



Opito Bay Ratepayers' Association

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Sunday 9th April 2023, 5:40pm at Biel's Helicopter Shed

Welcome	The Chairman, Chris Severne, welcomed those present.	
<i>Present</i>	C Severne, P Cook, G Sycamore, E Scorgie, S Edens, T Costello, R Mahood, G Martin, Jay Williams, Grant Northcott, Robyn Mahood, Craig and Cassie Roe, Andrew McMillan <i>Note This list may be incomplete – please advise if you were at the meeting and not recorded above.</i>	
<i>Apologies</i>	C Parker, P Cornish, J Teat, Lee Framp, Duncan Watson, Fiona Taler, Chris Mygind, Christine Pullin, Aaron Power, Jeff Wilson, Grant and Gaylene Lonergan, Qwilton Biel	
Previous Meeting	MOVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 th April 2022 were a true and accurate record <i>Moved Sue Edens / Seconded Craig Roe</i>	AGREED
Chairperson's Report	Chris Severne read his Chair's Report, as attached below.	
Annual Financial Accounts	The Treasurer advised that draft accounts as circulated had been submitted to Jock Stuart for review. The final accounts will be circulated when received.	
Composite Motion	The motions set out below were taken together <i>Proposed Terry Costello Seconded Robyn Mahood</i>	
Chair's Report	MOVED that the Chair's Report as read and circulated be approved.	AGREED
Annual Accounts	MOVED that the draft annual accounts as circulated be approved, subject to circulation of final accounts in agreement	AGREED
Meeting Dates	MOVED that next year's meetings will be held on the Sunday of Labour Weekend, Auckland Anniversary Weekend and Easter Weekend.	AGREED
Election of Committee and Officers	Chairman Chris Severne, Treasurer Paul Cook, Secretary Cheryle Parker, Craig Roe, Glen Sycamore, Ed Scorgie, Sue Edens, Perry Cornish, Jonny Teat There being no further business the meeting closed at 6:20pm.	AGREED

Opito Bay Ratepayers' Association

| Chairman

Date |

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Ōpito Bay Ratepayers Association Chairman's Report 2022/23

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone on the Committee for their time and efforts during the year, with particular mention due for Cheryle Parker in her capacity as Secretary and Paul Cook as Treasurer. I would also like to thank our Committee Members, Jonny Teat, Nathan Tesselaar, Sue Edens, Craig Roe, Glen Sycamore, Perry Cornish and Edward Scorgie. Nathan has decided to step down from the Committee and I would like to personally thank him for his service. I also have pleasure in again recording our gratitude to Jock **Stuart**, who prepares our accounts on a pro bono basis, and to the Biel family for their continued generosity in making the Helicopter Shed available for meetings.

During the year OBRA made funding commitments to support the traps and lures for Pest Free Ōpito Bay, construction of timber bridges for the safe use of the Matapaua Bay road walking track, a new navigation light for the swim raft and a complete overhaul of the raft after it came ashore in a storm. In addition we have given funds to Kahu consultants to work with the Council for a plan change to allow for our Dark Sky Community to be approved. Your Chair meets quarterly with TCDC and other Chairs from North Mercury Bay to pass on concerns you have. We have a strong relationship with the Council and our liaison officer Heather Bruce actions our requests quickly and professionally.

Craig Roe is coordinating our Pest Free Ōpito programme ably supported by Rachael, Richard, Margaret and Cassie. Craig will give an update at the meeting on the success of this programme which has seen a marked reduction in mammalian pests. Craig and his team are also focusing on weed control on the Matapaua Bay tracks. The Ōpito community and committee owes a lot to the work of this group. The work this team have done should be applauded and gives our community a wonderful walking track giving access to the waterfall and Sandy Bay. Congratulations on a job well done!

Another Sustainable Coastlines session was held last year to check on the state of the beach with regard to plastic contamination. Ōpito was in the top 3 beaches of over 300 checked throughout New Zealand with the least plastic contamination! A big thankyou to Hilke Giles, Jennie Bruce and the volunteers who turned up to help.

The wilding pine programme has been completed with only some 'tidying up' to be done. Thanks to Aaron Power for co ordinating this on our behalf.

Since we helped initiate with Ngāti Hei and Kūaotunu Communities a 2 year rāhui in September 2021, 45% of the Hauraki Gulf was protected from scallop dredging. The Minister has now agreed that the stocks are in great danger and has formally closed the fishery for another 3 years. This will allow stocks to replenish.

The finances of the Association are in good shape, but there are around **one quarter** of ratepayers who do not pay subscriptions, and about a fifth who are not on our email database. Contact Paul Cook our Treasurer on prcook@me.com to sign up as an OBRA member. While the Committee works hard to collect the subscriptions and maintain our records, it would make life easier if more people could do this proactively. This is particularly important as we move to increase our financial support for a variety of community initiatives from which we all benefit. Your annual subs of \$50 can be paid directly into the OBRA Westpac account # 03 1578 0007035 000.

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Roger Gwynne has taken over running of our annual fishing competition. Unfortunately due to bad weather the competition was cancelled. We look forward to it returning in 2024. The OBRA Committee thanks Roger and his team for creating a great event.

Special thanks also to Cheryle Willoughby and her team of helpers for once again putting on a great Sports Day on New Year's Day and the sponsors including Zuru who supplied toys to the children. Both these events are an integral part of our Community and are appreciated by us all!

Finally, I repeat our annual call for some younger members of the Community to join the Committee – we really do need some new blood and broader support, so please consider giving a small amount of your time to help us.

Chris Severne,

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