From: Tim & Mary Stokes

**Sent:** Friday, 17 May 2024 1:27 am

To: haveyoursay

Subject: LTP2024-2034 Submision

Attachments: Waitomo District Council Long Term Plan 2024 Submission.docx

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Please find attached our submission on the Councils 2024-2034 Long term plan.

Regards

Tim Stokes

President

Kinohaku Hall Society Inc



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## Waitomo District Council Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Submission

17 May 2024

Tim Stokes Kinohaku Hall Society Incorporated 835 Taharoa Road RD 8 Te Kuiti 3988

I do not wish to speak to council about this submission.

The Kinohaku Hall Society Incorporated would like to give council some insight into some of the challenges of community ownership of our rural hall as part of their consideration of transferring ownership of rural halls to community groups.

These are some of the challenges we face:

There are limited people willing to be involved in operating the hall and not many in the community want to be members.

The hall needs regular income to be financially viable. Insurance at over \$3000 p.a. is a significant expense. Even with income from a regular user and the annual council grant the hall only makes a slight profit because of the fundraising we do.

Another thing that helps make the hall viable is the volunteers who donate materials and do the maintenance. If we had to purchase materials and pay tradesmen for maintenance work, we would not be viable.

Without community support for the halls, and good opportunities for income/fundraising community ownership of our rural halls is not viable for community ownership.

If the council does decide to transfer ownership of our halls to community groups they could need support in creating legal entities to take ownership.

Rural halls have a role to play in being a venue for gatherings and events. We wouldn't like to see them disappear from being available for the community to use.

If council would like to know more about our situation we would welcome a discussion.

We do not have a position on the ownership of the rural halls in our communities.

We do support any increases in the grant Waitomo District Council gives to rural halls to support their operation.

Tim Stokes
Kinohaku Hall Society Incorporated - President