

Te Pahu Land Care Group Constitution

1 Name

The name of the Group shall be the Te Pahu Land Care Group [subsequently referred to as 'the Group']

2 Vision and Aims

The Te Pahu Land Care Group is a non-profit organization.

The vision of the Group is to protect and enhance Te Pahu's natural indigenous environment and recreational opportunities through community awareness and involvement for the benefit and enjoyment of everyone.

The aims of the group are to

- Identify the natural features of Te Pahu on private and public land and restore and sustain their biodiversity and recreational values.
- Encourage the people of Te Pahu to restore and sustain the natural values of Te Pahu through community awareness and active involvement.

3 Objective

To initiate and participate in projects which meet the aims of the Group. Such projects may be in support of private individuals, groups or governmental agencies.

4 Membership

- a. Any person who supports the aims of the Group can be a member on payment of the annual subscription as determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- b. Any member who fails to pay the subscription for more than six months shall cease to be a member.
- c. The subscription shall be set at a sum that does not act as a deterrent to membership.
- d. The following agencies may appoint a representative to the Group:
Department of Conservation, Environment Waikato, Land Care Trust and Waipa District Council and any body with similar aims and objectives that a General Meeting decides to invite.

5 Meetings

- a. The Annual General Meeting, of which seven days notice must be given, shall be held in October of each year. Notice to members may be by email or newsletter and in the Te Pahu School Community News
- b. The AGM will:
 - receive an Annual Report and Balance Sheet
 - elect the Executive for the Officers and Committee
 - decide on the subscription for the coming year
 - receive an outline and timetable of projects for the coming year
- c. Committee Meetings:
 - may be held formally or informally (telephone, fax or email)
 - plan the year's programme, set dates and venues for General Meetings and the AGM, and make applications for funding.
- d. In the absence of consensus the Chairperson can ask for a motion to be moved and seconded, and decided on voices but shall, if requested, take a show of hands. He or she shall have a casting vote in the case of tied voting, as well as a deliberate vote at General and Committee meetings.

6 Officers of the Group

- a. The election of Officers and Committee members may be by verbal or written nominations at the AGM.
- b. The Officers shall consist of a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.
- c. There shall be at least three Committee members.
- d. The Treasurer is responsible for receipting and banking the Group's funds, operating a bank account and making payments.
- e. The Treasurer and two other members are to be authorised by the AGM to sign cheques. Cheques shall be signed by at least two of the signatories.
- f. Vacancies can be filled by co-option and confirmed at a General Meeting.

7 Quorum

A quorum at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting shall consist of at least eight members, and a quorum at other meetings shall be four.

8 Payments to Members

- a. No member of the Group, or any person associated with a member, shall participate in or materially influence any decision made by the organisation in respect of the payment to or on behalf of that member or associated person, of any income benefit or advantage.
- b. Any such income paid shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid at open market value.

9 Financial Year

The financial year of the Group shall end on the 30 September of each year.

10 Funds

The sources of funds for the Group may be:

- subscriptions
- donations
- grants from funding agencies for particular projects the Group undertakes or supports
- other sources that have been approved by a General Meeting

11 Alteration of the Constitution

The Constitution of the Group may be altered, added to or rescinded by a majority vote at the Annual General Meeting, provided that notice has been given to members at the time of the notice of the AGM or earlier.

12 Winding Up of the Group

- a. The Group may be wound up voluntarily at a General Meeting of members by:
 - the passing of a resolution requiring the dissolution of the Group
 - the subsequent confirmation of that resolution at a General Meeting which is called for that purpose and held at least 30 days after the day on which the resolution was passed.
- b. The Group shall direct the disposition of any funds to any other organisation/s, preferably operating in the Te Pahu area, which share/s similar aims.
- c. Funds received from funding agencies for projects that are incomplete are to be returned to the appropriate body.