


Minutes – Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board 18 August 2025

	Details of Meeting:	WHAKATĀNE-OHOPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOMS, 14 COMMERCE STREET, WHAKATĀNE ON MONDAY, 18 AUGUST 2025 COMMENCING AT 5:30 PM
	Present:	Member Hamill and L Bonne, C Howard, D McLean, M Inman, O Iseri (Jahn) and Councillor Boynton
	In Attendance:	A Pickles (General Manager Community Experience), V Fergusson (Manager Strategic Property) and A Dass (Governance Support Advisor)
	Visitors:	His worship the Mayor V Luca, Deputy Mayor Immink, Jonathan Barnes (Ōhope Beach Football Club), David Poole (Art Tribute), V Xavier and G Vargeese (Whakatāne Kerala Community), E Nolan (Whakatāne High School – Space Camp), K Peat, O Peat, L Jensen (Whakatāne High School – Hillary Challenge Final), S Bremner (Whakatāne Rotary Club), T Bryant and H Rapana (Above the Net Inc), A Volmuller and W Kleinschmidt (Whakatāne Tennis Club)
	Apologies:	

1 KARAKIA

The meeting was opened with a Karakia by the Chairperson at 5:32 pm.

2 APOLOGIES

None advised.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS/TRIBUTES

The Chair acknowledged A Dass on gaining his recent New Zealand citizenship.

4 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The following conflicts of interest were declared:

- Member Bonne for both Whakatāne High School applications
- Chairperson Hamill for the Whakatāne Tennis Club application
- Member Inman for the Whakaari Hayden Marshall-Inman Memorial Golf Tournament application

5 PUBLIC FORUM

5.1 Ōhope Beach Football Club – Jonathan Barnes

Mr Barnes outlined the club's intention to form a women's team, emphasising the need for parental involvement and lighting at Bluett Park to enable evening play. The club sought guidance and advised that as the project progressed they may request a letter of support from the Board. They are currently working with Council staff and may have potential funding from Trust Horizon for lighting. Initial estimated costs ranged from \$117,000 to \$190,000.

5.2 Art Tribute - David Poole

Mr Poole presented a proposal for a collaborative art project for a large stylistic kiwi sculpture. Funding avenues and Council involvement were outlined. The project is still in the discussion phase, as Council are yet to appoint a staff member for the role overseeing public art, which was proposed in the Arts Strategy but put on hold for cost reasons. The Board discussed the possibility of providing seed funding and advocacy for the project in the future, with further discussion to be held by Council and staff. General Manager Community Experience advised the Board that any public art installations were contingent on developing a Public Arts Policy, which required an Arts, Culture and Creativity Navigator position.

5.3 Whakatāne Kerala Community - Vinoop Xavier and George Vargeese

Mr Xavier and Mr Vargeese reported on the establishment of a core committee and thanked the Board for previous funding. The group promoted cultural and wellness activities and sought funding for a speaker and operational expenses for upcoming events such as the Onam Celebration. The representatives confirmed that activities would proceed regardless of full funding.

5.4 Whakatāne High School (Space Camp) - Erin Nolan

Ms Nolan sought funding assistance to send 11 students from two both Whakatāne High School and Trident High School to Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, from 18–29 September 2025. The total project cost was \$110,400, with \$75,262 secured through fundraising and family contributions.

Attendance:

E Nolan left the meeting at 6:17 pm. V Xavier and G Vargeese left the meeting at 6:19 pm.

5.5 Whakatāne High School (Hillary Challenge Final) - Kim Peat, Ollie Peat and Lucas Jensen

K Peat, O Peat, and L Jensen described the five-day event, team qualification, and the range of activities, including kayak races and orienteering. The group highlighted the benefits of team building and personal development through completing the Hillary Challenge.

5.6 Whakatāne Rotary Club - Shelly Bremner

Ms Bremner discussed the transport plan for the Christmas Parade, noting the absence of sponsorship and the need for a Traffic Management Plan for approximately 300 participants. Ms Bremner discussed the marked increase in costs from the business undertaking the traffic management compared to previous years. The Board considered in-kind support and the impact of route changes on cost, and whether some costs could be waived.

Attendance: S Bremner left the meeting at 6:29 pm.

5.7 Above the Net Inc - Talei Bryant and Harlan Rapana

T Bryant and H Rapana advocated for youth participation in volleyball, seeking funding for the Kiwi Cup. The Kiwi Cup was described as an inclusive tournament where all clubs could participate regardless of ranking. The club's coaching experience was highlighted as a way to give back to the community.

Attendance: T Bryant and H Rapana left the meeting at 6:34 pm.

5.8 Whakatāne Tennis Club – Anne Volmuller and Wian Kleinschmidt

A Volmuller and W Kleinschmidt requested funding for a ball machine to support training and development, particularly for junior members. The club also promoted pickleball and emphasised engagement across all age groups.

Attendance:

K Peat, O Peat, and L Jensen left the meeting at 6:42 pm. A Volmuller and W Kleinschmidt left the meeting at 6:43 pm. J Barnes left the meeting at 6:44 pm.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Refers to page 8–12 of the agenda.

Moved Member Howard / Seconded Member Bonne

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board meeting held on Monday, 23 June 2025 be **confirmed** as true and correct record.

CARRIED

7 Reports

7.1 Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board – Activity Report August 2025

Refers to pages 13-36 of the agenda.

The Manager Strategic Property presented the report. Discussion focused on the Tois Walkway, with consideration given to risk and financial assessment prior to proceeding. The Board and Whakatāne High School students acknowledged the Goulstone Rd crossing and surface improvements.

Attendance: Member Jahn left the meeting at 7:03pm and re-entered at 7:06 pm.

Moved Chairperson Hamill / Seconded Member Howard

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board - Activity Report August 2025 be **received**.

CARRIED

7.2 Governance Administration – August 2025

Refer to pages 37-126 of the agenda.

Moved Member Jahn / Seconded Councillor Boynton

RESOLVED:

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Page 3 of 7

1. THAT the Governance Administration report June 2025 be **received**; and
2. THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$3,000.00 from the discretionary funds to the Whakatāne Kerala Community Inc for the purchase of a Bluetooth speaker and the Onam event.

CARRIED

Feedback was requested to ensure the Board logo was featured on the Bluetooth speaker.

Member Bonne declared a conflict of interest for the next two applications, did not participate in the discussion, and temporarily left the table.

Moved Member Howard / Seconded Member Inman

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$2,000.00 from the discretionary funds to Whakatāne High School to assist with in costs associated with the Space Camp Trip 2025.

CARRIED

Moved Chairperson Hamill / Seconded Member Inman

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$2,000.00 from the discretionary funds to Whakatāne High School to assist with costs associated with the Hillary Challenge Final 2025.

CARRIED

Member Bonne returned to the table.

Moved Member Inman / Seconded Member Bonne

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$5,000.00 from discretionary funds to the Whakatāne Rotary Club to assist with costs associated with the Christmas Parade 2025, subject to road closure options being explored by the roading department.

CARRIED

Moved Member Inman / Seconded Councillor Boynton

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **delegate authority** to the Chair and Deputy Chair to **allocate** up to \$9,021.80 from the discretionary funds to fund the full costs of the Traffic Management Plan for the Whakatāne Rotary Club.

CARRIED

Moved Member Jahn / Seconded Councillor Boynton

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$2,000.00 from the discretionary funds to Above the Net Inc to assist in the costs associated with competing in the Kiwi Cup 2025.

CARRIED

Moved Member Bonne / Seconded Member McLean

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$2,000.00 discretionary funds to the Rogue Kids Club to assist with the costs associated with competing in the SJJIF Championship 2025.

CARRIED

Moved Member Bonne / Seconded Chairperson Hamill

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **suspends** Standing Order 4.2 Meeting Duration, so it may continue over two hours without a break of at least 10 minutes.

CARRIED

The Chairperson declared a conflict of interest and temporarily vacated the chair for the next item.

Member Bonne assumed the Chair for this item.

Moved Member McLean / Seconded Member Howard

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$3,699.00 discretionary funds to the Whakatāne Tennis Club to assist in the purchase of a ball machine for their facility.

CARRIED

Feedback was requested to ensure the Board logo was featured on the ball machine that gets purchased.

Member Hamill resumed as the Chair.

7.3 Update from the Mayor Luca

Mayor Luca summarised the Council's work over the triennium, including regional initiatives. He expressed his privilege in attending the Board meeting and thanked the Community Board members for their service and presented certificates to members and aligned Councillors. He extended best wishes to those standing again and to those concluding their service.

8 Chairperson and Member Reporting

8.1 Chairpersons Report June 2025

Refer to pages 127-130 of the agenda.

The Chairperson presented the report and highlighted the need for a Community Board member to be a liaison for the Piripai Coastlands Beach Community Collective in the next triennium.

Moved Chairperson Hamill / Seconded Member Inman

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Chairperson's report June 2025 - August 2025 be received.

CARRIED

Moved Chairperson Hamill / Seconded Councillor Boynton

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **approve** that Heart Beats Exercise utilise the remainder of funds allocated to them in May 2025 for the purchase of exercise equipment.

CARRIED

Moved Member Inman / Seconded Member Bonne

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$3,000.00 from the discretionary fund to complete the engraving of the memorial plaques at the Whakatāne War Memorial 'Restrooms'.

CARRIED

Moved Chairperson Hamill / Seconded Member Howard

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board **allocates** \$4,500.00 from the discretionary fund for the procurement and installation of a water tap at the end of Ōtarawairere Road.

CARRIED

Acknowledgement was given to Chairperson Hamill for their work over the past three years for the Community Board.

8.2 Members Report

Member Inman presented the report and noted previous funds raised went to Police Welfare.

Member Inman declared a conflict of interest with the Tournament and did not take part in the debate of the next item.

Moved Member Bonne / Seconded Member McLean

RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board Member report August 2025 be received; and
2. THAT the Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board considers allocating \$575.00 from the discretionary fund to sponsor one hole at the Whakaari Hayden Marshall Inman Memorial Golf Tournament.

CARRIED

A vote of thanks was given to Deputy Chair Bonne, Members McLean, Inman, Howard and Jahn for their work on the Community Board over the triennium.

The meeting closed with a karakia led by the Chairperson at 7:54 pm.

Confirmed at the meeting dated:
CHAIRPERSON

As per Standing Order 28.4, signed by the Chief Executive