Minutes Living Together Committee – 19 June 2025

WHAKATĀNE District Council Kia Whakatāne au i ahau	Details of Meeting:	LIVING TOGETHER COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE TŌTARA MEETING ROOM, WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL, 14 COMMERCE STREET, WHAKATANE ON THURSDAY, 19 JUNE 2025 COMMENCING AT 9:00 AM
	Present:	His Worship the Mayor Dr V Luca, Deputy Mayor L Immink, Councillors W James (Chairperson), G Dennis, A Iles, J Jukes, J Pullar, T O'Brien and N Rangiaho Via Teams: Councillors N Tánczos and T Boynton
	In Attendance:	S Perdia (Chief Executive), D Bewley (GM Planning, Regulatory and Infrastructure), A Pickles (GM Community Experience), B Gray (GM Finance and Commercial Services), E Hatch (GM People and Partnerships), H Patrick (Kaihautu – Strategic Māori Partnerships), A Reynolds (Manager Transportation), I Molony (Manager Open Spaces Operations), K Hogg (Project Manager Open Spaces), P Check (Manager Properties and Facilities Assets), D Cowdery (Acting Te Pou Herenga Rangapu- Strategic Relationships Manager), and A Dass (Governance Support Advisor)
	Visitors:	S McKay, P Flowerday and N Dobson (Matatā Collective), B Dakin and C Watkinson (Piripai-Coastlands Residents Association) and K Stasiewicz (Consultant) Via Teams: K Doughty (Orange Sky Aotearoa)
	Apologies:	

The meeting was opened with a Karakia by Councillor Rangiaho at 9:00 am.

1 MEETING NOTICES

Meeting participants were advised that the meeting was being live streamed, and Health and Safety points were relayed to all attendees.

2 APOLOGIES

The Chair noted that Councillor O'Brien would be late attending the meeting.

3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / TRIBUTES

The Māori Women's Welfare League was congratulated for successfully hosting an event at Te Waimana Kaaku; at which young people were given the opportunity to practice public speaking.

Te Kura Whare was a honourable mention within the Royal Architecture Institute of Canada (RAIC) International Prize Award.

Whakatāne secondary schools kapa haka Roopu were acknowledged for their participation in the Mataatua Regionals 2025 held in Tauranga.

4 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

5.1 Matatā Collective

The Matatā Collective presented their community plan, emphasising history and culture, environment, people and community, and local economy. The presentation outlined projects including a community survey, and future aspirations with goals to capture local history, create welcoming village entrances, support community planting and clean-up projects, restore the lagoon, improve local services, resolve wastewater issues, and enhance road safety whilst creating opportunities for community events.

Attendance:

S McKay, P Flowerday and N Dobson left the meeting at 9:27 am.

The Chief Executive left the meeting at 9:24 am and re-entered the meeting at 9:32 am.

5.2 Piripai-Coastlands Resident Association

The Piripai-Coastlands Resident Association presented their concerns about the deteriorating condition of the Keepa Road footpath and cycleway, stressing the need for safe infrastructure. They highlighted the impact on residents' safety and well-being, particularly given the lack of public transport and the necessity for a secure cycling path. A community survey had identified the Keepa Road footpath as the primary concern for the area.

Attendance:

Councillor O'Brien entered the meeting at 9:38am.

B Dakin and C Watkinson left the meeting at 9:50 am.

5.3 Orange Sky Aotearoa

Ms Doughty from Orange Sky presented on their mobile laundry service for people facing hardship. She spoke of their partnership with Waiariki Whānau Mentoring, support received from Council and highlighted the significant impact of delivering thousands of loads of laundry whilst providing dignity and connection for support services. Plans for expanding the service to Whakatane were outlined, including an initial eight-month trial period to measure efficacy.

Attendance: Ms Doughty left the meeting at 10:09 am.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Refer to page 67 of the agenda.

Moved Councillor Pullar / Seconded Councillor Jukes

RESOLVED:

THAT the Public and Public Excluded minutes of the Living Together Committee meeting held on 6 March be **confirmed** as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6.1 Minutes of Committees, Community Boards and Youth Council

Refer to page 67-76 of the agenda.

Moved Councillor Iles / Seconded Councillor O'Brien

RESOLVED:

THAT the following minutes be **received** by the Living Together Committee:

- Tāneatua Community Board 7 April 2025
- Rangitāiki Community Board 9 April 2025
- Murupara Community Board 12 May 2025
- Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board 12 May 2025
- Community Funding Committee 20 May 2025
- Youth Council Minutes:
 - 24 February 2025
 - 11 March 2025
 - 31 March 2025

CARRIED

7 REPORTS

7.1 Rex Morpeth Recreational Hub – Phase 1 update report

Refer to pages 77-86 of the agenda.

The Project Manager Open Spaces, and the project team, provided an update on the Rex Morpeth Recreational Hub project. This included the establishment of a project steering group, prioritisation of health and safety improvements, and the need for a master plan and a funding plan to ensure the project's success. Discussion ensued and Members raised concerns about the timing and cost of the project, the need for a clear funding plan and suggested involvement of the Community Boards.

Moved Councillor Rangiaho / Seconded Councillor Dennis

RESOLVED:

THAT the Rex Morpeth Recreational Hub - Phase 1 Update report be received.

CARRIED

Moved Councillor Dennis / Seconded Councillor Tánczos

Debate ensued on the parameters for the future investment into the Rex Morpeth Recreational Hub.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Living Together Committee **notes** the established project governance structure, including the membership of the Project Steering Group for the Rex Morpeth Recreational Hub.

CARRIED

The motion was carried 8 votes to 3.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:41 am and reconvened at 10:56 am.

7.2 Te Toi Waka Whakarei, WDC Māori Relationship Strategy – Year 3 mid-year report

Refer pages 87-101 of the agenda.

Kaihautu – Strategic Māori Partnerships presented the report and highlighted the progress made with iwi and hapū relationships, internal cultural development, and future goals. He emphasised the need for ongoing engagement and a strategy review.

Attendance: Councillor Boynton joined the meeting at 10:59 am.

Moved Councillor Rangiaho / Seconded Councillor O'Brien

RESOLVED:

THAT the Te Toi Waka Whakarei, WDC Māori Relationship Strategy Year Three mid-year report be received.

CARRIED

The meeting closed with a Karakia given by Councillor Rangiaho at 11:30 am.

Confirmed at the meeting dated:		
CHAIDDEDSON		
CHAIRPERSON		