

Kūaotunu Residents and Ratepayers' Association
Minutes of Committee Meeting
held at the Library, Isabel Gilbert Palmer's house, Irishtown Road, Kūaotunu
3 February 2026

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, Ian, Steffi, Dani, Gael, Marguerite and Kevin (minutes)

Quorum met (7): 6 required.

Apologies : Isabel, Roimata, Chris received

Public: no public attendance

1. Minutes:

Minutes of the previous Committee meeting 11 November 2025 reviewed.

Minutes confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Marguerite Muellers

Seconded: Steffi Hamman-Evans

Passed

2. Matters arising from the 11 November 2025 minutes:

Running through the Action Plan included in the 11 November minutes.

- Dani noted that WRC LGOIMA material underway re 4 Cemetery Road subdivision (since received)
- Blackjack Reserve Boat ramp – TCDC have advised they don't intend to do anything to upgrade it – and given the condition of the access road with a significant underslip of the foreshore bank rendering access too narrow for vehicles should close it.
Post meeting note: Kevin has since sent photos to Tanya Patrick TCDC with a note to this effect and a barrier erected at the start.
- One boat for removal opposite Kingfisher Way remains – owner notified to remove.

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

3. Correspondence:

No Correspondence outstanding. Many items in Dropbox are covered by agenda items.

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

Re Correspondence with Anne Walmsley - Steve contacted her and corrected her misunderstandings re: Bluff Road Connectivity and the matter is no longer active.

4. Financial Report from last report (11 November 2025) and as of 3 February 2026

4.1 Financial Report (Steffi Hammann)

Account balances: Kiwibank NOW a/c \$1,156.37 and Kiwibank On call a/c \$11,304.13.

Total: \$ 12,460.50

Income: Membership fees – \$10.00 received since last meeting YTD from 1 April 2025: \$1550

Interest for period from 1 April 2025 – 3 February 2026 \$ 209.41 (3 months since last report)

Outgoing: No outstanding creditors.

Expenditure – 1 April – 3 February 2026 \$1,475.77 including recent \$500 donation to Te Rerenga School approved 7 October meeting.

Financial report accepted.

Moved: Ian Preece

Seconded: Dani Elliston

Passed

4.2 Other Treasurer issues

Membership: 192 (as stated in the Financial Report)

Latest membership Sarah Hewitt – paid \$10 for last 2 months of this financial year – needs to pay \$10 for next financial year 1 April 2026 on

5. Items for Discussion:

5.1 Weather Event 21 22 Jan 2026 – KRRR and Organisation and Agency Responses

Steve briefed the meeting on KERG response and lessons learnt. Steve note that KERG was considered the best out of 4 Civil Defence responses on the Peninsula. He noted that Kuaotunu was identified as most proactive – 4 hrs before Whitianga. TCDC declared and extended a State of Emergency The hall was well prepared and 40 beds were available in the community. One family (travelling) was relocated. The generator was successfully fired up and the Emergency Kits deployed. The event concluded on Saturday 24 January. Committee confirmed their thanks to both Steve and KERG for their response.

Steve noted that the advantage was that there was no onshore wind and the Kuaotunu River was mouth was open and able to freely discharge. However, a number of properties were underwater and one evacuation by kayak happened. Kuaotunu River and Waitaia flood plains overtopped and unfortunately coincided with the high tide on 21 January. Cemetery Road residents were inundated and for a few properties water entered the residences. Excessive silt over properties as the waters receded and significant cleanup resulted and several insurance claims were underway. A number of land slips on private property including full water tank platforms threatening residences below.

A significant slip on SH25 west of the boat ramp from Goodall's property crossed the highway and by 7pm 21 Jan ended up as a large debris flow over the road and onto the beach and the Coastal Marine Area (CMA) and resulted in NZTA closure of SH25 for a number of days and finally opened at 7pm Wednesday 28 January.

Steve noted the following lessons learnt in the response:

- Paperwork – a heavy workload and one person needs to be assigned.
- Need for a whiteboard to track events.
- Problems in opening the Emergency Response Group Facebook page to the public (3 days approval needs changing)

- Kūaotunu Ketchup Facebook site – 100 signings as friends and family of Kuaotunu community members wanted to track the event – normal admin protocols were suspended to cope and needs review.

Donation requested of KRRA by Steve Hart on behalf of KERG for \$ 297.53 for a Whiteboard. Committee agreed that the process criteria had been met.

Decision: Committee resolved to approve the donation for \$297.53 subject to formalizing the documentation.

Action: Steve to formalize a letter to KRRA and provide invoice backup

5.2 Resilience Meeting at the Hall 18 February 6-8pm

Discussion that after the 21/22 January weather event a community event to review the response and understand the way Resilience can be enhanced in developments and Agency work in Kuaotunu – being better prepared.

Decision to run an event on 18 February at the Hall 6-8pm and invite Civil Defence, TCDC, WRC and NZTA.

Decision to invite the applicant for the 4 Cemetery Road subdivision to present and hear residents' views. Noted the issues of noncompliance with s91 and s92 timelines and deadlines need to be put to applicant. We need applicants and TCDC/ WRC to provide a timeline for decision as a key outcome.

Outcomes Steve confirmed we need answers from agencies as to what they and we should be doing to be prepared and 4 Cemetery Road process outcomes as above.

Subjects: Civil Defence response, SH25 Slips and SH25 gabion wall replacement, Kūaotunu Summit and SH25 swales and TCDC Blackjack Village entrance slip and road to Otama and floodplain and overland flow issues including swales maintenance TCDC / NZTA (community to RFS these)

Agreed KRRA Powerpoint presentation and a map to show extent of flooding – whole of catchment out to the west (camping ground was evacuated creek side to slope side) and the drone footage. Catering Potential to be discussed.

Marguerite suggested that overflows from neighbours needs to be responsibilities of these neighbours – Novaflo pipes and stability of land above others. Suggestion that agencies be asked to provide data.

Alastair Brickell's view of pushing outwash plain debris out to sea and correspondence received responded to – that it was not KRRA view and nor that of the Community 96% of whom voted that preserving the foreshore environment of Kuaotunu was as top key priority. His letter to the

Informer – it was noted that he continued to advocate his view and would likely again at the resilience meeting.

Ian - suggested Resilience preparedness be a Newsletter article.

Action:

Kevin Invite to NZTA Ryan Boyle / assist in KRRR PowerPoint presentation.

Steve Invite to WRC TCDC (Brian Taylor, Len Whittaker and Councillors) and Civil Defence / FENZ. Arrange meeting book hall / Develop KRRR presentation for the Resilience Meeting

Dani / Isabel / Ian – explore connections to obtain projector and screen.

Ian – assist in KRRR PowerPoint presentation.

Dani – develop up a map showing extent of flooding.

5.3 KRRR Community Priorities and MBCB response

Steve outlined what was sent 18 Nov to MBCB and further met with Kim Abrahamson our priorities focused on Annual Plan review and LTP funding items – footpaths, maintenance of overland flow paths and floodplains and maintenance of reserves, foreshore and coastal environs and coastal dune and back dunes projects are supported by TCDC collaboratively with residents and iwi.

Kevin to represent this at the MBCB meeting on 4 February.

All other items we need MBCB support rather than specific funding.

LTP timeline – Consultation process starts in July – and preparations after Annual Plan review completed and Annual Plan reviewed confirmed 24 Feb.

5.4 MBCB Meeting 4 Feb & inputs to LTP – incl. footpaths Strategy Actions

Agreed: **Kevin** to present on Footpaths to be input into the Annual Plan or LTP and the balance of the funding after an internal upgrade (sanitary ware etc.) be reallocated from the Convenience upgrade budget LTP FY 27/28 or have an out of cycle budget transfer. Our proposal is to be seen to assist TCDC in current rates constraints environment by reallocating funds.

Identify Kūaotunu West to the boat ramp to be advanced first to provide possibly additional length associated with the NZTA gabion wall replacement. Pitch is to take the unique opportunity of the gabion wall replacement and horizontal 4m wide – 40m long section footpath formation for TCDC to build the footpath or to take the opportunity of extending areas. Possibly the 80m slip west of the boat ramp when outwash is removed would require a similar revetment where the footpath could also be provided. Second aspect is the LTP 27-37 to get village to Waitaia footpaths and this may be possible with a change of government and walking and cycling policy.

Kevin noted he had obtained from Heather Bruce the 2018-2028 LTP data that TCDC used on footpath budgets in that Plan – monies since disappeared from subsequent LTPs.

Blackjack Road village entrance slip repair – relates to last link Waitaia to the Village. Need a separate barriered off area from the one-way system. Photos of traffic and pedestrians / cyclists will be included in the submission upload.

Action:

Kevin to attend 4 Feb MBCB meeting and present on two subjects.

Kevin to assess data on footpaths from LTP 2018-2028 to inform LTP 27-37 KRRRA funding requests.

5.5 Infrastructure Updates and Actions:

5.5.1 NZTA slip outwash removal west of boat ramp.

Currently c2500m³ material sitting in the Coastal Marine Area (CMA). NZTA priority to clear the highway and offered to clear the beach for WRC with their equipment. No response from WRC and equipment was needed elsewhere. WRC is still deciding what to do.

NZTA hoped the edge of the road could be stabilised under Emergency work with a rock revetment if that was found needed after the debris material was removed.

5.5.2 SH25 Gabion Wall Replacement

Resource Consent application made 20 January (actual date was 29 January incorporating commentary regarding the 21 22 January weather event). Concern at delays in processing may miss the mid-April – June window. Penguin moulting season is the reason for waiting till mid-April. NZTA say that penguins identified between the boat ramp and the gabion site – and this is the route of construction equipment. No lizards identified.

Kevin and Steve had marked out using orange dazzle the extent – about 9m out from the existing face of the gabion. Extent 40m in effect to pohutukawa at the eastern end.

Ian noted Forest and Bird concerns – steepness of banks on sides, public access at the top, is it possible to have habitat holes for penguins. Concern at dogs off leash danger to penguin.

Horizontal section – NZTA will reestablish the original formation (i.e., horizontal) in their 20 Jan letter and Kevin had noted this then needs retaining c 400mm high by rocks. NZTA noted Access up from the beach will not be in the scope – The funding only permits replacement of the wall like for like and currently no access up.

5.5.3 Kūaotunu Hill Summit slip

Kevin noted second design failed and target 9 Feb for assessment of the eastern side and southwestern corner. Likely one-way for some time.

5.5.4 Seavill Park Rd slip (Steve / Kevin)

Kevin described events and RFS in getting TCDC to action the coning off the kerb and channeling slumping and requesting an asphalt bund to divert stormwater away from the slip

crack. The walkway to Bluff Road now cordoned off after Sheryl Abbot RFS regarding loss of metal and steep slippery surface.

5.5.5 Blackjack Road Slip – Temporary one-way traffic safety and retaining wall repair

Correspondence to acting Roothing Manager Len Whittaker re road safety lack of one way and poor sight distance and provision for walkers / cyclists from Waitaia – see Item 5.4
Also, the retaining wall solution to be requested.

5.5.6 Kūaotunu Village River Footbridge Closure

Steve described the issues of post flood low level water revealing that one pile – downstream closes to the village side bank had over half its cross section eroded away. TCDC notified, inspected, the bridge closed and repaired with a splice section of pile and loading reduced to two pedestrians at a time. Steve described his Saturday morning efforts to get the bridge to be opened 30 minutes with signage stating the reduced loading just before a wedding in the hall and the memorial service for Ian Simpson.

TCDC comms department have agreed to do it for Friday - leaving on that day without providing signage and on Saturday morning Steve got Green by Nature to access Whitianga office and bring out the signage. Remainder of piles to be inspected this week – bridge has been inspected and confirmed as ok and since reopened to full loadings.

Action:

Kevin to maintain correspondence with TCDC and NZTA progressing each of the 5.5.1- 5.5.5 items

5.6 KRRRA Constitution Change Special General Meeting (SGM)

Decision made by Executive Committee to carry out the Special General Meeting at 5pm on February 9.

Given the vote has already approved the change and the re-registration of KRRRA with MBIE for incorporated Societies Act 2022 – No new vote. Decision is to have a simple majority the Ayes and Nos to adopt the new constitution and submit it to MBIE as part of a re-registration of KRRRA under the new Incorporated Societies 2022 Act. Confirming we still use 1 October voting figures.

Notification via poster on Noticeboard, Mailchimp and Facebook sent by 26 Jan (last calendar day). Copies of the Constitution and the changes (red and blue text) indicating the MBIE and KRRRA changes.

Action:

Steve: explain process to the meeting and Chair.

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

5.7 Community Survey 2026

Community survey to actioned after the AGM by the new Committee. Ian can build April / May.

Kevin requested a Subcommittee to develop the questions led by Ian. Rochelle Chant could be a resource.

Action:

Steve and Ian – establish a Subcommittee to start on survey questions post AGM

All - Consider being part of Community Survey Committee

5.8 Newsletter Content

Next Newsletter proposed as after the Resilience Meeting. List of Contents by Friday 6 Feb – priority weather events, Cemetery Road application developments and Resilience meeting and Resilience preparedness be a Newsletter article. Also, article on RFS directions on website. Target is before Ian goes late February. Articles to be gathered and written by Committee members and forwarded to Ian cc all members.

All: suggest content to Ian re Newsletter for 6 Feb

5.9 KRRR Website Update

Year ending 31 March 2026 - Minutes need loading, Agendas need loading – not done Kevin sent all mid-November.

Ian provided a paper on the future form of the website. Currently 45 live pages and these are not maintained – no resource Ian or Chris. Information is in general unreliable, in general the website that is now a Legacy website. Other forms of media have overtaken it.

4 options – turn it off or edit the current site (no resource), turn off all links to pages that are old or Ian's suggestion top-down redesign – simplify to 5 pages.

We need a succession proof website that can be easily maintained.

Agendas, Minutes, Newsletter need to be key items on it.

6. AOB

6.1 Speed reduction update

Awaiting timeline for 50km/hr road markings – painting “5”.

Entry signage and red threshold options submitted to NZTA – pictures of options shown – Coromandel NZTA standard shown – funding.

or

General agreement the TCDC Signage north of Colville at Oamaru Bay was favoured for its red threshold and Welcome statement preferred

Jane Thompson since left NZTA - Replacement is Stephanie Slattery – Kevin is in contact.

6.2 Thank you to NZ Police re Weather event 21/ 22 January.

Thank you to Andrew Morrison NZ Police Whitianga from KERG for work on clearing slips on Kūaotunu Hill and setting out cones and barriers on SH25 Kūaotunu west of the boat ramp - outside his police scope on his days off.

7. KRRA Meeting Dates going forward.

- March 3rd 2026.
- AGM – Date TBA possibly relocated to 26 April 2026 Anzac weekend Sunday rather than Easter Monday April 6, 2026.

8. Upcoming Meetings / KRRA 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

9. 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 10 March – 6.30pm Library Irishtown Road

Meeting closed: 8.15 pm approx.

ACTION SUMMARY 3 February 2026 (carried over from current & previous minutes)

who	What	Done as of 25 Feb 2026
Steve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formalize a letter to KRRA and provide invoice backup for Whiteboard purchase donation to KERG.• Resolve last issue re text of the notification of the SGM & Identify new date and book hall (new date 9 Feb)• Provide a note on how to do an RFS to Ketchup and add link.• Discuss with Ian how Community Survey 2026 is resourced and establish a SubCommittee. (Item 5.7)• Continue to monitor TCDC Consent Tracker re Cemetery Rd.• Arrange meeting book hall / Develop KRRA presentation for the Resilience Meeting / invite TCDC, CD and WRC	Pending Done Pending Pending Ongoing Done
Kevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain correspondence with TCDC and NZTA progressing each of the infrastructure items 5.5.1-5.5.5• Bluff Road / Gray Ave culvert – Dune damage – followup TCDC refreshing KRRA Request and noting their undertaking for action before FYE 24 (30 June 2025)	Ongoing Ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up with NZTA re SH25 gabion replacement design of revetment slope, walkable area adjacent highway and beach access issues. (Item 5.5) • Resent Ian cc 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. • Develop KRRRA presentation for the Resilience Meeting / invite Ryan Boyle NZTA • Attend 4 Feb MBCB meeting and present on two subjects – footpaths and Blackjack Road village entrance safety and retaining wall. • Assess data on footpaths from the LTP 2018-2028 to inform LTP 27-37 KRRRA funding requests. • Speed reduction road markings and threshold treatment and signage at Kūaotunu entrances – (Item 6.1) follow up with NZTA Stephanie Slattery. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Done 24 Feb</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Pending</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
Chris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website update – meet with Ian Preece on business updates and upload minutes Kevin will send thru • Investigate providing a link on KRRRA website for RFS format – located under General information. • Include article on how / link on location on website of the RFS format 	<p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Pending</p>
Ian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Chris re aspects of website that Chris can assist. • Discuss with Steve the subcommittee for the survey to be initiated after the AGM (Item 5.7) • Newsletter draft contents (Item 5.8) • Develop the format of the KRRRA Website upgrade (Item 5.9) 	<p>Pending</p> <p>Pending</p> <p>Pending</p> <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) • Develop map showing extent of flooding for resilience meeting 18 Feb 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Done</p>

All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest content to lan re Newsletter for 6 Feb • Consider resources to share Committee workload within Committee and External to the Committee and advise ideas to Steve. • Consider being part of Community Survey Committee • Regular check of correspondence in webmail - • Ideas of Revamp of website /incremental improvements to lan 	<p>Pending Pending</p> <p>Pending Ongoing Ongoing</p>
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