

# Pāuatahanui Residents Association

## Minutes of Committee Meeting



Date of meeting:	13 May 2025
Time:	7.30pm
Venue:	483 Paekākāriki Hill Road (Jo's Home)
Present	Ken McAdam [Chairperson] Diane Strugnell [Secretary] Jo Cross [Treasurer] Stephanie Manning Richard Bourne Mary Jones Pim Engels
In Attendance	Lisa Dymond Cr Josh Trlin 8.30 - 9.30pm
Apologies	Micky Reilly Cr Nathan Waddle

Item	Minutes
1. Welcome	Ken welcomed attendees to the meeting.
2. Apologies	Apologies were noted.
3. Approval of Previous Minutes	<b>Motion:</b> That the minutes from the previous Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025 are a true and correct record. <b>Moved:</b> Jo <b>Seconded:</b> Mary <b>Carried</b>
4. Matters Arising	It was agreed that all matters and action items arising would be addressed within the agenda.
5. Treasurer's Report	Jo presented the Treasurer's report for April.  PRA General a/c \$7133.97 includes:- PRA \$5453.34 Pest Free Pāuatahanui \$880.78 Freshwater Catchment \$799.85  History a/c \$8555.27 History term deposit \$12,724.27

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	<p>Transactions PRA a/c Income Interest \$3.44 Subs \$220.00</p> <p>Expenses Bank fees \$10</p> <p>History a/c Income Book sales \$42.25 Interest income \$4.22</p> <p><b>6. Councillor's Report</b></p> <p>Cr Josh Trlin presented a Councillor's report.</p> <p>He noted that, following a consultation period, Council has recently passed new bylaws for Local Alcohol Policy and the Keeping of Animals. Changes to the Local Alcohol Policy have been aimed at reducing alcohol harm by setting some priority areas within the City. The new bylaws are more restrictive for off-licence premises but not for on-licence premises (bars and restaurants) that support the City's hospitality sector.</p> <p>The changes to the Keeping of Animals bylaw</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are more permissive regarding the keeping of bees in urban areas</li> <li>- require mandatory microchipping and desexing of cats. It was noted that Council will not require cats to be registered with the Council and so the enforcement of these measures will be difficult</li> </ul> <p>The oral submissions for the 2025/26 Annual Plan &amp; Local Water Done Well are to be heard at the Council meeting on Thursday 22 May.</p> <p><b>7. Topical Issues</b></p> <p><b>LIM reports &amp; Flood Hazard Mapping</b></p> <p>Mary tabled a report outlining the actions the Committee has been taking to address Council's use of inaccurate flood hazard maps on residents' LIM reports, the effects that these are having on residents and the challenges these residents are facing in getting some resolution with Council. PRA's actions include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- meetings with landowners regarding the information held by Council on their properties</li> <li>- writing to Hon Simon Watts, Minister for Local Government, outlining the difficulties being experienced by residents due to Council's interpretation of Section 44A of the Local Government Official Information &amp; Meetings Act 1987. PRA has asked the Minister if it is the intent of the Act that Council should use the most recent mapping in LIMs, irrespective of its very poor quality and very evident inaccuracies. The Mana Member of Parliament, Barbara Edmonds, was copied into this letter and has expressed an interest in the matter</li> <li>- making an Official Information request to Council asking for more information on the inaccurate maps being used for LIM reports including when the maps were produced, for what purpose, by whom and what the rationale has been for their inclusion</li> </ul> <p>The Committee will continue to actively support the actions being taken by residents seeking to resolve the issues related to their properties whilst also pursuing the collective issues arising through Council's use of Section 44A LGOIM Act 1987 as justification for including maps on LIM reports that are known to be inaccurate and of poor quality.</p>

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	<p>PRA is also helping to facilitate Wellington Water’s consultation process for flood hazard mapping in the Horokiri and Kakaho catchments. Note: The flood hazard mapping for the Pāuatahanui Stream catchment has already been completed so is not included in this consultation process. A meeting was held on Monday 12 May at which Wellington Water presented draft maps of the flood hazard modelling for the Horokiri and Kakaho catchments. The meeting was very well attended by approximately 60 residents who are concerned about the accuracy of the mapping process and the effects that this will have on their properties. PRA will continue to work with Wellington Water to share the maps and information and to facilitate further consultation meetings.</p> <p><b>Esplanade Reserves &amp; Esplanade Strips</b></p> <p>The Committee discussed the response from Council to PRA’s email regarding Esplanade Reserves and Esplanade Strips in the Rural Lifestyle Zone in which it was stated “Council’s preference is to obtain Esplanade Reserves.” The Committee noted that whilst there is a requirement under the RMA for Council’s to provide for Esplanade Reserves or Esplanade Strips for subdivisions less than 4ha, the District Plan gives no indication of a preference either way. Prior to the creation of the Rural Lifestyle Zone and the ability to subdivide to less than 5ha, this was not an issue. PRA considers that Council should be presenting both options equally to landowners who wish to subdivide and that Council’s stance is acting as a disincentive to subdivision. It also acts as a barrier to landowners who wish to take responsibility for the care of the waterways on their land. The Committee will continue to follow up with Council on this matter.</p> <p><b>State Highway 58 Safety Upgrade</b></p> <p>No further information has been received since the announcement from the Minister for Transport that construction of the final stage of the SH58 Safety Upgrade will begin later this year.</p> <p><b>Transmission Gully</b></p> <p>As the responsibility for completion of the Transmission Gully project is now with Waka Kotahi/NZTA PRA wrote to Craig Nicholson, Principal Project Manager, Transmission Gully PPP, suggesting a meeting to discuss how Waka Kotahi/NZTA intends to address the consenting conditions to the satisfaction of residents and Porirua City Council.</p> <p>Craig responded that RMA compliance is a matter between NZTA (as the consent and designation holder) and the Council (as regulator) so they don’t consider a joint meeting with PRA would be appropriate although they are happy for PRA to raise any issues or concerns for them and/or PCC to consider.</p> <p>In response to specific queries, the following responses were received:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NZTA is responsible for completing the project. They expect the TG O&amp;M contractor, Ventia, will do most of the remaining work, once they have “packaged it up”.</li> <li>- Regarding the roundabouts at the Pāuatahanui interchange, a design has now been received to reconfigure the interchange as a ‘peanut’ permanently (i.e. filling in the cones off areas with solid islands), including modifying the map signage to reflect the revised layout. Once the design has been reviewed and approved, they will then engage Ventia to construct it, expecting the work to be completed within the next few months.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>

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7. Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regarding Lanes Flat, they are intending to remove the spoil “mounds” next construction season (i.e. summer 2025/2026 and then to complete the shared path around the stream (and the bridge connecting across the stream to Whitby and Pāuatahanui village) and the landscape planting.</li> <li>- NZTA have been working with PCC to assess the required extent of local road rehabilitation, which primarily relates to Paekākāriki Hill Road (since CPBHEB paid for repairs to Flightys Road previously, during and after they used it as a haul road), but there are several issues still to resolve before agreement is reached, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the cause of the culvert failure in Pāuatahanui village (which NZTA consider is caused by water scour, not by TG traffic);</li> <li>- whether any of the spoil from Lanes Flat will be taken up Paekākāriki Hill Road to the fill site at the ex-Toomey property;</li> <li>- when the work should be programme to minimise disruption to residents and road users (including the various forestry users);</li> <li>- what the appropriate/required extent of pavement repairs is; and</li> <li>- what portion of the costs should be borne by NZTA (noting that they acknowledge that TG traffic is the main cause of damage to the northbound lane, but forestry traffic (not TG traffic) is the main cause of damage to the southbound lane).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>2025/26 Annual Plan</b></p> <p>PRA submitted on the 2025/26 Annual Plan. The written submission noted that “whilst reductions in rates are always welcome to present this as good news seemed disingenuous. Residents were asked to submit on minimal options with little indication within the accompanying reports of what the impacts would be on future rates i.e. will there be a "compensatory" increase next year?” Members of the Committee will be presenting an oral submission to the Council meeting on Thursday 22 May.</p>
	<p><b>Public Burial Ground</b></p> <p>A report from Micky was tabled:- Another successful and well attended working bee was held on Saturday 10 May. The PBG is in very good order with just some path clearing remaining to be done after mulch has been scuffed out by rabbits etc. The roses and plots are looking good. There has been no recent damage to the PBG itself (e.g. no rubbish left or damage to the shed). They have been advised that Plimmerton Rotary intends to include the PBG on its Garden Trail for November and are providing background information to Rotary as well as advice on timing, parking and access.</p> <p><b>Pest Free Pāuatahanui</b></p> <p>Jo reported that the last two attempts to hold a meeting for Pest Free Pāuatahanui were unsuccessful, the first due to the number of people unable to attend and the second due to extreme weather conditions. The next meeting for Pest Free Pāuatahanui is scheduled for Thursday 29 May. Jo and Diane are working on a new flyer for Pest Free Pāuatahanui and the Freshwater Catchment Community.</p> <p><b>Freshwater Catchment Community</b></p> <p>Diane reported that, following on from the eDNA sampling on the Pāuatahanui Stream (November 2023) and the eDNA workshop (May 2024), Mountains to Sea Wellington ran a spotlighting session in the Pāuatahanui Stream at the Judgeford Golf Club on the evening of Wednesday 7 May. The event was well attended.</p>

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<b>8. General Business</b>	<p><b>Village Community Placemaking</b> Nothing to report</p>
	<p><b>Willowbank Quarry Community Liaison Group</b> Nothing to report</p>
	<p><b>Annual General Meeting</b> The Annual General Meeting for 2025 will be held on Tuesday 10 June at Judgeford Golf Club. Don Robertson, Past Chief Executive, Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC) has been invited as guest speaker. AREC is the public service arm of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters (NZART). Following on from last year's speaker, Whetū Bennett, Wellington Region Emergency Management Office, Don will speak on how the emergency communication works in the event of a disaster i.e. how Police, SARS, Ambulance, Air ambulance, Defence Force, Civil Defence, Maritime, WREMO and AREC interface, how this will integrate with the Pāuatahanui Emergency Hub at the school and how the community can use radio communications in the event of an emergency.</p>
	<p><b>WREMO Regional Exercise</b> On 8 March there was the Emergency Hub Practice, run by Whetū Bennett, Community Resilience &amp; Recovery Advisor, Wellington Region Emergency Management Office, at the school. On 7 May this was followed by a regional exercise focusing on radio communications with WREMO and emergency responders. Diane participated via radio, adding two rural scenarios to the exercise. PRA has now been loaned 4 radios to trial in different locations. Pim and Diane will liaise with those residents who volunteered radio assistance to help determine how best to meet the communication responses for rural residents in the event of a disaster or significant emergency. This will also include working with road groups to ensure each road has some radio communication capability.</p>
	<p><b>Engine Braking</b> A member of the Council Transport team was asked to investigate whether there could be a "no engine braking" area, with appropriate signage, in the Village, and report back to PRA. No further response has been received so this will be followed up.</p>
	<p><b>Riparian Planting</b> Council has removed some of the larger willows and carried out other weed control in the area between the road, Lighthouse carpark and the Pāuatahanui Stream. This work has been done in preparation for the riparian planting that will be done this winter.</p> <p><b>Greater Wellington Plan Change 1</b> The third hearing stream for Greater Wellington's Plan Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan is due to be held 26 May - 30 May. This hearing stream covers rural land use activities, vegetation clearance, forestry and earthworks. PRA had made a written submission based on the potential impact that the proposed rules would have on rural lifestyle properties. These rules included the requirement for lifestyle blocks of 4-20 hectares to be registered with the Regional Council, to provide information on stocking rates and to have a nitrogen risk assessment. However it is now recommended within the hearing reports that these rules are deleted, thereby "removing a regulatory obligation on up to 757 property owners in the area covered by Plan Change 1 (which includes Wellington, Hutt and Upper Hutt Cities as well as Porirua)", noting that effectiveness of the rule was not assured and monitoring and compliance "would be problematic." With the removal of these rules it was agreed that PRA</p>

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	<p>will not make an oral submission at the hearing.</p> <p>It is noted that the proposed rules for rural properties over 20 ha are still within the scope of the hearing as are rules related to other issues, including erosion, sediment loss, E.coli and earthworks, which will apply to all rural properties regardless of size.</p> <p><b>Harris Road &amp; Unformed Legal Roads</b></p> <p>PRA was contacted regarding an increase in unfamiliar vehicles using Harris Road and subsequent concerns over security in the area. This led to furthering earlier discussions regarding increased security issues for rural properties and possible measures that could be taken including signage and the possible use of cameras in some areas. There was also discussion regarding the unformed sections of some roads, including Harris Road, which are still legal roads. There are a number of these ULRs across Pāuatahanui and Ken explained that unless these are completely landlocked they are unlikely to be closed. PRA will consider the wider security issues across the rural roads to ascertain whether there are solutions that PRA can assist with.</p> <p><b>PRA Constitution</b></p> <p>PRA is an incorporated society and a registered charity and, as such, must now meet the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. This will require PRA to re-register with the NZ Companies Office before 5 April 2026. To continue to operate as a Society PRA must update the Society's rules to a constitution with new mandatory sections, including for membership, meetings, records and dispute resolution. Using the Societies website Constitution Builder, a new draft constitution document has been created, merging the existing PRA Rules with the new mandatory requirements. This has been circulated to the Committee for initial checking. Once the draft has been approved by the Committee a copy will be circulated to all members. This will need to be followed by a Special General Meeting to formally adopt the new constitution.</p>
9. Correspondence	<p>The following correspondence was noted</p> <p>Greater Wellington Natural Resources Plan - Plan Change 1 Hearings  Whetū Bennett, WREMO - Porirua Emergency Operations Centre exercise  Andrew Frazer - Village Culvert  Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet (GOPI) - April Newsletter  Don Robertson, Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC)  Shona Cooling - Harris Road access  Paul Nation - Harris Road access  Te Wāhi Tiaki Tātou, Porirua Health Reform  Rex Aubrey - Civil Defence radio training  Craig Nicholson, Principal Project Manager, NZTA - Transmission Gully consent conditions  Rob McIntyre - Pāuatahanui to Paekākāriki Recreation Trail  Alistair Osborne, Team Lead, Drainage Modelling, Wellington Water - Flood hazard mapping consultation  Hon Simon Watts, Minister for Local Government - Flood Hazard mapping &amp; Section 44A LGOIM Act  Barbara Edmonds, MP Mana - Flood Hazard mapping &amp; Section 44A LGOIM Act  Andrew Anderson - Proposed District Plan</p> <p>PCC - Helen Oram, Manager Climate &amp; Environmental Planning - Flood hazard mapping  Dougal Morrison, Riparian Operations Advisor - Riparian planting  Policy Team - 2025/26 Annual Plan &amp; Local Water Done Well consultation</p>

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	<p>Mayor - Flood Hazard mapping, Request for Communication with Hon Simon Watts, Minister for Local Government</p> <p>PCC - Roothing PCC Democratic Services – Council meeting documents, Council consultations</p> <p><b>To Community</b> April Minutes 2025/26 Annual Plan &amp; Local Water Done Well consultation Road notifications Flood Hazard mapping consultation</p> <p>Total emails inwards 225 Total emails outwards 153</p>

**10. Meeting Close** 10.00 pm

**11. Next Committee Meeting** To be advised

**Approved by:** **Ken McAdam**  
Chairperson,  
Pāuatahanui Residents Association Management Committee