

Notes from the Snells Beach Community Meeting

Hosted by: Snells Beach Ratepayers and Residents Association. SBRRRA

Date: Monday 2 March 2026

Time: 7.00pm **Location:** Betty Paxton Room

Welcome from David Burt – Chairman SBRRRA.

Committee Changes: Resignation Julie Coppins. Welcome Ragini Maharaj.

Apologies: Eileen O'Loan, Dave Parker, Penny Webster

Guest speakers x 2: Jackie Russell – Awa Matakanakana - community-led integrated catchment plan.

Lou Perkins – Rodney Community Co-ordinator – Mahurangi East to Leigh.

Numbers present x 45

Guest Speaker 1: Jackie Russell - Project Manager Awa Matakanakana.

Summary: There will be a workshop for solutions for the Community led Integrated catchment plan

Public workshop at Matakana Hall March 15th 1 – 4pm. Come along to help workshop solutions. The Powerpoint presentation is displayed at the bottom of this document

Guest Speaker 2: Lou Perkins – Community Facilitator

Summary: Lou is one of the 5 appointed Community Facilitators part of the new Rodney Community team. See PowerPoint slide info at the end of this document for further information

Lou is a local who has lived in Mahurangi East for 19 years, and has two children who go to school here. She is dedicated to shaping and enriching the community we all want to live in.

One of her first projects she is working on is an Easter Egg hunt. It will require community help so please let Lou know if you are interested in helping organise this event.

If you have any ideas, please contact Lou at: lou@rodneycommunity.org.nz

Update from Auckland Councillor: Cr Greg Sayers

- This year's average rate increase will likely be 7.9%. All of this will go to paying for the \$230 million running costs of the City Rail Link and to pay off the \$5 Billion build cost.
- Rodney pays about \$160 million in rates.
- Greg will advocate that Rodney shouldn't be paying for the CRL as we won't get the use of it. Also advocating to keep rates down after the large rates increase a lot of Rodney rate payers were hit with in 2025.

Give your feedback on AK Have Your Say as this gives a mandate to advocate for what the community wants.

<https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/>

Update from RLB member: Tim Holdgate

- RLB is continuing to work on locally funding projects for the community like:
- New walking paths along Matakana link road, Shoemith reserve, Cement works.
- Roothing projects – Falls road, fixing local roads with issues
- Planning for the wider spit

Main roading concern from members is having access if the main road to the peninsula is cut off.

As always please go online to voice your opinions and give feedback to the RLB.

<https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/>

Association committee updates: Issues and project updates

- Thanks to all who helped with the Pohutukawa Picnic in December. It was another successful event by Kawau Bay Action Group.
- Signage on Dalton Road has been replaced. There has been Petty vandalism of signage and letterboxes around Dalton Road SBRRA has been liaising with the WW police and hope to get an update within the next week. Compliance officers have also been in the area working and helping with issues.
- Logged jobs – Mahurangi East Road Slippage. Auckland Transport and Engineers have been onsite to access.
- A 3 year plan submission has been submitted by the committee to Rodney Local Board. This will be forwarded to the membership in a separate email soon.
- Insite Camera Arrabella Lane /Mahurangi East Rd has been fixed. SBRRA funds have paid for this fix. Donations toward the costs would be welcomed.
- Committee met the Independent Facilitator who has been contracted to work with the community on getting bring the community together (including helping around shorebird solutions that work for everyone in the community)

Other community updates:

CRG (Community Response Group) update from Troje Botica – SBRRA committee member

Summary on Increase Landslide risk report: AC 2025/2026

3 slips noted for Snells beach these were the ones occurring from Cyclone Gabriel on Mahurangi East Road into Snells beach. Large one and 2 smaller ones nearby.

Not a lot of change for our area. No change for most of Snells Beach.

To check your property risk you will need to get a LIM report. Visit the AC officers in WW and ask for help

Maurie Hooper. Maurie represents us – (the Snells Beach Association) at the MCPG/ WALG meetings.

Working on issues including

- Northern corridor, Mansel Drive, Falls Road, Hill Street intersection

Peter Sinclair: Mahurangi Community Planning Group (Former WALG)

Currently in the process of Incorporating so they can apply to get funding for the RLB. Working on plans for how to improve, in a development sense the Warkworth area including Snells beach. A copy of the draft constitution was presented.

https://app.businessregisters.govt.nz/sberbusinesses/viewInstance/view.html?id=229a78e05307b6d8bf1b29667f00cb174dd80727754431fb&_timestamp=15185558403285751

Snells Conservation Update March 2026. See report below

Comments and Questions From the Floor:

- Could the SBRRA committee please circulate the initiatives that are being pushed in such documents as the 3 year plan. Member would like to be able to have their say or vote to indicate which issues they support or think are priorities. Tim commented that if an idea is not in the plan it won't be funded.
- Member also commented that perhaps a Facebook poll of the ideas would be useful. Emailing member submissions for such things as the 3 year plan.
- How do we keep up to date with the Mahurangi Community Planning Group progress? They will put something into Mahurangi Matters once incorporation has been completed.

Our AGM is coming up on 25th May. We would love new Committee members to lend new skills to help enhance the community we live in. Please contact: chairsbrr@gmail.com

Meeting Closed: 9.15pm

From - Awa Matakanakana slide show Jackie Russell

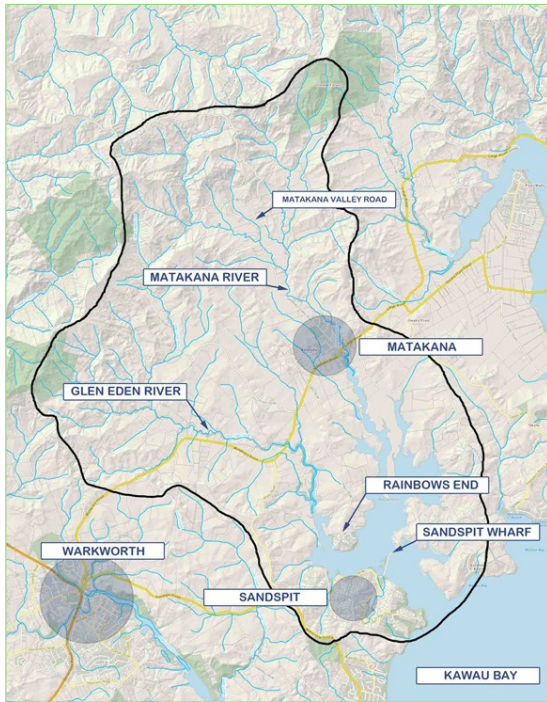


**Our opportunity
to imagine bold,
new solutions
for the future.**

**What defines a
community-led
integrated
catchment
plan?**

- Community-driven – ***everyone has a voice***
- Non-statutory
- Manages land, water and ecosystems
- Environmental, social, cultural, and economic values into one shared vision
- Informed by local knowledge, science, mātauranga Māori, and catchment history





Awa Matakana catchment

- Mixed land uses
- Land, rivers, estuary, and marine environments
- Rapidly growing local and visitor populations
- 14.2 km Matakana River
- 13.8 km Waikumete/Glen Eden River
- Some of the highest rainfall in Auckland region
- Unique (for Auckland) alluvial geology with easily transported soils



Public workshop one

1-4pm
Sunday March 15
Matakana Hall

Register now

tinyurl.com/muhs2vce

From Lou Perkins – RLB community facilitator

The Rodney Community Team is a new Auckland Council initiative funded by the Rodney Local Board.

The primary purpose of this team is to deliver on the Our People, Our Community, and Our Place priorities identified by local communities in Rodney and reflected in the Rodney Local Board Plan 2023.

People in Rodney have told us that they want:

- More spaces, places, activities, and programmes for leisure and play
- New opportunities for arts, culture, heritage, and events
- Towns and villages to be attractive, liveable and lively
- More opportunities to get together and do things with other people
- Better local learning, training, and job options.

The new team is a Rodney-based and focused team that has been designed to work together as an integrated unit to deliver on these priorities. At the core of the team are five Community Facilitator roles, each based in a different community across Rodney. These are place-based community-facing roles.

There are additional specialist Rodney-wide roles that will support the work of the Community Facilitators as well as the Rodney Community Team as a whole, and other council teams working in Rodney. There is a recreation, play, and youth coordinator, a placemaking specialist, a community places coordinator, and a community broker.



What we expect to see as a result of the work of this team is:

- New play, leisure, and recreation programmes and activities for all parts of the community
- More resourcing and support for arts, culture, and events
- Interesting and fun placemaking activations in towns and villages
- The initial development of community hub precincts in the main centres
- New skills development, training, learning, and literacy programmes
- Increased support for social enterprise and local economic development
- Increased support for community leaders and champions.



The Rodney Community Team



Snells Conservation update, March 2026

The 2025/26 breeding season had four (4) pairs of breeding tūturiwhatu/New Zealand dotterels and one pair of tōrea pango/variable oyster catchers at the northern end of Snells Beach.

Four (4) dotterel chicks hatched, one survived to fledge. Egg stage nests were predated by a hedgehog and in one case, a nest was laid too close to another incubating nest.

Competition is real. It's unknown what caused the death of another chick, and two were predated by red-billed gulls during a storm.

Meanwhile the kuaka/bar-tailed godwits are displaying their breeding colours and eating as much as they can to put on weight for their return flight to their breeding grounds in Alaska.

Plantings at the northern end of Snells Beach, along the edge of the stream, are doing well in most cases. They were released from competitive weeds to improve their growth rate. Shade is the best solution to many grass-like invasive weeds.

At the southern end of the coastline, volunteers started work on removing a patch of invasive weeds and following their efforts the job was continued by a mystery worker, possibly Auckland Transport or Auckland Council. All work is ongoing.