

## Mēneti Wātea | Open Minutes



Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Matamata-Piako District Council held in the Council Chambers, 35 Kenrick Street, TE AROHA on Wednesday 27 May 2026 at 9:00.

### NGĀ MEMA | MEMBERSHIP

**Tiamana | Chairperson:** **Koromatua | Mayor**  
Ash Tanner

**Mema | Members:** **Koromatua Tautoko | Deputy Mayor**  
James Sainsbury

**Kaunihera ā-Rohe | District Councillors**

Vincent Andersen  
Grace Bonnar  
Bruce Dewhurst  
Tyrel Glass  
Dayne Horne  
Greg Marshall  
Andrew McGiven  
James Thomas  
Gary Thompson  
Rewiti Vaimoso  
Sue Whiting

*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.mpdc.govt.nz/live-stream> for the most recent meeting livestream.

Recording	Reference#	YouTube Link
Council – 27 May 2026	3174436	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKLvrA9QVbs&amp;t=1763s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKLvrA9QVbs&amp;t=1763s</a>

**Minutes prepared by:**

Stephanie Hutchins

Kaitohu Mātāmua Kāwana | Senior Governance Advisor

## Ngā whakapāha | Apologies

Name	Position/Ward	
Greg Marshall	Councillor, Te Aroha Ward	Apology
Andrew McGiven	Councillor, Te Aroha Ward	For leave of absence

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

*There were no members present via audio/visual link, all members physically present.*

## Kaimahi i reira | Staff Present

Name	Title	Item No.
Manaia Te Wiata	Tumu Whakarae   Chief Executive Officer	
Jenni Cochrane	Hautū Wheako Kiritaki   Group Manager Customer Experience	
Stephanie Hutchins	Kaitohu Mātāmua Kāwana   Senior Governance Advisor	
Ellie Gray	Kaitohu Kāwana   Governance Advisor	
Sandra Harris	Pou Kaupapahere, Rāngai Mahitahi me te Kāwana   Policy, Partnerships and Governance Manager	
Ally van Kuijk	Hautū Tipu me te Whakamatua   Group Manager Growth & Regulation	7.2
Nathan Sutherland	Pou Whakamahere   Planning Manager	7.2
Jayshree Kanji	Kaiwhakamahere Rautaki RMA Paetahi   Graduate RMA Policy Planner	7.3
Fiona Hill	Kaiwhakamahere Rautaki RMA Matua   Team Leader RMA Policy	7.3, 8.3
Mark Naudé	Kaiārahi Mahere Paparēhia me ngā Taiwhanga   Parks & Facilities Planning Team Leader	7.1, 8.1
Ajay Kumar	Kaitiaki Whakahaere Pūtea   Management Accountant	8.2
Larnia Rushbrooke	Pou Pūtea, Ratonga Pakihi   Finance & Business Services Manager	8.2
Carolyn McAlley	Kaiwhakamahere Rautaki RMA Matua   Senior RMA Policy Planner	8.3
Susanne Kampshof	Pou Rawa me ngā Kaupapa   Assets and Projects Manager	C1

## I reira | In Attendance

Name	Position/Organisation	Item	Time In	Time Out
Paul Decker (Observing only)	Te Aroha Rotary Club	8.1	9.19am	9.44am
Peter Tait-Jamieson (Observing only)	Te Aroha Rotary Club	8.1	9.19am	9.44am

## 1 Whakatūwheratanga o te hui | Meeting Opening

Mayor Ash Tanner welcomed members, staff and those viewing the livestream and declared the meeting open at 9.01am.

## 2 Ngā whakapāha/Tono whakawātea | Apologies/Leave of Absence

### WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That the apology from Councillor Greg Marshall be received and accepted.

That the apology from Councillor Andrew McGiven be noted from his leave of absence.

**Resolution number CO/2026/00001**

**Moved by: Deputy Mayor J Sainsbury**

**Seconded by: Cr J Thomas**

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

## 3 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.”

## 4 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.

## 5 Whakaaetanga mēneti | Confirmation of minutes

## WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That the minutes of the meeting of the ordinary meeting of Matamata-Piako District Council held on Wednesday, 13 May 2026, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**Resolution number CO/2026/00002**

**Moved by: Cr S Whiting**

**Seconded by: Cr V Andersen**

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

### 6 Take i puta mai | Public Forum

There were no speakers to the public forum.

### 7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

## 7.1 Nature Parks Reserve Management Plan

CM No.: 3145187

### Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to confirm:

- Council's intention to develop a reserve management plan for the nature parks managed by Council
- that Council will not be seeking written suggestions prior to the drafting of the plan.

Resolutions are required in order to comply with statutory requirements. This will enable Council Staff to proceed with the necessary administrative actions to progress the development of the plan.

### Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

This report seeks Council resolutions to confirm its intention to prepare a Nature Parks Reserve Management Plan (RMP) and, pursuant to section 41(5A) of the Reserves Act 1977, to proceed without inviting written suggestions prior to drafting. These resolutions are required to meet statutory obligations and enable staff to undertake the necessary administrative actions.

The development of a Nature Parks RMP is consistent with the Parks & Open Spaces Strategy 2021–51; the General Policies RMP 2019; and is considered timely given recent clarity regarding land affected by the Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu Deed of Settlement. The plan will provide a clear framework for the protection, enhancement, and use of natural areas, supporting informed decision-making.

Council holds sufficient ecological, cultural, and operational information to draft the plan without the need for pre-draft consultation. Formal public consultation will still occur on the draft RMP in accordance with statutory requirements, ensuring opportunities for community input and refinement of the plan. This is considered a cost-efficient approach, balancing statutory compliance, available information, and resource considerations.

**WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**That:**

- 1. The report be received;**
- 2. Council resolves to confirm its intention to develop the Nature Parks Reserve Management Plan;**
- 3. Pursuant to Section 41(5A), Reserves Act 1977, Council resolves not to seek written suggestions on the proposed Nature Parks Reserve Management Plan.**

**Resolution number CO/2026/00003**

**Moved by: Deputy Mayor J Sainsbury**

**Seconded by: Cr S Whiting**

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

## 7.2 Local Recovery Manager Endorsement

CM No.: 3166456

### Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the appointment of Nathan Sutherland as the Local Recovery Manager for Matamata-Piako District Council, in accordance with section 30(1) of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 and the Waikato CDEM Recovery Manager Policy.

This endorsement is required following the Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee's decision on 30 March 2026 to approve Nathan Sutherland's appointment, enabling him to formally act as the Council's Local Recovery Manager.

### Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 at section 30(1) states that a Civil Defence Emergency Management Group may appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person to be a Local Recovery Manager. The Waikato CDEM Recovery Manager Policy then goes further and sets out the process for appointing a Local Recovery Manager.

The Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee at its meeting on 30 March 2026 approved the appointment of Nathan Sutherland as a Local Recovery Manager for Matamata-Piako District Council. Council is now required to endorse that appointment for Nathan Sutherland to act as their Local Recovery Manager.

#### WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That:

1. Council endorse the appointment of Nathan Sutherland as Local Recovery Manager for Matamata-Piako District Council.

Resolution number CO/2026/00004

Moved by: Cr S Whiting

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor J Sainsbury

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

## 7.3 Plan Change 65 - Approval to notify and appoint an independent commissioner

CM No.: 3159532

### Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to notify Plan Change 65 (Minor Matters) to the Operative Matamata-Piako District Plan for public submissions under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). Approval is also sought for an independent commissioner to be appointed and for the hearings commissioner to decide on the plan change.

### Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Plan Change 65 Minor Matters (PC65) is a targeted plan change that seeks to address a series of minor matters within the Operative Matamata-Piako District Plan (MPDP) that have resulted in inefficiencies, unintended consequences, or provisions that have proved unworkable in practice.

PC65 emerged following the Government's Plan Stop policy, which meant that Plan Change 61 National Planning Standards and other matters (PC61) did not proceed to notification. A review of the matters included in PC61 identified that a number of issues could be progressed through a separate plan change, provided an exemption was obtained. On 13 March 2026, Council received the Minister's approval to progress PC65 under section 80W(2)(b) of the RMA.

The plan change includes 11 minor matters, including:

- Removal of provisions that sit outside Council's statutory functions (such as regulating motorised vessel speed controls);
- Removal of outdated Development Concept Plans on former NZ Mushroom sites;
- Alignment of subdivision standards for terrace housing within the Lockerbie Precinct;
- Removal of heritage listings where buildings have been demolished or relocated;
- Amendments to unworkable or incorrect development controls and activity rules; and
- Removal of reserve layers where sites no longer have reserve status, including sites transferred to private ownership and are no longer used for recreation purposes, or sites identified as cultural redress properties under treaty settlement legislation.

The matters proposed are localised, administrative or corrective in nature, and are not expected to give rise to significant adverse effects. A Section 32 report has been prepared and concludes that the proposed amendments are the most appropriate, effective, and efficient method of achieving the purpose of the RMA.

Staff now seek Council approval to publicly notify Plan Change 65 for submissions and to progress the plan change through the statutory Schedule 1 process. Approval is also sought for an independent commissioner to be appointed and for the hearings commissioner to decide on the plan change.

**WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**That:**

- 1. The report be received.**
- 2. Plan Change 65 and the associated Section 32 report and Amendments document are approved; and**
- 3. The approved Plan Change 65 is publicly notified for submissions for a least 20 working days; and**
- 4. Staff are able to make any minor consequential changes to the plan change documents before the plan change is notified; and**
- 5. The Chief Executive Officer and Group Manager for Growth and Regulation are authorised to appoint an independent hearings commissioner who has a chair endorsement; and**
- 6. The hearing of submissions (if any) and decision making of the plan change is delegated to the independent hearings commissioner.**

**Resolution number CO/2026/00005**

**Moved by: Cr J Thomas**  
**Seconded by: Cr B Dewhurst**

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

## 8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

### 8.1 Tui Park Development Proposal

CM No.: 3145512

#### Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to:

- consider a proposal from a community group to develop Tui Park, Te Aroha;
- decide whether Council supports the proposal in principle;
- to provide direction to Council Staff on the desired level of Council support for the project to enable appropriate planning and budgeting to occur.

#### Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Council is asked to consider a proposal from the Te Aroha Rotary Club to develop Tui Park, Te Aroha, and to provide direction on the level of Council support. The proposal includes native revegetation along the Tunakohoia Stream, development of walking and mountain bike tracks, and provision of picnic and recreation facilities.

The proposal aligns with the Parks & Open Spaces Strategy 2021–51, Long Term Plan outcomes, the purpose of recreation reserves under the Reserves Act 1977, and the General Policies Reserve Management Plan 2019. It is also broadly consistent with the Passive Reserves Management Plan 2009. Some elements may require resource consent, but these issues are considered manageable.

Council support in principle would allow the proposal to be used as the basis for a masterplan for Tui Park. A masterplan would guide future development, support community and mana whenua engagement, inform funding decisions, and reduce implementation risk. The proposal also offers an opportunity to improve recreation and environmental outcomes through a community-led initiative.

#### WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That:

1. The report is received;
2. Council acknowledges the efforts of the Te Aroha Rotary Club in compiling such a comprehensive proposal for Tui Park;
3. Council supports the proposal in principle, subject to regulatory requirements being met;
4. Council resolves to develop a masterplan for Tui Park in accordance with the General Policies Reserve Management Plan 2019;
5. Council agrees to consider potential funding and/or other forms of support towards improving Tui Park.

Resolution number CO/2026/00006

Moved by: Cr T Glass

Seconded by: Cr V Andersen

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

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**ATTACHMENTS**

A Presentation - Item 8.1 - Tui Park

*Additional to the presentation attached, Parks & Facilities Planning Team Leader, Mark Naude informed elected members that after engagement with Ngāti Tūmūtumu Trust, a response letter was received (after the agenda closed), advising that the Trust is supportive of the restorative components and development of a masterplan. Staff informed elected members that the letter will be circulated following the meeting.*

## 8.2 Financial Report for the period ending 31 March 2026

CM No.: 3167857

### Te Kaupapa | Purpose

To provide an overview and information on the current financial position and performance of the Matamata-Piako District Council for the period ending 31 March 2026.

### Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

This report provides a summary overview, Financial and Capital Performance by Activity, Rates and Treasury reports.

#### WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That:

1. Council receive the Matamata-Piako District Council Financial Report for the period ending 31 March 2026.

Resolution number CO/2026/00007

Moved by: Deputy Mayor J Sainsbury

Seconded by: Cr J Thomas

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

## 8.3 RMA Policy & District Plan Update

CM No.: 3161677

### Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with an update on the rolling review of the Matamata-Piako District Plan (MPDP) including the exemption applications. This update also includes information on the RMA reform, Private Plan Change 62 Calcutta, Private Plan Change 64 Banks Road, the Efficiency and Effectiveness (EE) Report, the MPDC Growth Strategy, MPDC website update work, Hauraki Gulf Forum activities, the Ashbourne fast track decision and the progress on the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements.

### Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

A District Plan and Resource Management Reform summary is provided below. The update specifically refers to the Plan Change Exemption Applications, Private Plan Change 62 Calcutta, Private Plan Change 64 Banks Road, the MPDC Growth Strategy, the EE Report, Resource Management Act Reform, MPDC webpage updates, Hauraki Gulf Forum activities, the Ashbourne fast track decision and progress on the receipt of six Mana Whakahono ā Rohe invitations. Jayshree Kanji, Carolyn McAlley, Kumesh Burr and Fiona Hill are available to deliver the update and answer any questions.

#### WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That:

1. The report be received.

Resolution number CO/2026/00008

Moved by: Cr S Whiting

Seconded by: Cr G Thompson

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

## 9 Take Matatapu | Public Excluded

9.59am The public were excluded.

Resolutions in relation to the confidential items are recorded in the confidential section of these minutes and are not public available.

## 10 Mōtini hei aukati i te iwi whānui | Procedural motion to exclude the public

### WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

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 follows.

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 relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

#### C1 Confirmation of Funding for the RSA wall

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Third Party Commercial. Negotiations.	s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary 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.  s7(2)(i) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).	s48(1)(a)  The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

The text of these resolutions is made available to the public who are present at the meeting and form part of the minutes of the meeting.

**Resolution number CO/2026/00009**

**Moved by: Cr D Horne**

**Seconded by: Cr G Thompson**

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

**11 Mōtini hei aukati i te iwi whānui | Procedural motion to include the public**

**WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

10.19am That the public be included.

**Resolution number CO/2026/00010**

**Moved by: Cr J Thomas**

**Seconded by: Cr D Horne**

**KUA MANA | CARRIED**

10.19 am

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 KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL  
HELD ON 27 MAY 2026.

**KO TE RĀ | DATE:** .....

**TIAMANA | CHAIRPERSON:** .....