

Picton Regional Forum held at Picton Emergency Centre, Memorial Park, Picton, on Thursday Monday 8 July 2019 at 1.30 pm

Present

Clr Taylor (Chairperson), Dean Heiford (MDC), Jono Underwood (MDC)

Graham Low (Picton Smart & Connected), Graham Gosling (Picton Business Group), Jon Perano (Picton Museum), Monyeen Wedge (QCS Residents Association), Tim Healey, (QCS Residents Association), Stuart Eyes (NZ Heritage), Michelle Campbell (Greypower), Rebecca Woledge (Karakā Point), Judith Andrew (Ngakuta Bay), Linda Thompson (Enviro-hub Marlborough), Don Miller (Whatamango Bay), Rose Prendeville (Port Marlborough), Sylvie Heard (Te Ātiawa), Raewyn Buchanan (Karakā Point)

Guest Speaker:

Catherine Coates

Present:

Rebecca Waldron (Secretary)

Apologies:

Clr Oddie, Clr Hook, Steve Merito, Dave Hayes, Matt Walters, John Reuhman, Steve Murrin, Helen Neighbour-Cone, Bryan Strong

Moved: Graham Gosling/Jon Perano

Carried:

1. Confirm previous minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2019 were confirmed.

Moved: Graham Low/Michelle Campbell

Carried

2. Picton Civil Defence Update – Catherine Coates

- Catherine is the Welfare Manager for Marlborough Emergency Management. She looks after the welfare of people and animals in an emergency.
- Catherine's role involves engaging with communities to get them to think about what they need to do in emergencies and how to help themselves as much as possible in the aftermath of an event. Things to consider include:
 - The choices that are available for different scenarios, such as planning escape routes in the event of a tsunami. Check smart maps on Council's website (link below) for tsunami inundation zones;
<https://maps.marlborough.govt.nz/smmaps/?map=61a36a29276b4d4888306321f4448b83>
 - In an emergency your first responder is often going to be your neighbour;
 - How long people and communities are able to cope without power;
 - Making provision if the road is closed and you are unable to get home from work; and
 - How to keep reliably informed on what is happening.

- The Civil Defence Centres in Picton are situated at Waikawa Marae, Holy Trinity Church and Endeavour Pavilion.
- A Picton Civil Defence group has recently been set up and volunteers are undertaking training in different aspects of CD. If you would like more information on becoming a volunteer contact Catherine at Catherine.Coates@marlborough.govt.nz. Havelock, Linkwater, Rarangi and Renwick have also got CD groups or are in the process of forming them.
- Marlborough Civil Defence is putting out a quarterly newsletter with information for communities on preparedness (link to the latest newsletter below):
https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:1w1mps0ir17q9sgxanf9/hierarchy/Documents/CDEM/CDEM_Newsletters_List/FOUR_Rs_WINTER2019.pdf
- Catherine requested that members present ask their own organisations to discuss what is important to their communities in the recovery after a major event. She gave the time phases of 1 week, 1 month and 1 year post event and has asked that members report back via the Forum with ideas of the most important things required by the community and noted that these would not necessarily be physical structures. This is to help her with short term recovery planning after a major event. (Added to Action Points).
- Fuel stocks after an event were discussed. It was confirmed that no agencies can hold reserves of fuel.

Catherine withdrew from the meeting at 2.05 pm.

3. Biosecurity Update – Jono Underwood – Biosecurity Manager MDC

- Jono gave a presentation to the group on the Marine Biosecurity Programme focussing on the Mediterranean fan worm (MFW) infestations which have been found in the Marlborough Sounds recently. (Appendix 1).
- He outlined the processes overseen by MPI to protect our waters. MPI liaise with ships which enter our water directly from overseas to make sure they meet New Zealand biosecurity requirements and noted that ships have been turned away which don't comply.
- A programme to control MFW is included in the Regional Pest Management Plan and councils and MPI are working together in the Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership to deliver the programme. Vessels entering the Marlborough Sounds from other areas must have been anti-fouled within the last six months and cleaned within one month. Council is working closely with the Marlborough Sound's marinas to implement these requirements. Structures such as jetties and moorings are also being monitored.
- If a vessel is found with an infestation it is immediately wrapped and treated.
- Jono noted that if you suspect you have seen MFW it is a requirement to notify Council. It would also be helpful to inform Council if you know of a fouled vessel that has arrived from Auckland. At this stage it is believed that MFW has not become established in our district.
- The issue of Parchment worm was raised. Jono clarified that this pest has been in our waters since the 1970s but has become more prevalent lately and that the reason for that is unknown.

Jono withdrew from the meeting at 2.35 pm

4. Cultural Sites and Iwi Monitoring Services – Sylvie Heard

- There has been a lot of damage over time to Māori cultural sites and Te Tau Ihu Iwi believe that only a quarter of these culturally and spiritually significant sites have been discovered.
- There are issues around sensitivity of sites such as Urupā, as a lot of sites aren't disclosed to the public. This can sometimes result in land disturbance within culturally sensitive areas and the destruction/modification of sites of significance to Māori. Consultation with iwi, prior to carrying out land disturbance activities in the Sounds is absolutely necessary.
- Te Ātiawa are trying to raise awareness of this issue and recently signed an iwi monitoring contract with Te Arahanga Limited, a cultural monitoring service provider based in Nelson. The company has an iwi monitor located in Marlborough, who in some cases, may work with an archaeologist.
- Iwi monitors have knowledge passed down through ancestors, are trained to recognise sites of Māori origin, will consider the cultural landscape of a site and are also managers of tikanga.
- If someone is thinking of disturbing land and are unsure of whether it might involve a Māori cultural site they can contact Te Ātiawa who will consult maps and seek advice from kaumātua and delegated cultural advisors to assess the sensitivity of a location and whether an iwi monitor is required. Sylvie noted that an iwi monitor is not always required.

5. Action Items from the previous meeting (13 May 2019)

Action	Person Responsible
1. Discuss what to use the surplus money for with own associations, and bring feedback to next meeting or forward to Rebecca prior to the July meeting Discussed in the following item - completed	Members
2. Continue to advertise the need for members of the public to join MSCVT Lyne Reeves will continue to include MSCVT information when space is available on the Council pages - completed	Lyne Reeves/Members
3. Invite Marlborough Roads to respond to the problem regarding vehicles parking on Port Underwood Road Deferred to next meeting	Rebecca
4. Request information from Marlborough Roads on the issue of cars parking and obstructing the turning area at Karaka Point As above	Rebecca
5. Ask Marlborough Roads for comment on the problem of the large campervans parking in the Picton CBD As above	Rebecca

6. Idea for funds from Targeted Rate – Dean

- It was confirmed that the targeted rate has been dropped following the submission to the Annual Plan.
- Linda Thompson circulated a funding proposal to the group on behalf of the Papatuanuku Independency Trust. (Appendix 2).
- The Karaka Point Community and Environments group tabled a suggestion to refund the money to ratepayers, possibly through a rates rebate, as the money is not going to be used for the purpose it was rated for. It was agreed that Dean would look into this idea and see if it was possible.
- Other suggestions included using the money for willow or wattle eradication, Picton Museum or to decorate empty shop windows in the town. The MSCVT was also mentioned as a project which had originated from the PRF.

Judith Andrew withdrew from the meeting at 3.00 pm.

7. Annual Plan Update – Clr Taylor

- Community grants will open in August.
 - Council has set aside \$200 000 to work on Strategic Plan for Picton. This has been introduced because of the challenges being faced by Picton as it becomes more of a tourist centre, and to address other concepts which have been put forward such as the Edwin Fox Environment Centre and the Wellness Centre.
 - The Endeavour Pavilion funding request for a playground has been referred to the Land, Subdivision Account.
 - Picton Little Theatre received \$26,000 for a pre-engineering work assessment.
- Grahame Low noted that he appreciated that Council has sent a letter giving feedback to submitters following the Annual Plan Hearings.
- Rates will be increasing by 3.69%.
- Nominations for election to Council are now open and close at noon on 16 August. Clrs Taylor and Oddie have indicated they will probably stand for the Marlborough Sounds Ward while Clr Hook has announced that he is not going to stand.
- Election day is 12 October with postal voting as usual. There will be drop off points for ballots at Picton Library and the Blenheim Council Office.

8. General Business

Picton Blenheim Bus Update - Dean

- An off-peak bus service will begin an 18 month trial from 6 August. The service will start and finish in Waikawa and will provide two return services on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm. Maps and timetables will be available on Council's website a week prior to the service commencing with hard copies available at the Picton Library.

Plastic Bag Free Picton Update – Linda

- Linda worked for six years on the project to make Picton plastic bag free with the single use plastic bags finally being banned from 1 July. There are a few exceptions (see link below).
<https://www.mfe.govt.nz/waste/single-use-plastic-shopping-bags-banned-new-zealand>
- Linda thanked Alec McNeil, Solid Waste Manager from Council who has been very supportive of the project over the years. (Rebecca will pass this acknowledgment on to Alec).
- Cllr Taylor thanked Linda for all her work on this project.
- The Picton Envirohub is now situated in Auckland Street next to Port Marlborough. The Enviro-hub has crockery and glassware for 100 settings which can be loaned out for events to prevent the use of disposable products.

MSCVT Update – Monyeen Wedge

- The AGM was held this morning. The accounts have been audited and there is a small credit balance. It was decided to retain the credit in case it is needed to pay an administrator in the future.
- Bryan Strong received well deserved recognition for the work he has done for the Trust when he received the Community Star Award at the recent Marlborough Volunteer Community Awards. The group agreed that Dean would send a congratulations letter to Bryan on behalf of the PRF. (*Sent on 16 July*).
- PRF members were encouraged to continue to promote membership of the MSCVT to their organisations.

Other Business

- Rātā Foundations provided a grant to the Waikawa Bay Ratepayers for a wattle eradication trial on the hill behind Waimarama Road around to Waikawa Bay.
- Grahame Low is continuing to follow up with the Council on the repairs to the Waikawa Bay carpark.
- The Envirohub is organising a beach clean-up for the end of July and there is a community spring beach clean-up scheduled for September.

9. Actions from the meeting

Action	Person Responsible
1. Invite Marlborough Roads to respond to the problem regarding vehicles parking on Port Underwood Road	Rebecca
2. Request information from Marlborough Roads on the issue of cars parking and obstructing the turning area at Karaka Point	Rebecca
3. Ask Marlborough Roads for comment on the problem of the large campervans parking in the Picton CBD	Rebecca
4. Find out if targeted rate money can be rebated to ratepayers	Dean
5. Discuss with own organisations request for information on community recovery from Catherine Coates	Members

- The meeting closed at 3.35 pm.

- Next meeting 9 September 2019.

Future Speakers

- Rhys Welbourn (CE Port Marlborough) – September
- Air Quality Monitoring Update – September

Meeting Dates for 2019

- 9 September 2019.
- 11 November 2019

What is currently in place – Regional Marlborough

- Regional Pest Management Plan – Mediterranean fanworm
 - Inward vessel Rule for biofouling
 - Active surveillance programme (hubs and wider)
 - Intel/information gathering – Marlborough Sounds Marinas key here
 - Inspection of high risk vessels
- TOS Marine Biosecurity Partnership
 - Councils + MPI pooling resources, contractor delivers work programme.



Photo credit: Marlborough Sounds Marinas

Challenges

- “Open seas”
- Out of sight
- Sheer fouling pressure at sources locations i.e. Waitemata Harbour in Auckland.
- DIY vessel maintenance
- Lag between movements and detection/action
- Small Council (and resource base) + big threat...

Positives

- All vessel detections to-date < 6 months
- Excellent response systems locally
- Excellent buy-in from PMNZ/local marine industries

Appendix 2

The Papatuanuku Trust Application for Funding

Who We Are

The Papatuanuku Independency Trust was established in 1993 and provides permanent, holistic and respectful assisted living to adults with intellectual disabilities.

It is situated in a picturesque rural setting in Boons Valley Road with an expansive view of Waikawa Bay, providing a safe place for its 10 residents. The land area comprises 20 acres.

The Trust's premises and philosophy enhances lives by encouraging and supporting residents to make decisions for themselves and act independently where possible. This is their home where they enjoy being accepted. The residents are valuable friends and employees of their wider community.

How the Trust is Funded

The Trust receives funding through the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development based on each resident's support needs. This funding covers wages and basic costs but does not cover ongoing maintenance or upkeep of plant and vehicles. Any extra money needed comes from grants or surplus.

Our Request

I understand the Picton Regional Forum has Community funding available for such projects and would like to apply for help from this resource. The Trust needs funding to undertake maintenance work on the residents' homes which includes such things as painting, toilet and shower replacements and a pump system replacement. These repairs are over three separate houses on the property.

We would appreciate your consideration of this application and would like to invite you to visit with us so that we could show you around.

Regards

Linda Thompson

Trustee

Papatuanuku Independency Trust