

**TE WHAKAMINENGA O KĀPITI**

*“He toa taki tini taku toa,*

*E hara i te toa taki tahi”*

*“My strength will only be achieved*

*Because of the efforts of us all.”*

# **APPENDICES MINUTES**

**Te Whakaminenga o Kapiti**

**Tuesday, 31 October 2023**



# Table of Contents

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Appendix 1      Correspondence from Hemaima Carkeek Wiremu to Te Whakaminenga  
o Kapiti 31 October 2023 ..... 4

Kia ora tātau katoa

Ko Hemaima Carkeek Wiremu tōku ingoa

Ko Tararua te pae maunga

Ko Ōtaki me Waitohu ngā awa e rere nei

Ko Ngāti Raukawa ki te tonga

Ko Ngāti Pare, Ko Ngāti Huia, Ko Ngāti Kōroki ngā hapū

Ko Raukawa te marae

I write with deep concern about Ōtaki beach and the ongoing damage we (Haukāinga, Ōtaki community) are seeing along the coastline due to vehicle access and lack of care, and I suggest we initiate a much-needed conversation about how to remedy the situation.

During Labour Weekend I witnessed an extremely large number of vehicles and beach goers using the beach without giving proper attention to whānau and their children, the surrounding ecosystems, and the already at-risk sand dunes.

There were more than ten 4WD vehicles plus trailers, quad bikes and marquees set up around and further north of the Waitohu mouth towards Waiorongomai. From the Ōtaki Surf Club heading north I would describe our beach front as a car park. Quad bikes and trail bikes were weaving in and around the sand dunes and nesting areas, without regard for walkers and families set up for picnics. There was a constant flow of trucks, trailers, cars, vans, and the like all loaded with toys and gear. Some people parked right against the surf to fish out of the boots of their vehicles.

Others were driving with no regard for children and young ones playing on the beach – in and out of their games and sandcastle play.

Ongoing vehicle access on the beach creates risks for all Kapiti Coast communities. Whether you are mana whenua or not, vehicles have a deep impact on important sites of significance such as pipi beds, wāhi tapu and other historical sites for Ngāti Raukawa ki te tonga. They create further mess and degradation for the residents living in Ōtaki. Such activity will only impact the potential for our community to enjoy the beach and keep coastal wildlife safe. This will diminish the mana and mauri of the beach and undermine the resilience of the eco-system. After discussing this situation with members of Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki this evening, we also talked about the excess numbers of freedom campers at Ōtaki river mouth. We are all concerned about what is happening.

Te Whakaminenga o Kāpiti – Kapiti Coast Council are meeting next Tuesday. I would like to attend and speak and table this kaupapa with them.

With the support of Ngā Hapū and Te Whakaminenga, I would then like to call a meeting of the groups I have listed below. This kaupapa requires Haukāinga/mana whenua and others who have a genuine concern for Ōtaki Beach.

- Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki
- Te Wānanga o Raukawa
- Waitohu Stream and Dune Care Group
- Te Whakaminenga o Kāpiti – Kāpiti Coast District Council
- Coastal Restoration Trust Organisation NZ
- The Rongoā Collective of the A.R.T Confederation
- Raukawa Marae Committee

Nga mihi

Hemaima Carkeek Wiremu