

<b>COMMUNITY</b>	Ruatoria	<b>DATE</b>	08/04/2019	<b>NOTES TAKEN BY</b>	Marire Kuka
<b>ATTENDEES (33)</b>	Mayor Meng Foon, Deputy Mayor Rehette Stoltz, David Wilson (GDC), Andrew White (GDC), Heather Kohn (GDC), Anita Reedy Holthausen (GDC), Hannah Steans (GDC), Joanna Noble (GDC), Lillian Ward (GDC), Marire Kuka (GDC), Councillor Bill Burdett, Murray Robetson (Gisborne Herald), Marijke Warmenhoven, Panapa Ehau, Ruth Baker, Whai Kaiwai, Maria Smith, Eddie Charlie, Ollie Charlie, Glory Ehau-Taumaunu, Celia Sherwin, Hilton Collier, Ngarimu Parata.				

**ACTION REQUIRED**

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- Rating system** – Resident: What’s Council’s policy on rating Maori land? Particularly the definition of contiguous land. Why so hard?  
Response: Classes of land are determined by law. You can apply for Whenua Rahui in some cases. Mayor’s understanding of contiguous land is a farm operation with similar operations in close proximity.

Resident: How does it work? Council’s policy starts to differentiate from the statute. We are around farms but someone has determined our land as lifestyle blocks even though there are a few cows grazing.  
Response: Maybe they are not in action lifestyle.

No action required

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  - Rates arrears** – Resident: Difficult to set up payment of current rates when Council staff are only concerned with having arrears paid, potentially referring this to debt collection.  
Response: Around 4 years ago, policy changed to allow a zero arrears start and a gradual application of fee payment.

Cr Burdett: Currently, a standard/ uniform fee applies to all Maori land which has caused confusion. Difficulty in dealing with rates staff.

No action required

Response: A hui needs to be called to discuss this matter. We would like to start again, at least we’d get something rather than nothing.

Resident: Rates arrears have been wiped but I am still receiving increasing arrears notices.  
Response: We will tag this issue on to our pending hui.

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  - Rating of Maori land** – Resident: Uniform fee is racist. Staff have threatened debt collection over a permit which I have not received.  
Response: Apologies for rude staff. The average rate increase has been 3 – 4%.

No action required. Further evidence required.

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  - Difficulty in accessing rates information** – Resident: Each time I contact Council I have to repeat the process. I propose a solution whereby a customer number is applied to bring the information up with ease, similar to a Community Services Card.  
Response: This seems reasonable and will be taken into consideration.

No action required

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  - Playground Development** – Resident: Been lobbying for this for 7 years. Te Puawaitanga Trust have been told we have to wait until Te Araroa development is sorted, why should we have to wait?

No action required
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<p>Response: Acknowledgement of work from Te Puawaitanga Trust. Recent development has been made, Council to provide portion of funding alongside Lions Foundation as a likely contributor. These are elements of township planning. Progress is likely to be seen from the new 2020/2021 Financial Year.</p>	
<p>6. <b>Waste Minimisation</b> – Resident: Thank you for funding the trip to visit Marlborough, Kaikoura and Christchurch Councils, valuable insight gained into waste minimisation initiatives.</p>	No action required
<p>7. <b>Waiapu Landfill</b> – Resident: We must move away from putting waste near water systems, be wiser about landfill placement. Old and uprooted by trees and require attention. Specifically around the Kura – Wiira, Paieka and Arewana streets.</p> <p>Resident: Bordering on Council negligence. Resource consent for current land fill granted in 2011, requires annual reporting and meeting, only 3 reports in the last 8 years and no meetings since 2013. The consent requires data collection and satisfaction surveying, none so far. Community consultation needed. Please don't keep doing the same thing, you'll get the same result.</p> <p>Given the current level of engagement from Council, how does Council expect to achieve the following with the Waste Minimisation Management Plan:</p> <p>How does Council include ongoing breaches of resource consents and lack of community engagement into the performance of staff and management involved?</p> <p>In the likelihood of more storm events, how is Council preparing to manage current and close landfills and rehabilitate those areas?</p> <p>Response: We did meet at the end of last year with the Landfill Advisory group as per our statutory requirement. They look at alternative waste disposal options. A meeting was set for this year and Council was advised that community members could not attend on the morning of the date. We are committed to this group as a statutory requirement and a connection to the community. Let's come to the meeting on May 9 and have a constructive outcome.</p>	No action required
<p>8. <b>Puawaitanga Park CCTV</b> – Resident: Open area for everyone to come through, windows are smashed and fences come down as a resident who backs on to this site. Cannot afford to repair these things. Request for CCTV.</p>	RFS
<p>9. <b>Landfill Advisory Group</b> – Resident would like an update on the 2 outstanding positions.</p> <p>Response: Council makes an invitation and the organisation actions, invitations have been sent to Hauora Tairawhiti and Ngati Porou.</p>	No action required
<p>10. <b>Township lighting</b> – Resident: For security reasons, the area along Waiomatatini Rd near the pub, radio stations and shops needs to be lit up. This issue has been raised in the past via email.</p>	RFS
<p>11. <b>Weed/Pest Control</b> – Resident: Rest area by Burdett Place requires weed eradication.</p>	RFS