



## 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 12 July 2021 commencing at 10.00am.

### 1. Present

Board Members C C Death (Chairperson), S C McGhie (Deputy Chairperson), D F Clifton and Cr R A Treder (Council appointed Community Board member).

#### In Attendance

Mr R Taylor	-	Manager - Democracy Services
Dr C Matthews	-	Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre (for item 10)
Mr C Skeet	-	Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre (for item 10)
Ms E Court	-	Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre (for item 10)

### 2. Apologies

- 2.1 *That an apology be sustained from Board Member Terry Carew for non-attendance at the meeting.*

*Clifton/Treder*

*Carried*

### 3. Personal Matters

- 3.1 Nil

### 4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

- 4.1 Nil

### 5. Confirmation of Minutes

- 5.1 *That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 14 June 2021 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

*McGhie/Treder*

*Carried*

## **6. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

### **6.1 General Assistance Grants Scheme (Item 6.1)**

6.1.1 An email is tabled from Craig Carter for the Eketāhuna Community Radio Society regarding the grant it received from the Board's General Assistance Grants Scheme toward the cost of insurance.

6.1.2 They have requested the purpose of the funding granted for insurance (\$767.17) be changed and applied to help pay rent owed to the Council.

6.1.3 The Board agreed to consider this request at its next meeting subject to receiving from Eketāhuna Community Radio Society a copy of their statement of income and expenditure for the recent financial year that has been reviewed independently.

### **6.2 New Residents Welcome Afternoon Tea (Item 6.2)**

6.2.1 The invoice received from Eketāhuna Club for \$600 to provide catering at the new residents welcome afternoon tea has been paid from the Board's discretionary funds.

### **6.3 Eketāhuna Our Town Incorporated (Item 8.2)**

6.3.1 Plans have been made to progress the development of the fitness track through arrangements made to undertake the work involved.

6.3.2 A dinner was arranged on 26 June 2021 to recognise and convey appreciation to the volunteers that willingly give their time and commitment to working at the Eketāhuna Information Centre.

### **6.4 Housing (Item 13.1)**

6.4.1 Council's Strategy and Policy Adviser Malcolm Thomas met with board members to discuss housing needs in the community as part of the work he is undertaking as an assessment for the development of a district housing strategy.

### **6.5 Camellias on State Highway 2 Town Entrance (Item 14.1)**

6.5.1 A working bee will be undertaken by Eketāhuna Our Town Committee in spring to trim and tidy up the appearance of the camellias on State Highway 2 at the town entrance.

## **7. Tararua District Council Report**

7.1 *That the report of the Tararua District Council meeting held on 30 June 2021 (as circulated) be received.*

**McGhie/Treder**

**Carried**

## 7.2 **Play Trailer**

- 7.2.1 The availability of the Play Trailer purchased by Council for the district is noted, and it is proposed this could be booked to be part of the Eketāhuna Santa Cruise Christmas parade.

## 8. **Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities**

- 8.1 Nil

## 9. **Correspondence**

- 9.1 Nil

## 10. **Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre**

- 10.1 Emily Court, Dr Claire Matthews and Callum Skeet attended the meeting to speak on activities, plans and future developments at Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre.

- 10.2 Emily Court spoke on the long and proud history of Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre as a wildlife reserve and centre for captive breeding, with its achievements including the following:

- Breeds a number of rare and endangered birds for rare species management, and is recognised as having a national and international reputation in undertaking programmes for that purpose.
- Is one of Tararua and Wairarapa's foremost visitor attractions.
- Hosts over 42,000 visitors annually (pre-covid numbers).
- Conducts unique guided cultural hiko through the reserve.
- Has a very close working relationship with Rangitāne o Tamaki Nui-a-Rua.
- Has an annual turnover of \$2 million and employs 38 staff.

- 10.3 The Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre Board has identified environment and ecology education and edu-tourism as very high priorities, leveraging the learning and national assets for the benefit of the community and especially schools.

- 10.4 Following completion of a feasibility study and business case Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre Board commissioned planning an Education and Accommodation Centre built on the reserve.

- 10.5 That project now known as Te Waananga Taiao was designed with significant input from educationalists and Rangitāne to provide accommodation for 40 people. It includes a whare nui that will seat 150 and sleep 50, catering facilities and a whare kai seating 100.

- 10.6 The total cost of the environment and ecology education programme including construction of the new Education and Accommodation Centre is \$5.2 million. The design and construction cost is \$4.6 million.

- 10.7 Approximately half (\$2.5 million) of the total cost of the programme is being met by the Provincial Growth Fund, with the other half provided by Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre Board.
- 10.8 That contribution is planned to come from a number of sources; corporate sponsorship, grants, community fundraising and borrowing.
- 10.9 Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre Board greatly appreciate Council's decision to support this project through making \$1 million of loan funding available for a term of ten years with principal payments commencing in year five.
- 10.10 Approaches have also been made to councils in the Wairarapa (Masterton, South Wairarapa and Carterton) seeking funding support from them for this project.
- 10.11 The new facility will provide Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre with greater robustness through the creation of multiple revenue streams such as education, corporate hireage (including catering and activities), community groups and events.
- 10.12 Through the new environment and ecology education programme as a whole, including the Education and Accommodation Centre, it is forecast to increase regional GDP by \$7 million within the first five years, in addition to the educational, social recreational and cultural benefits.
- 10.13 Ruud Kleinpaste who is renowned nationally as "the Bug Man" has agreed to support this project through being its ambassador to promote and market the fundraising campaign.
- 10.14 Dr Claire Matthews invited the Community Board to be involved with this project by assisting to facilitate and partner with the community to support the fundraising.
- 10.15 In undertaking that role the Board could help coordinate arrangements and opportunities for the community to contribute to the project through generating fundraising initiatives such as events, sponsorships and donations.
- 10.16 Board members agreed to consider at its next meeting the intended approach to this matter through discussing ideas and suggestions linked to possible options for fundraising from the community to support this project.
- 10.17 Callum Skeet spoke on investigations being undertaken to consider the feasibility of developing walking and cycling areas connecting to Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre.

## **11. Chairperson's Remarks**

### **11.1 Eketāhuna Civil Defence Response Group**

- 11.1.1 The Eketāhuna Civil Defence Response Group annual catch-up is held tonight at 6.00pm in the Eketāhuna Fire Station.

**11.2 Nireaha Reserve Board**

11.2.1 The Nireaha Reserve Board Annual General Meeting is held on 29 July 2021 at 1.00pm in the Nireaha Hall.

**11.3 Food Secure Communities Project**

11.3.1 Emma Elliott is to attend the Board's next meeting to outline the Food Secure Communities project she has been employed as a contractor to collate the data for the plan being developed regarding that matter.

**12. Items Not on the Agenda**

12.1 Nil

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 11.10am.

---

Chairperson