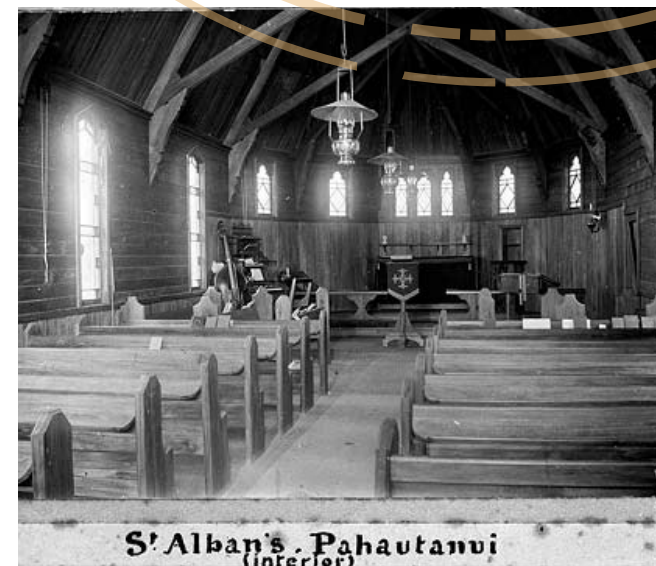




# Future Focus

A framework for the development of  
**Pauatahanui Village**  
**2009**



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## Foreword

This document is a village plan for Pauatahanui Village. It is the first stage for the residents of Pauatahanui and others involved in taking care of the natural environment and historical aspects of the area to map the future of the village for the next ten years and beyond.

The process for putting this village plan together was instigated by the Pauatahanui Residents Association. The process involved a series of community forums each attended by between 25 and 30 residents and council staff. Each forum was advertised through the Residents Association newsletter which was delivered before each forum to 300 households in the district.

The first three forums focused on a specific topic, with presentations followed by small groups deliberating on specific questions. The topics were:

1. Pauatahanui's history and natural environment – presenters included Miria Pomare, Wally Brown, Clive Anstey and Wanda Tate;
2. What needs to be done to improve the village now and for the future? – presenters include pupils of Pauatahanui School, Andrew Gray, Phillip Reidy and Alan Gray;
3. The Draft Porirua Development Framework and LTCCP and their relationship to the Village Plan – presenters included Harriet Cruden and Cr Euon Murrell.

The fourth forum focused on getting agreement on what needed to be done and who should take responsibility for each particular action. A list of the agreed actions together with their level of support is contained in Appendix 1.

More than 50 residents and eleven councillors, council staff and advisors attended at least one of these forums. A core group of about 10 residents attended them all.

A fifth forum was held to gain sign-off on the key aspects of the Village Plan. This was also advertised through the Residents Association Newsletter, and about twenty people attended. At this meeting the text including the Action Plan was approved, subject to some minor amendments. The line for the Village boundary was also approved subject to some minor adjustments.

This Village Plan is intended to provide a framework for planning and decision-making on matters concerning development and maintenance of the village and to some extent, the surrounding area. The document provides a guide for the Porirua City Council as well as local community groups such as the Residents Association and the Pauatahanui Inlet Community Trust (PICT) and other agencies such as Greater Wellington Regional Council and the New Zealand Transport Agency.

It is hoped that by working through the Action Plan, keeping in mind the Vision Statement agreed by the residents, the village of Pauatahanui will be safeguarded against developments which undermine the qualities that make this area special, and that work needed to improve the village will be undertaken in a systematic and co-ordinated manner.

**John Malsher**  
**Chairman, Pauatahanui Residents Association**



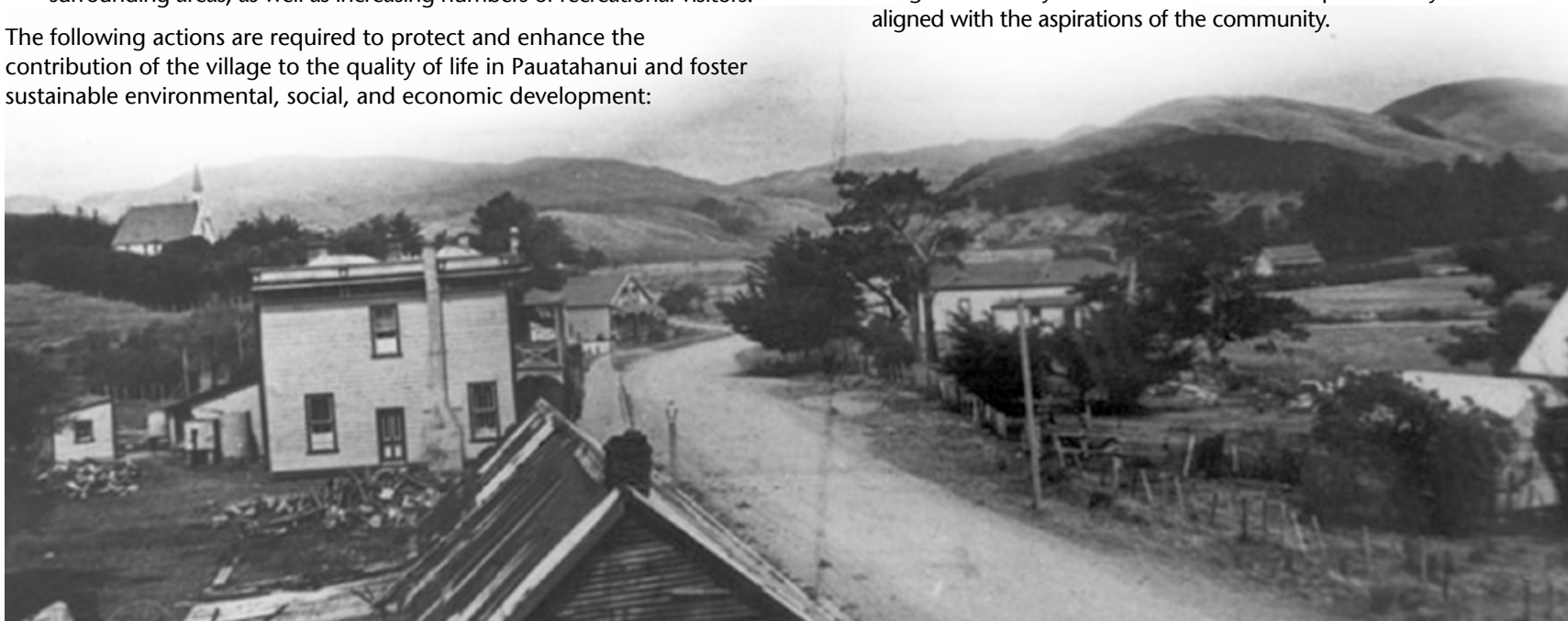
## Vision Statement: A future that celebrates the past

There are four fundamental components to Pauatahanui village that make it distinctive and must be protected and enhanced in any future development affecting the area. These fundamental components are:

- An estuary which is an area of national significance
- A history which is of national importance and unique to Porirua City
- A rural buffer zone which contains the village and, together with the estuary, defines its boundary
- A commercial centre providing a range of small-scale, specialist services which meet the day-to-day needs of residents, local and from surrounding areas, as well as increasing numbers of recreational visitors.

The following actions are required to protect and enhance the contribution of the village to the quality of life in Pauatahanui and foster sustainable environmental, social, and economic development:

- The provision of safe and pleasant walkways and cycleways to enable children to have more independence of movement and residents and visitors to be less reliant on motor vehicles to access the village.
- Actions to celebrate, protect and raise awareness of the unique environmental and historic qualities of the village and its surrounds
- Appropriate and vibrant commercial development in the village centre
- Facilities and services which protect the natural environment, enhance the physical environment and foster community interaction and pride.
- Ongoing and creative interaction between key council staff and the village community to ensure that the services provided by council are aligned with the aspirations of the community.





# What is Pauatahanui?

Residents and business people from around the Pauatahanui area participated in the discussions and debates on village planning. Discussions were held on how to define the Pauatahanui area.

Parts of Pauatahanui are rural, where boundaries are defined by the edges of family farms and lifestyle blocks. The Whitby edge is suburban, and the Wildlife Reserve provides a crucial transition area between residents and harbour. The catchments that can affect the inlet are very large and span beyond the Pauatahanui village. The position of the village centre at the head of the inlet makes it a crucial part of the wider ecosystem that is part of the harbour edge. Similarly the traffic network that runs through Pauatahanui is regional and will become national with the construction of Transmission Gully. The shops service a wide residential community, as well as city and regional visitors passing through.

Pauatahanui is at the nexus of significant local and regional change. Decisions on regional and national roading, windfarming, protection of Pauatahanui Inlet, the city growth framework, the future of the city's rural zone and other District Plan reviews all have medium to long term impacts on Pauatahanui.

The village plan discussions touched on all of these issues. It is anticipated that any decisions made by Council and other agencies on these broader issues will be informed by the vision and values described in the Pauatahanui Village Strategy.

It was felt important in the short to medium term however, to act to protect and enhance the unique characteristics of the village centre as the focal point for the community and the place where many of the regional issues intersect. For this reason, a Pauatahanui Village Zone is suggested.

## Definition of the Village Zone Boundary

The Pauatahanui Residents Association and the participants in the Village Planning exercise agreed that, for the purposes of this plan, the boundary of the village should be restricted but should be wide enough to include the most important features of the village. This will allow for carefully controlled development and upgrading that is within the capacity of the community and the City Council to provide.

Three basic principles have been adopted in recommending the boundary for a Pauatahanui Village zone. These are:

- The actual village area should be restricted to a smaller area within the general area known as Pauatahanui. The Village area would have a special zoning to allow for controlled residential and commercial development consistent with a rural village.
- The historic sites that are an important component of Pauatahanui's identity should be accorded protection, but because these sites are widely disbursed, they cannot all fall within the restricted village development zone.
- Protection of the Wildlife Reserve, and the preservation of that part of Lanes Flat not required for the Transmission Gully motorway as public space, is also important, but these areas fall outside the area to be zoned for "Village Development".

With these principals in mind, the boundary of the Village, as referred to in this document is defined as follows:

**Southern Boundary:** The roundabout at the junction of SH58 and Paekakariki Hill Road to the south, including the land over the old Pauatahanui bridge as far as SH58 including Taylor Stace Cottage.



# What is Pauatahanui?

**Northern Boundary:** The junction of Gray's Road and Paekakariki Hill Road to the north.

**Western Boundary:** The boundary between the Pauatahanui Wildlife Reserve and the private land along the western side of Paekakariki Hill Road in the Village, but extended into the Wildlife Reserve to include Stout Cottage.

**Eastern Boundary:** Similarly this lies behind the houses immediately bordering the eastern side of Paekakariki Hill Road in the village and including the school and pre-school, St Albans Church and the Public Burial Ground.



## An explanation of the “Buffer Zone”

The Vision Statement refers to a village contained by a rural buffer zone. This is not envisaged as a reserve of public land but as an area of land that is retained for rural and lifestyle use to form a protective ring around the village, ensuring that the village remains a distinctive entity rather than becoming an extension of Whitby. To the east behind the Village these protections already exist under the present District Plan which does not allow for subdivisions of less than 5 hectares. To the west and north the Village is similarly protected by the Wildlife Reserve which is 80% owned by the Department of Conservation. The most important function of the buffer zone is to define the edge between Whitby and Pauatahanui Village. Lanes Flat forms the major part of the buffer between the village and Whitby. Pauatahanui residents consider it is very important to retain this as a green area for the following reasons:

1. Lanes Flat has historical associations with Pauatahanui Village. It was originally known as Staces Flat after Thomas Hollis Stace, one of the earliest settlers and benefactors of Pauatahanui who provided land for St Albans and St Josephs Churches as well as the Pauatahanui Public Burial Ground. His memory is perpetuated in Taylor-Stace and Hollis Stace Cottages. The Lanes were descendants of the Staces. In the 1920's and 1930's Lanes Flat hosted a small golf course with its own green-keeper, and in the 1940's and 1950's it contained a field for the cricket and football clubs which played socially on Sundays. In 1949 Tiger Moths flew off it as an improvised airstrip for the first aerial topdressing in the Pauatahanui area.





## What is Pauatahanui?

2. More importantly from a land-use perspective, this area is a flood plain for the estuary. In severe floods it can become totally inundated, as the photos illustrate. These floods typically occur at high tide and high rain events and do not fit easily into any 'frequency' timetable. Two of these floods occurred in two consecutive years although there has not been one for the past three years or so. This makes much of Lanes Flat unsuitable for residential, commercial or industrial development.
3. Lanes Flat is owned by the New Zealand Transport Agency and much of its western end should be surplus to requirements after Transmission Gully Motorway is built. We recommend that Porirua City Council and PICT negotiate with the TGM project team to preserve that part of Lanes Flat not required for the motorway as a public space/reserve. Protecting it from development would also be beneficial to the health of the Pauatahanui Inlet.

The hills and farmland to the north and west of the township are also regarded as part of the Village buffer zone.



Top, Lanes Flat in flood 1966 taken from about where the present roundabout is on SH58. The hills on the right are where the present Silverwood subdivision is.

Below, Lanes Flat in flood 2005 taken from the bridge outside the lighthouse theatre looking towards Taylor Stace Cottage.



# What is Pauatahanui?

## Qualities of Pauatahanui valued by residents

Forum participants identified the following as being the qualities they valued about Pauatahanui.

- The inlet and estuary – for their visual qualities and as an important wildlife habitat
- The green setting of the village including Lanes Flat and the hills that form a backdrop
- The rich, unique history of the village and the many existing sites and structures associated with this history
- The village quality of the shops and services
- The low-rise nature of the buildings – height and bulk.

## Issues raised at the Community Forums

During the course of the forums the following attributes of the village were identified as issues which needed to be addressed.

- The need for a special zone that recognizes and protects the unique qualities of the village and allows commercial and residential development consistent with its village character
- The lack of pedestrian links through the village
- Lack of provision for cycles in the village and its surrounds
- The poor quality of the footpaths
- The quality of the street plantings – lack of colour
- The shabby, run-down nature of the village – rubbish, weeds, ugly fences
- The need to celebrate the village history and be proactive in its protection

- The need to protect the inlet and estuary from pollution and encroachment
- Seepage from septic tanks
- Lack of reticulation for sewage and water
- Traffic travelling too fast through the village
- Inadequate car parking facilities, and parking associated with the school and cinema taking parking away from local businesses
- The lack of picnic areas and sports facilities
- Lack of bus-stops and shelters
- Poor visibility of pedestrian crossing
- Lack of signage to promote the facilities and qualities of the village
- The need to protect local streams against pollution and excessive takes
- The potential threat of increased wastewater pollution and traffic through the village as a result of the City Council's proposed growth strategy.

The Pauatahanui Residents Association held four Community Forums, with significant attendance from the local community. Areas of concern as well as ideas were discussed and solutions canvassed at these Forums. Through this intensive consultation process an Action Plan was drawn up setting out the focus for the future by all parties associated with the Plan. It is important that the community engages in owning the agreed actions in conjunction with the PRA and Porirua City Council.

The Action Plan is set out in the following section. It is aimed at ensuring that all the actions needed to protect the valued qualities of Pauatahanui and to address the issues raised are identified, and responsibilities for action allocated.



# Pauatahanui Village Planning Action Plan

## Heritage Protection & Enhancement

Action	Who to involve	Who to initiate	First Action
Design and Install plaques/ information boards to raise awareness of sites of historic importance including Maori sites	Porirua Historic Society, PCC, Ngati Toa, PRA, PICT, Pat Stodart PCC	PRA	Identify responsibilities via meeting Ask Viv Rickard PCC for an update on heritage programme already underway
Initiate the development of an "historic trail" to highlight the richness of Pauatahanui's history	Porirua Historic Society, PCC, Ngati Toa, PRA, Pat Stodart PCC	PRA	Identify responsibilities via meeting Ask Viv Rickard PCC for an update on heritage programme already underway
Design and install an information board to highlight past uses of the inlet/estuary	Porirua Historic Society, PCC, Ngati Toa, PRA, PICT, Pat Stodart & Viv Rickard PCC	Identify responsibilities via meeting	Investigate the need for heritage protection for specific sites
PCC Heritage Register	Porirua Historic Society PRA, Ngati Toa	PCC	Already started Ask Viv Rickard PCC for an update on heritage programme already underway





# Pauatahanui Village Planning Action Plan

## Environmental Protection & Enhancement

Action	Who to involve	Who to initiate	First Action
Continue strategy developed by PICT to keep Lanes Flat as a green buffer area and a filter for the inlet	PICT, NZ Transport Agency, Guardians of Pauatahanui Inlet, PRA, PCC and the previous owners	PICT, PRA	Already started PCC needs to establish strategy and discuss with Transit
Identify natural hazards (eg septic tank leaching and flood prone areas)	PCC, GWRC, PICT	PCC	Ongoing. GWRC, PCC – part of district plan work
Lobby for action to stop leaching from septic tanks	PRA, PICT, PCC, GWRC, GOPI	PRA	Ongoing. PRA to talk to PCC and GWRC Jim Sutton PCC will investigate any complaints with details re site etc.
Identify sources of septic tank seepage and rectify	PCC, PICT, property owners, the school, Min of Education	PCC	Ongoing. GWRC, PCC - Contact PCC Jim Sutton
Develop strategies to keep local streams healthy and flowing	PCC, GWRC, PICT	PCC	Underway as part of harbour project – PICT, Keith Calder PCC, Ngati Toa
Undertake an assessment of the waste management impacts on Pauatahanui of proposed future growth	PCC	PCC	Council medium to long term
Undertake an assessment of the traffic impacts on Pauatahanui of proposed future growth and roading developments	PCC, NZ Transport Agency, PICT	PCC	Council – part of structure planning for district plan work
Develop guidelines for the construction of the Pauatahanui Pathway around the inlet to prevent encroachment on the inlet	PICT, Plimmerton Rotary, PCC, GWRC, Forest and Bird, PRA, DOC, retailers, GOPI	PCC	Workshop planned – underway
Raise property owners' awareness of the importance of large exotic trees for roosting birds	PICT, PRA	PICT/PRA	Organisations to publicise this





# Pauatahanui Village Planning Action Plan

## Environmental Protection & Enhancement (continued)

Action	Who to involve	Who to initiate	First Action
Work with police to find ways of enforcing bylaw to control boy-racers around Motukaraka Point	MOT Point Residents, Police, PRA, Neighbourhood Watch	MP Residents Assoc, Neighbourhood Watch	Talk to Police and PCC to check 50K signage is still there
Organise a Village cleanup	PRA, PCC, Plimmerton Rotary, retailers, Keep Porirua Beautiful	PRA	PRA to discuss with PCC
Bring in a rule requiring dogs on walkway around estuary to be on leashes	PCC, PICT, GOPI	PCC	Underway
Improve signage, advertising and enforcement of ban on taking of shellfish from the Wildlife Reserve	GWRC, PICT; PCC, DOC	PICT	
Provide rubbish bins	PCC, retailers, GOPI	PCC	Village Improvements short term
Initiate and encourage actions, and support existing initiatives to improve the quality of the water and seabed in the estuary	PICT, PRA, PCC, GWRC, Plimmerton Rotary, GOPI	PRA/PICT	Ongoing

Pauatahanui Inlet is the only large estuarine wetland left in the lower half of the North Island of New Zealand and is at risk mainly from human activities in its catchment.





# Pauatahanui Village Planning Action Plan

## Village Centre Enhancement

Action	Who to involve	Who to initiate	First Action
Lobby for re-zoning of the village area/ special Pauatahanui zone to allow for limited commercial and residential development while protecting special character	PRA, PCC, local businesses, community, PICT	PRA	Letter to PCC
Consider options for water and sewage reticulation in the village and advise council of community's preference	PRA, PCC, businesses, community, PICT, school and preschool, GOPI	PRA	PRA to call a meeting to discuss
Develop concept plan and district plan provisions which include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas for commercial and residential development</li> <li>• Limitations on building heights and bulk</li> <li>• Green buffer areas to protect the integrity of the village</li> <li>• Stipulation of lot sizes</li> <li>• Protection for historic and environmental attributes</li> <li>• Protection of the hills and ridgelines as a natural backdrop to the village</li> </ul>	Rural Review Reference Group	PCC	Council medium to long term
Initiate action for implementation of sewage and water reticulation including identifying the area to be included, the maximum number of lots to be serviced and options for funding	PCC, PRA, Steering Committee of local people, businesses, school and preschool	PRA or another community body (community-led)	1. Assessment of waste management implications of future growth strategy, 2. Identify areas where reticulation would be uneconomic Council medium to long term – need to continue to discuss funding options
Widen pathway or extend kerb and channel to Grays Rd – get rid of white fences	PCC, PICT, Plimmerton Rotary, PRA, school and preschool, retailers	PCC	Draw up and discuss plans Part of village improvements short term
Upgrade existing footpaths and kerbs	PCC, PICT, Plimmerton Rotary PRA, school and preschool, retailers	PCC	Draw up and discuss plans Part of village improvement short term



# Pauatahanui Village Planning Action Plan

## Village Centre Enhancement (continued)

Action	Who to involve	Who to initiate	First Action
Replace Armco safety barriers with more attractive ways to define pedestrian areas	PCC, PRA, Lighthouse Cinema	PCC	Focus on one in front of Lighthouse Cinema Village improvements short term
Improve definition of pedestrian crossing to make it safer, especially for kids	PCC, school and preschool, retailers	Install proper crossing	Village improvements short term
Improve SH58 underpass signage to encourage more use	PRA, NZ Land Transport Agency	PCC	Install sign Village Improvements short term
Modify the T junction at Grays Rd/ Paekakariki Hill intersection to slow traffic/ improve traffic movement	PCC, PRA	PCC	Village improvements short-medium term
Provide bus stops and shelters	PCC, schools and preschools, retailers	PCC	Village improvements short term
Liaise with Ministry of Education to look at ways of creating a specific area to drop off children going to school	schools and preschools, retailers, PCC	PCC	Council medium term
Identify and design parking areas to support businesses and commercial activities, and to inhibit parking in dangerous areas	schools and preschools, retailers, PCC	PCC	Village improvements short term
Design and install a community information board in the village	PRA, PCC, Rotary etc	PRA	Village improvements short term
Design and install a Directory Board by the roundabout and/or sign at entrance to town to highlight services and facilities in the village	PCC, PRA	PCC	Define scope – consult with businesses Village Improvements short term
Promote more colourful plantings/village beautification	PRA, Keep Porirua Beautiful	PRA	Approach Keep Porirua Beautiful Village improvements short term
Measures to slow down traffic coming into the village	PCC	PCC	Meet with PRA to discuss



# Pauatahanui Village Planning Action Plan

## Enhanced Recreational Opportunities

Action	Who to involve	Who to initiate	First Action
Identify routes for walkways and cycleways	PRA, PCC, PICT, school and pre-school, Forest and Bird, Rotary	PCC	1. Create walkway by the roundabout for school kids 2. Bridge over stream through reserve for pedestrians 3. Currently working on route along Grays Rd Could be part of initial village improvements and will be part of longer term structure planning for District Plan work
Take action to protect the public use of the Wildlife Reserve for recreation	PCC, PICT, Wildlife Reserve Management	PRA, DOC, PCC/PRA	Find out what support Wildlife Reserve needs
Install safety barriers between road intersections and footpaths (eg Joseph Banks and SH58)	PCC, PICT, schools and preschools	PCC	Already started
Provide recreation facilities – playing fields, picnic areas	NZ Transport Agency, PCC, GWRC	PCC	Council – medium to long term

Village Improvements Short Term refers to a village improvements design that Council would like to start soon so it can get agreement on work in the village centre. All the action items will be considered, but the overall improvement plan may have different solutions to the suggestion made. It is hoped to draw up an integrated plan of work so that action can start in this financial year.

There are 3 substantive issues that Council will have to work on with the Residents Association and others to get a longer term solution. These are:-

1. The structure planning and District Plan work
2. Options for reticulation of the village center
3. Safeguarding Lanes Flat (currently owned by Transit).



*Those buried in Pauatahanui's historic church cemetery include members of original families from the area as well as those of the clergy who served the Pauatahanui parish.*





# Appendix 1

## Actions in order of support by attendants at Forum 4

Actions	Residents supporting
Identify routes for walkways and cycleways	24
Develop strategy to keep Lanes Flat as a green area, as a buffer area and a filter for the inlet	19
Design and Install plaques/information boards to raise awareness of sites of historic importance including Maori sites	19
Initiate the development of an “historic trail” to highlight the richness of Pauatahanui’s history	19
Take action to protect the public use of the Wildlife Reserve for recreation	18
Develop concept plan and district plan provisions which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas for commercial and residential development</li> <li>• Limitations on building heights and bulk</li> <li>• Green buffer areas to protect the integrity of the village</li> <li>• Stipulation of lot sizes</li> <li>• Protection for historic and environmental attributes</li> <li>• Protection of the hills and ridgelines as a natural backdrop to the village</li> </ul>	17

Actions	Residents supporting
Initiate and encourage actions to improve the quality of the water and seabed in the estuary	17
Develop strategies to keep local streams healthy and flowing	16
Widen pathway or extend kerb and channel to Grays Rd – get rid of white fences	15
Improve signage, advertising and enforcement of ban on taking of shellfish from the Wildlife Reserve	15
Construct a roundabout at Grays Rd/ Paekakariki Hill intersection to slow traffic/improve traffic movement	14
Identify sources of septic tank seepage and rectify	14
Undertake an assessment of the waste management impacts on Pauatahanui of proposed future growth	14
Undertake an assessment of the traffic impacts on Pauatahanui of proposed future growth and roading developments	14



# Appendix 1

## Actions in order of support by attendants at Forum 4

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Residents supporting</b>
Design and install an information board to highlight past uses of the inlet/estuary	14
Promote more colourful plantings/ village beautification	14
Initiate action for implementation of sewage and water reticulation including the area to be covered, the maximum number of lots to be serviced and options for funding	13
Upgrade existing footpaths and kerbs	13
Develop guidelines for the construction of the Pauatahanui Pathway around the inlet to prevent encroachment on the inlet	13
Design and install a community information board in the village	13
Consider options for water and sewage reticulation in the village and advise Council of community's preference	13

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Residents supporting</b>
Work with police to find ways of enforcing the bylaw to control boy-racers around Motukaraka Point	13
Improve SH58 underpass signage to encourage more use	12
Identify and design parking areas to support businesses and commercial activities, and to inhibit parking in dangerous areas	12
Identify areas where sewage reticulation would be uneconomic but which could be serviced with communal septic tanks	12
Lobby for re-zoning of the village area/special Pauatahanui zone to allow for limited commercial and residential development while protecting special character	12
Provide bus stops and shelters	11
Improve definition of pedestrian crossing to make it safer, especially for kids	11

# Appendix 1

## Actions in order of support by attendants at Forum 4

Actions	Residents supporting
Liaise with Ministry of Education to look at ways of creating a specific area to drop off kids going to school	11
Investigate the need for heritage protection for specific sites	11
Identify natural hazards (eg septic tank leaching and flood prone areas)	11
Organise a Village cleanup	10
Provide rubbish bins	10
Lobby for action to stop leaching from septic tanks	9
Measures to slow down traffic coming into the village	9
Bring in a rule requiring dogs on walkway around estuary to be on leashes	9
Provide recreation facilities – playing fields, picnic areas	9

*Taylor Stace Cottage*

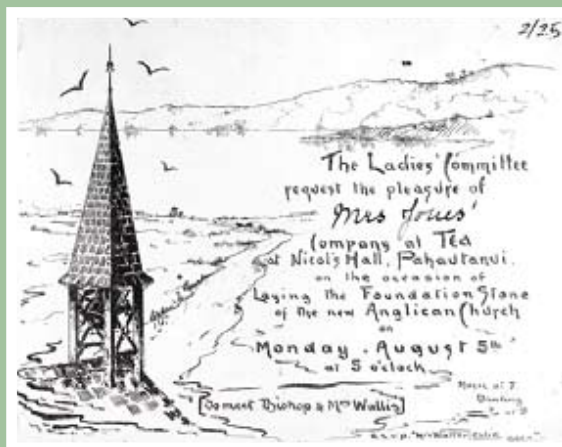
Actions	Residents supporting
Replace Armco safety barriers with more attractive ways to define pedestrian areas	8
Raise local property owners' awareness of the importance of large exotic trees for roosting birds	8
Install safety barriers between road intersections and footpaths (eg Joseph Banks and SH58)	7
Design and install a Directory Board by the roundabout and/or a sign at the entrance to the village to highlight services and facilities available	6



# Appendix 2

Sites identified as having historical significance for Pauatahanui

- Wildlife reserve
- Battle Hill
- Mataitaua Pa
- Old Mill Railway at Duck Creek
- Henderson's Corner
- Taylor Stace Cottage
- Hollis Stace cottage
- St Albans/Matai Taua Pa
- St Joseph's
- Public burial ground
- Old Barrow Homestead
- Old Pearce Homestead
- Lodge (old brothel)
- Bradey Grave
- Abbot Homestead
- Judgeford School House
- Horokiri School House
- General Store
- Oak Trees
- Cabbage trees at St Albans
- Motukaraka
  - Pa sites
  - British military and American military



*The new St Alban's Anglican Church*



*The Blacksmith's shop*



*Parked outside the hotel*



*Early Pauatahanui home*





## Appendix 3 - Forum Presentations

### Pauatahanui – An historic view

#### **Wally Brown**

The Battle Hill skirmish was very important to Pauatahanui. It allowed a road to be built connecting Pauatahanui and Paekakariki which opened up the holdings in the Horikiri Valley to their owners. The road was made with labour from the soldiers based at the barracks in Pauatahanui.

Work started in January 1847 and was completed by November 1849 at a cost of £1,082 (labour 2 shillings per day).

Many of the land owners were absentees but some - Barrow, Stace, Bradey, Jones and Boulton to mention a few, came to work their land. This with the completion of the Jackson's Ferry (which transported people from Porirua to Pauatahanui Road) in 1846, made Pauatahanui a very vibrant settlement.

Within a few years only the Hutt Valley had more households, Pauatahanui had more than Porirua and Tawa combined. It was a staging point and centre for everything going North by road. The opening of the railway in 1886 had a detrimental effect on its importance.

However, the 1927-1930 realigning and sealing of the Paekakariki to Porirua roads and later the realigning and sealing of Haywards, together with the profusion of motor vehicles saw Pauatahanui again enjoy prominence. All traffic from Wellington, Hutt Valley, Plimmerton and Pukerua Bay had to pass through Pauatahanui to go north. It was the SH1 of the times. It was the last stopping place before tackling the dreaded Paekakariki Hill and boasted the sign of being the last petrol pump at town prices.

Costing £1,082 and taking nearly three years to complete, Paekakariki Hill Road was the main thoroughfare until the coastal road and Haywards Hill were realigned and resealed





## Appendix 3 - Forum Presentations

Then came the bombshell. The opening of the Centennial Highway in 1939 saw Pauatahanui slip gradually into a quiet backwater, although a strong community spirit remained.

In its heydays (1870–1880s), Pauatahanui boasted a hall, 2 hotels, 3 stores, 2 bootmakers, a blacksmith, baker, coaching stable, post office, police station, creamery, sales yard, 3 district schools, 2 churches, 3 cemeteries, plus various houses.

About 1857, the first school was in the old inter-denominational church. Before that, lessons were said to be held in Mr Waldegrave's house, about half way between Postgate and Spinnaker Drives (circa 1855). The school then moved to the Old Barracks, where it remained until 1939 (the old site is the present school tennis court).

The first 2 rooms were built on the present site in 1939. The land was exchanged for land and house beside the present round-a-about, in an agreement between the Education Board and Mr Francis Taylor.

The Horikiri School (Barry Place) opened in 1860 and closed in 1912 because of lack of children. The Judgeford School (opposite The Grange), opened in 1879 but suffered the same fate in 1935.

The Post Office opened in 1861, with telegraph circa 1882 and a full POSB in 1899 and lasted for just over 100 years. An agency is all that remains.

Electric power came to the area circa 1925, but it appears many of the older residents were very apprehensive of this new medium.

*Pauatahanui School in the early days*





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During WWII reserve troops were stationed around the Pauatahanui area. One camp was in the township just north of the Cenotaph, another was at the foot of the hill at the entrance to "The Lodge". The men were instrumental in digging trenches, forming gun emplacements and setting tank traps in strategic areas.

A last-leave camp was built at Motukaraka, later to become a US Marine R&R camp. Virtually three loosely connected camps were built for the marines on the flat land in Judgeford mainly on the golf links and at the foot of the Haywards Hill.

Today only three shops, one restaurant, two churches and a few of the original houses remain in what was once a relatively large and vibrant community. The traffic volume passing through is huge, but few people stop. Of the three cemeteries, two are closed with one inter-denominational having its own Act of Parliament to protect it.

Pauatahanui School is still increasing its roll thanks to the presence of Whitby.

*The historic St Albans Church*



St Albans, Pahautanui



*By courtesy Mrs. W. J. Helyar*

Fig. 235.—"Pahautanui" Church, and last resting place of some of Wellington's old "Pioneers" at Pauatahanui, Port of Harbours.  
This church stood near the site of Te Ranganui's and Rangikahata's fortified Pa, and were afterwards occupied by the Imperial troops under Colonel Russell, father of the late Captain Russell, M.H.R.  
Captain Russell, M.H.R.  
The "Weekly Press" of the 15/2/1921 shows the church and early settlers of the district.  
The present church was opened on March 8th, 1923.



## Appendix 3 - Forum Presentations

### A Brief Overview of the Maori History of Pauatahanui

#### **Miria Pomare**

“Me Huri Whakamuri, Ka Titiro Whakamua” – We must look to the past, to plan for the future.

#### **Tangata Whenua - The Maori Inhabitants of Porirua**

The original inhabitants of Porirua were Ngai tara, followed by Ngati Kahungunu and later Ngati Ira. Ngati Ira were displaced by Ngati Toa in the early 1820s. Ngati Toa are descendants of the Tainui waka, originating in Kawhia.

Ngati Toa migrated to the Cook Strait region under the leadership of Te Rauparaha. The Battle of Waiorua in 1824 established Ngati Toa's pre-eminence throughout the Cook Strait region.

#### **Pauatahanui - He Taonga – A Treasured Resource**

Pauatahanui was favoured for settlement and sustained important resources. The area was dominated by dense bush and forest, with settlement occurring in coastal areas. The forest sustained an abundance of food sources, plants for 'rongoa' (Maori medicine) and timber. The inlet was teeming with kaimoana and the streams were rich in freshwater species. Important Pa were located at strategic points around the inlet, providing places of refuge in times of war.

#### **Te Pakanga – War Breaks Out**

By 1840 Ngati Toa had established a position of economic and political dominance throughout the Cook Strait. The Crown pressured Ngati Toa into selling land but Te Rauparaha and Te Rangihaeata resisted.

Pictured below:  
Pauatahanui World War  
1 Memorial unveiling  
by Lord Jellicoe,  
January 1922







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Governor Grey launched a double pronged military campaign against Ngati Toa's leading chiefs. Te Rangihaeata retreated to Matai Taua Pa and then to Battle Hill, where he entrenched his position near the summit. The battle between Ngati Toa and the Crown lasted several days, with neither side able to gain a clear victory.

### **Kua Ngaro Te Whenua – The Land Lost**

Finally, Te Rangihaeata was forced into exile and Te Rauparaha was held in captivity for 18 months. With Ngati Toa's leading chiefs out of the way, Grey was able to force through the Porirua Deed in 1847. Pauatahanui was forcibly alienated from Ngati Toa by the Crown.

### **Te Kereme – The Treaty Claim, a Path to the Future**

The Crown's military actions against Ngati Toa are central to Ngati Toa's Treaty of Waitangi claim. The Crown has made significant concessions in relation to Ngati Toa. These concessions underpin the negotiations between Ngati Toa and the Crown for a Treaty Settlement. Ngati Toa are seeking redress in relation to Battle Hill and Pauatahanui Inlet. The redress that the Crown is offering would not result in the transfer of ownership to Ngati Toa. There will however be increased expectations that Ngati Toa will be regarded as a partner (rather than just another interest group) in the management of these resources and decision-making under the Resource Management Act.

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## Appendix 3 - Forum Presentations

### Pauatahanui Village- Landscape and Environmental Values

**Clive Anstey and Wanda Tait**

Pauatahanui Village is unique within Porirua City in having retained much of its historic integrity and rural setting. The village remains as a social and economic centre for the wider Pauatahanui community. It continues to be a stop-over for travellers and a visual focal point within the Inlet. Patterns of use may have changed over time but a location that made it important in the past has assured its future.

- The village continues to be tightly contained by the Inlet and the backdrop of hills; the setting is rural.
- The environment surrounding the village is either indigenous and estuarine or rural with widely dispersed structures located on larger lots; green open space predominates.
- The village retains the character of a rural settlement with the school, historic churches and residential buildings, commercial and service outlets, and a general scale and pattern typical of such historic settlements.

The wildlife reserve has become an environmental feature of national significance. The estuary has always been important for the wildlife it supports.





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- The estuary has become the focus for residential development in Whitby and Camborne. The northern end of the estuary and its rural backdrop have assumed high visual value and significance. The wildlife reserve and Pauatahanui Village are particularly important features in this view. For motorists, cyclists, and walkers the rural character of this northern side is similarly valued.
- The reserve has effectively provided not only a buffer for the village but has also buffered the estuary from pollutants; the reserve provides a natural filtering system for sewage and waste water from the settlement, as well as farm run-off. However, there are distinct limits to the capacity of the reserve to cope.
- The wildlife reserve has become an environmental feature of national significance. The estuary has always been important for the wildlife it supports. Tall native trees once adorned the Inlet edges, providing a theatre for birds to perform their rituals. These have been largely replaced by pasture, with scattered pine and macrocarpa, and more recently-established eucalypts.



- Older exotic trees are part of the area's history and their scale provides containment of buildings, adding diversity and visual interest. They are also important to many of the birds who live in the estuary for all or part of their lives, effectively filling the important role of the former native trees.
- The quality of water in streams feeding the Inlet is critical to its health. The Pauatahanui Stream passes through the village and is a defining feature of its character. Lanes Flat, immediately above the wildlife reserve, is the natural flood plain of the stream and, like the reserve, provides an important visual buffer for the village, separating the village from Whitby.
- The village is directly associated with a number of outstanding natural features and these, in combination with its historic character and buildings, attract increasing numbers of people. The Inlet walkway/cycleway currently under development will bring more people into the village and the wildlife reserve.
- The walkway/cycleway hugs the Inlet edge, generally avoiding settled and commercial areas in favour of natural settings. Pauatahanui Village is therefore an important stop-over place. There are food outlets as well as the wildlife reserve. It is this close relationship between commercial activities and the natural environment that makes the village unique and special.
- It will be important to ensure that the natural and historic character of the village is given emphasis in its ongoing development. Commercial operators need to acknowledge the special setting the village and surrounding environment provides by ensuring that its integrity and unique features are nurtured and protected.



## Appendix 3 - Forum Presentations

### A Business Perspective on Village Development

**Phillip Reidy**

#### **What does the Village comprise of?**

It has the usual collection of activities you might expect in a village. A church, school, pre-school, gallery, café, restaurant, movie theatre and commercial outlet.

The less than usual features are:

The village is the main entrance to a significant wildlife reserve.

The village has some buildings and sites that are of historic importance.

#### **What are the core functions of a Village?**

For its residents and a wider community the village provides:

- Shelter
- Support through business
- Education
- Entertainment
- It also provides a gathering place for religious activities and has the usual collection of community activities.

By default Pauatahanui already does this without the benefit of a structured development plan.

#### **So how does this Village look?**

Not that great. It is poorly maintained and visually unattractive. Parking is an issue at peak times. The village is not coherent – it is in bits with no links between the bits. The village does not showcase its best attributes.







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### **How should the Village look?**

- Smart but rural. The village is in a great location serving both rural and urban communities and it is on the edge of a wonderful wildlife reserve.
- It should reflect the community it serves
- Have core elements of a village with a strong history of being one, and it should show that it values its past.
- It could have building covenants to maintain a village image.

### **From a business perspective what does this translate to?**

It must be easier to do business in the Village.

- The Village must be reticulated (for sewage and water)
- The District Plan must be changed to provide appropriate zoning

- Parking provisions need to be reviewed
- The Village must be cleaned up - redundant barriers removed and footpaths upgraded satisfactorily.

### **The structure of the Village must be supported**

The village needs core services to survive, otherwise it is just a collection of houses. It must become part of the public transport network and the Inlet Walkway must be supported.

The village must be promoted as an exciting destination with a variety of unique activities, as well as being a special place in which to live and to work from home. Vibrant businesses make for an exciting village as well as providing employment opportunities.





# Appendix 3 - Forum Presentations

## Our vision for Pauatahanui Village

### Pupils of Pauatahanui school – years 7 and 8

#### What we like about our village:

- We have great facilities
- Historical landmarks
- Lots of people
- An awesome inlet
- A colourful reserve
- And best of all – Pauatahanui School

#### Things we would like to have done to improve Pauatahanui:

- Paint St Albans church
- Clean up the river
- Put in a rock pathway to replace the old footpath
- Build a footpath beside the highway to make the road safer for pedestrians and cyclists
- Redo the garden by the pedestrian crossing
- Fill in the potholes in the Challenge carpark
- Fix and paint the fence around the empty site used as a carpark
- Fix the rubbish problem around the village
- Clean the public toilets
- Add tables and rubbish bins to the area by the underpass



# Future Focus

## **A framework for the development of Pauatahanui Village, 2009**

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