





# Minutes of AGM Meeting

Held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Orchard Church, Te Puke

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## PRESENT:

Board Members: Deryck Shaw, Darryl Jensen, John Burke, Andre Hickson and John Scrimgeour

WKI Contractors: Alison Dewes, June Mobley

Attendees: Angus Robson, Brian Sparrow, Claire McCorkindale, Geoff Reid, Hamish Henderson, James Anderson, Lisa Hickling, Margaret Scrimgeour, Meredith Davis, Paul Hickson, Peter Russel, Thomas Grant, Fran van Alphen

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## 1. WELCOME

The Chairperson, Deryck Shaw welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for Wai Kōkopu.

Deryck acknowledged the support Wai Kōkopu had received from TECT and BayTrust.

He called for any items of General Business to be placed on the agenda and asked if there were any questions and noted there were none.

## 2. APOLOGIES

The apologies were read from Board Members Grendon Boynton, Lilian Harley, Michael Crawford and Ross Bawden.

Additional apologies WERE noted via. email:

Stuart Crosby, Robyn Denham, Russell Dunstan, Terri Eggleton, John and Linda Fowler, Tracey Jones, Wally Lee, Olivia Manusauloa, Jane Nees, Alastair Rhodes, Phil Shoemack, Guy Wilkins, and Nicky Wilkins,

## 3. BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Wai Kōkopu Board Members that were present introduced themselves.

## 4. MINUTES OF LAST AGM

The Chair drew attention to the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 AGM. The Chair then invited any questions or alterations to the minutes.



There were no matters arising.

MOVED John Burke / Margaret Scrimgeour

THAT the minutes of the Wai Kōkopu AGM held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED





## 5. CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

Deryck referred to his written report. He then commented on the past few years of Wai kokopu's operation – where have we come from and where are we going.

Deryck acknowledged Andre Hickson and John Burke (both stepping down) – and the work of the board members and subcontractors in particular Alison, June and restoration teams over the past year.

He commented on the huge ambitions and limited resources of Wai Kokopu, noting the vision of Wai Kokopu for the catchment and what is required for change. He especially acknowledged the Lighthouse Farms that have been part of the workstream and opening up their business. He also endorsed our team work in restoration initiatives.

He observed the upcoming December Board meeting and the need for greater levels of community engagement and the ongoing need to engage with iwi. These will be an ongoing focus in the 2023-24 period.

## 6. FINANCIAL REPORT

John Burke presented the financial report. He noted the strategic outcomes, part of the original budget for restoration designed in collaboration with Thomas Grant (BOPRC) and supported by Bay Trust. John observed that the relationship with Regional Council and Community was improving.

He said that there was a strong cash position prior to the year ahead and noted all the workstreams underway. John also commented on the catchment monitoring and thanked Meredith. The Pan Sector Digital Farm Tool (\$87K) – was a MPI requirement. John also noted the \$1 M funds circled for work ahead this year in the various workstreams.

Questions/comment – Brian Sparrow – If work is not done in next 12 months there could be claw back if it is not tagged going forward? Budgets and operational plans are provided to funders to make sure the funds are ringfenced for the outcomes required.

MOVED: Andre Hickson / Darryl Jensen

THAT the audited accounts for Wai Kōkopu for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 be adopted

CARRIED

## 7. OTHER BUSINESS

Membership Fee – was moved that last year there be one \$30 for a family in the catchment – suggested by Julian Fitter last year.

Deryck Shaw noted that the membership information will go onto the website. June Mobley noted that the newsletter list is different to a membership list.

There were some questions asked around membership:

Meredith Davis asked if there is a list members at present. Last year's AGM approved which was held earlier in 2023 approved the members list and the membership fee which was set at zero.

Thomas Grant asked how many members there were and June Mobley noted that there was no paid membership currently operational.

Thomas Grant noted that to change the arrangement – do you have to go back to members to get change?

Andre Hickson responded that originally, we had a membership, nothing has changed.

Deryck Shaw noted we approved the membership to continue as unpaid until 2024.



Paul Hickson asked if there are staged membership fees. (i.e., lighthouse farm vs family vs trust).

Darryl Jensen said that he would like to see that all farmers get a lifelong membership.

Thomas Grant asked for transparency purposes that to do any changes like this if there is a need to speak to members if there is going to be a fee for membership?

Deryck Shaw noted that we are essentially approving what was in the original constitution. Thus, he did not think there was a problem.

Thomas Grant said that membership has not been properly approved. He asked where the community in this meeting? He noted that the membership list needs to be emailed about the meeting.

John Burke noted that the membership could be an entity or a person.

John Scrimgeour said that \$30 for a family or an entity and note what is an entity versus a person.

Deryck Shaw asked if there is a view on what a member should be?

MOVED - that there is a membership fee as per the constitution for the 2024/25 year and that it be:-

- \$30 for a family (up to 5 members with up to 4 aged under 18);
- \$15 for an individual membership; and
- \$250 for a Life Membership.

And that a member be a person or an entity.

Moved John Scrimgeour, Seconded by Andre Hickson

Carried

## **8. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### Board Changes:

Deryck Shaw noted that we currently have a Board of nine members with provision for a further member.

Board member Andre Hickson is stepping down at this AGM after being a founder of Wai Kokopu and we thank Andre for his commitment, service, professional and drive to get Wai Kokopu to where it is today. Paul Hickson has agreed to replace Andre and we are very grateful to have someone of Paul's calibre join us.

Also we are losing John Bourke as an extremely valued Board member. John has specialist expertise in finance and farm systems that will be difficult to replace. At this stage we do not have anyone to replace John, and this will also leave two vacancies on the Board. Raised this year that we want locals from the community, and more diversity than present. At least one of these from the community is the goal.

### Questions

Thomas Grant – what is the process of choosing a board member? He noted that there should be a process whereby the members appoint the board members.

Meredith Davis - noted that there needs to be a process for appointing board members, should this be done by the members?

Deryck Shaw – There was an interim board which became the Board at the earlier AGM in March 2023. This was approved at that AGM.

Thomas Grant - noted that Board appointing Board is not a process.

Meredith Davis – 7.4 and 7.2 are the points in the constitution. She noted that there is no process in place to elect the board. She noted that Julian Fitter was concerned that there is no term.

Deryck Shaw – we are starting a rotational process for board members. After a couple of years, we have two stepping down, but we can review the process.

June Mobley – noted that Julian Fitter had emailed her earlier around the Board and that we had responded to his questions.



Andre Hickson -noted that the process for board appointments should involve members being notified and for them to have some input on board processes.

Appointment of board officers is different from board members with at the next meeting after the AGM the board (6th Dec 2023) shall decide who are the chair, officers and others as outlined in the constitution .

Deryck Shaw asked if there were any further questions around process from the meeting?  
No further concerns.

Deryck Shaw then presented Andre Hickson and John Burke each with pounamu as our retiring board members and noted the symbolism of the pounamu as an acknowledgement of the mana that Andre and John held and noted their respective contributions to Wai kokopu.

Andre Hickson noted that it takes a team to get things to happen. Need a good team to give comfort to help our farmers make change.

John Burke noted been great working with all of our farmers – we will stay around and need our Māori Collective to build their waka. Change won't be due to market requirements more so than from regulations.

## **9. WEED PRESENTATION**

Geoff Reid and Peter Russell – presented Weed Challenges/Surveys and Catchment Programme.

Peter Russell – noted the form at back of room – do any of audience agree to having the weed team survey their farms?

Darryl Jensen asked if the Geoff Reid and Peter Russell could provide us with a one pager of what our most significant problems are in the catchment, and so we can share with our farmers.

## **10. CLOSURE**

Meeting closed at 6:07 pm followed by refreshments.

