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**Taharoa Domain Governance Committee meeting held in the Committee Room,
Council Offices, Station Road, Dargaville on Monday 14 September 2009**

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Taharoa Domain Governance Committee Meeting

Monday 14 September 2009

1 Karakia

1.1 Present

Mr T Birch, Councillors B Burnett and J Geange

Resolved Geange/Burnett

That in the absence of the Chairman, R Parore, the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee nominated Trevor Birch to stand as Chairman for this meeting on 14 September 2009.

1.2 In Attendance

S Soole, Community Spaces Manager

Y Hancock, Governance

A Howell, Camp Ground Manager

1.3 Apologies

B Ware, Governance Manager

R Parore

Resolved Geange/Burnett

That the apologies of R Parore and B Ware be received.

1.4 Acknowledgement of Public

The Chairman acknowledged those members of the public present.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

2.1 Minutes of Meeting 29 June 2009

A copy of the minutes was circulated.

Resolved Burnett/Birch

That the minutes of the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee meeting of 29 June 2009, as circulated, be confirmed.

3 General

3.1 Lake Waikere Closure Dates for 2009/10

The Kai Iwi Lakes Water Ski Club had provided a list of dates for tournaments and training from 31 October 2009 to 7 March 2010 and requested that Lake Waikere be closed to the public subject to conditions for 16 days in total. This number was down from 23 days in 2008/09. One of the days requested was Monday 1 February 2010 which falls on Northland and Auckland Anniversary Weekend and could potentially conflict with the extra demand of the Lakes from public holiday usage over what would be a long weekend. The Club had also indicated that it would be holding four 'Splash Days' which were open days and would not require closure.

The Community Spaces Manager was requested to write to the Club informing them of the additional condition being stipulated, that "*A draft of the wording to be used on the signs is forwarded to the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee for its approval prior to the signs being made. If no notification is received, permission to hold the tournaments and coaching may be revoked.*" The Club was to be asked for a draft of the wording to be used on the signs to be placed at the entranceway leading to Lake Waikere, signalling the tournaments and coaching days, be received as soon as possible, as the first tournament was Saturday 31 October 2009.

Resolved Burnett/Geange

That the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee grants permission to the Kai Iwi Lakes Water Ski Club for Lake Waikere to be closed for the holding of tournaments and coaching days as follows, being 16 days in total:

<i>Saturday 31 October 2009</i>	<i>Splash Day</i>
<i>Sunday 1 November 2009 (1)</i>	<i>Club Handicap Tournament</i>
<i>Sunday 05 December 2009</i>	<i>Splash Day</i>
<i>Sunday 06 December 2009 (1)</i>	<i>Club Handicap Tournament</i>
<i>Saturday 19 to Tuesday 22 December 2009 (4)</i>	<i>Ski School</i>
<i>Monday 25 to Friday 29 December 2010 (5)</i>	<i>Ski School</i>
<i>Saturday 30 January to Monday 01 February 2010 (3)</i>	<i>Kai Iwi 3 Day Event Tournament</i>
<i>Saturday 13 February 2010</i>	<i>Splash Day</i>
<i>Sunday 14 February 2010 (1)</i>	<i>Club Handicap Tournament</i>
<i>Saturday 06 March 2010)</i>	<i>Splash Day</i>
<i>Sunday 07 March 2010 (1)</i>	<i>Club Handicap Tournament</i>

subject to the following conditions:

- *That the Lake is only closed for Tournaments and training between the hours of 8.00am and 12.00 noon and 1.00pm to 5.00pm daily, except for Saturday 30 January to Monday 1 February 2010 when the lake will be closed from 8.00am to 5pm.*
- *Shore fishing is allowed at all times.*
- *Public Notification in the Northern Advocate and Dargaville District News at the Kai Iwi Lakes Water Ski Club's expense.*
- *Signs to be erected at entrance points to the Kai Iwi Lakes setting out which lakes are closed, closure times and reasons for closures at the Kai Iwi Lakes Water Ski Club's expense.*
- *A draft of the wording to be used on the signs is forwarded to the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee for its approval prior to the signs being made. If no notification is received, permission to hold the tournaments and coaching may be revoked.*

Reason for the decision

To offer a safe venue for the Kai Iwi lakes Water Ski Club training and tournaments enabling them to prepare for Tournaments and Championships whilst ensuring other public uses of Lake Waikere.

3.2 Camp Ground Fees Increase

The Taharoa Domain Governance Committee at its meeting of 29 June 2009 agreed to increase camp fees (refer circulated minutes).

It was noted that this request duplicated the one made at the Annual Plan Deliberations of the Full Council on 2 June 2009, in which the resolution stated:

"Resolved Alspach/Guest

That Council acknowledges the submissions received regarding Taharoa Domain and recommendations received to Council's Kaipara's Future - Working Together 2009/19; and

That a detailed analysis be provided to identify the costs of (a) camp ground; (b) public reserves; and

That funding based on this formula applies from 01 July 2010; and

That Council provides funds of \$40,000 to the Taharoa Domain Reserve funding for 2009/10 in the interim."

The Committee therefore decided that this matter should lie on the table awaiting the stated detailed analysis.

Resolved Geange/Burnett

That this item regarding Taharoa Domain Camp Ground Increase in Fees, along with a new fees structure for group bookings, lie on the table; and

That the detailed analysis on identifying the costs of a) Camp Ground and b) public reserves as per Council's Annual Plan Deliberation resolution on 2 June 2009 come back to Taharoa Domain Governance Committee meeting before any decision is made on Camp Ground Fees.

Reason for the decision

The Committee decided that moving forward with an increase in fees would pre-empt work being done in the detailed analysis for the Domain and camp ground. They decided it was better to have the analysis work done before making any decisions on the setting of camp ground fees or group bookings.

3.3 Taharoa Domain Shop Services Agreement: Summer 2009/10

Two Expressions of Interest for the running of a shop service based within Taharoa Domain's Pine Beach area for the 2009/10 summer period had been received and evaluated by Council staff. The service provided last year (2008/09) proved popular with campers and visitors to the area. The shop service provided a range of hot and cold food along with drinks and general goods.

After evaluating both service providers, it had been decided to remain with the same provider as last year, this being Paula Migley. Feedback from the Camp Ground Manager had been that the provider was reliable, easy to deal with and provided a good service to visitors and campers. The initial 2008/09 season was a trial period for the shop service and a step-up on the previous year and the service provided. The current provider had agreed to increase the level of items stocked and provided to campers and visitors along with a longer stay at the site, weather and visitor numbers dependent, and would work in with the Camp Ground Manager on this matter to ensure the best possible service. The issue of needing a wider range of product and fresh fruit and vegetables was noted.

Longer term, the service provider wished to enter into a concession arrangement for the providing of this service, to give some assurance to both the campers and the provider. They would be asking for consideration of a longer arrangement for the providing of the service and the site after the 2009/10 holiday period.

Resolved Birch/Geange

That the information be received.

3.4 Panorama Rise, Trees

Several trees in the Panorama Rise / Sin Bin area of Lake Taharoa were in a dangerous state. These trees were some of the oldest in the Domain and over the past few years a number had blown down or had limb failures resulting in branches falling without warning. The Committee was informed that several of these had now come down.

This area was very popular with those visitors wanting a more quiet and sheltered spot within the Domain. As had been previously been discussed and decided by the Committee, at this stage there was no intention to carry out the last of the logging programme planned for within the Domain until the log market stabilises and prices become more economic to allow the Committee to continue with planned works. However these trees fell outside of the planned logging area and were a potential hazard to visitors to the Sin Bin area. The Committee had previously heard from the Camp Ground Manager and Council staff of trees within the Taharoa Domain Camp Ground area that had required inspection and arboricultural work to reduce risks to campers and visitors. It was planned for an inspection of the trees in the Sin Bin area to be undertaken in September / October 2009 with a programme of immediate safety works undertaken before the Christmas 2009/10 period began.

From this inspection a report would be brought back to the Committee for its information on the state of the remaining trees and a likely programme of future works on these trees that would ensure the public's continued enjoyment and safety in the area.

Staff were presently looking into the options available regarding the removal of fallen trees from the camp grounds and Domain area.

Resolved Burnett/Geange

That the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee be informed of the works undertaken on trees in the Panorama Rise / Sin Bin area of Lake Taharoa; and

That a report on the condition and planned future works with costs, on the remaining trees is brought back to the Committee at its next meeting on Tuesday 27 October 2009.

Reason for the decision

As the safety of the trees in this area has been brought to Council's attention an immediate inspection is needed on the trees, and if necessary works programmed to reduce any risks of failure. This needs to be carried out before the 2009/10 holiday period as the area becomes too busy to allow for any works to be carried out without interference to the public. From this inspection a report will be brought back to the Committee on the condition of the remaining trees and any future works /removals needed.

3.5 Dwarf Inanga Translocation

With the agreement of the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee and in partnership with the Department of Conservation a small population of Dwarf Inanga had been translocated from Taharoa Domain to another lake within the Waipoua forest. The Taharoa Domain Governance Committee agreed to the translocation of a population of the fish as a trial to establish another viable population outside of the Taharoa Domain and if successful further strengthening this unique native fish species survival. Further information regarding the translocation and its success was provided to the Committee at the meeting. 160 fish had been moved so far, with a low mortality rate, mainly due to stress. All fish moved had come from Lake Waikere.

Resolved Geange/Burnett

That this information and verbal report regarding the translocation of Dwarf Inanga from Taharoa Domain be received; and

That the Conservation Department be asked to keep the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee informed of the success of the trial.

Reason for the decision

The translocation of the Dwarf Inanga from Taharoa Domain to another location is an important step if successful in ensuring the survival of this unique fish. The Governance Committee is committed to the survival of this unique fish species and its enhancement in the Taharoa Domain. It is of interest to the Committee to be updated on the success of the trial translocation programme.

3.6 NIWA Northland Lakes Ecological Status Report

An excerpt of NIWA's Northland Lakes Ecological Status Report 2009 was circulated. The Report had been carried out throughout Northland with part of this report carried out on Taharoa Domain, and Lakes Taharoa, Kai iwi and Waikere. This information along with a report on the condition of Shag Lake northwest of the Taharoa Domain was circulated for the Governance Committee's information.

Resolved Burnett/Geange

That the information be received.

3.7 Community Max Workers

Work and Income New Zealand had developed a programme called Community Max. An Information Sheet was circulated. This programme had been developed to enable projects that benefitted the community or environment. Community Max helped with the costs of employing young people between the ages of 16 and 24 years for a period of six months continued work and training opportunities and a chance to build their skills and work experience.

Community Max offered a wage subsidy equivalent to the minimum wage for 30 hours per week. A contribution towards supervision costs for every group of four young people employed and help with the cost of training up to \$1,250 for each young person.

Taharoa Domain could be a suitable location for an environmental based community programme that could be developed to undertake weed, planting, track, tree removal, fencing and enhancement work within the Domain.

What the Community Max programme did not provide for was the purchasing and maintenance of Tools, Equipment, Fuel or Transportation. All were costs that needed to be factored into any the project before committing to the programme.

The programme was available for consideration until 31 December 2010.

Kaipara District Council had put in an application to Work and Income New Zealand for eight workers plus two supervisors on the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee's behalf. The Governance Committee thought this was an excellent programme and one of which the Domain would reap many benefits.

Resolved Geange/Burnett

That the Work and Income New Zealand 'Community Max Programme' be fully explored by Council staff, along with likely costs that need to be provided by the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee, and this information be provided to the Committee for consideration at its 27 October 2009 meeting, before making a final decision on setting up a Community Max Programme at the Domain.

Reason for the decision

The Community Max Programme is a youth based community or environmental programme that could be developed and based at the Taharoa Domain with long term benefits for the Domain along with up skilling the youth on the programme; it does however need to be fully explored before committing to a six month programme.

3.8 Fishing Contest

A report was tabled at the meeting from Northland Fish and Game on the Annual Kai Iwi Lakes fishing contest, the results of the contest, fish numbers and its relation to previous years contests.

Resolved Geange/Burnett

That the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee receives the Northland Fish and Game report, as tabled, be received.

3.9 Financial Report for 12 months to 30 June 2009

The Financial Report for 12 months to 30 June 2009, was circulated.

It was noted that income was down \$11,000 from the year before, the amount increasing to \$30,000 when the Information Centre booking fee was included.

It was highlighted that potential campers were having difficulty contacting the Taharoa Domain camp ground to make bookings. This was a direct result of the current communication network, regarding email bookings. People were also telephoning the old information centre number (which no longer belonged to Council) and not being referred on. The Community Spaces Manager was to investigate the matter to see if there were other options available to improve networks.

The cost of refuse was an issue. The Camp Ground Manager had already personally flagged this issue, and was looking into recycling / refuse options.

Resolved Geange/Birch

That the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee receives the Financial Report to 30 June 2009; and

That a Customer Relations and Information Technology and Telephone Service / Network Report be brought back to the Committee before the next meeting on Tuesday 27 October 2009.

3.10 Next Meeting : Tuesday 27 October 2009

The next meeting of the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee was set for **Tuesday 27 October 2009 1pm** in the Committee room, Station Road, Dargaville.

This meeting would be held on a Tuesday, as the scheduled meeting date of Monday 26 October was the Statutory Holiday (Labour Weekend).

The last meeting for the year would be held Monday 30 November 2009 to allow any business to be finalised before the December/January holiday period.

The first meeting for 2010 was scheduled for Monday 22 February 2010.

Closure :

The meeting closed at 2pm

unconfirmed