

Kuaotunu Residents and Ratepayers Association
Minutes of Committee Meeting
held at Kuaotunu Hall
23-9- 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: 6pm

Present: Brent, Carrie, Kate, Luke, Courtney

Public: Jill Kaepelli, Chris Charteris

Apologies: Kathy, Bruce, Erica, Danny, Alastair

1. Public input

Jill outlined Kauri 2000's plan to make an archway at the entrance to the Blackjack Walking Track, using 737 left-over metal tags, inscribed with names of and messages from donors, planters, supporters. Chris showed a concept drawing and some photos of work-in-progress: the tags covering poles (local name close to the bottom so kids can read them), topped with two pieces of locally-sourced kauri. The top of the arch may have some words carved into it, for example *for our children's children* on one side and *kaitiakitanga* on the other. Possible carvers? Rory or Tyler? **Luke will ask Ty and let Chris know.** Chris is volunteering his hours and Kauri 2000 is supplying materials. This is a great Newsletter item! **Carrie will ask Tania Patrick for TCDC's position** on the idea. The committee is unanimously supportive of this initiative.

Waitaia Track update

(from last meeting's action summary, discussed now so Jill & Chris can hear it)

Carrie reports that while we as yet have nothing in writing and no time-line from Chris Twemlow, there is a plan: to re-route the steep steps, and to fix the bridges. The DoC public-tracks guy for the Upper Coromandel is stuck in Australia (Covid-19) but CT has removed the condition that kauri-dieback remediation take place before the track re-opens, and bridge reconstruction has the go-ahead. **Carrie will keep pressure on CT for something in writing.**

2. Minutes: Minutes of the previous committee meeting, held 11 August 2021, accepted as a true and accurate record. **moved:**Courtney **seconded:** Carrie **Passed**

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

Carrie/Waitaia update: ✓ see above

Erica/NZTA letter/lay-by fence: **ongoing**, awaiting quote from Peninsula Fencing

Luke & Courtney/traffic photos ✓

Kate & Erica/ subs renewed ✓

Luke/subs: **ongoing** (we won't mention it much)

Alastair/Domain Board meeting notes/seismograph article: **ongoing**

James Muir/ Heron Trust Wetland update: **Courtney will follow up**

Brent/roadside clean-up: see item 5.5 below

3. Correspondence:

Correspondence is in the Dropbox.

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

Passed

Matters arising from the correspondence:

- ~ Correspondence regarding the scallop rahui was resolved shortly thereafter
- ~ CFM letter reminding KRRA to make use of CFM's platform to advertise info & events

4. Financial Report:

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

Passed

\$9520 in the bank, no outgoings, no expenditure requiring approval
Balances year to date +\$2088 membership fees -\$207 expenditure
Members x 188 (114x annual, remainder 5-year subs)

Matters arising from the financial report:

The committee formally thanks Luke's Kitchen for sponsoring the citizen-science scallop survey. This info should go in the Newsletter, along with a report on the official Scallop Ban, announced recently. **Kathy to write item. Kate to ask Kathy nicely to please write item!**

5. Items for Discussion:

5.1 Biosphere update

Brent reported that 4 of the 5 Pillars of the Biosphere (invasive flora & fauna free, clean waters, dark skies, replenished marine environments) have been agreed upon by the biosphere working group; however the 5th Pillar *Keep Kuaotunu Kuaotunu* (arguably the most important, without which the others will not stand) is receiving some pushback. While it is agreed that no-one wants the Kuaotunu Peninsula to become like Whangamata or Matarangi, exactly what that will mean for landowners is causing concern. The committee needs to come up with a definition of what *Keep Kuaotunu Kuaotunu* means for BP and KN to take back to the working group.

Discussion:

- perhaps allowing residential growth only within defined "village limits"? (BP) - but what about Kuaotunu West, Pumpkin Flat, Waitaia? biospheres around the world, and other protected areas (eg Haida Gwaii in western Canada), have different zones of varying degrees of protection (KN)
- a big threat to losing our community is losing young people: unaffordable housing, no jobs (LR) - but to keep them here we need more houses!
- Nick Kelly (DoC) has forwarded BP some papers re Human Carrying Capacity: the max # of humans allowed, to maintain sustainable biodiversity
- we need measurable targets (CP), eg percentage of permanent population
- differential rating?! (BP) - 2nd homes pay higher rates.

- we need something the the District Plan must adhere to (ie central-gov't mandated), as District Plans are political and manipulable

Homework: **feedback please, ASAP on what does Keep Kuaotunu, Kuaotunu mean to you? How to define and how to measure?**

5.2 Kuaotunu Hill lay-by fence

ongoing, see Matters Arising from last minutes

5.3 Cycle/footpath update

General discussion was had on community frustrations with lack of institutional progress to provide safe walking/biking in our Village and what our alternative options might be.

The committee agrees to mowing the roadside verge to make it walkable, in light of Council's and NZTA's continued inactivity on this matter of community safety.

5.4 Dark Skies

no update in Alastair's absence

5.5 Roadside Clean-up

The idea of an Annual Roadside Clean-up was raised at the AGM. At the following committee meeting it was decided Labour Weekend might be a good time for this.

From April 2021 minutes:

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*

A project-manager is required and on-one on the committee is willing to undertake this. Some community-member names were tossed about as potential leaders, as well as many who we know would be happy to participate. In the end BP suggests it might be easier for him to marshall a small bunch of people and just get it done; a more public event requires health & safety risk assessment - but we would lose an opportunity for community connection. Before choosing this route, **Kate will post on Kuaotunu Katch-up for any volunteer leaders Brent will ask Boris & Cherie, Luke will ask Ash, Carrie will ask Hamish and Jacquie**

NB Jenny Crawford (Dune Care) would like to hold a working bee that weekend but didn't want to be in conflict with a community clean up initiative, so we need to let her know right away.

Addendum: Carrie has already done this.

5.6 Shoreline Management Panel update

Carrie reports that modelling of erosion rates and inundation levels is progressing (not based on climate change but on mathematical if-then equations). Following that, risk-assessment will identify what public and private assets are at risk. The Panel will identify signal points (=beginning of lead time towards trigger) and trigger points (=by which plans must be implemented). Next steps are working out proposals for “preferred pathways”, and costings. Carrie says the process is going well; their next meeting is Monday 27 September, and there will be a public meeting at the end of October.

6. Any other business:

- The Ministry of Primary Industry announced recently a two-year ban on the Eastern Coromandel scallop fishery, following the voluntary rahui and numerous public submissions. Yay team!
- Luke has had lots of queries recently about the cutting of pohutukawas at Otama. KRRA doesn't know anything about it, but DoC and TCDC are looking into it and we can expect a press release shortly.

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 pm **Next meeting:** 4 November 2021

ACTION SUMMARY

who	what	done?
Luke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ask Ty re Kauri arch carving ask Ash re roadside clean-up project management 	
Carrie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> check with Tania re kauri 2000 arch keep on Chris T for Waitaia track plan in writing ask Hamish & Jackie re roadside clean-up project management 	
Erica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> draft NZTA letter re lay-by fencing 	
Alastair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> get DB meeting notes write seismograph item for NL 	
Courtney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> get update from James Muir on Heron Trust wetland progress 	
Kathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> write NL item re official scallop ban, & thanks to Luke's Kitchen 	
Kate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ask Kathy to write NL item nudge committee members absent from this meeting re <i>Keep Kuaotunu Kuaotunu</i> definitions post re roadside clean-up project manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓
everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> come up with ideas for <i>keep kuaotunu kuaotunu</i> definition, forward to Brent 	
Brent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask Boris & Cherie re roadside clean-up project management 	