

# **A newsletter and personal comment from the outgoing chair of The Paekakariki Community Trust**

**You are invited to the  
Annual General Meeting Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 at 2pm**

## **Background: -**

The Paekakariki Community Trust was formed early in 2005.

The idea came out of an Economic Development Study carried out by KCDC in 2004. The idea was then adopted by the Paekakariki Community Board. The kaupapa of the Trust was for it to be an ongoing co-ordinator and facilitator, aiding future development of social, economic, and cultural aspirations of the community. The objectives in the deed are set out to support and strengthen Paekakariki in good times and bad.

At the time, the recent [2003] floods in the village had also highlighted and exacerbated the need for such an entity as many were hit hard both financially and emotionally, and also temporary housing was required for those flooded out. Now, with the upcoming opening of Transmission Gully Motorway, and the resulting reduction of traffic, the village could well be adversely impacted again making objective c. particularly pertinent [see attached deed objectives]. Indeed, there are many areas where the objectives of the Trust could be put to good use in our community.

When in 2007 St Peters Village Hall was bought from the Anglican church, by the Trust, on behalf the community, it was in extremely poor condition. The Trust has since raised around \$500,000 for restoration, which is now largely complete. The Trust will now be able to embrace the 6 other community focused objectives, as set out in the Trust deed.

- a) To refurbish and maintain St Peter's Hall at Paekakariki and to manage it as a community centre and resource for the whole community.*
- b) To establish any new facility which enhances the social wellbeing of the Paekakariki community as a whole.*
- c) To encourage the economic and social sustainability of Paekakariki to help ensure that local services are retained for the benefit of present and future generations.*
- d) To increase employment opportunities for Paekakariki residents in the Paekakariki area.*
- e) To assist cultural, Not for Profit, heritage, and community services in Paekakariki.*
- f) To undertake activities that are conducive to the attainment of the above objectives and anything else that will advance any of these aims.*
- g) To develop partnerships with other organizations and agencies that will help the Trust achieve its objectives.*

PTO

**Governance: -**

The current trustees are now seeking the community's input into the preferred governance model.

**Option 1** that the Paekakariki Community Trust is engaged with management of the hall *alone*.

This would make it unlikely that objectives *b* to *g* would be carried out. For example, the Trust would find it difficult engage with any community projects that were not held within the hall itself.

With refurbishment largely complete, the workload in managing the hall is much reduced.

**Option 2** is to retain the existing Trust deed objectives, and establish a separate Hall Committee which would manage the hall including the Bike Library and Film club (although technically these fall under objective *e*) with the chair of that hall committee reporting to the Trust at its meetings.

The Trust would then be able to focus on facilitating the 6 other objectives in the existing deed. These objectives have a broader community focus such as economic and social sustainability, culture and heritage, and community services.

I support option 2.

**Community input: voting**

The Trust hopes to get your input at the AGM as to which option you prefer for your Trust.

Once the preferred option is established, nominations will be called for members of the community to stand as trustees.

Four trustees are resigning but all trust positions are open to nominees which I hope will reflect the diversity of our community

If option 2 is voted in by the community then it can also be determined who wants to be on a hall committee.

Voting will take place via show of hands at the AGM.

Other issues to be covered at the AGM include:

**a) Number of Trustees**

Currently there are 9 trustees which is the maximum number recommended by the Charities Commission.

The existing Trust has proposed increasing this to 11 (plus a CB representative.)

I do not support an increase.

**b) Naming of the Hall**

The Hall was originally known as The Village Hall but has been called St Peters Village Hall for some time, both before and after its acquisition by the Community.

For some, the name is misleading as it implies a link with the former owners, the Anglican church. The Hall is now a secular building, with only the land being owned by the church and leased to the Trust.

You are invited to have your say on the potential renaming. Suggestions are welcome. Some options so far are Paekakariki Village Hall, Paekakariki Community Hall (formerly St Peters Hall), or a bilingual option devised in consultation with Ngāti Haumia.

These are important issues for the community, so I hope there is a good turnout to vote on them.

I would like to finish by thanking all those, who over my 10 years on the Trust, have volunteered at events such as the Book Sale, the Art Show, History Days and so much more. Particular thanks go to Margaret Griffiths for 30 years of dedicated care of the hall. Support has also come from others such as the Community Board, KCDC and the Mayor, and the Museum Trust and many more.

**Graham Coe**

Outgoing Chair of the Paekakariki Community Trust.

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You are warmly invited to stay for light refreshments after the meeting.