
Community and Natural Environment Committee

Te Komiti Haapori me te oranga o te Taiao

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Natural Environment Committee held in Council Chamber and Audio-Visual Link, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Tuesday 12 November 2024 at 9:30am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Cr Kesh Naidoo-Rauf
<i>Heamana</i>	
Deputy Chairperson	Cr Anna Casey-Cox
<i>Heamana Tuarua</i>	
Members	Deputy Mayor Angela O’Leary
	Cr Maxine van Oosten
	Cr Ewan Wilson
	Cr Mark Donovan (via Audio-Visual)
	Cr Louise Hutt
	Cr Andrew Bydder (via Audio-Visual)
	Cr Geoff Taylor (via Audio-Visual)
	Cr Sarah Thomson (via Audio-Visual)
	Cr Emma Pike
	Cr Maria Huata
	Cr Tim Macindoe
	Maangai Olly Te Ua

Brother Rev Andrew McKean from the Anglican Church opened the meeting with a prayer.

1. **Apologies – *Tono aroha***

Resolved: (Cr Naidoo-Rauf/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the Community and Natural Environment Committee accepts the apologies for Mayor Southgate for (Council business) and for Cr Tauariki from full absence and from Cr Donovan from lateness.

2. **Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***

Resolved: (Cr Naidoo-Rauf/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the Community and Natural Environment Committee confirms the agenda.

3. **Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipanga***

No members of the Committee declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. **Public Forum – *Aatea koorero***

Neil Tolan (Western Community Centre) spoke to Item 7 (Community Occupancy Applications) in support of the staff recommendation, in particular use of an unused sports changing room to create a new youth hub.

Jackie Hart (Progress to Health) spoke to Item 7 (Community Occupancy Applications) in support of the Staff recommendations and outlined the benefits of Karo Gardens, particularly for those with mental health challenges and disabilities.

Emma Brookes (Turn & Gymnastics Circle) spoke to Item 7 (Community Occupancy Applications) and noting the club's intention to join the proposed Eastlink Community Hub.

Rena Schuster spoke to Item 7 (Community Occupancy Applications) in support for Turn & Gymnastics Circle lease application.

Cr Donovan joined the meeting (9.49am) during the discussion of the above item.

5. Confirmation of the Community and Natural Environment Committee Minutes 10 September 2025

Resolved: (Cr Naidoo-Rauf/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the Community and Natural Environment Committee confirms the Open Minutes of the Community and Natural Environment Committee Meeting held on 10 September 2024 as a true and correct record.

6. Chair's report

The Chair spoke to her report and provided an overview of achievements in the Community and Natural Areas space over the last year.

Resolved: (Cr Naidoo-Rauf/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the Community and Natural Environment Committee receives the report.

7. Community occupancy applications - Hamilton Cricket Association, Hamilton Radio Control Car Club, Progress to Health, Turn and Gymnastics Circle, Western Community Centre.

The Team Leader - Sports & Community Facilities took the report as read.

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Maangai Te Ua)

That the Community and Natural Environment Committee:

a) receives the report;

b) approves a new community group lease, under s54(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977, to **Hamilton Cricket Association Incorporated** for land area of 57m² at Galloway Park, as shown in Attachment 1, being Pt Allot 158 Town of Hamilton East, subject to the following terms and conditions:

i. Term – 15 years;

ii. Rent – \$48.09 plus GST per annum, in accordance with the Community Occupancy Policy; and

iii. All other terms and conditions in accordance with the Community Occupancy Policy and Guidelines.

c) approves a new community Licence to Occupy, under s54(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977, to **Hamilton Radio Control Car Club Incorporated** for land area of 3,000m² at Bristol Park, as shown on Attachment 2, being part of Lot 43 DPS 15960, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- i. Term – 5 years;
 - ii. Rent – \$978.13 GST per annum
 - iii. All other terms and conditions in accordance with the Community Occupancy Policy and Community Occupancy Guidelines; and
- d) approves a new community group lease, under s54(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977, to **New Progress Enterprises Charitable Trust** for land area of 2,958m² and clubhouse building area of 114m², shed area of 54m² at Caro Park, as shown in Attachment 3, being Allot 429, Parish of Kirikiriroa, subject to the following terms and conditions:
- i. Term – 10 years;
 - ii. Rent - \$1,642.55 plus GST per annum, in accordance with the Community Occupancy Policy; and
 - iii. All other terms and conditions in accordance with the Community Occupancy Policy and Guidelines.
- e) approves the transfer of ownership of the disused Council owned changing rooms and public toilets building at Elliott Park to **Western Community Association Incorporated** *as is and where is, without liability to Council*; noting that the asset and any improvements would revert to Council upon termination of the lease as per Reserves Act 1977 provisions.
- f) Subject to approval of d), approves grant a new community group lease, under s54(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977, to **Western Community Association Incorporated** for land area of 1,224m² at Elliot Park, as shown in Attachment 4, being Lot 2 DPS 330953, subject to the following terms and conditions:
- i. Term – 15 years; and
 - ii. Rent – \$689.53 plus GST per annum, in accordance with the Community Occupancy Policy; and
 - iii. Special condition – licence area for storage container used as outdoor gym; and
 - iv. All other terms and conditions in accordance with the Community Occupancy Policy and Guidelines.
- g) notes that Western Community Association plan to redevelop the changing rooms and public toilet building into a bookable community space and youth hub.
- h) approves in principle support for **Turn and Gymnastics Circle Incorporated** to develop a gymsports facility at Lugton Park, noting that Eastlink Community Hub lease application including any sub-lease arrangements and the full gymsport facility development proposal will be reported back to the Committee.

Deputy Mayor O’Leary left the meeting (10.04am) during the discussion of the above item. She was not present when the matter was voted on.

8. Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Quarterly Report

The Safety & Resilience Unit Director introduced the Response & Resilience Manager Robbie Hermann and he responded to questions from Members concerning the findings of recent National Emergency Management Agency review, Hikurangi Faultline data training, community resilience, and partnership opportunities with mana whenua.

Staff Action: *Staff undertook to facilitate Civil Defence and Emergency Management Foundation training for current Members and as part of future Member induction programmes.*

Resolved: (Cr Pike/Cr Hutt)

That the Community and Natural Environment Committee receives the report.

Deputy Mayor O’Leary re-joined the meeting (10.16am) during the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.

9. Destinations Group Update

The General Manager Destinations spoke to the report and on the number of provided an update on visitors recorded for the month of October , success of charging at the Hamilton Gardens. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning Hamilton Gardens Café, accommodation at the Zoo, facilities hire for community groups, guided tour parties and donations in the Hamilton Gardens, restoration work on Claudelands grandstand, and delivery of the Waiwhakareke project.

Staff Action: *Staff undertook to provide Members with further information regarding community groups utilisation of discounts and H3 venues.*

Resolved: (Cr Naidoo-Rauf/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the Community and Natural Environment Committee receives the report.

The meeting was declared closed at 11.19am.