

# Plimmerton Village Plan, 2018-2020



This plan was developed by the Plimmerton Resident's Residents' Association to align with the needs of Plimmerton community and to meet Porirua City Council's (PCC) strategic objectives.

It covers two years ... with Village Planning projects funded and approved by Porirua City Council (PCC) plus a range of initiatives funded by local residents who have joined Plimmerton Residents' Association, supplemented with grants, sponsorships and community volunteering.

This is an initial overview and will be revised over time. Each project will be planned separately in detail and have its own section on the website recording progress.

## Part 1: Major projects with PCC Village Programme

### 1. Upgraded 'new' entrance to Plimmerton Domain from northern end

This initial development will include a safe pavement/cycle track from the north end of the domain to link up with a crossing to the Ara Harakeke shared pathway. It will create access to the domain from motor home park north of Plimmerton, and an attractive entrance for people accessing the domain for arts, sport, recreation, dog exercising and the walkway. It will include the first areas of clearing and planting to improve the safety and aesthetics of the northern entrance to the domain.

This is our first project out of the blocks and you will be able to follow progress on the website, in our newsletter and on our social media. There will be opportunities for you and your family to get involved as it progresses.

#### Goals

- Construction of a footpath/cycleway from the bridge at Plimmerton Domain northern end past the gate of the caravan and motor home park. This path will link pedestrians and cyclists to the existing Ara Harakeke walkway with a crossing at the northern end of the caravan park. The area will be completed with topsoil and grass seeding.
- Planting at the northern entrance to Plimmerton domain for safety and aesthetics. This could include a grove of Kowhai to attract tui and other native birds. This is currently being planned.

**Target completion: 2019**

**Timing: 2018-2019 planning and implementation**



## 2. Plimmerton Domain upgrade ... two year project

With stream bank and bed clearing, water quality improvement and flood management, upgraded entrance to Plimmerton from northern end, improved signage and pathways, commuter services, planning and development of heritage planting on the cleared banks.

This project will be planned in conjunction with the fenced dog exercise area in Plimmerton Domain. So in the 2018-19 year this will be in planning and preparation. In the following year funding will be applied for to implement the landscaping and planting.

### Goals

- Enhance recreational opportunities for residents and visitors by clearing the banks of Taupō Stream in the domain and replanting to create a unique heritage plant and social heritage interpretive walkway.
- Improve the water quality of the Taupō Stream in accordance with Whaitua principles working with Greater Wellington Regional Council with their spray and removal of invasive weed programme and clearing of the stream bed and banks.
- Create another entrance to Plimmerton village through the domain with a paved path and improved signage.
- Provide a safe shelter for commuters using buses when trains are not running.
- Add to the experience of people enjoying the beauty of this area: cyclists, families exercising dogs, hikers, visitors and motor home and caravan park patrons who are walking through the domain every day to the village to visit shops and explore the heritage trail.



### Process

- Clean out the banks of Taupō Stream running through Plimmerton Domain (from the northern bridge to the southern bridge across to Palmers) working with Greater Wellington Regional Council, Water Wellington, Porirua City Council and other agencies. The bed and banks have become overgrown with invasive plants. Years of neglect will mean that this stage cannot be carried out by volunteers as it requires skilled contractors working to an approved landscape plan. Community volunteers could assist with removal of debris and perhaps salvaging and cutting flax bushes for replanting etc.
- Plan appropriate plantings, flaxes and installations for the cleared areas of the banks. Heritage swamp plants and other appropriate plantings could be supplemented with installations reflecting social and cultural history, including pre-European history through liaison with Ngati Toa. This will be organised and carried out by community working bees in stages following the pre-approved plan. Plantings will be planned to attract native birds, lizards and insects etc. This will be a priority to protect our wildlife taonga.



- Develop an interpretive trail with community volunteers working with a PCC appointed heritage plant adviser. This team will produce signage wording and website background to the project. A team of community volunteers and natural history gurus researching the plants that attract insects, birds, lizards etc to produce web content and later interpretive signage wording ... using the successful heritage trail model. This will be developed concurrently with the planting plan.
- Concurrently develop social history interpretive signage and stops along the path. A social historian is leading research and will create the interpretive signage and web content which will include developments focussed on the domain area ... sports, industry, rail and road, brick production etc. The team who created Plimmerton's successful heritage trail will be involved in this project. This plan will be developed in 2018-19.
- Incorporate cultural planting and information. Flax from this area is harvested for weaving by Ngati Toa weavers who are internationally respected. Appropriate flaxes and other plants will be used as advised.
- Restore existing directional signage and add appropriate directional signs. We note that PCC's signage standards have changed and we look forward to seeing the new signage to be used consistently across Porirua 'with a local twist'.
- Explore sponsorship opportunities for local businesses. The development of an interpretive trail lends itself to creative sponsorship ideas. These are being explored by the group. The trail will be physically created in 2019-20 after planning and organisation of funding.

### Project resources

- Project management infrastructure team Roger Johnston, Allan Dodson and Dave Anderson (the team of heavy lifters who organised Plimmerton Railway Station and Karehana Park refurbishments etc)
- Landscaping and planting planning will be co-ordinated by Judy McKoy with expert input. Judy is preparing a background briefing paper for volunteers and she will work with PCC's designated landscape architect. She is a founder member of Friends of Taupo Wetlands group which is taking a long term view of management of this important heritage listed area with all the owners (QE 2, LTNZ, KiwiRail, PCC, GWRC etc). The research and liaison carried out by this group will inform planning for the stream clearing and the heritage planting.
- Landscape planning for replanting of Taupō Stream banks ... community volunteers with PCC and other expert input.

### Target completion: 2020

**Timing: 2018-2019** working with Greater Wellington Regional Council and PCC to get stream cleaned and preparatory planning complete in conjunction with the dog exercise area and other amenities.

**Landscape and planting planning under way. 2019-2020** Implementation of plans and community planting bees (with Village Planning funding to be applied for in the 2019-20 year).



### 3. Community Shed team involvement

#### Goals

The Community Shed team will be involved in both these initiatives.

For example, they may manage the planting bees for the heritage plant trail and supervise activity, working to the plan developed. The community shed may be the focus for a lot of the organisation of the various aspects of these two projects. Working on positive outcome-focused projects will help the manager and his team to recruit and retain committed volunteers.

Currently the shed team are implementing their new health and safety plan and ensuring that all equipment and systems comply with these standards.

They meet on Wednesdays and Sundays at this stage, and are working on a variety of projects including the building of pest traps for Pest Free groups in this region and planter boxes for local schools. They are planning a repaint of the railway station fence later in the year.

#### Project resources

- Project manager Dave Anderson with Warrick Procter and others

**Target completion: 2019**

**Timing: ongoing**

### 4. Taupō Crescent community space

The slide has been installed. The next phase of the project is more landscaping with planting and a giant working bee planned for Sunday 23 September 2018.

Local resident Leo Smith is organising the planting on Sunday 23 September during Conservation Week. Trees are being sourced through an organisation called Trees That Count and will be provided at no cost to PCC or PRA.

Residents have been invited to join the working bee where equipment and gloves etc will be provided and there will be a bbq put on for the workers!

Keen locals can contact Robin Jones [plimmertonra@gmail.com](mailto:plimmertonra@gmail.com)

Park signage and road markings to warn motorists of a playground were included in the original plan. These are still being planned as a small amount of Village Planning funding is available to complete this project.

#### Project resources

- Robin Jones, Leo Smith and local residents working with PCC parks team

**Target completion: 2018**





## 5. Steyne Ave Walkway link landscaping and signage structure

### Goals

- Completion of footpath from the entrance to Plimmerton (over the Taupō Stream Bridge) to the pedestrian rail crossing along Steyne Ave which is the last part of Porirua City's Ara Harakeke Walkway.
- Complementary landscaping planting to soften the wall and to create a safe rigging area for wind surfers.
- Some sort of permanent signage structure options, functional and attractive, could be built to replace the random signs placed in the grass and garden areas.

*This will have to complement the existing bridge balustrade and beach signage. The project should involve that design team (Linda Kerkmeester and Anne Johnston) to ensure consistency. We will work with a partner to design and develop this.*

- Volunteers will maintain the garden area and wall planting once the wooden signage is removed from the picture.

### Project resources

- PRA project managers

**Timing:** This project is on hold as the land for the pavement is leased by PCC from Kiwi Rail so legal issues need to be sorted. This is a long standing issue as this stretch of the cycle way / walkway is the last 'missing link' in the Harakeke shared pathway. Points 2-4 above may still be tackled whether the path goes ahead soon or not.





## Part 2: Other projects under way

(without Village Planning support)

### i. Karehana Park completion

Consultation with park users and local residents is under way and options are being considered including the planting of deciduous shade trees. Project managers Allan Dodson and Roger Johnson.

*Money raised by sponsorship of pavers will be used to complete this project.*

**Target completion: 2019**

### ii. Security cameras

PRA secured funding and went through a lengthy process to have two CCTV cameras installed at the entrances to Plimmerton. Footage is accessible to Police only and can be accessed to investigate reported crime. Project manager David Verrinder.

*The cameras require monthly checks and cleaning which a specialist security contractor carries out for a monthly fee.*

**Target completion: ongoing**

### iii. Emergency management and training

PRA works with Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office to encourage training and to run emergency hub activation events. Emergency radios have been purchased and training courses run in Plimmerton for local residents. This will continue with a group working outside the committee. PRA will also continue to encourage residents to train for emergency situations through WREMO courses. Project manager (outside committee) Alan Reader.

*We will work with the community if fundraising for equipment is needed.*

**Target completion: ongoing**

### iv. School and kindergarten liaison

We will resume regular liaison with key people at the two schools and kindergarten re all of our programmes (road safety, Taupo Cres slide etc heritage trail, heritage plant trail, big spring clean). We need the involvement of the school community of parents and students to ensure success of programmes and the communications channel and endorsement they provide to this community's younger demographic. Project manager Robynne McIntyre.

*Initiatives carried out with schools will be as part of the 2018-2019 plan.*

**Target completion: ongoing**



## v. Big Spring Clean

This annual event will be carried out before summer organised by the PRA and supported by community organisations. Project manager David Verrinder.

*PCC will assist as always with providing bags and gloves and collecting the rubbish. Residents of all ages will be encouraged to volunteer two hours to help on the day as has happened for the last 8 years.*

**Target completion: ongoing**

## vi. Traffic calming plan consultation school and kindergarten area

The plan we have been awaiting for many months will be presented to us soon. It will then go out for community response. The objective is to calm traffic entering the intersection between Motuhara, Steyne, Beach and School roads. We are told that cushions and signage relating to schools will be part of the solution to the problem of drivers' awareness in this area.

PRA has a strong preference for appropriate visible school signage such as that used in Lower Hutt.

Project manager: David Verrinder

**Target completion: 2018**

## vii. Steyne Ave Park

A social historian is researching the history of the area where the new park will be developed. The stories will be referenced in the park and available on the website with heritage photos and stories.

**Target completion: 2018**

## Timing and resources

Some of our most experienced project managers are involved in the implementation of this plan. In particular the team who refurbished the railway station and redeveloped Karehana Park, some of the Massey University seating design and build team, the signage and bridge balustrade design and build team, people from the successful heritage trail project and Plimmerton's social and wartime historian.

There are lots of opportunities for people with interest in any of these projects to get involved. Contact us [plimmertonra@gmail.com](mailto:plimmertonra@gmail.com)

# Project summary

	Project	PCC BAU	VP	PRA	Sponsorship	Community volunteers
1A	Interpretive walkway - clear stream banks and beds	✓				✓ (where possible)
	Plan replant	✓				✓ (with experts)
	Water quality	✓				✓ (as directed)
	Signage		✓			✓
	Paved pathway		✓		✓	✓
	Interpretive trail development		✓		✓	✓
	Planting		✓		✓	✓
	Install seating, etc.			✓ (future)	✓	✓
1B	Caravan park - construct pathway	✓				
	Restore berm	✓				
	Planting		✓			✓
2	Community shed materials		✓			
3	Supporting successful groups		✓	✓		
4	Ara Harakeke footpath, kerb and channel	✓				
	Landscaping		✓			
	Signage structure				✓	✓
	Rigging area				✓	✓
5	Taupō Cres. landscaping		✓			
	Signage				✓	✓
	Road marking	✓				
i	Karehana Park				✓	✓
ii	Security cameras			✓	✓	
iii	Emergency management					✓
iv	School and kindergarten					✓
v	Big Spring Clean	✓ (support)			✓	✓
vi	Traffic calming	✓				
vii	Steyne Ave Park	✓				