

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026

Welcome to the Spring 2026 edition of our newsletter.

In this issue: AGM highlights, how you can get involved, and celebrating our beautiful whenua.

SUMMARY OF THE CHAIR'S REPORT TO THE AGM

From the Chair

The year was one of change — some of it significant for ratepayers. The Association's role is to raise issues and advocate for our community. We make submissions on council and government proposals, always aiming for a good outcome for the community. Looking ahead, we expect the next 12 months to be dominated by Tiaki Wai matters, council annual and 10-year plans, the Porirua Harbour Accord, planning for the Northern Growth Area (Plimmerton to Pukerua Bay), and the effects of higher-density housing on the neighbourhood's character.

> *We were also expecting work on local government amalgamation — but this is now on hold.*

Governance

- We successfully re-registered as an incorporated society under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, with a new constitution now in effect.
- Membership has switched from household-based to individual — anyone living in or paying rates in the area can join. Head to our **website** (parematarresidents.co.nz) to join or renew your membership.

Wastewater overflows (Mana Esplanade)

- We have continued to advocate for a long-term solution for the wastewater overflows that run into the Inlet. Wellington Water installed a bypass at the pump station at St Barnabas Church to reduce overflows. After a substantial overflow at Pascoe Avenue following heavy rain, adjustments were made, and no further overflows have been reported since.
- This is still a partial fix, not a solution, and a long-term upgrade of the Mana Esplanade wastewater system is needed — a priority we will pursue with Tiaki Wai.

Mana Esplanade & St Andrews Road

- The planned NZTA review of the Mana clearways is delayed indefinitely.
- Police have increased enforcement of the speed limit, which will help safety along the Esplanade.
- It's time NZTA reviewed the clearway hours (they haven't been updated since April 2020). It would also help safety if the Clearway Bylaw was changed so the lane can't be used as a (fast) traffic lane outside clearway hours.

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Rates and water charges

- Porirua City Council's rates increase for 2026/27 was a zero average across the city, following the transfer of water assets to Tiaki Wai.
- Tiaki Wai has announced water rates of roughly $2,300 a year for Porirua. Some of the longer-term projections are “alarming” and we will keep monitoring and submitting on proposals.

Local government amalgamation

We were watching with interest the work on amalgamation, with our main concerns being the impact on rates and how the amalgamation would provide fair representation, funding, and preserve a community voice. Since our AGM, the Government has pressed pause on amalgamation, and the result of the upcoming general election will no doubt have an impact on whether the work is to be picked up in 2027.

Ngāti Toa Domain Heritage Trail

After eight years of work, we are awaiting final agreement on the final text of the history boards. You will hopefully see them in place soon, telling the story of the Domain over the years.

The full Annual Report is available on our website

We need you!

Join us to make a positive change in our community. We want to build our membership base to help us build momentum — and work on the things you care about.

Members can help shape our work and ensure we are advocating for the things that will make a difference to our community. We'll keep you up to date with what we are working on and what we are achieving.

It only costs $10 a year!

Sign up on our website or email the Secretary
secretary.parematara@gmail.com

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We are interested in hearing what you think about what can be done to build our community and improve our area. Tell us your thoughts on one or all of these — or anything else on your mind:

Porirua's Long Term Plan

Porirua City Council has started work on their next Long Term Plan. Their preliminary survey is closed, but we're keen to know what you think about where their priorities should lie. Keeping rates increases to a minimum and being accountable for spending is important — what else?

✉ Email us — *put "LTP" in the subject line*

Parking

The Council is developing a parking strategy. We know there are pain points around schools, at Dolly Varden, and around the Mana shops. As more intensive housing happens, how should the Council balance competing demands for parking in public spaces?

✉ Email us — *put "Parking" in the subject line*

Building Community

Our area covers several distinct communities (Papakowhai, Paremata, Mana, Camborne) — is there anything we can do to support community building in those areas, or as one broader community?

✉ Email us — *put "Community" in the subject line*

Porirua City Council’s Long Term Plan: haveyoursay.poriruacity.govt.nz
Our email address: secretary.parematara@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES

The Council website has a great list of local events. Get in touch if you want us to promote your local event on our website and Facebook page.

Our next Committee meeting is on 12 November at Mana Cruising Club.

CELEBRATING OUR WHENUA



Our area is the envy of many, being centred around the inlet, harbour, and lagoon. We have easy access to nature and a huge variety of walks. The Camborne Walkway links to Te Ara Piko along the northern side of the Inlet and provides just over 10 km of walking and cycling track between Dolly Varden and Pāuatahanui.

Porirua City Council, the Guardians of the Pāuatahanui Inlet, and Rotary have been planting along the edges of the inlet to help protect it and provide better habitat for native species. The planting is transforming the edges and is worth admiring as you enjoy the walk or ride.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND MEMBERS

The Committee meets at 7.15pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Mana Cruising Club. Residents are welcome to join the meetings.

Your Committee for this year is:

Chair: Tony Shaw

Deputy Chair: Judi Jones

Secretary: Frank Moes

Treasurer: John Nichols

Communications: Caroline Van Halderen

Committee members:

Ian Barlow | Brett Jones | Grenville Gaskell | Maureen Gillon | Russell Morrison

More information on the Committee is on our website paremataresidents.co.nz — and you can follow us on Facebook!

THANKS

Thank you for reading — we hope to see you at an upcoming meeting or event. Keep in touch, and let us know what matters to you.

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