

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE
NGATI TE WHITI WHENUA TOPU TRUST
HELD AT THE MOTUROA SCHOOL HALL
ON THE
12 DECEMBER 2021**

1. Mihi and Karakia

Haydn Te Ruki gave the karakia

2. Present

Julie Johns
Andrys Underwood
Philippa Fairclough
Jack Cassidy
Rita Rukuwai
Gemma Toa
Haydn Te Ruki
K Wegman
Sharon McCulloch
Graeme Fairclough

Donald Harris
Linda McCulloch
B J Moke
Shelton Healey
Stephen McCulloch
David Toa
L Braddock
J Wegman
Garry Nicholas

3. Apologies

Soibhan Lynch
Whakairitaua Stanton
Grant Knuckey
Perry Cassidy
Elsie Kearns

Christine Rukuwai
Kristen Katu
Shane Cassidy
Paunamu Cassidy
Kahu Brian Healey

4. Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson's report was read to the meeting.

Hard copies of the Chairperson's report were available for the attendees.

Matters Arising

Julie Healey acknowledged that she was a member of the Whakapapa committee.

Haydn Te Ruki is also a member of the Whakapapa Committee.

Support came from the floor for the Whakapapa joint committee being made up of members of the Hapu Society and the Trust.

The members advised that the Whakapapa information will be available for the whanau.

The members stated that there is a need to establish what we already know.

It was agreed that there will be a wananga next year for everyone. That it is time for the Hapu to come together over the whakapapa.

The whakapapa is on a database and everyone was invited to bring their knowledge of their Whanau to the Wananga so that the database can be updated.

A query was raised about the vision statement for the Trust. The meeting was told that by default, the Trust adopted Puke Ariki Land Trust's vision and mission statement. Those present were advised that the Trustees are currently reviewing the vision and mission statement for the Trust.

The renaming of the Puke Ariki Land Trust to the Ngati Te Whiti Whenua Topu Trust became an important time to review who "owns" land in particular the land at 70 St Aubyn Street. It is unifying to bring people together over whanau rather than who owned land as Maori did not traditionally own land. The Iwi had control over the land, and everyone could use the land to grow vegetables etc to look after their families.

It was acknowledged that the Whakapapa is the constant for all in the Hapu.

Resolution

That the Chairperson's report is taken as read and received.

5. Audited Financial Statements Year Ending 31 March 2020

The audited Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2020 were presented to the meeting.

As well as hard copies being available for this meeting, the meeting was told that the Financial Statements had also been loaded onto the website prior to 30 September 2020.

The attendees were advised that a Fixed Asset and Depreciation Schedule for the year ending 31 March 2020 was not able to be presented to the meeting because there had been problems with Xero in getting this report.

The meeting was advised that the Fixed Asset and Depreciation Schedule will be loaded onto the website when it was available.

Specific questions were raised:

1. Page 8 of 18, three Education Grants = \$1220. My understanding each financial year offers a maximum of eight \$500 grants. Please clarify:
Questions:
 - When did this Policy change? Answer: There has been no change in policy. The Trust sets aside \$6000 each year for education grants.
 - What type of courses were the three individuals studying? Answer: Sport
 - What are the age brackets of the Akonga? Answer: School age children
2. Page 14 of 18, Item 2, Wages = \$35,600.
 - Please clarify is this total for the Office Administrator, working part-time hours?
Answer: Yes
3. Pages 14 of 18, Item 2, AGM Expenses = \$3,030.
 - Please clarify what this total comprises of? Hall Hire approx. \$500, Kai approx. \$500 and what? Answer: The expenditure was for hall hire, advertising with Stuff, stamps, food and milk.
4. Page 15 of 18, Item 2, Travel & Accommodation = \$2,946
 - Please clarify what this total cover ... for who and what Kaupapa?
Answer: This was to reimburse a Trustee who was travelling to Trust meetings, and to assist in tidying up the storeroom and storage of documents, from Hawera to New Plymouth. There is also a small amount to reimburse a beneficial owner for travel expenses to coming to the Trust office to provide assistance in tidying up the storeroom, shifting files upstairs, etc.
5. Page 15 of 18, Item 3, Other Non-Current Assets = \$856,577
Please clarify what Work in Progress has been undertaken because it is Categorized as "Non-Current"
Answer: This is all of the costs in relation to the marae development at Bayly Road. There is a separate report on 1 Bayly Road on the agenda.

Resolution

That the Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2020, audited by Silks, Chartered Accountants, Whanganui, be accepted.

6. Appointment of Chartered Accountants and Auditors

Resolution

That BDO, Chartered Accountants, New Plymouth and Silks, Chartered Accountants, Whanganui, are confirmed as the accountants and auditors for the financial year ending 31 March 2021.

7. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 14 September 2019

Hard copies of the draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 14 September 2019 were available for the attendees to read.

Matters Arising

A discussion was held on whether the Trust Order reflects the needs of the whanau now.

A discussion was held on how to blend the work of the Hapu Society and the Trust. An example was given of the need to review the policies of both entities so that they can work together.

The attendees were advised that the board of the Society and Trustees had been holding meetings in 2020 and were proactively looking at ways in which they could work together.

It was noted that a correction needed to be made to the draft minutes under the subheading General Business - Spencer Watson needs to be changed to Spencer Webster.

Resolution

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 14 September 2019 be taken as received and accepted as a true and fair representation of that meeting, subject to the correction from Spencer Watson to Spencer Webster under the subheading General Business.

8. Outcome of the Trustee Elections

A paper from BDO was presented to the meeting around the process for the election of Trustees to the Trust.

No election was required because only five nomination forms were received.

The successful nominees were Linda McCulloch, Haydn Te Ruki, Perry Cassidy, Rita Rukuwai and Jack Cassidy.

Resolution

That the report from BDO is taken as received, read, and accepted.

9. Other Reports

All of the Other Reports were available in hard copy for the attendees to read at the meeting.

- a. Comparison of the 2019/20 budget to Audited Financial Statements and Fixed Budget for the year ending 31 March 2021

Resolution

That the comparison of the Fixed Budget 2019/20 to the actual results and the fixed budget presented for the year ending 31 March 2021 be taken as read and received.

b. Education Report

Resolution

That the Education Report dated 12 December 2020 be taken as read and received.

c. Report from Leo Watson on the Review of the Trust Order

It was noted that the report was informative, and that the reparation was a low figure and offensive to the whanau.

It was acknowledged that what happened with reference to Shaun Keenan is history and will not go away. The lesson is that the Trustees need to ensure that it never happens again

The report from Judge Harvey is due in the first quarter 2021. This report from the Judge will determine whether the Trustees will be liable for the any or all of the actions of Shaun Keenan.

Resolution

That the report from Leo Watson be taken as read and received.

d. Development of the Land at 1 Bayly Road

Assurances were given that the Trust owns the architectural plans and all other work associated with the marae.

There was an acknowledgment that the beneficial owners can still have faith that the building of the marae could happen.

Resolution

That the information provided entitled the Development of the Land at 1 Bayly Road be taken as read and received.

e. Trustee Reports

Shelton Healy

Shelton acknowledged that there had been steady, positive forward movements during his three years as a Trustee and that it had been an invaluable experience for him.

He noted that the website was up and running, that more needs to be added to it but that it will improve over time.

Shelton acknowledged that he had enjoyed his time on the Trust and that the Trustees still have the vision of a marae.

He acknowledged the strength of the whanau.

Jack Cassidy

Acknowledged Shelton's contribution, the meetings that the Trustees attended and the learnings from these meetings and the prior Trustees and their contribution.

He noted that the Trust was stepping into technology. That the Trustees were using tablets at hui, that it had been a big learning curve but good for his mokopuna to learn as well.

He commented that he has built a database for the Whakapapa. This this was a gig mihi and big learning curve. That there was a good contribution from whanau past and present that he could work

off. Everything that was available to him has been put into the database. That once this is up and running it will cut out a lot of work.

He acknowledged that it has been a tough time but that he is still committed to the Trust and the objectives of the Trust.

Linda McCulloch

Noted that the Hapu are resilient, that this is their\our land - the whanau have nowhere else to go.

10. General Business

a. Consideration for the Whenua and the Topu to be Better Aligned

A general discussion was held.

It was noted that this matter has been considered for several years.

History shows that combining of entities has occurred in the past, the example being the combining of the Puke Ariki Land Trust and the Bayly Road Trust.

The whanau can see that there is a benefit in this, that the conversation needs to be held and that a combining of the Hapu Society and the Topu Trust would make sense.

It was acknowledged that there needs to be an ongoing discussion around this matter as both entities are made up of the same people.

An ongoing discussion also needs to be held on whether Te Kotahitanga represents the best interests of the Hapu.

The settlement is now four to five years in and so the question needs to be asked as to whether Te Kotahitanga is meeting the needs of the people.

Members expressed their desire to see the mokopuna come through. They noted that the Hapu is a family and that concentration needs to be back in the family.

That skills need to be shared so that the Hapu can benefit from this.

A suggestion was made that the Chairs of the Hapu and Te Kotahitanga\Te Atiawa should meet on a more regular basis.

b. Annual General Meeting Dates

A request was made to hold the Annual General Meeting for the Trust at an earlier time than December.