Community Committee
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PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN CIRCULATED & NOTED AS A TRUE & CORRECT RECORD UNTIL THE FOLLOWING MEETING.

Minutes of the Explore Pahiatua Incorporated Society meeting held at the Tararua District Council Service Centre, 136 Main Street, Pahiatua on 7 October 2026 at 7pm

1. Present

1.1 Committee Members: Raylene Treder (Chair), Georgina Morrison (Secretary), Joanna Laing (Treasurer), Ingrid de Graaf, Anaissa Mandal, James Devoe.

1.2 Tararua District Council Representative: Cr Peter Naylor

1.3 Members of the public: Emma Elliott, Joline Johnston, Linda MacKenzie-Brooking, Deborah McKay

2. Apologies

2.1 Cr Elisabeth Kennedy, Rebecca Brown

3. Conflicts of Interest

3.1 Nil

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

4.1 Working with charities

5. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Explore Pahiatua meeting held on Wednesday, 9 September 2026 (as amended) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Carried

6. Matters Arising

6.1 Georgina asked if another Board member could take responsibility for checking the Defib and Joanna Laing offered to do this in the future.

7. Correspondence

Inwards

i. AGM attendance
    1. Emma Elliot
    2. Joline Johnston
    3. Linda MacKenzie-Brooking
ii. Aon: Briar Morreel - New Insurance Broker
iii. Pahiatua Info Centre Martha Field - Pahiatua Signs (as below)
iv. Tararua District Council:
    1. Raylene Treder Community Development Officer Funders Forum (as below)

2. Fontayne Chase - Walk of Fame tiles
3. Jodine Hood Operations Coordinator - Pahiatua Waste Water Treatment Plant Opening
4. Melua Watson - Drinking water network upgrade

v. Buy-A-Block
    1. Bronze Block: Elizabeth Heap
    2. Silver Block: Sue & John Hunter
vi. Palmerston North City Library - Explore listed on their Community Pages
vii. Companies Office - Filing date
viii. Tararua Alliance / Downer - Christmas Parade Sponsorship
ix. Request for Funding Application
    1. Hato Hone St John - Veronica Wood
x. Invoices
    1. TokiMows Robert Smith
xi. Ngāti Kahungunu, Rangitāne Ariana Nikora-Mclaren | Te Kahu Tūhono - Cultural Engagement Coordinator
xii. Michael Hilliard re Carnival Park: enquiry about when the debris will be cleaned up

Outwards

i. Nil

7.1 Items Arising - Georgina to discuss Carnival Park conversation with Michael Hilliard.

That the inwards be received and outwards noted.

Carried

8. Council Report - Cr Peter Naylor on behalf of Cr Kennedy

- Long Term Plan discussions were delayed this month following the unexpected passing of Councillor Peter Johns. Peter served on Council for 15 years and had a genuine passion and dedication to his community, particularly Woodville, alongside his many other community commitments. His contribution to both Council and the wider Tararua District will be greatly missed. It was noted there will be a bye-election to fill this role and that it would be good to have a candidate from Pahiatua.
- Council continues to work through the future of water services, including the transition to Waitī Waters and ongoing investment in our water infrastructure, including improvements to the Pahiatua Water Treatment Plant.
- Work on the 2027–37 Long Term Plan is also underway, with recent discussions including depreciation, infrastructure renewals and how Council funds these costs over the longer term.

Raylene and the wider Committee acknowledge the passing on Peter Johns and pass on our condolences to Council and Peter's family. He was such an advocate of the Tararua community.

9. Financial Report

9.1 Current status

Balance of Accounts:			Remainder Funding:	
Main Account	Business Group	Term Deposit (Youth fund)	Grant Funding	Tagged funds
$89,541.17	$1,364.40	$138,842.25	$7,267.41	$87,738.14

9.2 Invoices to be approved for payment on 20th:

Mitre10	$97.37
Toki Lawns	$420
De Lesseps Media Limited	$538.84
Tararua District Council - Road Closures EXCH	$163.00
Total Due	$1,219.21

9.3 Tagged funds

Harvard Playground	$20,000.00
Carnival Park (originally $9,289.33 but reduced by invoices/charges; reflects $2,708.33 received for weed management share)	$3,212.16
Bush Telegraph Advertising	$
Community Garden remaining infrastructure works	$855.19
Lawnmowing for Polish memorial (until Nov 2026)	$1,260
Discretionary funding (originally $8117.41)	$7,267.41
Meeting fees/7 members yearly 2026	$6750
Civil Defence Group	$14883
Explore Christmas	$10,000.00
Dog Park maintenance	$921.40
Bush Aquatic Trust (Paid FEB 2026) $10,000	$0
Pavers	$20,000
Insurance	$1224.58
Business Group of $1,500. (JAN 2026)	$1,364.40
Total	**$87,738.14**

That the financial report for the preceding month be received and that identified invoices are approved for payment. Carried

10. Grant Applications

10.1 Nil this month.

11. Portfolio Reports

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

- A successful workshop "AI, Robotics and The Future of Work" was held on the 10th September with a good turnout. A huge thanks to our host, Peter Naylor, who was an excellent speaker.

- Have just followed up with Jo Laing and Rachel Ireland regarding PDBG / Tararua College collab events on Employment Agreements and Gateway. If dates are provided I will organise these events for 2026.
- A date has been set for the annual PDBG Quiz which is Friday, 13 November. Bush Multisport upstairs lounge has booked in. Marketing to begin this week. After attending the recent Mangamaire Hall quiz event, I might look at some changes to the format and way the event is run. Possibly turn it into a fundraiser?
- A draft has been started for the "Business of the Month" scheme - I need to finish this and launch this - possibly start fresh in 2027?
- The new flag was used at our September event and looks great - very good quality.

Explore Pahiatua Marketing (Ingrid de Graaf & Anaissa)

- Website - Just doing some drop-down tweaks on the website so we can have more pages and add subheadings. This will allow us to have unlimited clickable links and give us the ability to add all the portfolios and other upcoming information to the website.

  I'll need to get the committee's thoughts on the main headings and what should sit under each subheading, just so we can organise the information clearly and make the website easy to navigate.

  8 Visible pages Headings and under them are the sub headings inclusive of all portfolios (with the templates on each page)

  1. Home: Our journey, Contact us
  2. Business: pdbg, Pahiatua retail list
     a. TO ACTION: Email from One19 about the retail list and how and when this gets updated- annually? How to decide which ones gets in? How to verify business?
  3. Community: Community garden, road safety, youth, marae details, medical centre, schools
  4. Committee: upcoming projects, agm,
  5. Recreation: dog park, carnival park, swimming pool, playground, stadium,
  6. Civil defense: vulnerable persons
  7. Events: explore christmas
  8. Services: stage hire, social and print media

  Bush Telegraph (Ingrid answering) -

  No Bush Telegraph advert for September.
  5th October - Displaced Persons community event advert (already placed alongside article by Virginia Laws).
  26 October - Community Garden advert (to be completed with help from Emma Elliott)
  Also for the Bush Telegraph, I have spoken to Steve about putting in the update about the pool - just working through this.

  Facebook (Ingrid answering) -

  7 September - Dark Skies post
  8 September - Share PDBG event
  19 September - Thank you post for volunteers who helped with planting at the Dog Park
  28 September - Event created for AGM
  2 October - Share TDC update about Pahiatua swimming pool
  6 October - Post regarding Displaced Persons community event

Cycleway project (Ingrid de Graaf)

- Have a meeting with Nick Rogers (Tui HQ) scheduled for this Thursday, 8 October to discuss the project
- Have a draft Business Case ready which requires refinement
- Have discussed a walk along the river with interested committee members but no date set yet - would like to check out parts of the track first

- Checked in with Fontayne Chase (TDC) regarding the land titles, and she checked with Sharna-Leigh Forbes (TDC) but no response was received. Have just checked in again.

Road Safety Committee (Raylene Treder)

- Answered by Ingrid - On 10 September Raylene checked in with Mayor Scott Gilmore to see if there was someone who could organise a meeting with the Alliance in regards to the work done by Glenn Connelly (NZTA) regarding the Mangahao Road/State Highway 2 intersection. We were referred to Hamish Featonby (TDC) by email, but he never replied, even upon follow up on the 22 September by Ingrid. I have followed up again (on 6 Oct).

Swimming Pool (Raylene Treder)

- Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the fundraising campaign following the public appeal. We greatly appreciate the ongoing support from the Pahiatua community. While additional funding is still being secured by Bush Aquatic Trust, work continues on exploring the feasibility of delivering an indoor aquatic facility for Pahiatua.
- The Bush Aquatic Trust and Council are currently exploring a range of options, including potential changes to the original design of the facility.
  While the full additional $2 million required for the original scope has not yet been secured, options are being explored that would retain the critical components of the original design, while allowing capacity for future expansion as further funding becomes available.
- Council remains committed to working alongside the Bush Aquatic Trust and the community to explore opportunities for an indoor aquatic facility, while ensuring any future project is affordable, sustainable and supported by sufficient funding.
- We'll keep the community informed as key project decisions are made and project timeframes and next steps are confirmed.
  Want to support the project?
- The support shown by our community has already made a real difference. As fundraising continues, every donation helps move this project closer to becoming a reality.

Youth (Raylene Treder)

- The Tararua Youth Network members are planning a visit to Horowhenua, Masterton and Carterton youth spaces.
- Applications are to be submitted to Lotteries and ECCT for the purchase of a Community van.
- Kelly Wylie and Raylene Treder are continuing to work on the Tararua Youth Strategy

It was noted that Pahiatua School is also currently looking to purchase a van which may present as a possibility to collaborate. Raylene will talk to David Jackson.

Harvard Playground Upgrade (James Devoe)

- No update.

Stage (James Devoe)

- Approved via email for the stage to be used for Peter Johns funeral at no charge. Thank you to James Devoe and Harri Brown for giving their time for free as well. This has been much appreciated by Mayor Scott Gilmore and TDC.

Civil Defence (Georgina Morrison)

- Have booked in a meeting with St Anthonys. Working with Anaissa on the Vulnerable Person list. It's now online so just working out technical issues before we get paper versions into the Pharmacy and then start pushing it out into the Community.
- Attended the last Tararua District Council Emergency Management Committee - Welfare Meeting. There is strong concern about drought this upcoming summer.
- Bexx is following up on the plug for the generator - again.

Explore Christmas (Bexx)

- Planning is well underway. Next meeting is the following week after this meeting. All food sites are booked out. Ingrid is in progress for road closures. The committee agreed to only close the road for the parade period, as it had been discussed that we could have closed for longer.
- $2000 was gifted to Explore Christmas from leftover funds from Tararua Alliance. Jo has prepared an invoice for payment. Logos have been given to Explore Christmas for promotional means.

Community Garden (Fiona)

- The work continues at the Com Garden with the main current team having some "project" areas they have been working on.
- Karen has added more shelving and hanging spots for tools in the main shed (& keeps it tidy). She has also fixed a tool/vege wash station to the post by the tap.
- Steve has finished the Brassica houses and what a difference they have made - the plants inside are growing well. He has modified them and we hope people will close them better now. He has also improved the path which was dangerous with slippery moss.
- David is keeping the lawns mowed & tidy.
- Brian is bringing in LOTS of loads of horse poo (with only occasional help) that has been kindly donated.
- Fiona is growing seedlings (from seeds saved from last year & donated) in the "glasshouse".
- Jenny, Anna & Melody do heaps of weeding, tidying & planting.
- All the team help with weeding, bed preparation & planting alongside any extra helpers that come to the working bees.
- We had a cuppa last session using the new kettle Karen was tasked to get. It holds more water so we could use the "big" cups.
- Joline from Help n hand has run two school holiday programs planting bean & pea seeds donated by TUI Garden products. (SHUSH: Heavy rain fell so the bean seeds on top were put underneath the soil again at the last working bee). The kids have made some great PEAS & BEANS signs (see photos).
- Emma has indicated she will come to the next session (with bday cake) so we look forward to that! She has been in & planted some donated bok choy around the garden (it looks pretty, is not in high demand but used by some regular volunteers on restricted diets).
- See board photo for main plantings (black is planted, green is planned). Note that we have planted heaps of silverbeet/Spinach as this is highly wanted.

This December will mark 5 years of the new and improved Community Garden. Emma will seek some funding from us to help celebrate the work that has taken place.

Carnival Park (Karolyn) Answered by Ingrid:

- Karolyn is now unable to attend our October meeting but hoping to attend our November meeting.
- Georgina and Ingrid meet on 23 September to look over the Community Agreement with DOC - a number of points require clarification or revision - Georgina has the notes of our discussion. A meeting was requested with Karolyn and Wendy Gray (DOC).
- Bexx is looking into the posts required to fix the boundary fence, now that we have the specs of the posts that are required (68 posts in total).
- Ingrid has been communicating with Foodflo regarding their offer of community service and a planting date has tentatively been set for early November when Peter Russell returns from Ireland (providing the fence has been reinstated by then and the burning piles resolved by JDM)
- Karolyn has begun planning to sort the manuka and kanuka before they are planted - a small working bee of around 5 people - trimming roots, tops, watering etc - but no date set yet.
- Karolyn has suggested a meeting with Wendy and Peter but not until early November (when Peter is back) - however this is after the current community agreement has expired and I am unsure if this is an issue?
- Karolyn has also emailed to say she wishes to step back from the Treasure Carnival Park role but that there are community members interested. I have questioned if she has anyone in mind to take over? She has requested we discuss this at our meeting.

Dog Park (James)

- Noted thanks to James for planting 200 grasses over several weekends.
- It was also noted the 'dead' tree is not dead.

Voluntary sector (Georgina)

- Help n Hand are open 2 days a week and offers food parcels. Great relationship with Wai Waste in Masterton. We don't have a food rescue organisation in our district which was highlighted in the Food Security Report that Emma wrote 5 years ago. Also have clothes available and run SuperGrans.
- 3rd Tuesday of the month voluntary meeting. Pahiatua Network Meeting. 20th.
- Georgina to come and speak to Help n Hand about Civil Defense.

12. Town Signage

12.1 Are Explore Pahiatua willing to take this on? Deborah said she was willing to provide the admin on this. Georgina to help create an email destination for these signs.

It was discussed that although there was a notice on Facebook and potentially in the Bush Telegraph that it could be good to have an information sign.

Ingrid will attend a Pahiatua Information Centre wrap up event on 30th of October.

13. Carnival Park Update

13. Linda MacKenzie-Brooking explained her concerns around Carnival Park. It was agreed there is a real opportunity to get community involved. Menzshed have offered to make seats and boardways but are waiting to get approved. This process needs to be transparent. It was noted Hayley Pocock at the Council (is very supportive also).

Action: Ingrid and Georgina to continue work and communication including planning a community meeting then to update actions and activity on Facebook (Talking Pahiatua, Talking Pahiatua 2.0, Tenacious Tararua) and a poster in New World noticeboard.

Next meeting date: 7.00pm November 4th 2026 at Tararua District Council Service Centre, 136 Main Street, Pahiatua.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Raylene Treder (Chair): _____