Agenda for a meeting of the Meremere Community Committee to be held at the Meremere Hall, 21 Heather Green Avenue, Meremere on **THURSDAY, 8 JUNE 2023** commencing at **7.00pm**.

## 1. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA

## 3. PUBLIC FORUM

## 4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The register of interests is no longer included on agendas; however, members still have a duty to disclose any interests under this item.

## 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Meeting held on Thursday, 27 April 2023. 2

## 6. REPORTS

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6.3 Councillor's Report 13

## 7. GENERAL BUSINESS

GJ Ion
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Waikato District Council
Te Kaunihera aa Takiwaa o Waikato

**Open – Information only**

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|---|---|
| **To** | **Meremere Community Committee** |
| **Report title** | **Confirmation of Minutes** |
| Date: | 8 June 2023 |
| Report Author: | Rosa Leahy, Democracy Advisor |
| Authorised by: | Gaylene Kanawa, Democracy Manager |

## 1. Purpose of the report
## Te Take moo te puurongo

To confirm the minutes for the meeting of the Meremere Community Committee held on Thursday, 27 April 2023.

## 2. Staff recommendations
## Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

**THAT the minutes for a meeting of the Meremere Community Committee held on Thursday, 27 April 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

## 3. Attachments
## Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 – MMCC Minutes, Thursday, 27 April 2023

**MINUTES** for a meeting of the Meremere Community Committee held in the Meremere Community Hall, 21 Heather Green Avenue, Meremere on **THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 2023** commencing at **7.15pm.**

**Present:**

Mr Jim Katu,(Chairperson)
Ms Josephine Baker (Secretary)
Cr Marlene Raumati
Ms Kirsty Wellington (WDC staff member)
Ms Lauren Wismans (arrived 8.15pm, due to attending another local committee's AGM)
Mr Jacob Calvert

**KARAKIA TIMATANGA**
Offered by Josephine Baker

## APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr Ben Brown (Deputy Chairperson/Treasurer)
Ms Cecelia Heta
Cr Paaniora Matatahi-Poutapu

**Resolved: (Mr Calvert/Mr Katu)**

**THAT the apologies from Mr Brown, Ms Heta and Cr Matatahi-Poutapu be accepted.**

**CARRIED** **MMCC2704/01**

## CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

a) Matters Arising to be included in future Committee Meeting Agendas

A short discussion about including 'Matters Arising' as an agenda item in future Committee Meeting Agendas. Further, that the item should be including in item 6. Reports which would enable management of actions executed or still pending from previous Committee meetings.

J Baker would ask WDC Democracy Advisor, to include the item, Matters Arising, into future Committee Meeting Agendas.

**Resolved: (Ms Baker/Mr Calvert)**

**THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Meremere Community Committee held on Thursday 27 April 2023 be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting.**

**CARRIED** **MMCC2304/02**

## PUBLIC FORUM

There was a short discussion about the meaning of the item "PUBLIC FORUM" on the agenda. It was suggested that it was included to provide an opportunity for members of the public to raise their concerns and issues. Mr Katu suggested this opportunity was normally provided for in General Business and that this item high up on the agenda was not necessary.

K Wellington raised an issue regarding the legal status of the Committee to conduct this meeting due to only three designated Committee members being present. She had checked with the WDC Democracy team and was advised that the Committee needed four Committee members to proceed with the meeting.

There was discussion about whether Cr Raumati constituted Committee member status and could be counted as the fourth Committee member present. Cr Raumati understood she was attending the Committee meetings in a reporting/information dissemination-gathering capacity as part of WDC business and did not believe she had voting rights. Mr Katu disagreed, nd in believing previous Councillors had presented themselves at Committee meetings as a designated Committee member, with full voting rights.

It was agreed by all that Ms Wellington, as a WDC employee, was not a designated committee member and therefore was present in a support/information dissemination capacity.

Clarification would be sought from the WDC Democracy Advisor before at he next Committee meeting relating to the legal status of Cr Raumati on the Committee.

**ACTION:** Democracy Team to review the MMCC Charter & to add their current Charter to the next agenda.

It was decided that the meeting would proceed, but all decisions would be deferred until the next meeting, or if an urgent resolution was required, the Committee could re-convene prior to the next scheduled Committee meeting, (8 June 2023) to discuss and resolve the matter.

## DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved: (Ms Baker/Mr Calvert)**

**THAT the minutes of a meeting of Meremere Community Committee held on Thursday, 16 March 20232 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.**

**CARRIED** **MCC2304/03**

**REPORTS:**

**6.1 MEREMERE WORKS & ISSUES REPORT**

## a) Matters Arising

- Entrances into Meremere

  Mr Calvert reported on the outcome of his concern regarding the Meremere entrances from State Highway One. He had, since the last meeting, submitted a 'Service Request' to WDC on behalf of the Committee, asking that the gorse be cut back and maintained to keep it under control.

  He was advised by WDC staff that he would receive a formal report to his Service Request within five days, but that had not been forthcoming. However, WDC had indicated that the issue was low priority for them, and that it was not easy to remove and manage the gorse's re-growth.

  Mr Calvert believes WDC has a legal obligation to ensure the maintenance of gorse, in the region, due to its hazardous nature, and he intended to wait until he had received the Service Request report, from WDC, at which, he would report back to the Committee so that a 'next step' could be discussed.

  Mr Katu suggested that the Meremere Community can 'do something about the gorse' if they wanted a more beautiful environment.

**ACTION:** Staff to provide an update on the gorse issue in Meremere as outlined above.

- Walkway by the Waikato River

  Ms Baker reported that she had also put in a Service Request application to WDC, as advised at the last meeting by Cr Raumati and WDC staff.

  In response, WDC staff had advised her that it was not a WDC responsibility and had included Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, in their reply email, who also said it was not their responsibility either and advised Ms Baker to take it up with Te Araroa Trails as it was their responsibility. Feeling disillusioned, Ms Baker gave up the fight.

- Meremere Community Gardens Lawn

  As Ms Heta was not present at the meeting, this matter was not reported on.

Ms Wellington reported on the following:

- Street Lighting and footpaths in Naho Place

  As a follow up to the Committee's 16 March 2023 meeting, WDC had received a report from one of it's partner contractors, Alliance, who had conducted an investigation into the issue, for WDC. It was reported, when the houses were removed in Naho Place, many years ago, the power was disconnected in the street and WDC ceased to maintain the street lighting and footpaths. The issue has now been assigned to the next WDC Long Term Plan (LTP).

- Toilets on Lower Sports Field

  As a follow up to the Committee's 16th March, 2023 meeting, it was reported this matter is not in the WDC's LTP for this year. However it will be included in the 2024 LTP. In response to a query by Mr Calvert, Ms Wellington advised the next LTP public consultation will be in June 2024.

## 6.2 Discretionary Fund Report

As discussed at the 16 March 2023 Committee meeting, funds that had been allocated in the Discretionary Fund, but not yet expended was raised again. These items included:

$1500.00 (laptop for Committee business)

$50.00 (Ms Wismen (Horsfall) to purchase a baby gift for Melysa Tapiata)

$330.00 (purchase of chemical for local footpaths)

Cr Raumati advised she had followed up with WDC staff regarding whereabouts of quotes and determined the quotes were with Council staff. However the status of committed Discretionary Funds items, had not been clarified as of the meeting and she would follow this up again before the next meeting.

She asked what the Committee's decision was regarding the funds and the three options outlined at the 16 March 2023 meeting.

Mr Katu moved the laptop funds of $1500.00 be returned to the Discretionary Fund for re-allocation, as Ms Baker had no need for a new laptop, whilst decisions on the other two items be deferred until the next Committee meeting.

**Resolved: (Mr Katu/Mr Calvert)**

**THAT the $1,500 commitment towards laptop funds be returned to the Meremere Community Committee's Discretionary Fund Pool.**

**CARRIED** **MCC2304/04**

Mr Katu advised the Committee's Discretionary Fund was in quite a healthy state with a current nett balance of $16,142.22.

Another reminder from WDC staff and Councillor Raumati about what the Discretionary Funds may be spent on, and that the priority for any expenditure was tamariki, rangatahi and community interests which benefitted the Meremere Community at large.

A discussion about the correlation between the Meremere Development Committee and the Meremere Community Committee ensued. Mr Katu explained the different roles of each Committee and the reason why the two Committees were created as separate entities. That is, to protect the integrity of the decisions and work of each Committee.

## 6.3 Councillor's Report

The report was received and Cr Raumati provided details on the following matters:

- She had attended the recent Meremere Hall working bee and also mucked in. She had been impressed with the Meremere Community's effort.

- 74 submissions had been received for the new traffic bylaw and many of these are under review by the relevant WDC committee.

- WDC to continue to allow horses to be ridden in public places, as long as they were being ridden on the berms and not on footpaths.

- WDC will continue to allow skateboards and roller-skates to be ridden in the shopping areas of the WDC region. However, if the rider hurts anyone as a result of their jaunt, they would be held responsible. The WDC's premise was that children use skateboards and rollerblades as a mode of transport and should not be disadvantaged from doing this.

- Police have been given more power to deal with anti-social driving. For example, in Hamilton recently, the Police had impounded a number of cars – so some progress has been made in this area. Additionally, the Police could now stop and question people seen to be simply driving around with no specific destination or purpose to their late night excursions. This is designed to alleviate late night crime.

- Cr Raumati attended both the Te Kauwhata and Waerenga ANZAC commemorations, which she very much enjoyed.

- The proposed District Plan is still under consideration, with the Committee still receiving a number of appeals. Some wards are looking to change their zoning. For example, Tuakau is looking at changing some of it's commercial zoning to housing, or from rural to life-style zoning. Cr Raumati explained the difference between rural and life-style zoning in response to a question from Mr Katu.

- Two solar farms are planned for the Waikato region, in Waerenga and Rangiriri, with Cr Raumati providing some details to these plans for the Committee. The farms were being 'fast tracked' and there was some concerns raised about 'fast tracking' projects as it impacted the consenting process.

- The Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment project is progressing and close to being compliant, albeit a very expensive process, it will be worth it for the community of Te Kauwhata. WDC plan to have the Wastewater Treatment plant operational by December 2023, but hopeful that it will be more like October 2023.

- In conjunction with City Care, 2,000 daffodils have been allocated to Meremere and will be ready for planting in May 2023. The Meremere community will need to be involved and Cr Raumati tasked the Committee with helping with the co-ordination of the project, which will be managed by Antoinette from City Care. The project involved the re-planting of 2,000 daffodils around Meremere, with a focus on the bottom sports field.

  Action to be completed prior to project rollout included:

  - Secure volunteers (minimum of six people)
  - Complete a Volunteer Form
  - Complete Health and Safety requirements, including training for volunteers
  - Co-ordinate with Antoinette from City Care

## General Business

Injury at Hakanoa Lake by fishing hooks left in public area

Ms Baker relayed an incident at the Huntly Hakanoa Lake whilst on a walk with her small dog on Sunday 23 April, 2023. Her young dog had, inadvertently, got tangled in fishing line with hooks and lure, which had been left lying on the ground adjacent to the small jetty the public use for fishing.

Her dog was quite badly injured and needed expensive vet attention, including surgery to remove three embedded fishhooks. Ms Baker wanted to raise the issue, to protect the public, including other animals, but especially young children from a similar fate.

Cr Raumati offered to raise the matter with relevant Council personnel but also advised that any matters outside of our own ward, could be taken up directly with the appropriate Councillor of that ward.

**ACTION:** MMCC members to raise the above issue with the relevant Councillor or Council staff member.

Support for Meremere Primary School

Mr Katu reported that he had been recently elected onto the Board of the Meremere Primary School. The new committee's focus was to bring the school back on to the community radar and build the broken relationship between parents, who currently send their children out of the village to other schools, and school personnel, including the current principle. The school had only 12 students enrolled and receive very little funding, from the Ministry of Education, for operational and extra curriculum activities, as a result.

Cr Raumati advised her keen desire to be involved in any activities either at the school or in the community, involving the school.

Mr Katu asked the Committee if they felt it appropriate to support the school by providing some funding for the upgrade of the school's gardens, which were used as a community garden, where anyone in the community could help themselves to the yield. The gardens were also used as an educational tool for the school children.

All committee members expressed their support for the school garden project, with Mr Calvert making a particular point that he wished to support only if the school could not get funding from another source.

Ms Baker was fully in favour of the Committee supporting the school community garden project, as she felt it would be difficult for the school to attract funding from another source to help with this project, due to its Education Ministry status. Ms Wisman agreed, as she said the Puna had applied to several funding sources but with little success.

A discussion around a Matariki celebration, at the school, would be explored further, due to the Maori planting calendar involving Matariki. Mr Katu would speak to Ben Brown and Laurne Wismen from the Meremere Development Committee to discuss the Matariki celebration project.

**ACTION:** MMCC Chair to follow up on Matariki celebration project tasks.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at approximately 8.32pm.

Minutes approved and confirmed this 2023.

**Mr J Katu**
**CHAIRPERSON**

Waikato District Council
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| **To** | **Meremere Community Committee** |
| **Report title** | **Meremere Works & Issues Report – June 2023** |
| Date: | 8 June 2023 |
| Report Author: | Karen Bredesen, EA to the General Manager Service Delivery |
| Authorised by: | Kirsty Wellington, Enterprise Project Management Office Manager |

## 1. Purpose of the report
## Te Take moo te puurongo

To update the Committee and provide information on works and issues raised at previous meetings.

## 2. Staff recommendations
## Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

**THAT the Meremere Works & Issues Report be received.**

## 3. Attachments
## Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 – Works and Issues Report – June 2023

**Works and Issues Report**

| | Issue | Area | Action |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Entrances into Meremere<br>Gorse removal. | Roading | The Waikato District Council Representative, Kirsty Wellington, will provide an update at the 8 June 2023 meeting. |

Waikato District Council
Te Kaunihera aa Takiwaa o Waikato

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| **To** | **Meremere Community Committee** |
| **Report title** | **Discretionary Fund Report to 23 May 2023** |
| Date: | 08 June 2023 |
| Report Author: | J Schimanski Support Accountant |
| Authorised by: | Alison Diaz, Chief Financial Officer |

## 1. Purpose of the report
## Te Take moo te puurongo

The purpose of this report is to update the Meremere Community Committee on the Discretionary fund spend to date, commitments and balance as at 23 May 2023

## 2. Staff recommendations
## Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

**That the Meremere Community Committee receives the Discretionary Fund Report to 23 May 2023 and notes, no minutes have been received for meetings held 28 April 2022, 17 March 2022, 3 February 2022 and 9 December 2021.**

## 3. Attachments
## Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 – Discretionary Fund report to 23 May 2023

**MEREMERE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE DISCRETIONARY FUND REPORT 2022/23 (July 2022 - June 2023)** **MMCC**

**As at Date: 23-May-2023**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **GL** | **1.209.1704** | |
| **2022/23 Annual Plan (including Salaries)** | | | | 1,550.00 |
| **Carry forward from 2021/22** | | | | 16,227.00 |
| | **Total Funding** | | | **17,777.00** |
| **Income** | | | | |
| **Total Income** | | | | - |
| **Expenditure** | | | | *excl GST* |
| **Total Expenditure** | | | | - |
| **Net Funding Remaining (Excluding commitments)** | | | | **17,777.00** |
| **Commitments** | | | | *excl GST* |
| 24-Jun-21 | Payment approved to Ms Lauren Horsfall for the amount of $50 (excl GST) for the purchase of a baby gift for Melysa Tapiata. | MMCC2106/04 | | 43.48 |
| 09-Jun-22 | Commitment of $330 including GST for the purchase of chemicals for local footpath/s | MMCC2206/04 | | 286.96 |
| 29-Oct-20 | Meremere Community Committee commits the sum of $1,500.00 (including GST) for the purchase of a laptop for the Committee. | MMCC2010/06 | | 1,304.35 |
| 27-Apr-23 | Commitment of $1,500.00 towards laptop funds are returned to the Meremere Community Committee's Discretionary Fund Pool | MMCC2304/04 | | (1,304.35) |
| **Total Commitments** | | | | **330.43** |
| **Net Funding Remaining (Including commitments)** | | | | **17,446.57** |

Waikato District Council
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| **To** | **Meremere Community Committee** |
| **Report title** | **Councillor's Report** |
| Date: | Thursday, 8 June 2023 |
| Report Author: | Cr Marlene Raumati Waerenga-Whitikahu Ward |

## 1. Purpose of the Report
## Te Take moo te Puurongo

To provide an update on the activities of Councillor Raumati since the Meremere Community Committee 27 April 2023 meeting.

## 2. Executive Summary
## Whakaraapopototanga Matua

**Cemeteries Bylaw 2023**

The Cemeteries Bylaw 2016 was reviewed in 2022. The main proposed and subsequently included changes have been, natural burials, dogs on leads in Council owned cemeteries, and the removal of clause 19.3 that disallowed family members and loved ones to backfill graves.

The Policy and Regulatory Committee have recommended to Council, in today's Council meeting, to revoke the Cemeteries Bylaw 2016, and to adopt the Cemeteries Bylaw 2023, which makes provision for the changes.

**Trade Waste and Wastewater Bylaw 2023**

Deliberations have also been had with regard to the Trade Waste and Wastewater Bylaw 2023. Of particular significance was the issue of mortuary waste. Given, however, the sensitivities with regards to mortuary waste, it was decided that the definition of and clauses, particular to mortuary waste would come into force on a date decided by Council resolution.

**Rates Rebate Scheme**

Council's Rates Rebate Scheme aims to benefit homeowners on low incomes. The maximum rebate for the 2022 – 2023 rating year is $700. Applications close 30 June 2023. Eligibility can be determined by calling the Rates team on 0800 – 492 452.

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**FENZ – Fire and Emergency New Zealand**

The Te Kauwhata Voluntary Fire Brigade is working collaboratively with the Pookeno Voluntary Fire Brigade to install free fire alarms into 22 Meremere homes. This is a work in progress being facilitated by the Te Kauwhata Station. Updates will follow shortly.

**Daffidol Planting**

City Care's, Horticulture and Community Project Co-ordinator made contact earlier in the season with regards to the annual daffidol bulb planting project. This project is being overseen by Theresa Lang, Events Officer, WDC.

## Council Meetings

| | |
|---|---|
| Performance and Strategy | 08 May |
| Sustainability and Wellbeing | 17 May |
| Infrastructure | 24 May |
| Policy and Regulatory | 29 May |
| Council | 07 June |

## Hearings and Deliberations

| | |
|---|---|
| Trade Waste and Wastewater Bylaw 2023 Deliberations | 01 May |
| Cemeteries Bylaw 2023 Hearing | 01 May |

## Workshops and Other Meetings

| | |
|---|---|
| LTP Building Blocks Workshop | 15 May |
| Zero Harm Induction | 17 May |
| PEX (Public Excluded) Workshops x 2 | 23 May |
| PEX Workshop | 29 May |
| Financial and Funding Workshop | 30 May |
| Adaptive Management Planning (Port Waikato & Raglan) | 30 May |
| Freedom Camping Bylaw Workshop | 07 June |

Waikato District Council
Te Kaunihera aa Takiwaa o Waikato

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**Community and Constituency Engagements**

| | |
|---|---|
| Spring Hill Rd Constituent | 04 May |
| Rangiriri Constituent | 13 May |
| Orini Constituent | 13 May |
| Te Kauwhata Business Constituent | 18 May |
| Federated Farmers | 19 May |
| Te Kauwhata Civil Defence | 22 May |
| Te Hoe Constituent | 25 May |
| TKCC Sales Yard Rd – Visit | 28 May |

## 3. Staff recommendations
## Tuutohu-aa-Kaimahi

**THAT the Councillor Report from Cr Raumati for the May - June 2023 period be received.**

## 4. Attachments
## Ngaa Taapirihanga

Nil