



Photo: Graham Craig

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WWW.PAUATAHANUI.ORG.NZ

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Pauatahanui Residents Association Newsletter

May 2015

PRA Annual General Meeting - 5 May 2015

What a turn out! Thank you to the 50+ residents, local media, Councillors and guest speakers who attended the AGM. Please refer to the PRA website



www.pauatahanui.org.nz for minutes of the meeting. The meeting covered:

- Transmission Gully and Lanes Flat – The team of joint venture builders of Transmission Gully provided an overview of the project and answered resident's questions.
- Once Transmission Gully work begins you will find more information on the construction activities at www.tg.co.nz. Any questions should be addressed to Lauren McKenzie email info@tg.co.nz or phone 0800 84 4636.
- Pauatahanui Village Planning – Anna Dellow provided an update on the Village Plan achievements over the past year and the work currently being planned.

- Cnr Kropp indicated that the Village Plan remains the community's plan. PRA and PCC work in partnership to action the Plan. Claire Giblin, Cnr Kropp and Anna undertook an exercise with residents to inform future Village Planning priorities.



- Te Ara Piko - Andrew Gray, Landscape Architect, PCC and Ron Lucas of Plimmerton Rotary provided a presentation on Te Ara Piko - Pauatahanui Pathway. They shared the plans for the next section of pathway covering 1.8km between Motukaraka Point and Camborne.

Election of 2015/16 Management Committee

Your 2015/16 Management Committee was elected as follows:

- **Chairman** Mr Ken McAdam
- **Secretary** Vacancy
- **Treasurer** Diane Strugnell
- **Continuing committee members** Anna Dellow, Nicky Chapman, Joanne Cross and Andrew Manning
- **Welcomed new committee members** Maria McDonald and Lynne Hayes.

Erica Nicholls Secretary and John Mazenier past Chair, stood down from the Committee. On behalf of the Management Committee the Chair thanked Erica and John for their contributions to Pauatahanui Residents Association. A new secretary will be appointed at the June ordinary meeting.

TELL US: WHAT'S UP IN PAUATAHANUI?

Having launched the PRA website www.pauatahanui.org.nz we want to keep it dynamic, interesting and informative, making it the "go to place" for information on Pauatahanui. To help us do this we would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on places of interest and/or events happening locally.

If you have places around Pauatahanui that you take visitors to or you think tourists would like to know about or local events that you would like the wider community to be aware of, please let us know: pauatahanuiresidents@gmail.com.

2015/16 Management Committee business

The next meeting of the PRA Committee meeting is scheduled for 18 June 2015.

If you would like to attend this meeting or become a member of the committee, please email pauatahanuiresidents@gmail.com.

Electricity Faults in the Pauatahanui Area



Wellington Electricity's core business is to manage the poles, wires and equipment that safely deliver electricity to about 166,000 homes and businesses in the Wellington, Hutt Valley and Porirua regions of New Zealand.

There is approximately 62 kilometres of electricity network in the Pauatahanui area providing power to 290 customers. The majority of this is overhead power lines that run through the area of Pauatahanui (Paekakariki Hill Road, Flighty's Road) and Judgeford (Willowbank, Mulhern Road).

There have been 18 faults over the last four years. Analysis of these faults shows six were caused by trees interfering with lines, with a further five presumed to be small branches, or possum/bird related and three were caused by equipment failure. There were also three incidents where poles were hit by cars. Wellington Electricity is keen to work with residents to reduce the number of outages that occur in the future.

What is Wellington Electricity doing?

When outages occur in this area, two to three faultmen are immediately dispatched to the area. Because of the large area of coverage in this area, equipment called auto-reclosers

were installed on the main line in 2006 to minimise outages due to transient faults.

A visual inspection of all overhead equipment is carried out yearly to determine if any of the assets have deteriorated. The last inspection was undertaken by the Wellington Electricity maintenance contractor on February 2015.

The three faults in the last three years that have been caused by vehicle contact with poles have been investigated and the position of the pole relative to the road was assessed to ensure that the hazard from vehicles is minimised. No further action was required.

Vegetation patrols are routinely undertaken across the Wellington Electricity network every five years. In the Pauatahanui area these are undertaken more frequently. The last inspection was undertaken in 2012 and prior to that in 2009. Since the end of 2012, 1314 trees have been cut or trimmed cut back to the notice zone as allowed in the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003. For 11kV lines that feed the Pauatahanui area, this notice zone is 1.6m from the conductor. It is likely that trees will grow back into the growth limit zone before the line is next patrolled, and the swing of conductors and trees under high wind conditions makes tree contact inevitable.

Even when Wellington Electricity trims trees back to the distance allowed vegetation faults are caused by falling trees and branches from outside of this zone and these

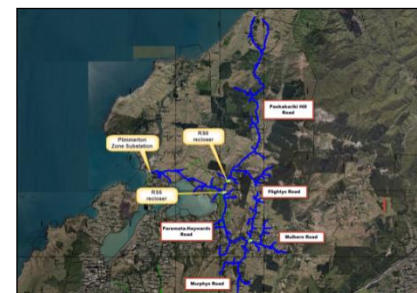
generally do more damage than contact from trees that have grown into the lines.

Vegetation is a common issue for the Paekakariki area, with many large old trees that are exposed during windy conditions and, if faults with unidentified causes are assumed to have largely been caused by trees, then vegetation has been the cause of most of the faults in the area in recent years.

How can you help?

Landowners can greatly assist in reducing the incidence of faults from vegetation by arranging for the removal of overhanging trees that could fall or shed branches on the lines.

Wellington Electricity welcomes the opportunity to answer any questions that residents may have, and discuss ideas for how faults can be reduced in the future. For more information on tree trimming, please visit our website, www.welectricity.co.nz and look in the safety section.



Pauatahanui Residents Association Inc **MEMBERSHIP FORM - 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016**

Registered Charity # CC42516

This form is also available on the PRA website www.pauatahanuireidents.org.nz

Name: _____

Email: _____

Postal address: _____

Phone No. (Day): _____

Phone No. (Evening): _____

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

I agree to these contact details being kept on the PR community database and used only in communication about local and association issues.

Membership fee of \$20 per household enclosed. Please make cheques payable to **Pauatahanui Residents Association Inc.** and forward to: Diane Strugnell, PRA Treasurer, 805 Moonshine Road, RD1, Porirua, 5381.

Subscriptions can also be paid by direct credit to the PRA's ANZ account number 060582 0096750 00. Please quote your name on the deposit & send the completed subscription form with your contact details & information by post to the PRA Treasurer as above or e-mail treasurerpra@gmail.com.