

Kūaotunu Residents and Ratepayers' Association
Minutes of Committee Meeting
held at the Happylocal Hub, Irishtown Road, Kūaotunu
11 November 2025

Committee members: Steve Hart, Chair; Ian Preece, Deputy Chair, Steffi Hammann-Evans, Treasurer; Kevin Crawford, Minutes Secretary; Isabel Gilbert-Palmer, Chris Brock, Marguerite Muellers, Gael Coleman, Dani Elliston, Roimata Taimana

Meeting opened: 6:35pm

Present: Steve, Steffi, Isabel, Roimata, Chris and Kevin (minutes)

Quorum met: 6 required.

Apologies : Marguerite, Ian and Gael received

Public: no public attendance

Karakia – Roimata

1. Minutes:

Minutes of the previous Committee meeting 7 October 2025 Steve noted require alteration as follows:

Item 5.3 - 26 of the 51 Cemetery Road subdivision opponents (from 30 households involving 51 residents) are members of KRRRA. Concern expressed at these low numbers given KRRRA's representation of those opposing the subdivision.

Balance of minutes is confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Roimata Taimana

Seconded: Isabel Gilbert-Palmer

Passed

2. Matters arising from the 7 October minutes:

Running through the Action Plan included in the 7 October minutes.

Webmail agreed to buy larger capacity and Chris to facilitate 5GB at \$4.75 / month.

Status of various other items were briefly discussed and many deleted - most of the others are dealt with in Section 5 below:

3. Correspondence:

Correspondence is in Dropbox and covered by agenda items.

KRRRA web email: krra@kuaotunu.nz and when email sent cc this address.

Correspondence received from Anne Walmsley re Bluff Cove suspension bridge – impact of a manmade structure and that it had not involved iwi worldview. She had apparently viewed MBP Nov article and misunderstood that the text reflected iwi involvement as listed in chapter detailing the two hui outcomes in the feasibility study and agreed by both iwi.

Steve noted Jan 2025 email on same subject was different angle regarding potential of increased tourism effects and was he thought addressed by his reply then citing the 84% response from 2023 survey in favour of connectivity. Her reply then was relief the intention was connectivity and “not fame”. He will now contact her again and discuss and write a note – and note no financial commitment from TCDC – all to be fundraised. This project was based on safety and reconnection of communities and a survey proposed in 2026 will determine extent of

community support. Committee agreed that it was for Anne to advance the issue with others if there were similar views as hers in the community.

Action: Steve to contact her and draft a reply and circulate

4. Financial Report from last report (6 October 2025) and as of 10 November 2025

4.1 Financial Report (Steffi Hammann)

Account balances: Kiwibank NOW a/c \$1,646.37 and Kiwibank On call a/c \$11,266.20.

Total: \$ 12,912.57

Income: Membership fees – \$130.00 received since last meeting YTD from 1 April 2025: \$1540

Interest for period from 1 April 2025 – 10 November 2025 \$ 171.48

Outgoing: No outstanding creditors.

Expenditure – 1 April – 10 November 2025 \$975.77 plus \$ 500 donation Te Rerenga School approved 7 October meeting transfer pending approval.

Financial report accepted.

Moved: Dani Elliston

Seconded: Chris Brock

Passed

4.2 Other Treasurer issues

Membership: 191 (as stated in the Financial Report)

5. Items for Discussion:

5.1 KRRR Constitution Change Special General Meeting (SGM)

Decision made by Executive Committee to delay SGM to February. This was due to invite format, text and notification issues for the original 25 November date and unavailability of the hall on Tuesday evening.

Kevin noted the meeting has to be in early February as he was away all of March and the deadline for MBIE was 6 April 2026. Best that we did not find ourselves in a last-minute rush with those last submitters of the c24,000 other Incorporated societies.

Confirming we still use 1 October voting figures.

Action:

Steve: Identify new date and book hall.

Steve Ian and Kevin - resolve last issue re text of the notification of the SGM.

5.2 MBCB Attendance request at KRRR meetings

Correspondence received from Richard Shelford-Woodcock MBCB Interim Chair wanting to allocate an MBCB member to be our contact and to feed our issues via MBCB Chair to TCDC meetings. We concluded that we had misunderstood that they wanted to attend our meetings and we were not in agreement with that.

Agreed: to invite the allocated member to our meeting on issues that we want them to take forward on our behalf. KRRR should be able to decline nominee if we don't want that individual. We would offer them speaking rights in an allotted time and they have no other access to KRRR webmail / Whatsapp etc.

5.3 Kūaotunu Community Plan Update and submission to MBCB

Richard Shelford-Woodcock MBCB Interim Chair in the same email referenced in Item 5.2 above has asked for KRRRA to establish their top 3 priorities for MBCB support and action.

Steve assembled previous surveys from 2023 and circulated this. Located on KRRRA webpage Waterways 4.8, no extractive mining 4.5, a number at 4.4 including Safe Cycling & Footpaths connecting Waitaia to Hilldale and management of residential development retaining unique environment for Kuaotunu, and Dark Sky preservation.

Steve suggested a Go Pro record of a cycle from Waitaia to Hilldale be put to MBCB to show the significant risks and changes needed.

Keep separate the safe walking and cycling connectivity between Rings and Matarangi – agreed bridge connectivity to Matarangi to be added to text (rated 4.2)

Speed reduction SH25 (rated 4.1) - Dedicated Art environment (rated 3.5)

- Items 10, 11 and 12 added by Steve – environment items including WRC, floodplains and reserves and foreshore. Steve noted WRC ban on coastal dredging recently passed.

Kevin noted Mercury Bay North Community Plan 2020-2030 - and noted previous committee changes sent to MBCB included improve floodplain management and stormwater reticulation and swale maintenance and hence wetlands should be reincluded now at this opportunity.

Kevin stated should add 30km/hr into the village and the complete refurbishment of the village entrance signage – was commissioned but declined by Ed Varley. Committee agreed this would be an excellent community project to reinvigorate the entrance.

MBCB had requested this feedback by 18 November.

Action: All to review and provide feedback to Steve and Steve to forward KRRRA Community Plan priorities to Richard Shelford-Woodcock by 18 Nov

5.4 Kūaotunu-Matarangi Bluff Road Connectivity Project Update

Background: refer 26 August & 7 October minutes

Recent events:

MBP article Nov published outlining the project and publishing Concept design pictures and KRRRA Facebook and Newsletter and Matarangi Community Page.

Project page on TCDC website – under tab Community-Led Projects written with TCDC and posted after Ngāti Hei confirmed the Feasibility Study – includes under “Find out More” -the Executive Summary of the Feasibility Study and a summary of TCDC and MRRAI / KRRRA meetings and TCDC reports to this point.

Meeting Labour weekend Sunday morning 26 October at Dunes – MRRAI MCT and KRRRA – Kevin attended on KRRRA behalf re-funding and cashflow through to construction completion has since been provided.

Geotechnical drilling works shortly to establish the location and rock integrity of the anchorage locations. Onsite karakia required prior to drilling – Ngāti Hei and Ngāti Haurere. TCDC had approached them to jointly carry out and the karakia was held 26 October with Joe Davis, Ngāti Hei leading and Wanda Brljevich, Ngāti Huarere a waiata. Joe Davis had not seen material from Peter and Shelley and on seeing material had a detailed discussion with Kevin, Dan and Nick (consultants).

Drill rig starting 12 Nov – 14 Nov – 3 holes proposed – eastern abutment mast and tie back and potentially at the western abutment. If not, a large rock sample has been obtained for testing from the western abutment. Extent of blocking off described. Cultural observation will happen by both iwi.

Flemming Rasmussen has been nominated by the Mayor to advocate / progress the project within TCDC. He had received the Feasibility Study and the Financial briefing Powerpoint. Agenda is for this bridge to become a TCDC asset. Brent Page met with Kevin on 11 November in the café for a briefing to see if he was interested in being part of any Kuaotunu participation in upcoming stages.

Tenders have been assessed and currently queries underway for RFS 1 – the Whole of Life cost and Track condition Assessment. Discussions with TCDC to rescope for better budget fit underway on Dean Allen return from UK.

5.5 SH25 Gabion Wall

Refer 26 August and 7 October minutes for background.

Recent Events

Kevin outlined the rock revetment proposed by NZTA with provision for a level footpath above using diagrams from the Options Report obtained from the consultant. Slope will extend c 8.5m out over the rock platform and will result in difficulty at low and mid tides accessing along the beach on the rocks – resulting in access required alongside SH25 at most tides.

NZTA have noted that a replacement gabion wall is not acceptable in this exposed wave action environment any more as such structures have limited design life (in this case c12 years not 50 years). Kevin outlined other options of rock bags like east of the boat ramp (only 30 years).

Noted that this was part of the only off leash dog walking area at Kuaotunu and now no continuity. Walking level area part way down slope above hightide is not feasible due to boulder sizes and it would then extend the slope out further seaward. Discussion as to possible eastern sidling track up c 5m height to SH25 proposed in email by Kevin to Ryan Boyle 7 Nov.

Discussion on track down by the layby to the eastern sand beach. Steve noted that seafood / kina traditional gathering access is also compromised.

Noted that NZTA is only proposing a level surface at the top (for a future footpath)

Letter to this effect received 7 November from NZTA saying our input be considered as design progresses and “where it can be incorporated without compromising safety, structural performance or the approved scope”.

Detail design is being delivered to NZTA mid-November and intent from NZTA is to consult with Community as they are doing the Resource Consenting application (mid-January) not Beca.

Action – Kevin to write to NZTA to advise outcome of this meeting discussion and advising the dog walking bylaws – (Done 21 Nov) and to state we requested a review and presentation of options.

5.6 Infrastructure Updates

Refer 26 August and 7 October minutes for background.

Update received from new TCDC Roading Manager 11 November by Kevin.

- Blackjack Road – Slip Village Entrance – going for financial approval to proceed with design and tendering mid Dec meeting of Council. 51 % of funding is from Govt but TCDC have to spend 100% to then get reimbursed 51%. In competition with other projects that also happened in the same May weather event.
- Blackjack Road 0.477km – tender awarded – Nick Pemberton Hamilton - work start date 19 January. TCDC awaiting temporary traffic management plan – stop/go.

5.7 Speed Limit Reduction Progress

Refer 26 August and 7 October minutes for background.

Recent events

- Positive indication from NZTA on the reduction to 50 km/hr both sections of SH25
- Kuaotunu biggest polling and c 70% in favour of all 9 regions in the consultation
- Approval by Director of Land Transport underway – and then Minister and gazetting
- Likely 50km/hr signage erected before Xmas.

5.8 Community Project Proposals Updates

5.8.1 Bus Shelter at Blackjack Reserve

Refer 10 June minutes for background.

Chris noted his enquiries had concluded the bus shelter was likely only to be used on a Wednesday dure to school bus schedule supporting various school programmes and therefore not enough usage to warrant a bus stop structure. Proposal not to proceed as a result.

5.8.2 Telecoms - Fibre Connection Waitaia / Pumpkin Flat / Cemetery Road area

Refer 26 August and 7 October minutes for background.

Limited progress made on the subject to date. Chris to write a Newsletter article for the December issue outlining issues and exploring public support.

Action carried forward:

Chris to develop up the proposal and do Newsletter article for a future issue.

5.8.3 Momentum Mercury Bay Charitable Fund

Kevin attended the launch of Momentum Mercury Bay Charitable Fund at the Hangar in Whitianga on 15 October. Sir Stephen Tindall as keynote speaker, new Mayor, Peter Revell and John Grant there as well as Aileen Lawrie TCDC CEO.

Purpose – launch of funding programme for Community projects with a multigenerational outcome funded by endowment funds. 2 families (Hopper and Farmer) have already made substantial donations. Bluff Road Connectivity Project- the bridge build and track maintenance contribution could benefit from such a fund. Brent Page proposed ringing Lee Hopper on possibilities of the fund's involvement.

Action: **Kevin** to discuss with Mark Bedford next steps

5.9 Newsletter Content

Next Newsletter proposed as mid-December – deadline for articles 28 November – refer Ian Preece email for schedule. Articles to be gathered and written by Committee members and forwarded to Ian cc all members.

5.10 KRRR Website Updating

Minutes need loading, Agendas need loading.

Ian unable to do too much more to update Business websites and looking for others to support Chris indicated he would be prepared to assist and would liaise with Ian to progress, Kevin asked for various items to be uploaded e.g 26 August minutes and a Bluff Road Connectivity tab – upload TCDC project page website and will forward to Chris. Steve noted Survey 2026 and results going forward are to be uploaded onto the website.

Action – Chris to advance the above in consultation with Ian.

5.11 Committee Sharing of Workload

Steve outlined the extent of work done over many of the issues KRRR following and it was taking significant time of Kevin (infrastructure type work), Ian and Steve and Dani (Cemetery Road) and Steffie (Treasurer). Gael is not available unfortunately due to illness.

Steve noted the urgent need to spread the load to avoid individuals burning out. We need to form subcommittees to share the workload and address other issues that we are missing (Blackjack Reserve boat ramp, yachts washed up near Kingfisher Way) etc

Kevin noted there needs to be someone beyond him to assist in advancing Stage 2 footpaths now that the speed limit reduction has been achieved. Noted he is happy to be part of it but

there needs to be more assistance to help with the infrastructure scope and there needs to be a Volunteer Work Life balance and more proactive resources added.

Committee suggested that we needed particular skills and these may not be present in the Committee - Steve suggested there may be others in the community who have such skills and interests and could be seconded to help Kevin.

Isabel wanted to list local project items – agreed Artspace was in hand.

Kevin noted we need to have people writing their own RFS to TCDC to supplement KRRR work – as he got Gray Ave Culvert 53 Bluff Road (Janice Burns) to do so.

Agreed to put up on KRRR Website – how to do a RFS and provide a link - add to Facebook.

Steve noted Kevin's main objectives – Bluff Road Connectivity and Gabion wall and there would be capacity found for footpaths.

Action

All – to think of the community resources that could help on Infrastructure – Footpaths and identify other projects and resources to assist on them and advise ideas to Steve.

Steve – to provide a RFS how to on Facebook.

Chris - to investigate providing a link on KRRR website for RFS format.

Dani – to enquire of TCDC re Blackjack reserve boat ramp status.

5.12 Community Survey 2026 – Kevin noted this was an objective and noted we need to think about who would be leading and in the team. Kevin noted he had not got the capacity and was happy to review but not drive. Steve proposed to discuss with Ian leading that / Kevin noted Survey Monkey resource provided by Rochelle Chant willing to be co-opted. Plan to do a survey before Easter 2026.

Action

Steve – discuss with Ian how Community Survey 2026 is resourced.

5.13 KRRR Meeting Dates going forward.

- No December meeting
- No public meeting in January – as most information is in the Newsletter. Ask people for feedback in the Newsletter.
- February 3rd, 2026.
- March 3rd 2026.
- AGM - Easter Monday April 6, 2026.

6. Upcoming Meetings / KRRR attendance

next MBCB meeting – 4 Feb 2026, 29 April, 3 June 2026

TCDC Full Council meetings – 24 Feb, 24 March, 23 April, 26 May 2026

Mercury Bay North Community Chairs – TBC - Whitianga MBCB room

7. Watching briefs:

- Road Safety – SH25 Speed Management submission to NZTA
- KESG Preparation for next emergency event / Civil Defence equipment supplied.
- Traffic Calming Village - next steps - gateway graphic and other improvements.
- Infrastructure works – Gray Ave Culvert Bluff Road/ Blackjack Rd – village entrance
- Fast Track projects affecting Kūaotunu – Waitaia Road forestry and OceanaGold Resource consent Owera Road
- Website update

Next meeting: Tuesday 3 February – 6.30pm Library Irishtown Road

Roimata provided a karakia to close the meeting.

Meeting closed: 8.05 pm approx.

ACTION SUMMARY 11 November 2025 (carried over from current & previous minutes)

who	What	done? As at 28/1/26
Steve	• Contact and Draft reply to Anne Walmsley re: Bluff Road Connectivity	Pending
	• Resolve last issue re text of the notification of the SGM & Identify new date and book hall (new date 9 Feb) (Item 5.1)	Pending
	• Forward agreed KRRR Community Plan priorities to MBCB Richard by 18 Nov (Item 5.3)	Done
	• Provide a note and link on how to do a RFS to Ketchup (Item 5.11)	Pending
	• Discuss with Ian how Community Survey 2026 is resourced. (Item 5.12)	Pending
	• Continue to monitor TCDC Consent Tracker re Cemetery Rd.	Ongoing
Kevin	• Follow up Mark Bedford on the next steps / timeline for Suspension Bridge project.	ongoing
	• Follow-up Dean Allen / Luke Archbold TCDC on progress / timeframes Geotech / Planning offers and TCDC funding being brought forward for Whole of Life Track costs project.	Pending
	• Bluff Road / Gray Ave culvert – Dune damage – followup TCDC refreshing KRRR Request and noting their undertaking for action before FYE 24 (30 June 2025)	Ongoing
	• Contact Beca / NZTA re SH25 gabion replacement design of revetment slope, walkable area adjacent highway and beach access issues. (Item 5.5)	Done 21 Nov and Ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluff Rd Connectivity - Kevin to discuss with Mark Bedford next steps re Momentum Mercury Bay finding for the bridge. (Item 5.8.3). • Send Chris various Minutes for website upload and TCDC Bluff Connectivity project page link. • Resolve with Steve and Ian last issue re text of the notification of the SGM. 	<p>Pending</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Pending</p>
Chris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter article for Copper termination / Fibre - Waitaia / Pumpkin Flat / Valley to seek interest in groups and apply for connection. • Website update – meet with Ian Preece on business updates and upload minutes Kevin will send thru • Investigate providing a link on KRRR website for RFS format 	<p>Done</p> <p>Pending</p> <p>Done</p>
Ian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Chris re aspects of website that Chris can assist 	<p>Pending</p>
Dani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor TCDC Consent Tracker re Cemetery Road. • Encourage Cemetery Road residents to become members. • Enquiry re Blackjack reserve boat ramp status to TCDC (TCDC contact Tanya Patrick) 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Pending</p>
Marguerite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Followup with Resource Recovery Centre – for them to write a Newsletter article 	<p>Done</p>
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Community Plan items review and provide feedback to Steve. • Consider resources to share Committee workload within Committee and External to the Committee (Item 5.11) and advise ideas to Steve. • Regular check of correspondence in webmail - • Ideas of Revamp of website /incremental improvements to Ian 	<p>Done sent 18.11.25</p> <p>Pending</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

