

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Kawerau District Council  
held on Wednesday 28 May 2025  
in the Council Chamber commencing at 9.00am**

**Present:** Her Worship the Mayor F K N Tunui  
Deputy Mayor A Rangihika  
Councillor C J Ion  
Councillor R Andrews  
Councillor W Godfery  
Councillor B Julian  
Councillor S Kingi  
Councillor J Ross  
Councillor R G K Savage – 9.22am

**In Attendance:** Chief Executive Officer (M Godfery)  
Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services (L Butler)  
Group Manager, Operations and Services (R Nel)  
Group Manager, Regulatory and Planning (M Glaspey)  
Communications & Engagement Manager (T Humberstone)  
Economic and Development Manager (L Barton)  
Administration Officer (L Kerei)  
Mayoral Aide (M Rogers)

**1 Karakia Timatanga | Opening Prayer**

*Pastor Mark Kingi opened the meeting with a prayer.*

**2 Apologies**

*Apologies for lateness from Councillor Savage were received.*

**3 Leave of Absence**

*No Leave of Absence were received.*

**4 Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

*Councillor Ion Declared a Conflict of Interest with Agenda Item 16 – Options for Handling Whiteware Containing Fluorinated Gases at the Transfer Station.*

**5 Meeting Notices**

*Chief Executive Officer advised that the following is tabled:*

- *BOPRC submission to the Long Term Plan*
- *The Long Term Plan summary and comprehensive consultation document*
- *An updated version of Her Worship the Mayor's report.*

## 6 **Nga Mihimihi | Acknowledgements**

*No Nga Mihimihi | Acknowledgements were received.*

## 7 **Public Forum**

**Derek Speirs** raised the following concerns:

- That in 2024 the primary reason behind the 12.2% rates increase was advice received from the president of Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) that advised all Council's to increase rates by 17%. Mr Speirs recommended that Kawerau District Council cancel its LGNZ membership to help stop the increase of rates and to relieve pressure for rate payers in the community.
- That the Financial Statements cannot be found online.

Her Worship the Mayor advised that it was not LGNZ that set the rates for the Kawerau District rather it is the Elected Members of the day. An in-depth process of consideration was made by Elected Members regarding setting of the rates.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) outlined that LGNZ is a membership organisation with no powers to direct Councils. The CEO also explained the process for setting rates which includes extensive public consultation with the community and then resolutions by Elected Members who determine the increase.

### **Action Item:**

- Chief Executive Officer to email the link of the Financial Statements on the website to Derek Speirs.

**Andre van Schalkwyk** raised the following concern:

- Gave thanks to Council for repairing and doing maintenance on the stormwater drain and the kerb on Tamarangi Drive, outside of his business.
- Regarding the dog issue Andre has come in previously for, he has seen that some of the dogs have been removed from the neighbouring property which has resulted in the reduction of noise and should see his business returning to normal.
- Andre experienced a financial loss due to the dog issues and would like to know what the procedure is to claim for business interruptions.

Chief Executive Officer suggested to go through insurance to receive claims for business interruptions as Council does not pay out for business interruptions.

## **8 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **8.1 Ordinary Council – 30 April 2025**

#### **Corrections:**

- Page 4 of the agenda – Item 10.1 – This should be marked as an action item.
- Page 5 of the agenda – Item 13 – Change from 'Key Point' to 'Action Item'.
- Page 7 of the agenda – Item 15 – Change from 'Key Point' to 'Action Item'.
- Include after the arrival time who Amy Hayes and Rebecca Cole are.
- Include and mention the local businesses and people that gave written feedback about Mayors Taskforce for Jobs

#### **Resolved**

*That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 April 2025 be deferred.*

**Councillor Ion / Deputy Mayor Rangihika  
CARRIED**

### **8.2 Extraordinary Council – 14 May 2025**

#### **Resolved**

*That the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 14 May 2025 is confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

**Councillors Kingi / Andrews  
CARRIED**

## **9 CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

### **9.1 Kawerau Accessibility Group Meeting – 6 March 2025**

#### **Action Item:**

- Chief Executive Officer to review terms of reference and membership composition of the Accessibility Group.

#### **Resolved**

*That the minutes of the Kawerau Accessibility Group Meeting held on 6 March 2025 be received.*

**Councillors Ion / Godfery  
CARRIED**

## **9.2 Iwi Liaison Committee Meeting – 22 April 2025**

### **Resolved**

*That the minutes of the Iwi Liaison Committee meeting held on 22 April 2025 be received.*

**Deputy Mayor Rangihika / Councillor Savage  
CARRIED**

## **9.3 Regulatory and Services Committee Meeting – 14 May 2025**

### **Corrections:**

- Page 19 of the agenda – Item 9 – Action Item – Change spelling for “Tree Statergy” to the correct spelling which should be “Tree Strategy”.
- Page 19 of the agenda – Item 10 – Action Item – Change spelling for “Vadar graph” to the correct spelling which should be “radar graph”.

### **Action Item:**

- Include in the Meeting Update that Majeane Rogers joins Kawerau District Council as the new Mayoral Aide.

### **Resolved**

*That the minutes of the Regulatory and Services Committee meeting held on 14 May 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

**Councillors Ion / Julian  
CARRIED**

## **10 RECEIPT OF REGIONAL MINUTES**

### **10.1 Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group – 9 May 2025**

#### **Action Item:**

- Chief Executive Officer to circulate to Elected Members what is publicly available concerning the Kotuku agreements.

### **Resolved**

*That the minutes of the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group meeting held on 9 May 2025 be received.*

**Deputy Mayor Rangihika / Councillor Kingi  
CARRIED**

## **10.2 Regional Transport Committee – 9 May 2025**

### **Corrections:**

- Elected Members requested that the time be double checked for when Mayor Drysdale entered the meeting.
- Page 31 of the agenda – Item 5.1 – If it can be stated that Cr Gavin Dennis did the presentation as the Eastern Bay of Plenty Road Safety Chair not as a Councillor for Whakatane District Council.

### **Resolved**

*That the minutes of the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 9 May 2025 be received with suggested changes.*

**Councillors Ross / Kingi  
CARRIED**

## **11 Her Worship the Mayor's Report**

### **Resolved**

*That Her Worship the Mayor's report for the period Thursday 24 April 2025 to Wednesday 21 May 2025 is received.*

**Her Worship the Mayor / Deputy Mayor Rangihika  
CARRIED**

## **12 Action Schedule (Chief Executive) (101120)**

### **Action Item:**

- That the estimated dates be reviewed.

### **Resolved**

*That the updated Action Schedule of resolutions/actions as updated and amended requested by Council is deferred.*

**Her Worship the Mayor / Councillor Kingi  
CARRIED**

## **13 Confirming Local Government New Zealand Membership (Chief Executive Officer) (103100)**

Council discussed the report on Confirming Local Government New Zealand Membership.

10.29am **Deputy Mayor Rangihika** departed from the meeting.

10.31am **Deputy Mayor Rangihika** returned to the meeting.

**Resolved**

1. *That the report "Confirming Local Government New Zealand Membership" be received.*
2. *That Council confirms its membership of Local Government New Zealand to March 2026.*

**Councillor Ross / Kingi  
CARRIED**

10.40am **Meeting adjourned.**

11.02am **Meeting reconvened.**

11.02am **Eastern Bay of Plenty General Constituency Councillor Malcolm Campbell** joined the meeting in person and **Larrissa Cuff and Deven Ruwhiu-Edmonds from Sports BOP** joined the meeting via Zoom to speak on the submission to the Long Term Plan.

**14 Receipt of Submissions to the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034 (Communications and Engagement Manager) (110555)**

Council discussed the report on the Receipt of Submissions to the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034.

**Council heard from the following submitters:**

- Eastern Bay of Plenty General Constituency Councillor Malcolm Campbell
- Sport BOP General Manager Strategic Partnerships Larrissa Cuff and Sport BOP Locally Led Advisor Deven Ruwhiu-Edmonds

11.53am **Councillor Malcolm Campbell, Deputy Mayor Rangihika and Councillor Godfery** depart from the meeting.

11.54am **Chief Executive Officer** departed from the meeting.

11.55am **Deputy Mayor Rangihika** returned to the meeting

11.56am **Councillor Godfery** returned to the meeting

12.12pm **Chief Executive Officer** returned to the meeting

12.17pm **Larissa Cuff and Deven Ruwhiu-Edmonds from Sports Bop** departed from the meeting via Zoom.

**Elected Members gave the following acknowledgement:**

- To the Communications and Engagement Manager, CEO and the Senior Leadership Team for the availability and the variety of dates for the Community Engagement Meetings.

## **Resolved**

1. *That the report "Receipt of Submissions to the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034" be received.*
2. *That Council resolve to hear submitters who have indicated they wish to be heard and respond to submitters following deliberations and the adoption of the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034 process on 25 June 2025.*

**Councillors Kingi / Godfery**  
**CARRIED**

## **15 Solid Waste Assessment 2025 (Group Manager, Operations and Services) (406230)**

Council discussed the report on the Solid Waste Assessment 2025.

12.49pm **Councillor Ross** departed from the meeting

12.53pm **Councillor Ross** returned to the meeting

## **Resolved**

1. *That the report "Solid Waste Assessment 2025" be received.*
2. *That Council adopts the Solid Waste Assessment 2025 as proposed to initiate the Waste Management Minimisation Plan 2025.*

**Deputy Mayor Rangihika / Councillor Julian**  
**CARRIED**

1.07pm **Deputy Mayor Rangihika** departed the meeting

1.07pm **Councillor Ion** departed from the meeting as a declaration of conflict of interest was received.

## **16 Options for Handling Whiteware Containing Fluorinated Gases at the Transfer Station (Group Manager, Operations and Services) (406240)**

Council discussed the report on the Options for Handling Whiteware Containing Fluorinated Gases at the Transfer Station.

1.10pm **Deputy Mayor Rangihika** returned to the meeting.

## **Resolved**

1. *That the report "Options for Handling Whiteware Containing Fluorinated Gases at the Transfer Station" be received.*

2. *That Council approves Option 2 – Council adopts a comprehensive service for accepting whiteware at the transfer station, with a user-pay fee of approximately \$47 per item that contains F-gases.*

**Councillors Julian / Godfery  
CARRIED**

1.15pm **Councillor Ion** returned to the meeting.

**17 Proposed Policy Reviews of (1) Communications by Elected Members in the Pre-Election Period and (2) Council Policy on Election Signs (Communications and Engagement Manager) (101287)**

Council discussed the report on the Proposed Policy Reviews of (1) Communications by Elected Members in the Pre-Election Period and (2) Council Policy on Election Signs.

**Action Item:**

- Confirmation of dates for the post-election period as a query was raised about when does the incumbent Council become void.

**Resolved**

1. *That the report “Proposed Policy Reviews of (1) Communications by Elected Members in the Pre-Election Period and (2) Council Policy on Election Signs” be received.*
2. *That the policies be adopted relating to the upcoming 2025 triennial elections comprising:*
  - i. *Communications by Elected Members in the Pre-Election Period and*
  - ii. *Council Policy on Election Signs*

**Councillors Ion / Godfery  
CARRIED**

**18 Annual Plan Performance for the nine months ended 31 March 2025 (Group Manager, Finance and Corporate Services) (110400)**

Council discussed the report on the Annual Plan Performance for the nine months ended 31 March 2025.

**Action Item:**

- Additional comments to be added on page 235 of the update agenda, about the on-going economic work and partnership with other Council's in the Eastern Bay and the progress in the Economic Development area.
- Add that it is Horizon Networks that repair the Streetlights for Kawerau, on page 242 of the updated agenda.



- All the other halls and facilities that are available for hire to be included in the Public Halls and Facilities section on page 256 of the update agenda.

1.55pm **Councillor Ion** departed from the meeting.

### **Resolved**

*That the report “Annual Plan Performance for the nine months ended 31 March 2025” be received.*

**Councillor Kingi / Deputy Mayor Rangihika  
CARRIED**

## **19 Exclusion of the Public – 2.00pm**

### **Resolved**

*That the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

- 1. Minutes for Confidential Meeting Held on 30 April 2025**
- 2. Agreement to grant an easement**

**Councillors Ross / Kingi  
CARRIED**

*The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is excluded; the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Information & Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution is as follows:*

<b>General Subject of the matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
1. Minutes for Confidential Meeting held on 30 April 2025. 2. Agreement to grant an easement	Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions.	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48 (1) (a) (i)

*This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) (a) of the Local Government Official Information & Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 7 (2) (b) (i) of that Act.*

2.01pm **Councillor Kingi** departed the meeting.

20 **Karakia Whakamutunga | Closing Prayer**

**Pastor Mark Kingi closed the meeting with a Karakia at 2.28pm.**



**F K N Tunui**

**Mayor**

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