# Kuaotunu Residents and Ratepayers Association Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Kuaotunu Hall April 8 2021

Committee members Brent Page, Chair; Kathy Speirs, Treasurer; Kate Nielsen, Minutes Secretary; Carrie Parker, Correspondence Secretary; Luke Reilly, Courtney Linnecar, Alastair Brickell, Bruce Pilkington, Danny Bay, Erica Sacault

Meeting opened: 6 pm

Present: Brent, Kathy, Kate, Carrie, Luke, Courtney, Alastair, Danny, Erica

Public: ---

Apologies: Bruce

#### 1. Public input ----

#### 2. Election of Officers

The new committee is happy to have the same officers; those officers are happy to continue in their posts. Brent reminded us all to guard against complacency, and recommended continuing forwards with the project-led task-sharing approach so the workload is spread. Eg., Brent=biosphere, Alastair=Dark Skies, Courtney=footpath, Danny=photobook, rahui=Luke. The committee acknowledged Kathy for the huge amount of work she puts in, and Brent for his networking skills and local-gov't insights. Courtney will help out with the Newsletter when she's got a settled sleep pattern!

Resolution: that the current officers be re-elected.

#### Carried unanimously

**3.**<u>Minutes</u>: Minutes of the previous committee meeting, held 25 February 2021, accepted as a true and accurate record. **moved**: Carrie **seconded**: Kathy **Passed** 

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

<u>Carrie</u> was unsuccessful in obtaining a detailed cost breakdown of the Opito scallop rahui campaign; however Dive Zone contributed their expertise free-of-charge; and the consensus was that with the increasing public momentum behind the issue, and an MPI consultation into a full temporary closure underway, we may not need to spend anything. Gathering Kuaotunu data will still be useful.

#### Brent

- Steve M/scallop survey it has not yet taken place, because the first attempt was hindered by bad weather & visibility, and the second by a tsunami warning. Steve & Luke hope to do it this weekend.
- Reserves Management Plan hearing Brent represented the KRRA, got some support from Murray MacLean (Councillor), but none from Sandra Goudie (Mayor).
- Fireworks-ban letter to MoE Brent still to do.
- Dave Wight/Domain Board funds the DB wishes to spend their remaining \$36,000 (approx) on resurfacing the tennis courts, after which time Dave agrees that DB would finally dissolve. They are waiting on a second quote for the work (required by TCDC). Their main concern, shared by this committee, is that the money does not get sucked

back into general TCDC funds, away from the community who originally raised it. Other points discussed:

- we should recognise the good work that the Domain Board has historically done
- there is community concern that the DB is/will still make submissions to the TCDC and seek additional funds, when it does not have the mandate from the community to do so (Carrie points out that possibly the \$36K will not cover the tennis-court re-surfacing, so additional funds may be necessary)
- o the Council understands that KRRA, not the DB, represents the community
- o grazing fees on DB/council land are a few years in arrears
- emergency-response brochure distribution Brent to follow up with Carolyn (We have heard from Pam Bolt that the flyers have been printed, but we don't know how they are meant to get to the people.)

Bruce did talk to Helen Moberley about standing for the committee: maybe next year.

## 4. Correspondence:

Correspondence is in the Dropbox. Kathy to invite Erica to the Dropbox account. In summary:

several	emails/	newsletters	from	the	Whitianga	R&R

- □ correspondence with Ed Varley re cycleway/village slow-down
- ☐ emails re MoFisheries/MPI ?? scallop-rahui submission process
- ☐ Linda Cholmondeley-Smith tsunami siren campaign request for support

Correspondence accepted, moved: Brent seconded: Alastair Passed

## Matters arising from the correspondence:

Discussion re the dismantling of tsunami sirens and the Mercury Bay campaign against it: Brief background: there has never been a consistent national tsunami signal, and the locally accepted "tsunami siren" (high sustained sound, rather than oscillating) in Kuaotunu has never worked.

The move to dismantle tsunami sirens is a national one, not driven by our Council, so campaigning strenuously to TCDC is barking up the wrong tree; Brent has spoken with Alan Tiplady (Council) and FENZ, and is confident recommending the KRRA not get involved with LCS's campaign. *However*, an organised local response to tsunami threats is vitally important and all tools at our disposal should be used: new digital technology, as well as the existing fire siren (continuous), and social-media networks, radio, and neighbourhood communication. One important consideration: who makes the call? Brent to ask Carolyn what Kuaotunu Civil Emergency Response Team's current plan is.

Other points: in the recent tsunami situation, the public received conflicting information/directives from TCDC and Civil Defence; some phones did not receive any notifications; Civil Defense apparently knew less than the public at one stage; and Alastair reports that the DART buoys (set up to provide early warnings, and prevent false evacuations) between NZ and the Kermadecs reported no threat, concurrent to evacuations being carried out. Luke relayed that earthquake-detection equipment at Raoul Island had been knocked out.

Alastair reported that the Kuaotunu Valley seismograph has not been functional for some months and Alastair will guery GNS.

## 5. Financial Report:

Number of current members 210 (several new at the AGM)

\$7.758 in the bank

No expenditures requiring approval

The advance on-line voting prior to the AGM gave us the required quorum.

Carrie formally thanked Kathy for the work that went into preparing for the AGM - all agreed!

Brent, as an aside, reminded the committee to follow protocol and respond to emails on receipt, even if it's a quick thumbs-up - respond later in depth if you can.

Financial report accepted moved: Kathy seconded: Carrie Passed

#### 6. Items for Discussion:

#### 6.1 Submissions

#### Cycleway

Brent has submitted to the TCDC LTP on behalf of the KRRA requesting the reinstatement of funds previously allocated for the boat-ramp-west footpath. Brent to follow up with Liam Ryan to clarify next steps. Courtney has posted a submission template, with email links, on Kuaotunu Katch-up (an action from the AGM) for individual submissions. Courtney to post same on Matarangi fb page; Kathy to email same message to members (also an action from the AGM). Brent reports Mark Bedford from Matarangi R&R has made a similar submission. The deadline for these submissions is 12 April.

## Ministry of Fisheries/MPI ???

Ngati Hei requests support for their submission for a temporary closure of all scallop collection. Chris Severne (Opito R&R) has done a lot of work on this; Brent to circulate his email. In a couple of weeks' time, Courtney can post on KT Katch-up, similar to the cycleway template, to encourage individuals in the community to submit. Danny can set up an easy-access submission form on the website. Danny and Kathy to meet re website access. The deadline for these submissions is 17 May. Luke and Brent to work on submission.

## Dark Skies

Alastair has prepared a submission to the LTP. Brent summarised the submission: please incorporate International Dark Skies Lighting Plan standards.

Resolution: that Chair Brent submits the Dark Skies submission to the LTP, on behalf of the KRRA.

Moved: Brent Carried unanimously

## **6.2 Roadside clean-up** (action from AGM)

It was felt that Earth Day (22 April) was too soon to organise this. Labour Weekend (October) was suggested as a good time: non-resident ratepayers can be encouraged to do a bit of local labour! It can become an annual event, followed by a KRRA-funded barbecue. Kate to add to watching brief so it stays on the agenda.

#### Ideas:

- → a three-hill start, from the top of the Blackjack, the Kuaotunu hill, and the Myndeman (Burma/Boomer) hill, working down towards the village
- → a prize for the most rubbish collected
- → free ice creams for kids
- → slow down, clean-up in progress signs will be a useful public-awareness tool
- → Alastair suggested an Adopt-a-highway scheme or similar

#### Organisation:

- → rubbish bags
- → nitrile gloves
- → hi-vis vests
- → pick-up sticks
- → big signs: "Slow down, clean up in progress" or similar
- → bbq

## **6.3 Water fountain** (action from AGM)

When the water supply to the Blackjack toilet-block showers is connected, could it be hooked up to a drinking/bottle-filling fountain, possibly situated opposite the Blackjack corner? Brent to ask Hirini (TCDC).

## **6.4 Kuaotunu Hill "picnic" (ie dump) site closure** (action from AGM)

Brent has emailed Alan Tiplady (TCDC) requesting immediate and permanent closure to vehicles of the pull-off site at the top of the hill, because of continual fly-tipping.

#### **6.5 Tairua speed cameras** (action from AGM)

It was suggested at the AGM, as part of our ongoing mission to slow vehicles along the main road through Kuaotunu, that we find out how Tairua employs their speed cameras. Brent to contact Heather Bruce for Tairua R&R contact info, and follow this up.

#### **6.6 Mountain biking on Earnslaw forestry roads** (action from AGM)

Luke/ Danny to contact Burt (Earnslaw) to determine best contact & methodology for requesting mountain-bike access to forestry roads. Pending: Erica to draft email request.

## 6.7 Logo

Kathy and Danny presented some ideas for a refreshed digital logo, to replace the old-fashioned letter-head. The committee chose their favourite. Kathy & Danny to carry on this process.

#### 6.8 Photobook

Prior to the meeting Danny circulated a digital proof (containing all photos) for comments. Questions to be answered:

- > which photos should be included?
- where should the time period end?
- ➤ format size? Smaller 8" square is better for the poor image quality, but will increase # of pages (about 120) and thus price (\$50)

Alastair and Carrie to assist Danny.

#### 6.9 Newsletter

Kathy will be away for a month, so is everyone happy to leave the next NL till after that? Yes. There are plenty of ideas already for items.

## 6.10 Skate ramp

Luke has built a 12m x 7m relocatable skate ramp at his place which is getting great use. His end goal is to move it to the Domain; Luke will continue to lobby Heather Bruce about this.

## 7. Any other business:

Erica - follow-up question from AGM re water quality: have wetland property owners been contacted (to form some sort of community wetlands protection group)?

- Heron Trust (Kuaotunu stream Garrick's grazing) have been contacted, are in conversation with Waikato Regional Council, and are interested in joining a wetlands protection group
- Mark & Kelly Simpson still need to come on board
- Brent has given James Muir Phil Nielsen's (Pito-one stream, KT West) phone number (Kate added that this property's riverbanks are fully fenced, and planted - and planting is ongoing.)
- we don't know about other Pito-one landowners (camping ground, Ross & Kiri Johnson,...)

# Watching brief:

- helicopter landing pad
- Civil Defence Community Defense Response Plan
- Aquaculture development plan
- annual road-side clean-up day (see above)

**Meeting closed:** 7:45 pm **Next meeting:** Thursday 20 May

# **ACTION SUMMARY**

who	what	done?
Brent	<ul> <li>draft fireworks-ban letter to MoE (action from Jan public meeting)</li> <li>follow up with Carolyn re emerg resp brochure distribution</li> <li>ask Carolyn about KCERT's current tsunami response (in re sirens)</li> <li>talk to Liam Ryan re next steps for footpath</li> <li>circulate Chris S's email re rahui submissions</li> <li>ask Hirini re connecting shower water supply to a fountain</li> <li>get Tairua R&amp;R contact from Heather B and follow up re speed cameras</li> <li>work on MPI submission (rahui)with Luke</li> </ul>	
Kathy	<ul> <li>invite Erica to Dropbox</li> <li>email cycleway submission template to members</li> <li>meet with Danny re website access, subm forms</li> <li>carry on logo process with Danny</li> </ul>	
everyone	respond to emails on receipt	
Courtney	<ul> <li>post cycleway submission template on Matarangi fb page</li> <li>LATER post similar re scallop rahui</li> </ul>	
Danny	<ul> <li>meet with Kathy re website access/ subm forms</li> <li>ask Burt (earnslaw) re best contact/method for mountain biking permission</li> <li>carry on logo process with Kathy</li> </ul>	
Kate	add annual road-side clean-up to watching brief	
Luke	<ul> <li>ask Burt (earnslaw) re best contact/method for mountain biking permission</li> <li>continue to lobby Heather re skate ramp</li> <li>work on MPI submission (rahui) with Brent</li> </ul>	
Alastair	<ul> <li>assist Danny with photobook</li> <li>query GNS re KT valley seismograph</li> </ul>	
Erica	draft email request to Earnslaw re mountain-bike access to forestry roads - pending contact info from Danny/Luke	
Carrie	assist Danny with photobook	

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