



**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING DATED, TUESDAY, 17 MARCH 2026 IN THE
ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 108 ST JOHN STREET, ŌPŌTIKI AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT:

Mayor David Moore (Chairperson)
Deputy Mayor Maude Maxwell (Deputy Chairperson)
Councillors:
Barry Howe
Curley Keno
Dean Petersen
Pāpā Wharewera

IN ATTENDANCE:

Stace Lewer (Chief Executive Officer)
Nathan Hughes (Group Manager Service Delivery)
Antoinette Campbell (Group Manager Strategy and Development)
Rachael Burgess (Group Manager Business Support)
Billy Kingi (Finance Manager)
Garry Page (Operations Manager Parks, Reserves and Harbour)
Michael Fryer (Strategy and Policy Manager)
Joel Hingston (Principal Policy Advisor)
Scott James (Strategic Policy Analyst)
Maheesha Silva (Governance Support Officer)
Ranjini Manoharan (Executive Support Officer)
Gae Finlay (Executive Assistant and Governance Lead)

PUBLIC:

Alex Le Long, Te Whiu Te Maipi, River Pairama and Kairo Patterson (Y2 Hub),
Cole Edwards, Anubhav Sarkar, Makau Phipps and Psalm Edwardson (Ōpōtiki
College)
Several members of the public.

Councillor Keno opened the meeting with a passage from Ecclesiastes 3:

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search

and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

APOLOGIES

Councillor Browne, Councillor Nelson

RESOLVED

(1) That the apologies be sustained.

HWTM/Howe

Carried

DECLARATION OF ANY INTERESTS IN RELATION TO OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Nil.

PUBLIC FORUM

Alex Le long and Te Whiu Te Maipi – Ōpōtiki Youth Council

Alex Le Long and Te Whiu Te Maipi presented to Council, supported by youth representatives and representatives from Whakaatu Whanaunga and Whakatōhea. Councillors were provided with handouts supporting the request for an Ōpōtiki Youth Council.

Points made:

- Why does Ōpōtiki not have a Youth Council? This question has been asked for five years.
- The main goal is to have a voice at the table.
- A Charitable Trust has been established and over \$250,000 has been raised for Ōpōtiki Rangatahi Pā.
- A Youth Council does not need to be specifically funded by Council.
- It would be a space for rangatahi to share their kaupapa and kōrero.
- Young people deserve a voice in our Council.
- The recommendations to Council are:
 - Establish a Young Council in Ōpōtiki
 - Collaborate with Ōpōtiki Rangatahi Pā.
 - Support the development of a long-term safe space for rangatahi
 - Ensure rangatahi voices are included in Council planning.

River Pairama and Kairo Patterson (Y2 Hub), Cole Edwards, Anubhav Sarkar, Makau Phipps and Psalm Edwardson (Ōpōtiki College) provided some thoughts around what a Youth Council could do.

His Worship the Mayor advised that Council represents everyone. We will continue with the kaupapa but things take time and there are a number of parties that need to be at the table.

Following questions from Councillors, His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer thanked the presenters for attending the meeting.

Alex Le Long, Te Whiu Te Maipi, River Pairama, Kairo Patterson, Cole Edwards, Anubhav Sarkar, Makau Phipps, Psalm Edwardson and members of the public left the meeting at 10.36am.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 3 FEBRUARY 2026 p4

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 3 February 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

HWTM/Maxwell

Carried

2. DRAFT MINUTES – COAST COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING 24 FEBRUARY 2026 p13

RESOLVED

- (1) That the draft minutes of the Coast Community Board meeting held on 24 February 2026 and any recommendations therein, be received.**

Wharewera/HWTM

Carried

3. MINUTES – RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 17 NOVEMBER 2025 p19

- (1) That the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 17 November 2025, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

4. MINUTES – PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY COMMITTEE MEETING 22 DECEMBER 2025 p28

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Performance and Delivery Committee meeting held on 22 December 2025, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

Petersen/Wharewera

Carried

5. MINUTES – REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING 20 FEBRUARY 2026 p32

- (1) That the minutes of the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 20 February 2026 be received.**

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

The Principal Policy Advisor left the meeting at 10.41am.

6. MAYORAL REPORT 24 JANUARY 2026 – 6 MARCH 2026 p22

His Worship the Mayor highlighted the following from the report:

- Eastern Bay of Plenty Road Safety Operations Group meeting – advocacy for improvements to the Appleton Road/State Highway area
- Rural Provincial Sector meeting

RESOLVED

- (1) That the port titled “Mayoral Report 24 January 2025 – 6 March 2026” be received.**

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

7. STANDING COMMITTEES TERMS OF REFERENCE – 2025-2028 p45

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Standing Committees Terms of Reference 2025-2028” be received.**
- (2) That Council approves the Terms of Reference for the Performance and Delivery Committee for the 2025-2028 triennium.**
- (3) That Council approves the Terms of Reference for the Chief Executive’s Performance Committee for the 2025-2028 triennium.**
- (4) That Council approves the Terms of Reference for the Ōpōtiki Harbour Management Committee for the 2025-2028 triennium.**
- (5) That Council approves the Terms of Reference to take effect immediately and remain in force for the duration of the 2025-2028 triennium unless amended by Council resolution.**

HWTM/Maxwell

Carried

8. EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY JOINT COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE p57

It was agreed that Deputy Mayor Maxwell will move from being alternate member of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee to a member. Councillor Keno will be the alternate member.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee – Terms of Reference” be received.
- (2) That the Council notes the following Mayoral Appointments to the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee, were made at an Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 November 2025:

Committee	Appointment by the Mayor
Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee	Mayor David Moore Deputy Mayor Maude Maxwell (alternate)

- (3) That Council adopts the updated Terms of Reference (Appendix 1) for the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee, including its membership, for the 2025-2028 triennium, as agreed by the Committee at its meeting held on 19 December 2025.
- (4) That Council rescinds the alternate membership of Councillor Maude Maxwell to the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee.
- (5) That Council appoints Councillor Maude Maxwell as a member of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee.
- (6) That Council appoints Councillor Curley Keno as alternate member of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee.
- (7) That Council confirms the appointments to the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee are in accordance with the Updated Terms of Reference.

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

9. PUBLIC TOILETS REFURBISHMENT AND RENEWAL BUDGET

p65

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled “Public Toilets Refurbishment and Renewal Budget” be received.
- (2) That Council reallocate the Waioatahe Drifts new toilet budget to supplement refurbishment budgets for the Surf Club and Hukuwai Beach toilet upgrades.
- (3) That Council allocates an additional \$50,000 budget by utilising \$50,000 of funding from the Council’s Reserve Fund.

Howe/Maxwell

Carried

The Governance Support Officer left the meeting at 10.54am and returned at 10.56am.

The Operations Manager Parks, Reserves and Harbour and the Group Manager Service Delivery left the meeting at 10.56am.

10. BOPLASS LTD STATEMENT OF INTENT FOR 2026-2029 AND HALF-YEARLY REPORT p74

It was agreed that Council asks BOPLASS to investigate opportunities around shared services.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "BOPLASS Ltd Statement of Intent for 2026-20-29 and Half Yearly Report" be received.**
- (2) That Council asks BOPLASS to investigate opportunities around shared services.**

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

The Governance Support Officer and the Finance Manager left the meeting at 11.00am.

11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S UPDATE p107

The Chief Executive Officer gave special mention of the following:

- The Water Services work – acknowledge the work the team have put into this
- Taituara CE Forum – exploring opportunities to help navigate with the reform and become trusted partners. There is a lot of reform going on in the background which we know nothing about.

His Worship the Mayor extended thanks to Councillor Browne for standing in for him at the Citizenship Ceremony held on 12 February.

Councillor Wharewera acknowledged staff and two Regional Councillors' attendance at the Coast Community Board meeting held on 24 February.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Chief Executive Officer's Update" be received.**

HWTM/Maxwell

Carried

The Governance Support Officer rejoined the meeting at 11.06am.

12. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC p112

SECTION 48 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION & MEETINGS ACT 1987

- 1. THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:**
 - 13. Confirmation of In-Committee Minutes – Ordinary Council Meeting 3 February 2026.**
 - 14. In-Committee Minutes – Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting 17 November 2025.**
 - 15. Appointment of the Eastern Bay District Licensing Committee.**

16. Eastern Bay of Plenty Provisional Local Alcohol Policy Update.

17. Notes From Council Workshops.

- 2. THAT the following persons be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of the subject item in relation to the following. This knowledge will be of assistance and is relevant to the matters to be discussed:**

Names: David Bewley, Gemma Bengel, Eliot Fenton (Whakatāne District Council); Chris Ryan (Simpson Grierson)

Item: 16

Business: To provide Council with further information and updates, if required, in relation to Item 16 inclusive relevant to the Eastern Bay of Plenty Provisional Local Alcohol Policy Update.

Reason: To assist with the accurate presentation of sensitive information to the Council and to provide responses to queries.

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 are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
13.	Confirmation of In-Committee Minutes – Ordinary Council Meeting 3 February 2026.	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)
14.	In-Committee Minutes – Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting 17 November 2025.	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)
15.	Appointment of the Eastern Bay District Licensing Committee.	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)

16.	Eastern Bay of Plenty Provisional Local Alcohol Policy Update.	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)
17.	Notes From Council Workshop.	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)

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 or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

13.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Protect information Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information Carry out negotiations Maintain legal professional privilege Carry out commercial activities	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(b)(i) & (ii); (d) & (e) and Section 7(2)(c)(i) & (ii) Section 7(2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j) Section 7(2)(i) Section 7(2)(g) Section 7(2)(h)
14.	Protect the privacy of natural persons Protect information (commercial sensitivity) Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information Carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(b)(ii) Section 7(2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j) Section 7(2)(h)
15.	Protect the privacy of natural persons	Section 7(2)(a)
16.	Maintain legal professional privilege	Section 7(2)(g)
17.	Protection from improper pressure or harassment Prevent disclosure or use of official information	Section 7(2)(f)(ii) Section 7(2)(j)

HWTM/Keno

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the resolutions made while the public was excluded, except for Clauses 2 and 3 of Item 15 (Appointment of the Eastern Bay District Licensing Committee) and Clauses 4, 5 and 6 of Item 16 (Eastern Bay of Plenty Provisional Local Alcohol Policy Update)), be confirmed in open meeting.**

- (2) That the public be readmitted to the meeting.**

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the in-committee minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 3 February 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

HWTM/Maxwell

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 17 November 2025, and any recommendations therein, be received.**

HWTM/Howe

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Appointment of the Eastern Bay District Licensing Committee" be received.**

HWTM/Keno

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Eastern Bay of Plenty Provisional Local Alcohol Policy Update" be received.**
- (2) That Council confirms the public be excluded from consideration of this report on the grounds set out in the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 under Section 48(1)(a)(i): Section 7(2)(g) to maintain legal professional privilege; and**
- (3) That Council confirms the report is to remain in Public Excluded.**

HWTM/Petersen

Carried

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report titled "Notes from Council Workshops" be received.**
- (2) That the Council agrees to publicly release the full notes related to the 20 January 2026 workshop.**
- (3) That the Council agrees to keep the notes related to the 23 February 2026 workshop confidential.**

HWTM/Maxwell

Carried

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12.00PM.

**THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE CERTIFIED AS BEING A
TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A SUBSEQUENT
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 28 APRIL 2026**

**D G T MOORE
HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR**