

Pāuatahanui Residents Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting



Date of meeting:	14 November 2023
Time:	7.30pm
Venue:	21 Paekakariki Hill Road (Anna's Home)
Present	Ken McAdam [Chairperson] Diane Strugnell [Secretary] Anna Dellow Micky Reilly Laurie Watkins Richard Bourne
In Attendance	Jeremy Collyns
Apologies:	Jo Cross [Treasurer] Stephanie Manning Cr Josh Trlin Cr Tracy Johnson

Item	Minutes
1. Welcome	Ken welcomed attendees including Jeremy Collyns who attended the rates discussion within the meeting.
2. Rates Discussion	<p>As agreed at the meeting of 1 August, the Committee set aside time at the beginning of each meeting for discussion on rates.</p> <p>Jeremy Collyns presented the Committee with information on different classes of land and how these cause confusion due to the difference in their status related to rates. He noted that he has four different land classifications - QE2 covenant, Significant Natural Areas (SNAs), Key Native Ecosystems (KNE) and production forestry. Land under a QE2 covenant is non-rated. SNAs are defined by Porirua City Council whilst KNEs are under Greater Wellington Regional Council. The land within the covenant, KNE and SNAs have some overlap. Jeremy believes that because SNAs should not qualify for rates remission as they are not surveyed and do not have the same level of protection as covenanted land. The Committee thanked Jeremy for his time and the information he presented.</p> <p>On Tuesday 7 November the Committee attended a session with Porirua City Council including Mayor Anita Baker, ward councillors Josh Trlin, Nathan Waddle, Tracy Johnson, Ross Leggett, the PCC Chief Executive and members of her staff from the Finance and Policy departments of</p>

Council. Also in attendance was David Nagel, Chief Operating Officer from Quotable Value (QV). The information presented at this meeting was discussed and used to help inform PRA's Rating Policy Review submission. These included

- Questions 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12: PRA does not have a view on these questions and considers that responses to these are up to individual respondents
- Question 4: Targeted rate for Private Stormwater/Wastewater Pipes: PRA supports leaving this targeted rate/funding facility in place. As per the [Comparison of Rates - Rural v Urban.pdf](#) from the Council presentation, under the existing rates regime, rural residents do not pay a targeted rate for stormwater / wastewater pipes. PRA considers that residents should pay for what they use and therefore this targeted rate should remain.
- Question 6: Significant Natural Areas : PRA noted that this question is poorly worded and is confusing to interpret. PRA supports the proposal to not implement a rates remission for SNAs. QV have stated that they already value an SNA as part of a property's total value and so the valuation takes into account the restrictions associated with SNAs. This is reflected in a lower land value on which the rates are set. Providing a (partial) remission to lower the rates further on the SNA portion of the land would come at a cost to Council (through decreased revenue) which would then need to be passed on to other ratepayers.
- Question 7: If Three Water Reform Occurs PRA considers this a very important question for rural ratepayers to respond to. Council proposes investigating the implementation of new targeted rates to replace part of the general rate and to remove the Rural differential for lifestyle blocks. PRA does not support this proposal and chooses Status quo. Most importantly, PRA does not believe that there should be any link between Three Waters reform and the Rural differential. PRA considers that targeted rates for Three Waters should remain (that is, people should pay for what they use), and the Rural differential for lifestyle blocks should remain.
- Question 8: Rating Differentials PRA does not support this proposal and chooses Status quo. Whilst PRA acknowledges that the impact of revaluations on the rural community has been significant, there is concern that changes to the rating group differentials (for example, removing the rural differential for lifestyle blocks) could have greater negative impacts.
- Additional explanations would be provided for Questions 9 and 10.

It was agreed that the PRA position would be shared with PRA members on the email database and that members would be encouraged to put in individual submissions.

3. Apologies

The apologies were accepted.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion: That the minutes from the previous Committee meeting held on 10 October 2023 are a true and correct record.

Moved: Anna **Seconded:** Micky **Carried**

5. Matters Arising

Plans for Lanes Flat - Diane noted that the Concept Diagram for Lanes Flat by Transmission Gully Project referenced at the last meeting was an earlier version. Subsequent checks noted that there will be no weigh facility on Lanes Flat. A correction to the minutes was sent by email on 18 October.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was tabled in Jo's absence

PRA General a/c \$6272.84
includes- PRA \$3125.74, Pest Free \$2347.25, Freshwater Catchment \$799.85,

History a/c \$10,484.96
History term deposit \$12,026.67

Transactions October

PRA a/c
Income
Subscription \$20
Donation \$180
Pest Free traps \$50
Grant for Pest Free projects \$1438.60
Interest \$10.37

Expenses
Bank fees \$10

History a/c
Interest income \$22.47

To be passed for payment
Reimbursement to Jo
Pest Free \$50 - 2 weta tunnels for Lamb & Calf Day prizes
Pest Free \$1400.70 - Funded Pest free projects

Moved: Ken **Seconded:** Micky **Carried**

7. Topical Issues

Rural Fire Risk

PRA has been contacted by the Moonshine Valley Residents Association regarding a joint approach to FENZ re rural fire issues. Ken has replied and is waiting for a response.

Natural Resources Plan - Plan Change 1

Plan Change 1 of Greater Wellington's Natural Resources Plan has now been notified and open for submissions until 15 December. The Plan Change has rules and policies that will affect rural landowners of properties greater than 4 hectares. Diane is preparing information to be circulated to rural residents and Richard offered to assist with this.

8. Reports

Pāuatahanui Burial Ground

Micky and Anna noted that the next meeting of the Friends of the Pāuatahanui Burial Ground will be on Friday 7 December.

Pest Free Pāuatahanui

FPF had a very successful site at Lamb & Calf Day on 4 November. With the funds coming from Jo's application to Greater Wellington, there was an opportunity for young people to build a long rat tunnel to take home with a free trap included. The activity was very popular with 40 rat tunnels constructed.

Water Catchment Community

Diane reported that the eDNA sampling on the Pāuatahanui Stream was completed on 8 November. The samples are currently being processed at Wilderlab. Once the results are received Diane will share these as well as putting together a report for NZ EPA and NZ Landcare Trust who funded the project.

Willowbank Quarry Community Liaison Group

Nothing to report

9. General Business**PCC Riparian Planting Programme**

Diane attended a meeting, along with Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet (GOPI) and Porirua Harbour Trust (PHT) on 31 October with the Mayor and Nigel Clark to discuss how the Council's riparian planting programme will be managed within the rural zone.

10. Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted

Correspondence - Inwards

10/10 Titahi Bay Beach - Invite to open community session
16/10 Our Land & Water - Food, Farming & Freshwater Roadshow
17/10 Wellington Water - Network Consents, Reducing pollution from network discharges
17/10 Wellington Heritage - Heritage festival
18/10 Wellington Electricity - Communication for residents
18/10 Darren Utting, Transmission Gully Project - Lanes Flat
20/10 Wendy Walker, Chief Executive, PCC - Meeting re rural rates
22/10 Porirua Harbour & Catchments Community Trust - Photo competition
23/10 Hannah Gray - Rates Policy Review
24/10 Tina Budd, Chair Moonshine Valley Residents Assn - Fire Emergency NZ
26/10 Our Land 7 Water - Future leaders & emerging innovations
31/10 Nickie de Denus - Pine plantations
2/11 Jack Marshall, PCC - Agenda for Wastewater Treatment Plant & Landfill Committee
2/11 Deanne Smylie, Ngahere Korowai Coordinator - Collective Hui
8/11 Streamside Planting - Volunteer celebration event
8/11 Graeme Grieve, Principal Analyst (Financial), PCC - Rates presentation
8/11 Porirua Locality Programme

PCC Democratic Services – Council meeting documents
Claire Giblin, PCC Customer Liaison, Transport – Road

Total emails inwards 139

Correspondence - Outwards

17/10 Anita Baker, Mayor & Wendy Walker, Chief Executive, PCC - Meeting re rural rates
18/10 Darren Utting, Transmission Gully Project - Lanes Flat
26/10 Hannah Gray - Rates Policy Review
2/11 Nickie de Denus - Pine plantations

October Minutes
Pest Free event
Wellington Electricity communication
PCC & GW consultations
Claire Giblin, PCC Customer Liaison, Transport – Road

13. Meeting Close 9.45 pm

14. Next Meeting To be advised

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