



MINUTES

**Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao Meeting
Wednesday, 22 July 2020**

Order Of Business

1	Apologies.....	3
2	Public Forum	3
3	Chairperson's Report	3
	3.1 Chairperson's verbal report.....	3
4	Acceptance of Late Items.....	4
5	Confidential Business to be Transferred into the Open	4
6	Change to Order of Business	4
7	Confirmation of Minutes.....	5
	7.1 Minutes of the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao meeting held on 26 February 2020.....	5
8	Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	5
9	Business	5
	9.1 Mauao Trust verbal update	5
	9.2 Mauao basetrack verbal update.....	6
	9.3 Operational Report.....	7
	9.4 Sport Rock Climbing - Route Permission and Climbing Guidelines.....	7
	9.5 Mauao Implementation Plan: Proposed Annual Review and Project Delivery Update	9
10	Discussion of Late Items.....	10

**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
NGĀ POUTIRIAO Ō MAUAO MEETING
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL, TE AWANUI HARBOUR ROOM, 91 WILLOW
STREET, TAURANGA
ON WEDNESDAY, 22 JULY 2020 AT 9.30AM**

PRESENT:

§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy
§ 7(2)(f)(i)
Cr Steve Morris, § 7(2)(a) - Privacy
§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy

IN ATTENDANCE:

§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy
§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy
§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy
§ 7(2)(f)(ii)
§ 7(2)(f)(iii)
§ 7(2)(f)(ii)
§ 6 - Maintenance of law
§ 7(2)(f)(ii)
§ 7(2)(f)(ii)

OPENING KARAKIA

§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy opened the meeting with a Karakia.

1 APOLOGIES**APOLOGY****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG2/20/1**

Moved:

Seconded: § 7(2)(f)(ii)

That the apology for lateness received from Cr Steven Morris and § 7(2)(a) - Privacy be accepted.

CARRIED**2 PUBLIC FORUM**

NIL

3 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**3.1 Chairperson's verbal report****Key points**

- The Trust had closed the Maunga for public safety due to COVID-19 and it was one of the very few times, if not the only time, in living memory that the Maunga had been completely closed to humans.
- Without the presence of humans and subsequent impacts of human activity on Mauao, the environment had thrived and repaired itself.

- The Chairperson congratulated Tauranga City Council staff for the management and communication of the closure during the lockdown period.
- Education and positive experiences on the Maunga were important because, despite the restrictions in place, some people broke the rules by climbing Mauao.

At 9.35am, Cr Steve Morris entered the meeting.

- The contravention of rules and restrictions was case in point why Kaitiaki (custodians/guardians) were needed on Mauao to assist in educating visitors as well as regulating bad behaviour.

Discussion points raised

- It was agreed that there was merit in exploring the idea of informal representatives to act in the capacity of Kaitiaki to provide advice/guidance/information to visitors.
- There were Annual Plan discussions regarding the heritage precinct for Te Papa that could assist in the conversations on Kaitiaki further.

At 9.38am, [b 7(2)(a) - Privacy] entered the meeting.

- The Mauao Implementation Plan and the Kaitiaki programme idea were identified as potential opportunities for Tauranga City Council when applying for the Caring for Communities Funding.

At 9.40am, [b 7(2)(a) - Privacy] entered the meeting.

- There was a Trailer-rider trial at Pilot Bay on Friday, 24 July 2020 at 1.00pm using a borrowed Trailer-rider from Rotorua to gauge safety and environmental impacts of using the device on the Maunga.
- It was recommended that school's gardening programmes could be involved to propagate seeds from Mauao. This would promote education, enhance seed collection and propagation activities to replant on the Maunga, and establish a comprehensive planting plan.

4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

Nil

6 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 Minutes of the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao meeting held on 26 February 2020

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG2/20/2

Moved: [REDACTED] s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

Seconded: [REDACTED] s 7(2)(f)(ii)

That the minutes of the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao meeting held on 26 February 2020 be received and confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

9 BUSINESS

9.1 Mauao Trust verbal update

External [REDACTED] s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

Key points

- An update was provided on the Implementation Plan and the impacts of COVID-19 which had slowed down progress slightly.
- [REDACTED] s 7(2)(a) - Privacy informed the meeting that the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) had approximately 20 million dollars in funding and should be approached to assist in funding the planting on Mauao and other projects.
- There was a proposal made to the Mauao Trust using a device to transport the elderly and persons with disabilities around the base track, however due to the commercial nature of the proposal, the Trust was hesitant to proceed with it but had acknowledged that the idea itself was good.
- The Mauao Trust wanted to work with Ngai Tukairangi Trust to establish a Kaitiaki programme and a cultural or information centre at the base of Mauao.
- [REDACTED] s 7(2)(a) - Privacy advised that the Mauao Trust would meet with Ngai Tukairangi Trust, Tangata Whenua and Mana Whenua, and present the outcomes at the next meeting.
- Badges were being explored for Mauao Trust members to provide identification and quasi-authority for potential Kaitiaki.

Discussion points raised

- [REDACTED] s 7(2)(a) - Privacy had explained that the Implementation Plan project could also investigate options and had suggested it could be brought forward.
- Staff advised the outcome of the Annual Plan process with regards to a provision for a visitor information centre at Mount Maunganui and would take a paper to Council looking at options to develop a visitor information centre.
- It was noted by [REDACTED] s 7(2)(f)(ii) that in her discussions with the community and her constituents, the information centre for visitors was not a high priority but a cultural or heritage centre was deemed more important.
- It was noted that any type of centre was going to be reliant on the visiting cruise ships, it was worthwhile exploring its location near the cruise ship terminal.
- It was confirmed that there was budget allocated by Tauranga City Council in 2024-25 financial year to investigate options for locations and that Council was open to dialogue, guidance, and direction in this matter.

- The information centre was going to be for everyone and during winter seasons could be used for Matariki celebrations or other events/celebrations in the Māori calendar.
- An idea to provide cruise ship passengers with the option of purchasing a tree for planting on Mauao to offset their carbon footprint was well received.
- Stakeholders and BOPRC would be interested in working with the Trust to propagate seeds from the Maunga within school's garden programme to be then later replanted on Mauao.
- It was a good idea to have school education programmes for children so that they could become champions of protecting the Maunga from bad behaviour like drinking, smoking, etc. by educating their peers, friends and family.
- s 7(2)(f)(ii) request to formalise the discussions on funding for projects to be included in the Implementation Plan within Council's imminent funding application to Caring for Communities Fund was approved by the Chairperson.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG2/20/3

Moved: Cr Steve Morris

Seconded: s 7(2)(f)(ii)

That Nga Poutiriao o Mauao:

- (a) Agree that projects within the Mauao Implementation Plan are included within Council's application to Central Government's Caring for Communities Fund application.
- (b) Supports the inclusion of a Kaitiaki programme at a conceptual level into funding applications that would support agreed activities Mauao.

CARRIED

9.2 Mauao basetrack verbal update

Staff

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

Key points

- The Korowai Project was not entirely complete and costings were being done so that they could be included in the Long Term Plan.
- The draft Annual Report would be presented to the Board at the 7 October 2020 meeting and when approved it would be taken to Council.
- An update was provided on the slip repairs that had withstood the significant bad weather that was experienced in the area.
- Approximately \$240,000 was allocated to carry out further remedial work such as drainage, planting, and reinforcement of large trees.
- A contractor had been engaged to undertake monthly checks on the slip site to ensure there were no issues and this would form the basis of a structured maintenance regime.
- The Board had to decide whether to pursue the retention of the temporary stairs or to seek their removal or to discuss with the archaeological authority on other permanent options.

Discussion points raised

- The archaeological authority out of goodwill had granted a few additional months to complete all pending remedial work, monitoring, and investigations, however they had reiterated that the retention of the stairs permanently was not an option because it was agreed to be a temporary installation.
- Dismantling the temporary stairs would take approximately one month.
- Tauranga City Council staff were instructed to investigate a counter to capture how many people used the temporary track and stairs, and present a report to the next meeting outlining options and analysis.

9.3 Operational Report

Staff

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

s 6 - Maintenance of law

Key points

- Report was taken as read however a brief update was provided.
- The Heart Box Foundation had acquired the design plan for the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) installation.
- The Foundation had also donated two additional AEDs and had requested information on whether the Trust wanted these units to be installed on the MMAunga as well; and if so, to provide guidance on potential locations.
- Sections of Mauao had to be closed to the public in order to carry out geotechnical rock stability monitoring and scaling to maintain visitor safety.

In response to questions

- There were no objections from the Board and Trust on using an additional AED on the MMAunga and instructed Tauranga City Council to investigate potential locations.
- It was confirmed that one unit would be installed on an existing post in an identified location however, the new unit may potentially require a post so before any work could proceed, Heritage NZ had to be consulted to ensure that there were no archaeological issues.
- Rabbits and other pests had been causing damage to newly planted native plants and subsequently the pest control measures had been intensified.
- The Mauao Planting Plan and Mauao Stonewall Plan were annual plans but separate from the Implementation Plan and more in line with the Conservation Plan.
- An update was provided regarding closing of the Goat Access track in order to protect the environment and for public safety.

Discussion points raised

- The Board had to be more proactive in messaging and communication with the community by sharing positive, education and/or success stories such as the AED installation.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG2/20/4

Moved:

Seconded:

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

That the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao:

- (i) Receives the operational report for June 2020.

CARRIED

At 10.33am, s 7(2)(a) - Privacy left the meeting.

At 10.33am the meeting adjourned.

At 10.42am the meeting reconvened.

9.4 Sport Rock Climbing - Route Permission and Climbing Guidelines

Staff

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

Key points

- There had been a number of submissions received in support of Sport Rock Climbing on Mauao.
- The draft Annual Plan was amended to insert a delegation to the Board to consider the submissions and concept of Sport Rock Climbing.

- Safety for rock climbers and visitors to Mauao had been a fundamental concern for the Mauao Board and the Trust when deliberating on Sport Rock Climbing.

In response to questions

- It was confirmed that holes had to be drilled on the rockface of Mauao to support bolts and gear of rock climbers.
- A Tauranga City Council communications brief would be sent out to stakeholders based on the decision the Board makes regarding the recommendations of the report.

Discussion points raised

- It was confirmed that the Mauao Trust did not support rock climbing and therefore did not support the drilling of holes.
- The Trust was opposed to any form of desecration of the Maunga such as drilling holes and consequently Sport Rock Climbing could not be approved.
- There was no clear guidance or information provided on whose responsibility it was for controlling, maintaining and risk-managing the climbing routes.
- Sport Rock Climbing clubs seemed to be ad hoc managing themselves and a national body which governed and moderated the sport did not exist.
- The Trust had requested that the Sport Rock Climbing clubs do not climb the Maunga while deliberations on Sport Rock Climbing was taking place however there were a number of instances when this request was ignored.
- The Sport Rock Climbing clubs had not satisfied the Mauao Trust's requirements for safety plans and risk management controls because according to them each climber was responsible for their own safety.
- In all the submissions received, there had not been a single mention or acknowledgment of the spiritual element of Mauao or the importance of the Maunga to Māori and subsequently justifications for drilling holes.
- If a proposal was submitted without the inclusion of drilling of holes, the Mauao Trust would consider it, but the safety, maintenance and risk control plans had to be infallible.
- The Maunga already had a plethora of recreational activities that was permitted and to approve another activity without proper failsafe systems would not be advisable or prudent.
- Tauranga had one of the best indoor rock-climbing facilities in New Zealand and rock climbers should take advantage of this.
- It was counter-argued that drilling potentially five holes into the Maunga could be justified given the approved invasive work that was already being carried out such as signage installations, potential AED posts, the soil nails, remedial works, and so forth.
- To ban Sport Rock Climbing would mean that illegal rock-climbing could potentially take place and it was preferable that the activity was done in a controlled manner.
- Whose liability was it going to be if death or injury occurs and bystanders would have to become first responders; to put them through that trauma or experience was not acceptable.
- Conversations had to occur at a deeper level between all stakeholders on the two issues that needed to be addressed (drilling of holes and the rock-climbing sport).
- The rocks, ecology, flora and fauna of the Maunga were all interconnected spiritually and had their own mauri life force so drilling holes for sport was considered inappropriate.
- It was put that if the owners of the Maunga had stated that they did not support drilling, then any other argument would be untenable from a socio-political perspective.
- It was accepted that the activity of rock-climbing was done on Mauao in the past, but it was not an activity that had been approved by, or had support of, the Tangata Whenua or the Mauao Trust.
- The Maunga had approximately 200 or more holes in it as it was, and to add five more could lead to ten, twenty, etc. in the future so where and when would it stop.
- A greenstone was returned from Australia to Tauranga City Council's Heritage Collection; the owner's grandfather found it by scaling the Maunga and discovering it in a burial cave.
- Others could stumble upon more archaeological finds and desecrate or steal from it.

- Communication releases and signage had to include positive messaging based on cultural and spiritual importance of Mauao rather than simply stating that rock-climbing was not approved because the reasons behind the decision were important.
- Children were the greatest assets of the future, so it was imperative to invest in educating them on the importance of the heritage and spirituality of Mauao.
- Uluru (in Australia) had signage that requested visitors not climb it because of cultural importance and could be an example of signage that could be used for Mauao.
- The vision of the Implementation Plan recognised the history of Mauao, and that Mauao was a sacred icon for the whole community.
- The Board and Trust agreed to remove recommendation (e) as it was moot given the korero around the table which had confirmed the position of most of the members.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG2/20/5

Moved:

s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

Seconded: Cr Steve Morris

That the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao:

- (a) Receives the re-tabled report titled "Mauao Historic Reserve Management Plan – Sport Rock Climbing – Route Permission and Climbing Guidelines", at Attachment 1, and
- (b) Receives the letter from the Mauao Trust to Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao dated 3 August 2019, at Attachment 2, and
- (c) Does not support use of Sport Rock Climbing routes;
- (d) Does not support the drilling of new holes.

CARRIED

9.5 Mauao Implementation Plan: Proposed Annual Review and Project Delivery Update

Staff

s 7(2)(b)(ii)

Key points

- Updated the Board on the status of projects that were currently in progress as well as impact on deliverables or delays due to COVID-19.
- In order to meet deadlines for budgeting to be included in the Long Term Plan, it was proposed by staff to only undertake a review of *Section 3 Te Mahere Whakamahinga – the Implementation Plan in Detail* because it detailed each project and action, and identified cost estimates, funding sources, timing and organisations to lead and support.

In response to questions

- It was noted that Korowai should be inserted in section F3 of the *Proposed Timing Changes and Progress Commentary - First Term Priorities Mauao Implementation Plan* document either in the title or subject to make it clear and specific.
- Maintenance of Mauao such as weeding, pest control and remedial work were costly exercises.

Discussion points raised

- Tauranga City Council staff to work on creating a working group and shortlist members from a cross section of expertise and experiences.
- The exploration of funding sources and cost analysis that were discussed in the meeting to be reported at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG2/20/6

Moved: [REDACTED] s 7(2)(f)(ii)
Seconded: [REDACTED] s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

That Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao:

- (a) Provide approval to review and update Section 3 Te Mahere Whakamahinga – the Implementation Plan in Detail, as the annual review of the Mauao Implementation Plan.
- (b) Approve the updated timing column within the first term priorities table, with relevant columns extracted from Section 3 of Te Mahere Whakamahinga – the Implementation Plan in Detail, and shift completed projects and actions to the Implemented Priorities table, as shown in Attachment 1.
- (c) Provide approval to establish a working group to begin implementation of project F3: Establish and implement a planting restoration plan.

CARRIED

10 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

- The springs of Mauao urgently required a clean-up project to be created because the vegetation overgrowth and oak leaves had almost clogged both springs to a standstill and this could cause slip issues in the future because water was not flowing down natural pathways.

CLOSING KARAKIA

[REDACTED] s 7(2)(a) - Privacy closed the meeting with a Karakia.

The meeting closed at 11.55am

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao meeting held on 7 October 2020.

.....
CHAIRPERSON