
Horowhenua Lake Domain Board

OPEN MINUTES UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of a meeting of the Lake Domain Board held in the Ante Room, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin on Thursday 18 September 2025 at 3:00 pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson
Members

Mr Kevin O'Connor	
Mr Charles Rudd	
Mr Adrian Henare	Apology
Ms Deanna Rudd	
Mr Tama-i-uia Ruru	
Cr Nina Hori Te Pa	
Cr Jonathan Procter	From 4.30pm
Mayor Bernie Wanden JP	

IN ATTENDANCE

Secretary

Lacey Winiata
Sue Fifita-Tova

Manager – Parks and Property
Executive Officer

1 Apologies

Apology

Resolution Number HLDB/2025/8

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Hori Te Pa::

That the apology from Mr Adrian Henare be accepted.

CARRIED

2 Late Items

Opening of Lake Domain;
Letter from Brendan Duffy

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations

4 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution Number HLDB/2025/9

MOVED by Mrs Rudd, seconded Mayor Wanden:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Lake Domain Board held on Thursday, 31 July 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record

CARRIED

Amendments to previous minutes were requested and accepted, including additional tree removal details and clarifying iwi consultation on rāhui.

Actions were assigned to provide a financial report to Mr Rudd and board area maps, and to clarify board responsibilities.

The format and level of detail for board minutes were discussed, with a request for more comprehensive recording of discussions.

Amendments to previous minutes accepted — To reflect additional detail on page 3,

The Board requested:

- The reason for the trimming and removal of the Karaka trees – add in Cabbage trees

Additional Resolution added to the following on Page 4:

Resolution Number HLDB/2025/6

B. Ms Rudd will liaise with Muaūpoko tikanga group on behalf of the board to add in that Mr Rudd will liaise along with Ms Rudd.

Moved: Kevin O'Connor

2nd: Mayor Bernie

CARRIED

Action form the Minutes:

Provide Mr Rudd with report 25/282 Finance Report as mentioned on page 4

5. Public Participation

1. Kotuku Sea Scouts – Keith Christiansen, Paul Robinson along with rangatahi Elsie and Alex attended the meeting in support of their request for the Sea Scouts to access the Lake Domain in order to sail on the lake.
2. Viv Bold – raised issues regarding park access.

6 Reports

6.1 Stormwater Presentation

On behalf of the Special Projects Team Lacey presented on the planned stormwater infrastructure upgrade where a downstream defender will be installed to help reduce gross pollutants entering the lake.

Questions were raised about location and effectiveness during flash floods, organic/carcinogenic contaminant monitoring, and alignment with regional council responsibilities.

As an action, Lacey to follow up on technical queries and provide the board with a stormwater management strategy and monitoring reports.

6.3 Sea Scouts - Request for Approval to Access Surface of Lake, and Mūaupoko Park

Keith Christiansen, Paul Robinson along with rangatahi Elsie and Alex attended the meeting in support of their request for the Sea Scouts to access the Lake Domain in order to sail on the lake.

They would like access for trainings on Thursday evenings 5:30 – 8:00pm from October–December, citing safety and youth development benefits.

Discussion included possible use of a motorboat for safety (not a strict requirement), with Sea Scouts open to board direction. The Sea Scouts highlighted routine environmental education and cleanup as part of their programme.

They have created a safety plan for access into the domain and departure, should the gate continue to be locked. They asked that they be informed of the outcome by Thursday 9 October which is when they are looking to commence training on the lake should permission be granted.

Board members were generally supportive of the Sea Scouts request but stressed the importance of following due process, including confirmation of rāhui status and board agreement on timing for public reopening.

Resolution Number HLDB/2025/10

MOVED by Mr O'Connor, seconded Mayor Wanden:

The Board agreed to:

1. Clarify rāhui with iwi/kaumātua, (D Rudd, C Rudd) by 2 October 2025
2. Request HDC officers to complete health and safety review, (L Winiata - HDC) by 2 October 2025
3. prepare comms and community notification plan once rāhui lifting confirmed (HDC on behalf of the Board),
4. Respond to Sea Scouts once conditions are met. (HDC on behalf of the Board)

CARRIED

6.2 Update from Horowhenua Lake Trustees

Item deferred as responsible member not in attendance

6.4 Draft Domain Development Plan

Mrs Winiata presented the draft Domain Development Plan seeking feedback from the table.

Ms Rudd informed that she would like to share her feedback via email and will do so prior to the next meeting.

Mr Ruru, Cr Hori Te Pa, Kevin O'Connor and Mayor Bernie are all supportive of the draft plan.

Mr Rudd questioned whether there are barriers around midden sites. As an action Mrs Winiata will approach Dean Wilson to confirm the location of the midden sites and whether there are any barriers to their location and the proposed work.

Feedback was taken and will be considered and discussed further at the next meeting.

6.5 Bylaw Review

Discussion of the Reserve bylaw confirmed that while no immediate changes are required, a review is overdue (last reviewed 10 years ago).

The Board will seek alignment with Council's Bylaw review timetable. HDC to advise the timeline once known.

6.6 Administrative Matters for the Board

The Board wishes to discuss and agree on administrative matters for the Board. This includes matter raised by Mr Rudd in his letter to Board members.

A letter from Mr Rudd was tabled, received and noted.

Mr Rudd was asked to go through the orientation and reference information 2024 document and then raise any questions unanswered at the next meeting.

Resolution Number HLDB/2025/11

MOVED by Mr O'Connor, seconded Mrs Rudd:

The Board note the matters raised

CARRIED

6.7 Actions Monitoring Report - Horowhenua Lake Domain Board

This report is to presented a list of actions requested by the Board and their current status.

This report was received and noted by the Board

Late items:

6.8 Correspondence from Brendan Duffy – Horowhenua Lake Accord

A letter from Brenda Duffy was received and noted. The board discussed the need for renewed engagement with Horizons Regional Council regarding lake access, usage, and the status of the Lake Accord.

It was suggested that a workshop with HDC, DOC and the board be scheduled post-election to determine next steps for developing a new Accord, with the possibility of involving Lake Trustees and Horizons in future sessions.

Board members will further discuss progressing the Lake Accord with HDC after the local body elections.

Resolution Number HLDB/2025/12

MOVED by Cr Procter, seconded Cr Hori Te Pa:

The Board receive and note the letter

The Board schedule a workshop with DoC, HDC and Horizons, following the local body elections, to look at re-establishing the Lake Accord

CARRIED

Re-opening of the Lake Domain and Lifting of the Rāhui

Agreed Action

- Ms Rudd and Mr Rudd to make contact with iwi members who put the rāhui on the Lake Domain, regarding whether the time is now right to lift the rāhui and reopen the park to the public - by Thursday 2 October
- If it is agreed that the rāhui be lifted, the date on which this will take place as soon as possible.
- HDC to request that a Health & Safety audit of the Domain be undertaken by Council officers – to report to the board via email (this action does not need to wait for the rāhui to be lifted)
- Once the rāhui has been lifted, and providing there are no H & S concerns, a date can be set to open the Lake Domain to the community (to also clarify open times)
- Communication to iwi and the public – Mrs Winiata (HDC) to arrange a communications plan regarding the lifting of the rāhui and reopening of the Lake Domain, and to progress as soon as possible in order for the community and Seas Scouts to maximise their enjoyment and use of the Lake

5.00pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF HOROWHENUA LAKE DOMAIN
BOARD HELD ON

DATE:

CHAIRPERSON: