

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board held in the Claris Conference Centre, 19 Whangaparapara Road, Claris, Aotea / Great Barrier Island on Tuesday, 26 March 2024 at 1.04pm.

TE HUNGA KUA TAE MAI | PRESENT

Chairperson	Izzy Fordham
Deputy Chairperson	Patrick O'Shea
Members	Laura Caine Chris Ollivier Neil Sanderson

HE HUNGA ATU ANŌ I TAE MAI | IN ATTENDANCE

Jacqui Fyers	Senior Local Board Advisor	
Anna Davis	PA / Office Manager / Engagement Advisor	
Annabelle White	Specialist Local Communication	via electronic link
Nan Hu	Senior Finance and Performance Advisor	via electronic link
Beth Houlbrooke	Elected Member Relationship Partner (North)	via electronic link
Kathy Cumming	Barrier Bulletin	

1 Nau mai | Welcome

Chairperson I Fordham opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance. Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea led the hui in a karakia.

2 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies

There were no apologies.

3 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Te Whakaū i ngā Āmiki | Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution number GBI/2024/16

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Member C Ollivier:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **whakaū / confirm the ordinary minutes of its meeting, held on Tuesday, 27 February 2024, as true and correct.**

CARRIED

5 He Tamōtanga Motuhake | Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

6 Te Mihi | Acknowledgements

6.1 Hauraki Gulf Forum Executive Officer, Alex Rogers

Resolution number GBI/2024/17

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **whakamihi / thank Alex Rogers for his mahi and contributions to the Hauraki Gulf Forum and wish him all the best in his new role as Director of Regional Operations for Auckland Tāmaki Makaurau at the Department of Conservation, Te Papa Atawhai.**

CARRIED

6.2 Obituary - Mark Leese

The local board acknowledged the passing of Mark Leese with a minute's silence.

Resolution number GBI/2024/18

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **express its sympathy to the whanau and friends of Mark Leese who recently passed away.**

CARRIED

7 Ngā Petihana | Petitions

There were no petitions.

8 Ngā Tono Whakaaturanga | Deputations

There were no deputations.

9 Te Matapaki Tūmatanui | Public Forum

9.1 Public Forum - Geoff Hills - Inaccurate recording of minutes under Public Forum and the two letters sent to the chairperson, 25th March 2024.

Geoff Hills tabled a letter dated Sunday 24 March 2024 addressed to the chairperson and was received on Monday 25 March 2024.

A copy of the letter has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number GBI/2024/19

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that the letter dated 15 March from the chairperson referenced by Geoff Hills in his letter is included in this agenda on page 299, item # 20 Correspondence.**
- b) **tono tautoko / request Local Board Services staff provide a written response to the queries raised in Geoff Hills tabled letter and to provide Geoff Hills with dates of agenda close.**
- c) **whakamihi / thank Geoff Hills for his attendance and public forum presentation on the inaccurate recording of minutes under Public Forum and correspondence to the chairperson and from Local Board Services.**

CARRIED

Attachments

- A 26 March 2024, Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board: Item 9.1 - Public Forum - Geoff Hills - Inaccurate recording of minutes under Public Forum and the two letters sent to the chairperson, 25th March 2024, tabled item 17 – letter from Geoff Hills.

10 Ngā Pakihi Autaia | Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

11 Representation review and local board reorganisation

Resolution number GBI/2024/20

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Member C Ollivier:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **whakarite / provide the following feedback on the proposal to reduce the number of local boards through a reorganisation plan noting that Governing Body has supported the development of a 15 local board model as described in this report:**
- i) **express concern that timeframes are very ambitious and suggest if reorganisation is approved then any roll out occurs for the election 2028 to allow staff time to prepare.**
 - ii) **express concern that the proposed cost savings and efficiencies will not be realised with the reorganisation project and that changes may end up more costly in terms of budget and efficiencies.**
 - iii) **express concern that the reduction in local boards would mean a loss of representation at a local level and connection to community matters.**
 - iv) **express concern that the growth of Auckland would mean the size of some local boards areas, under a 15 board model, would be the same as some regional councils, for example, Albany would be the size of Hamilton.**
 - v) **express concern that bigger board areas would mean an increase in workload for board members of which all are considered part-time except for the chairperson.**
 - vi) **tautoko / support the retaining of Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board as its own distinct board area in the proposed 15 local board model given the island is remote, isolated, rural and unique.**
 - vii) **tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that it makes good sense for local board areas to align with ward areas.**
 - viii) **tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the importance of retaining existing staff and not restructuring at the expense of institutional knowledge.**
- b) **tautoko / support a reorganisation plan for local boards proceeding to public consultation.**

CARRIED

12 Proposals for More Empowered Local Boards

Resolution number GBI/2024/21

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Member N Sanderson:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **strongly support the empowering of local boards to truly fulfil their role of local leadership and accountability over local matters envisaged for them under legislation, irrespective of the outcome of the reorganisation review.**
- b) **tautoko / support all existing decision-making allocations to staff being (re)reviewed against the principles for allocation of decision-making in section 17 of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009, with a mind of ensuring that ALL non-regulatory decision-making sits with local boards unless one of the specified criteria applies.**
- c) **tautoko / support the recommendations for more empowered local boards listed in the report, in particular for receiving more strategic advice as per section 15 a) to e), and for receiving more resourcing as per section 16 a) to b).**
- d) **whakarite / provide the following feedback on staff proposals for more empowered local boards:**
 - i) **local boards were created in part to enable “the purpose of local government to be given effect to within the local board area”. In order for this to happen, local boards need the freedom to “localise” and customise the delivery of services according to the needs of the local area, and not be subsumed into regional delivery and limited to regional offerings.**
 - ii) **local boards should be funded to a level that ensures good decision-making over local assets and services, and the ability to renew and maintain local assets including when they are at end of life.**
 - iii) **local boards should have greater decision-making over services that are delivered and operated on a regional basis, but appear in local board work programmes/budgets, such as libraries. Local boards currently have little real control over these local services.**
 - iv) **local boards should have greater decision-making over the procurement of local maintenance services, and the ability to opt out of Project 17.**
 - v) **local boards should have greater governance delegation and empowerment in relation to council-controlled organisations (CCOs) operations within the local board area. Currently there is no direct local board governance on Auckland Transport, Watercare, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited or Eke Panuku in regard to local operations, and this is contrary to both what residents expect or presume.**
 - vi) **local boards need guaranteed decision-making over local assets and services that includes waste, moorings, signage.**
 - vii) **local boards should have the delegation to require or direct staff to make temporary changes to dog access rules, for example, if there are environmental or social concerns that need to be addressed in lieu of permanent changes being proposed under the Dog Bylaw. This delegation currently sits with staff.**
 - viii) **Auckland Transport must collaborate closely with the local boards over the prioritisation and setting of local transport projects and associated**

budgets, in a similar way that local boards work with Community Facilities over the prioritisation of local community facility projects.

- ix) local boards should be able to access independent external advice if concerns are raised about internal staff capacity or conflicts.
- x) whakamihi / thank John Nash and his team and the Joint Governance Working Party for their mahi on More Empowered Local Boards.

CARRIED

13 Kōkiri - Setting priorities for Auckland Transport project and programme engagement

Resolution number GBI/2024/22

MOVED by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea, seconded by Member L Caine:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **provide views on the proposed work programme on which projects the local board requests Auckland Transport to:**
 - i) **collaborate about the following projects –within the Local Board Transport Capital Fund programme:**
 - A) **Motairehe road seal extension project.**
 - B) **Blackwell Drive safety improvements project.**
 - C) **Hector Sanderson Road safety improvements project.**
 - ii) **consult about the following projects or programmes:**
 - A) **Speed limit changes in Katoa Ka Ora.**
 - B) **Installation of any new moorings identified during the 2024/25 Financial Year.**
 - C) **Any proposed changes to the way moorings are managed.**
 - iii) **inform the local board about these projects or programmes:**
 - A) **Progress of slip, culvert, and bridge repairs repairing damage from the 2023 summer storms.**
 - B) **Whangaparapara Boat Ramp design project.**
 - C) **Okupu Wharf and Boat Ramp renewal project.**
 - D) **Tryphena Bollard strengthening project.**
 - E) **Tryphena boat ramp design project.**
 - F) **Harbourmaster operations in the local board area.**
 - G) **Claris airport parking improvements project.**
- b) **provide the following projects or programmes for Auckland Transport to consider for inclusion in future work programmes:**
 - i) **A programme of retrofitting road culverts to make them fish-passage friendly.**

- ii) A programme of support for electric vehicle charging (using alternate energy) on the island
- c) tono tautoko / request Auckland Transport to prioritise local and stakeholders communications in a timely manner across all Auckland Transport projects on the island,
- d) tono tautoko / request Auckland Transport Elected Member Relationship Partner (North) provide clarified project naming on Auckland Transport projects listed in resolution a) iii).

CARRIED

14 Local board feedback on freshwater management in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland

Resolution number GBI/2024/23

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Member L Caine:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) kohuki / consider feedback received from their communities in the second phase of public consultation to inform implementation of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland.
- b) whakarite / provide the following feedback noting that Aotea is an isolated 'off-grid' rural island with no reticulated water:
 - i) strongly support the restoration of freshwater ecosystems like wetlands to mitigate climate change and protect aquatic biodiversity such as the endangered native bird species that frequent the waterways of Aotea e.g. Pāteke / Brown Teal, Matuku-hūrepo / Australasian Bittern and Kōtuku / Spoonbills.
 - ii) strongly support the funding of projects such as riparian fencing and planting on boundaries adjacent to streams on low lying land to prevent pests and stock polluting the waterways.
 - iii) strongly support minimising the risks for drinking water sources to enable communities to manage climate change issues through water resilience projects such as emergency water supplies and incentivising or better enabling roof water harvesting and potable storage.
 - iv) recommend freshwater areas are not compromised as they provide natural mitigation for flooding.
 - v) tautoko / support increased frequency of septic tank testing and education regarding wastewater risks to ensure no contaminants reach streams or aquifers.
 - vi) tautoko / support resilience and amenity being added as values in the Auckland Unitary Plan.
 - vii) whakaae / agree with the approach to use Safeswim sites as primary contact sites and introducing stricter standards to manage contamination.
 - viii) tautoko / support fish passage remediation to culverts to ensure unhindered fish migration.

- ix) **tono tautoko / request support for remote, off-grid areas like ours being given plenty of scope for new emerging/creative solutions for drinking water provision and wastewater disposal.**
- x) **highlight the necessity for a specific budget to be allocated by Central Government to enable or assist council to improve freshwater quality.**
- xi) **tuhi ā-taipitopito / note water is integral to farming and food production. Recommend that regulatory measures do not exacerbate the current cost-of-living crisis.**
- xii) **tautoko / support working closely with primary sector organisations in the development and uptake of initiatives to improve efficient resource use and to minimize run-off and leaching.**

CARRIED

15 Local board input to Auckland Council Submission on the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024-34

Resolution number GBI/2024/24

MOVED by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea, seconded by Member L Caine:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **whakarite / provide the following local views on the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024-34 discussion document to inform the council's submission, noting that the Aotea is an isolated rural island 90kms northeast of Auckland city:**
 - i) **Passenger and freight transportation to the island is weather dependent and either by multiple daily 35-minute flights, or by tri-weekly four-and-a-half-hour ferry trips. The local board is supportive of the decarbonisation of coastal shipping and passenger transportation.**
 - ii) **There is no on-island public transport. The local board is supportive of initiatives to empower community-led low carbon public passenger and freight transportation. The cutting of any climate positive policies within the Government Policy Statement (GPS) on land transport and a larger reliance on the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) will increase the cost of fuel significantly. Especially since the island fuel cost is Auckland's highest at \$4.05 as of 26 March 2024.**
 - iii) **Island residents travelling to the mainland rely greatly on affordable public transport to navigate the city. The local board is supportive of reliable and frequent public transport systems.**
 - iv) **The island is non-reticulated and powered by off-the-grid systems such as solar, wind and fossil-fuel generators. The local board is supportive of initiatives that encourage installation of electric charging for bikes and cars using off-the-grid technology.**
 - v) **Aotea is an isolated rural island with a single main road route. The local board is supportive of the investigation and planning for sea-level rise options including using the unformed legal roads to support our coastal roading.**

- vi) The island's coastal roads were impacted by the recent storms. The local board is supportive of increased investment in maintenance with a proactive approach to create a more resilient network and minimising the effects of natural events.
- vii) Being a rural island, Aotea has shared roads with no dedicated footpaths or cycleways. The open road limit of 100km/h is not fit for our roads. Safety is of great concern, especially through our village areas, schools, and marae. The local board support a proactive approach to road safety to avoid tragedy through reduced speed limits, passive traffic calming and education.
- viii) The Auckland Council and the central Government plans must be aligned to support more integrated, joint decision making for the transport system, specifically the Integrated Transport Plan.

CARRIED

16 Six-monthly accountability reports of Aotea / Great Barrier Island community groups

Resolution number GBI/2024/25

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Member C Ollivier:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **whiwhi / receive the six-monthly accountability reports from the following entities:**
 - i) **Ngāti Rehua-Ngātiwai ki Aotea Trust – Visitor Information Centre (Attachment A to the agenda report)**
 - ii) **Aotea Family Support Group (Attachment B to the agenda report):**
 - iii) **Aotea Family Support Group - Community Worker project (Attachment C to the agenda report)**
 - iv) **Aotea Education Trust (Attachment D to the agenda report):**
 - v) **Aotea Ora Community Trust (including food resilience work programme) (Attachment E to the agenda report) and**
 - vi) **Building a Flourishing Community Aotea (Attachment F to the agenda report).**
- b) **whakamihi / thank Kathy Cumming for her mahi with the Aotea Great Barrier Island community groups.**

CARRIED

Note: The Chairperson with the consent of the meeting accorded precedence to Item 18: Auckland Council and council-controlled organisations (CCOs) memo and information reports at this time.

18 Auckland Council and council-controlled organisations (CCOs) memo and information reports

Resolution number GBI/2024/26

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the attachments A-J of the agenda report.**

CARRIED

17 Aotea Great Barrier Island proclamation for International Dark Sky week

Deborah Kilgallon was in attendance to support the signing of the proclamation.

A copy of the signed proclamation of the Aotea Great Barrier Island International Dark Sky week and a poster of the community events were tabled at the meeting. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number GBI/2024/27

MOVED by Member C Ollivier, seconded by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **endorse / ohia the Aotea Great Barrier Island International Dark Sky Week Proclamation, as tabled at the business meeting.**

CARRIED

Attachments

- A 26 March 2024, Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board: Item 17 - Aotea Great Barrier Island proclamation for International Dark Sky week, tabled item 17 – signed proclamation of the Aotea Great Barrier Island International Dark Sky week.
- B 26 March 2024, Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board: Item 17 - Aotea Great Barrier Island proclamation for International Dark Sky week, tabled item 17 – community events poster.

19 Environmental agency and community group reports

Resolution number GBI/2024/28

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the following reports:**
- i) **Titi Islands Hauora Moana Survey**
 - ii) **Turi Point Hauora Moana Survey**

CARRIED

20 Local Board Correspondence

Resolution number GBI/2024/29

MOVED by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea, seconded by Member L Caine:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the advocacy letter sent on the 1st of March 2024 to Auckland Transport Board regarding Katoa, Ka Ora speed management changes on Aotea referred as Attachment A to the report.
- b) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the letter of support for Aotea Learning Hub's funding sent on 13 March 2024 to the Director of Education Tāmaki Makaurau referred as Attachment B to the report.
- c) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the letter sent on 13 March 2024 to the Minister for Social Development, Honourable Louise Upston regarding Aotea Family Support Group (AFSG) and the visit to the motu, referred as Attachment C to the report.
- d) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the support letter for the Aotea Caulerpa project and proposed steering committee sent to the Deputy Director General, Biosecurity New Zealand, Ministry of Primary Industries on 13 March 2024, referred as Attachment D to the report.
- e) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the letter dated 15 March 2024 addressed to Mr Geoff Hills in response to Public Forum item 9.1 at the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board business meeting on Tuesday 27 February 2024, referred as Attachment E to the report.

CARRIED

21 Hōtaka Kaupapa (Policy Schedule)

Resolution number GBI/2024/30

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Member N Sanderson:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the Hōtaka Kaupapa (Policy Schedule) as at March 2024.

CARRIED

22 Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Workshop Record of Proceedings

Resolution number GBI/2024/31

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Member C Ollivier:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note the record of proceedings for the local board workshops held on the following dates:
 - i) Tuesday 20 February 2024
 - ii) Tuesday 05 March 2024 and
 - iii) Tuesday 12 March 2024

CARRIED

23 Te Whakaaro ki ngā Take Pūtea e Autaia ana | Consideration of Extraordinary Items

There was no consideration of extraordinary items.

24 Te Mōtini ā-Tukanga hei Kaupare i te Marea | Procedural motion to exclude the public

Resolution number GBI/2024/32

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- a) **whakaae / agree to exclude the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.**

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 follows.

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 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

C1 Sites and Places of Significance to Mana Whenua - Tranche 2a Proposed Plan Change

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
<p>The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.</p>	<p>s7(2)(c)(i) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information or information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.</p> <p>s7(2)(c)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to damage the public interest.</p> <p>In particular, the report contains mana whenua mātauranga (tribal</p>	<p>s48(1)(a)</p> <p>The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.</p>

	<p>knowledge) and names particular sites of cultural significance within the Auckland region. These site names and locations have been provided by mana whenua to the council project team in confidence and the ongoing supply of similar information to council is reliant on maintaining this relationship of confidence, until such time as any proposed plan change is endorsed by mana whenua and the council and is ready to publicly notify. The public release of the nominated sites ahead of detailed investigation could result in activities being undertaken on privately owned sites that might compromise their Māori cultural values, thereby diminishing their heritage value to the public and the relationship between Māori and their ancestral lands.</p>	
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The text of these resolutions is made available to the public who are present at the meeting and form part of the minutes of the meeting.

CARRIED

2.17pm The public was excluded.

Resolutions in relation to the confidential items are recorded in the confidential section of these minutes and are not publicly available.

2.24pm The public was re-admitted.

RESTATEMENTS

It was resolved while the public was excluded:

C1 Sites and Places of Significance to Mana Whenua - Tranche 2a Proposed Plan Change

Resolution number GBI/2024/33

MOVED by Chairperson I Fordham, seconded by Member L Caine:

That the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board:

- d) whakaae / agree that the decisions, report and any attachment remain confidential until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.**

CARRIED

Deputy Chairperson P O'Shea closed the hui with a karakia whakamutunga.

2.26 pm

The chairperson thanked members for their attendance and attention to business and declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF THE AOTEA / GREAT BARRIER
LOCAL BOARD HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....