



MINUTES

**Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao Meeting
Wednesday, 22 September 2021**

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
NGĀ POUTIRIAO Ō MAUAO MEETING
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL, KAIMAI ROOM, 91 WILLOW STREET,
TAURANGA
ON WEDNESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 9.30AM**

PRESENT:

§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy § 7(2)(f)(ii) § 7(2)(a) - Privacy
§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy § 7(2)(f)(ii)

ALSO PRESENT:

§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy Heritage New Zealand)

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

1 OPENING KARAKIA

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

2 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG3/21/1

Moved: § 7(2)(f)(ii)

Seconded: § 7(2)(a) - Privacy

That apologies from § 7(2)(f)(ii) be received and accepted.

CARRIED

3 PUBLIC FORUM

3.1 § 7(2)(a) - Privacy Mauao Rescue Strategy

A copy of the presentation for this item can be provided upon request.

Key Points

- The Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service provided a 24/7, 365 days per year call-out squad. The squad responded to 111 incidents on the beach and also on Mauao.
- On average, one call was received per fortnight for an incident on Mauao. This was increasing every year.
- The Squad had identified communication as a significant issue. Messages received were unclear; patients or people relaying messages about an incident on Mauao often did not know the names of tracks and could not accurately or clearly give directions to their approximate location e.g. a message was received about a person on the side track with breathing difficulties. When the Squad was unable to locate the person on the side track, it was realised that the caller had actually meant that the person was at the Sidetrack Café.
- It was important that the Squad was able to locate a patient as quickly as possible.
- The Mount Lifeguard Service had developed a Rapid Response Plan for Mauao. There were currently over 100 existing man-made wooden structures on Mauao. The concept was to have a coloured numbered sign fixed to each man-made wooden structure.

- There were also a number of sites of historical significance on Mauao and input would be requested from the Kaitiaki for appropriate locations to place the signs in these areas.
- When a patient called 111 for assistance, they could be directed to the nearest man-made wooden structure to provide the coloured number to the operator. The operator would transfer this information through to the first responder who would then be able to accurately pinpoint the patient's location, reducing the response time.
- The size of the signs would fit comfortably on most wooden posts. The colour would be for those who were potentially dyslexic, and the numbers were for those who were potentially colour blind. No two numbers would repeat.
- The request to the Kaitiaki of Mauao was to allow the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service to provide the best service that they possibly could and put the Mauao rescue system in place.

In response to questions

- Concern was raised that this could result in a proliferation of signs and it was important to integrate and align this into signage work that was already happening. Tauranga City Council (TCC) staff would work with Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao and the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service on this.

The Chair thanked [s 7(2)(a) - Privacy] for their presentation.

Staff Action

- Staff to coordinate and work with Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao and the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service on the signage for the proposed Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service Rapid Response Plan.

3.2 [s 7(2)(a) - Privacy] - Oi/Grey-faced Petrel long-term monitoring on Mauao

A copy of the presentation for this item can be provided upon request.

Key Points

- Oi or the Grey-faced Petrel had been monitored on Mauao since 1989. The birds had been studied at various levels over that time. Currently, the project was very reduced because the Oi were not in good shape in terms of numbers.
- Procedures that had been put in place on the maunga had helped and were needed to remain in perpetuity.
- The key animal preventing the Oi from surviving long term was the rat.
- Over 1000 people had volunteered and helped on the project over the years.
- Adult birds arrived in April to nest and lay eggs. Around 200 eggs were laid on Mauao per year; eggs hatched in August/September. For every 100 eggs laid, 50 hatched and around 30 chicks fledged. If rats were in abundance in any particular year, the fledgling rate could drop to below ten.
- The birds nested in burrows, either dug themselves or in amongst the rocks, and always under pohutukawa.
- The Oi were a nighttime species and so were rarely seen.
- Monitoring of the birds would continue.

In response to questions

- There were around 500 to 700 pairs using the Mount. The distribution of the burrows was changing due to erosion. A lot of erosion had occurred on the Matakana side and lots of burrows had been lost. The north eastern flanks of Mauao were concentrated burrow areas and well used by the birds.
- Birds only laid one egg per year.
- Chicks hatched in August/September and fledged in January. The birds were very unsociable at fledging time.

- Motuotau Island was rat free. The island was New Zealand's closest pest-free off-shore island. A combination of wave action and wind prevented a lot of animals from landing there, but they occasionally did. The island had an ongoing trapping regime to keep it pest free.
- Statistics of what was being monitored would be shared through the Operational Report.

The Chair thanked [s 7(2)(a) - Privacy] for his presentation and his long and ongoing commitment to looking after the Oi on Mauao.

3.3 [s 7(2)(a) - Privacy] **Mountford Consultants - Takitimu North Link proposal to survey, salvage, and relocate lizards to Mauao**

A copy of the presentation for this item can be provided upon request.

Key Points

- Mountford Consultants provided ecological advice planning and were making a request associated with the new Takitimu North Link roading project that was due to begin at the end of this year. Their role in the project was to implement a lizard management plan for any indigenous lizards that may be found along the project footprint.
- There were eleven sites along the proposed road where the lizards were found.
- Lizards would be salvaged from the area before the vegetation clearance of the site, using a combination of hand searching as well as traps. The main aim was to avoid death or injury to indigenous lizards.
- It was most likely that copper and rainbow skinks would be found. Ornate skink, forest and elegant gecko may also be found but this was less likely.
- A permit from the Department of Conservation (DOC) was required to capture and translocate lizards and this was currently being applied for. As well, permission from the Mauao Trust to use Mauao as a mobile release site for the lizards was required.
- Mauao had been chosen as the release site as it had the right habitat requirements, had an existing indigenous herpetofauna population and had an existing pest control programme.
- Consultation had already been undertaken with Te Paerangi, a multi iwi/hapu group who were the main contacts for the entire project, and they were supportive of the initiative.
- Support was now being sought from Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao for Mauao to be used as a release site.

In response to questions

- This project was within the context of Mauao being one of the last bastions of a natural habitat. Mauao as a wildlife sanctuary had been previously discussed and this initiative would take Mauao in this direction by default.
- Through the Lizard Management Plan process and the Wildlife Authority application, DOC may request that there was additional enhancement work undertaken at the release sites to help support the released lizards.
- It was not known how many lizards would be found.
- It was suggested that conversations with iwi/hapū groups on the Mauao side of the harbour needed to take place as they were not part of the Te Paerangi group. It was also suggested that this presentation be made to the Mauao Trust as well.
- The initiative also needed to align with TCC's Development Plan for Mauao.

Contacts for Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao, the Mauao Trust and TCC were provided to [s 7(2)(a) - Privacy] to progress conversations regarding the initiative.

The Chair thanked [s 7(2)(a) - Privacy] for their presentation.

4 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

4.1 Chairperson's verbal report

Chair

s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

Key Points

- The Te Manawataki o Mauao App, a soundtrack that represented the rhythm of Mauao, had been put together as part of the Tauranga Arts Festival. The App would be available to download from 21 October 2021.
- s 7(2)(a) - Privacy had released his short film titled Taiao which included photography from Mauao.
- s 7(2)(a) - Privacy has sought and received permission to film on Mauao and had also been granted permission to use the Mauao text font.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG3/21/2

Moved: s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

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

That Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao receives the Chairperson's report.

CARRIED

5 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

It was requested that a discussion be held regarding people straying off the tracks on Mauao and climbing up through the bush. It was agreed that discussion would take place under section 11 of the agenda – Discussion of Late Items.

6 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

Nil

7 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8.1 Minutes of the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao meeting held on 2 June 2021

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG3/21/3

Moved: s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

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

That the minutes of the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao meeting held on 2 June 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

9 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

10 BUSINESS

10.1 Operational Report

Staff

s 6 - Maintenance of law

s 6 - Maintenance

provided a brief overview of his report.

In response to questions

- The 5% rat abundance rate was calculated using six monitoring lines, each with 10 stations. The interaction with each station provided a percentage over that line and then an average could be calculated for over the whole maunga. Rats had an approximate 50 metre home range so stations were placed 50 metres apart.
- 5% rat abundance was already a good rate. If the rate fell below this, then the focus would shift to other mustelids.
- There was still an issue with cats that had increased over the last three months. Two cats in particular had been identified and they were deemed stray/feral, rather than domestic. It was undeniable that the cats did a lot of damage. New multi-target traps had been put out recently.
- Muehlenbeckia had been identified as an appropriate species and the best option for planting in the area above the slip site on Te Paeopara. Poplars had also been considered as stabilisers, but they were only useful for around seven years.
- Everything that could be done to ensure people were made aware of the dangers on Mauao was being done. There was signage all around the mountain especially in high rock fall areas. Sites were monitored every six months for movement and every rock fall was investigated. Mauao was an eroding volcano so there would always be a degree of risk. There appeared to be more complacency by daily users. The risk profile for those using Mauao multiple times per day increased.
- It was great to see the Maungatapu and Omanu school communities engaged with the Planting Day programme.
- It was expected that the track records would flatline for the recent COVID lockdown as they had in the previous lockdown.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG3/21/4

Moved:

Seconded:

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

That the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao receives the operational report for September.

CARRIED

10.2 Summary of Mauao Trust Wananga 28 July 2021

Staff

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

provided a brief overview of her report.

In response to questions

- It was requested that the correct name for the Papamoa hills, the Papamoa Regional Park, be used.
- Further discussion on resting Mauao needed to happen. The Mauao Trust was driving this, and it was suggested that they be approached regarding placing this on the agenda for discussion at their next meeting. An update of that discussion could then be presented to the December meeting of Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao.
- Communications and media coverage for resting Mauao needed to clearly explain what giving the maunga a rest meant from a historical cultural prospective and why it was important. It also needed to clearly outline what activities could happen while it was resting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG3/21/5

Moved: s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

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

That the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao receives the Summary of Mauao Trust Wananga 28 July 2021 report.

CARRIED**10.3 Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao Annual Information Report 2020/21****Staff**

s 6 - Maintenance of law

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

s 7(2)(f)(ii) and s 6 - Maintenance provided a brief overview of the Annual Information Report 2020/21.

In response to questions

- The signage in place to explain the restoration of Waipatukakahu was commended.
- It was suggested that the table on page 55 of the agenda, Funding decisions through the 2021-31 Long Term Plan, included information regarding some of the key implementation milestones for things happening on the ground. This would provide a clearer picture of what was going to happen next and set the scene for what was going to happen in the future.
- It was suggested that following the Annual Report being presented to Council and adopted, a branded public version of the report be made available for public distribution.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NG3/21/6

Moved: s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

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

That Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao:

- (a) Approves that the information included in this report will become the content of the Ngā Poutiriao o Mauao Annual Information Report 2020/21 2020/2021 for presentation to Council.
- (b) Authorises staff to make any amendments to the annual report as agreed at this meeting, prior to presentation to Council.
- (c) Requests staff to develop a branded public version of the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao Annual Information Report.

CARRIED**11 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS****11.1 People Straying from the Tracks on Mauao****Key Points**

- It had been noted that cross-fit training groups were moving off the tracks on Mauao and climbing up through the bush to the summit. This was happening mostly in the early morning, at lunchtime and after work.
- The route most commonly used was the steep goat track that historically was the original track to the summit. Usage of the track had been stopped because of the erosion that was happening on it.
- Concern was raised about the habitat being destroyed.
- There was a risk that this would occur more and more if not stopped.
- Placing a barrier at the popular route would only move the training groups to another spot.

- A multi-faceted approach was needed to mitigate the issue. Options included:
 - Directly approach the cross-fit training providers and running clubs
 - Use partnerships to get the message across to stay on the tracks e.g. the Sevens Rugby team frequently trained on Mauao
 - More signage
 - Use of fencing
 - Use of natural planting that was thicker and unable to get through
 - Use volunteers, friends of the maunga and members of the public as Mauao ambassadors to assist with the education.
- An identification type card for Mauao ambassadors was suggested, that could be shown when people were approached.

12 CLOSING KARAKIA

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

The meeting closed at 12.03pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao meeting held on 9 February 2022.

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CHAIRPERSON