

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 9 June 2026 at 10:00.

NGĀ MEMA | MEMBERSHIP

Tiamana Chairperson:	Hinerangi Vaimoso	Mema Tūturu Principal Member:	Mema Tautoko Alternate Member:
Ngāti Hauā	Rangitonga 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		<i>Vacant</i>
Te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Matamata-Piako District Council	Koromatua Mayor: 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.mpdc.govt.nz/live-stream> for the most recent meeting livestream.

Recording	Document Reference#	YouTube Link
9 June 2026	3178841	TME 9 June

Minutes prepared by:

Tamara Kingi

Kaiārahi Kāwana | Governance Team Leader

Ngā whakapāha | Apologies

Jill Taylor (Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu)
Arama Ngapo (Ngāti Tamaterā)
Mayor Ash Tanner (Matamata-Piako District Council)
Waati Ngāmana (Ngāti Maru)
Cr Rewiti Vaimoso for lateness (Matamata-Piako District Council)

Ngā mema i reira | Members present

Name	Organisation
Tiamana Hinerangi Vaimoso	Ngāti Hinerangi
Matua Tumohe Clarke	Ngāti Hauā
Whaea Dianna Vaimoso	Ngāti Hinerangi
Deputy Mayor James Sainsbury	Matamata-Piako District Council
Councillor Rewiti Vaimoso	Matamata-Piako District Council
Matua Craig Solomon	Ngāti Maru
Matua Leo Whaiapu	Raukawa

Kaimahi i reira | Staff Present

Name	Title	Item No.
Manaia Te Wiata	Tumu Whakarae Chief Executive Officer	
Tamara Kingi	Kaiārahi Kāwana Governance Team Leader	
Ellie Gray	Kaitohu Kāwana Governance Advisor	
Sandra Harris	Pou Kaupapahere, Rāngai Mahitahi me te Kāwana Policy, Partnerships & Governance Manager	
Niall Baker	Kaiārahi Tīma Kaupapahere Policy Team Leader	7.2
Olivia Picard	Kaitohu Kaupapahere Policy Advisor	8.1 , 8.2
Anne Gummer	Kaitohu Kaupapahere Mātāmua Senior Policy Advisor	8.3
Charlotte Walker	Kaitohu Kaupapahere Paetahi Graduate Policy Advisor	8.4
Carolyn McAlley	Kaiwhakamahere Rautaki RMA Matua Senior RMA Policy Planner	8.5
Andy BuBear	Pou Whakahaere Whakararu Emergency Management Manager	8.6

I reira | In Attendance

Name	Position/Organisation	Item	Time In	Time Out
Linda	Member of the community		10.06am	11.58am
Kathleen	Member of the community		10.06am	11.58am

1 Whakatūwheratanga o te hui | Meeting Opening

Tiamana Hinerangi Vaimoso declared the meeting open at 10.06am and welcomed members, staff and those in the public gallery.

2 Karakia | Prayer

Matua Tu Clarke performed the opening Karakia.

3

Ngā whakapāha | Apologies/Leave of Absence

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That the apologies from Whaea Jill Taylor, Whaea Arama Ngapo, Matua Waati Ngamane and Mayor Ash Tanner be accepted and leave of absence from the meeting be granted.

That the apology for lateness from Councillor Rewiti Vaimoso be accepted.

Resolution number AC/2026/00001

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

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, 14 April 2026, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Resolution number AC/2026/00002

Moved by: Matua TC Clarke

Seconded by: Matua CS Solomon

KUA MANA | CARRIED

NGĀ PŪRONGO A NGĀ ĀPIHA | OFFICER REPORTS

7 Pūrongo me whakatau | Decision Reports

7.1 Making Good Decisions - Resource Management Act Hearing Commissioner Training

CM No.: 3162389

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for retrospective funding for a Te Manawhenua Forum representative who has undertaken the Making Good Decisions – Resource Management Act Hearing Commissioner Training.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Te Manawhenua Forum Heads of Agreement states: “Council will pay for a maximum of one representative nominated by the forum in each three yearly election period to undertake training as a Resource Management Act 1991 hearing commissioner to establish a suitable pool of qualified commissioners. Council may ask the forum to nominate further representatives if the need arises.”

The Making Good Decisions Course helps Councillors and independent commissioners make better decisions under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). Commissioners must be accredited to sit on RMA hearing panels.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The forum approves retrospective funding for Ngāti Tamaterā, Arama Ngapo, who completed the Making Good Decisions - Resource Management Act Hearing Commissioner training on 11 November 2025.
2. The forum recommends the heads of agreement be amended to prevent retrospective funding going forward.

Resolution number AC/2026/00003

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Mātua TC Clarke

KUA MANA | CARRIED

7.2 Simplifying Local Government - Head Start Process

CM No.: 3173453

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

To provide an outline of the Simplifying Local Government reform initiative and discuss Council's intention to develop a 'Head Start' proposal with neighbouring Councils and/or with other Councils in the Waikato region for submission to Central Government by 9 August 2026.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Matamata-Piako District Council is intending to participate in developing a 'Head Start' proposal with neighbouring Councils and/or with other Councils in the Waikato region for submission to Central Government by 9 August 2026.

Participation enables Council to have a degree of influence/input into the future structure, governance arrangements, and delivery of local government services affecting the district. In contrast, not participating increases the likelihood that changes will be imposed through the Government's 'Back Stop' process, reducing local input and potentially resulting in outcomes that do not reflect community needs or strategic priorities.

The forum are invited to provide feedback on the Simplifying Local Government – Head Start Process.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. The information be received.
2. The Forum provide feedback on the Simplifying Local Government - Head Start Process for Matamata-Piako District Council.

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: D Vaimoso

ATTACHMENTS

- A Simplifying Local Government Reform Update for Te Manawhenua Forum

Cr Rewiti Vaimoso arrived at 10.37am.

The Forum discussed the Simplifying Local Government - Head Start Process and provided the following themed feedback:

Local voice and representation: The Forum expressed concern that larger local government entities could dilute local community, iwi and hapū voices, particularly for smaller iwi. Members noted the importance of ensuring equitable representation across iwi and maintaining meaningful influence within the rohe.

Mana whenua engagement: The Forum supported early and direct engagement with iwi and hapū, including through iwi chairs, chief executives, boards and neighbouring iwi. It was noted that

the process is compressed and emphasised the need for clear communication and opportunities for mana whenua to contribute before Council finalises its position in July.

Governance structures: The Forum noted that any future governance arrangements should clearly provide for iwi Māori participation, including consideration of Māori wards, the future role of Te Manawhenua Forum, and mechanisms that avoid larger iwi or councils dominating smaller voices.

Potential partners and scale: Members discussed potential alignment with councils where existing relationships are strong and noted concern about extending too broadly. The Forum did not support a single Waikato-wide approach if it resulted in loss of local identity, mana or influence.

Rates and impacts on marae: Members asked how amalgamation could affect rates, particularly for marae and Māori land. The Forum noted that rating impacts should be clearly understood and communicated as part of any proposal.

Next steps: The Forum supported further discussion with iwi and hapū, including potential online hui or workshops with the inclusion of neighbouring iwi where possible. It was also noted the importance of providing factual information to support iwi feedback and informing Council's submission before it is considered by Council.

8 Ngā Pūrongo Whakamārama | Information Reports

8.1 Waitoa Water - Project update

CM No.: 3170579

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako on the Waitoa water consultation project and provide an opportunity for the Forum to provide feedback for Council consideration.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The information be received.
2. The Forum do not provide feedback on the proposal.

Resolution number AC/2026/00004

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Matua TC Clarke

KUA MANA | CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11.01am and reconvened at 11.09am.

8.2 Annual Te Manawhenua Forum Survey 2026

CM No.: 3170578

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to circulate the annual Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako (Forum) Survey for members to complete.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The Annual Te Manawhenua Forum survey has been circulated to Forum members since 2009. The Forum set a performance measure in the 2024 Long Term Plan where the overall result of one of the survey questions would be reported on in the Annual Report for the life of the Plan (three years).

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The annual survey is received and completed by Forum members

Resolution number AC/2026/00005

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Matua TC Clarke

KUA MANA | CARRIED

8.3 Long Term Plan 2027-37 Project Update

CM No.: 3172484

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Forum with an update on the Long Term Plan 2027-37 (LTP) project and seek feedback.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

The LTP is Council's ten year plan for the services and projects it will deliver, what they will cost, and how they will be funded. Development of the LTP is well underway. Key dates are outlined within the report.

Staff welcome any feedback from the Forum on

- Elements of the LTP have been completed or are in progress as detailed throughout this report
- Feedback on issues related to rating for Māori freehold land to be considered as part of a review of the Rates Remission and Postponement Policy
- Content for the Māori engagement in decision-making section.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The report be received.
2. The Forum provide any feedback on the Long Term Plan 2027-37 project.
3. The Forum provide any feedback on issues related to rating for Māori freehold land to be considered as part of a review of the Rates Remission and Postponement Policy.
4. The Forum provide any feedback on the content for the Māori engagement in decision making section of the Long Term Plan 2027-37.

Resolution number AC/2026/00006

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Matua CS Solomon

KUA MANA | CARRIED

The Forum discussed the Long Term Plan 2027-37 project and provided the following themed feedback:

Rates on marae: The Forum sought clarification on how rates apply to marae, including whether charges relate only to water and wastewater services rather than land rates. It was noted that where water or wastewater services are provided, a rates notice may be issued; where those services are not provided, rates may not be payable.

Wastewater charging and remissions: The Forum discussed wastewater charges for marae and how these are calculated, including whether toilet pans and urinals are included. It was noted that remissions may apply where facilities are not in regular use, and that marae should advise the rating team where toilets or facilities have been removed, retired or are not being used so records can be amended.

Māori freehold land: The Forum raised concerns about rating Māori freehold land with multiple owners, including situations where land may be used or grazed by others. It was noted that Council should ensure rating information is accurate, that appropriate authority to pay rates is confirmed, and that trustees or relevant owners are contacted where required.

Sites of significance: The Forum asked how sites of significance and land associated with Treaty settlements are treated within the rating system. It was noted that if land is incorrectly assumed to be in use, Council should be advised as soon as possible so rating records can be reviewed and corrected where appropriate.

Māori engagement in decision-making: The Forum noted that mechanisms for Māori engagement in Council decision-making have strengthened over time, including through papakāinga work, iwi-specific staff roles and working groups. The Forum also noted interest in understanding how other councils across the rohe provide for active iwi participation in decision-making.

8.4 Policies, Plans and Bylaws Update June 2026

CM No.: 3170861

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Te Manawhenua Forum (Forum) with an update on the consultation and adoption process of the following:

- Fees and Charges 2026/27
- Local Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy
- Rates Remission and Postponement Policy
- Land Transport Bylaw
- Policy on Dogs and Dog Control Bylaw

In addition, the report provides an update on the draft Climate Resilience Strategy, the Waste Minimisation and Management Plan and the draft Annual Plan 2026/27.

A separate report provides an update on the development of the Long Term Plan 2027-37.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

Recent Consultation and Decision-Making on Policies and Bylaws

Formal consultation was undertaken on several key documents, with the consultation period running from 16 March to 19 April 2026. A total of 274 submissions were received across all topics. On 13 May 2026, Council held a hearing of submitters to formally consider the feedback received before making decisions and finalising the documents.

The documents that were taken to Council on 13 May were adopted and will come into force on 1 July 2026.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

- 1. The information be received.**

Resolution number AC/2026/00007

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Whaea D Vaimoso

KUA MANA | CARRIED

8.5 District Plan and Resource Management Plans Update

CM No.: 3130687

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Te Manawhenua Forum Mo Matamata-Piako (TMF) 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 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 Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The information be received.
2. The Forum provide feedback on the District Plan and Resource Management Plans.

Resolution number AC/2026/00008

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Matua TC Clarke

KUA MANA | CARRIED

ATTACHMENTS

A NES presentation to the forum

The Forum discussed the District Plan and Resource Management Plans update and provided the following themed feedback:

Further information and workshop needs: The Forum noted that a workshop was not required at this stage, but requested further information to support awareness of Resource Management Act changes, including links to relevant regulations and the presentation provided at the meeting.

Growth, infrastructure and community services: The Forum discussed whether growth-related consents should consider supporting infrastructure and services, including parking, schools, health services and hospitals. It was noted that integrated infrastructure planning is increasingly important, particularly given local growth and an ageing population, although Council's role may be limited to advocacy and working with key partners.

Health services: The Forum noted the importance of health service availability in rural towns, including general practitioner access, and acknowledged broader regional initiatives intended to support improved health workforce outcomes.

Wastewater and receiving environments: The Forum highlighted the need to consider wastewater capacity, treatment methods and impacts on receiving environments as part of growth planning. Members emphasised the importance of protecting te taiao (natural environment) and carefully considering wastewater solutions, particularly in light of examples where larger systems have not delivered expected outcomes.

Click [here](#) to access the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Papakāinga) Regulations 2026.

8.6 Emergency Management Update

CM No.: 3172848

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Te Manawhenua Forum on national, regional and local Civil Defence Emergency Management matters, including Council's response to Ex Tropical Cyclone Vaianu, and to provide information on current work programmes, emerging issues and improvement activity.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

This report provides Te Manawhenua Forum with an update on national, regional and local Civil Defence Emergency Management matters, with particular emphasis on the Council response to Ex Tropical Cyclone Vaianu in April 2026. It provides an update to the Emergency Management Bill (No 2), the National Assurance Project, and summarises regional implementation of the Waikato CDEM Group Strategic Plan 2025–2030.

At the local level, the report highlights operational readiness, response activity, staff effort, exercise implications, and emerging improvement themes from recent event debriefs.

It also signals ongoing work in marae preparedness, welfare arrangements, Māori partnerships, and community-led response planning. The report is provided for information and awareness to support continuous improvement in Council's emergency management capability and preparedness.

WHAKATAUNGA Ā-KOMITI | COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

That:

1. The information be received.
2. The forum provide feedback on marae preparedness and resources.

Resolution number AC/2026/00009

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Whaea D Vaimoso

KUA MANA | CARRIED

The Forum discussed the Emergency Management update and provided the following themed feedback:

Communications with marae: The Forum noted the importance of clear and consistent communications with marae about emergency management support, including encouraging marae to contact the emergency management team. It was noted that communications should use appropriate channels and involve relevant iwi contacts to support consistency and reach.

Marae preparedness and resources: The Forum referred to other councils and their support towards Civil Defence Emergency Management containers at marae, including the types of resources they may contain. Staff noted that funding is a concern, with neighbouring councils able

to obtain funding through events specific to their rohe. They further noted that there are other costs associated with the establishment of the containers such as maintenance and ongoing planning, coordination and support rather than being limited to the provision of equipment.

8.7 Member Representatives Update

CM No.: 3173312

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/2026/00010

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Matua TC Clarke

KUA MANA | CARRIED

Tiamana Hinerangi Vaimoso noted that Te Kōtuitui grant had been fully allocated for upcoming Matariki events being held by Raungaiti Marae, Ngāti Hinerangi and Ngāti Rāhiri-Tumutumu.

8.8 Te Manawhenua Forum Work Programme Update - June 2026

CM No.: 3130694

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.

Resolution number AC/2026/00011

Moved by: Tiamana H Vaimoso

Seconded by: Matua L Whaiapu

KUA MANA | CARRIED

11.58am

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

Matua Tumohe Clarke performed the closing Karakia.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
OF THE MEETING OF TE MANAWHENUA FORUM
MO MATAMATA-PIAKO HELD ON 9 JUNE 2026.

KO TE RĀ | DATE:

TIAMANA | CHAIRPERSON: