

Report 02.686
31 October 2002
File: X/16/5/9

Minutes of the Ara Tahī meeting held in the Wellington Regional Council Chamber, the Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington, on Wednesday 16 October 2002, at 10.00am

Present

<i>Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Maori Executive Taiwhenua</i>	Charles Morunga, Tom Paku
<i>Rangitaane o Wairarapa</i>	Alma Mihaere, Dane Rimene
<i>Te Ati Awa ki Whakarongotai</i>	Jack Rikihana, Miki Rikihana
<i>Wellington Tenth's Trust</i>	Neville Gilmore
<i>Wellington Regional Council</i>	Crs Margaret Shields, Ian Buchanan

Officers Present

John Allard, Jane Bradbury, Jason Kerehi, Howard Markland, Amy Norrish, Victoria Owen, Nicola Shorten and Keriana Wilcox.

Also Present

Crs Aitken, Evans, Long, McDavitt, Turver and Yardley.

Procedural Items

1. Welcome/Karakia

Miki Rikihana offered the karakia.

Tom Paku apologised for his absence at the last meeting of Ara Tahi on 14 August and thanked Jack Rikihana for chairing the meeting in his place. He thanked all Councillors who participated in the Wairarapa Walkover and expressed his gratitude to all those who provided information and took the time to talk to everyone.

Tom Paku congratulated Nicola Shorten in her new role as Manager of Resource Policy and said she would do an excellent job. Nicola Shorten introduced herself to the members of Ara Tahi.

2. Apologies

Tom Paku advised that Teri Puketapu and Ihaia Puketapu were absent as Teri Puketapu's son had been the unfortunate victim of a shooting in Australia. He asked that all those present at the meeting think of them at this sad and difficult time.

Resolved

(Margaret Shields/Ian Buchanan)

That apologies from Pita Flynn, Liz Mellish, Mark Te One, Teri Puketapu, Ihaia Puketapu, Rupene Waaka and Te Waari Carkeek be accepted.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved

(Jack Rikihana/Alma Mihaere)

That the minutes of the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 12 August 2002 be confirmed.

4. Matters Arising

At the request of Tom Paku, Jack Rikihana elaborated on the item about eel fisheries, under General Business in the minutes of the last Ara Tahi meeting on 14 August.

Matters for Consideration

5. Incident Response Report

Howard Markland introduced himself to members of Ara Tahi. He started working at the Council as the Pollution Control Co-ordinator 6 weeks ago.

He presented the report, which summarises the incident responses undertaken by Council staff over the last two months, and noted that personnel have been managing a high workload while maintaining very good response times. He also corrected the figure under item 3 of the report, which should read 167 incidents.

5.1 New initiatives for the pollution control team

Howard Markland discussed some of the new initiatives for the pollution control team, including:

- developing protocols for assessing the level of significance of incidents; and

- moving towards taking a more pro-active role in the future.

Pro-active initiatives involve developing an auditing programme for organisations and working with them to reduce environmental damage. Tom Paku applauded these pro-active educational initiatives.

5.2 *Odour complaints and offences*

Alma Mihaere asked what action the Council takes to stop odour offences recurring, which must cost the Council a significant amount of money. Howard Markland advised that it is difficult to quantify odour and, consequently, it can be difficult to enforce. He also noted that, despite a reduction in odour, complaints are increasing. People are becoming less tolerant and have higher expectations than in the past.

5.3 *Incident responses report to Ara Tahi*

Tom Paku proposed that incident responses be reported to Ara Tahi only once or twice a year, instead of every two months. Small matters are often discussed at length, taking up a disproportionate amount of meeting time. Members of Ara Tahi agreed that an annual incident report would be adequate.

Members of Ara Tahi also requested that a copy of the weekly incident report be distributed to all members weekly. It was discussed that individual members could discuss any matters that arise with Howard Markland in the first instance and, where appropriate, specific issues could be raised at the following Ara Tahi meeting.

5.4 *Ara Tahi involvement with pollution control*

Jack Rikihana offered the Pollution Control team physical support from members of Ara Tahi based on the Kapiti Coast.

Howard Markland commented that it would be helpful if Ara Tahi continue to notify the Pollution Control team of any pollution problems they are aware of. He also suggested that Ara Tahi advise how they would like to participate in projects of importance and get involved in pro-active pollution control initiatives by identifying themes for investigation.

Margaret Shields suggested that members of Ara Tahi may also want to be involved in visits to the “Friends” groups that have been set up to protect particular areas of the environment.

Report 02.608

File: ENV/17/2/1

Resolved

(Jack Rikihana/Miki Rikihana)

- 1) *That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- 2) *That Incident Response reports are circulated to all members of Ara Tahi weekly but only reported to Ara Tahi meetings annually.*

6. Update on the Preparation of the Council's Next Ten Year Plan

John Allard presented this report and asked members of Ara Tahi to confirm whether or not they wish to be involved in the development of the Council's Ten Year Plan and how they would like to participate.

Members of Ara Tahi agreed that it would be good to be involved in the planning process and commented that there are Iwi issues that could be addressed in the plan.

Margaret Shields suggested members of Ara Tahi might be interested in attending the meeting on 15 November, which provides an update on what is happening with Transmission Gully.

Report 02.629

File: CP/4/3/1

Resolved

(Ian Buchanan/Jack Rikihana)

That Ara Tahi would like to be involved in the development of the Ten Year Plan in the most appropriate manner.

7. Progress Report from Maori Policy Advisors, Wellington and Wairarapa

Keriana Wilcox introduced this report.

Jason Kerehi noted the positive feedback he has received from Hapu and Iwi representatives on the Councillor Walkover. Ian Buchanan commented that he also thought it had been successful and provided a pathway to building relationships.

Keriana Wilcox advised that many members of Ara Tahi attended the recent technical workshop on emergency management. The workshop stressed the importance of being prepared for emergencies. Members will take this key message back to their respective Iwi.

Oral updates on the following projects were received:

7.1 *Inventory of Maori heritage sites and values – Wellington Tenth's Trust*

Neville Gilmore advised that Wellington Tenth's Trust continue to work with GIS experts from Massey University. This part of the project is likely to be completed by Christmas 2002.

7.2 *Hamua sites of significance – Rangitaane O Wairarapa*

Jason Kerehi advised that 120 sites have now been authenticated.

7.3 *Homewood Wetland – Ngati Kahungunu*

The fencing around the wetland has been completed and the earthmoving equipment will soon be arriving to start on the next stage of the project. This includes filling a drain and removing willow trees.

7.4 *Okautete Marae – Ngati Kahungunu*

Owen Perry has requested additional funding to add mulch and edging to the plantings at the Marae. All other aspects of the planting project have been completed.

7.5 *Wetland planting*

Keriana Wilcox informed Ara Tahī of a recent planting day at Pa Harakeke in Moores Valley, Wainuiomata. This initiative is being run through the Council's Environment Education section and involves local Iwi, Pukeatua School, council staff and members of the public. Now that the wetland planting is finished, the wetland has been reopened to the public.

Report 02.614

File: X/16/1/1

Resolved

(Tom Paku/Margaret Shields)

That Ara Tahī receive the report and note its contents.

8. Administrative Capacity Funding

Keriana Wilcox presented this report, which summarises the administrative funds available to members of Ara Tahī, what the funds can be used for and the feedback received from Iwi and Council staff. Overall, Iwi have found the Putea fund very useful and have made a number of positive comments.

However, some concerns have been expressed by both Iwi and Council officers in relation to reporting, communication, clarity of management responsibilities for contracts and consistency of contracts. In response, a series of action points have been suggested in the report to mitigate these issues. The five action points include 6-monthly written reports to Ara Tahī, a standard template for reports and a record of the number of hui with Council staff to monitor the need for further funding. Jack Rikihana commented that these action points provide a pathway for the future while allowing members to express their needs.

Jack Rikihana noted that resource consent contracts are a much bigger job now, with at least a dozen required each week, and this requires reassessment of the Putea. Tom Paku advised he had similar issues and had discussed these with Jason Kerehi and Steve Blakemore to address the shortfalls for resource consents.

Alma Mihaere commented that staff have been slow to notify Iwi of what was happening with new contracts for Putea. Keriana Wilcox advised she will follow up with each Iwi to renew their contracts immediately.

Report 02.613

File: X/16/1/1

Resolved

(Neville Gilmore/Miki Rikihana)

That Ara Tahi

- 1) *notes and approves the action points in section 4 of this report.*
- 2) *recommends that the Administrative Capacity Funding be continued for the 2002/03 financial year.*

9. The Principle of Kotahitanga

Te Akapikirangi Arthur was not present at the meeting so it was decided to defer this item to the next meeting of Ara Tahi.

10. General Business

Victoria Owen asked members of Ara Tahi to start thinking of how they can have input into the Parks and Reserves Plans e.g. change historical information.

The meeting concluded at 11:40am. The date of the next meeting is 27 November 2002.

Tom Paku
Chairperson

Date: