

**Date:** Tuesday, 18 March 2025  
**Time:** 5:00pm  
**Meeting Room:** Leslie Comrie Board Room  
**Venue:** Level 1 Franklin the Centre  
12 Massey Ave, Pukekohe

## Pukekohe Cemetery Committee workshop

### OPEN AGENDA

#### MEMBERSHIP

**Chairperson** Member Makere Rikka Heke  
**Deputy Chairperson** Member Harley Wade  
**Members** Member Janie Astle  
Member Pyllis Bhana  
Member Alan Cole  
Member Angela Fulljames  
Member Tearepa Kahi  
Member Sonny Parata  
Member Pare Rauwhero  
Member Logan Soole

**Denise Gunn**  
**Democracy Advisor**

**14 March 2025**

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2	Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga   Declaration of Interest	2
3	Committee workshop	2

## **1 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies**

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

## **2 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest**

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

## **3 Committee workshop**

# **Pukekohe Cemetery Committee workshop**

**File No.:** CP2025/04032

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Note 1: This workshop has been called by the chairperson in consultation with the staff.

Note 2: No working party/workshop may reach any decision or adopt any resolution unless specifically delegated to do so.

## **Te take mō te pūrongo** **Purpose of the report**

1. To present the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee workshop agenda for 18m March 2025 (deferred from 4 March 2025).

## **Whakarāpopototanga matua** **Executive summary**

2. The Pukekohe Cemetery Committee was established by the Franklin Local Board as a committee of the Franklin Local Board pursuant to agreement with representatives from Nga Hau E Wha Marae.
3. Funding has been provided through Auckland Council's Māori Outcomes Fund for a memorial or equivalent to be built at the cemetery, with development of the memorial to led by the Pukekohe Māori community in collaboration with Auckland Council.
4. The purpose of the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee (the Committee) is to provide governance and guidance for the memorial project in the Pukekohe Cemetery, including decision-making responsibility in relation to the allocation of Māori Outcomes funding for the project.
5. Committee responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
  - oversight of community engagement and communication
  - commission and approving design for the memorial or equivalent (Stage 1), including decision-making on project budget
  - approving and monitoring implementation of a project plan
  - complete and approve a budget bid for Stage 2 as required
  - undertake decision-making on the budget for Stage 2

- report to the Franklin Local Board and Māori Outcomes Fund as required.
6. Most workshops are open to the public to attend as observers in person or online.
  7. Some sessions may not be open to the public. The staff / chairperson and deputy chairperson decide which sessions are open to the public, depending on the sensitivity of the information being discussed. If a session is not open, a reason will be provided below.
  8. The following will be covered in the workshop:

<b>Discussion Point 1</b>	
<b>Budget and Project Plan update</b>	
Presenter/s:	Mat Glanfield
Purpose:	Provide an update against the project plan and budget
Governance role:	Oversight and monitoring
Proposed Outcome/s:	Committee has oversight of project plan and budget.
Attachment/s:	
	Attachment A: Pukekohe Cemetery Committee Project Gant
	Attachment B: Pukekohe Cemetery Project Budget 25
	Attachment C: Pukekohe Cemetery Committee Budget 26
<b>Discussion Point 2</b>	
<b>Website</b>	
Presenter/s:	Mat Glanfield
Purpose:	Share/walk through of the website
Governance role:	Keeping informed
Proposed Outcome/s:	Committee are updated on development of the project website
Attachment/s:	No papers provided
<b>Discussion Point 3</b>	
<b>Funding Agreement</b>	
Presenter/s:	Mat Glanfield
Purpose:	Update on funding agreement between AC and Ngaa Hau e Whaa Marae
Governance role:	Oversight and monitoring
Proposed Outcome/s:	Committee are updated on the funding agreement between AC and Ngaa Hau e Whaa Marae
Attachment/s:	No papers provided
<b>Discussion Point 4</b>	
<b>Site Survey</b>	
Presenter/s:	Mat Glanfield
Purpose:	Verbal update on site survey
Governance role:	Oversight and monitoring
Proposed Outcome/s:	Committee are updated on proposed site survey
Attachment/s:	No papers provided

Discussion Point 5	
<b>Community Engagement</b>	
Presenter/s:	Carol McKenzie-Rex
Purpose:	Share kōrero from whanau engagement hui to date
Governance role:	Guidance and next steps
Proposed Outcome/s:	Committee receives feedback from community engagement and gives guidance on next steps
Attachment D: Memo Pukekohe Cemetery Memorial engagement summary	
Discussion Point 6	
<b>Design Advisor</b>	
Presenter/s:	Mat Glanfield
Purpose:	Verbal update on proposed Design Advisor role
Governance role:	Oversight and monitoring
Proposed Outcome/s:	Committee to provide direction on brief for Design Advisor role
Attachment/s:	No papers provided
Discussion Point 7	
<b>Auckland Council Heritage Team</b>	
Presenter/s:	Mat Glanfield
Purpose:	Verbal update on brief for scope of works to be done by the Auckland Council Heritage Team
Governance role:	Oversight and monitoring
Proposed Outcome/s:	Committee to provide direction brief for work to be done by the Auckland Council Heritage Team
Attachment/s:	No papers provided

## Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

No.	Title	Page
<a href="#">A</a>	Pukkohe Cemetery Committee Project Gant	5
<a href="#">B</a>	Pukekohe Cemetery Project Budget 2025	7
<a href="#">C</a>	Pukekohe Cemetery Committee Budget 2026	9
<a href="#">D</a>	Memo Pukekohe Cemetery Memorial engagement summary	11

Phase 1: Planning & Reporting		Lead	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sept-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sept-26	Oct-26
1	Set-up budget reporting.	Mathew																									
2	Identify partners & stakeholders.	Carol (with Committee)																									
3	Kōrero & agree engagement plan.	Carol (with Committee)																									
4	Site investigation (cultural research, site planning and regulatory requirements, (incl AT, Counties Power, Healthywaters)	Mathew & Carol (with Committee oversight)																									
5	Produce communications plan.	David (Carol and Committee oversight)																									
6	Engage with key partners; Auckland Council Heritage, Cemeteries, Regulatory, AT, Healthy Waters.	Mathew (with Committee oversight)																									
7	Identify and confirm Design Advisor role	Mathew (with Committee oversight)																									
8	Team reporting (operational).	Mathew (with Committee oversight)																									
9	Auckland Council reporting (LB, Ngā Mataarae)	Mathew + Ops Team																									
10	Business meetings.	Mathew + Ops Team		5th Nov					Receive engagement										concept design					detailed design			
Phase 2: Engagement & Co-Design		Lead	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sept-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sept-26	Oct-26
11	Prepare initial engagement material (share previous engagement/knowledge)	Carol (with Committee)																									
12	Undertake engagement (whanau - local and remote).	Carol + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
13	Undertake engagement (mana whenua).	Carol + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
14	Undertake engagement (non-Māori whanau / community).	Carol + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
15	Undertake engagement (other partners and stakeholders).	Carol + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
16	Collate engagement feedback, produce report.	Carol + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
17	Develop design brief.	Artist, Design lead (with Committee oversight)																									
18	Select artist/design partner (tender, EoI).	Kōmiti, with Design lead																									
19	Produce, review and refine concept design(s). Incl regulatory/technical requirements.	Design lead + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
20	Undertake design engagement (whanau - local and remote).	Design lead + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
21	Undertake design engagement (mana whenua).	Design lead + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
22	Undertake design engagement (non-Māori whanau, community).	Design lead + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
23	Undertake design engagement (other stakeholders).	Design lead + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
24	Collate design engagement feedback, produce report.	Design lead + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
25	Refine and agree concept design.	Artist, Design lead (with Committee oversight)																									
26	Ongoing engagement.	David + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
Phase 3: Permitting & Approval		Lead	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sept-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sept-26	Oct-26
27	Confirm technical assessments required.	Mathew.																									
28	Technical assessments; e.g. Archaeological, Geotechnical, Engineering, Storm Water, Contamination.	Mathew with technical specialists..																									
29	Prepare consent application.	Planner.																									
30	Lodge consent.	Planner.																									
31	Address consenting queries/section 92s.	Mathew + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
32	Consent granted.	Regulatory Team.																									

Item 3

Phase 4: Detailed Design & Tender	Lead	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sept-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sept-26	Oct-26
33 Develop and finalise detailed design.	Designer + Artist + Engineers.																									
34 Produce technical drawing set and engineering specifications.	Engineers.																									
35 Prepare tender document.	Mathew + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									
36 Complete tendering process.	Mathew + Ops Team (with Committee oversight)																									

Attachment A

**Pukekohe Cemetery Memorial Project - Budget**

Item	Stage	Value	FY25								
			Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
1	Planning & Reporting	\$ 139,094.00									
2	Engagement & Co-Design	\$ 22,500.00									
3	Permitting & Approval	\$ 56,148.00									
4	Detailed Design & Tender	\$ 21,500.00									
5	Construction	\$ 458,500.00									
		\$ -									
	<b>Budget Estimate</b>	\$ 697,742.00	\$ 7,712.00	\$ 9,722.00	\$ 10,460.00	\$ 11,200.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 42,748.00	\$ 15,450.00	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 28,450.00
	<b>Actuals</b>		\$ 7,712.00	\$ 9,722.00	\$ 10,505.00	\$ 12,136.00	\$ 18,683.00				
	<b>Over / Under Percentage</b>		0%	0%	0%	8%	33%				
	<b>Total Budget</b>	\$ 697,742.00				\$ 936.00	\$ 4,683.00			<b>FY25 Forecast</b>	\$ 156,992.00
	<b>FY25 Forecast Spend</b>	\$ 156,992.00								<b>FY25 Budget</b>	\$ 200,000.00
	<b>FY26 Forecast Spend</b>	\$ 540,750.00									
		\$ 697,742.00									





**Pukekohe Cemetery Memorial Project - Budget**

Item	Stage	Value	FY26												
			Jul-25	Aug-25	Sept-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	
1	Planning & Reporting	\$ 139,094.00													
2	Engagement & Co-Design	\$ 22,500.00													
3	Permitting & Approval	\$ 56,148.00													
4	Detailed Design & Tender	\$ 21,500.00													
5	Construction	\$ 458,500.00													
		\$ -													
	<b>Budget Estimate</b>	<b>\$ 697,742.00</b>	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 14,750.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 16,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 449,500.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	
	<b>Actuals</b>														
	Over / Under Percentage														
	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 697,742.00</b>													FY26 Forecast \$ 540,750.00
	FY25 Forecast Spend	\$ 156,992.00													FY26 Budget \$ 500,000.00
	FY26 Forecast Spend	\$ 540,750.00													
		\$ 697,742.00													



## Memorandum

18 March 2025

**To:** Pukekohe Cemetery Committee

**Subject:** Pukekohe Cemetery Memorial whaanau and hapori engagement summary

**From:** Engagement working group (Carol McKenzie-Rex, Raemon Matene, Denise Proctor, Mat Glanfield, David Kemeys)

## Purpose

1. This memo summarises feedback received from engagement hui held throughout February 2025 on a memorial for Pukekohe Cemetery. The summary from these hui captures themes and quotes from whaanau and hapori.
2. The memo also makes some recommendations on issues where direction from the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee is required for next steps.

## Executive Summary

3. The engagement working group has met fortnightly since October 2024 and has organised and promoted a number of whaanau and hapori engagement hui hosted by the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee throughout February 2025.
4. Whaanau and hapori engagement hui were promoted in a number of ways – a digital poster on social media, paanui to all mana whenua iwi with interests in Pukekohe, meetings with key stakeholder groups asking them to share information with their networks, and marae/committee representatives reaching out to whaanau and hapori to spread the word about memorial engagement hui.
5. There were three whaanau and hapori engagement hui held throughout February 2025, on 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Two planned online hui were cancelled due to lack of registrations.
6. A further whaanau engagement hui is proposed for Sunday 27 April 2025, 10am – 1pm, at Ngaa Hau E Whaa Marae o Pukekohe. It is recommended that this could be an opportunity for the draft design brief (prepared by the Design Advisor) to be tested with, and seek feedback from, whaanau.
7. Each engagement hui in February was hosted and delivered in a consistent way, with tikanga led by kaumatua and the introductory presentation anchored by the Chair of the committee.
8. During the whaanau and hapori koorero, a facilitator from the committee or engagement group joined each table and discussion was prompted with two main questions:
  - (i) What are your stories, your histories, your memories, your whakaaro, about our whaanau resting in the Pukekohe urupaa?
  - (ii) When you go to the urupaa, how do you want to reflect on and connect with those you are remembering?
9. Themes from whaanau engagement on a memorial emphasise the pain and grief associated with this kaupapa, and a strong interrelationship of whaanau stories with the market gardens. Also that there are still many unknowns and unanswered questions, and that a memorial must be inclusive and should seek to be transformative. There are suggestions that the committee indicate to the public that something is happening at the urupaa, through putting up temporary signage/information. There are many ideas for creation of a memorial to connect and reflect. Different perspectives have been expressed on whether to name those who rest there, or to collectively acknowledge them.

10. Themes from community and stakeholder engagement are similar to whaanau in many respects. There is agreement that there should be a memorial and many similar ideas for creation of a memorial to connect and reflect. Stakeholders have also shared views and made suggestions about presentation and accuracy of data and historical information, as well as requesting representation and process improvements.
11. Engagement hui throughout February have surfaced a number of matters that require direction from the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee outlined in 12 (ii) below.

### Recommendations

12. That the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee:
  - (i) Receive and consider this engagement summary.
  - (ii) Provide direction on the following issues:
    - The release of names/locations of whaanau resting in the urupaa.
    - Suggestions for interim signage to be installed at the urupaa to let people know what is happening and where to find out more information (website).
    - Next steps for engagement with mana whenua iwi – how, when, where.
    - For the whaanau engagement hui scheduled for Sunday 27 April to test and seek feedback on the draft design brief for the memorial.
    - Empower the engagement working group to arrange online hui for whaanau and hapori if required.
    - Define process and responsibility for answering questions arising from whaanau engagement.
    - Utilisation of the research tabled by the Franklin Branch of Genealogy Society on whaanau interred in the urupaa.
    - Response to the suggestion of amending the make-up and representation of the committee.
    - Next steps for appointment of an artist / memorial designer.

### Engagement approach

#### Promotion of engagement hui

13. Whaanau and hapori engagement hui were promoted in a number of ways:
  - Development of a digital poster utilised on Ngaa Hau E Whaa Marae o Pukekohe and Franklin Local Board social media sites, which was then shared by whaanau and other social media users.
  - A paanui was sent from the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee Chair to all mana whenua iwi with an interest in the takiwā / place of Pukekohe Cemetery updating them on progress to date and requesting mana whenua support for promotion of engagement hui.
  - Meetings were held with key stakeholders including Franklin Branch of the Genealogy Society of NZ and the Franklin Historical Society and the digital poster outlining engagement hui was shared by these organisations with their networks.
  - Ngaa Hau E Whaa Marae and Pukekohe Cemetery Committee representatives reached out to their whaanau and hapori contacts to spread the word about memorial engagement hui.

#### Whaanau and hapori engagement hui held

14. There were three whaanau and hapori engagement hui held throughout February 2025 as follows:

Date	Hui / engagement session	Who was involved	How many people participated
Sat 8 Feb 2025 10am – 1pm	Whaanau engagement hui in the Franklin Room	Whaanau, memorial committee and engagement group members	21
Sat 15 Feb 2025 10am – 1pm	Whaanau engagement hui at Ngaa Hau E Whaa Marae	Whaanau, memorial committee and engagement group members	23
Thu 27 Feb 2025 6pm – 8pm	Whaanau and hapori engagement hui in the Franklin Room – <i>organised at the request of Franklin Branch of the Genealogy Society of NZ</i>	Whaanau, memorial committee members, Franklin Genealogy Society members, and engagement group	18

15. Online hui were also scheduled for 22 February and 26 February 2025. Promotion of these online hui asked participants to register for the sessions. Both online hui were cancelled due to a lack of registrations.
16. Whaanau feedback was that a kanohi ki te kanohi/face to face engagement approach is preferred for this kaupapa. However, it is recommended that the Committee keep in mind that as this project evolves, and as information and promotion improves with the development of a website and Facebook page, there may be whaanau and hapori living in other parts of New Zealand and overseas who may wish to participate and engage online. It is proposed that the committee empower the engagement working group to arrange online hui for whaanau and hapori if required.
17. A further whaanau engagement hui is proposed for Sunday 27 April 2025, 10am – 1pm, at Ngaa Hau E Whaa Marae o Pukekohe. It is recommended that the Design Advisor share a draft design brief to test with whaanau and receive feedback from whaanau at this hui.

#### Whaanau and hapori engagement hui programme

18. Each hui opened and closed with karakia, mihi whakatau, and whanaungatanga led by kaumatua. Facilitation of the hui and the introductory presentation was anchored by the Chair of the committee.
19. The purpose of the hui was outlined in a PowerPoint presentation and a written programme, which was primarily to hear from whaanau and hapori. Pukekohe Cemetery Committee encouraged whaanau and hapori to share stories, histories, memories relating to Pukekohe Cemetery and the whaanau resting in the urupaa. As well as this, the Committee invited whaanau whakaaro about how best to remember them.
20. The presentation shared at each hui was largely consistent, with minor changes made to improve flow and completeness of information. The programme unfolded as follows:
  - Introduce the purpose of the hui
  - Who is on the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee
  - Background: videos sharing experience of our Kuia
  - Timeline for the memorial project
  - Summarising some of what the Committee has heard so far
  - More about a memorial. Emphasising there are many options, with no decisions yet made
  - Small group koorero - whaanau discussion and sharing at tables
  - Summarising some of the discussion themes from each table back to the whole group
  - Reminding dates and times of whaanau engagement hui

21. During the whaanau and hapori koorero, a facilitator from the committee or engagement group joined each table and discussion was prompted with two main questions:
- (iii) What are your stories, your histories, your memories, your whakaaro, about our whaanau resting in the Pukekohe urupaa?
  - (iv) When you go to the urupaa, how do you want to reflect on and connect with those you are remembering?

## Summary of feedback

### Themes from whaanau engagement on a memorial

#### 22. Painful memories

- Many whaanau spoke about the mamae / the pain.
- Whaanau shared experiences about the loss of loved ones and how they only heard snippets from their parents and elders, because it was too painful for them to talk about. Parents and grandparents that had experienced racism often did not share too much with their children, as their way of protecting the next generation from what happened. They wanted their children and grandchildren to dream big, do anything they wanted to, and live their lives without being burdened by the past. Sometimes this manifested as wanting their children to speak English, rather than prioritising te reo Māori / te ao Māori.
- There are still feelings of intergenerational trauma, intergenerational harm, intergenerational damage.
- Memories were shared of when the urupaa was a playground for children, of the names of different roads and streets, of the people who lived there and the whaanau names. And there is also guilt in the painful memories – reflections about playing on the urupaa as children, and as children not knowing it was an urupaa with all its grief and loss. It became clear later that it was an urupaa and that hurt.
- There is pain in still seeing the unmarked graves. The urupaa feels like an ongoing expression of discrimination.  
*Quotes:*
- “So much mamae. It was hard to find urupaa for whaanau. There were no vehicles to transport whaanau back home.”
- “It is a pōuri place.”
- “We need to acknowledge the trauma.”
- “We were separated people in Pukekohe. Whaanau is important. We are one people, regardless of race.”
- “No segregation ever again.”

#### 23. The market gardens

*Quotes:*

- “I worked the gardens to make ends meet, right up to my labour, having a 6 pound 10 oz baby, and then I had to go back to work after I delivered or not get paid.”
- “I have memories of working in the market gardens as a child – under car headlights and washing in the trough afterwards.”
- “Everyone was a breadwinner in the market gardens and there was loss of traditional ways. It was a lost generation.”
- “The market gardens brought whaanau and hapori together, and they came from all over”
- “Fridays were shopping days for Māori working in the market gardens. That is when we went to town”

#### 24. Not knowing / unanswered questions

- Some want to know where their whaanau are resting.

- Make sure it is a project for everyone and think about ways we can provide more information for whaanau – as some people want to know where there whaanau are resting.

*Quotes:*

- “The unknown is sad.”
- “I want a tool that helps me find my parents graves.” “I want to find and discover my connections.”
- “I want to know where my grandparents are. They have been lost for 70 years and buried somewhere there.”

*Questions:*

- How can we access information? Will we ever know where to find our whaanau there? Flu epidemic – are there mass graves in the urupaa?
- Discussed developing a memorial like a jigsaw puzzle, there are many different stories, memories, perspectives. Also fitting it together – who am I? where do I belong? where are my whaanau in the urupaa?
- What about the houses that border the urupaa? Are they built on unmarked graves?

#### **25. A memorial must be inclusive**

- A strong theme is that the urupaa is for everyone, no matter who they are.
  - A place for everyone. Acknowledge the diversity of backgrounds and cultures in the urupaa.
- Quotes:*
- “Those buried, whoever they are, they join up – all races”
  - “This memorial is a community project. People were from all over the place in the true sense of ngaa hau e whaa, from the four winds – north, south, east, and west. So we need to be inclusive of all of them.”
  - “It is not about the book - it is about the people who are there. One memorial for all who are there.”

#### **26. Transformation**

- The urupaa is a sad place, and we want to transform from such a pōuri (sad, mournful) place into a different āhua (form, nature, condition).
- Quotes:*
- “We need to visualise and remember who they used to be. Bring honour to their memory”
  - “We need to show that there are people there in the urupaa and acknowledge that they have a story and that they are remembered. We need to maintain the mana of the people who are there.”
  - “Need to acknowledge the past and the present, and look to the future”
  - “Education of wider community to respect the memorial should occur too.”

#### **27. A need to do something soon**

- In recent times we see people walking their dogs there at the urupaa. People just do not know what it is and who is there.
- It would be good to get some signage up soon at the urupaa. Let people in the community know that something is happening. It could be temporary signage to let people know what is going on and to let people know that there are people buried in unmarked graves. This will help everyone know what this place is and so we can better respect the urupaa and the whaanau who rest there.

#### **28. A memorial - creating a place to reflect and connect**

- We need to make it into a place to be able to go and talk to loved ones.
- Gardens and gardening - a recurring theme

- River is a source of healing. Think about Waikato River.
- Make a place with a sense of peace
- Pou at the entrances?
- Want a place to sit and reflect
- A place with trees for shade and gardens for beauty
- A place that can be used in a formal way or an informal way
- A place of reflection, healing, and forgiveness
- A memorial should be vandal-proof and easy to protect from vandalism. There is a concern that a memorial will not be respected and might be defaced, and that would be very painful and re-traumatise some of our whaanau.

*Quotes:*

- "There are babies there. The ones who are there need to rest in love."
- "I want somewhere to grieve, feel kotahitanga, and bring us back together. To feel wairua"
- "Think about the elements – earth, water, wind, fire. Earth and water are a source of life. Availability of water is important - water fountains."

**29. Naming those who rest there**

- Some whaanau wish to see names of those resting in the urupaa.
- There is also acknowledgement from some whaanau that naming is not always appropriate, as some whaanau were buried without names.

*Quotes:*

- "I want to see their names recognised. Bring them into focus"
- "The young generation want to know their names, we want to know more about what happened, we want to recognise and honour them"
- "Can we have a *Know your whaanau day*? Paanui out to the whaanau names and come together to share all that is known about where these whaanau rest."

**30. Other whaanau whakaaro**

*Quotes:*

- "We need to acknowledge what our Kuia and Kaumātua have done for us, and how we can get behind this kaupapa and support."
- "Today we heard about some of the things that will help our whaanau heal:
  - Taking back our stories
  - Reconnecting with each others' stories
  - Reconnecting with each other – a lot of that happened today."
- "Is there a place for teaching and learning about the history, alongside putting up a memorial?"
- "We could embrace technology. Use QR codes and digital technology to provide information."
- "Enable whaanau in Australia, UK, USA and elsewhere to participate and find out more about their whaanau."
- "Give whaanau the option to participate online and come up with ways to pass on and share information online."
- "Can you proactively connect with whaanau? Reach out, let whaanau know, find ways to get them involved."
- "Can we digitise the map that shows where whaanau members are?"

**Themes from community and stakeholder engagement on a memorial**

**31. Agreement that there should be a memorial**

- We agree about having a memorial.
- A memorial will help us all move forward and focus on what the future might be.



- A memorial needs to be for everyone.

*Quotes:*

- “People are still hurting, but let’s make progress on being united”
- “It is too hard to hold on to the sad and hurtful feelings, as it influences the next generation”
- “We won’t forget them, let’s honour them all”

### **32. A memorial – creating a place to reflect and connect**

- A place to sit, reflect, heal, and forgive
- A place for contemplation
- A peaceful place, respectful and proud of those who rest there
- A place of inclusion and melding, where all ethnicities are celebrated
- Somewhere to love the people in the urupaa
- Seating, hedges, trees, water
- Make it a welcoming and inclusive place to be
- We want it to be a safe place
- An archway?
- Black obsidian?
- Natural materials?
- Perhaps names could be listed?
- Some do not think listing names is appropriate
- Probably not a gravestone for each person resting there – as there is information missing about those interred in the urupaa, for example, some of those resting there do not have names.

*Quotes:*

- “A place of unification, where some of the hurts can go away.”
- “We don’t want it to be a memorial of shame and guilt.”
- “We don’t have all the names, so it may need to be a place for collective remembrance.”

### **33. Seeking improvements / providing advice to the memorial development process**

- Accuracy of information is important. There is some disagreement by members of the Franklin Branch of the Genealogy Society with committee promotion of numbers and ethnicity of people interred in the unmarked graves. Society members would like acknowledgement that some of the data that has been promoted is incorrect.
- Society members are concerned that not all aspects of the documentary (No Māori Allowed) were correct, and feel there was misrepresentation of Pukekohe and the community
- Genealogy Society members would like more involvement. Members feel their prior work to have a memorial developed (2015) was not acknowledged. Members believe that their knowledge and expertise has not been recognised.
- European history is important to that area too. In 1864 Europeans settled on that piece of land. The memorial should include a narrative about the history of the place.
- The budget is substantial, the society wants good value for money and accountability.
- There needs to be better communications, promotion, and advertising
- Involve the wider community
- Poster needs to be explicit about how to get links for online meetings
- Organise some shorter drop-in sessions

### **34. Other input**

- The Genealogy Society tabled their research into the urupaa to share with the committee – including plot number of person interred, date buried, surname and first names, parents’ names, comments, and whether the registration of birth or death was found.

### Mana whenua engagement

35. In January 2025, the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee Chair sent a paanui to all mana whenua iwi organisations with a registered interest in Pukekohe.

36. The paanui to mana whenua iwi included the following key matters:

- An update on the kaupapa of acknowledging and memorialising whaanau and loved ones, currently lying in unmarked graves at the Pukekohe Cemetery urupaa.
- Seeking mana whenua support and assistance in progressing the kaupapa and for promoting upcoming hui to whaanau near and far.
- Giving an undertaking that once whaanau and hapori engagement hui have been held, the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee will seek to meet with mana whenua iwi on what the committee has heard and how that may inform proposed next steps towards a tohu maumahara / memorial.

37. This memo seeks direction from the Pukekohe Cemetery Committee on how and when the members of the committee wish to engage with mana whenua iwi.