

Kuaotunu Residents and Ratepayers Association
Minutes of Committee Meeting
held at The Blue House, Blackjack Road
2 July 2020

Committee members Brent Page, Chair; Kathy Speirs, Treasurer; Kate Nielsen, Secretary; Luke Reilly, Craig Lidgard, Carrie Parker, Carolyn Gibbs, Alastair Brickell, Bruce Pilkington

Meeting opened: 6pm

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

Public: Bill Muir, for the public input session only

Apologies: Craig, Bruce

1. Public Input: Bill has spoken to Steve Bremner, who has agreed to move any excess rocks from the Fire Station bank repair to the boat ramp, to shore up erosion.

2. Minutes: Minutes of the previous committee meeting, held 21 May 2020, accepted as a true and accurate record. **moved:** Carrie **seconded:** Carolyn **Passed**

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

Alastair circulated some proposed Noticeboard guidelines. Resulting discussion: the noticeboard will be used for specific events and services in, relating to, or benefitting the people of Kuaotunu. Notices regarding ongoing ideological or political stances will not be posted. Notices from other areas may be posted as space permits, with geographical prioritisation. A4 is the maximum size. No payment will be sought. Common sense will be exercised re postings and removal thereof; the committee is always available for consultation if tricky situations arise. The guidelines will be posted in the Noticeboard, and on the website. The keys have been copied.

Alastair also made a submission on Dark Skies to the Mercury Bay North Chairs, + councillors, + Scott Simpson. There is general support, but the project will require *Alastair* driving it to get into a practical phase. The first priority is to get Council to adopt a lighting management plan. **Alastair to create a concrete action plan with timeline.** A Community Board Grant application may follow: Signage around the beaches would help increase public support and awareness, and a video of the history of the project, some astral photography (!), would be useful too. **Luke to talk to Josh Kennedy re video.** Note CB Grant funds must be spent within the financial year. Also advantageous would be to have Laurina White on board and advocating from the inside.

Luke asked James Muir for an interim water-quality report, but none is forthcoming, so we won't have anything to report to the AGM. Mark Bunyan has been introduced to Carrie re the Dune Care group and is enthusiastic.

Carrie replied to Tim Hayde re yoga/concessions, and submitted a nomination to the Coastal Panel - see below in Correspondence. (Graeme Osborne also submitted.)

Brent has replied to one KEA letter, but there's another to discuss (below in Correspondence).

Kathy has asked Incorporated Societies, hasn't had a reply, but isn't worried.

Kate put the post in KT Ketchup re lockdown photos.

3. Correspondence:

Correspondence is in the Dropbox.

Correspondence accepted, moved: Carolyn **seconded:** Alastair

Passed

Matters arising from the correspondence:

Carrie's reply from the Coastal Panel: they had lots of expressions of interest and are working through the selection process; we'll be informed when the Panel is ratified. Carrie, if chosen, is happy to do it, with the support of the KRRRA as sounding board.

Reserve Management Plan drop-in session: Carrie will attend tomorrow, 3/7/20, and wants the committee's agreement to raise the following issues:

- KRRRA requests consultation over concession applications and wishes to limit concessions on Kuaotunu reserves; no helicopter landing pad
- we need clarity over the Domain Board, monies associated with the board, possibilities of development of the land for sports grounds
- macrocarpa removal: TCDC is going to remove a rotten tree opposite Kawhero Drive, after two big branches fell. A pillar of stump will be left for creature habitat. The committee agrees that TCDC is responsible for the safe management of the macrocarpa trees; we appreciate the consultation. The immediate neighbours are in agreement with the removal. The wider community should be apprised of the felling before it happens -
Kate to put a post in KT Ketchup.

Carrie to speak at the session on these matters.

Spat farm appeal letter: the opponents to the spat farm are seeking funds to go to the Environment Court. The KRRRA can be a conduit of information on this issue but it would be inappropriate to use KRRRA funds. **Brent will speak briefly on the Spat Farm appeal at the AGM.**

KEA letter #2, and supporting documents. KEA have replied with clarification of "poison-free": they are referring specifically to 1080 and similar broadly applied chemicals that end up in pig meat (not to domestically applied weed-killers and rat poisons etc). The Kuaotunu Community Plan and its 2018 refresh show support for a poison-free and pest-free environment and the KRRRA will continue to lobby for this where we can; however we have no authority to ban anything. We also recognise we cannot be involved in political conflicts within the community.

Brent to reply to John Watson and KEA.

Penguin signs are up! FR has paid KRRRA, who are waiting for the invoice from Higgins.

4. Financial Report:

Account balances \$9,739.34, of which \$4,113.30 was ½ pipe donations, turned over to other community projects. (All donors who wished to be reimbursed, have been.) Projects for these funds, and part of KRRRA's \$4,084.32, will be discussed at the AGM (more below, see Item 5.5). KRRRA will keep a portion of our funds, \$2000, as a slush fund.

- Sunday 23 August, 3pm, followed by wine & nibbles
- the Kindy can be asked to cater (as a bit of fundraising in lieu of the covid-cancelled Pumpkin Festival) for about 80 people. **Kathy to ask kindy**. We supply the wine. Luke lends glasses. The committee does clean-up afterwards.
- **Kathy will advertise, 28 days out**
- **Kathy will email twice**
 - first, soon, with a reminder to renew subs, submit nominations
 - second, after our next committee meeting, with update on funds projects ideas
 - Lise, Caro, Kate, will help with planning admin for the meeting as necessary
- Courtney Linnecar & Danny Bay have both been nominated; Craig won't stand again

5.4 Dark Skies update

Covered in Matters Arising, above

5.5 Use of ½ -pipe donation and KRRR funds

We have approximately \$6000 to spend on community projects. Ideas:

- Dark Skies signage/video
- donation to Kindy
- Rings Beach Wetland Group - track signage (they would be most grateful; and Matarangi donates generously every year...)
- a new youth initiative - but what?
- traffic-calming project (see above, item 6.2)
- large community festival event(s) - but H&S compliance would be prohibitive - smaller one-off festival
 - sausage sizzle
 - dark-sky night
 - bonfire night

We will seek other ideas from the community before the AGM, for discussion at the meeting. We need to clarify our objective for this item at the AGM: discussion? Making a shortlist? Voting on specific projects? (NB this would require financial members - ie voters - to be easily identified.)

5.6 Dune Care Group Update

Carrie didn't have very many email responses to the working-bee call, only a couple of families; but since then Mark Bunyan has been enthusiastically rounding up Luke's Kitchen staff and others to join in; there will probably be a decent turn-out on Saturday 1 August. There will be a sausage sizzle - Luke has some sausages to donate. **KRRR committee members are encouraged to attend!**

5.7 Rings Beach Wetlands Group update

The group participated in Project Kiwi's Kiwi Call Survey for the first time, after observing bird footprints, scat, and signs of feeding in tree stumps; and are thrilled to report: on the Friday

night, 5 male calls, and on the Saturday, 4 male calls and 2 female. It is hoped these represent breeding pairs. There has been regional and national news coverage, including RNZ.

5.8 Council's draft Open Spaces Strategy

TCDC no longer finds it financially viable to maintain local village halls and is drafting a policy to reflect this change. Kuaotunu Hall is very well organised and funds itself; however a general policy may nevertheless have negative affects on our hall. Other "community open spaces" are referred to in the strategy but not specifically, or with specific intention. **Kathy to forward the email to Brent. Brent to read & ask Allan Tiplady if there's anything Kuaotunu needs to be worried about.**

6. Any other business:

8.Meeting closed: 8pm **Next meeting:** Thursday 13 August. Luke says the Blue House is always available (and it's warm!)

ACTION SUMMARY

who	what	done?
Alastair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● create Dark Skies timeline, first priority being Council adoption of lighting-management plan ● speak briefly at the AGM on the spat farm appeal 	
Luke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● talk to Josh K re Dark Skies video 	
Kate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● post in KT Ketchup re tree felling 	
Carrie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● speak at Reserve Management drop-in session 	
Brent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● reply to KEA ● organise coffee meeting with owners of large land ● ask Hadley D re economic stimulus case for Dark Skies ● ask TCDC for temporary rubber speed bump mats ● ask Allan T re open spaces ● speak - briefly! - at agm re spat farm appeal 	
Kathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● email re membership renewal ● send 2 emails re AGM: one now, one after next committee meeting ● ask kindly re agm catering ● let Caro & Kate know how we can help organise agm ● forward open spaces email to Brent 	
everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● think on youth project possibilities ● attend Dune Day, 1 August 8am 	

Watching brief:

- helicopter landing pad
- Civil Defence Community Defense Response Plan
- Aquaculture development plan
- Council's Long Term Plan capital expenditure