

(DRAFT) MINUTES FROM A MEETING (Public Included) OF  
TRUST TAIRĀWHITI

On Tuesday 11 November 2025 from 9:05am

The meeting was held in person and online via Zoom at Trust Tairāwhiti offices, Shed 3, 50 Esplanade,  
Gisborne 4010

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**In attendance:**

Trustees: David Battin (Chair), Dan Jex-Blake, Nicki Sutherland, Rehette Stoltz and Te Pūoho Katene were present in person.

Trustee: Warren Williams was present online via Zoom.

Cultural Advisors: Tā Derek Lardelli and Lady Rose Gould-Lardelli were present in person.

Trust Tairāwhiti executive team members: Doug Jones – Chief Executive Officer, Alex Hawea – General Manager Māori Economy, Audine Grace-Kutia – General Manager Hapori, Hayden Green – General Manager Economic Development, Laura Stonehouse – Chief Financial Officer and Melonie Brouwer – Board Secretary were present in person.

Item 2.6.a Tairāwhiti Voyaging Trust representatives from 9:10am: Emma van Berkel, Jay Love, Lisa Maniapoto, David Langford, Ian Hunter and Te Amohaere Hauiti-Parapara.

Tā Derek Lardelli opened our meeting with a karakia.

Acknowledgement to representatives from Tairāwhiti Voyaging Trust and Jay Love responded to the mihi.

- 2.0 Open meeting – Public included
- 2.1 Apologies: Trustee Ron Aitken
- 2.2 Declaration of trustee and CEO interests taken as read and noted. Updates to Trustee Williams register will be noted for the December board meeting.
- 2.3 Confirmation of Agenda and Late items.
- 2.4 Approval of Open Minutes and Matters Arising
  - 2.4.a Approval of the open minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16 September 2025
  - The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16 September 2025 were taken as read and approved.  
**Unanimous Approval**
  - 2.4.b Action register from Tuesday 16 September 2025 noted
- 2.5 Strategy and decision making – Nil
- 2.6 Beneficiary Presentations and Public Forum
  - 2.6.a Tairāwhiti Voyaging Trust

The Tairāwhiti Voyaging Trust presented an update on their programme, Building Future Leaders and Guardians of our Moana, outlining the outcomes achieved through the FY22-FY25 partnership with Trust Tairāwhiti and their direction for the next phase of development.

They reported substantial progress over the past four years, including organisational strengthening, expanded community participation, and deeper national collaboration. More than 1,900 people have engaged in national voyages and associated on-water and in-port activities, supported by structured pathways for kaumoana, kaihautū, volunteers, and rangatahi that foster capability-building and intergenerational learning grounded in mātauranga Māori.

Operational capability has also matured, with increased crew proficiency, a stable core team, and closer alignment with the Te Hau Kōmaru waka hourua network.

Trust Tairāwhiti's investment has unlocked over \$800,000 in additional external funding, broadening the kaupapa's reach and long-term sustainability.

Trustees acknowledged the programme's strong contribution to regional identity, leadership, and wellbeing, and discussed opportunities to deepen partnerships with schools and social agencies to further strengthen rangatahi participation. Tā Derek Lardelli acknowledged the kaupapa as a vessel of cultural excellence, intergenerational learning, and identity restoration.

The Chair thanked TVT for their presentation and commended the measurable and enduring community impact of their mahi.

## 2.7 Board Updates

### 2.7.a CEO quarterly report July – September 2025 was received and noted.

The report noted that the Wellbeing Survey was scheduled to go live on 17 October, supported by a series of planned community engagements. The CEO advised that uptake had been strong, with more than 900 responses received to date and a significant presence at the A&P Show. The insights generated from the survey will play an important role in shaping future advocacy and strategic direction.

The Marae Solar Project is progressing well, with solar installations now complete across all participating marae and handovers underway. Workshops and learning support are being delivered to build confidence in system use and to increase understanding of distributed energy opportunities.

The project team is also capturing lessons learned to inform a potential "Marae Solar 2.0" and exploring monitoring tools to help marae optimise system performance.

A report on the economic potential of irrigation has been received, with a key insights summary being prepared for publication.

Work has commenced on the Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion Feasibility Study, following a successful funding application. The study is examining proven approaches in other regions and identifying practical local solutions to reduce the volume of construction waste sent to landfill, with Trust Tairāwhiti continuing to provide governance and oversight.

Business development activity remained high, with 127 enterprises supported through the Regional Business Partner network and strong uptake of Aroha AI workshops, which engaged more than 150 participants across the region.

Tourism and place-based initiatives also progressed well, particularly the City Centre Catalyst Projects, which focused on frontage improvements, activation of vacant spaces, and strengthened collaboration with Gisborne District Council and Gisborne Holdings Ltd.

Trustees discussed how wellbeing data can strengthen regional advocacy and noted the importance of measuring both qualitative and quantitative business impacts. The Board acknowledged national recognition of the Wellbeing Survey and commended staff for their work in community engagement and data sovereignty protection.

## 2.8 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC FROM PROCEEDINGS

Moved by Trustee Stoltz and seconded by Trustee Katene.

## SECTION 48 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987

THAT: The public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely for discussion or decision on agenda items:

- 3.0 Strategy and Decision Making
- 4.0 Risk management
- 5.0 Operational Updates
- 5.2-5.4 Approval of closed minutes and matters arising

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 check	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Item 3.0	Strategy and decision making	Sections 7(2) (b(ii)) (c) (f) (h) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
Item 4.0	Risk management	Sections 7(2) (a) (f)	48(1) (a)
Item 5.0	Operational updates	Sections 7(2) (b(ii)) (c) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
Item 5.2-5.4	Approval of closed minutes and matters arising	Sections 7(2) (a) (b(ii)) (c) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j)	48(1) (a)
	Appendices	Sections 7(2) (b(ii)) (f)	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 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:

### Content

**Section 7(2) (a)** To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons

**Section 7(2) (b) (ii)** 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.

**Section 7(2) (c)** 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 the making available of the information:

- i. Would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or
- ii. Would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.

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**Section 7(2) (f)** Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through:

- iii. The free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members of officers or employees of any local authority, or any persons to whom Section 2(5) applies, in the course of their duty; or
- iv. The protection of such members, officers, employees and persons from improper pressure or harassment.

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**Section 7(2) (g)** Maintain legal professional privilege.

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**Section 7(2) (h)** Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.

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**Section 7(2) (i)** Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)

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**Section 7(2) (j)** Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

That the following people be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded:

- i. Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, General Manager Economic Development, General Manager Hāpori, General Manager Māori Economy, Board Secretary and Cultural Advisors for items 3.0 – 5.0.

because of their knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation the matters being discussed because of their role and work performed.

The public excluded minutes follow and are not publicly available. There being no further business the public meeting closed at 10:15am.

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CHAIR  
DAVID BATTIN