

# HAHEI BEACH RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION INC.



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### COMMITTEE MEMBER NOMINEE BIOGRAPHIES 2017

*Ballots close the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017*

The attached biographies for all nominees for Committee may assist Members in the decision-making process.

#### ***Gilbert Bannan***

*My wife, Christine and I, have owned a property in Grange Road since 1993 and have lived here permanently since December 2010.*

*My involvement within the Hahei Community includes:*

- *4 years as Treasurer/Trustee for the Mercury Bay Art Escape (2011-2015) and I now sit on the Advisory Board.*
- *Mercury Bay South Community Patroller for nearly 3 years.*
- *Member of the Hahei Reserves Group and currently involved in the establishment of the Memorial Garden in Kotare Domain.*
- *Treasurer of the Grange Road Water Association for the last 3 years and assisted with the development of a 56-page Water Safety Plan required by the Health Department.*
- *Involved over December-February with the Park and Ride at the village entrance carpark for the last two years and since Waitangi Day this year, have been at the Cathedral Cove car park at the top of Grange Road for 4 days a week managing parking and traffic control.*

*Prior to moving to Hahei I was Chairman of the Queen Street Cricket Club, a charity assisting disadvantaged children in New Zealand. I am now a Life Member of this organisation.*

*My reason for seeking nomination is to ensure that we have a strong and viable long term Community Plan, that allows visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of this area, provides appropriate infrastructure to meet the growing number of visitors and ensures residents enjoy village life without too much disruption and stress.*

*I have a strong interest in parking/tourism as I have gained knowledge and good insight into parking and visitor expectations and also to ensure that we have a sustainable water resource for all of our community.*

#### ***Karen Blair***

*I have lived in Hahei for over 30 years. Starting with a Market garden in the 80's, managing and developing what has become Cathedral Cove macadamias. Raising a family, building a home on Orchard Road and building and then running the Church for 18 years until we sold in 2014.*

*Through the years, I have been on school, sports and tennis, Ratepayers and Reserve committees. I appreciate this beautiful place and its community for the support and opportunities it has provided.*

*I am committed to sustainable development in Hahei on condition that the infrastructure is able to support it; traffic/tourism, clean water, sewage.*

*I would like to be elected for the Hahei Beach Ratepayers Association to work with the members and council on a community plan. To establish a consensus for the future of Hahei. To ensure it maintains its beauty while continuing to offer opportunities and support for a healthy community.*

### **Thom Dodd**

*I have lived in Hahei as my permanent home since 1996, and have seen the changes tourism has caused here. I strongly oppose creating new tourism ventures without first having the infrastructure in place to deal with the consequences - I also oppose ratepayer funding of the infrastructure necessitated by the huge numbers of tourists. Tourism is great, but too much of any growth can become a bit of a cancer.*

*I also think other issues are very important, such as the health of our waterways, our treatment of waste, the quality of our water, and the safety of locals who choose to walk to the beach (especially children) along Hahei Beach Road.*

*Our night sky would also be better enjoyed if we replaced our streetlights with the type they have in Tekapo, for example, which is an issue directly affecting residents and can be remedied using ratepayer generated funds.*

### **Derek Fenton**

*My wife and I have been Hahei Ratepayers since 1990.*

*Qualifications - Dip Mgt, Dip Bus, Dip Teaching (Secondary), BBS*

*I'm currently employed as a secondary school teacher (Accounting & Business Studies) at Westlake Girls High School in Auckland.*

*Prior to being a school teacher I spent 20 years in the private sector working in Sales & Marketing for a variety of companies.*

*Even though I am a non-permanent resident I am acutely aware of the range of issues that Hahei faces including infrastructure, I believe that we have to ensure that our unique piece of paradise is carefully managed for future generations in a sustainable way.*

### **Peter Harrison**

*My wife Kay and I have been ratepayers in Hahei for 44 years and are passionate about Hahei and its surrounds. I worked as a retail pharmacist for 40 years, 28 years in Auckland and a further 8 years in Whitianga. I was a member of the Rotary Club of Mt Albert for 25 years, serving two terms as President, and also a one year term each, as both Secretary and Treasurer. I am now retired, sort of, and for the last 12 years have been living in Hahei and running Hahei Horizon Bed and Breakfast. I have served two terms on the Hahei Ratepayers Association committee, am Secretary of the Hahei Fire Brigade and am involved with the Hahei Business Association.*

*I believe that the future development of Hahei must be managed carefully, giving attention to both improvements in the infrastructure of the village and its surrounds, while also ensuring that future tourism opportunities, whatever they may be, are supported in a way that does not destroy the unique culture of Hahei Village in the process. At this point in time I do not support the Lees Rd carpark nor the Blowhole walk, and I am of the opinion that we must negotiate with the Council in a way that ensures the best outcomes for both Hahei and its surrounds.*

**Graham Harsant**

*Farmer and owner of the land which provides the backdrop to Hahei.*

*For three years, I have been pushing the district plan review as the most important issue for the Hahei region. Sadly, I feel that we missed the opportunity to interact with the owners before the acceptance of the structure plan into the district plan.*

*From this however, we now know that the perceived boundaries of Hahei have moved considerably. It is really important to harness the creative ideas of the community, owners, developers, and council to future proof the village for future generations.*

*I have a knowledge of the land and the history, and I have a strong motivation to leave Hahei in an improved state for my family and other people that discover this amazing place.*

*We can make a major difference.*

**Stephen Holehouse**

*We have owned a property in Hahei since 1985. Since I retired my wife and I are now living here full time.*

*Previously I worked at New Zealand Steel Ltd and was responsible for Process Engineering , Energy Management, Environmental protection and Technical safety. During that time, I had extensive dealings with the Auckland Regional Council, Environment Waikato, the Department of Conservation and many other Government departments. I was a member of a number of national and overseas environmental committees.*

*I have no tourism related commercial interests in Hahei and am very concerned about the ever-increasing impacts of tourism and the erosion of our rights in this beautiful place we chose to have a part of 32 years ago. Parking is a shambles, there are barely any footpaths, water restrictions are frequent in the area of benefit in the summer and the Wigmore stream is polluted. It is reckless to attract even more visitors into the village.*

*If elected I will advocate positions where protection of existing amenity values and the future needs of residents and ratepayers are put ahead of tourism.*

**Ray Lloyd**

*I have lived permanently in Hahei for 7 years and am very passionate about this special place. We need to start implementing the immediate priorities of infrastructure requirements for Hahei to cope with the increasing tourists. Any future developments need to be completed in a way that do not impinge on the natural environment.*

*I have previously served two years on the HBRA as a committee member and if elected I feel I can make a positive contribution on your behalf.*

**Brian Keucke**

*I have lived in Hahei for over 30yrs. I have been involved in the HBRA for many years, as Committee and previous Chair, and I'm aware of the decisions that our community needs to make in the next few years.*

**John North**

*My wife Tina and I are permanent residents of Hahei.*

*Work Experience: Factory, Operational and General Management positions in both the Food and Packaging Industries.*

*I've been a Hahei property owner from 1978, and retired to Hahei in 2004 at which time I felt duty bound to put something back into the community using my business and life experience whenever appropriate.*

*I feel very passionate about Hahei, and the surrounding district for my family and future generations hence I would like to be considered for a position on the HBRPA Committee for the 2017/18 term.*

*For the previous two terms I have been elected by the Committee as Deputy Chair and I have had a strong role to date across a number of areas and I have challenged and championed our community's cause at every opportunity. 100% Meeting attendance over the past the 2 years.*

*Previous HBRPA involvement:*

*2005 - Seconded to facilitate the Community Plan*

*2006 -2010 HBRPA Chair. Initiatives and involvement included:*

- Tourist Impact Forum/ Traffic Management Plan*
- Park and Ride 2 year trial*
- Waste Treatment Plant upgrade*
- Tsunami Plan - lead role*
- 2010 Community Plan Review*

*The past 2 years on the Committee have largely been reactive to the proposed Walk and Village expansion.*

*Infrastructure deficiencies and Traffic Management issues are now readily acknowledged as a priority by the Mayor, Council, Community Board and staff which is a positive achievement.*

*The next phase in 2017/18 is for the HBRPA to lead and facilitate a revised Strategic Community Plan that addresses not only our current issues but plans for the future. This needs to be done in collaboration with key TCDC staff members as without their expertise and support outcomes will not be realised. Most importantly, as in 2004, we need to solicit input from all members of our Community recognizing that 80% are non-residents.*

*I am a champion and strong advocate that we need to address our infrastructure issues, protect our environment and safeguard the well-being of the community and our visitors whilst exercising vision for the future .*

*I bring a fair and reasonable, fact based view to the committee and look forward to continuing to serve my community in this area of New Zealand that I call home.*

### **Alastair Sims**

*Permanent resident of Hahei for 18 years, property owner here for 30 years, lawyer, ex developer, passionate about Hahei.*

*Policy positions.*

- *Parking – I have no strong opinion as I believe the TCDC will purport to consult and then do just what they were always going to do anyway. If the committee expresses a majority position I am happy to support that position and be bound by the decision of the committee.*
- *Walkway - I support a well-developed walkway from Kennedy Bay to Whangamata along the lines of the cinque terra, and when the Government fronts up with the requisite hundred million dollars we should get into it. Until then, adding more debt and further attractions in Hahei is just dumb, we have enough for the moment thank you.*
- *Wastewater - Hahei must begin to move to an integrated wastewater system. It is antediluvian for a village such as this to continue to use septic tanks. It will be a difficult and complicated business, best started sooner rather than later.*
- *Pollution - The pollution in Wigmore Stream is a village disgrace. Apparently, there are facts and figures kept from the public. The first step must be a comprehensive public release of all testing figures that have been taken over the years. Until we know what is polluting the stream we can't establish a legitimate position of remediation. The figures exist, they are measured as a requirement of the discharge consent, and they must be released to the public.*
- *100 Acres - The previous committee made a complete mess of their position on the structure plan. Their position seemed to be that they were somehow not consulted. This was not true, they just didn't understand the highly legalistic process of the District Plan Review that they were involved in. It is a RMA mandated issue, not a TCDC procedure.*

*The major strong policy position I hold is that of "committee responsibility". The committee must make the decisions it makes after a full consideration of all arguments. The Committee, having decided by vote what any particular position is, requires all members of that Committee to be bound by that decision and they do not have an option of appealing to public sentiment outside the committee, via social media or similar outlets. If a committee member wishes to take a contrary opinion, it would be appropriate to resign before doing so. The previous committee was "white-anted" to a point where it was incapable of making any significant progress on any particular matter.*

*I regard myself as open minded and motivated by evidence, not emotion.*

### **Mike Wilkinson**

*I am an educator at the local Area School and live on Lees Road.*

*I have been a committee member for the last two terms and would like continue to work for the HBRPA to improve the outcomes for the wider community in the face of much change and challenge.*

*I have worked hard along with HBRPA to consult widely and inclusively and inform residents, business owners and ratepayers of challenges, developments and progress or lack of during my first two years and have also been a representative on the two stakeholders groups formed to work through the vision of the walk.*

*In this position I have advocated for better solutions, better information and wider consultation as requested by the community. I believe in world-class solutions and infrastructure for a world-class and unique community and destination, not a homogenised plan that kind of works in other places. We have been dealt some bad cards but we are at the table, and we must keep demanding services and infrastructure that serves all very well. Complacency and settling for the mediocre is not good enough.*

Please return your completed ballot form to [vote@haheiratepayers.co.nz](mailto:vote@haheiratepayers.co.nz) or put in the ballot box provided at Richardsons Hahei. *We are engaging an independent Returning Officer to count votes.*

**Please note:** You MUST be a member of the HBRPA to vote, membership forms are available at <http://www.haheiratepayers.co.nz/documents/membershipform.pdf> membership applications must be received before 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017 if you wish to vote.