

Minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Incorporated Society meeting held at the Tararua District Council Service Centre, 136 Main Street, Pahiatua on 7 May 2025 at 7pm

1. Present

- 1.1. Committee Members: Ali Romanos (Chair), Raylene Treder (Deputy Chair), Georgina Morrison (Secretary), Marie Kissick (Treasurer), Ingrid de Graaf.
- 1.2. Tararua District Council Representatives: Crs Alison Franklin and Scott Gilmore
- 1.3. Members of the public: Nil

2. Apologies

- 2.1. Sanam Asalmani, James Devoe, and Anaissa Mandal.

That the apologies are accepted.

Carried

3. Conflicts of Interest

- 3.1 None noted.

4. Notification of Items not on the agenda / General Business

- 4.1. Grant Application from Yellow Plane Gallery.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua meeting held Wednesday 2 April 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Carried

6. Matters Arising

- 6.1. Ali confirmed a wreath was purchased and laid on behalf of Explore at ANZAC day.
- 6.2. Raylene confirmed the Golf Club was informed of their grant application outcome.
- 6.3. Marie has sent the accountability report for the dog park.

Action: Secretary to ask successful grant recipients to report back with receipts spent, photos and a short report. Work with Marie to change grant conditions to acknowledge the grant publicly and to return any unspent funds.

Action: Georgina to check in with Sanam on progress updating the website.

7. Correspondence

7.1. Inwards

- i. Rocketspark re Email issue.

- ii. Requests for Funding Application Forms
 - 1. Annette Bethell: Friends of Mangatainoka-Pahiatua Cemetary
- iii. Buy A Block for Swimming Pool
 - 1. Phil Bollard - Gold block
 - 2. Stewart Checkley - Gold block
- iv. IRD: Seeking information about a contractor
- v. Invoice - Robert Smith: Mowing Invoice
- vi. Invoice - Nova Energy
- vii. Jenny Lovett - vendor information from an Explore event
- viii. Tararua District Council - acknowledging receipt of LWDW Submission

7.2. Outwards

- i. Ali Romanos - LWDW Submission

Action: Committee members to use Marie's alternative email address.

That the inwards be received and outwards noted.

Carried

8. Tararua District Council Report (Cr Alison Franklin)

- 8.1. Council has been heavily focused on submission's hearings. Local Water Done Well (LWDW) decisions to be made soon following more information from staff.
- 8.2. The next large piece of work is the Annual Plan with submissions due May 15th and Reserve Management Plan Consultation opens on 20th June.
- 8.3. Key discussion areas from the Annual Plan:
 - funding for footpaths to prevent further deterioration
 - WAI Splash wants to purchase an adjacent piece of land for parking and safety.

Action: Ali to prepare Annual Plan submission and circulate to committee before filing.

- 8.4. Discussion was held around recycling standards, which are being applied strictly with bins rejected no obvious warnings that that will occur. The Antenna reminders make requests (e.g. no lids, not overfull crates) but do not stipulate that bins will not be collected if requests not adhered to. Several community comments have been noted on Facebook on same issue. Cr Franklin and Cr Gilmore noted contamination has been an issue which staff need to deal with and also fly-tipping. Recycling has been standardised across New Zealand which may account for some of the changes. They noted waste is already heavily subsidised with 60% of the cost of dealing with transfer waste paid by Council.

Ingrid left the meeting at 7.53pm.

That Cr Alison Franklin's Council Report be received.

Carried

9. Financial Report (Marie Kissick)

9.1. Current status

The balance of the main account is \$70,675.53.

The balance of the Business Group account is \$1,157.31.

9.2. Invoices to be approved for payment on 20 May:

	Payee	Description	Amount
1.	De Lesseps Media Ltd	Bush Telegraph Feature	\$538.84
2.	Mitre 10	Community Garden Seedlings	\$9.81
3.	Nova Energy	Youth Centre – power (due 8 May)	\$96.82
		TOTAL	\$645.4

We have also paid the following invoice since the last meeting which is to be retrospectively approved:

Toki Mowing	Quarterly invoice for mowing at Polish Memorial Site (for period to June '25)	\$400.00
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9.3. Tagged Funds

	Project	Amount
1.	Harvard Playground	\$20,000.00
2.	Carnival Park (originally \$9,289.33 but reduced by \$1,736.25 for Jan invoice, \$985 for seedlings, \$1,471.25 ABC invoice June, \$1,000 tree removal June.)	\$4,096.83
3.	Bush Telegraph Advertising (less payments since 1 August)	\$986.60
4.	Community Garden remaining infrastructure works	\$ 181.70
5.	Community garden operating costs for year ended June 2025	\$ 680.73
6.	Lawnmowing for Polish memorial (until Nov 2025)	\$800.00

	Project	Amount
7.	Discretionary funding originally \$7,507 (less \$1,700 for Pahiatua Painting and Sculpture Group, \$750 for Toy Library, \$1,000 for Pahiatua Shears, \$1,555 Children's Day)	\$2,502.00
	TOTAL	\$29,247.86

9.4. The Yellow Plane Gallery has requested a grant for \$2,000 for creative workshop sessions for locals with disabilities.

9.5. Discussion was held that financials should accompany grants, that the Committee's role in assessment is to ensure an organisation doesn't have large unspent funds. On this occasion, we are comfortable with Marie providing that assessment without the need to share financials with the wider community.

The Committee approve a grant of \$2,000 for The Yellow Plane Gallery to provide creative workshops. The Committee ask that photos of sessions and a short statement are provided to create a report.

Carried

That the financial report from Marie Kissick (Treasurer) for the preceding month be received and identified invoices approved for payment.

Carried

10. Portfolio Report Discussion

10.1. **Rotary Dog Park:** portfolio is finished and will now be removed from Committee business. \

10.2. **Treasure Carnival Park.**

Action: Ali to request from Karolyn for a copy of the Health & Safety Manual referred to.

10.3. **Civil Defence:** Georgina noted her work is conducting research into how Civil Defence /Councils have interacted with Community following Cyclone Gabrielle and Auckland Anniversary floods. There are a lot of negative responses so Georgina noted it's been great to have the opposite experience with TDC. Sarah and Pete from TDC have been supportive and empowering which is fabulous.

10.4. **Harvard Playground Upgrade:** The Yellow circle swing has been identified as a hazard. Raz noted there have been different options being looked at as a replacement

10.5. **Youth Centre:** Negotiations ongoing with potential purchaser. Discussion that Explore Pahiatua items will need to be removed and stored. Cr Gilmore noted that Positively Woodville use a shipping container for storage of items.

Action: Ali and James to arrange disposal / storage of items at Youth Centre.

10.6. **Cycleways:** Ali proposed a community working bee to try and deal with the issue (with a BBQ following). The project requires commercial equipment and noted it may be difficult to blanket spray (both for access and because it adjoins the river – spot-spraying for maintenance won't be an issue, however)_ Cr Franklin recommended talking to Jack Keist who is the Biosecurity Expert who works for Horizons, and provided Ali Jack's details.

Action: Ali to arrange for Facebook/Bush (with Ingrid) advertising for community support following a discussion with Jack.

10.7. **Portfolio/project reports annexed below:**

- Pahiatua Districts Business Group (PDBG)
- Explore Pahiatua Marketing
- Treasure Carnival Park
- Community Garden
- Swimming Pool
- Rotary Dog Park
- Road Safety Committee
- Civil Defence
- Harvard Playground Upgrade
- Youth Centre
- Cycleways Project
- Stage

Next meeting date: 4 June 2025 at Tararua District Council Service Centre, 136 Main Street, Pahiatua

Meeting Closed at 8:48pm.

Ali Romanos (Chair): _____

Annexures – Portfolio Reports

Pahiatua Districts Business Group (PDBG) (Ingrid de Graaf)

- On the 30th April I held a lunchtime session for Crystal Blue Waterblasting. Had around 6 attend which was encouraging and the group was a great sounding board for Ben and Erin. I believe they came away with a number of new leads to follow up on and some very sound feedback on directions to move forward within their business.
- Late May - Employment Law workshop with our very own Sanam! (to be advertised soon)
- Late June - GST workshop held by MCI & Associates (to be advertised soon)
- Recently attended a great local quiz night which gave me plenty of inspiration for this year's PDBG quiz! (likely November)

Explore Pahiatua Marketing (Ingrid de Graaf)

- April Bush Telegraph - Dog park article
- May Bush Telegraph - available - Project Blackberry?
- Facebook: Shared Sculpture Exhibition in Woodville, Shared PDBG event, Shared TDC post regarding ANZAC services, shared PDBG event again.

Treasure Carnival Park (Karolyn Donald)

- Peter has finished 10 odd days of weed control and will forward an invoice in due time. Met last week with him, Stan, Richard, and new Wairarapa DOC community manager who really enjoyed meeting everyone and seeing the reserve for himself. His name is Stuart McKay. He has experience in funding applications for community groups and offered his help with our applications going forward.
- Have applied for \$77k from Horizons regional council Biodiversity fund for removal of the exotic trees on the western boundary of the reserve. Application submitted yesterday. Stuart looked over it and made useful suggestions which I made use of. Have attached for your info as it explains where we are currently in the project overall.
- Health and safety manual has been updated for treasure carnival park under the requirements of the community agreement.

Community Garden (Emma Elliott)

- It's been a quiet month in the community garden as volunteers take a well earned rest from a busy summer.
- All produce has been shared with volunteers or delivered to Help N Hands.
- A materials list has been drawn up for blackberry wires, conversion of shed verandah to a shade house and spouting at the back of the picnic table shelter. Mitre 10 are pricing this up.
- April's beginners gardening session was well attended and REAP Wairarapa have been notified that we intend on running more sessions in August, September, October and November.
- Our Creative Communities funded mural is work in progress with no date for the reveal confirmed.

Swimming Pool

- Expressions of Interest (EOI) have closed, with twelve interested parties - Next stage for the

Council procurement team is the Request for Pricing (RFP).

Rotary Dog Park (Raylene Treder)

- Bush Multisports caretakers are happy to complete the spraying of the lime path as needed.
- This space is being well utilised as a recreational space with many people walking the lime track while their dogs play.

Road Safety Committee (Marie Kissick)

- Marie to get in touch with Constable Maxine Walshe as she has been on leave.

Civil Defence (Georgina Morrison)

- I've meet with Sarah from TDC to clarify spending prior to year end and thanks to Raylene for providing thoughts on Civil Defence plans.

Harvard Plane Upgrade (James Devoe)

- **Playground:** We are still awaiting the design from the playground designer for the replacement of the monkey bars.
- **Stage:** Raylene has submitted a funding application and is awaiting confirmation on its success.

Youth Centre (Ali Romanos)

- Kaylene has been doing a great job negotiating the sale on our behalf. Hope to get it concluded shortly.
- James and I will do a trip to the tip to dispose of some junk in the garage. There's also a need to store our Explore gazebos and Christmas decorations etc. Storage containers aren't super cheap, but I think better than committee members storing in our own garages etc. So I **propose** that I arrange a storage unit.

Cycleways Project (Ali Romanos)

- I obtained helpful papers from Gerry, but didn't include the Waireka application.
- I met with Kody Hodder (local landscaping) and Don Cameron separately, and went for walk along the river with both (from the bridge to the dam). To be clear, this is a TRICKY job. When you go down to the river and have a look, it's really quite overwhelming as to how to tackle it.
- First job, though, must be to somehow clear the blackberry and old man's beard. I suggest we do an advertisement for "Project Blackberry" and (a) see who can lend diggers, trucks, and (b) arrange a working bee to have the crack at the first part of the blackberry, from Tui Street going north. We've discussed spraying and other options, such as mulching and/or burning the foliage once it's been removed. There's a massive section of blackberry further up the line.
- At this stage, I think we should seek community help to clear the first part, and have Kody act as the 'official' person on site, as he can arrange the H&S components etc. We will also need to liaise with Council (I believe) as we'll need to remove the fence, and possibly also

the steel barriers.

- I've been trying to get hold of locals who might have diggers or machinery we can borrow.
- If we have to hire trucks etc. commercially, then this will be very expensive.

Stage

- Raylene has submitted a funding application and is awaiting confirmation on its success.