

25 April 2020

Kia ora koutou Forum members,

We hope you are all staying safe and well in your bubbles and that the lockdown has not caused too many problems for anyone, financial or otherwise. It has been great to slow down a little and fantastic to see so much sharing and support within our community. Many people have expressed admiration for New Zealand’s coherent approach to the crisis. Sometimes adversity brings out the best in us! At the same time, we are aware that some of us will be wanting to get back to work as soon as possible, and we are certainly headed that way.

Many thanks to all community and Forum members who have shared produce, supported the elderly, and continued to work in essential services throughout the lockdown. We’ve seen lots of social distancing gatherings at driveway ends, which shows our local ingenuity for staying connected

We would like to take this opportunity to also thank Beth Houlbrooke and other members of the Local Board who have continued to meet online and work to promote the interests of our diverse communities in Rodney. We attach [here](#) a link to Beth’s latest email update to Community groups. Beth notes that the Board are beginning to draft the three-year Local Board Plan and they are seeking public input via the Council’s online ‘Have Your Say’ site. [Here is the link](#) to this site.

We have considered online Forum meetings, but with Lockdown in place there has been less community events and we have no agenda items to pursue, It is likely that our next meeting will not be before May or June, depending on developments with level 3 of Lockdown arrangements. We will keep you informed of meeting dates.

.We wish you all the best, stay safe in your bubbles, and keep focused on the important things!

Forum Co chairs

Paul Manton and Dustyn O’Leary

