

Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of the Lake Domain Board will be held on:

Date: Tuesday 24 February 2026
Time: 3:00 pm
Meeting Room: Council Chambers
Venue: 126-148 Oxford St
Levin

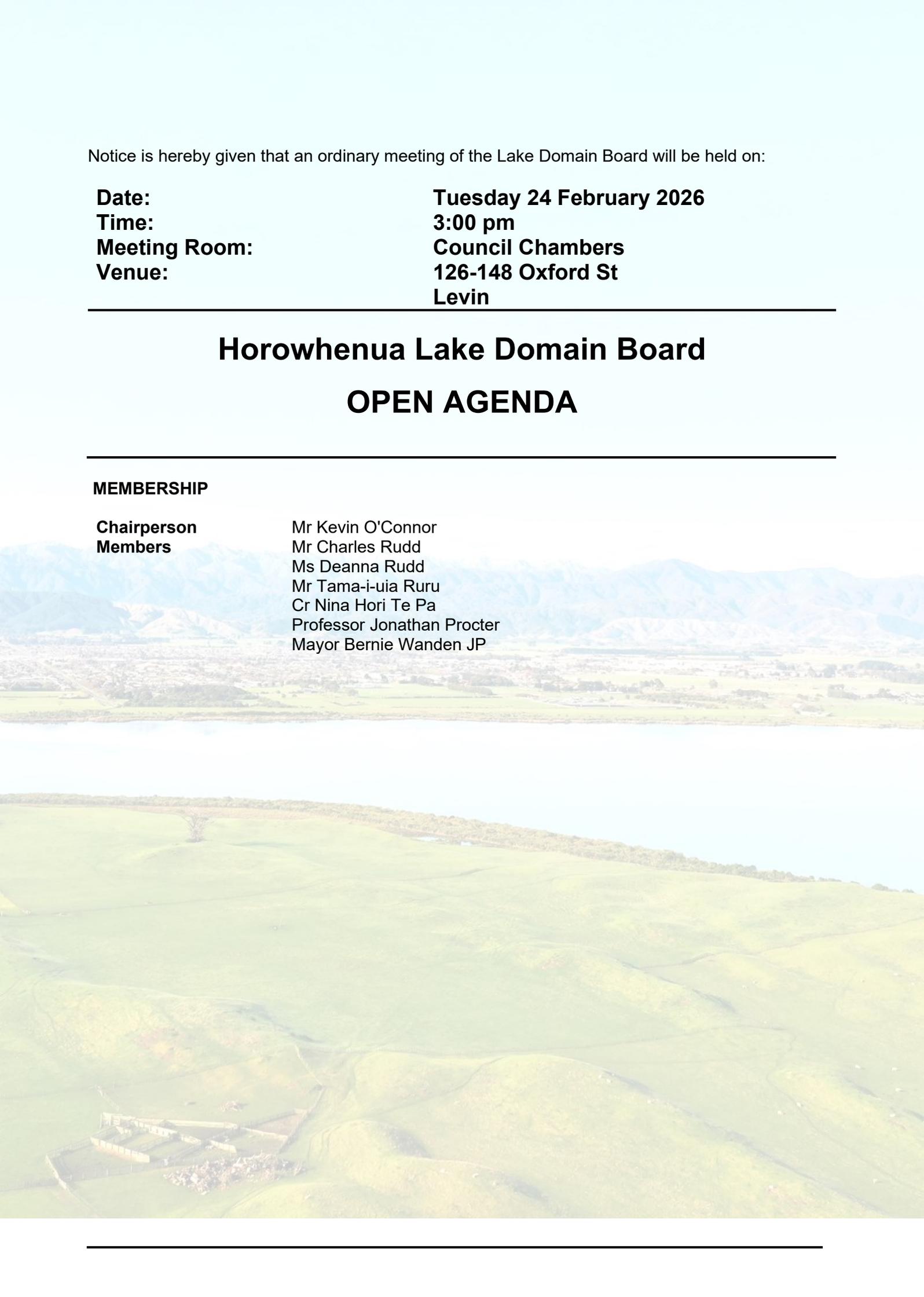
Horowhenua Lake Domain Board

OPEN AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson
Members

Mr Kevin O'Connor
Mr Charles Rudd
Ms Deanna Rudd
Mr Tama-i-uia Ruru
Cr Nina Hori Te Pa
Professor Jonathan Procter
Mayor Bernie Wanden JP



Karakia

Whakataka te hau ki te uru	Cease the winds from the west
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga	Cease the winds from the south
Kia mākinakina ki uta	Let the breeze blow over the land
Kia mātaratara ki tai	Let the breeze blow over the ocean
E hī ake ana te atakura	Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air.
He tio, he huka, he hau hū	A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.
Tīhei mauri ora!	

1 Apologies

2 Public Participation

Notification of a request to speak is required by 12 noon on the day before the meeting by phoning 06 366 0999 or emailing public.participation@horowhenua.govt.nz.

3 Late Items

To consider, and if thought fit, to pass a resolution to permit the Council to consider any further items which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded.

Such resolution is required to be made pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and the Chairperson must advise:

- (i) The reason why the item was not on the Agenda, and
- (ii) The reason why the discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

4 Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Meeting minutes Lake Domain Board, 30 October 2025

REPORTS

1. Resignation received – Adrian Henare

A letter of resignation has been received from Adrian Henare.

There are two recommended steps following this resignation, to accept the resignation and confirm the approach to a replacement to this vacant position which is required to be approved by the Minister of Conversation and gazetted. See item No.2 for appointment process.

Recommendation:

That the resignation of Adrian Henare be received, and that a letter of acceptance and thanks is sent.

2. Lake Domain Board Membership

Discussion on the process for appointing members to the Lake Horowhenua Domain Board.

The governing Act of the Board provides for three people recommended by the Horowhenua District Council to be appointed to the Board. There is no requirement for them to be an elected member, although traditionally this has been the case, and is a matter for Council to decide.

A. Council Appointees

- Councillor Nina Hori Te Pa and Professor Jonathan Procter have agreed to be nominated as Council appointees to the Lake Horowhenua Domain Board.
- Council will formally endorse these appointments at its March meeting.

B. Muaūpoko (MTA) Appointees

It is understood that there are two possible methods for receiving nominations from Muaūpoko Tribal Authority (MTA):

Option A – Public Advertisement

1. The Department of Conservation (DOC) publicly advertises locally, calling for nominations.
2. MTA selects the required four representatives which they need to provide endorsement for.

Option B – Direct Approach

1. DOC directly requests nominations from MTA.
2. MTA selects the required four representatives and advises DOC.

C. Transparency Consideration

- Regardless of the method used, the process must ensure transparency in how nominations are generated and selected.

Recommendation:

That option <A/B> be used to select a replacement for the vacated board position.

3. Letter from The Lake Trust

A letter was received from The Horowhenua Lake Trust outlining their concerns for the Lake Domain remaining open to the public. The full letter is attached with a summary below.

Summary

The Horowhenua Lake Trust (HLT) thanks everyone involved in the Waitangi Day celebrations at Muaūpoko Park, noting the positive cultural and restorative experiences for whānau. However, the Trust emphasises that its primary responsibility is health and safety. A September 2025 review identified ongoing hazards, including unsafe toilets, playground structures, open culverts, and dewatered lake areas.

While a recent whakawātea was carried out, the Trust cannot support regular public access until these issues are addressed. HLT aims to work with the Lake Domain Board, Horowhenua District Council, Horizons Regional Council, and other partners to:

- Restore and maintain park infrastructure (paths, playgrounds, toilets, lake edges)
- Make open culverts and streams safe
- Install signage and fencing around high-risk or historical areas
- Plan and carry out repairs and remediation.

The Trust also sees opportunities for Muaūpoko to share their stories and cultural heritage through signage and installations. HLT remains committed to upholding tikanga, protecting cultural heritage, and ensuring public wellbeing, and looks forward to ongoing collaborative discussions.

Recommendations:

That the letter from Lake Horowhenua Trust be received.

4. Domain Development Plan

Further to the Domain Development Plan be adopted in October 2025, funding options need to be confirmed to undertake actions within the plan.

Mrs Winiata will present an update at the meeting.

Ms Deanna Rudd has requested a discussion on installing bollards / access control within the domain.

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Actions Monitoring Report - Horowhenua Lake Domain Board	11

File No.: 26/87

Attachment - Letter from Horowhenua Lake Trustees

ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO

No.	Title	Page
A↓	Horowhenua Lake Trustees - letter to HLDB - February 2026	8



12 February 2026

Tēnā koutou

The HLT Trust acknowledges recent media coverage regarding the re-opening of Muaūpoko Park. We sincerely thank all those involved in the preparation and delivery of Waitangi Day Celebrations. Whilst the wairua flowed throughout the day, whānau and attendees felt the return of the kaupapa and a positive connection to Punahau.

While Waitangi Day brought restorative feelings, the Trust wishes to clarify its position: our primary responsibility is the health and safety of whānau and park users. The September 2025 health and safety review highlighted several areas that still require attention, including:

- Toilets and public amenities needing maintenance
- Wooden playground structures are no longer considered safe and require maintenance or replacement
- Open culverts and streams that are not safe for the public
- Unsafe zones around the dewatered lake areas

The recent whakawātea, undertaken by Muaūpoko in accordance with tikanga, reflects our responsibilities as kaitiaki, tangata whenua, mana whenua and the legal ownership held by Muaūpoko. This discrete event was culturally necessary, but the Trust cannot support regular public access or the reopening of the park until identified hazards are addressed.

We wish to work with the Lake Domain Board, Horowhenua District Council, Horizons Regional Council, and other partners as capacity allows to address those issues identified in the review in the following ways:

- Restore and maintain paths, playgrounds, toilets, and lake edges;
- Ensure all open culverts and streams are safe and secure;
- Install signage and fencing around historical and/or high-risk areas; and
- Plan and carry out those repairs and remediation.

These repairs and works also present further opportunities for Muaūpoko to tell their stories in the area through storyboards, signage and suitable installations. We want to be able to work towards those objectives alongside the more pragmatic and urgent repairs needed.

The Trust remains focused on upholding Muaūpoko tikanga, protecting cultural heritage, and ensuring the wellbeing of all park users. We look forward to continuing collaborative korero to achieve these outcomes.

Nakū noa,

Horowhenua Lake Trust

File No.: 26/85

Actions Monitoring Report - Horowhenua Lake Domain Board

Author(s)	Sue Fifita-Tovo Executive Officer Āpiha Mātāmua
Approved by	Kevin O'Connor Chairperson - Horowhenua Lake Domain Board

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this report is to present a list of actions requested by the Board, and their current status.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 26/85 Actions Monitoring Report - Horowhenua Lake Domain Board be received and noted.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

2. The actions captured in this monitoring report have been taken from Board meeting minutes, workshop notes and e-mail communication. The status of each action is shown as either complete, in progress, not yet started or off track. Completed items will be removed from the monitoring report after they have been reported back to the board.

ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO

No.	Title	Page
A ↓	HLDB Actions Monitoring Report	12

HLDB Actions Monitoring Report
As February 2026

	Completed
	In progress
	Not started
	Off track

Reference	Resolution/Action	Officer/Member	Due date	Status	Officer Comment
Email 19/10/24	Discuss how Board communicate and engage with other Muaūpoko iwi entities, marae and hapū and employ tikanga māori in our rōpu moving forward	Board			Item added to agenda for 31/07/2025 for Board to discuss The agreed that Board Member D Rudd would begin discussions with Muaūpoko tikanga group.
Workshop 1/11/24	Invite Horizons Regional Council to a workshop meeting to discuss their role and relationship with the domain.	Board			At its hui on 18 Sept 2025, 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. This is expected to take place in 2026.
Workshop 1/11/24	Review and discuss the Horowhenua Lake Domain By-law	Board			At its hui 18 Sept 2025, the Board discussed the Reserve bylaw and 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.
Workshop 1/11/24	Identify potential funding sources and opportunities to support the board's priorities for the domain	Board			Board noted at its 28/11/2024 meeting that the Board needs to develop a plan.
Workshop 1/11/24	Further discussion on geese control	Board			30 Oct 2025 - To be discussed at the next hui.
Meeting 28/11/2024	Invite Horizons to the February board meeting to discuss their plans for addressing	Board	3/04/2025		Horizons were invited to a workshop on 3 April 2025; however the Board adjourned

D25/55068

