committee considered a report from the Community Team dated 31 January 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

The Community Team Leader spoke to a PowerPoint presentation and noted the following:

- The annual programme for the year was outlined, which consisted of five Community Committee meetings and one working group meeting (Community Matching Fund) between 14 February – 01 August 2019.
- Applications to the Community Matching Fund would be open from 29 April to 29 May 2019

10.05am Councillor Scrimgeour entered the meeting.

The Community Relationships Advisor spoke to item 2.5 of the report regarding the Natural Environment. He explained that the Bay Conservation Alliance will work with conservation groups and that they now have national recognition.

In response to questions, staff advised as follows:

- The EnviroHub team had a Memorandum of Understanding with Bay Conservation Alliance who worked more with the administrative side of environmental groups.
- EnviroHub had a network that was widely used for distribution of information by a number of groups, including Councils.

Resolved: Marshall / Williams

THAT the report from the Community Team Leader dated 31 January 2019 be received.

CC15.2 Community Team

The Community Development Team Leader, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the Western Bay of Plenty's Community Plans and noted the following points:

- In the context of local government the definition of a community was explained noting there were three dimensions, perceptual, functional and political.
- Community Plans were at the heart of the community and they were holistic. They compliment other plans and they have potential funding sources.

The Community Relationship Advisor, Mr Ayo, explained that there are seven Community Plans in the Western Bay of Plenty District and that Community Plans need to be led by the people i.e. the community rather than the Council.

The Community Relationship Advisor, Mr Wilson introduced the Community Planning Readiness Toolkit. This involved more than just Council and was Community led and driven, with support from Council staff.

In response to questions, staff advised as follows:

- The Community Planning Readiness Toolkit would be advertised, published on Council's website and sent to all Committees.
- Community Plans were facilitated by various agencies.
- Media announcements would be made regarding Community Plans.
- Town Centre and Community Plans were separate items.
- Other models had been looked at when the Community Planning Readiness Toolkit was developed.

10.13am Councillor Dally entered the meeting

Community Team staff advised as follows:

- A history of the Community Plans in the district was provided and it was noted had all developed in different ways over the years.
- Reviews for Te Puke/Maketu needed to be more Community rather than Council led.
- The Te Puna and Omokoroa Community Plan models were explained.

Resolved: Murray-Benge / Mayor Webber

THAT the presentation from the Community Team on the Western Bay of Plenty Community Plans be received.

10.30am The meeting was adjourned for morning tea.

10.43am The meeting reconvened.

CC15.3 **Omokoroa Community Board and Omokoroa Connectors Group**

The Chairperson introduced the Omokoroa Community Board Chairperson Murray Grainger, who gave an update on the Omokoroa Community Plan Implementation Process.

A brief history of the Omokoroa Connectors Group was provided. Mr Grainger was part of the group who reviewed the 2010 Community Plan. He noted a "disconnect" between drafting and actioning of the Community Plans.

Various points of the Omokoroa Community Plan were discussed, particularly the new playground which is well used by local children. However, there has been anti-social behaviour by the older children in the vicinity of the playground.

Community input regarding commercial areas and waste glass is not collected and recycling in general was an issue in the area.

Concept Plans and Structure Plans were developed, however there were issues with the lack of connecting walkways within urban areas. Fencing had also been identified as an issue.

In response to questions the Omokoroa Community Board Chairperson advised as follows:

- Effort would be put into delivering items which hadn't been completed yet.
- There was a preference for walkways to be constructed over the railway.
- Items which arose during the Domain review were noted, along with implementation agreed.
- Community concerns about the cost of amenities needed to be addressed.
- The Golf Club land was privately owned and Council was working on issues relating to Precious Reserve.
- It had been noted that some fences were breaching the Building Code and the District Plan review would address this issue.

Resolved: Councillor Dean / Palmer

THAT the presentation from the Omokoroa Community Board Chairperson be received.

CC15.4

Te Puna Community Plan

The Chairperson introduced the Te Puna Community Plan Facilitator, Karen Summerhays, who spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the Te Puna Community Plan and noted the following:

- She was an independent facilitator for the Te Puna Plan and gave an overview and learnings to date on the implementation process.
- Principles of Community Led development and asset-based Community development were outlined.
- A Community led approach to local initiatives was essential and that "the head, the heart and the hands" of the Community were identified to utilise different strengths and skills.
- It was important that the Plans were adaptive and included future-proofing for items that would come up.
- The Plan identified the community and a stronger bond was formed due to a bi-cultural Plan, which told a story about the community.
- The Plan provided a way for community members to know each other and to work on community projects.
- Barriers and gaps were identified .
- The Te Puna Business Network was up and running .

- An all inclusive social sector hui was held and relationships were brokered, including the engagement of an independent facilitator for the Community Plan implementation.
- The Facilitator was pleased with what was achieved in 240 hours over six months for development and 110 hours over nine months for implementation.
- Particular expertise was required to implement community development initiatives.

Resolved: Thwaites / Mayor Webber

THAT the presentation from the Te Puna Community Plan Facilitator be received.

11.34am Meeting was adjourned for a break.

11.39am Meeting reconvened.

CC15.5 **Te Puna Connectors Group**

The Chairperson introduced Te Puna Connectors Group Member, Jo Gravit, who gave a presentation on the Te Puna Community Plan: Environmental Sector update on Pest-free Management Plan.

Ms Gravit introduced Rowena Pearce, from the Te Puna Business Network who is a local business owner of The Cidery in Te Puna.

Ms Pearce outlined some of the challenges involved when establishing the Te Puna Business Network. There were 83 businesses in Te Puna that they were aware of. There is a need to represent all sectors and a steering committee was created to look into these.

Ms Gravit spoke to a tabled document regarding the Pest-Free Management Plan and advised as follows:

- A wide range of people were involved.
- Collaboration was very important.
- The environment wouldn't be well managed without resource from all areas.
- What works in one Community does not work in another.
- Council consultation needs to be accessible to all people.
- One barrier to Community-led development was addressing how people who work during the day could be involved, so evening meetings were undertaken.
- A safe, fast route into the city was a community priority.
- LGNZ had developed a Localism Project.
- Environmental Aspects of the Te Puna Plan were outlined.
- Several organisations were involved including Bay Conservation Alliance and Heritage New Zealand and the question was asked "Is this the right way to get results?"

- Pest-free Te Puna Project. A small working party was created and rat traps distributed, with the aim of providing one trap per five houses.

In response to questions, Ms Pearce and Ms Gravit advised as follows:

- A broker was needed to achieve their goals, however they were not certain that this would work for every Community.
- A stronger, proactive structure for the Te Puna Village Plan was needed.
- Ms Pearce suggested that the consultation process be reviewed and a debrief be held with regards to any gaps in the consultation.
- Page 4 of the Community Plan outlined how the community's goals were achieved.

Resolved: Mayor Webber / Williams

THAT the presentation from the Te Puna Connectors Group regarding the Te Puna Community Plan: Environmental Sector update on pest-free management Plan be received.

12.08pm The meeting was adjourned for lunch

12.45pm The meeting was reconvened

Ms Beth Bowden, Te Puna Heartlands Society, addressed the Committee and noted the following:

- It was important to retain the Te Puna that the Community wanted.
- The Te Puna Community Plan Facilitator, Karen Summerhays was commended for her work, particularly in getting the document through the consultation process.
- Not enough was known about local businesses in the area.
- In terms of environmental and economic life in Te Puna, locals used to live and make their living locally without needing to leave the area.
- There were ongoing concerns about State Highway Two traffic safety and Pirakau Environment Manager, Te Puna Connectors Group Co-Chair, Julie Shepherd's involvement was commended.
- Items in the Community Plan married up with items in the Long Term Plan.
- Transport infrastructure and connectivity in the area was a large, critical project and would continue to be lobbied for.
- Preservation and enhancement of the wetland at the mouth of the Wairoa River would add to the environmental and community focus in the area. Water, Plants, and birds were important to the community and a source of enjoyment.

Resolved: Williams/Murray-Benge

THAT the presentation from the Te Puna Connectors Group Member be received.

CC15.6 Te Puna Connectors Group

The Pirirakau Environment Manager and Te Puna Connectors Group Co-Chair, Julie Shepherd, provided a verbal presentation on the Tahataharoa Wetlands.

Ms Shepherd acknowledged the Community Relationship Advisor, Glenn Ayo, for his helpful work. This was the first generation Plan of its kind and the only one that acknowledged a Hapu Management Plan. The Te Puna Community Plan Facilitator, Karen Summerhays, was credited for her brokering and involvement in the Community Plan. A recommendation was made to keep Ms Summerhays engaged for a longer period of time.

In response to questions, Ms Shepherd advised as follows:

- Simpler planning processes needed to be put in place to assist people who wish to build housing.
- A care group was to be formed.

Resolved: Mayor Webber/Murray-Benge

THAT the presentation from the Te Puna Connectors Group regarding the Tahataharoa Wetlands be received.

The Community Relationships Advisor, Glenn Ayo, provided a summary of the meeting as follows:

- Today we looked at Community Planning. Staff started the observations that if we go back far enough we have the example of earlier Community Plans where we would send out 12-14 staff headed by a Senior Manager. The main reason these staff numbers diminished was our attempts to make these processes more Community led and less Council led
- We also observed that there is currently no funding for Community Plans with the exception of the Community Matching Fund which has no written imperative to approve those applications
- One of the Councillors drew attention to the Katikati Town Centre Plan this morning, which was ultimately responsible for the establishment of Patuki Manawa, the Community Hub. I'd like to point out that the Town Centre Plan was a direct result of the Community Plan
- The Omokoroa model has shown us clearly the need for strong people who are willing to lead these Plans and I refer directly to people like Murray Grainger and worker bees like Karen Loten
- Murray Grainger quite succinctly stated that the disconnect with Community Plans, is in turning the Plans into actions. He also showed us the importance of the Plan in reinforcing Omokoroa's desire for future schools and the representations that Karen Loten has made to the Education Department. Murray Grainger also pointed out that the Plan was one of the primary drivers, (I might add, along with the Long

- Term Plan) to initiate the Domain EsPlanade concept Plan which turned out to be a very valuable piece of work
- Today we have seen the contrast of the Te Puna model and the Omokoroa model
 - A key question for us today, for both staff, and in fact as a Council is, how effective, has been this new Te Puna model of using a paid independent facilitator. We ask that question in particular as we head towards the Annual Plan which considers whether to fund Community Plans directly, or not
 - The Te Puna model has given us a chance to explore a new possibility, of hiring an independent facilitator, a role previously filled by a Council Senior Manager, both for the facilitation and also for the pilot implementation
 - The Te Puna Community Plan Facilitator, Karen Summerhays presented and stated that this stage of the process is about giving the Te Puna Community the opportunity to form groups to carry forward the Plan. Karen Summerhays noted that we were in the "Empowerment" stage of the Te Puna Community Planning and that it was now about empowering and enabling. She reinforced how a Plan should be strength based and enable different individuals to find their place within Community action. Likewise it should enable Non Government Organisations and other government agencies to take action, and one of the examples, was Sport Bay Of Plenty who as a direct result of the Plan are undertaking their first ever "place based" sports and recreation delivery, through a forum. Karen Summerhays also touched on the implementation stage of the Plan as being responsible for the forming of the Te Puna Business Network; Te Puna katoa social sector hui; Te Puna social sector mapping and Pest-free Te Puna
 - A disconnect was observed between Community Plans and Council Planning. Staff acknowledge that there are some staff that pick things up on their own whim, such as the Resource Management Manager, Phillip Martelli and there are some staff who pointedly, do not
 - Rowena Pearce explained how they are very much at the beginning of the process with the business network
 - Te Puna Connectors Group Member, Jo Gravit, also reinforced the need for the Plan to be synchronised with Council Planning processes. Jo underlined the need to get engineers thinking environmentally. She stressed the need for greater collaboration and questioned whether the consultation models are fit for purpose, particularly in relation to inclusive representation. Jo described Karen Summerhays' position as the key to success. Jo also emphasised that each Community is different, and she used the term 'localism' – what works in one Community, will not work in another. Collaboration is key, getting the people in the room, working together towards the same goals
 - It was identified that the Consultation around the commercial area was inadequate
 - Beth Bowden thanked Karen Summerhays for her work and said her position was critical to the success so far of the Plan. Beth reiterated the need for locals to understand what businesses are here in Te Puna

What's not covered:

- Safety on the Minden. Transport infrastructure and connectivity between uPland Te Puna and harbourside Te Puna.
- Preserved wetland area alongside the harbour and the springs – Tahataharao.
- Long Term Planning issue – green wedge and the ability to “live” in Te Puna. Hidden problem is the housing.
- Julie Shepherd of Pirirakau Hapu, called the Te Puna Community Plan, a first generation Plan particularly because it acknowledges and incorporates a Hapu Management Plan.
- She was yet another Presenter who reiterated that having the Facilitation Broker Karen Summerhays in place, was a critical element and she suggested we keep Karen on for longer to see where this space could grow to.
- No reira.
- We've had a chance to observe a new model.
- There seems to be consensus that a Community Plan is at its best when it is the Community itself that are activated to carry through on driving the actions.
- There is a question about funding for future Plans. How much and through which mechanism?
- There is still conjecture over which model works best, but at the same time we acknowledge that it's a dynamic field working with quite different communities.
- There is also a question around, how the new Representation Structure will support Community Plans.

The Community Team Leader summarised the key points of the meeting and learnings and noted that every community is unique. She expressed the wish that the Community Committee would continue to be a powerful platform for the communities to showcase their achievements.

The Chairperson thanked the staff, Councillors and all those involved in the meeting.

Resolved: Mayor Webber/Murray-Benge

THAT the presentation from the Te Puna Connectors Group Co-Chair be received.

The meeting concluded at 1.18pm.