Kaunihera | Council

Mēneti Wātea | Open Minutes

te kaunihera ā-rohe o matamata-piako district council








Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Matamata-Piako District Council held in the Council Chambers, 35 Kenrick Street, TE AROHA on Wednesday 18 November 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
Sailimalo 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	Document Reference#
Extraordinary Council – 18 November 2026	3252704

Minutes prepared by:
Stephanie Hutchins
Kaitohu Mātāmua Kāwana | Senior Governance Advisor

Ngā whakapāha | Apologies

Name	Position/Organisation
Tyrel Glass	Te Aroha Ward Councillor, Matamata-Piako District Council

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

Name	Position/Organisation	Time In	Time Out
Grace Bonnar	Morrinsville Ward Councillor, Matamata-Piako District Council	9.02am	9.32am

Kaimahi i reira | Staff Present

Name	Title	Item No.
Manaia Te Wiata	Tumu Whakarae | Chief Executive Officer	
Stephanie Hutchins	Kaitohu Mātāmua Kāwana | Senior Governance Advisor	
Tamara Kingi	Kaiārahi Kāwana | Governance Team Leader	5.1
Sandra Harris	Pou Kaupapahere me te Kāwana | Policy and Governance Manager	5.1
Kelly Reith	Hautū Tāngata me te Tutukinga | Group Manager People and Performance	

I reira | In Attendance

There were no external speakers in attendance.

1 Whakatūwheratanga o te hui | Meeting Opening

Mayor Ash Tanner welcomed members, staff and those viewing the livestream, and declared the meeting open at 9.02am.

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

Apology

WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That the apology from Councillor Tyrel Glass be accepted and leave of absence from the meeting be granted.

Resolution number CO/2026/00001

Moved by: **Deputy Mayor J Sainsbury**
Seconded by: **Cr G Marshall**

KUA MANA | CARRIED

3 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.

4 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, 28 October 2026, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Resolution number CO/2026/00002

Moved by: **Cr A McGiven**
Seconded by: **Cr S Whiting**

KUA MANA | CARRIED

5 Ngā Pūrongo A Ngā Āphia | Officer Reports

5.1 Request for Te Manawhenua Forum Exception for Non-Elected Members' Voting and Quorum Rights

CM No.: 3248032

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

To seek Council's approval to apply for an exception to new legislative restrictions on non-elected members' voting and quorum rights for Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako, and to support Waikato Regional Council's exception application for the Future Proof Implementation Committee.

Rāpopotonga Matua | Executive Summary

From 19 March 2027, legislative changes will restrict affected non-elected members' voting rights and prevent them from counting towards a quorum. Council is asked to seek an exception under section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002 for Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako (Forum) and support Waikato Regional Council's exception application for the Future Proof Implementation Committee, preserving affected members' existing rights.

The Forum's current quorum requires both elected and iwi representatives, so the changes affect its existing governance arrangements. If the exception is declined, staff would work with the Forum to consider remaining a Council committee without non-elected members' voting or quorum rights, or becoming an advisory group.

Waikato Regional Council would coordinate a governance review for Future Proof if its application is declined.

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

1. **Council seeks an exception under section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002 for the affected non-elected members of Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako, to retain their existing voting rights and standing for quorum purposes.**

2. **Council acknowledges that should an exception not be granted for Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako, staff will work with Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako to review the governance arrangements**

3. **Council delegates authority to the Mayor to sign, and to the Chief Executive to submit, Council's exception application for Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako by 18 November 2026, consistent with the above decisions.**

Tūtohunga | Recommendation

That:

4. **Council supports an application made by Waikato Regional Council for an exception under section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002 for the affected non-elected members of the Future Proof Implementation Committee to retain their existing voting rights and standing for quorum purposes.**

5. **Council acknowledges that should an exception not be granted for the Future Proof Implementation Committee, Waikato Regional Council staff will work with participating authorities to review the governance arrangements.**

WHAKATAUNGA A TE KAUNIHERA | COUNCIL RESOLUTION
That:

1. **Council seeks an exception under section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002 for the affected non-elected members of Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako, to retain their existing voting rights and standing for quorum purposes, subject to staff adding comment from the Forum and example recommendations and outlining the process for their formal adoption by Council.**

2. **Council acknowledges that should an exception not be granted for Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako, staff will work with Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako to review the governance arrangements.**

3. **Council delegates authority to the Mayor to sign, and to the Chief Executive to submit, Council's exception application for Te Manawhenua Forum mō Matamata-Piako by 18 November 2026, consistent with the above decisions.**

4. **Council acknowledges an application made by Waikato Regional Council for an exception under section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002 for the affected non-elected members of the Future Proof Implementation Committee to retain their existing voting rights and standing for quorum purposes and neither supports or opposes this application.**

5. **Council supports the nation-wide application by Creative New Zealand for an exception under section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002, to enable non-elected members of Creative Communities Scheme Assessment Committees to retain voting rights and be counted for quorum purposes. Should an exception not be granted for the Creative Communities Scheme Assessment Committee, staff will work with Creative New Zealand to review the arrangements.**

Resolution number CO/2026/00003

Moved by: **Deputy Mayor J Sainsbury**
Seconded by: **Cr G Thompson**

KUA MANA | CARRIED

9.32 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 18 NOVEMBER 2026.

KO TE RĀ | DATE: .....

TIAMANA | CHAIRPERSON: .....