

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTES

THE MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-61 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI
ON WEDNESDAY, 23 AUGUST 2023, AT 10:04AM

PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

Present | Tuhinga

Mayor	Weston Kirton
Deputy Mayor	Vivienne Hoeta
Councillors	Robyn Gram
	Janelle Hinch
	Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase
	Lyn Neeson
	Rabbit Nottage
	Brenda Ralph
	Korty Wilson

By Zoom	Channey Iwikau	10:58AM Item 8
----------------	----------------	----------------

In Attendance | I Tae Mai

Clive Manley	Chief Executive
Vini Dutra	Executive Manager Infrastructure
Neil Ward	Acting Manager, Finance, Strategy & Governance
Sonny Houppapa	Executive Manager Iwi Relationships
Natasha Poloai	Executive Manager People, Capability & Safety
Pauline Welch	Executive Manager Community & Economic Development
Warrick Zander	Executive Manager Regulatory & Customer Services
Melissa Jackson	Manager Policy & Strategy
Karee Cadman	Strategy & Policy Advisor
Fiona Thomas	Manager Community Libraries
Libby Ogle	Senior Librarian
Phoebe Harrison	Licensing & Compliance Manager
Peggy Veen	Manager Community & Economic Development
Simon Pallin	Senior Management Accountant
Rina Hepi	Manager Community & Recreational Facilities
Candice McNaught	Manager Community Relationships & Wellbeing
Tasha Paladin	Governance Manager
Members of the Public	

By Zoom	Fiona Ferrar	Acting Manager, Finance, Strategy & Governance
	Paul Wheatcroft	Executive Manager Communications
	Carole Colquhoun	Community Property Assets Officer
	Hannah Rix	Executive Assistant Infrastructure

External Speakers

	Item
Aiden Gilbert	8
Te Kurataiaha Tūroa Wanikau	8
Liz Brooker	8
Gavin Beattie (By Zoom)	17
Jo Kennedy Visit Ruapehu	26

Absent Ngaro

Councillor	Robyn Gram
------------	------------

5 Confirmation of Order of Meeting

The order of the meeting was confirmed as bringing Item 9: Notice of Motion for the Revocation of a Previous Resolution of Council before Item 8: Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua.

Note: the meeting moved to Item 9: Notice of Motion for the Revocation of a Previous Resolution of Council.

9 Notice of Motion for the Revocation of a Previous Resolution of Council

Members received a report advising notice has been given by Councillor Hinch, Councillor Nottage and Deputy Mayor Vivienne Hoeta that they propose to move a motion to revoke a previous resolution of the Council by its antecedent Waimarino County Council pertaining to the subsequent deputation.

Councillor Hinch spoke of her pride in bringing the Notice of Motion to Council and shared that raising the practice of reverting place names to their original Māori names was not just a symbolic act of cultural recognition, but a tangible effort to restore the dignity and authenticity of these locations. Supporting the proposal to return the name of Waimarino acknowledges the connection of indigenous communities to the land, respects the linguistic heritage of Māori people and helps raise awareness of the colonial history that led to the renaming of these places.

Councillor Hoeta added that there was a lot of scaremongering and misinformation within the community regarding this matter. The purpose of the Notice of Motion was to enable Council to rectify a previous Council decision and make a clear space to move towards supporting the proposal in Item 8: Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua.

Councillor Neeson noted the Council of 1957 made the decision for its own reasons and those reasons must be respected. As the Council of the day, there is no appetite to revoke all past decisions, however by embracing the commitment to work for Ruapehu's communities, Council must address this past decision to enable it to support Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua's proposal.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Neeson

Seconded: Cr Hinch

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the Report **Notice of Motion for the Revocation of Previous Resolutions of Council**;*
- 2 *Revokes the resolution made at the 12 December 1957 meeting of the Waimarino County Council:
"That the Council is not in favour of the proposal to change the name of the National Park Railway Station to Waimarino and that the Clerk write giving reasons for its decision"; and*
- 3 *Records this as a unanimous decision of Council.*

Councillor Wilson requested her support to the motion be recorded.

Note: the meeting moved to Item 8: Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua.

8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua

Note: Councillor Iwikau joined the meeting at 10:58AM

Members received a deputation from Aiden Gilbert, Te Kurataiaha Tūroa Wanikau and Liz Brooker seeking Council's support regarding its recent Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua application to the New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (the Board) for its consideration to revert the name of "National Park" Village and "National Park" Station to the original ingoa of "Waimarino" and "Waimarino" Railway Station.

As part of the submission of Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua, the Board requires evidence that consultation with the relevant Council body has been undertaken. A deputation was presented to the Ōwhango-National Park Community Board at its meeting 1 August 2023 where it received the Members' unanimous support. The application was made to the New Zealand Geographic Board on 8 August 2023. The Board has indicated that it is happy to receive the relevant minutes of this Council Meeting noting any decision of Council on the matter, to be appended to the application.

Ms. Brooker advised the Village and Railway Station are listed as two entities within the LINZ database and the Board requested two applications; one for the village and one for the station. It was also noted there are two types of qualifications of names within the database; Gazetted and Approved. "National Park" is listed as an approved change. If the Board moves forward in principle and, following consultation, favours reverting to "Waimarino", it is hoped the name will be Gazetted and officially recognised.

The Board has advised it will consider the application at its meeting on 3 October; if it moves forward, it has indicated a three-month New Zealand wide consultation would commence in October. Letters of support to the proposal have already been received from Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand, Tongariro Taupō Conservation Board, and Visit Ruapehu, and included in the application. It was also noted that KiwiRail has subsequently erected new signs at the Railway Station that read "Waimarino National Park".

Members expressed their concerns of costs associated with reverting the name, to the community and businesses of National Park, and asked how these concerns could be alleviated. Mr. Gilbert noted the change provided opportunities for businesses to identify with being part of the National Park in the North Island known as Waimarino.

Councillor Korty Wilson addressed the speakers:

"Ka nui hāku mihi ki kautau e ngā whanaunga mo te rā whakanui e pā ana ki to hainatia o Te Tihi o te Rae mot e Korowai o Te Wainuiārua, nei rā ngā mihi. Ka tū tātau ki runga i tō tātau maunga a Ruapehu, ki te tihi o te rae, arā ko Raetihi, ka titiro ki te ao e rere nei, ka kite ngā waitukukiri o kui mā, o koro mā ā ko to Waimarino tenei.

As we stand on our mountain Ruapehu, we cast our eyes to Raetihi, where we see the world pass us by. Some things we like, some we don't. We look to the waters of our ancestors to pay homage and there we will see Waimarino, the calm waters."

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Hinch

Seconded: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the Report **Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua;***
- 2 *Recommends to the New Zealand Geographic Board that it approves in principle to revert the name of "National Park" Village and "National Park" Station to the original ingoa of "Waimarino" and "Waimarino" Railway Station and commences the Place Name Consultation;*
- 3 *Agrees to the Minutes and any decision of Council pertaining to this item being provided to Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua, for appending to its application to the Board; and*
- 4 *Records this as a unanimous decision of Council.*