

ORATIA RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 13th May, 2025 7.30pm

At: Oratia Small Hall

MINUTES

1. **Welcome:** President, Dave Smith
2. **Present:** *Current committee*, Dave Smith, Sue Dell, Jean van Polanen Petel, Diane Wood, Simon Oosterman; Sara Mihaere;
Community Board Members, Michelle Clayton, Greg Presland; Mark Allan
Local residents, Denby Richardson, Carolynne Stone, Tony Bushell, Chris Stone, Gary Stone, Emily Simes, Geoff Davidson, Linda Musson, Gary Henderson, Norma Hayward, Richard Hayward, Jane Hepburn, Gill Sanson, Stew Sanson, Tim Croft, Malcolm Dixon, Beverley Dixon, Michelle Hutton
3. **Apologies:** *Committee member*, Ben Chester (Vice President); *Local residents*: John Stagg, Hugh Trengrove, Dale Lipsham, Pam and Jim Antill, Janet Thompson, Bev Davidson
4. **Confirmation of Minutes AGM May 2024** *Moved: Dave Smith Secoded: Chris Stone* CARRIED
Matters arising: None
5. **President's Annual Report** - Dave read out his Presidents report for 2025 (copy in Appendix A)
Moved: Dave Smith Secoded: Michelle Clayton CARRIED
6. **Hall report (Diane Wood)** - Diane read out her Hall report (copy in Appendix B)
Moved: Diane Wood Secoded: Sara Mihaere CARRIED
7. **Annual Financial Report (Diane Wood)**
Financial report was published to the website prior to the meeting, and copies available at the AGM.

Main differences between last year and this - \$13,000 increase in casual hires and \$4000 increase from regular hirers. Now have a paid hall booking co-ordinator. Made \$10,000 contribution to the Oratia Bowling Club green. Repairs/upgrades: electronic lock system for both halls, polyurethaned both halls floors, Small Hall storeroom and cupboard upgrade. Had to pay 4 years worth of Council Fee.

Made a loss overall of \$3000 (after the contribution to Oratia Bowling Club).

Moved: Diane Wood Secoded: Jean van Polanen Petel CARRIED
8. **Proposal to change Accountant to "Reggis Rego"**

Diane explained that there have been a few issues with the current Accounting supplier and she would like to propose a change to Reggis Rego in New Lynn.
Moved: Diane Wood Secoded: Denby Richardson CARRIED
9. **Election of President**

Dave Smith is re-standing as President. There were no additional nominations for the role, so Dave was re-elected for the coming year.

Moved: Diane Wood Secoded: Denby Richardson CARRIED
10. **Election of Committee**
(Nominations tonight then rest of executive decided at next meeting, Tuesday, 10th June, 2025)

Sue Dell and Jean van Polanen Petel are standing down from the committee for the coming year. The rest of the current committee are re-standing: Simon Oosterman, Diane Wood, Ben Chester, Sara Mihaere. No further nominations were received. Dave encouraged anyone interested to

attend the first meeting (in June). Roles will be decided at that first meeting.

Moved: Dave Smith Seconded: Chris Stone CARRIED

11. Special Resolution (Mandate for Committee):

The Oratia R & R advocates for its members, and represents their views to the Local Board, the Council and the Government on local governance matters or anything else members of the community have an interest in, ensuring the community's voice is heard. We lease the Oratia Settlers' Hall and the Small Hall from the Council and manage their hireage and maintenance. From time to time we publish 'The Oratia Apple' and arrange other community events and lend support to local events organised by others.

Resolution – That the meeting endorses and gives the Committee the mandate for the next year to continue to carry out the activities as stated above.

Moved: Dave Smith Seconded: Simon Oosterman CARRIED

12. New Constitution – Submission and Approval May 2025

New Constitution draft has been published to the website for member review. The committee, led by Sara and Simon have worked on this new version which has been created due to new requirements for charities. Dave opened the floor for questions and proposed that this Constitution is adopted for the ORRA. Part of this new requirement is to have an opt-in membership base, which the ORRA has now put into effect and a quorum of 20 members at the AGM (which are in attendance at this meeting).

Diane raised her concern about the name in the Constitution – and that we still need the word “Association” in it. Dave advised that there will be another motion to include the word “Association”.

Sue thanked Sara and Simon for all their hard work on this project.

Moved to adopt the Constitution May 2025: Dave Smith Seconded: Jean van Polanen Petel CARRIED

Additional motion: to add the word “Association” back into the Oratia Ratepayers and Residents name in the Constitution.

Moved: Dave Smith Seconded: Diane Wood CARRIED

13. Confirmation of membership fee for ORRA for the 2025/2026 year as \$0.00.

Moved: Dave Smith Seconded: Diane Wood CARRIED

14. General Business:

- a) **Waitakere Ranges Local Board update (Michelle Clayton)** – congratulations to the ORRA committee for all their work during the year.
- b) **Oratia Native Pests/Weeds/Planting/Streams – Wildlife Subcommittee (Simon):** An update was given by Simon about plantings, fencing, clearing, and stream clean ups. Exploring funding for a Community ranger. Discussed possible future plans for Otimai (Girl Guide property on West Coast Road).
- c) **Chris Stone** – Expressed a formal thank you to the ORRA for the contribution to the Oratia Bowling Club new green - which is now complete and is being well utilised. Tanks to the committee for all do and keep up the good work.
- d) **Question was raised about the Otimai property** – Simon advised that Girl Guides might be looking to sell at some stage. The land was gifted by locals. The buildings are run down and not able to be used currently.
- e) **Simon** – acknowledged Diane for her work on managing the halls.

Meeting closed: 8.25pm

Appendix A – Presidents Annual Report

From the Chair –Presidents Report to the AGM May 13th 2025 Oratia R&R

Firstly a huge thank-you to the entire team of Ben, Jean, Simon, Sue, Sara and Diane for their contributions to the R&R and through it, to the Community this year.

Big thanks to Sue for taking on the Hall co-ordinator role. Huge thanks also to Diane for her work in and around the Halls, and for driving a number of improvement initiatives. Hall patronage and income for both casual and regular hirers is up on last year. More on the Halls from Diane shortly.

Special thank you also to Sue and Diane for working through some new processes that will improve and simplify the everyday management of the Halls.

Thank-you to the Local Board for their continued support and to Michelle in particular for her valuable insights, forewarnings of upcoming events, and general assistance at our monthly meetings.

A Resilience Planning workshop was run and well attended late last year. Next phase of work in this space will be underway soon.

Simon has continued to lead the Oratia & Waiatarua Native Wildlife Project sub committee. More from Simon soon..

We have been providing the Settlers Hall for the Oratia Primary School to use (free of charge) while their hall is under repair.

A contribution was made to the Bowling Club towards the installation of a new artificial green which is now up and running and looks fantastic.

A small contribution is also planned to help the Oratia Combined Church to run their Martariki event this year.

Individually we have made submissions on a number of Council proposals and budget plans but more critically have worked to encourage individuals in the community to do the same. This continues to be a real challenge and collectively we need to do better.

Our new membership database (a requirement of our new constitution), brings opportunities to better engage with the community. Watch this space...

In almost every area there are opportunities that we will either miss or could do better. We are building but we welcome others to join us and look forward to a productive and successful year ahead.

Appendix B – Hall Report (Year ended 31st March 2025)

Usage

- Casual users – increase in income of 30% over previous year. The Halls are more often than not used on both days of the weekend, sometimes twice in a day. They are largely hired for private events, anything from 1st to 90th birthdays, weddings, pre-weddings, engagements, family cultural events, church services.
- Regular users – increase in income of 70% over previous year. The number of users is back to how it was pre-COVID. Users are Kickboxing and Boxing (very popular over 3 days per week); People’s Health Alliance, New Mums’ exercise; Senior dance; Senior exercise; Playgroup, Scouts, Yoga, Homeschool group get-togethers, etc. Also, we are pleased to be able to assist the School in a small way by making the Settlers Hall available to them whilst their Hall is undergoing major repairs.

Improvements/major repairs (funded from Hall Hire revenue)

- Electronic locks installed in both Halls
- Small Hall floor refurbished
- Small Hall storeroom and cupboards removed; repairs to window frame, panelling, new cupboards and some painting
- Purchased more preschool tables and chairs; we now have some available in the Settlers Hall
- Settlers Hall floor – polyurethaned again