



Churton Park Gazette

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Churton Park Community Association Inc

Registered Office: 57 Erlestoke Crescent, Churton Park

Email: secretary@churtonpark.org.nz

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChurtonPark/

Website: www.churtonpark.org.nz



Notice of CPCA Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the **Churton Park Community Centre on Friday 28 March** starting at 7:30 pm. All residents are encouraged to attend.

Its purpose is to report back to residents on CPCA activities and finances in 2024, elect a Committee and Officers for 2025 and to identify the community's priorities for the year ahead.

Our Wellington City Council (WCC) Councillors: **John Apanowicz, Ben McNulty** and **Tony Randle** will be present to explain the opportunity for ratepayers to provide feedback on the Council's Long-Term Plan and its effects on our rates bills.

This year, the AGM has also to approve a new CPCA constitution, to meet the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

We encourage Churton Park residents who are not members to attend and to join the CPCA. The more members we have, the better the CPCA can represent Churton Park interests.

Our Biggest Challenge

We are urgently seeking people to join the Committee. Without increased support, the viability of CPCA is tenuous.

CPCA is an advocate for Churton Park and advises local authorities, mainly WCC, on matters affecting the suburb. Greater committee membership will enable us to represent you more effectively.

Our committee currently has only 6 members and is too small to provide the leadership and service that CPCA would like to deliver for Churton Park residents. Without that support, we cannot continue to service our community.

We all have work, family and travel commitments but if just three people are unavailable for a meeting, we lack a quorum for making decisions.

We know your time is precious, but it would make such a

difference if people could offer some time to lend a hand, whether for specific services that CPCA provides or for the more general work of the organisation.

Please seriously consider standing for the new committee, which will be elected at the **AGM on 28 March 2025**.

CPCA progress and concerns

The WCC Long-Term Plan

A significant activity this year was to submit on the WCC Long-Term Plan (2024-2034) and Facilities Plan.

We urged WCC to focus on funding essential services and infrastructure. We:

- Opposed the sale of WCC shares in Wellington Airport; the loss of inner-city parking with its loss of revenue; and the introduction of suburban paid parking.
- Called for work to cease on costly projects such as cycleways, bus lanes, new recycling and refuse bins for everyone, and the Golden Mile upgrade.
- Highlighted the need for improved local infrastructure, such as a larger community centre and public toilets near play areas.

The original plan depended on the sale of the Wellington Airport shares. Even then, a rates hike of about 21% was anticipated.

The decision not to sell the Wellington Airport shares forced a rethink by WCC to deal with a \$500 million shortfall and risk of rates hikes.

A new plan will be open for public consultation in March/April 2025. WCC is not holding public meetings and will rely on people going to the WCC website to see what is proposed.

The CPCA Committee is keeping a close watch with a view to making fresh submissions.

This is a crucial time. We would welcome your feedback by email so keep an eye out for the release of the plan for public consultation by:

- Going to the WCC link: Long-term Plan 2024-34 Amendment and Annual Plan 2025-26; or
- Typing the link below into your browser:

<https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/ltp-amendment>

Traffic safety

We also work with WCC and Police on local road safety, the most common concerns being speed, particularly on Melksham Drive.

Emergency management

CPCA works with the Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office (WREMO) to build preparedness to respond to significant emergencies affecting Churton Park. More work is needed to ensure our community is prepared, and more volunteers are needed. Please remember that first response is the responsibility of local communities. Medical emergencies can affect anyone at any time, e.g. having a heart attack. With that in mind, CPCA, with support of the Johnsonville Charitable Trust, shared the \$8,660 cost of two automated external defibrillator units to treat Sudden Cardiac Arrest. One replaced an old unit, outside the Churton Park Community Centre, and the other was added outside of the changing rooms at the Churton Park Reserve.

Community activities during 2024

One of our main activities was the CPCA community carols evening, on 7 December at Churton Park School. The hall was filled with about 100 residents, led by music provided by the Porirua City Band and the Capital Harmony Singers. The event was sponsored by Collective First National, Guardian Funeral Home and assisted by the St John’s Anglican Church, Johnsonville, and the Johnsonville Lions. Donations of nearly \$200 for the Life Flight Trust were raised by a bucket collection, proceeds from the Johnsonville Lions’ sausage sizzle and from St John’s Church free café.

CPCA also worked with the Churton Park Community Centre this year to organise:

- Kite Festival at Churton Park Reserve
- Opening the Korimako Reserve Play Area
- Supporting the Community Centre to run a treasure hunt in Lakewood Reserve and planning a community fun day at Churton Park reserve for Waitangi Day 2025.

In previous years, we have also organised children’s Christmas parties, community fun days and events to understand and celebrate the richness of our multicultural community, but with such a small Committee, the organisation of these events is very difficult.

Porirua stream pollution

There have been recent reports of paint pollution in a tributary of Porirua Stream, which runs along Middleton Road. Incidents like these can harm freshwater ecosystems and are against the law. It is illegal to discharge contaminants — including paint, chemicals, and wastewater — into waterways. Breaching this law can result in fines or enforcement action.

You can help protect our streams by:

- Disposing of paint waste or other pollutants properly - never down stormwater drains - which lead directly to our streams.
- Washing cars on grass or gravel, or at a commercial carwash.

If you see pollution in local waterways, call Greater Wellington’s 24/7 Environmental Hotline at 0800 496 734. Every report helps protect our environment.

Grants and Sponsorships

New World Churton Park has kindly funded the printing of this edition of the Gazette.

CPCA is grateful for the generous sponsorship it has received during the year. Thank you Johnsonville Charitable Trust, Collective First National, and Guardian Funeral Homes.

Thanks also to the WCC Social and Recreation fund for the year’s operating grant.

Churton Park Community Association (Inc) Membership Form

All Churton Park residents are invited to join, and assist the modest budget of the Association. Subscription (please tick appropriate box)

\$20	\$25	\$30	\$
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Please complete the details below and return with your remittance to:

The Treasurer, Churton Park Community Assn (Inc) 8 Tattenhall Grove Churton Park

Name.....

Address.....

Phone number.....

Email.....

Alternatively by direct credit to ASB Account Number 12-3223-0079397-00, with your identification.

Please also email the information and details of your payment to secretary@churtonpark.org.nz

Your financial membership enables us to carry out communication, advocacy and community support