

Kuaotunu Residents and Ratepayers Association
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
held at Kuaotunu Hall
21 April 2019

Meeting opened: 15:15

Present: Committee: Brent, Kathy, Kate, Alastair, Luke, Keith, Ian. Mayor Sandra Goudie; Councillors Murray McLean & Tony Fox, Deli Connell, Community Board; Heather Bruce, Tanya Patrick TCDC; 66 members of the Association and a few members of the public

1. Welcome

Brent welcomed community members & guests, and ran through the emergency evacuation procedures

2. Apologies: Carolyn Gibbs, Jose Kakebeeke, Steve Brown Douglas, J & H Noble, R & W Morris, B & C DeLeeuw, Scott Simpson MP, Allan Tiplady TCDC, Bill MacLean, Rehka Giri Percival Community Board

Apologies accepted **moved:** Keith **seconded:** Viv Maclean **Carried**

3. Minutes: Minutes of the previous annual general meeting, held 1 April 2018, accepted as a true and accurate record. **moved:** Elisabeth Resl **seconded:** Steve Hart **Carried**

Matters arising from the minutes:---

4. Chair's Report

Brent read his Chair's Report (attached) and **moved** that it be adopted. **Seconded** Viv McLean.
Carried

5. Treasurer's Report

Kathy read her report (attached) and **moved** that it be accepted, and **moved** that the annual membership fee for the year ending 2020 be set at \$10 per person. **Seconded** Elisabeth Resl
Carried

6. Election of the Committee

Nine nominations have been received in advance of the meeting:

- Alastair Brickell
- Carolyn Gibbs
- Craig Lidgard
- Kate Nielsen
- Brent Page
- Carrie Parker
- Bruce Pilkington
- Luke Reilly
- Kathy Speirs

Brent called for further nominations from the floor; there were none. Brent **moved** to close nominations **Seconded** Tim Walsh **Carried**
The committee is thus elected without a vote.

7. Vote on Constitution Changes

Resolution: that the proposed changes to the Constitution be adopted.

Moved Kathy

Green voting cards were collected and counted, along with advance and proxy votes. There were 130 votes in favour (117 were required as 65% of 181 financial members). **Motion carried**

8. Correspondence:

The only AGM-related correspondence received were apologies.

Correspondence accepted, moved: Flemming Rasmussen **seconded:** Jo Mullins
Carried

9. General Business

9.1 Community Plan

Brent proposed a resolution re Kuaotunu signalling to the TCDC that we do not want our Plan amalgamated with other Mercury Bay North communities.

Mayor Sandra Goudie spoke to this:

Firstly commending Brent and the KRRA committee & community for maintaining the grass-roots foundations of democracy, she went on to acknowledge the uniqueness of the Kuaotunu community, and its inherent differences to Matarangi and Whangapoua. She has presumed that within the Council's revision of Community Plans this year all individual communities will maintain their own Plans; however she notes that some communities may be grouped under one umbrella, for financial simplicity, regarding infrastructure improvements such as water and wastewater, depending on the requirements handed down by central government. She agrees that a Resolution is the right thing for us to do.

On the question of the consultation process, and how our community can be assured that our Plan will be respected: the Mayor and the Council are obliged to read all submissions and be conscientious about following them up. Lurna White (TCDC) clarified that after Council has signed off draft Plans, public hearings will be held, and then the results fed back through the Council and Community Boards.

On further questions re "amalgamation" and whether she would support it or not: Mayor Goudie claims ignorance of the Council's intention, signalled by Scott Summerfield (TCDC) at the KRRA's January Public Meeting, that the 70-odd individual Community Plans around the peninsula would be amalgamated into 7 or 8 through the upcoming CP review. Perhaps there has been a misuse of the word? Or a misunderstanding? (Deli

Connell, Community Board, confirms that her understanding of Scott's presentation was of streamlining commonalities, like infrastructure & freedom camping by-laws, rather than giving all communities the same plan.) Mayor Goudie undertakes to take this up with her staff and will communicate with us when she has clarification.

Resolution: that the Kuaotunu community whole-heartedly supports its individual Community Plan, as represented by the KRRRA, for Kuaotunu; and wants confirmation from TCDC that it will be respected

moved Jill Kaepelli

seconded Lynda Reid

carried

Brent reminded the meeting that passing a resolution is just the beginning; the community then needs to stay engaged in the process. Viv McLean added that the Community Plan also serves as a blueprint document for this and future Ratepayers committees. Sandra Goudie pointed out that the KRRRA only represents half of the Kuaotunu community (181 members out of approx 400 residents) and so the Council can't guarantee to adopt it. Gael questioned whether that meant *no* individual plans would be respected unless they had 100% uptake from the community; Fleming Rasmussen responded to SG that it is in fact the Council's job to take the blueprint document the KRRRA gives it, and consult with the whole community.

9.2 Half-pipe

Brent brought the meeting up-to-date on progress: that while we thought we had the perfect location (Domain site/ existing sports area), Ngati Tamatera settlement claims on the area mean that final approval could be a couple of years away. Other locations, preferably TCDC land, were sought for the 8m x 12m temporary structure:

- next to the toilet block on the Blackjack reserve. This is DoC land, but not under Treaty claim; there is provision in the District Long Term Plan to upgrade the toilet block; it's near the village, no sight-lines are affected; it's not near residences; it's where families already congregate
- across the bridge. This is close to residences: sight & sound disturbance is possible.
- Pumpkin Flat. Farther from the village; wetland - flooding issues; subject to Treaty claim
- tennis court, halved. This site would face resistance from tennis players; may also require iwi consent
- in place of the petanque court. Still requires iwi consent.
- private land next to Domain. This could be problematic, TCDC ownership of structure and private landholding

Resolution: that the community supports the temporary location of the skateboard half-pipe close to existing toilet block on the Blackjack Reserve.

moved Steve Hart

Seconded Elisabeth Resl

Carried

9.3 Proposed Marine Farming

There is an application from Ngati Hei currently in to WRC for mussel-spat farming around the peninsula. The KRRRA has no more information and is seeking direction from the community before the hearing for submissions (which is shortly after the next committee meeting). Deli suggests we request Dean Allen (WRC) give us a presentation; Viv adds we should invite a Ngati Hei representative to such a meeting. Gael requests any information KRRRA gathers be published on the website so the community can think about it. Ian Preece recommends we do make a submission and volunteers to co-ordinate the response to this issue. The meeting agrees that KRRRA registers its interest in this matter.

9.4 Any Other Business

Boat Ramp Compactor Many users report the compactor is almost never functional. Possible reasons include overseas coins & other objects are jamming it. (Murray McLean Community Board reports other compactors have suffered vandalism, solar panels & batteries ripped off.) Possible solutions: get it taken away; make it free (Murray Maclean strongly recommends against making things “free” as the cost will assuredly be borne by ratepayers, more and more so as visitor numbers increase); KRRRA funds it; it is moved away from freedom-campers and closer to local users (however the boat ramp site was chosen to limit sound nuisance but be visible to locals and visitors); replace it with an open skip for blue bags only; install cameras; scan bar codes on blue bags and charge credit cards... No defined resolution was reached and the discussion opened out to include general rubbish collection, the scourge of fly-tipping, that it’s not just tourists but also locals who litter, ongoing issues with the Council’s rubbish-collection contract (which has two years to run).

Traffic Management it was mentioned in passing but is still hugely important, that we advocate for stringent traffic management through the village as traffic to & from the Opito subdivision & logging areas increases.

Freedom Camping This was raised by Mayor Goudie as something she’s strongly opposed to, and many present agreed; the “right” kind of tourists need to be encouraged. SG says the by-laws will be re-addressed.

Brent thanked everybody for coming, and for passing the Constitution changes, and encourages the community to keep engaged.. We look forward to another successful year. See you all next time!

Meeting closed: 16:40

CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT - KRRA. APRIL 2019-04-21

This past year has been one in which our Kuaotunu Community has spoken loudly and spoken clearly about how we want our village and surrounding area to look and how we wish it to remain into the future.

Our Community Plan refresh exercise began in September when we distributed the questionnaire and over the following two months, we received an unprecedented 210 replies. The consensus on key issues was remarkable. Over 95% of respondees emphatically stated that the most important things to them were – carefully managed residential and commercial development with prior public notification, clean rivers, ocean and wetlands, retained green spaces, a healthy predator free environment and as per an earlier poll, a resounding NO to extractive mineral mining. Keep Kuaotunu, Kuaotunu is a shared vision.

We will now continue to work with TCDC as they begin to update all community plans on the peninsula, but feel we must strongly signal to them, in advance, that we reject the proposal to amalgamate our plan into one encompassing a much wider area that includes vastly different communities.

Your Committee has worked hard to keep improving communication, both online, through our regular newsletter, formally at our monthly meetings and informally within the community and the wider Mercury Bay. We believe our relationships with TCDC, WRC, NZTA and other stakeholders are excellent and that there is a very positive environment for the new Committee to work in.

Disappointingly, in October, we received the resignations of Chris Twemlow and Isabel Gilbert Palmer. Despite the Committee formally asking them both to reconsider, they departed. The Committee then resolved to complete the year with 8 members.

Highlights of the last 12 months include the following:

- our new website (www.kuaotunu.nz) went live in October with excellent, positive feedback.
- The brilliant new Kuaotunu Library opened. Huge thanks to Maxine McRobbie and Denise Young and their team.
- We received confirmation that the concrete helicopter landing pad would not be sited on the Blackjack Reserve and that negotiations are underway to place this on the Domain.
- We have finally received advice from NZTA that work on a footpath from the boat ramp east to the 50km sign will commence on April 29th. Your Committee will now focus on lobbying to expedite work on the section heading West from the boat ramp to link with existing.

- We are working with TCDC on a formal Emergency Response Plan for Kuaotunu, acting as the liaison for all parties, including Kuaotunu Fire and Emergency NZ, KSAR, Steiner School and the Campground.
- The Blackjack boat ramp for small craft only, has been brought back up to standard (thank you Paul Reilly) and we can confirm there are no plans to expand this further (thank you TCDC).
- We are building a potentially useful partnership with the Dept. of Internal Affairs through David Paitai, a DIA Community Advisor with specific skills in fundraising and community led projects.
- Already David has helped us lodge funding applications for construction of the skateboard half pipe. Local fund-raising has already secured approximately \$10,000, and we are continuing to liaise with TCDC, DOC and Iwi to confirm the best site for this.
- We have opened dialogue with the newly formed Federation of Ratepayers' Associations of NZ and this body could provide a vehicle for more effective advocacy at Central Govt. level.
- Following our Community Plan public meeting, community members have already made big improvements to safe walking from the existing Pumpkin Flat footpath to the main road/village intersection.

At this point, we must highlight the incredible, voluntary work carried out daily by many wonderful individuals and groups in our Village. Largely under the radar, these people work tirelessly to improve the physical, social and cultural environment for the whole community. We know who you are and we thank you and applaud your work.

As Chair, working with this Committee has been a pleasure and a privilege. We have enjoyed useful contributions from all around the table and all members have worked especially hard to foster a positive and collaborative environment. Special tributes must be paid to our Secretary, Kate Nielsen and to our Treasurer and Webmaster, Kathy Speirs – they are both indefatigable.

Most importantly of all, you, our community, has participated positively and energetically. We thank you all. Ground up democracy is vital for social prosperity and we have enjoyed all your feedback and input. We are confident your new Committee will adhere to the mantra –

“no decisions about you, without you”

KRRRA Annual General Meeting

21 April 2019

Financial Report

Financial Position

The committee has finished the financial year with total funds of \$4,980.01 (compared to \$3,140.43 last year). The large increase can be attributed to the fact that the membership fee was this year returned to being on a per person basis, rather than per household.

The committee acknowledges that the amount of money it is holding is substantial, but knows that there will be calls on these funds in the coming year to fulfill the projects the community identified as important in the recent Community Plan refresh.

Note that the committee is also holding a further \$6,543.30 in trust for the half-pipe project. A grant of \$3,000 from the Mercury Bay Community Board has also been secured for the half-pipe project but this grant hasn't been drawn down yet.

Income and Expenses

The association had \$2,816 of income this year (excluding the income received for the half pipe). 93% of this was from membership fees, with the remainder coming from donations, website advertisements and interest.

Expenses for the year were \$977. \$707 of this (72%) was for the operation of the Kuaotunu.nz website (which includes the KRRRA information), but it should be noted that these expenses included the fact that the old krra.org.nz website was also running during part of this time. A further \$170 (17%) was for the one-off purchase of simple cashbook accounting software to manage the association's funds.

There was a net surplus of \$1,839.

Membership

As of 31 March we had 170 members (3 more than this time last year). An email will go out shortly reminding all current members that their membership fees for the 2020 financial year are now payable.

Projected Budget

Operating costs for the new financial year are expected to be in the region of \$400-\$500 for the Kuaotunu website and approximately \$100 for general expenses such as stationery and advertising. With an expected income of around \$1,700 per annum (based on maintaining a membership base of around 170) that leaves a potential surplus of \$1,100 per year.

Resolutions

- That the Financial Report be adopted

- That the annual membership fee for the year ending March 2020 be set at \$10 per person.

Kathy Speirs
Treasurer