

Minutes

**Council meeting
held Wednesday 20 May 2026 at 9:30 am
Council Chamber, Rotorua Lakes Council**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Kai Fong (Chair),
Cr Barker, Cr Brown, Cr Lee, Cr Paterson, Cr Raukawa-Tait,
Cr Sandford, Cr Temara-Benfell, Cr Wang and
Mayor Tapsell and Cr Maxwell via Zoom

STAFF PRESENT: A Moraes, Chief Executive;
S Fellows, Group Manager - Organisational Performance & Innovation;
S Kelly, Acting Group Manager, Destination Development;
S Michael, Group Manager, Infrastructure and Assets;
P Warbrick, Manahautū Te Arawa Hourua;
E McCarthy, Manager, Capital Delivery;
R Fraser, Manager, Infrastructure Services Performance;
M Overbeek, Manager – Finance and Business Performance;
D Jensen, Chief Financial Officer;
S Bell, Development Support Manager;
B Jung, Projects & Quality Delivery Lead;
M Owen, Manager – Community Safety & Regulatory Services;
K Williams, Principal Advisor - Community Safety & Regulatory Services;
G Kieck, Manager - Governance, Strategy & Compliance;
V Cawte, Senior Communications Advisor;
N Michael, Executive of Communications – Mayor's Office;
G Konara, Governance & Democracy Advisor.

The meeting opened at 9.31am.

The Deputy Mayor welcomed elected members, media, staff and members of the public.

1 KARAKIA WHAKAPUAKI – OPENING KARAKIA

Cr Sandford opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2 NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA – APOLOGIES

NIL

3 WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 NGĀ TAKE WHAWHATI TATA KĀORE I TE RĀRANGI TAKE – URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Nil

5 TE WHAKAŪ I NGĀ MENETI – CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1	MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22 APRIL 2026
5.2	MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 2026
RESOLVED C 26/05-074 Moved: Cr Temara-Benfell Seconded: Cr Wang 1. That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 22 April 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record. 2. That the minutes of the Emergency Council Meeting held 8 May 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record. CARRIED	

6 TE PAPA KŌRERO MŌ TE TŪMATAWHĀNUI – PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

7 HE PUKA INOI TŪMATAWHĀNUI – PUBLIC PETITIONS

Nil

8 NGĀ WHAKAMŌHIOTANGA MŌTINI – NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9 NGĀ TĀPAETANGA – PRESENTATIONS

Nil

10 HE WHAKATAUNGA KIA HOKI ATU TE ARONGA O TE HUI HAI HUI TŪMATAWHĀNUI – RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED (TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS)

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
10.1 - Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22 April 2026	Please refer to the relevant clause/s in the open meeting minutes.	Good reason for withholding exists under Section 48(1)(a).
10.2 - Confidential Minutes of the Emergency Council Meeting held on 8 May 2026		
10.3 - Hunt Block - Joint Venture Development Opportunity	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information s7(2)(c)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where	s48(1)(a)(i) - 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 would exist under section 6 or section 7

	the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	
10.4 - Proposed disposal of the surplus Council land of 434 Pukehāngi Road	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	s48(1)(a)(i) - 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 would exist under section 6 or section 7
10.5 - Parking services transition planning update	s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	s48(1)(a)(i) - 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 would exist under section 6 or section 7
Plain English	Withholding of the information is necessary because of; • commercial position • subject to an obligation of confidence • to carry out commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage • to carry out commercial and industrial negotiations without prejudice or disadvantage	

Consideration has been given to public interest in these matters and officers' advice is that the above reasons for confidentiality outweigh the public interest in these matters.

RESOLVED C 26/05-075

Moved: Cr Barker

Seconded: Cr Brown

1. **That Council resolves to exclude the public on the grounds contained in Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act:**

CARRIED

The meeting moved into public excluded at 9.35am.

CLOSED SESSION

Attendance: Cr Maxwell left the meeting at 12.02pm (via Zoom).

The meeting moved out of public excluded at 12.08pm and adjourned for a break.

Attendance: Mayor Tapsell left the meeting at adjournment (via Zoom).

The meeting resumed at 1pm.

12 PŪRONGO KAIMAHI – STAFF REPORTS**12.1 PARKING SERVICES PROJECT - FEES AND LAYOUT ENDORSEMENT****RESOLVED C 26/05-076**

Moved: Cr Paterson

Seconded: Cr Brown

1. **That the report 'Parking Services Project - Fees and layout endorsement' be received.**

CARRIED

Mihikore Owen, Kurt Williams and Michelle Overbeek overviewed the report and spoke to a presentation titled "Parking Services Project - Fees and Layout Endorsement" (ECM – 22750237).

Attendance: Cr Raukawa-Tait re-joined the meeting at 1.35pm.

RESOLVED C 26/05-077

Moved: Cr Wang

Seconded: Cr Temara-Benfell

- 2. That the Council endorse;**
- (a) The draft fee/tariff schedule (Attachment 1); and**
 - (b) The draft inner-city parking layout map (Attachment 2).**

In Favour: Deputy Mayor Kai Fong, Cr Barker, Cr Brown, Cr Paterson, Cr Raukawa-Tait,
Cr Sandford, Cr Temara-Benfell and Cr Wang

Against: Cr Lee

CARRIED 8/1

12.2 COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF 2026/27 STATEMENT OF INTENT FOR ROTORUA REGIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED**RESOLVED C 26/05-078**

Moved: Cr Wang

Seconded: Cr Brown

- 1. That the report 'Council Consideration of 2026/27 Statement of Intent for Rotorua Regional Airport Limited' be received.**

CARRIED

Stephanie Kelly and Bonnee Jung overviewed the report.

**HE TŪTOHUNGA
RECOMMENDATION**

- 2. That the Council resolves to submit [no comments] OR [the below comments] on the Draft Statement of Intent for Rotorua Regional Airport as outlined in this report.**

The above recommendation was passed with the amendedments detailed below;

RESOLVED C 26/05-079

Moved: Cr Temara-Benfell

Seconded: Cr Wang

2. That the Council resolves to submit the comments on the Draft Statement of Intent for Rotorua Regional Airport as outlined in this report and the following additional comments.

- Need to provide full financials for future draft Statements of Intent
- Performance measures to be included in the Draft Statement of Intent for Council's consideration
- Need to capture the term "mana whenua" instead of "lwi and hapu" in the section under "Relationship with lwi"
- Under the section "Ownership & Governance", a reference to knowledge of Tikanga Māori in discharge of the duties by company directors.

CARRIED**12.3 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR TO ROTORUA ACCESS GROUP****RESOLVED C 26/05-080**

Moved: Cr Barker

Seconded: Cr Temara-Benfell

1. That the report 'Appointment of Councillor to Rotorua Access Group' be received.

CARRIED

The report was taken as read.

RESOLVED C 26/05-081

Moved: Cr Wang

Seconded: Cr Raukawa-Tait

2. That the Council appoint Cr Ben Sandford as Council's representative on the Rotorua Access Group.

CARRIED

12.4 AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE UPDATE**RESOLVED C 26/05-082**

Moved: Cr Barker

Seconded: Cr Brown

1. That the report 'Audit & Risk Committee Terms of Reference Update' be received.

CARRIED

The report was taken as read.

RESOLVED C 26/05-083

Moved: Cr Sandford

Seconded: Cr Brown

2. That the Council adopt the Terms of Reference for the Audit & Risk Committee (Attachment 2).

CARRIED**12.5 MAYOR'S INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REPORT - KIWINORTH CHINA ROADSHOW 2026****RESOLVED C 26/05-084**

Moved: Cr Raukawa-Tait

Seconded: Cr Wang

1. That the report 'Mayor's International Travel Report - KiwiNorth China Roadshow 2026' be received.

CARRIED

The report was taken as read.

12.6 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES - TE ARAWA 2050 VISION COMMITTEE MEETING 9 APRIL 2026**RESOLVED C 26/05-085**

Moved: Cr Raukawa-Tait

Seconded: Cr Barker

- 1. That the report 'Recommendations From Other Committees - Te Arawa 2050 Vision Committee Meeting 9 April 2026' be received.**

CARRIED

The report was taken as read.

RESOLVED C 26/05-086

Moved: Cr Temara-Benfell

Seconded: Cr Sandford

- 2. That the following recommendations of the Te Arawa 2050 Vision Committee meeting held 9 April 2026 be adopted:**

RECOMMENDATION

TE ARAWA 2050 VISION COMMITTEE – KEY PROJECTS

RESOLVED TAVC 26/04-004

Moved: Mr Biasiny-Tule

Seconded: Cr Temara-Benfell

- 1. That the Committee recommends to Council that staff be authorised to progress scoping of key projects and activities, to be presented at the next Te Arawa 2050 Committee Meeting.**

CARRIED

In Favour: Deputy Mayor Kai Fong, Cr Barker, Cr Brown, Cr Paterson, Cr Raukawa-Tait, Cr Sandford, Cr Temara-Benfell and Cr Wang

Against: Nil

Abstained: Cr Lee

CARRIED 8/0

12.7 REMIT TO LGNZ 2026 AGM: DEVOLUTION OF PLACE-NAMING AUTHORITY TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT**RESOLVED C 26/05-087**

Moved: Cr Barker

Seconded: Cr Temara-Benfell

- 1. That the report 'Remit to LGNZ 2026 AGM: Devolution of Place-naming Authority to Local Government' be received.**

CARRIED

The report to be taken as read.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2. That the Council support the Far North District Council remit 'Devolution of Place-naming Authority to Local Government', to be considered at the Local Government New Zealand 2026 Annual General Meeting.**

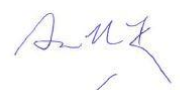
The above recommendation was moved by Cr Paterson but was not seconded by an elected member. Therefore, the motion failed.

13 TE KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING KARAKIA

Cr Sandford closed the meeting with a Karakia.

The Meeting closed at 2.12pm.

Confirmed at the Council meeting on 24 June 2026.



Chair

Note: -Rotorua Lakes Council is the operating name of Rotorua District Council