

Kūaotunu Residents and Ratepayers Association
Minutes of AGM Meeting
held at Kūaotunu Hall
Sunday 9 April 2023

Committee members: Brent Page, Chair; Kathy Speirs, Treasurer; Kevin Crawford, Minutes Secretary; Carrie Parker, Correspondence Secretary, Alastair Brickell, Roimata Taimana and those standing down as follows: Kate Nielsen, Luke Reilly (resigned), Danny Bay, Steve McKenzie,

Meeting opened: 3:06pm

Present: Committee Members Brent (Chair), Alastair, Kate and Kevin (minutes)

Other Financial Members: 30

Public: Deli Connell TCDC Councillor, Heather Bruce (MBCB Liaison), Caroline Hobman (MBCB member), Pauline Stewart (Informer newspaper), Daryl Smith, Liam Kedzlie from MBP (Matarangi Beach Paper)

Quorum: With 196 members at the time of the meeting a quorum of 66 members is required (one third of members). This was met with 33 members present and 39 having voted online prior to the meeting.

Apologies: Kathy Speirs, Carrie Parker, Steve McKenzie, Danny Bay, Roimata Taimana Rekha Giri-Percival and John Grant (TCDC Councillors) and a number of members apologised for not being able to attend – many have voted online.

1. Welcome - Brent welcomed the attendees and thanked us all for taking their time on a family Easter afternoon to attend

2. Minutes

Minutes of the previous AGM held 17 April 2022 accepted as a true and accurate record.

Brent **Moved minutes be adopted:** Alastair **seconded:** Marguerite **Carried**

3. Chairs Report Brent Page

See separate document for full transcript. Points covered follow:

- Challenging events in the last 12 months socially, economically and environmentally were noted.
- Many thanks to FENZ and KERT for their response in recent cyclone events – huge volunteer effort – as a community we are blessed with volunteers for a number of community activities and in particular proud of FENZ and KERT your huge contribution - appreciated by all.
- Significant progress on a number of issues with TCDC and a number of submissions to agencies on behalf of the community. Often the pace is frustratingly slow but progress has been made.

Projects championed and achieved by KRRA.

- KRRA and Domain Board agreed to co-fund \$43k contribution with TCDC (\$7k from KRRA, \$25k Domain Board and \$11k MBCB grant), the balance for the resurfacing overlay of the existing recreation slab for a multipurpose tennis court, netball, skating, scootering, biking and pickleball – submission made to TCDC.

- Traffic calming in the village – road markings and red courtesy crossings and once officially gazetted 30 km/hr roundels and gateways with Kūaotunu safety focused artwork at the 2 village entrances.
- Water Pump housing artwork commissioned to disguise the water pump adding to local artwork.
- Fly-tipping at the layby on Kūaotunu Hill is less of an issue now that it is opened up / greening of the clay bank is required.
- One of 5 pillars of the Peninsula Biosphere strategy, the International Dark Sky Registration for the Kuaotunu Peninsula gained and consultants actioning a private District Plan Change underway funded by a successful Destination Hauraki-Coromandel application to MBIE for \$50k. 2 public outreach events were held – Matariki on June 25 2022 and on 8 April Easter at Opito. Facebook and Webpage now exist – congratulations to Alastair for these efforts.
- KRRRA Newsletter has a high opening rate – and with the Facebook page a good forum for 2-way communication and participation is needed to reflect your aspirations and interest in advocacy. Please attend KRRRA Committee meetings that are 6 weekly.
- The Committee has found it a challenge maintaining positive, productive outcomes with TCDC, Waka Kotahi, DOC and WRC. It is essential that each entity engages with community representative organisations such as KRRRA prior to the public consultation process. This is so that a no surprises policy applies and that RRAs can have the opportunity of prior advising communities – increasing public inputs.
- Stressed the importance that such agencies are public service employees – doing the behest of the community and voters and that is important we don't assume that these agencies will automatically consult. Target is to continue to make Kūaotunu a creative supportive vibrant village firmly connected to a special natural environment.
- Community support is vital as we continue to lobby for the critical infrastructure needed for safe Walking and Cycling SH25 – Cemetery Road to Hilldale Crescent and re-establishing connectivity through to the Matarangi Community with the suspension bridge project replacing the rockfall route.
- Endorsement of the Committee's selfless and untiring efforts on behalf of Kūaotunu community over the last year and reiteration of the need for the community to connect with KRRRA members so that your aspirations are reflected in what KRRRA does.
- Brent thanked retiring Committee Members for their efforts and noted Kate Nielsen's particular long service contribution.

Moved his report be adopted: Brent

seconded: Eliza Reed

Carried

4. Treasurers Report Kathy Speirs read by Alastair Brickell

See separate document for full transcript. Points covered follow:

Account balances

\$10,322 compared to \$9,037 last year - \$ 2,170 are membership fees paid in advance (i.e. for 5year membership fees)

Contribution to Tennis Court overlay \$ 7,000 and potential contribution of \$1500 to pump house artwork reduced funds in hand in upcoming FY

Ordinary Operating Income

\$2,508 – 91% membership, balance 9% interest

Ordinary Operating Expenditure

\$561 compared to \$ 462 last year – all for Kūaotunu.nz website 50 % was domain name renewal for 5 years.

Net surplus

\$1947

Donations

Nil received

Extraordinary Expenditure

\$413 International Dark Sky Association registration fees
\$240 annual donation to local FENZ for 2 epi-pens

Operating Net Surplus

\$1294

Membership to 31 March 2023

199 (increase of 11 on YE 2022)

Projected Surplus 31 March 2024

\$1300 approx.

1st resolution

Financial report FYE 2023 **moved** to be adopted: Alastair **seconded:** Bill Muir **Carried**

2ND resolution

Motion to maintain the \$10 annual membership per person.

Moved motion be adopted: Alastair **seconded:** Prue Gilsean **Carried**

5 Election of Committee

The KRRRA constitution allows for 10 Committee members.

Those standing down are as follows: Kate Nielsen, Luke Reilly (resigned during year), Danny Bay, Steve McKenzie. Brent thanked them for their efforts and noted Kate Nielsen's particular long service contribution.

Nominations received prior to the meeting:

- Brent Page
- Kathy Speirs
- Alastair Brickell
- Carrie Parker
- Kevin Crawford
- Roimata Taimana

New

- Kim Crosland
- Marguerite Muellers
- Bella Pierce
- Nicci Kerr – email nomination by Roimata Taimana seconded by Carolyn Wadey-Barron

Brent asked for any further nominations from the floor and none were proposed. Thus, the Committee as listed above, was elected without a vote. Floor vote confirmed aye.

Next meeting 16 April 6 pm at Carrie's house and involves Election of Officers. Minutes available for new members for their earlier briefing

6. Correspondence relating to the AGM:

Nil

7. General Business:

7.1 TCDC Creative Coromandel Art Strategy Review - Survey Isabel Gilbert – Palmer
Isabel outlined the TCDC Art Strategy Review survey and encouraged attendees and others to complete it – and noting that hard copies at the meeting and would be available at Kūāotunu Store and that she would appreciate them being filed out in the next week. This assists in advocacy for more art money from TCDC.

7.2 Kūāotunu Dune Care Group (KDCG) – Jenny Crawford

- KDCG grew out of KRRRA initiative led by Carrie Parker. In April 2022 incorporated as a Society which enables application for funding from various agencies and to date 280 volunteer hours into weeding and planting over the year
- Regeneration plan for area across from the village and clearance and planting funded by the WRC Environmental Initiatives Fund \$10,000 and TCDC grant \$1,000.
- Exotic weeds and plants are outcompeting native dune species and through the grant KDCG has employed a contractor to spray and prepare Zone 1 for 2,500 plants to be planted on Sat June 24 at 9am
- Aim is to maintain and rehabilitate dunes as set out in TCDC Coastal Adaptation Plan approved Sept 2022 and work in conjunction with TCDC Coastal Coordinator in this work. TCDC Website shows the various zones.
- AGM 18 April 4pm at the hall, Committee of 8 and 31 paid up members and a call to attend regular working bees.
- Coastal Restoration Trust presentation on dunes formation and restoration on You tube (5mins each) and brochures with link available at this AGM –
- Encouragement to attend next working bee 19 April, 17 May and extending planting at Grays beach on Matariki in July

7.3 Kūāotunu Peninsula Dark Sky Update - Alastair Brickell

- Dark Sky event held 8 April at Opito with in excess of 100 people and earlier at Matariki in 2022 - approx 60 people. Next event is Matariki 15 July at Kūāotunu Domain

- MBIE grant \$ 50k for actioning a private District Plan Change underway by Kahu Consultants - funded via a successful Destination Hauraki-Coromandel application.
- KRRRA has funded the initial application fee and Opito RRA has contributed with funding the membership of International Dark Sky Association
- Noted the European Space Agency robotic telescope to detect space debris in the Southern Hemisphere has just arrived and will be installed at Opito due to better internet coverage there – installation in about 2 weeks.
- Sky maps available at this meeting
- Encouragement of attendees to replace existing lights with LED Dark Sky Friendly lights – **warm white** - at hardware stores.

7.4 Bluff Cove Suspension Bridge Update – Kevin Crawford

- Kevin noted a key achievement of last year - MBCB presentation by Alastair and Kevin that resulted in a resolution to request TCDC advance a Business Case for a suspension bridge to restore connectivity at Bluff Cove between Kūaotunu and Matarangi rather than further work on the rockfall.
- Scope received from TCDC and meetings held with DOC gaining their support to the Business case. Kevin stressed the importance of support from iwi and Waka Kotahi and others for Business Case.
- Chairs MRAI and KRRRA met Aileen Lawrie (new TCDC CEO – ex Opotiki District Council and similar project there) and Len Salt Mayor with Project Lead to
- Design Report received and response written about to be presented via MRAI.
- TCDC commitment for Community involvement in a 60m span suspension brief.
- Noted the importance of connectivity particularly in emergencies of a link and especially the approach roads.
- Connectivity is also key to Walking and Cycling of approx 7kms (with some infill sections) between the two communities.
- Thanks requested to be conveyed by Heather Bruce to Ed Varley and the TCDC roading team for the full width slip clearance of the Bluff Road Eastern approach after Cyclone Gabrielle
- Thanks to Rehka Giri-Percival and Deli Connell as MBCB members for their role in the resolution at the MBCB Sept 2022 meeting that enabled the suspension bridge to be advanced.

7.5 Whitianga Ferry – Super Gold Card - Marguerite Muellers

- Presentation on the challenges to date of getting Supergold card status and funding for the Whitianga – Ferry Landing ferry.
- Grey Power represent those 60yrs+ and noted that many AGM attendees are in that demographic – It is important that the elderly are not isolated from Whitianga.
- Grey Power campaigning for a fairer distribution of central government funding to WRC and for it at least to include TCDC area and not only to be applied to Waikato as it is at present.

- Noted good coverage of the issue via The Informer and Marguerite in her role at Grey Power will continue to campaign to WRC for that funding to be extended to the ferry.

7.6 Submissions to TCDC re Annual Plan FY 23-24 closing 10 April 4pm – Kevin Crawford

- Kevin summarised issues in KRRRA newsletter and on Facebook page
- Noted that neither the tennis court overlay nor the suspension bridge appears as line items in the Annual Plan and this was of real concern.
- KRRRA are making an official submission on members' behalf but encouraged attendees to make their own to reinforce these concerns and noted particularly the rates increase to fund road recovery post cyclones and the new costs of rubbish collection (\$2m)

8. Any other Business - Comments from the floor

Nil

Brent thanked everyone for attending and new nominees for putting themselves forward.

Meeting closed 3:58 pm