

MINUTES FROM A MEETING OF  
**TRUST TAIRĀWHITI**

On 11 February 2025 at 9.05am

The meeting was held via Zoom (Livestreamed) and in person at Shed3, 50 Esplanade, Gisborne

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Trustees: David Battin (Chair), Dan Jex-Blake, John Clarke, Nicki Sutherland, Rehette Stoltz and Ron Aitken.

Trust Tairāwhiti executive team members: Doug Jones – Chief Executive Officer and Melonie Brouwer – Board secretary.

Members of public: Mr Lyall Evans attended in person

Audine Grace-Kutia – General Manager Hapori watched livestream

Mr David Battin opened our meeting with a karakia.

**2.1 Apologies**

Mr Warren Williams – Trustee and Tā Derek Lardelli and Lady Rose Gould-Lardelli – Cultural Advisors.

**2.2 Declaration of Trustee Interests noted.**

There is nothing to declare at this stage; however, trustees are responsible for informing the Board Secretary of any changes to the trustee interest register.

**2.3 Confirmation of Agenda and Late items**

Nil

**2.4 Approval of Open Minutes and Matters Arising**

**2.4.a Approval of the open minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2024 were taken as read and approved.

Moved by Mr John Clarke and Mrs Rehette Stoltz

Unanimous Approval

**2.4.b Action register from 10 December 2024**

Action item #1: The CEO gave an update on further correspondence that has been received by Mr Winston Moreton.

Action item #2: There are ongoing discussions to be had with Mr Warren Williams.

**2.5 Strategy and decision making**

Nil

## **2.6 Beneficiary Presentations and Public Forum**

2.6.a 9.15 – 9.45am : Presentation by Mr. Lyaall Evans – Trust Chair from Tapuwae Trails Trust on the proposal of the Taruheru River Trail.

Mr. Evans gave a presentation to the trustees outlining the progress on the Taruheru River Trail project. The team, consisting entirely of dedicated volunteers, has made significant steps in laying the groundwork, including mapping out the trail and conducting extensive research. With much of the initial planning complete, they are now working toward finalising the design development (DD) phase. The goal is to work with Trust Tairāwhiti using funder relationships and to seek funding within the next 12 to 18 months to bring the project to fruition. The trustees were briefed on the vision, community benefits, and the steps needed to move forward, highlighting the collaborative effort driving this initiative.

## **2.7 Board Updates**

2.7.a CEO quarterly report 01/10 – 31/12/2024

Several applications were declined due to sustainability concerns and our inability to cover ongoing operational costs. While we remain committed to supporting impactful projects, financial viability and environmental responsibility continue to be key decision-making factors.

In parallel, we have Sally Cameron conducting a project to identify how we can add value to the horticulture sector, with findings set to be presented during the open section of an upcoming board meeting. This initiative aims to enhance our role in supporting industry growth and innovation. Additionally, we are currently running a Request for Proposal (RFP) focused on the assessment of economic potential of irrigation water in Tairāwhiti.

The Senior Leaders Presentation on the City Centre Catalyst Initiatives Project is a key event that provides an opportunity to share insights from the project's first stage and unveil the shortlist of initiatives moving forward to the planning and implementation phase. Shaped by extensive engagement and research, the project has incorporated reviews of existing plans and strategies, feedback from over 400 community members, stakeholder workshops, and expert analysis. Key themes emerging from this process emphasise the need for more welcoming family spaces, attracting new businesses, repurposing vacant buildings, increasing apartment living, and enhancing the city's overall vibrancy and appeal. This presentation serves as a platform to align leadership and community efforts toward a dynamic and thriving city centre.

The Whāriki Māori Business Network is a national platform designed to support Māori business owners and professionals. As part of ongoing efforts to increase the number of Māori businesses to be registered on Whariki, communications are being sent out and we are having further engagement with the Tairāwhiti Māori Business network.

## 2.8 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC FROM PROCEEDINGS

Moved by Mr John Clarke and seconded by Mr Ron Aitken.

### SECTION 48 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987

THAT: The public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely for discussion or decision on agenda items:

3.0 Strategy and Decision Making

4.0 Operational Updates including approval of closed minutes and matters arising

5.0 Risk management

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No.	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter check	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Item 3.0	Strategy and decision making	Sections 7(2) (b(ii)) (c) (f) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
Item 4.0	Operational updates	Sections 7(2) (b(ii)) (c) (f) (h) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
Item 4.2	Approval of closed minutes and matters arising	Sections 7(2) (a) (b(ii)) (c) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
Item 5.0	Risk management	Sections 7(2) (a) (f)	48(1) (a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Content

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Section 7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons

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Section 7(2)(b)(ii) To protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

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Section 7(2)(c) Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information:

- i. Would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or
  - ii. Would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.
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Section 7(2)(f) Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through:

- i. The free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members of officers or employees of any local authority, or any persons to whom Section 2(5) applies, in the course of their duty; or
  - ii. The protection of such members, officers, employees and persons from improper pressure or harassment.
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Section 7(2)(g) Maintain legal professional privilege.

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Section 7(2)(h) Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.

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Section 7(2)(i) Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)

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Section 7(2)(j) Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

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That the following people be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded:

- i. Chief Executive Officer and Board secretary.

because of their knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation the matters being discussed because of their role and work performed.

The public excluded minutes follow and are not publicly available. There being no further business the public meeting closed at 10.15am.



CHAIR  
DAVID BATTIN