



PUKEHINA BEACH

Paradise created by nature and cared for by the community.

NEWSLETTER – December 2015

PBRA

PUKEHINA BEACH RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION Inc.

PO Box 113, TE PUKE 3153 Pukehina.bra@gmail.com www.pukehinabeach.co.nz

Committee - Ian Rodger (Chair) Bev Nairn (Secretary), John Cook (Treasurer), Alex White, Rex Cameron,
Alan Sutherland, Stella Cressey, Carol Forrester, Ray Foster, Dallas Bates, Angela Trudgen, John Mc Millan.

AGM Invitation

Please accept this official invitation to attend the Pukehina Ratepayers' Association Annual General Meeting.

Date: Saturday 2nd January 2016 Time: 2:00pm

Where: Community Hall, 14 Pukehina Parade, Pukehina Beach

Important Information: Please see attached the Voting Procedures for our AGM

Please attend the meeting to have your say on some very important subjects including the special rates that apply to the Ratepayers of Pukehina Beach.

Report from the Chair

Again, this year, I can report that your committee has continued to work very hard on the members' behalf. We haven't had so many projects completed but we have worked very hard at looking after your interest by way of submissions and working very hard at gaining consent to help protect our sand dunes. As well there a number of projects on the table and we will report on all of these at the AGM. So please make a diary note to attend to hear about the projects and use your vote on the important subjects that will be tabbed and voted on during the meeting. The important business to be discussed and voted on at AGM is as follows.

Election of Members of the Committee

Please note that every position on the Committee is open for election and is voted on at the AGM. So if you desire to make a difference please come to the AGM and state your case and seek election.

We do have some resignations so we would very much like to hear from community minded people who would be interested in being part of a committee that has the ability to influence the wellbeing of the community that they live in or holiday in.

Wastewater

At the AGM to years ago the committee was given a mandate to investigate the concept of a "self-imposed" maintenance plan to keep the existing septic tanks on the beach functioning "well", in order to avoid the need for an imposed Maintenance Scheme at considerable costs to the ratepayers. We did investigate this option and at last year's AGM we reported the findings when it was decided to await further reports on the water quality. Like previous years, this subject will impact on your decision for the collecting of the Pukehina Development Fund Rate, so come along, hear the recommendation from your committee and vote accordingly.

Sand Dune Refurbishment

The other continuing topic we will report on is the Sand Dune Refurbishment Fund Rate and the use of the accumulated monies. At last year's AGM, the vote was to continue collecting the rate and for the committee to gain a long term consent enabling the refurbishment of major wash outs without delay. I'm pleased to report that we have made huge progress on gaining a long term consent and we are at the final stages of this very complicated drawn our process. Your committee will table there recommendation on the continued collection of the Dune Refurbishment Fund Rate and again allowing you to vote accordingly.

Waihi Estuary Walkway

Progress on the walkway was very limited at the beginning of 2015 due to ongoing discussion between affected parties and council. Despite being advised that we can continue with the project, because the project is subject to an unresolved dispute, PBRA elected to stall the funding submissions required to progress. A full report will be tabled at the AGM so please come along and hear how we are progressing with this project.

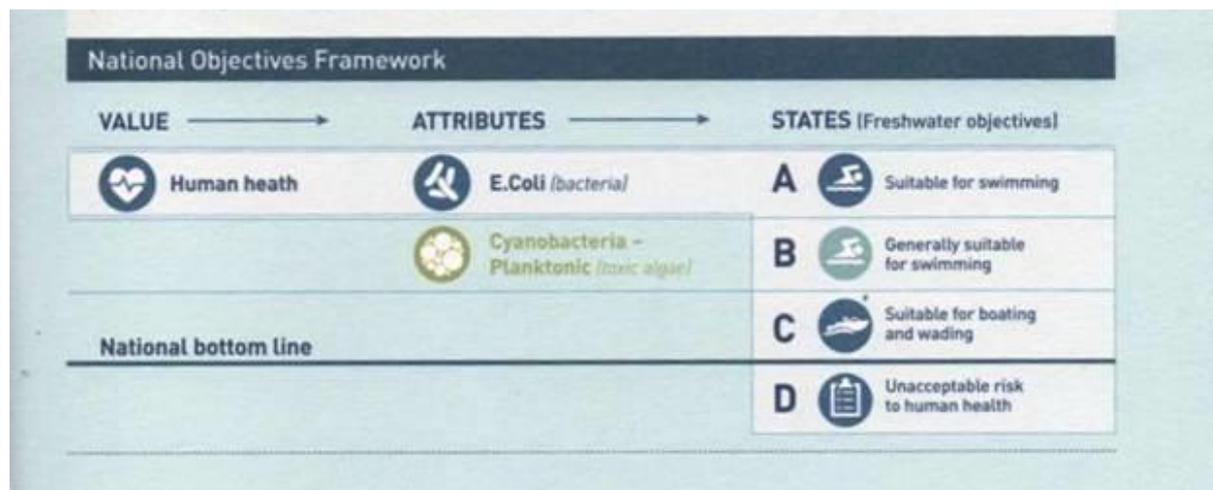
Submission on Plan Change 74: Coastal Hazards

The PBRA lodged a submission in November opposing the proposed plan change related to 50 and 100 year erosion projections (substantially related to sea level rise). Our opposition was on the basis that the science which determined the change is speculative and the provisions are not an appropriate way for the Council to manage coastal hazards. We have requested that consistent and realistic seal level projections are used nationally and that focus is placed on allowing protection of existing properties in already approved residential coastal communities. We contend that the provisions will not promote the sustainable management of Pukehina beach. Again we will provide more information and provide you with an opportunity to ask questions or make suggestions on how the committee can react on behalf of the Ratepayers.

Freshwater Futures

The quality of Fresh water in the area is under study by a forum of BOPRC, local residents and water users who are meeting to establish guidelines for managing it. The estuary is directly influenced by these incoming waters.

The bottom line is a choice of Grade A, B or C in the Pongakawa and Waitahanui streams. Comments about the safety of estuary waters for swimming and shellfish consumption are pertinent.



Community Emergency Response Plan

The newly revised plan has just been completed and is now available online on the WBOP Civil Defence Website and our very own Pukehina Beach Website.

An Emergency Response Plan handout will be available early in the New Year. It is our intention to have these delivered to each household as soon as they are available. We are at present designing the appropriate board signage to be erected at suitable locations.

The following subjects will ALSO be reported on at the AGM:

- Your Committee's Submissions to the District Plan
- Waste Water and associated Development Rate
- Solid Waste Management
- Dune Refurbishment program and the collection of the Special Rate
- Community Patrol Vehicle
- Waihi Estuary Care Group Activity/ Walkway
- Community Emergency Plan/ Tsunami Warning
- Closed Circuit TV Surveillance
- The Website
- Community Hall
- Dotterel Point & coastal environs

Finally as Chairman I must encourage you to attend the AGM and have your say and if you are hesitating please take a moment to read **The Associations' Mission Statement and Objectives attached** and remember you need to be there to vote on those important subjects above – you can influence the value of both of the Special Rates that the council collect on your behalf – you can influence the way we manage the spend of those rates.

Councillors Report

Councillors are currently involved in discussion about next year's Annual Plan. It appears there will be very little variation from the current proposals in the Long Term Plan. There will be some increase in water supply charges as this is the final year of phasing in of standard water and waste water charges across the district.

BOP Regional Council has approved funding to assist Te Puna West and Ongare Point Communities to install Waste Water Schemes. In spite of this, residents face substantial costs to get these schemes established. This reinforces the importance of the current Management Zone continuing to be effectively managed.

Council is also endeavouring to see that there is better provision of Broadband services to all Council communities. There is currently a real lack in this compared to city areas.

Maketu and Te Puke Ward Councillors wish you all a safe and relaxing summer – Kevin, John and Sue

Thank You Very Much

The Committee wish to acknowledge and thank the many local and not so local individuals and businesses who have supported the PBRA Committee with real tangible donations of their time, services and or materials that enable us provide the community with those services such as the Community Patrol Vehicle. Without the generosity of these people and business this valuable community service would not be affordable.

The Committee also wish to acknowledge and thank the Website Sponsors – again without that sponsorship your committee would not have been able to create and maintain this valuable community asset.

General items of information for the holiday season:

Pukehina Beach Website: www.pukehinabeach.co.nz

This continues to be popular with hits from all over the world. Our very grateful thanks to our current sponsors. If any local business is keen to sponsor a site at only \$100 annually, please email the PBRA secretary at pukehina.bra@gmail.com

Bikes on the Beach:

It's that time of the year that our beach is being used by a larger number of people and in particular children. We, **as Registered Beach Bike users**, need to be aware of this increased use and **take on the responsibility** of policing the behaviour of **all bikes** using the beach. Some riders will need a friendly signal to slow down but if you feel threatened don't get involved, just call Rex Ph 533 4345 with registration number and description of the bike and the misbehaviour.

Remember our ongoing access to the beach could be taken away by some inconsiderate bike user.

Rules for Registered Bike Use (for the sake of safety spread the word to all):

1. *Use only designated beach access ways to the beach (no private access from beach properties in order to minimise damage to dunes).*
2. *Whilst travelling on the road to the access ways, drive at a minimal speed. It must be noted it is illegal for non MOT registered bikes to be on the road at any time, and it is **illegal to have passengers** so it is very important not to raise Police attention.*
3. *Drive bike on the beach in a manner and at a speed that does not endanger other users of the beach. This is a most important obligation to retain riding access to the beach*
4. *Restrict beach driving whilst in the "housing area" of beach to 15 km per hour at all times.*
5. *Avoid driving the bike more than 1 metre above high tide mark at any location and at any time. This will protect the sand dunes and the planting on them.*

6. *Encourage other bike users to abide by these obligations. Remind them that **all bikes could be refused access by law** if bike users on the beach do not respect these rules.*
7. *Report misbehaviour call **533 4345** with registration number and description of misbehaviour.*
Remember all vehicles are prohibited on the spit west of the Surf club.

Estuary Harbour Warden- Important notes for Boat/Jet Ski users

1. The bar does shift constantly, so it is important that you check the location of the channel regularly at low tide.
2. The 5 knot speed limit is for the safety of all users of the water ways of our estuary and any boat/ski that goes over this limit is liable for a \$200 fine.

Dotterel Point and Environs

The spit continues to improve in many regards and Dotterel are now expanding across to Newdick's beach.

Dogs present one of the main threats to the Dotterels, so please respect the council by-law that prohibits them on the spit.

Dune Protection

If you want to protect your beach side property, call Coastcare 0800 884 880 for free native sand dune plants, fertiliser and advice.

Tennis Court use

The key system is continuing this summer season. A key can be purchased from the **Pukehina Beach Store** (the first dairy as you come into Pukehina), costing \$20.00 and will allow entry to the courts until Easter. Upon returning the key to the same place you can receive a refund of \$15.00. How good is that?

To ensure only paid up Key Holders have access please lock the gate while using the court and ensure it is locked when leaving.

Community Patrol Vehicle

It is a very effective but passive role assisting to secure a safer community.

We are pleased to report that this volunteer community-based activity is still very active at Pukehina Beach. The Association wishes to take this opportunity to thank those individuals who volunteer to patrol our community and report suspicious activity to the police. This activity is seen by the police as a huge deterrent to the criminal element and we are proud to be actively supporting this organisation. We intend to discuss the funding of this service at the AGM.

There is always a need for more volunteers to improve security, so please contact Rex ph 07 533 4345 for more information about the patrol activity if you can help.

BEACH 10K CHARITY FUND RAISER

2ND JANUARY 2016

Walkers starting at 9.30AM from the Pukehina Community hall to the Fishing Club & back
Runners and push bikes starting at 9.45AM From the Community hall to the Surf Club and back
Raffles - spot prizes - Sausage sizzle \$1 - Drinks \$1

ENTRY FEE: \$2.00

Proceeds: to the Pukehina Beach Community Patrol Car

Recycling Centre - Te Puke

The new recycle centre located at 36 Station Road Te Puke is open every Tuesday and Thursdays 9:00am to 3:30pm, and Saturday 9:00am to 4:00pm. Use of this site benefits the Avalon Disability Centre.

The centre will accept **free of charge**: Paper, Cardboard, Steel and Aluminium Cans, Glass Bottles and Jars, Plastic Soft Drink and Milk Bottles, Printer Cartridges and Fluorescent Lights.

The cost of Green waste is as follows: Car and Station Wagon \$7:00, Small Trailer and Utility \$24:00, Tandem Trailer \$46:00. The stem diameter must be no thicker than 100mm and length no longer than 3m. Green waste **not** accepted includes: Flax, Pampas, Bamboo, Gorse or Palm.

There are other refuse and recycle options within 40 minutes travel in every travel direction from Pukehina beach at The Mount, Rotorua and Whakatane.

Dog Owners

We would like to thank all responsible dog owners who keep their dogs under control on and around the beach AND for picking up after their pooches. Dogs being allowed on the beach during summer is another wonderful exclusive privilege at Pukehina so please keep respecting other beach users so that it continues. Avoid the bird sanctuary west of the surf club please.

Shellfish Warning

It is common over the summer months at Pukehina, that local shellfish become toxic. Please refer to current health warnings on government websites such as MPI (Ministry of Primary Industries), before collecting shellfish for human consumption. <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/travel-and-recreation/fishing/shellfish-biotxin-alerts>.

Neighbourhood Support

Our community has a dedicated voluntary team of 28 team leaders covering all the properties at Pukehina Beach. Our aim is to be instrumental in preventing crime in the area by keeping our eyes and ears open and reporting suspicious activity to the Police. We also want to help keep your properties safe and secure by advising you of any damage happening in your absence.

The Neighbourhood support team is very keen for you to

- Get behind neighbourhood support to keep Pukehina safe and free of crime
- Know who your team leader is
- Report ALL incidents or suspicious activities as soon as you can – nothing is too trivial!
- Get to know your immediate neighbours so that you can all look out for each other

Your team leader will happily assist in helping you achieve these.

Would you like to supply us with your contact details? If you have already done so could you please update us with any details that have changed? The information you supply will be passed on to the Team Leader looking after your stretch of the beach and will be kept confidential and be used only for Neighbourhood Support matters. If you have any questions or would like to be part of our team do not hesitate to contact us.

Please provide your details to the Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator, Joy Walker by;

- Phoning - 07 5333 787 or 0274 855 455
- Email - joy.walker@raywhite.com

Voting Procedures

The Following Voting Procedure is in place for a fair, clear vote, in line with the rules of the association.

The PBRA rules state:

1. Only paid up members can vote
2. Only ratepayers/ owners of property at Pukehina Beach may become Members
3. Membership may be in either one or joint names. Where there is joint membership - that is only one subscription has been paid per property, only one vote will be allowed.
4. Members who own more than one property may, if the required additional subscription(s) have been paid, have more than one vote allowed to them;
e.g. if they own three properties, and have paid three subscriptions they are entitled to three votes.

To allow the committee to manage the above process, it has formalised the AGM registration as follows:

- At the meeting, provide the following details: Name and Pukehina address, or if different, the address the rate demand is sent to: This will allow the Treasurer/Secretary to confirm that you are a ratepayer and a financial member of the association. **You may pay on the day.**
- On confirmation of being a financial member the Treasurer/Secretary will provide you with a batten to display to register a vote, or to move or second a motion.
- Non-members are allowed to speak with the chairman's permission.

Please come to the AGM and if you wish to vote on the important subjects, ensure that you are a financial member. See below the different options for payment of your subscription.

Subscription payment options:

- If you were a member last year and have provided us with an e mail address you will have received an invoice. Please just follow the instructions for payment (On-line is preferred). If you have not received an invoice via e mail choose the most convenient of the following:
- By Post – complete the enclosed subscription form and post a cheque to the address listed
- On-Line Banking – Go to the Webpage and complete the membership form. An invoice will be issued.
- Come to AGM with enclosed form filled out and cheque or cash

The Pukehina Beach Ratepayers Association Objectives & Mission Statement

Slogan:

Paradise - A kiwi beach like the one you remember. Created by nature, cared for by a great community.

Mission Statement:

To promote a great community that protects our environment and preserves our unique character.

Objectives:

Promote and Represent generally the interests & welfare of ratepayers at Pukehina Beach by:

1. Communication, Representation and networking;
2. Conserving the Environment;
3. Providing a Safe Community;
4. Fostering a Community that looks after each other;
5. Protecting the special character of the beach.



PUKEHINA BEACH RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR CASH RENEWAL FORM

* All boxes must be completed for new members.

Name of Property Owner: _____ *

Valuation Number : _____ or existing member ? ____ *

Postal address: _____ *

_____ *

Pukehina address: (If different) _____ *

Contact Person: _____ *

Email address: _____ *

Telephone numbers: _____ *

I Agree / Do Not Agree that this information may be used in the event of a civil emergency,

Signed: _____ Date: _____

SUBSCRIPTION

Annual subscription is \$20.00, invoiced September each year, gives you access to the member's section, all Newsletters, meeting minutes and some promotions; and voting rights at the AGM.

*When making your first payment, please use your **Property Valuation Number as a Reference** so that your membership payment can be correctly reconciled. **You will only need to do this once!***

Payment can be made either online

Received from: _____

Reference: (Valuation #) _____

Code: (Address) _____

Account Name: Pukehina Beach Ratepayers Assoc

Bank: Westpac, Te Puke

Bank Account Number: 03 0474 0429781 00

or by cheque

Please print application form and post to

The Treasurer,

Pukehina Beach Ratepayers Association

PO Box 113, Te Puke 3153

Please email application form after payment to: Pukehina.bra@gmail.com

PBRA Membership receipt - \$20.00 for year beginning 1st November 2015
(Manual payments only)

Name :

Date :

Received with thanks :

The Website member's logon is **pukehina** and the password is **advised upon receipt**