

Kūaotunu Residents and Ratepayers' Association
Minutes of Committee Meeting
 held at the Bakery Irishtown Road Kūaotunu
 9 December 2024

Committee members: Steve Hart, Chair; Ian Preece, Deputy Chair, Kevin Crawford, Minutes Secretary; Marguerite Muellers, Isabel Gilbert-Palmer, Gael Coleman, Roimata Taimana

Meeting opened: 6:36pm

Present: Steve, Ian, Marguerite, Isabel, Gael, Roimata and Kevin (minutes)

Quorum met: 4 required.

Karakia : Roimata Taimana

Apologies : Nil

Public Forum: Danny and Gavin Elliston - re 4 Cemetery Road ítem 5.1 - observers.

1. Minutes:

Minutes of the previous committee meeting 31 October 2024 were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Roimata Taimana **seconded:** Marguerite Muellers **Passed**

2. Matters arising from the 31 October minutes:

Running through the Action Plan included in the 31 October minutes: (various items in Meeting involving detailed discussion are not detailed below - refer Section 6)

Steve

All actions Items 31 October Minutes done with the exception of:

- Contact Tanya Patrick re pumphouse – artwork status on hold and options on planting.
- Subcommittee meeting marine reserve – Ian now to convene.

Ian

Several Items 31 October Minutes remain pending – refer to these meeting minutes action list.

- Colour copy Newsletter to be formatted for Noticeboard – Ian detailed options to Isabel.
- Membership now collated from Dropbox list - now reminder to members whose membership needs renewal to be done.
- Funding protocol now Newsletter Feb
- Website structure - in progress—incremental improvements actioned based on Ian's availability and Committee input.

Kevin

All actions Items 31 October Minutes done with the exception pending or in progress as follows:

- Kuaotunu Hill retaining wall – possibly Q2 2025 but subject to Tender award.
- Letter to Brian Taylor re TCDC record of responses to KRRA re footpaths, traffic calming and infrastructure responses.

Isabel

- Noticeboard Guidelines – posted Alastair's original one - write article for Newsletter.
- Potential Treasurer co-option

Gael Noticeboard Paint supply an issue – Danny Elliston has offered.

3. Correspondence:

Correspondence is in Dropbox and covered by agenda items. No outstanding Items involved in In or out boxes.

Action:

Ian to resend logins to webmail correspondence file (not Dropbox) for committee members.

All to acknowledge back to Ian that they have been successful.

4. Financial Report since last report and as of 8 Dec 2024 (Steve Hart for Gaye Breeuwer)

Account balances: Kiwibank NOW a/c \$ 382.14 and Kiwibank On call a/c \$12,001.30.

Income: Membership fees received YTD: \$ 1010

Interest for period from 1 April – 8 Dec 2024 \$ 361.37

Outgoings: Nil - No outstanding creditors.

Membership: No new members since 31 Oct minutes. 164 have paid for the current Financial Year to 31 March

with some 58 outstanding – 14 paid till Mar 23 not renewed 44 till Mar 24 and not renewed.

Action:

Ian to send to members a request for renewal with a targeted email via Mailchimp. for their subs. Ian has sourced the former list from Dropbox (under Membership) / update Mailchimp and send out membership reminder to 58 that have not paid.

Financial report accepted.

Moved: Isabel

seconded: Gael

Passed

Treasurer position needing filling - discussion.

Isabel – approach potential Treasurer to be co-opted onto KRRA subcommittee. A summary of duties is listed in the Constitution Item 6.5.

5. Items for Decision:**5.1 Resource Consent application for subdivision at 4 Cemetery Road**

The resource consent application for a 9-lot subdivision includes earthworks fill 200-750mm which will divert floodwaters to many affected properties. Various objectors have written to TCDC asking for the application to be declined. Looking at the application and pre-consultation meeting advice on its required content, TCDC in Steve's opinion should not have accepted it due to missing information.

KRRA have also written to TCDC (2 Dec 2024) as the development affects the floodplain and requested the application be publicly notified and that TCDC take direction from WRC regarding the floodplain as it affects the whole catchment to the sea. We noted this development does not adhere to the Mercury Bay North Community Plan 2020-2030 objectives p11 or our own Community Plan on control of residential development and maintenance and monitoring of stormwater and wastewater infrastructure to minimize flooding and pollution of streams.

TCDC have issued a s92 request 27 Nov 2024 for a significant amount of additional information including flood modelling, contaminated land, cultural and archaeological aspects and evidence of the responses of WRC and NZTA. The applicant has 15 working days to respond or to request an extension. Objectors should get a response within 10 working days.

Danny and Gavin Elliston were present at the meeting – they live on Cemetery Road and have experienced significant flooding in Cyclone Gabrielle. They have not been notified as affected persons by TCDC. Noted that due to septic tank failures land is already contaminated and flooding exacerbates this and affects downstream wetland areas. Earthworks buildup is going to take a long time and many truck movements. Noted safety issues at Cemetery Rd / SH25. Kevin noted the freeboard needed was 1.8m above existing ground – result: houses on stilts.

Decision: Committee agreed that when a response to s92 is made, KRRA host a closed public meeting in the Hall for affected parties to object to this inappropriate development. Next steps – **Steve** monitor Resource Consent Tracker –and await either limited notification to affected parties or public notification.

5.2 SH25 Speed Environment – Community Engagement decisions

(a) Keeping Temporary Speed Limits at 50km/hr.

Background

Setting of Speed Limit Rules (2024) have now been issued (rules do not say – unless it is unsafe to do so – as was set out in the draft and requires a community-based case to be made) and NZTA and Councils on local roads need to reverse all changes made since 2020 back. All roads involved need to be advised to NZTA by 3 March 2025 and implemented by 1 July 2025

Meeting agreed we needed to renew the campaign to re-ignite community support.

Gael noted the NZ Listener article Toll Tales April 2024 re NZ record on road deaths is very poor with OECD.

Ian proposed Subcommittee to meet – Ian, Kevin, Isabel and possibly Gael - date discussed – met 11am - 19 Dec

- **Actions to be discussed earlier summarized:**
 - previous Newsletter had typical responses for people to write to NZTA
 - a postcard campaign to NZTA with good graphics (like newsletter) of a typical situation for people to pick up in Kua Kawhe
 - Newsletter – refresh article and call to arms – reignite.
 - Meeting at the Hall – identify urgency – midsummer discussion at next meeting.
 - Kevin noted the usually early Jan meeting could be the venue.
 - Banner on Public land – Waitaia to the Village picture – “We’ve tried to get speed reduced – will it take someone to be killed before NZTA reduce the speed limit?” or similar

Kevin noted Mark Bedford offered support from MRRAI for footpath on SH25 based on safe connectivity Matarangi to Kuaotunu

SH25 further developments – Kevin noted Gabion Wall c 40m long has funding from Crown Resilience Programme FY 24-27 as high priority – inspected every 2 months and gabion baskets at the base has exhibited further failures each time. Not clear on the timeframe in that period or budget allocated or which of the two options repair or full replacement proposed. The need for a footpath on top is noted for replacement option This is only a part of length involved.

Kevin identified new NZTA addressee – Correction to statement in the meeting - not now Liam Ryan – it is Roger Brady - Maintenance and Operations Manager NZTA Waikato

(b) Temporary Speed reduction 30km/hr. Kingfisher Way to 200 m prior to Bluff Road

Kevin has written a KRRRA letter to Mohammed Imtiaz cc Len Salt, Aileen Lawrie, Ed Varley – no reply received to date

6 Items for Discussion

6.1 Bluff Cove: Kūaotunu – Matarangi Reconnection Update

Kevin noted there were notes of two meetings in KRRRA correspondence file Meeting Ngāti Hei 27 November – Peter Matai Johnson with Kevin, Mark Bedford and Dan Crocker DC Structures Studio – specialist for suspension bridges and ACE (Association of Consulting Engineers) Gold Award winner for Manganui Gorge Suspension Bridge (Mt Taranaki).

Dan's presentation was well received as an early collaboration with iwi and his track record with iwi in Taranaki recognized and Peter indicated he was an appropriate choice of consultant. Peter detailed his outcome was that the bridge was as invisible as possible and not a feature and blended to the natural environment – Agreed timber that weathered and that FRP decking to reflect colours below – rock, sand, sea back to rock. Peter to take the proposal to Ngāti Hei for the last hui of the year 30 Nov before providing any further detail feedback.

Meeting with TCDC and Ngāti Haurere 29 November involved Mayor Len Salt, all three MB Councilors, Glen MacIntosh, Brian Taylor (part), Ally Davey (Walking and Cycling consultant to TCDC) and Matarangi Community Trust and Mark Bedford as Chair and 3 members of MRRAI. Dan Crocker presented the concept and added that the masts could possibly be hidden behind a Pohutukawa on the eastern abutment and possibly no mast but anchored into the rock face on the western abutment. Glen MacIntosh was nominated by Len Salt as TCDC interim contact for the Feasibility Study team.

Next actions for Glen Macintosh listed in meeting notes written by Kevin and circulated to all attendees and in KRRRA Correspondence. Planning and Geotechnical investigation likely with \$52k FY 25-26 from TCDC.

Material in KRRRA correspondence file – including concept presentation to be kept Confidential to the committee until we get a reaction from both iwi and TCDC. Press Statement from MRRAI on hold pending this. Mark Bedford had received a call from Brian Taylor confirming TCDC commitment to the process.

Action: Kevin to contact Heather Bruce re LTP provision for the bridge FY 26-27 and contact Glen MacIntosh on agreement on his actions and progress / timeframes - not expected much in the limited balance of time left in TCDC year.

6.2 Mercury Bay North Chairs meeting 27 November

Steve was the only attendee for much of the meeting (first 30mins). Steve confirmed that other RRAs in MB North – confirmed as Whangapoua, Matarangi, Otama, Opito – not Wharekaho and none are in the Alliance. Minutes of all Chairs meetings now circulated by TCDC.

Opito Chair, Chris Severne attended the rahui item (at the approx. 30mins point) – and noted rahui for paua and mussels at Opito and agreed support with KRRRA for no take proposal on marine species except kina Otama west to Kuaotunu. Bess Kingi and Deli Connell supportive.

Steve had noted issues of footpaths and SH25 safety and that the lack of NZTA funding should not be a reason for inaction by TCDC. Deli Connell in agreement. KRRRA to continue to lobby TCDC and NZTA.

6.3 NZTA Funding to TCDC

Kevin noted 3 Sept NZTA letter to TCDC detailed the allocations and it included Walking and cycling \$ 702,000 (combined Govt 51% and TCDC 49%) i.e. TCDC must find their share from rates to get NZTA share.

Kevin corrected the statement in the 31 October minutes - clarified that we had since received advice from Dean Allen TCDC that this funding could **only** be applied to footpath maintenance and not new footpaths.

6.4 Marine Reserve Kuaotunu – Otama West Update

Ian circulated 7 Dec into Correspondence the status of potential conservation activity for marine species take except kina to address the kina barren between Kuaotunu and Otama West. Steve has had conversations with Opito (28 Nov) and Otama (27 Nov) RRAs and Ian with Peter Matai Johnston Ngāti Hei (1 Dec).

The next step is to ascertain if the community agrees on the problem and wishes the KRRRA to progress this. If so, there are 2 potential directions. An actual ban on taking of marine species or getting to a sustainable take position or a rahui to enable stocks to establish and create a sustainable position. Ngāti Hei are of the view that a rahui would be more pragmatic and not a Marine Reserve (it took 10 years for the one at Hahei). A rahui would require MPI approval and letter of support from Ngāti Hei (KRRRA to apply to Ngāti Hei Charitable Trust). Peter supports the regrowth of kelp forest and re-establishment of marine life and a sustainable catch.

Working Group – Ian, Steve, Marguerite and Paul Montague

Action: Ian Working group to meet including Paul Montague. Establish concept of what is being asked for, establish social licence to do so, engage community support by putting material in Newsletter (countering false rumours circulating of the extent of the rahui).

Others such as Thomas Evereth and daughter (suggested by Marguerite) to be invited later after the group is set up and direction established.

Ian to follow up with Peter on detail of similar re-establishment of marine life work being done on the offshore islands.

6.5 Funding Local Community Projects – KRRRA policy

Action - Ian to send document go out in next Newsletter (missed Dec issue) or via Mailchimp.

6.6 Newsletter Production and Topics

Ian noted the target issue date was the first week of December but delayed.

Topics still being collated and noted lack of written material against some topics. Bluff Cove suspension bridge item next issue.

Action all:

Ian requested all to identify Newsletter articles and forward to Ian and Isabel by mid-month every second month – next is 15 Jan for the Feb issue.

6.7 Public Meeting January 2025

Options discussed and conflicts with Hall exhibitions early January and Anniversary Weekend and other Hall bookings noted such as KAMAG Sat 11 January (2-5pm). Waitangi Weekend – had Wedding booking. Possibly Sunday 12 January – Ian to research and make booking.

Later determined as 1-3 pm Sunday 12 January

Agenda – Chair to provide a summary of year to date and call to action on speed limit SH25, 4 Cemetery Road subdivision and rahui and then receive meeting feedback.

Need for all to be present to set up the Hall and someone to register for new membership – no refreshments proposed – only used for AGM.

6.8 Blackjack Reserve – Conveniences update

Steve advised he had confirmed with Sergeant Andrew Morrison no record of safety issues / misconduct in toilets. throughout Peninsula so TCDC restructuring toilets based on public safety is an overkill and not necessary.

Refer Minutes 31 October re monies allocated FY 27 for substantial upgrade.

Agreed - Committee of the view that this remains an active issue - still prefer the monies spent on footpaths and not a full-scale upgrade and we seek a minor upgrade of whiteware etc.

Protection of the mural required.

AOB

Parks and Reserves Infrastructure Renewal updates - Kevin

Stairs opposite George Simpson's house – between Gray Ave and Cuvier accessing Grays Beach are to be replaced – part of TCDC renewals budget. Agreed most items need only have loose boards refixed - this location did not need a new stair (apparently a safety issue as it is deemed too steep)

Viewing platform deck of Grays Beach opposite camping ground being replaced
Secret garden Grays Beach at Cuvier / Bluff Road junction - vegetation control works done.
Concern expressed that we need to have more **prior** visibility from Tanya Patrick of such expenditure.

7. Upcoming Meetings / KRRRA attendance

Next MBCB meeting will be 12 Feb 2025

TCDC Full Council meetings – 18 Feb 2025.

Mercury Bay North Community Chairs – TBC - Whitianga MBCB room

Watching briefs:

- Road Safety – SH25 Speed Management submission to NZTA
- KESG Preparation for next emergency event / Civil Defence equipment supplied.
- Traffic Calming Village - next steps - gateway graphic and other improvements
- Cyclone Recovery – Kuaotunu Hill wall reconstruction
- Fast Track projects affecting Kuaotunu – Waitaia Road forestry and OceanaGold Resource consent Owera Road

- Pump House Beautification
- Website update

Next meeting:

Monday 20 January 2024 – 6:30 pm at the Bakery

Karakia - Roimata

Meeting closed: 7:42pm

ACTION SUMMARY (carried over from current & previous minutes)

who	What	done?
Steve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve to inform Tanya Patrick that the Pumphouse artwork was not proceeding and suggest planting at least be added. • 4 Cemetery Road subdivision consent - monitor Resource Consent Tracker and setup Closed meeting in the hall if limited or public notification made by TCDC 	Pending
Ian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange for signature to be added to KB account / Mark Kilgour removal. • Recast Sept minutes regarding naming of the endangered species and re-post on website • Colour Copy of Newsletter for the Noticeboard • resend logins to correspondence file for committee members: • Community Funding requests policy - Document to go out in via Mailchimp or Feb Newsletter • Marine Area subcommittee meeting setup and follow-up with Peter Matai Johnston re offshore island reestablishment of species 	Pending Complete Pending Complete Pending Pending
Kevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm NZTA Waka Kotahi timing and duration on Kūaotunu Hill erosion repairs. • Follow up with Mark Bedford on the next steps / timeline for Suspension Bridge project. • Contact Heather Bruce re LTP provision for the bridge FY 26-27 and also contact Glen MacIntosh TCDC on agreement on his actions and progress / timeframes. • Letter to Brian Taylor re TCDC record on responses to KRRA requests on SH25 footpaths, traffic calming and infrastructure responses 	Pending Ongoing Pending

Isabel / Gael	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify potential Treasurer to be co-opted onto KRRA – constitution Item 6.5 has a summary of the duties. • Notice board Management Guidelines in bullet point form for content via next Newsletter / Kūaotunu Katchup • Noticeboard Painting of frame – yet to source paint – Gavin and Danny Elliston have offered to supply. 	<p>Pending</p> <p>Pending</p>
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular check of correspondence in webmail - to acknowledge back to Ian that they have been successful in gaining access with login code sent by Ian. • Attend and help assist setup of Public Meeting: 1-3 pm Sunday 12 January – see Item 6.7 for agenda • Identify Newsletter articles and forward to Ian and Isabel by mid-month- next is 15 January for Feb edition. • Ideas on revamp of website to Ian. 	