

Report 02.774
02 December 2002
File: X/16/5/9 &
E/6/21/2

Minutes of the Ara Tahī meeting held in the Wellington Regional Council Chamber, the Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington, on Wednesday 27 November 2002, at 10.00am

Present

<i>Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Maori Executive Taiwhenua</i>	Charles Morunga, Tom Paku, Owen Perry
<i>Rangitaane o Wairarapa</i>	Alma Mihaere, Horipo Rimene
<i>Wellington Tenth's Trust</i>	Liz Mellish, Mark Te One
<i>Ngati Toa</i>	Te Akapikirangi Arthur, Ra Pomare, Miria Pomare
<i>Taranaki Whanui</i>	Ihaia Puketapu
<i>Wellington Regional Council</i>	Crs Margaret Shields, Ian Buchanan

Officers Present

Jane Bradbury, Jo Campbell, Jason Kerehi, Howard Markland, Murray McLea, Amy Norrish, Nicola Shorten and Keriana Wilcox.

Also Present

Crs Evans, Barr and Yardley and Debra Packman (Te Puni Kokiri).

Procedural Items

1. Welcome/Karakia

Mark Te One offered the karakia.

2. Apologies

Tom Paku introduced Owen Perry (Edwin Perry's brother) to members of Ara Tahi. He will be replacing Edwin Perry as a representative for Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, who is now an MP.

Resolved (Te Akapikirangi Arthur/Alma Mihaere)

That the apologies from Edwin Perry (Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Maori Executive Taiwhenua), Jack Rikihana (Te Ati Awa ki Whakarongotai), Rupene Waaka (Ngati Raukawa) and Miki Rikihana (Te Ati Awa ki Whakarongotai) be accepted.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

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Resolved (Margaret Shields/Alma Mihaere)

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

Matters for Consideration

5. Incident Response Report

Howard Markland presented this report, which summarises the incident responses undertaken by Council staff over the last year to 30 June 2002. He also introduced the new Pollution Control Officer, Mark Kieran.

Howard Markland elaborated on the new, pro-active initiatives that were mentioned at the last Ara Tahi meeting:

Take Charge

It was noted that, before implementing the 'Take Charge' programme, which works with industries to produce more cost-effective pollution control outcomes, it is important to audit the Council's own sites.

Information Leaflets

The team will be producing information leaflets to educate industries and people in residential areas about issues such as runoff into storm water drains. Ara Tahi members asked how they would be able to participate in this initiative. Howard Markland suggested that they could be involved with the review of the draft

document.

Odour Complaints

The Pollution Control Team now has a new set of criteria for when to respond to odour complaints, which aim to be more cost effective. This initiative is working well so far as no significant complaints have been missed.

Alma Mihaere expressed concern where there are a large number of odour complaints from a particular area or industry and nothing is done about it after several calls from the same complainant. Howard Markland suggested that it is difficult to see how bad it is in reality, as despite significant pollution control intervention at these sites, complaints are increasing. He pointed to the report that went to the Environment Committee recently and suggested the increase in complaints may be a result of the sensitisation to odours.

Agreeing Standardised Responses

The team is currently working with other agencies to standardise the approach and procedure where a situation requires several agencies with different priorities to respond, e.g. Local Government, Transit and the Fire Service where there has been a spillage on the road as the result of a car accident.

Report 02.676

File: ENV/17/2/1

Resolved

(Tom Paku/Akapikirangi Arthur)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

6. Point, Click, Fish

Murray McLea presented this report. The Point, Click, Fish model maps the locations of freshwater fish species in the Wellington region. It can be used to help the Council with their role in looking after these habitats, e.g. when people are applying for resource consents. It could also be used as an information tool, providing links to relevant information to help with management of freshwater fish etc.

Many members of Ara Tahi indicated their interest in the model and requested a workshop on it in 2003. The model is especially relevant to the GIS projects that are being undertaken by some of the Iwi. Liz Mellish suggested they could load sites and other important information from the Point, Click, Fish model onto their GIS database. Relevant historical information collected by Iwi could also be loaded onto the Point, Click, Fish model.

Report 02.714

File: ENV/5/1/15

Resolved

(Tom Paku/Margaret Shields)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

7. Update on the Take Action for Water Schools Programme

Jo Campbell presented this report, which updated members of Ara Tahi on the progress of the 'Take Action' programme. Twelve mainstream schools participated in the programme this year and the environmental education team are now looking to make the programme available in Kura Kaupapa Maori and full immersion units in schools.

Components of the resource booklet have already been translated into Maori and a pilot programme with Pukeatua School has been organised for term two next year. Jo Campbell asked members of Ara Tahi for feedback on the resource documents and said she would also be keen to hear about other possible projects, like the Pa Harakeke planting day at Wainuiomata.

Owen Perry suggested that the Maori perspective be part of the programme at mainstream schools. Jo Campbell advised they were still working on this and that they had plans to do a poster outlining some of the generic concepts. There is also a video presentation, which discusses the different ways we value water and includes a Maori perspective from Jim Rimene. She suggested that Ara Tahi may be interested in being involved in the delivery of the programme e.g. individual Iwi pass on their own information.

Members of Ara Tahi congratulated Jo Campbell on the programme.

Report 02.697

File: ENV/15/4/4

Resolved

(Margaret Shields/Tom Paku)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

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

Keriana Wilcox introduced this report. She advised that six of the seven administration putea contracts have been received and they will be paid on Friday, 29 November.

Ngati Tama has recently re-established as an Iwi organisation in Wellington and want to have a relationship with the Council. Ara Tahi Iwi members advised that they will deal with mandating issues themselves at a later date.

Report 02.715

File: X/16/2/1

Resolved

(Tom Paku/Margaret Shields)

That Ara Tahi receive the report and note its contents.

9. Local Government Relationships with Maori

Debra Packman of Te Puni Kokiri gave a brief presentation on the Local Government Bill and its implications for Maori. She also discussed the CRESA report, which assesses current local government relationships with Maori.

Debra Packman advised that the Local Government Bill, which will be passed before Christmas this year, has significant changes regarding the Treaty of Waitangi. The Bill contains a Treaty of Waitangi clause and signals to Councils to establish strong relationships with Maori and foster these through building capacity. She noted that the changes are highly contentious and there is likely to be huge debate over the next few weeks as the Bill goes through Parliament.

The report by CRESA provides a picture of how relationships stand before the Bill is passed. It is based on five councils, some of which are doing very well and others which are struggling. The report notes that several different mechanisms are used to build relationships between local government and Maori and depicts several key areas that make a difference to the quality of the relationships that exist:

- Leadership;
- Good process;
- Distinguishing the level of input i.e. governance, decisions-making, consultation or participation;
- Guidance for Councils around the Treaty of Waitangi;
- Adequate resourcing;
- Internal capability building for Maori.

Members of Ara Tahi agreed that the information was very interesting and suggested that Debra Packman come back after the Bill has been passed and they have read the CRESA report.

10. General Business

There were no matters of general business to report.

11. Consultation on Chief Executive Appointment for Greater Wellington, the Regional Council

Chris Gilchrist from Sheffield Limited came to talk with the members of Ara Tahi about the chief executive appointment. To maintain confidentiality all council staff left the room.

The meeting concluded at 12:45pm. The date of the next meeting is 26 February 2003.

Tom Paku
Chairperson

Date: