

**Kuaotunu Residents and Ratepayers Association**  
Minutes of Committee Meeting  
held at Kuaotunu Hall  
20 May 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:** 6:01 pm

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

**Public:** Jenny Crawford

**Apologies:** Bruce, Luke

**1. Public input**

Jenny has taken over the Dune Care group. Her update: There is an email group - at the recent working bee there were 12 people (in the rain!). She'd like some input about how to get more help; would like to increase working bees to twice monthly through the winter (Cooks Beach & Whitianga hold them weekly). 10 July is the next planting day.

Ideas:

Contact Kindy - they regularly have outings; it's a good way to increase families' awareness

Contact ICONZ (Christian scout-like group, run locally) (ditto)

Te Rerenga school could help (although school groups can be large and unwieldy)

Take lots of photos: before & after; huge bags of weeds, etc: publicise successes as well as requests for help. **Kathy will let Jenny know when the next Newsletter is coming.**

See if Kua Kawhe might offer a discount for post-planting coffees

In general the group is going better than it has done in years; keep doing what you're doing, Jenny, and thank you.

**2. Minutes:** Minutes of the previous committee meeting, held 8 April 2021, accepted as a true and accurate record. **moved:**Carrie **seconded:** Alastair **Passed**

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

Brent

- fireworks-ban letter parked for now (is it reflective of majority community wishes? Is it futile?) - but in the meantime Bruce (as FENZ rep) should approach the person who does a big annual display on the beach, and ask that he notifies Garrick (Fire Chief) who notifies community, so people have time to secure their livestock and pets.
- Liam Ryan NZTA re: footpath: after an initial flurry of enthusiasm has gone to ground and is not returning calls or emails

- drinking fountain: Hirini (TCDC) thinks it's a great idea. The bore & pump are there: waiting for powerco to get round to connecting the power, then water quality needs testing
- Tairua "speed camera" is a security camera, mostly used by the iSite to count traffic
- MPI (MoF?) submissions: KRRRA did not make a submission on the scallop rahui (see also 5.4, below); however some individuals in the community did; and KRRRA did support Joe Davis with his original rahui.

Kathy emailed the cycleway submission template - it got great community response. Website access for Danny ongoing. Logo done.

Courtney: all done

Danny: website access (Kathy) ongoing. Has approached Bert at Earnslaw re mountain-bike access to forestry. Worth pursuing but not urgent.

Luke: done

Alastair: helping Danny with photobook, ongoing project. Alastair has contacted GNS re the non-functioning seismograph in the Valley; apparently it *is* working, but the data are not being uploaded to the website. Alastair will pursue it. Again, not urgent, but interesting.

Carrie: done

Erica: letter to Earnslaw done

### **3. Correspondence:**

Correspondence is in the Dropbox.

**Correspondence accepted, moved:** Carrie **seconded:** Kate

**Passed**

There is quite a bit of correspondence in the dropbox that Carrie has dealt with, none requiring urgent attention (Erica's letter re KT hill lay-by below, 5.5)

### **Matters arising from the correspondence:**

A Bluff Rd resident has enquired about fibre broadband (the fibre goes only a short distance along Bluff Rd from SH25 corner). The fibre roll-out plan is publicly available: Bluff Rd is noted as "don't hold your breath" (my words, not theirs!) **Danny will find the info and send it to us.**

*Post-meeting addendum: Danny got this done almost before the rest of us got home from the meeting!*  
*His report: National's Ultra Fast Broadband rollout did not include Kuaotunu West, but Chorus are happy to do a custom install for a fee. Brent suggests the resident contacts their internet provider in the first instance and depending on the reply KRRRA could write in support.*

Waitaia track: the remediation includes upgrading to a day-walk standard, as well as kauri-dieback protocols; waiting for budget approval so no date has been set. Chris Twemlow was meant to present the plan at this meeting but didn't come. **Carrie will remind him before the next meeting.**

Carrie recommends dropbox should have a separate AGM Follow-up folder.

### **4. Financial Report:**

Number of current members 213 (8/4/21 210)

Account balance \$8060.01 - let's keep in mind the drinking fountain as possible use for some of those funds.

No outgoings or expenditure requiring approval.

**Financial report accepted and expenditure approved, moved: Kathy seconded: Brent Passed**

## **5. Items for Discussion:**

### 5.1 Biosphere Hui update

The meeting will be Sunday 30 May; Kate & Brent will represent KRRA; 10 groups are coming (Carrie will be there representing Dune Care and the Shoreline Group); this will be the first time all these environmental groups have got together. The purpose is to share aspirations and identify a common goal. **Brent will report outcomes at the next KRRA meeting.**

### 5.2 Water Quality

**Erica and Courtney will follow up with James Muir** and be the implementers of his ideas. **Brent to forward the WRC document.** Paul Kington is a useful contact re Otama wetlands.

### 5.3 Cycle /Footpath

Courtney made a submission to the LTP and was disappointed by the lack of engagement shown by the council, and the dismissiveness of the Mayor over an issue that affects the health & safety of the whole community.

The committee agrees that the community stakeholders (husbands *and* wives) go ahead and move the fence a couple of metres inwards on council reserve land, put in a rudimentary crossing across the bridge, and keep mowing the berm. Once the path is there it sets a precedent for having a path there; Council would face severe PR backlash were they to take issue with it.

### 5.4 LTP Consultation

Alastair reminds the committee of the importance of making submissions in person: TCDC received 1600 submissions; all Councillors are unlikely to read all of them, but if you turn up in person they're more likely to. So well done Courtney for earning your first Committee Badge for Submissions!

For the next LTP cycle (in 3 years' time), KRRA needs a more organised approach re what who & how submissions are made. Also a dropbox folder of historical submissions would be useful.

### 5.5 Kuaotunu Hill lay-by

Discussion re Erica's letter (dropbox correspondence: She and other long-term locals she has spoken to want the lay-by to stay open as it's a good place to stop on the way to & from town, and the litter around the rubbish bin hasn't been too bad lately. They would be willing to do regular clean-ups if necessary. However the issue is not litter: It is trailer-loads of household rubbish (including appliances) being tipped over the bank where it's out of sight of the road.

Brent agrees the committee may have rushed in deciding to approach TCDC to close the lay-by; Heather Bruce replied that while Council may in the past have paid to clear it away, it's NZTA's jurisdiction. It's a country-wide problem, made worse by high dump fees (\$120 in Matarangi for a ute-load, compared to \$23 in Whitianga) - making dump fees \$0 would help. Kate feels that doing nothing about the problem sends a message that it's okay to treat our Place as a tip. **Erica to consult re possible solutions with the long-term locals** and report back next meeting.

#### 5.6 Shoreline Management Plan update - Carrie

The next meeting is next Thursday. The SMP's mandate is to assess and produce action plans (including preparing budgets), proactively identifying points to trigger actions before issues arise, rather than being reactive. The assessments are not based on climate change but on all potential inundation & erosion risks.

#### **6. Any other business:**

Alastair: has a meeting with Heather Bruce (TCDC) re Dark Skies at the end of May.

Erica: could the outstanding Domain Board funds be put towards the footpath? - The footpath budget has a much bigger scale; also the funds were raised to establish & maintain the recreation reserve. **Alastair to check with DB** if the second quote for resurfacing the court has been received yet.

#### **Watching brief:**

- helicopter landing pad
- Civil Defence Community Defense Response Plan
- Aquaculture development plan
- annual Labour-weekend road-side clean-up (see 2021 April minutes for details)

**Meeting closed:** 7:30

**Next meeting:** Thursday 1 July, 6pm

NB Kathy will be at the next meeting, but will be away July/August/September, but might phone in to meetings when she can.

## ACTION SUMMARY

who	what
Kathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>let Jenny C (Dune Care) know when next NL is coming</li> </ul>
Danny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>send Bluff Rd fibre info round</li> </ul>
Carrie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>remind Chris T to come to next meeting to present Waitaia track plan</li> </ul>
Brent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>report on Biosphere Hui</li> <li>forward WRC water-quality doc to the committee</li> </ul>
Erica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>follow up water quality with Courtney</li> <li>report back on KT hill lay-by after consultation with locals</li> </ul>
Courtney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>follow up water quality with Erica</li> </ul>
Alastair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>find out from Domain Board re second quote</li> </ul>