

ŌWHANGO-NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY BOARD
Te Poari-ā-Hapori o Ōwhango-National Park

MINUTE ATTACHMENT(S)

THE MEETING OF ŌWHANGO-NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY BOARD
HELD AT OWHANGO HALL, 2157 STATE HIGHWAY 4, OWHANGO
ON TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023, AT 6:30PM

Item	Page
10 Chair, Deputy Chair, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Reports (Verbal)	2
1 Member Zimmer Liaison Report	

Peter Zimmer



Owhango, 18/04/2023

Re: Liaison Report Summary for Kaitieke / Retaruke / Whakahoro and Owhango Communities for 18 April ONPCB Meeting

1. A few phone calls, conversations and meetings with several parties resident in the Kaitieke, Retaruke and Whakahoro areas.

The main concerns / themes that came up:

- State of some rural roads; i.e. a couple of drop outs on the Kauwhatahi Road that are progressively getting worse. Also refer Mr Hoskin's feedback from 14 February 2023 ONPCB meeting public forum feedback. → **unsure where any follow up is at?**
 - Pine tree harvest and the pressure that puts on the local rural roads.
 - Trees falling on the road and needing be removed. Is this a council concern?
2. I was not able to attend the last Owhango Resident Ratepayers Association Committee meeting. I understand that some of the topics / issues raised previously have either been addressed or work in progress. Please see additional comments in bold and a couple of new additional requests / concerns below.
 - Members of the community are removing Japanese walnut trees from the historic swimming pool area (too many trees and attracting pests and predators). Replanting at own initiative with native plants. → **this beautification initiative is an ongoing community effort.**
 - **Request:** can the back and the front of the community hall please be included in the regular village mowing schedule? → **now being included in the mowing schedule.**
 - **Request:** the Memorial Park (along SH 4) and the berm behind the school (next to the Domain) currently gets mowed at a different interval to the rest of the village and this creates an untidy look. Can RDC please consider mowing those areas more regularly - at least during peak growing season - in line with the rest of the village? →

Peter Zimmer



being looked at with members of community, RDC staff and the mowing contractor.

- **Request:** the question was asked, why is the RDC owned section on Omatane Road no longer mowed.? It was requested including it into the mowing schedule again. → **that is currently being looked at (requires a bigger mower). Plus a community group is interested in using the section. More info to follow.**
- **Observation:** there was no mowing on rural roads since winter 2022. There has been one mow of some rural road sides since the new year started following a request for service (RFS). Raises the question what is the schedule to mow rural roads? → **no change or update.**
- We had a conversation about the repair status of the slip in the Ohinetonga Reserve. At the moment, Owhango Alive has taken the lead with the liaison with the Department of Conservation for the repair. For elected members and staff benefit: last year, Owhango Alive became a standalone Incorporated Society with its own committee, constitution and active membership. Owhango Alive now operates independently but in regular exchange with ORRIS. I mentioned to ORRIS that if ongoing support from the ONPCB is required with regard to the slip repair, the best way is to address the ONPCB either via correspondence or at a ONPCB meeting. → **no update. ORRIS has written to DOC requesting an update. I have been advised by Owhango Alive that DOC Tongariro is currently focused on the T 42 slip.**
- **Concern:** there has been recent vandalism at the domain. To prevent this ORRIS is looking at getting some bollards installed in a community effort. Question: would RDC consider installing a camera or at a minimum signage “camera operating”? → **RDC staff in communication with ORRIS.**
- **Question:** what is RDC doing to maintain or upgrade the Owhango Village water supply source and infrastructure? In particular, what is “wrong” or needs changing with the current supply scheme? And what is the reason and progress status with the water bores for alternative supplies that have been mentioned for some time now? → **no update or progress to report.**
- **Update:** amenity improvement work by ORRIS in the Memorial Park continues to beautify this area. The community will build a concrete path from the public toilets to an information display sign near the garden section in the Memorial Park. At the same time, a bike wash area next to the existing tap at the public toilets is to be concreted. Can RDC contribute to this initiative, i.e. sediment trap and expertise? → **RDC staff in contact with ORRIS to work on / support this initiative.**



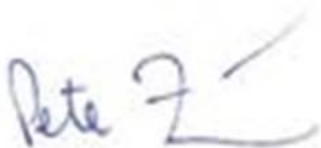
Peter Zimmer
R. D. 1
Owhango 3989

- **Question / clarification:** an electric charging station near the public toilets was mentioned as an election promise. Where is that at? Ideally it would need to be a fast-charging station. → **no update.**
- **New additional request:** can the tennis courts at the domain please be included in the mowing schedule. → **I understand that is being looked at.**
- **New additional concern:** local residents have observed a change in water quality in the Whakapapa River and engaging about this with DOC, Genesis and Horizons. Is this a concern that RDC has an interest in? I.e. support the local community with fact finding and response actions? Noting that the Whakapapa River is a major water supply for the Taumarunui town drinking water scheme.
- **New additional concern / request:** post Cyclone Gabriele residents reported some trees in the domain are on a lean, some of those are next to the access road. It appears that to date this concern / request has not been followed up?

For any required responses to ORRIS, can RDC please reply directly to ORRIS at owhangorris@yahoo.co.nz and copy myself at peter.zimmer@onpcb.ruapehu.govt.nz and peteoutdoors@gmail.com

Any questions related to this liaison report, please ask me at the next ONPCB meeting.

Best regards



Peter Zimmer Owhango National Park Community Board Elected Member

Ruapehu District Council | Private Bag 1001 | Taumarunui 3946 | New Zealand
Mobile: 027 479 1926
email: peter.zimmer@onpcb.ruapehu.govt.nz | RDC website: www.ruapehudc.govt.nz