



The minutes from the Annual General Meeting of the Onemana Residents and Community Association held on Saturday 2nd of January 2025 at 10am at the marquee, commercial centre, Onemana Drive.

PRESENT

Members

R Andrew (co-chair)	C Jarden
S Andrew	E Irving
G Bagnall	J Kingma (committee)
C Basham (committee)	S Kingma
C Bertram	K Kuper
S & P Biddle	P Marks
C McDonald	K Mashlan (committee)
S Carley	N McLeay
R Clark	C & P Moore
C & R Clarke	L Murray
R & D Cope	M Nightingale
A Couldwell (committee)	R Pene (committee)
C Couldwell	F Petersen
N & M Cross	G Reeves
M Cruickshank	A Rickerby
J & B de Groot	M Romhany
P Durrant	D Rowell
T & C Elson	S Russell
E & B Fisher	L & S Sefton
L& P Fleming	R & C Shackleton
H Fountaine	M Sheehan
G Franklin	Y & G Squire
J Freer	B Taylor (committee)
L & K Gavin	J Taylor
Hamling	B West
R Hewitt	G Wilson
C & N Hopkins	S Zajkowski

- **Proxy vote-**, M. Ratu, J Healey to R Pene; E Topp to C Basham
- **Non-members-**Terry Walker, Peter Reeves- Thames Coromandel District Council
- **Apologies-** M Ratu, a Thompson (committee) R. Basham, A & J Brown, A Clement, M & H Donovan, J Healey, J Hewitt, (committee), C Irving, M Raru, A Thompson, K Weston

WELCOME

Rob Andrew, the chairperson opened the meeting at 10am. He welcomed and thanked people for their attendance.

Minutes of the previous AGM- were taken as read and there was no discussion.

Bruce Taylor moved that the 2024 minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record and this was seconded by Kim Mashlan.

Update by Jo Adams-Local Fire chief- presented now as Jo had another AGM to attend.

Key points

- Fire brigade has been very busy across multiple types of events, including woodpiles, lightning strikes in the forest, peat swamp fires, beach rescues, plane crash landing on Green island, campfires.
- However, New Years Eve was relatively quiet.
- Concern that national office of Fire and Emergency has left the area as open for outdoor fires, despite periods of windy hot weather.
- Asked all to be vigilant and have fire exit plans in place, noting a lucky escape for occupants of a house in Whangamata that had burned to the ground recently
- Looking for new crew members- very flexible approach to when attendance is possible.

Chairperson's Report- also taken as read and no discussion.

Rob Andrew moved that the report be accepted, and this was seconded by Jennie Kingma.

Treasurer's Report

Was taken as read. Jennie updated her report by announcing the market day stalls earned \$941 (cakes, books, raffle), in addition to over \$4500 from site fees for stall holders. Also mentioned the large number of donations made with over \$2000 gifted this year. Also, an increase in membership to 145 members after signups since the report was provided in early December and those who joined today.

Jennie moved that her report be accepted as a true and accurate record and Annabelle seconded it.

Appointment of reviewer

The existing reviewer, Robert Clarke was invited and accepted role of reviewer for 2024-25.

Volunteer Annual Reports

The chair introduced and thanked all volunteer groups for their annual reports. As a community, we are extremely lucky to have so many volunteers who help to make Onemana a better place for us all.

With passionate people leading each group, along with amazing people assisting them –

Nick – Surf Lifesaving Club

And the amazing lifeguards who give their time to ensure the safety of all Onemana community and visitors to our beautiful beach.

Kathryn – Weed busters

And the team of people who are committed to improving our community with weeding, track maintenance, plantings and so much more.

Alan & Bruce - Volunteer Fire Brigade

Responding to a variety of emergencies in our local area and assisting other communities where required.

Les – Coastal Care & Predator Free

The team who spend hours weeding and planting the dunes and more and also focusing on the removal of damaging predators.

Chris & Dean - Dotterels

The team who helps with different areas to try and increase Dotterel chick and Oyster Catcher chick numbers in our community.

These two need a very big mention... they spend most days monitoring these endangered birds on our beach. They have met a lot of different obstacles - one of these being verbal abuse – AND THEY STILL GO BACK EACH DAY... this is true dedication from wonderful volunteers.

Sandra Andrew-Events

Sandra and helpers who have organised so many well attended community events this last year.

Further updates to Reports

Dotterels

Chris McDonald responded to a question from an attendee about a local cat has been causing havoc with camera evidence of chicks in its mouth. Unfortunately, there is little that can be done legally as the current bylaws only refer to dogs and wildlife/protected species. This has been raised through council to try and get amended.

In the meantime we urge all cat owners to keep cats inside at night especially between Oct and March during the dotterel breeding season

Nick mentioned that the surf club is planning to install life preservers at Pokohino and Octopus Bay this year. A member of the audience suggested this could also be a good use of ORCA funds.

The chair thanked Ruhi for her time as ORCA chair for the last two years. Ruhi has been a dedicated chairperson with additional meetings brought about by the creation of the Coromandel Alliance, and many other commitments.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE Members

Members resigning

Jill Hewitt

Erika Seddon (resigned earlier in the year)

Alan Mitchell -uncommitted at this stage

Committee standing again

Rob Andrew (Chair)

Bruce Taylor

Ruhi Pene

Carol Basham

Jennie Kingma (Treasurer)

Annabelle Couldwell

Kim Mashlan (Secretary)

New members elected unopposed

Christine Moore

Neville Cross

Murray Cruickshank

General Business

Basketball court

- Rob provided an update on the progress of establishing a half-court basketball court, outlining that a presentation made to the WCB pre xmas was well received and fully supported by all the WCB members present.
- R Hewitt asked what is the long-term benefit for residents in having a basketball court on the reserve. Also, C Dean asked about the noise factor for those alongside the court.
- Rob mentioned there will not be lights so noise at night would be limited, as play would be limited to daylight hours. The ability to support families with older

(teenage) children was encouraged, alongside the playground for younger kids and tennis courts and pétanque for older people.

- Several people, including R Clark, and J Kingma, spoke to the benefits for young people and such an activity keeping them occupied.
- Peter Revell (TCDC) also spoke about the positive impacts and feedback received re the Thames half-court at Porritt Park and encouraged locals to get behind this positive initiative.
- Immediate neighbours will be consulted this year before progressing to next stage.

Onemana Community Response Emergency Management Plan-Update from John Freer

- Original plan developed about three years ago. The motivation for having a community plan is so that if the community becomes isolated then we can take care of ourselves. It was modelled on a plan from Porongahau in Hawke's Bay. The plan is only activated if other lead agencies – Civil Defence, Police, Fire etc cannot get into Onemana.
- Team leaders have been allocated to all streets. These street reps all have a radio and this is their task to identify any assistance needed and report back.
- Residents that have been medically trained and those with the likes of St John, LandSar, FENZ, Community Patrol, surf and military experience, have been identified.
- People who may require special assistance have also been identified.
- Five events – storm, flood, earthquake, Tsunami, Fire , have been identified and planned for (obviously some are interlinked)
- Critical after an event is to ensure people are safe or for any injured that we can provide assistance. Depending on the nature of the event – a centre will be established – fire – the surf club or elsewhere such as the fire station.
- Under the plan we have identified properties with stored water, we know there are blankets and beds in every house, and we know there is food in each house.
- With these events there is a significant requirement on common sense – stress this is if we become isolated or are requested to deploy.
- Orca has funded some equipment such as eight radios, while council has provided community resilience kits.
- Plan is on the ORCA website – if you can assist then please let us know
- Re the emergency management plan, someone suggested that it would be useful to have a register of those residents who were starlink subscribers

Other

- Paul Durrant asked about ponds being desilted and why this is not being done more regularly. Terry Walker indicated this is an operational issue, not an annual plan process and he will ask some questions on our behalf
- Lena Gavin asked if we are connected with the Coromandel Alliance -yes we are. She encouraged people who pay rates to register and vote in the local elections.
- Peter Revell spoke after Lena, stating he intends to run for mayor & thanked & congratulated Onemana for the organised volunteer groups and committed helpers
- A query re freedom camping was raised and Terry Walker (TCDC councillor) responded that a reversal of the prohibited status is unlikely to happen until the bylaw is up for review again.
- The issue with 4WD vehicles destroying the firebreaks along Whitiwhirua Road and creating a mess on the road was raised by an attendee and the committee responded that all avenues for dealing with the issue have been explored and no-one (council or forestry company) appear prepared to do anything. The only suggestion is to take photos of vehicles and submit to the police.

Meeting closed 11.07am

Next AGM 2nd Jan 2026