



Eketāhuna Community Board

Minutes of a meeting of the Eketāhuna Community Board held in the Eketāhuna War Memorial Hall, corner of Jones Street and State Highway 2, Eketāhuna on Monday 14 April 2025 commencing at 10:00 am.

1. Present

Board Members: S C McGhie (Chairperson), T M Carew (via Teams), E E Chase, and Cr M F Long

In Attendance

Councillor S Gilmore

Mrs K Tani	–	Group Manager – Strategy and Community Wellbeing
Mrs A Dunn	–	Manager – Democracy Services

2. Apologies

That the apologies from Member L J Barclay be approved and leave of absence granted for the meeting.

Chase/Carew

Carried

3. Public Forum

3.1 Public Forum - Pūkaha Team - Garden Tour

Emily Court, General Manager, accompanied by Julie xx, Manager of the Wananga were in attendance to speak about the planned fundraising garden tour for Pukaha Mt Bruce. They noted that this year would be the 15th year that the tour had been held, and would be held on 22 and 23 November 2025. They spoke about how it would be an opportunity to promote the town, and showcase what Eketahuna had to offer, and promote businesses.

They noted that two local gardens had committed to opening their grounds for the tour. They asked that Board Members help to spread the word

about the tour, and encourage members of the community to get in touch with them if they wished their garden to be included on the tour, as they would like to have a number of gardens in Eketahuna for people to visit. They talked about how their last tour had over 2,500 people buy tickets from across New Zealand, noting that there are a number of groups that enjoy participating in garden tours. They also noted that many participants like to stay locally, so would be an opportunity for local accommodation providers to be involved.

They asked that other events, such as the Eketahuna market, be held to coincide with the date of the garden tour.

Board members advised that they would put them in touch with the market organiser.

For anyone wanting to be involved in the garden tour, the Pukaha team could be reached via email on booking@pukaha.org.nz.

The Board also asked that the organising team also present to the Our Town Committee meeting being held in July 2025.

3.2 Presentation – Sports Award to Ben Johnstone

On behalf of Sports Tararua, Chairperson Steen McGhie presented a Sports Award to Ben Johnstone.

4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

Update on Radio Station

Cenotaph Clean Up

Tennis Courts

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business

Nil

6. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 10 March 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Long/Chase

Carried

7. Tararua District Council Report

7.1 Report from Tararua District Council

That the report from the Tararua District Council meeting held 26 March 2025 be received.

Chase/Carew

Carried

8. Reports

8.1 Consultation on draft Annual Plan and Supporting Information

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report from the Manager – Democracy Services dated 09 April 2025 that provided information to the Board on upcoming consultation on the draft Annual Plan and supporting information.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 09 April 2025 concerning the Consultation on draft Annual Plan and Supporting Information be received.

Carew/Long

Carried

8.2 Management Report

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 8 April 2025 that provided an update to the Board on key activities and items of interest from the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee and Community Development and Wellbeing Committee.

The Board discussed a need for an additional ashes wall at the Eketahuna cemetery, and agreed to lodge a CRM to this effect.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 07 April 2025 concerning the Management Report be received.

Chase/Carew

Carried

8.3 Eketahuna Millennium Time Capsule

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report from the Manager – Democracy Services dated 26 March 2025 that presented background information to the Board regarding the Eketāhuna Millennium Time Capsule.

The Board agreed to take the item to Eketāhuna Our Town meeting for discussion of holding a public event to uplift the time capsule, potentially in conjunction with

market day.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 25 March 2025 concerning the Eketahuna Millennium Time Capsule be received.

Long/Carew

Carried

9. Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities

- 9.1 **Swimming Pool Committee:** Board member Chase sought an update on the power supply at the substation on Church Street, noting that the power supply needed upgrading by Powerco before the swimming pool could install equipment to heat the pool. It was suggested that contact be made by the Board with Powerco to discuss.
- 9.2 **Civic Honours:** Councillor Mike Long spoke about the two Civic Honour celebrations that he attended on behalf of Council, that honoured the significant community contribution made by Charlie Timu and by Barbara Ferguson.
- 9.3 **Eketāhuna Our Town:** it was noted that minutes from Eketāhuna Our Town needed to be sent to the Manager – Democracy Services so that they could be included in the Eketāhuna Community Board agenda.

10. Correspondence

Nil

11. Discussion Items

11.1 Use of Eketāhuna War Memorial Hall as a Civil Defence Management Hub

It was agreed that the Chairperson would talk to the Emergency Management Advisor about the Board's proposal to use the Eketāhuna War Memorial Hall as a Civil Defence Management Hub. It was agreed to have further discussion on this item once Board member Carew returned in September.

11.2 Update on Kiwi Artwork

Board member Chase noted that the two business owners were going to remove the artwork, and had been in touch with both the artist and with Eketāhuna Our Town committee.

12. Chairperson's Remarks

Chairperson McGhie noted that local couple Margaret and Mark Chapple had celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary and had received a letter from the

Prime Minister.

13. Items not on the Agenda

- 13.1 **Radio station:** Board member Chase noted that a committee had been formed, and discussions had been held with Eketāhuna Our Town regarding assistance with funding for rent until October 2025. In response to a question about funding availability from the Main Street account, members were reminded that funding for these accounts ceased in the Long Term Plan 2024-34 and were no longer in existence.

Councillor Mike Long left the meeting at 10:57am

- 13.2 **Cenotaph:** Chairperson McGhie noted that he had lodged a CRM for the cenotaph to have mould cleaned off, and plaster repairs done, so that the cenotaph was ready for Anzac Day commemorations, however there was still green mould in evidence and the plaster repair to the entranceway not yet complete.

Councillor Mike Long returned to the meeting at 10:58am.

- 13.3 **Tennis Courts:** in response to an enquiry about whether the nets were up at the tennis courts, it was advised that the Tennis Club had folded. It was agreed that contact would be made with the former President to ask about the location of the nets, and also to make contact with Raylene Treder of Sport Tararua.

- 13.4 **Recruitment of Community Engagement Officer:** it was advised that Sarah Fountaine had been appointed to the role of Community Engagement Officer, starting 28 April 2025.

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 11:01am.

Chairperson