



**Otorohanga**

*District Council*

*Otorohanga - where kiwi can fly  
A dynamic, inclusive and unique district*

# OPEN MINUTES

## ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

**JUNE 2022**

### **Members of the Ōtorohanga District Council**

His Worship the Mayor, MM Baxter

Deputy Mayor, R Johnson

Councillor K Christison

Councillor B Ferguson

Councillor K Jeffries

Councillor R Dow

Councillor RA Klos

Councillor A Williams

For all meeting queries, please contact Council's Manager Governance ([governance@otodc.govt.nz](mailto:governance@otodc.govt.nz)).

Open minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Ōtorohanga District Council held in the St David’s Community Hall, cnr Ranfurly & Turongo Street, Otorohanga on Tuesday, 21 June 2022 commencing at 10.06am.

Tanya Winter

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

30 June 2022

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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**PRESENT**

His Worship the Mayor M Baxter and councillors A Williams, B Ferguson, K Christison, R Dow, K Jeffries, R Johnson and R Klos.

Councillors Jeffries and Johnson attended via the Zoom meeting platform.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

T Winter (Chief Executive), N Gower (Group Manager Strategy & Community), G Bunn (Group Manager Business Enablement), A Loe (Group Manager Regulatory & Growth), M Lewis (Group Manager Engineering & Assets), B O’Callaghan (Manager Finance), R McNeil (Chief Advisor), M Fleming (Senior Roading Assistant/Corridor Manager) and K King (Manager Governance).

**COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

His Worship the Mayor, M Baxter advised he was unable to chair the meeting due to losing his voice. As the deputy mayor was unwell and joined the meeting online, the Risk and Assurance Deputy Chairperson, Councillor A Williams assumed the role of Chairperson for the meeting.

Chairperson Williams then declared the meeting open at 10.06am.

**APOLOGIES**

An apology for lateness had been received from Councillor B Ferguson prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council receive and accept the apology for lateness from Councillor B Ferguson.

Chairperson Williams | His Worship the Mayor

**REFLECTION / PRAYER / WORDS OF WISDOM**

Councillor Klos provided these words of wisdom:

*“Seek first to understand, then to be understood.”*

*Stephen Covey*

**LATE ITEMS**

**RESOLVED:** That a presentation on the Waikato Housing Initiative from Lale Ieremia, Waikato Plan Regional Housing Lead be accepted as a late item noting there is no decision to be made.

Councillor Dow | His Worship the Mayor

## CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council confirm the order of the meeting as indicated in the agenda subject to the late item to be heard at 11.00am.

Chairperson Williams | Councillor Dow

## DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

## PUBLIC FORUM

Malcolm Reynolds spoke on the 3 Waters Reform. He stated the information provided from central Government was slanted and there was no evidence of the indicated 34,000 people per year suffering from gastroenteritis. Mr Reynolds was concerned about asset ownership and the ability to control assets and decide on future investment. He queried if Council had undertaken any cost/benefit analysis and stated aggregation will not deliver the proposed economies of scale. He was also concerned about the lack of a democratic process to determine the composition of the decision-makers with iwi being guaranteed half of the seats available.

Lee Smith, the local representative from Groundswell NZ also spoke on the 3 Waters Reform. She stated some councils have been silent or supported the asset grab via Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ). Ms Smith requested Council withdraw from LGNZ and reallocate the membership costs towards local infrastructure. She stated the community were feeling unheard and a fear mongering campaign was causing division among iwi and non-Māori constituents. She noted Groundswell were preparing a petition to seek a referendum on this issue and encouraged Council to publicly support the proposed referendum.

In response to a query, Ms Smith advised Groundswell had created a working group to consider a potential referendum question, but nothing was yet available for consideration. His Worship the Mayor encouraged all interested parties to visit the Taumata Arowai website and noted a staff report on the 3 Water Reform was included in the Council agenda.

## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

**RESOLVED:** That the open minutes of the Ōtorohanga District Council meeting held on 17 May 2022, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Councillor Klos | Councillor Dow

**RECEIPT OF MINUTES – KĀWHIA COMMUNITY BOARD**

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council receive the unconfirmed minutes of the Kāwhia Community Board meeting held on 27 May 2022 as circulated.

Councillor Jeffries | Councillor Klos

**RECEIPT OF MINUTES – ŌTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD**

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council receive the minutes of the Ōtorohanga Community Board meeting held on 2 June 2022 as circulated.

Councillor Dow | Councillor Christison

**MAYOR'S VERBAL REPORT**

The Chief Executive, T Winter read His Worship's report on the following activities undertaken:

- 19 May - Sean Horgan prior to his departure as Chief Executive from The Lines Company and before he assumed his position at Waipā Networks.
- 19 May - Tory Van der Hayden before her first wananga for the Tuia programme.
- 23 May - Gloria Campbell from the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) regarding food distribution within the Ōtorohanga community.
- 24-26 May – Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs visit to Kaikoura and Hurinui districts on the community resilience programme and meeting with MSD in Christchurch.
- 27 May – Zone 2 meeting at the Don Rowlands Centre, Karāpiro.
- 30 May – Visit to The Business Collective's new premises.
- 31 May – Waikato Plan youth in employment programme.

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council receive the report from His Worship the Mayor, M Baxter.

His Worship the Mayor | Councillor Dow

**ITEM 258: ANNUAL PLAN 2022/23 AND RATES RESOLUTION**

Council's Finance Manager, B O'Callaghan advised the report presented sought the adoption of the Annual Plan, confirmation of the Fees and Charges and to make the rates resolution.

Mr O’Callaghan noted queries had been received following the agenda release and he responded to the queries as follows:

- Clarified the loans referenced were internal and not external. This wording is directly from the Long Term Plan and staff undertook to ensure this was clarified in the next Long Term Plan.
- Advised of a new addition to the Fees and Charges for Health: Change of owner/operator at \$90.00 and additional inspections of \$165.00.
- Confirmed the ‘Better Off’ funding from central Government was not included in the Annual Plan as it had not yet been received.
- Agreed the wording of ‘extra-ordinary user’ on page 12 in relation to the Kāwhia water charges was ambiguous and would be amended to refer to the definition contained with the Water Services Bylaw 2013.
- Advised the rating revaluations would occur in October 2022 and the values for rates comparisons would then be updated.
- Noted the asterixis within the tables on pages 52 and 61 were missing the footnote advising the measures were mandatory under the Local Government Act 2002. The footnote was included for the table on page 55 and the administrative errors would be amended in the Annual Plan.
- Noted other administrative errors included typos, table numbering and consistency of headings.

In response to a query, Council’s Group Manager Engineering & Assets, M Lewis confirmed the wastewater treatment and disposal capital projects budget had increased from \$1.8M to \$3.5M. He advised this was a result of the design work completed with early high level estimates considerably higher than included in the Long Term Plan.

In response to a further query, Council’s Group Manager Business Enablement, G Bunn advised of the process to ensure the correct rates and charges were contained with the financial system.

**RESOLVED:** THAT ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL:

- a **Adopts** the Annual Plan 2022/23.
- b **Adopts** the Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2022/23.
- c **Sets** the following rates under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, on rating units in the district for the financial year commencing 1 July 2022 and ending on 30 June 2023.

All rates and amounts are plus GST at the prevailing rate. (The prevailing rate is currently 15%).

1. **ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT**

a. **General Rate**

A General Rate set under section 13 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of 0.0008876 cents in the dollar on the capital value of all rating units.

b. ***Uniform Annual General Charge***

A Uniform Annual General Charge of \$443.87000 per rating unit, set under section 15 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

2. **ŌTOROHANGA COMMUNITY**

a. ***Ōtorohanga Community Targeted Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every rating unit within the Ōtorohanga Community area, assessed on a differential basis as described below:

- i. a rate of 0.0011173 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the “commercial” category.
- ii. a rate of 0.0004469 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the “residential” category.

b. ***Ōtorohanga Community Uniform Targeted Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$103.30000 per rating unit on all rating units within the Ōtorohanga Community area

3. **KĀWHIA COMMUNITY**

a. ***Kāwhia Community Targeted Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of 0.0005362 cents in the dollar of capital value on all rating units within the Kāwhia Community area.

b. ***Kāwhia Community Uniform Targeted Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$87.22000 per rating unit on all rating units within the Kāwhia Community area

4. **TARGETED LOAN RATES**

a. ***Ōtorohanga Sewage Treatment Loan Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every rating unit within the Ōtorohanga Community area, assessed on a differential basis as described below:

- i. a rate of 0.0000702 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the “commercial” category.

- ii. a rate of 0.0000281 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the “residential” category.

b. ***Ōtorohanga Water Supply Loan Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every rating unit within the Ōtorohanga Community area, assessed on a differential basis as described below:

- i. a rate of 0.0000485 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the “commercial” category.
- ii. a rate of 0.0000243 cents in the dollar of capital value on every rating unit in the “residential” category.

c. ***Kāwhia Water Supply Loan Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of 0.0001808 cents in the dollar of capital value on all rating units within the Kāwhia Community area.

d. ***Arohena Rural Water Supply Loan Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of 0.0001478 cents in the dollar of capital value on all rating units within the Arohena Rural Water Supply Area.

e. ***Aotea Erosion Protection Loan Rate***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$313.00000 per rating unit on all rating units within the Aotea Community.

**5. TARGETED RATES**

a. ***Roading***

- i. A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 made of 0.0006438 cents in the dollar of capital value on all rating units within the Ōtorohanga District.
- ii. A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$321.96000 per rating unit on all rating units within the Ōtorohanga District.

b. ***Security Patrol***

- i. A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of 0.0006557 cents in the dollar of capital value on all rating units within the “Security Patrol Area” in the Ōtorohanga Community.

ii. A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$383.49000 per rating unit on all rating units within the “Security Patrol Area” in the Ōtorohanga Community.

c. **Aotea Erosion Targeted Rate**

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$182.55000 per rating unit on all rating units within the Aotea Community.

d. **District Halls**

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 for all rating units within the defined hall areas as follows:

Hall Separate Rating District	Rate in \$	Rating System	Uniform Annual Charge	
Arohena	0.0000100	capital value	\$45.00	Per rating unit
Kio Kio	0.0000060	capital value	\$20.00	Per rating unit
Tokanui Crossroads	-		\$20.00	Per rating unit
Puketotara/ Ngutunui	0.0000090	capital value	\$12.00	Per rating unit
Otewa	-		\$25.00	Per rating unit
Honikiwi	0.0000130	capital value	-	

6. **TARGETED REFUSE RATES**

a. **Ōtorohanga Community**

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$113.61000 per separately used or inhabited part on all rating units within the Ōtorohanga Refuse Collection Area.

b. **Kāwhia Community**

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$249.55000 in respect of each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the Kāwhia Refuse Collection Area.

**7. TARGETED WATER RATES**

a. ***Kāwhia Community***

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$557.32000 on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, which receives an ordinary supply of water within the Kāwhia Community.

**8. TARGETED SEWERAGE RATES**

A Targeted Rate set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$498.46000 for the first water closet or urinal and \$0 for the second to fourth, \$44.44000 for subsequent closets or urinals, on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit connected, either directly or through a private drain to the Ōtorohanga Community Sewerage Scheme.

**9. TARGETED RATES FOR WATER SUPPLY**

a. ***Ōtorohanga Community***

i. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$1.71 per cubic metre of water consumed, for each rateable rating unit connected to the Ōtorohanga Community Water Supply.

ii. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$171.00 per meter for each separate rating unit whether rateable or non-rateable receiving a supply from the Ōtorohanga Community Water Supply.

b. ***Kāwhia Community***

i. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$1.50 cents per cubic metre of water consumed in excess of 220 cubic metres, for each rating unit, whether rateable or non-rateable, within the Kāwhia Community on an extra-ordinary metered supply.

ii. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$1.50 cents per cubic metre of water consumed in excess of 220 cubic metres, for each rating unit, whether rateable or non-rateable, outside the Kāwhia Community on an extra-ordinary metered supply, with a minimum charge of \$557.32.

iii. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$102.22 per meter for each separate rating unit whether rateable or non-rateable receiving an extraordinary supply from the Kāwhia Community Water Supply.

iv. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$10.22 cents per cubic metre of water consumed between the

period of 20 December 2022 and 20 February 2023, for each rating unit meeting the Peak Season Metered Water Charges criteria, within the Kāwhia Community on a metered supply.

**10. RURAL WATER SUPPLIES**

- i. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$0.72 cents per cubic metre of water consumed, whether rateable or non-rateable, within the Arohena Rural Water Supply Area.
- ii. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$595.18 per meter within the Arohena Rural Water Supply Area.
- iii. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$0.55 cents per cubic metre of water consumed, whether rateable or non-rateable, within the Ranginui Rural Water Supply Area.
- iv. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$1,800.00 for the first meter per property within the Ranginui Rural Water Supply Area.
- v. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$1.41 per cubic metre of water consumed, whether rateable or non-rateable, within the Tihiroa Rural Water Supply Area.
- vi. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$500.00 per meter within the Tihiroa Rural Water Supply Area.
- vii. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$0.90 cents per cubic metre of water consumed, whether rateable or non-rateable, within the Waipā Rural Water Supply Area.
- viii. A targeted rate for water supply, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of \$275.00 per meter within the Waipā Rural Water Supply Area

d **Adopts** the definitions for its differential categories set out in the funding impact statement contained in the 2022/23 Annual Plan as its differential rating categories for the year.

e **Sets**, with the exception of water by meter charges for those connected to the Ōtorohanga Community Water Supply, that all rates will be payable in two equal instalments with the due dates for payment being:

Instalment One	26 August 2022
Instalment Two	24 February 2023

f **Sets** that water by meter charges for those connected to the Ōtorohanga Community Water Supply, will be payable in four instalments with the due dates for payment being:

Instalment One	25 November 2022
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Instalment Two 24 February 2023

Instalment Three 26 May 2023

Instalment Four 25 August 2023

g **Sets** the following penalties will apply as follows:

i. A charge of 10 percent on so much of any instalment, excluding metered water charges, that has been assessed after 1 July 2022 and which is unpaid after the due dates below:

Instalment One 26 August 2022

Instalment Two 24 February 2023

ii. A charge of 10 percent on so much of any metered water charges for users on the Arohena, Ranginui, Tihiroa or Waipā rural water schemes or the Kāwhia water supply, that have been assessed after 1 July 2022 and which is unpaid after the due dates below:

Instalment One 24 February 2023

Instalment Two 25 August 2023

iii. A charge of 10 percent on so much of any metered water charges for those connected to the Ōtorohanga Community Water Supply, that have been assessed after 1 July 2022 and which is unpaid after the due dates below:

Instalment One 25 November 2022

Instalment Two 24 February 2022

Instalment Three 26 May 2023

Instalment Four 25 August 2023

iv. A charge of 10 percent on so much of any rates, excluding metered water charges, assessed before 1 July 2022 that remain unpaid on 1 July 2022.

v. A further amount of 10 percent on any rates, excluding metered water charges, to which a penalty has been added under (d) if rates remain unpaid on 1 January 2023.

h **Confirm** rates shall be payable at any of the following places:

i. The council offices, 17 Maniapoto Street, Ōtorohanga or any temporary Council offices as they are established.

ii. Using online banking or direct debit facilities established by the Council.

Councillor Klos | His Worship the Mayor

*Due to a late change in staff availability, Item 260 was taken before Item 259.*

**ITEM 260: APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE: HODDLE ROAD RALLY SPRINT 2022**

Council's Senior Engineering Assistant/Corridor Manager, M Fleming advised the scheduled maintenance road grading had been delayed until after the event to ensure the road was returned to a good condition.

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council approve the application for Temporary Road Closure of sections on Hoddle Road, Maihihi and Tauraroa Valley Roads on Sunday 21 August 2022 with the following conditions imposed;

- a The event be held within strict compliance under the COVID-19 Protection Framework, set out by the New Zealand Government and the Ministry of Health.
- b Emergency services have complete rite of passage at all times.
- c Hamilton Car Club is to pay a bond of \$5,000.00; this bond can be waived at the discretion of the Engineering Group Manager on application to Mark Lewis. The said bond is returnable after post event drive over, undertaken by Ōtorohanga District Council Roding Team.
- d Hamilton Car Club is to pay an application fee of \$905.00 towards the administration of the road closure to Ōtorohanga District Council.
- e Hamilton Car Club is to pay for all advertising costs to the appropriate newspapers. Public notice advertisements are to be published in the Waitomo News, Council Website and Facebook Page.
- f Hamilton Car Club is responsible for obtaining public liability insurance (and paying the cost thereof) to a minimum value of \$10,000,000. This is required to indemnify Council against any damage to the property or persons as a result of rally activities during the road closure period.
- g Hamilton Car Club is to comply with the objection provisions contained in the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965.
- h Hamilton Car Club is to liaise and provide evidence of liaison with all operators and businesses that may be affected by the road closures.
- i Hamilton Car Club is to consult with all residents of all properties on the roads intending to be closed and also the residents on roads connecting with roads intending to be closed, including any, no exit roads. Two mail drops to residents are to be carried out. All initial mail drops to residents are to be approved by Council staff before distribution commences. The subsequent mail drop is to be completed no later than ten full days before the proposed closures.
- j Hamilton Car Club is solely responsible for signposting and policing of the roads to be closed, to ensure that only vehicles connected with the event have access to the road closure areas. This includes arranging the delivery, erection and staffing of all road closure barriers and the removal

thereof after closures. All gates and entranceways are to be taped and to ensure its removal thereafter.

- K Signs advising of the road closures are to be erected at the start and end of the closed portions of the roads and on each intersecting road two weeks prior to the road closure. All signs are to be removed immediately after the closure. A Hamilton Car Club representative is to meet with Council Engineering staff regarding the required signs format, size, location and quantity of signs for approval before they are manufactured and erected.

Councillor Johnson | Councillor Jeffries

**ITEM 259: EXTENSION OF EXISTING LOAN TO ŌTOROHANGA KIWI HOUSE CHARITABLE TRUST**

Council’s Group Manager Business Enablement, G Bunn outlined the decision made by Council in 2020 when the impacts of COVID on international tourism was unknown and noted the original agreement was scheduled to commence repayments in July 2022. Mr Bunn advised the report sought an extension of both the interest free loan period and the term of the loan with all other conditions remaining the same.

In response to a query, Mr Bunn clarified that the 2.95% interest rate agreed was the 10 year loan rate obtainable under the Local Government Funding Authority (LGFA). He acknowledged interest rates were now increasing and suggested the recommendation be amended to:

Interest Rate      Interest free for the first (4) years and thereafter at the LGFA 10 year rate to be reviewed and effective from 1 July 2024.

Repayments      First payment due 4 years from Initial Drawdown Date and consisting of monthly payments at the reviewed interest rate.

In response to a query, Mr Bunn confirmed reports were being received from the Trust with the next report due in July 2022.

**RESOLVED:** That ŌTOROHANGA District Council:

- a Amend the terms of the Loan to the Otorohanga Kiwi House Charitable Trust to reflect the following conditions:

FIRST SCHEDULE

Principal Amount      \$2,000,000

Interest Rate      Interest free for the first (4) years and thereafter at the LGFA 10 year rate to be reviewed and effective from 1 July 2024.

Term	Twelve (12) years from the initial Drawdown Date (first repayment due four years from the initial Drawdown Date).
Term Expiry Date	Twelve years from the Initial Drawdown Date.
Drawdown	The Loan may be drawn down in instalments, to a maximum amount of \$2,000,000, in accordance with the terms of this agreement.
Security	A Registered General Security Interest over all present and other acquired assets of the Borrower in the form attached.
Repayments	First payment due 4 years from Initial Drawdown Date and consisting of monthly payments at the reviewed interest rate.
b	Delegates to the Chief Executive to instruct Council’s solicitors to amend the terms of the Loan to the Otorohanga Kiwi House Charitable Trust as specified in clause a above.

His Worship the Mayor | Councillor Jeffries

**LATE ITEM: WAIKATO HOUSING INITIATIVE**

Waikato Plan Regional Housing Lead, Lale Ieremia noted the Initiative was a collective collaboration of 65 people and organisations from across the entire housing spectrum from developers to homeless to central and local government, and public and private housing groups. He noted the Initiative has a mix of people from the disabled, elderly as well as Pacifica and Māori communities.

*Councillor B Ferguson joined the meeting at 11.29am.*

Mr Ieremia advised the goal of the Initiative was to provide regional context and a ‘one voice’ approach for similar opportunities and issues to maximise central Government support.

In response to a query, Mr Ieremia clarified the affordable housing indicated was distinct from social housing which was managed by Kainga Ora. He commented that developers are moving towards an array of housing options including trust models and affordability by design.

**ITEM 261: FINANCIAL AND CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING 31 MAY 2022**

Council’s Finance Manager, B O’Callaghan noted the variances were reducing as the end of the financial year approached. He advised additional funding of \$400,000 was received from Waka Kotahi following the finalisation of the report. Mr O’Callaghan referred members to the cost of service statement noting the major projects causing the underspend included carryovers for roading and the cancellation of the Kahorekau water treatment plant.

Council's Group Manager Engineering & Assets, M Lewis advised the capital projects programme was on track for 85% completion with some projects currently underway crossing financial years. He noted one project, the Tihiroa rising main was not yet completed. This project was identified as part of the programme of works funded by central Government's stimulus fund. The project had been delayed due to manufacturing and shipping issues but was due to be onsite before the 30 June deadline.

In response to a query, Mr Lewis advised the completed activated carbon project would improve the water taste for Ōtorohanga township.

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council receive the report titled 'Financial and capital projects report for the month ending 31 May 2022' from Brendan O'Callaghan, Finance Manager and Mark Lewis, Group Manager Engineering and Assets.

Councillor Williams | Councillor Dow

## ITEM 262: ŌTOROHANGA TOWN CONCEPT PLAN – PROJECT UPDATE

Council's Chief Advisor, R McNeil advised another round of stakeholder and community engagement had just been completed with common feedback around direction being received. He noted a common position from the feedback received is a desire to remove heavy vehicles out of the main street without changing the state highway designation. The engagement provided an insight into the structure and content of the emerging draft plan. He noted the plan was for the community and that Council would have a role in some actions embedded in the plan.

Mr McNeil reiterated the next phase was the refinement of the draft plan with presentation to Council expected at the July meeting. At the meeting approval would be sought to commence formal consultation over July and August with consideration of the feedback expected in September. He noted the project timetable remained on track for the final plan's adoption by Council prior to the local government election in October.

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council receive the report titled 'Ōtorohanga town concept plan – project update' (document number 632556) from Ross McNeil, Chief Advisor.

Councillor Ferguson | Councillor Christison

## ITEM 263: 3 WATERS REFORM UPDATE

Council's Group Manager Engineering & Assets, M Lewis spoke to his report noting the focus was around the reform of service delivery and not the compliance changes which were already in place with Taumata Arowai as a separate legislative change.

Mr Lewis noted this was the third report to Council and was an update since the previous reports. The first report was focussed on the stimulus fund and the second to finalise Council's position statement.

Mr Lewis noted the reform process included an eight week consultation period with local government. At the time of consultation, it was proposed that councils could ‘opt-in’ to the reform voluntarily. Following the conclusion of the consultation, central Government announced that the reform was mandated and not voluntary.

Mr Lewis outlined the establishment of working groups, national transition units and local transition teams to support the transfer of service delivery. He noted the governance framework including the regional representation group and the regional advisory panels. He advised Schedule 1 of the proposed Bill sets out the timeline once the Bill is passed noting there will be a level of oversight in place that will have a bearing on any water related decisions made by Council during the transition period.

Mr Lewis stated the next steps were to continue engagement with the national transition units who have commenced discussions with Council’s Human Resources (HR) team.

Members discussed the opportunity to lodge a submission to the Select Committee on the Water Services Entity Bill and the level of ‘oversight’ proposed under Schedule 1. The Chief Executive, T Winter suggested Council consider peer submissions and consider lodging a similar submission or a submission in support of another council’s submission if appropriate.

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council:

- a Receives the report titled ‘3 Waters reform update’ (document number 632815) from Mark Lewis, Group Manager Engineering & Assets.
- b Notes there is provision for Ōtorohanga District Council to lodge a submission to the Select Committee on the Water Services Entity Bill.

Councillor Ferguson | Councillor Christison

Members discussed the concerns of the speakers in the public forum and expressed disappointment in the sudden change in approach from voluntary to mandated participation.

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council does not support the undemocratic way in which the 3 Waters Reform process has been conducted.

Councillor Dow | Councillor Jeffries

## COUNCILLOR VERBAL UPDATES

Councillors provided the following updates on their activities:

- Deputy Mayor Johnson attended the Zone 2 meeting with His Worship, Councillor Williams, and the Chief Executive. He provided an update on Beattie Home occupancy levels and potential to upgrade the existing hospital level care.

- Councillor Jeffries attended the Kāwhia Community Board and Aotea Ratepayers Society meetings. He attended the online meeting on the Resource Management Act reforms.

*The meeting was adjourned at 12.36pm for the lunch break and recommenced at 1.02pm.*

- Councillor Ferguson attended the Ōtorohanga town concept plan sessions and a meeting with the Ōtorohanga District Development Board.
- Councillor Dow attended the Ōtorohanga Community Board and spoke to students at Ōtorohanga Primary School. He also attended the Regional Connections Committee and the priority pedestrian thoroughfares community meeting.
- Councillor Klos attended the public Ōtorohanga town concept plan session.
- Councillor Christison attended the Ōtorohanga Community Board and Ōtorohanga District Development Board meetings. She also attended the Ōtorohanga town concept plan session.
- Councillor Williams attended the Zone 2 meeting with His Worship, Deputy Mayor Johnson, and the Chief Executive, the Waikato Wellbeing project meeting, and the Rural & Provincial meeting in the Mayor’s absence. She also attended the Ōtorohanga town concept plan session.

**ITEM 264: RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That Ōtorohanga District Council:

- a Exclude the public from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting namely,
- b The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Item 265: Waikato Regional Airport Limited – Shareholder approval of fog control innovation	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.	Section 7(2)(i)

- c This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Item Number	Section	Interest
265	7(2)(i)	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

His Worship the Mayor | Chairperson Williams

*The public were excluded from the meeting at 3.21pm and readmitted at 3.27pm.*

**CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business Chairperson Williams declared the meeting closed at 3.27pm.