

Date: Tuesday 23 May 2023
Time: 1.00pm
Meeting Room: Claris Conference Centre
Venue: 19 Whangaparapara Road
Claris
Aotea / Great Barrier Island

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

ITEM	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
12	Auckland Council's Quarterly Performance Report: Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board for quarter three 2022/2023	
A.	23 May 2023 Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board, Item 12 Auckland Council's Quarterly Performance Report: Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board for quarter three 2022/2023 report, tabled item 12 – Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust for the VIC site upgrade	3
B.	23 May 2023 Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board, Item 12 Auckland Council's Quarterly Performance Report: Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board for quarter three 2022/2023 report, tabled item 12 – Matariki 2023 funding request.	7

From: Sacha Eddington
Sent: Monday, 24 April 2023 11:49 am
To: Kathy Cumming
Subject: Visitor Information Centre

Kia ora Kathy,

The NRRWKA Trust would like to formally apply to the Local board for additional funding to resource their one year goals outlined in the strategic plan.

This funding would allow the Visitor Information Centre to flourish and make substantial steps towards the centre reflecting Manu Whenua on the island, and being able to provide important ecological and cultural information to visitors and locals on the Island.

If you need any further information to further this request please advise.

Ngā mihi nui
Sacha Eddington

NRRWKA Kirimana Operations



Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea

Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust Board

PO Box 5, Port Fitzroy

Aotea 0963

Visitor Information Centre (VIC)

Whanonga Pono/Goals and Objectives

The objective of the centre is to create a sustainable tourist centre which reflects the values of Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust and the Great Barrier Island Community. The centre is to provide information relevant to visitors and the local community, regarding Environmental projects that are being engaged on Great Barrier Island to help gain a wider understanding of the impact on the Island, and the future vision.

The Centre is vital in its reflection of mana whenua and the importance of cultural awareness and the inclusiveness which Great Barrier represents to all those who visit our shores. The centre will provide a personal, informative, and historical representation of the island's history from mana whenua with mana whenua and a positive cohesive outlook on future endeavors.

History of the Centre

The Aotea/Great Barrier Island Visitor Information Centre was originally established by Destination Great Barrier Island, a local tourism organisation that promotes and markets the Great Barrier Island region as a visitor destination. The purpose of the Aotea/Great Barrier Island Visitor Information Centre which is located at Claris Airport was set up to provide information, advice, and assistance to visitors on the island.

In addition, the centre also serves as a hub for local tourism operators, providing them with assistance to help them promote their businesses and attract visitors to the island.

In 2021 Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust took over the contract to run the Visitor Information Centre at Claris airport. The Trust set up the centre to be operated in person, 4 days a week, 6 hours a day, and available information for visitors when it was closed.

Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust Board were placed at the forefront running the centre and connecting with visitors and locals travelling to and from the Island, opening pathways to communicating some of the island's more traditional heritage whilst maintaining the functional aspects of the centre.

Current Status of the Centre

The centre is currently providing a range of services and information to visitors on the island from Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust. The centre is represented by two manu whenua kaumatua over 4 days of the week (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) 6-7hours a day.

The centre is currently providing;

- Information about local attractions, activities, and events
- Accommodation booking information and recommendations
- Transport options and timetables
- Maps and guides
- Advice on hiking and outdoor activities
- Information about local culture and history

No products or services are currently being operated out of or sold through the centre, it is currently informational only.

Future vision

1 year

To update the aesthetics of the centre to represent mana whenua's role of kaitiaki of the motu, their mana, mahi and history as well as their vision for the future.

This includes;

- Renovation of the centre to facilitate new kaupapa and make it more inviting to visitors
- Mana whenua greeting visitors with more information on the projects of the NRNWKA Trust board that impact on the islands ecological and cultural footprint. For example, Tu Mai Taonga, Ahu Moana, Te Matawai (Te Reo). This information is presented both through video, oral and leaflet documentation, supported by the projects and updated regularly.
- Develop closer working relationships with local Service providers - DOC, LB, ACC, AT, Motairehe Marae, Kawa Marae, NRNWKA Trust and other Māori entities.
- Showcase Māori Arts and culture for carving, weaving, Rongoa, painting and sculpture provided by Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea
- Maps with Māori place names and sights of significance
- Old books on the history of the iwi Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea
- Connect with small businesses on the island that can feed into the centre for it to become a wealth of information and connection for visitors and locals.
- Celebrate significant Māori events; Matariki, Waitangi Day
- Provide feedback forms to enhance data for improvements

SWOT

Strengths of the centre include its location, regular foot traffic and connection to those coming on and off the island. It has a lot of potential to be more than a booking and information centre. With the cultural input of Mana whenua showing and identifying environmental projects, protection and

prevention of not only the islands taonga but also the preservation of traditional māori values and practices, alongside the future vision of māori.

Weaknesses of the centre include the dependency on funding from outside sources to achieve the objectives of the centre both short and long term. The need for Mana whenua to travel long distances to come and represent the centre this impacts on fuel costs. The centre requires the interest and input from local island businesses, Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust board and mana whenua to keep abreast of all the interesting information so it is kept relevant.

The **opportunity** for local businesses exists with the centre's ability to assist in the promotion of island businesses, generating sales or foot traffic for those businesses who assist in its operations. The ability of the Centre to generate awareness for the Maraes, the island's environmental footprint and taonga.

Threats to the centre for its operations include having the funding removed at any point where they would need to be self-sufficient. That the building's lease changes in relation to Auckland Transport or Great Barrier Airlines (currently the island's primary airline).

Monitoring and Performance

Understanding the impact of changing the centre to reflect the values of Mana whenua will be challenging but also insightful. We wish to ensure that everyone feels the space is of value and is appealing to all.

Based on the finances received, and contribution from Mana whenua (skills) to enable us to make aesthetic changes to the centre is a 2-stage process.

-The first stage is upgrading the premises and connecting relevant information to the centre (ie environmental project status) to make the space representative of Māori.

This stage will be completed with feedback forms for visitors and residents as to the impact of the improvements based on the aesthetics, information and overall impact of the changes.

The next stage will be to establish more service-related deliverables whereby the centre can generate sales through mana whenua-based businesses and tourism-related options. The monitoring at this stage will be performed through services that become available and generated revenue.

From: info
Sent: Wednesday, 10 May 2023 5:37 pm
To: Kathy Cumming
Subject: Application for grant re Matariki Island Celebration funding

Kia Ora Kathy

I am writing to formally request/apply to the Local Aotea Council for the grant money that has been set apart in the local board Dark Sky Budget for the Matariki Festival Celebration that Motairehe Marae and Orama host together; for this coming Matariki Celebration we are putting together July 14th 2023, on behalf of the Matariki Collaboration Team.

The Matariki Festival Celebration is one that is advertised and open to the whole Island, and the main Celebration Dinner on Friday night is held and provided by Orama, Port Fitzroy, North of the Island, so most of the grant money would go towards food, and additional plates, cups, cutlery, that is needed to feed the numbers that attend on the evening of July 14th.

Previously we have had up to approximately 180 people turn up for the Friday night dinner from the Island; Kaumatua Rodney has Spoken on the night, and Orama provides a band for the evening also, so it is a real night of celebration on the Island, and we plan to follow a similar programme, this year.

Motairehe Marae has previously welcomed the Island to their Marae over Matariki; and so the grant will be used collaboratively in support of all events that both the Marae and Orama provide.

Warm Regards
Jo McQuoid
Orama Team Representative for Matariki Celebrations, Aotea, Great Barrier Island