



**Far North
District Council**



TŪHONOTANGA MINITI ATTACHMENTS MINUTES

**Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board
Meeting**

30 September 2026

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Principal: Darron Tawhai – Gillies

Phone: (09) 4019 612

Email: admin@horeke.school.nz



“Tu Tangata”

To: Far North District Council

Re: Letter of Support for the Maintenance of the Maraeroa Sports Complex Grounds

Tēnā koutou,

I am writing on behalf of **Horeke School** to express our strong support for the Maraeroa Sports Complex and their request for assistance from the Far North District Council with the mowing and ongoing maintenance of their sports grounds.

As the Principal of Horeke School, I can speak directly about the importance of having safe and accessible sporting facilities available within our rural community.

Unfortunately, our school field is frequently boggy, uneven and unsuitable for many sporting activities. At times, its condition means that we cannot safely use it for physical education, athletics or organised sports. For a small rural school, access to an alternative field is therefore extremely valuable.

Our school has been fortunate to be able to use community sporting grounds, including the field at Te Rangatahi Marae, for activities such as **athletics, touch rugby and other sporting events**. We greatly appreciate the manaakitanga shown by our local community in making these facilities available to our tamariki.

Access to well-maintained grounds such as the Maraeroa Sports Complex provides opportunities that our school would otherwise struggle to offer. A safe and usable field allows our tamariki to participate in sports such as **touch rugby, athletics, softball and other team games**, as well as regular physical education and fitness activities.

These opportunities are about much more than simply playing sport. Participation in sport supports the **hauora of our tamariki**, including their physical health, confidence, resilience

and emotional wellbeing. Team sports also teach important skills and values such as cooperation, perseverance, communication, leadership, fair play and manaakitanga.

Community sporting facilities can also strengthen the relationship between schools, whānau and the wider community. We have welcomed college students to work with and take sporting lessons with our pupils. Experiences such as these allow younger tamariki to learn alongside positive older role models and strengthen connections across our community.

For rural communities such as ours, maintaining accessible sporting facilities is particularly important. Our tamariki should have opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity regardless of the size or location of their school. When school facilities are limited, community facilities become an essential part of providing those opportunities.

For these reasons, Horeke School strongly supports the Maraeroa Sports Complex in seeking assistance from the **Far North District Council** with mowing and maintaining the grounds. Council support would help ensure that this valuable community asset remains safe, accessible and available for tamariki, rangatahi, whānau, schools and community groups.

Investment in maintaining these grounds is ultimately an investment in the health, wellbeing and future of our young people and our wider community.

Horeke School greatly values the support that our community provides to our tamariki, and we would welcome the Council's assistance in helping ensure facilities such as the Maraeroa Sports Complex can continue to provide these important opportunities.

Ngā mihi nui,

Darron

Tawhai-Gillies

Principal

Horeke School

.....



Hokianga Pioneers and Orowhana Dragons Marching on with Local veterans



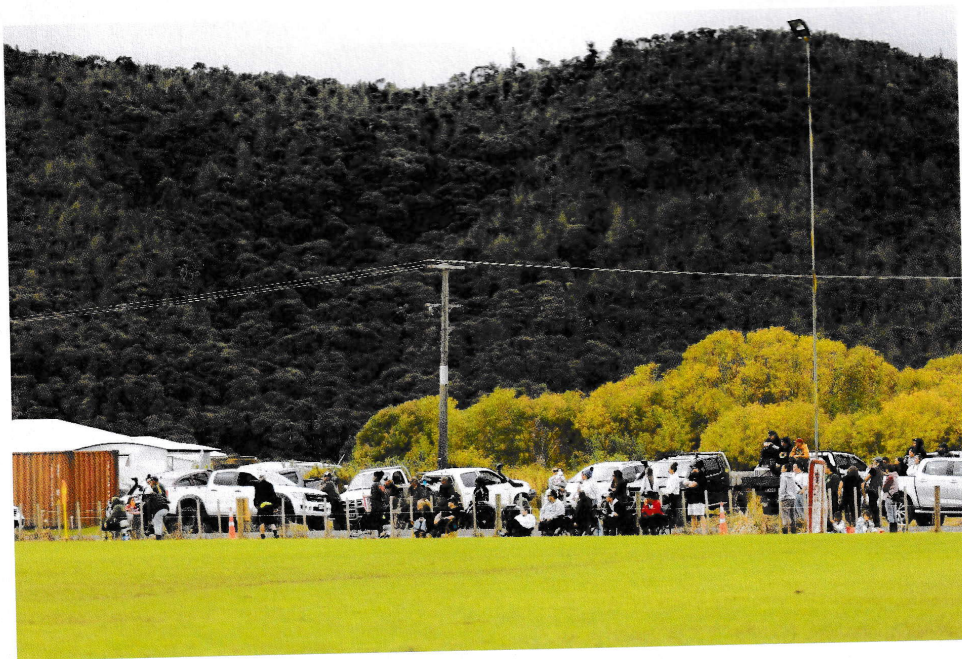
Players handing over poppies on Anzac game



Speeches from veterans



Moment of silence before 1st game of the season



Roadside parking during the game



Roadside parking



Ngā Tapuwāe o Moses Puru

— TOUCH TOURNAMENT —

Te Wāhi – LOCATION
MARAEROA STADIUM
HŌREKE ROAD
UTAKURA VALLEY

Te Rā – DATE
**SATURDAY 28TH
NOVEMBER 2026**

Ngā Hau e Whā – TEAMS

▶ TE RARAWA	▶ NGĀTI HINE
▶ TONGA	▶ HUSKIES

Tane Matua | *Whenumi Matua*
— OPEN MENS — | — OPEN MIXED —

*Honoring the footsteps he left,
continuing the journey together*



QUOTE

Maraeroa Sports Complex

Date
22 Sep 2026

Quote Number
QU-0052

GST Number
132-635-919

Okaihau Mowing Services
Limited
Settlers way
Okaihau 0475
NEW ZEALAND
okaihau.mowing@gmail.co
m
02102486183

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount NZD
Quote for mowing Maraeroa sports complex field and club room lawns on a regular fortnightly basis. Price is per mow.	1.00	221.74	221.74
Subtotal			221.74
TOTAL GST 15%			33.26
TOTAL NZD			255.00



KAIKOHE EAST SCHOOL

36 Mangakahia Road,
Kaikohe, 0405
09 4011532
admin@kaikoheeast.school.nz

Monday 28th September 2026

Kaikohe East School

Wairoro Stream and Stormwater Kaitiakitanga Project

Written Brief for the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board

Presenters: Rebecca Thomas and Matua Dan, Kaikohe East School

Purpose of our deputation

Kaikohe East School is seeking the support of the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board for a student-led environmental project connecting the stormwater drains surrounding our kura with the health of our local awa, the Wairoro Stream.

The project began with a simple question from our learning:

Where does the water — and the rubbish and pollution with it — go when it disappears down the drains around our kura?

For our tamariki, answering that question means investigating something that exists right outside their classrooms and considering what they can do to make a difference.

Our kaupapa

Students from Rooms 13, 16 and 17 are undertaking a hands-on inquiry into stormwater, freshwater health and kaitiakitanga (Y4-Y6 ākonga).

As part of this learning, our tamariki will:

- undertake a drain hīkoi through the streets surrounding Kaikohe East School, identifying and recording litter and potential pollutants entering stormwater drains;
- investigate the Wairoro Stream behind our kura and explore the connections between our streets, drains and waterways;
- undertake freshwater investigations, including water testing and exploring macroinvertebrate life;
- work alongside **Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust** to deepen their understanding of freshwater ecosystems;
- collect, interpret and communicate evidence about what they discover; and
- design practical ways of sharing their learning with the wider Kaikohe community.

We want our tamariki to experience what it means to notice something in their own community, ask questions, gather evidence, work alongside others and then use their learning to take meaningful action.

What our tamariki would like to do

One action we would like to explore is the creation and installation of tamariki-designed stormwater drain plaques or markers around Kaikohe East School and the surrounding streets.

The plaques would use artwork and messages developed by our students to help people make a simple connection:

What goes down our drains does not simply disappear. It can affect our awa and the wider environment.

We would initially like to explore the installation of at **least 10** plaques in appropriate locations.



Rather than being an adult-designed environmental campaign, we want the messages to come from the tamariki who have undertaken the investigation and who live, learn and play in this community.

What we are seeking from the Community Board

We would value the Board's support in helping our tamariki turn their learning into meaningful local action.

Specifically, we are seeking:

- **Guidance and permission** around the installation of student-designed plaques or markers on or near Council stormwater infrastructure.

- **Advice about design and installation**, including appropriate materials, durability, safety and any Council requirements that need to be considered.
- **Potential funding support** towards the production and installation of approximately 10 plaques. Initial estimates indicate a cost of approximately 200–300 per plaque, depending on final design, materials and installation.
- **An opportunity** to explore where this kaupapa might lead. If a small project around our kura is successful, there may be potential for tamariki-led environmental messaging to extend further into our Kaikohe community.

Why this matters to us

Our tamariki are learning about science, freshwater ecosystems, pollution, data, communication, local government and environmental responsibility.

But they are also learning something much bigger. They are learning that kaitiakitanga involves action. They are learning that their awa and their community are worthy of their care. They are learning that young people can notice a problem, investigate it and contribute ideas for making their community better.

Most importantly, they are learning that their voices matter and that adults will listen when they have something worth saying.

As part of our deputation, we hope to share a short video so Members/Councillors can hear directly from our tamariki about what they have discovered, why this kaupapa matters to them and what they hope might happen next.

We appreciate the opportunity to bring their ideas before the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board and to explore how tamariki, kura, Council and community can work together to care for our wai.

Ngā mihi nui

Rebecca Thomas and Matua Dan
Kaikohe East School

Tamariki today. Kaitiaki for tomorrow.