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## Extraordinary Council

### *Kaunihera*

### OPEN MINUTES

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Minutes of a meeting of the Council held in Council Chamber, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton and via Audio Visual link on Wednesday 19 May 2021 at 9.34am.

#### PRESENT

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| <b>Chairperson</b>           | Mayor P Southgate                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b><i>Heamana</i></b>        |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Deputy Chairperson</b>    | Deputy Mayor G Taylor                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b><i>Heamana Tuarua</i></b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Members</b>               | Cr M Bunting<br>Cr M Gallagher<br>Cr R Hamilton<br>Cr D Macpherson<br>Cr K Naidoo-Rauf (via Audio Visual link)<br>Cr A O'Leary<br>Cr R Pascoe<br>Cr S Thomson<br>Cr M van Oosten<br>Cr E Wilson |

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| <b>In Attendance</b> | Richard Briggs – Chief Executive<br>Sean Hickey – General Manager Strategy and Communication<br>David Bryant – General Manager People and Organisational Performance<br>Becca Brooke – Governance Manager<br>Muna Wharawhara – Amorangi Maaori |
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Dale Ofoske – Managing Director, Election Services

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| <b>Governance Staff</b> | Amy Viggers – Governance Team Leader<br>Carmen Fortin, Narelle Waite and Tyler Gaukrodger – Governance Advisors |
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*Tame Pokaia opened the meeting with karakia and was responded to by Atutahi Riki.*

- 1. Apologies – *Tono aroha***  
**Resolved:** (Cr Gallagher/Cr Macpherson)  
That the apologies for lateness from Cr Pascoe and Cr Naidoo-Rauf are accepted.
- 2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***  
**Resolved:** (Mayor Southgate/Deputy Mayor Taylor)  
That the agenda is confirmed noting that Public Forum submissions will be 3 minutes per submission to enable the Council to hear from as many submitters as possible.

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

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

**4. Public Forum – *Aatea koorero***

**Ngira Simmonds** (Waikato-Tainui)

Mr Simmonds spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He spoke of the potential positive impact to all people that would be achieved through the adoption of Maaori Wards.

**Lady Tureiti Moxon**

Lady Moxon spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. She noted that the Aotearoa coat of arms was a symbol of the partnership of equals between the crown and iwi, and how the Treaty of Waitangi guarantees Maaori people participation in democracy.

**Matutaera Te Anga Herangi**

Mr Herangi spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards, noting of the history of Kingitanga and how adoption of Maaori Wards would continue the partnership together as a people.

**Aaron Hardy**

Mr Hardy spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards, the electoral process and the founding commitment of the Treaty of Waitangi.

**Geoff Lewis**

Mr Lewis spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) noting his opposition of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He outlined his concerns that there was a lack of adequate consultation and that the establishment of Maaori Wards was an attack on democracy.

**Danielle Marks**

Ms Marks spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards and Maangai Maaori, and outlined the history of the Treaty of Waitangi.

**Russell Armitage**

Mr Armitage spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He outlined benefits that he believed the country has experienced since more closely following the Treaty of Waitangi and noted his belief that the establishment of Maaori Wards would provide more benefits.

*Cr Pascoe joined the meeting (10.06am) during the above submission.*

**Ross Windust**

Mr Windust spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in opposition of the adoption of Maaori Ward as he felt it was a division between races by central government, and that the changes to the Local Government Act did not go through due process.

**Brett Erceg**

Mr Erceg spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in opposition of the adoption of Maaori Wards, as he felt there was a lack of time and advertisement of the consultation process, and that minorities in New Zealand being left out. He spoke in support of Maaori having input to Council as the first peoples of this land, but believed Maaori Wards were making people choose between their heritage.

**Claudine Waitere**

Ms Waitere spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. She felt that Maaori Wards would improve the city and wished for Maangai Maaori to continue to work alongside the Council in addition to Maaori Wards.

**Lindsay Cumberpatch**

Mr Cumberpatch spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He believed Maaori have traditionally been disenfranchised in the electoral process, and adopting Maaori Wards would provide them a voice and more closely follow the intention of the Treaty of Waitangi.

**Wiremu Puke**

Mr Puke spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He spoke of his suggestions of the title names of Maaori Wards, and spoke in support of increased collaboration between Council and Iwi.

**Hekeiterangi Broadhurst**

Ms Broadhurst spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. She spoke of other districts adopting Maaori Wards, and felt that Hamilton Council should not be left behind. She spoke of young Maaori needing opportunities to participate, and how having a voice on Council will better prepare Hamilton for the future.

**Tony McKenna**

Mr McKenna spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in opposition of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He supported Maaori being elected but did not support Maaori being elected into separate seats.

**Brian Burne**

Mr Burne spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in opposition of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He spoke of the history of the Treaty of Waitangi as a unifying document, and his belief that adoption of Maaori Wards was not following this example of unity. He explained that if Maaori Wards were to be established then other minorities should also receive Wards.

**Benjamin Doyle**

Mr Doyle spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He spoke of his ancestry, and explained that he felt the consultation with the public by Council showed support of the adoption of Maaori Wards.

**Rawiti Bidois (THAWK)**

Mr Bidois spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He spoke of the history of discrimination by the state in New Zealand, and how changes to the system were needed to remove this discrimination. He spoke of the importance of younger generations driving positive social change.

**Te Huia Pompey and Vicky Young (Te Papanui Enderley Community Trust)**

Mr Pompey and Ms Young spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. They felt that there should be a sharing of power between Council and iwi. They noted their support of a seat specifically being included for Ngati Wairere and the retentions of Maangai Maaori .

**Tuura (Ana) Rewha**

Ms Rewha spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. She felt that there was a need for Maaori representation on Council to adequately protect and govern the 28 paa sites within the Hamilton City boundary. She also spoke in support of a Maaori working group being created within Council to protect Maaori rights.

**Te Kopa King**

Mr King spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He thanked Maangai Maaori for their contributions to Council and their work in the protection of cultural sites in the Peacocke development area. He also spoke in support of a seat specifically being included for Ngaati Wairere.

**Donna Phillips**

Mrs Phillips spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. She congratulated Waipa District Council for their adoption of Maaori Wards and spoke in support of half of all Council seats becoming Maaori ward seats to allow true collaboration.

**Sakaio Te Whaiti-Smith**

Mr Te Whaiti-Smith spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He spoke of the murder of George Floyd, and how he felt that New Zealand had a oppressive state policy mirrors that case. He explained the importance of providing equal opportunities for Maaori.

**Jess Kranzhal**

Ms Kranzhal spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. She spoke of her previous experiences with local council, and her belief that increased diversity within the Council would provide a better environment for all people.

**Donald Turner (Waikato-Tainui)**

Mr Turner spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He spoke of the results of the consultation with the public, and that the intent of the establishment of Maaori Wards was to make Hamilton a better place for all people.

*Cr Naidoo-Rauf joined the meeting (11.09am) during the above submission.*

**Norm Hill**

Mr Hill spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. He spoke of work he had undertaken as Maangai Maaori with the councillors to represent Hamilton.

**Te Pora Thompson-Evans**

Ms Thompson-Evans spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards. She highlighted that Maangai Maaori have a voice during committee meetings, but Maaori do not have a voice during full Council meetings and must rely on others to make decisions for them, and that Maaori Wards would provide a true voice of Maaori at all levels.

**Olly Te Ua**

Mr Te Ua spoke to item 5 (Consideration of Maaori Wards) in support of the adoption of Maaori Wards.

**The meeting was adjourned from 11.21am to 12.17pm.**

## 5. Consideration of Maaori Wards

The General Manager Strategy and Communication and Governance Manager took the report as read noting that considerations of Maaori Wards had been triggered by changes to the Local Government Act. They responded to questions from Members concerning the submissions received during consultation, the timeline and engagement of the wider representation review and how the Maaori Ward roll would be split from the general roll.

**Resolved:** (Mayor Southgate/Cr van Oosten)

That the Council:

- a) receives the report;
- b) approves that **Maaori wards are established** for the 2022 election (option 2 in the options table);
- c) notes that the decision in b) above will legislatively be in effect for two trienniums (2022-2025 and 2025-2028) before the matter may be considered again; and
- d) notes that a wider representation review will take place in 2021/22 to determine representation arrangements as outlined in the staff report.

*Tame Pokaia closed the meeting with karakia.*

**The meeting was declared closed at 1.09pm.**