

Kuaotunu Residents and Ratepayers Association
Minutes of Committee Meeting
held at Kuaotunu Fire Brigade
Thursday 13 December 2018

Meeting opened: 6pm

Present: Brent, Kathy, Kate, Carolyn, Keith, Luke, Alastair

Public: Bill Muir, Carrie Parker

Apologies: Ian

Public Input: Bill would like an update on the Medical Centre and the \$250,000 TCDC money that is being put towards it (Bill has tried to find out but has been unable to). **Brent to contact Alan Tiplady to get an accounting of public funds spent so far.** Bill would also like us to get in touch with the Harbourmaster and register our on-going interest in keeping Kuaotunu's beaches safe. (Further action on this: buoys, life-saving equipment, etc, deferred to Community Plan community discussions.) Bill, as boat-ramp-sub-committee member, passed on general feedback from locals on what to do with the Quarry Pt boat ramp: not too much, as a better facility will just mean more congestion. Discussion ensued re solutions: user-pays fees, as in Matarangi & Whitianga (was tried by a previous committee and was hugely unpopular with local boaties; also Council reluctant to charge for it as it's not seen to be spending much on it); or non-local fees, + "green card" for locals to use free... There is no ideal solution, and further discussion is deferred till Community Plan talks.

Minutes: Minutes of the previous committee meeting, held Thursday 15 November, accepted as a true and accurate record.**moved:** Keith **seconded:** Alastair **Passed**

Matters arising from the minutes: Running through the action plan:

Community Plan top-3 + action plans - see Item 6.1, below

Letter to TCDC re Our Coromandel magazine - see item 6.4, below

Helipad site - 4 December Brent rang Alan Tiplady; subsequently we were forwarded a copy of the Recreation Reserve site plan (which includes 15 car parks!), which has been sent to NZTA, Emergency Services, and Tamate Ra; the Council is awaiting their responses.

Correspondence:

inwards	outwards
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● from the Auditor General notifying that TCDC has been audited re stormwater management● from David Paitai, a follow-up from his visit to see how things are going	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● phone call from Brent to Laurina White TCDC with concerns re Our Coromandel magazine

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from Laurina White, TCDC, in response to Brent's call re Our Coromandel magazine 	
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Correspondence accepted, moved: Carolyn **seconded:** Kathy **Passed**

Matters arising from the correspondence: See item 6.4 for discussion of Our Coromandel magazine

Financial Report: \$4997 in the bank. No new subscriptions since last meeting. No payments pending.

Financial report accepted, moved: Kathy **seconded:** Brent **Passed**

Items for Discussion:

6.5 Kuaotunu Hall (moved up the agenda to accommodate Carrie)

Brent acknowledged the great website and the great hall - but worries that some hall renters might have “lost a sense of village decorum” (there have been a couple of unsavoury incidents regarding excessive noise/ brawling), and wonders whether perhaps the hall has become *too* commercial.

Carrie: the Hall has become expensive to maintain. It receives \$2300/yr from TCDC and relies on grants and hireage to make up the shortfall (re-cladding the south wall will cost \$32,000). It keeps some funds in reserve, but uses these to make up the 1/3 contribution required for grant applications. The main events held there are local ones, but 6-7 weddings annually are needed to keep it running. Recently the fee for local weddings has been halved to encourage more community use. A Hall committee member meets renters prior to their events and withholds a damage deposit (the last incident was a short-notice hireage with no time for vetting). (Luke suggested a venue-manager be part of the hireage fee and that person is there throughout the event to keep things from getting out of hand.)

An issue that affects the KRRRA is bookings conflicts: holiday weekends (Anniversary, Easter, and Labour) which are historically KRRRA AGM and Public Meetings, are increasingly sought-after by, for example, the 10 Artists exhibition, which while local is also a commercial initiative. Carrie suggests the KRRRA secures Easter Sunday and Labour Weekend Sunday in perpetuity. The committee agrees. (Labour Weekend may in fact be a better time for a Public Meeting than Auckland Anniversary in terms of attendance.)

The KRRRA thanks Carrie and the Hall committee for their work.

6.1 Community Plan survey update

205 responses, from 167 properties!! An interesting note: lots of people did hard copies rather than the online version. The three top questions, sorted by “very important”, were Development, Environment, and Kauri dieback. The most common “top three priorities” as listed by

respondents were Development, Footpaths, and Water Quality (although data collection on this point was not as robust as it could have been). It would be interesting to merge the “very important” and “somewhat important” columns to see what would change. The data sorted by resident/absentee would also be interesting (and the percentage of each would help determine the best date for a Public Meeting). Respondents’ comments need reading and tabulating (**Brent and Kathy will do this**) before being sent round committee and ultimately uploaded to the website for wider perusal. They will also look for inspired action-plan ideas in the comments. Carolyn and the committee thanked Kathy for all the work she’s put into this so far.

Concrete action-plan ideas (in bold below):

#2 Manage development: “Keep Kuaotunu Kuaotunu” is the most important issue for most respondents; it was also important in the 2009 Community Plan, which gives us a very strong mandate with the TCDC. In Brent’s ideal world, various community groups - KEA, Project Kiwi, Rings Beach Dunes group, etc - would band together and get a central-government mandate for globally recognised Natural Heritage status, as in Banks Peninsula and Great Barrier (which managed it by being off-shore, off-grid, and very low population). Putting this into action here could be problematic: in Pakeha NZ there is no history of shared land, or roaming rights; there is a strong feeling of ownership rather than custodianship, and “taking away” rights of large landholders may be unfair. Keith says the solution is simple: **strict adherence to the current District Plan, wherein land zoned rural cannot be subdivided into lots of smaller than 20 hectares**. Two important points: that the community understands what the current District Plan stipulates, and that the TCDC does not change the zoning under persuasion from self-interested parties (this requires awareness of and involvement in local body elections: who is standing, and why...) Other supporting actions: **enhancing wetlands, establishing a dark-skies designation, establishing reserves** would make re-zoning and development much more difficult. We could run our “presentation” (see below) past Scott Summerfield beforehand to get his input.

#1 Footpaths this item also rated very highly in the survey. **Kathy to ask David Paitai for ideas how to get support for this**. As discussed in a previous meeting, Keith suggested **locals just get together and do the easy bits** - as someone already has, with a weed eater - get some donations of materials and labour, do a bit of fundraising, and do 100 meters. Get people using it, then go to the Council and say, Hey, we’ve done this - could you help with the rest? The Council sees we are passionate and pro-active and are happy to help.

Public Meeting for discussion of Community Plan refresh:

Date set for Sunday 3 February, 3 pm in the Hall. The meeting is *not* to talk about how important the issues are (or not) - the survey was the opportunity for that - but to figure out ways to *do* those things. Brent recommends every committee member be well-prepared for the meeting, perhaps take a topic each to be a Subject Matter Expert upon.

Format: the 6 most important topics, as identified by the survey results, are displayed on recycled real-estate sign “story-boards”. Title of the topic, percentage of respondents who voted it very important, 1 possible action plan (as dreamed up by the committee, or from respondents’ comments), and FAQs, will be displayed for each. Sticky notes and felt-tip pens will be

provided. People will be encouraged to visit each storyboard, and for those in which they are particularly interested, write how they would like to see it done, and how they would be able to help. (This format has the potential to become long and unwieldy- and heated?- and will need to be well-managed, but the advantage is conversation and idea-sparking.)

To do:

Kathy & Carolyn: type the “presentations”, send to Keith

Keith: provide cor-flute; print the presentations on A3

Brent: organise sticky-notes (6 different colours, iphone-sized, lots) and felt-tip pens

6.2 April AGM preparation

We need to refine the AGM process & procedures, particularly voting the committee. We could co-opt someone external for input if needed. **Kathy, Carolyn, & Kate to meet early January to identify key issues and how to manage them.**

6.3 Constitution Update

The meeting was happy to accept the new draft with the exception of clauses 7.3 and 11.1; the majority approval will remain as 65%, not be changed to 55% as suggested in the draft. To facilitate the smooth & efficient adoption of the revised Constitution, the draft will be sent to all financial members prior to the AGM, with a proxy voting form: “Do you vote to adopt the revised Constitution?” Can we say that non-return of the proxy form will be counted as a vote in favour?
-Unresolved.

6.4 Our Coromandel magazine

Brent apologised for not having asked enough questions at the last meeting about the history of this issue. In future, if we have concerns about other organisations we need to ask “please explain” before making a formal complaint. He contacted Laurina White TCDC and she provided a lengthy response, some of which was valid. The most positive aspect of the magazine is its reach to absentee ratepayers: a copy is posted to their permanent addresses, and gets good feedback from them.

The meeting agrees that philosophically and ideologically we agree with Alastair that on balance the magazine is unnecessary and a misuse of ratepayer money; however, practically, we have other hugely important issues to spend our time on (cf Community Plan), and unless a ratepayer directly impacted by it (as The Informer would be) asks us to pursue it, it's not our battle to fight.

Any other business:

Newsletter

We've seen the draft text from Ian, but not the final format with pictures etc. The meeting agreed that as a good-news story, Library Completed should run at the top. (While the Community Plan survey & upcoming meeting is also important in this edition it is an update not a call to action.)

Kathy recommended that a group decision on lead story should be made every newsletter.

Kathy suggested that the Comms Team takes on a third member, to replace Isabel - Carolyn, perhaps? - and everyone (including Carolyn?!) agreed.

Blackjack Boat Ramp

Sorted - the blocks have been moved & stabilised, the ditch filled, used tar-seal recycled.

Reserve Management Plan

Alastair and Brent attended the “drop-in” session this afternoon and found it a bit of a waste of time. However they acquired a copy of the General Policy for the District (the Mercury Bay North sub-document is still pending); we have until January 18 to make submissions to it.

Alastair and Brent will read it and alert us to anything we need to know.

Raglan Naturally...Plan

Brent gave Kathy a copy of this flyer out of interest to compare to ours.

Reserve Concessions

Although it has been agreed between the KRRRA and the TCDC that we be consulted regarding concession grants for our reserves, there is now confusion because *DoC* has granted concessions - it's likely they don't know of our arrangement with TCDC. *Brent to talk to Alaine Holdom (DoC) to remind her we'd like to be consulted. - Also ask her re half-pipe.*

Meeting closed: 8:20pm

Next meeting: Thursday 17 January, **6pm**, Fire Brigade

Merry Christmas, everyone, and a Happy New Year!

ACTION SUMMARY

who	what	done?
Brent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● contact Alan Tiplady re Med Centre spending ● with Kathy, go through CP survey comments ● organise sticky-notes and pens ● read Res.Man. General Policy (+Alastair) ● talk to Elaine Holden, DoC, re reserve concessions & half-pipe 	
Kathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● with Brent, go through CP survey comments ● ask David Paitai how to get support for footpaths ● with Caro, type public-meeting topic info ● meet with Caro & Kate re AGM prep 	
Carolyn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● with Kathy, type public-meeting topic info ● meet with Kathy & Kate re AGM prep 	
Kate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● meet with Kathy & Caro re AGM prep 	
Alastair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● read Reserve Management general policy (+Brent) 	