

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Lake Kaniere Community Association

(Formally approved at the 26 May 2026 Annual Meeting)

Date held:	14 th May 2025, 7.23pm –9.05pm, via Teams video conference
Officers in attendance:	Therese Gibbens, Chair Jill Copplestone, Treasurer Ian Anderson, Secretary
Members in attendance:	Rachel King, Graeme King, Emma Harding, Allen Hurley, Vicki Hurley, Julie Christie, Kevin Burt, Maxine Burt, Lewis Smith, Lynda Smith, Liz Holland, Liz Sawkins, Mike Rodgers, Paul Dunn, Barbara Dunn, Steve Blackwood, Tom Clisby, Toni Richards, David Richards, Adele Bryant, Alex McPhail, Ben Tapper, David Zarifeh, Chrissie Zarifeh, Jenny Farrar de Waght, Jean Boniface, Colin Boniface, Jennie Cassie, Trevor Cassie (Others? Please email admin@lkca.nz if we missed you in this list)
Guests in attendance:	Tim Shaw, District Manager, Department of Conservation Antje Wahlberg, Ranger, Department of Conservation
Date held:	9 th May 2023, 7.00pm – 7.30pm, via Zoom video conference
Welcome to guests:	The Chairperson welcomed our guests from the Department of Conservation.
Approval of last year's minutes on 14th May:	Confirmed as true and correct: <i>Moved:</i> Ian Anderson <i>Seconded:</i> Therese Gibbens
LKCA Constitution (Alex McPhail)	- Alex spoke to the report included in the Agenda. - The requirement to update the constitution by April 2026 to comply with new law was explained. - The concept of adding an associate member category was discussed at length, particularly the definition of the category. - Agreed to survey members views in coming months as input to the drafting of a new constitution. - A special meeting will need to be convened later in the year for members to review, amend if necessary, and adopt a proposed new constitution.
Community Resilience (Paul Dunn)	- Paul spoke to the report included in the Agenda. - The immediate focus on working with the Westland civil defence team to develop a workable plan for Lake Kaniere was explained. Paul's seeking input to the planning process from community volunteers with experience in emergency response planning. David Richards has considerable experience and offered to help. - Several members expressed the need for all bach owners to know how to access the civil defence containers in event of an emergency. Paul will consider how best to share the access codes. - Paul outlined the plans for an open day at the civil defence containers on Saturday 31st May. This will be advertised to members through the LKCA Facebook page and a direct email.

	There was discussion about stock-takes of private resources on Lake Kaniere properties that could be used by the community if there's a major event. A further stock-take / information request is likely later this year.
Environment & trapping (Ian Anderson)	- Ian spoke to the report included in the Agenda. - He acknowledged the great support and growing participation of LKCA members of all ages. - He noted the difference already being made at the north end of the lake, but that we are surrounded by an ocean of rats, stoats and possums and the local job of pest control will be on-going until the surrounding ocean of pests is addressed. - The organising committee had recently attended a predator free 2050 event in ChCh which included presentation of landscape-scale predator eradication, including the 100,000 hectare clearance between the Whataroa & Waiau rivers in South Westland. - Ian suggested the idea of building community support (social licence) for a similar project between the Hokitika and Taramakau rivers, funded by central government and carried out by organisations like ZIP or WCRC's Vector Control Services. The committee will explore this idea further. - There was discussion about Kea. The new information on the Association website was noted. Antje Wahlberg from DOC explained that Kea are likely to be more present around the lake than we notice, and encouraged locals to use the techniques explained on the website to protect property and the birds. - Rachel King reminded the group that Kaniere School is still interested in being part of the critter tracking. Ian acknowledged the delay and undertook to follow-up with her.
Rubbish on the foreshore	- Noted as mostly being an issue around the stone BBQs at Hans Bay. - Tim Shaw advised that DOC staff regularly check and clean rubbish from around the BBQs, but not necessarily frequently. He encouraged members to let DOC know if there is rubbish sitting in them for a while. - Tim advised that dedicated rubbish bins are typically abused and not a solution. - Discussions ensued about an element in society which ignores signage and consideration of the environment... for which there's no simple answer.
General updates and discussions with DOC (Tim Shaw)	- Hans Bay swings were hit and damaged by a car. They'll be repaired soon. A youth Justice process is being followed with the driver. - Work is underway on problem parts of the Mahinapua walkway. - There will be a project soon at the Hans Bay campground to better delineate camp places to better use the available area. - The memorial seats at Hans Bay and Sunny Bight appear to be appreciated and well used by the public. Eventually there will need to be a cap on the number of additional seats, and additional memorial plaques may have to be added to existing seats. DOC will continue to seek the associations guidance on these requests. - Ngati Wae Wae are happy to make the timber from the Matai removed from Hans Bay available for seats / benches at the lake, but it requires

	milling and drying first. Tim and the LKCA chair are looking at the practicalities of this. • No dog signs are present at both the Sunny Bight and Hans Bay dog administered areas. However there is a long tradition of people having dogs at these sites with few issues and DOC has only policed this rule if dogs are causing a nuisance. DOC is happy to continue in this way and the discussion suggested the community was happy with this approach. The no dog signs contradict what is actually happening and make it difficult for rangers. DOC will be covering the no dog logos. • Freedom camping remains a challenge. By default anyone can camp on DOC land so long as they're not causing a public nuisance or damage. To prevent freedom camping in specific areas a gazetting process is required. It's not straight forward and is further complicated in some locations also involving road reserve. • Noted the pruned and tidied trees on the Hans Bay waterfront have provided greater shade for visitors during the summer months. Tim asked if members would like more shade trees added on the green. This generated considerable discussion with the conclusion for now that no additional trees would be planted. • Liz Holland noted that the bush track and beach south of the swings provides considerable shade and picnicking opportunities and is under-utilised. Liz suggested that signage could be added to make visitors more aware of this opportunity. Tim to consider. • Tim advised that a juvenile Matai has been identified to replace the one felled for safety reasons last year. It will be potted in due course and let grow in a nursery environment till ready to be planted in the garden area where the previous one had been. • The problem with boat ramps being unusable at low lake levels was discussed at length. Tim acknowledged the ramps were likely DOC assets and would discuss further with his team. • The increasing number of sporting events taking place at the lake, particularly Hans Bay, was discussed at length. The consensus view was that it's a good thing, but that there may need to be limits, and more give-and-take due to the increasing exclusion of the public from using the waterfront, beaches, ramps, swimming and kayaking areas of Hans Bay during the events: ○ Ian Anderson undertook to write to Maritime NZ seeking a more nuanced approach to their blanket closures of parts of the lake ○ Tim also clarified DOC's charges to event organisers – noting that they relate only to commercial events involving entry fees charged to participants by organisers of the events.
Meeting closed:	With no other business to be discussed, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.05pm