

Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako

Mēneti Wātea | Open Minutes



Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Te Mana Whenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako held in the Council Chambers, 35 Kenrick Street, TE AROHA on Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 10:00.

NGĀ MEMA | MEMBERSHIP

Tiamana | Chairperson: Hinerangi Vaimoso

Mema Tūturu | Principal Member:

Mema Tautoko | Alternate Member:

Ngāti Hauā Rangitionga Kaukau

Tumohe Clarke

Ngāti Hinerangi Dianna Vaimoso

Hinerangi Vaimoso

Ngāti Maru Craig Solomon

Waati Ngamane

Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu Jill Taylor

Norm Hill

Ngāti Pāoa Tahauariki Thompson

Glenice Puke

Ngāti Whanaunga Michael Baker

Gavin Anderson

Raukawa Leo Whaiapu

Andrea Julian

Ngāti Tamaterā Arama Ngapo

Vacant

Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o | Koromatua | Mayor:

Matamata-Piako District Council Ash Tanner

Koromatua Tautoko | Deputy Mayor:

James Sainsbury

Kaunihera ā-Rohe | District Councillor:

Rewiti Vaimoso

An audio-visual recording of the open session of the meeting is available on Matamata-Piako District Council's website and YouTube channel.

Visit <https://www.mpd.govt.nz/live-stream> for the most recent meeting livestream.

Recording	Document Reference #	Youtube Link
Te Mana Whenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako – 10 February 2026	3140269	https://www.youtube.com/live/Z4i9vD76DB4?si=SqplAnxsBsKDNo5W

Minutes prepared by:

Stacey Edwards

Kaitohu Kāwana | Governance Advisor

Ngā whakapāha | Apologies

Tiamana Hinerangi Vaimoso
 Whaea Jill Taylor
 Whaea Rangitonga Kaukau
 Matua Tahauariki Thompson
 Matua Wati Ngamane
 Whaea Arama Ngapo

Ngā mema i reira o runga te tūhono ipurangi | Members present via audio/visual link

Name	Position/Organisation	Time In	Time Out
Whaea Dianna Vaimoso	Ngāti Hinerangi representative	10.06am	12.37pm
Matua Norm Hill	Ngāti Rāhiriri-Tumutumu representative	10.06am	12.37pm

Kaimahi i reira | Staff Present

Name	Title	Item No.
Manaia Te Wiata	Tumu Whakarae Chief Executive Officer	
Sandra Harris	Pou Tūhono Iwi Relationship Manager	
Tuatahi Nightingale-Pene	Kaitohu Kāwana Governance Advisor	
Stacey Edwards	Kaiārahi Kāwana Governance Team Leader	
Tayla Bamber	Kai-whakahaere ā-Tūhono Relationship Advisor	
Darren Teulon	Pou Whakahaere o ngā wai me ngā waipara Water & Wastewater Manager	
Jenni Cochrane		7.3
Fiona Hill	Kaiārahi Rautaki RMA RMA Policy Team Leader	7.3, 8.1
Jayshree Kanji	Kaiwhakamahere Rautaki RMA Paetahi Graduate RMA Policy Planner	7.3, 8.1
Nathan Sutherland	Pou Whakamahere Planning Manager	7.3, 8.1
Ally van Kuijk	Hautū Tipu me te Whakamatua Group Manager Growth & Regulation	7.3, 8.1, 8.2
Toka Wolfswood	Emergency Management Officer	8.1, 8.2
Laura Hopkins	Kaitohu Kaupapahere Mātāmua Senior Policy Advisor	8.2, 8.3

I reira | In Attendance

Name	Position/Organisation	Item	Time In	Time Out
Gary Thompson	Councillor, Matamata-Piako District Council		10.06am	12.37pm

1 Whakatūwheratanga o te hui | Meeting Opening

Acting Tiamana, Matua Tumohe Clarke declared the meeting open at 10:06am and welcomed members, staff and those viewing the livestream.

2 Karakia | Prayer

Matua Tumohe Clarke performed the opening karakia.

Matua Michael Baker supported the opening with a mihi.

3 Ngā whakapāha | Apologies/Leave of Absence

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That apologies from Tiamana Hinerangi Vaimoso, Whaea Jill Taylor, Whaea Rangitionga Kaukau, Matua Tahau Thompson, Matua Wati Ngamane and Whaea Arama Ngapo be received and accepted.

Resolution number AC/2026/00001

Moved by: Mayor A Tanner

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor J Sainsbury

KUA MANA | CARRIED

4 Pānui i Ngā Take Ohore Anō | Notification of Urgent/Additional Business

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at that meeting if-

- (a) The local authority by resolution so decides; and
- (b) The presiding member explains at the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public -
 - (i) The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
 - (ii) The reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.”

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting -

- (a) That item may be discussed at that meeting if-
 - (i) That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
 - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
 - (iii) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.”

5 Whākī pānga | Declaration of interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.

6 Whakaaetanga meneti | Confirmation of Minutes

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That the minutes of the meeting of the ordinary meeting of Te Mana Whenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako held on Tuesday, 9 December 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Resolution number AC/2026/00002

Moved by: Mātua L Whaiapu

Seconded by: Cr R Vaimoso

KUA MANA | CARRIED

NGĀ PŪRONGO A NGĀ ĀPIHA | OFFICER REPORTS

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.1 Te Manawhenua Forum Work Programme Update - February

CM No.: 3130693

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the forum on the work programme.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The work programme is a standing item for each forum hui.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The information be received.
2. The Forum recommends extending formal invitations to Council to attend key Poukai and Kīngitanga events across the rohe, as a means of strengthening strategic partnerships and increasing visibility

.Resolution number AC/2026/00003

Moved by: Matua NH Hill

Seconded by: Matua CS Solomon

KUA MANA | CARRIED

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Report

7.2 Member Representatives Update

CM No.: 3130641

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Forum representatives to provide an update of their activities.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Forum representatives have the opportunity to provide an update of their activities since the last meeting.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The information is received.

Resolution number AC/2026/00004

Moved by: Matua NH Hill

Seconded by: Matua M Baker

KUA MANA | CARRIED

Ngāti Whanaunga

Noted Ngāti Whanaunga is not settled.

The rohe has experienced longstanding relationship pressures, with some matters still unresolved across the wider area, including the Port of Waikato. The Trust Board's focus area is reflected in the statement "mai Matakana ki Matakana," and the rohe encompasses 15 hapū.

Environmental and strategic plans exist but may require updating, and it is unclear whether MPDC holds the latest versions. Infrastructure challenges are impacting whānau, particularly tamariki who face extended travel for schooling. Certain communities, including Whangamatā, have been significantly affected. There is also interest in understanding the geotechnical factors relating to the recent slip at Mauao.

Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu

Settlement progress is advancing to the second reading.

Recognised a number of key challenges and encouraged whānau submissions. It was suggested Council assist where required.

Whaea Jill Taylor is leading various initiatives in Te Aroha, while the solar farm is also under works.

Suggested that future member updates form part of the agenda for a focused discussion.

Ngāti Maru

At an operational level, a report was requested for trustees before Christmas outlining environmental activity. Engagements were extensive, with more than 50 projects identified, reflecting a high level of involvement in the environmental space.

Iwi play an important role in ensuring accountability for environmental resources and, while not yet settled, continue to contribute significantly. Historically, iwi have also been major contributors to infrastructure development, including gifting land for schools, hospitals, and reserves.

Raukawa

The takiwā overlaps with eight councils, and consideration is being given to both settled areas and those yet to be settled within the Hauraki collective. It is important that Treaty settlements are appropriately reflected in new legislation.

Manawhakahono ā Rohe agreements have been initiated with MPDC and South Waikato, and negotiations can continue until mid-year. There are concerns regarding proposed conservation reforms and the potential implications for the Hauraki collective settlement.

Engagement has also included meetings with 16 marae in relation to the RMA and LTP processes.

Ngāti Hinerangi

Operational kaupapa aligns long-term planning from a 50-year vision through to five-year and annual plans.

Tautoro operates in Matamata, providing alternative education that has successfully supported students to re-engage with schooling.

Wairere Mahi is leading native planting initiatives along waterways near their marae.

The Chairperson is developing online whakapapa resources for each marae, with two completed to date, enabling whānau living outside the rohe to stay connected.

Approximately 40 iwi members attended the opening of the Community Stadium at Matamata College.

Ngāti Hauā

The iwi holds hui at least twice a year across its five marae and four hapū to discuss kaupapa affecting the wider tribe and to collectively consider and ratify key matters. The Tumuaki attends in a representative capacity of the Kīngitanga, with the role of leadership remaining with the iwi.

Various entities manage tribal assets, including farms, orchards, and property in Hamilton, to support long-term development. Poukai are held at Parawera and Pukanui.

Education initiatives include regular wānanga to strengthen te reo capability for both beginners and fluent speakers. Hauora services are established in Waharoa, with some marae hosting clinics, and work is underway to re-establish a clinic at Kai a te Mata in Matamata.

There is a strong focus on succession planning and encouraging younger leaders to step into governance roles. Environmental wānanga, delivered by the Mahi Trust and iwi trust alongside Ngāti Werewere, are addressing freshwater and stormwater policy, with completion expected this year.

Marae development has progressed, including upgrades supported through PGF funding during COVID, with continued efforts to support whānau to return home and ongoing rebuild projects at some marae.

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Report

7.3 Adoption of Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy

CM No.: 3135079

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

- Present the draft Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy based on direction received from Te Manawhenua Forum on 9 December 2025.
- Seek Te Manawhenua Forum feedback and/or resolution to adopt the Iwi-Led Initiatives Grant Policy.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Council established a budget as part of the Long Term Plan to be used towards events or a series focusing on Waitangi Day and/or Matariki. It is important to note that funding is set/confirmed annually as part of Council's Long Term Plan/Annual Plan processes.

The purpose of the Policy is to set out criteria and the application and allocation process for assistance provided through grants to organisations and individuals for Iwi-Led Initiatives while funding is available.

Te Manawhenua Forum is asked to consider the draft Policy, provide feedback and/or resolve to adopt the Policy.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The information be received.
2. Te Manawhenua Forum adopt the Iwi-led Initiative's Grant Policy subject to the grant being renamed 'Te Kōtuitui', which signifies 'weaving our community together'. The grant is to take effect 11 February 2026, understanding that funding is confirmed by Council annually.
3. Staff authorised to make minor amendments (such as inclusion of Te Reo headings) if needed prior to distributing the final Iwi-led Initiative's Grant Policy.

Resolution number AC/2026/00005

Moved by: Matua NH Hill

Seconded by: Whaea D Vaimoso

KUA MANA | CARRIED

8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Report

8.1 District Plan and Iwi Management Plan Update

CM No.: 3130686

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Te Manawhenua Forum members with an update on the rolling review of the Matamata-Piako District Plan (MPDP). This also includes an update on the RMA reform including exemption applications and Private Plan Change 62 Calcutta, and the progress on the receipt of six Mana Whakahono ā Rohe invitations.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

A District Plan and Resource Management Reform summary is provided below. The update specifically refers to Plan Change Exemption Applications, Calcutta (PPC62), the proposed MPDC Growth Strategy, Resource Management Act Reform (RMA Reform), Future Proof, and the progress on the receipt of six Mana Whakahono ā Rohe invitations. Jayshree Kanji and Fiona Hill are available to deliver the update and answer any questions.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The report be received.

Resolution number AC/2026/00006

Moved by: Matua NH Hill

Seconded by: Whaea A Julian

KUA MANA | CARRIED

Discussion (*summarised*)

The forum sought clarity on how iwi aspirations can be reaffirmed within planning processes and requested access to Council submissions once internal checks are complete. Key issues raised included:

- Stormwater as a major outstanding matter in Calcutta engagement.
- The value of hosting a Forum workshop on Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements to learn from others' experiences and strengthen local approaches.
- Clarification sought on the standing of Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements within upcoming planning legislation, noting that existing RMA-based provisions are not included in new bills.
- Discussion about who has expressed interest in Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements and how accords differ from other legislative mechanisms.
- Recognition that Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements present an opportunity to embed relationship approaches for future generations and future Councils.
- Interest in understanding the number and status of iwi management plans within the rohe.
- Concern about wastewater breaches and a desire for any fines to benefit the affected rohe.
- Cultural concerns, including impacts on urupā and marae resilience to boil-water notices through better independent water systems.

8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Report

8.2 Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM)

CM No.: 3137233

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a quarterly update of the Civil Defence and Emergency Management function. Andy BuBear and Toka Wolfswood will be in attendance to present.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Civil Defence and Emergency Management team will be in attendance to present an update to Council on the activities carried out during the previous quarters (Q2) and highlight any matters that are impending or would have an impact on the activity. The activities include work plans, projects, legislation and the intended activities looking forward.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor J Sainsbury

Seconded by: Mātua NH Hill

Discussion

The forum asked about Māori representation within CDEM structures, noting that regional movements now support Māori participation at Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG) level. Members raised questions about geology and landslide risk around maunga and whether predictive or proactive mitigation work is occurring, particularly in light of recent events such as at Mauao.

It was noted that information exists only in pockets due to dated surveys. There is growing focus at regional levels on landslide preparedness.

Discussion also highlighted examples of well-resourced marae in other rohe, which maintain containers with emergency supplies and equipment, which was viewed as an ideal model supporting marae readiness.

The meeting adjourned at 12.05pm and reconvened at 12.25pm

8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Report

8.3 Policies, Plans and Bylaws Update February 2026

CM No.: 3134525

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the upcoming consultation on a number of Council policies, plans and bylaws, and seek the Forum's feedback.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The policies, plans and bylaws currently being reviewed and prepared for public consultation are:

- Policy on Dogs
- Dog Control Bylaw
- Land Transport Bylaw
- Local Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy
- Fees and Charges 26/27
- Annual Plan 26/27 (to be confirmed)

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

- 1. The information be received.**

Resolution number AC/2026/00007

Moved by: Matua TC Clarke

Seconded by: Matua M Baker

KUA MANA | CARRIED

12.37pm

The Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance and attention to business and declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
OF THE MEETING OF TE MANAWHENUA FORUM
MO MATAMATA-PIAKO HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY
2026.

KO TE RĀ | DATE:

TIAMANA | CHAIRPERSON: