



ADVISORY COMMITTEE for the Waikato REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT

**Minutes of the
Advisory Committee for Regional Environment (ACRE)
held at Waikato Regional Council, Level 1 Tui/Kowhai Rooms, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton
on Wednesday 25th of June 2025
3:00- 5:00pm**

ATTENDEES

Megan Thomas (Minutes)
John Badham (chair)
Neville Williams
Rachel Thompson via teams
Steph Parkyn via teams

APOLOGIES

Kristel Van Houte
Anna Casey-Cox
Wiea Montemezzani

OPENING

Karakia: Neville opens the meeting

Standing Items

Conflicts of Interest: No new conflicts

Confirmation of Minutes: Steph Parkyn moved to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. Seconded by John

Current Workplan:

Chair's Report:

Members Reports:

Update on Membership recruitment

- Rachel Thompson offered to contact Meshweyla regarding a representative for Ranga Tahi voices.
- Rachel to remind Meshweyla about Anna's previous conversation.
- Anna was to send through ACRE rules for potential new members to review.

WRC Environmental Initiatives Fund applications, opened 23 June and closing 21 July (see Neville's email 19 June)

- Environmental Initiatives Fund (EIF)
- Applications are open and close on 21 July.
- Rachel noted her group still has unspent funds from a previous EIF grant.
- Steph Parkyn mentioned NHF-funded groups are not eligible but can assist others with applications (e.g., quotes for traps).

Update on Rangitahi Voices Waihou River clean-up.

- Rachel to ask Meshweyla for updates/details on the upcoming cleanup in the Waihou Valley.
- Group interested in hiring the BBQ trailer again for the event.

Invasive freshwater clams update (Reporoa to Turangi) – Rachel (unless held-over to July hui)

- Rachel offered to present on this topic at the next meeting when more members are present.

ACRE Operational Plan 2025 – next priority items for action

- Two priority items are pending updates from Anna — to be carried over to the next meeting.

Thanks to Shepherd and Neville

- Vote of thanks proposed for Neville and Shepard for their support.
- Neville is retiring and may support local election campaigns.
- Steph offered to stay in touch and provide contacts if needed.

General Business

Closing

Neville closes with a Karakia