

Kōrero

News and stories from Pukerua Bay



Vol 1, Issue 3
July 2021



*Whether it's Matariki, Pleiades, the Seven Sisters, or Krittika, they're all stars in Pukerua Bay.
Photo credit: Ivor Earp-Jones.*

Kia ora

Mihi ki te hapori o Pukerua ... greetings to you all. Welcome to the third issue of *Kōrero*.

The overarching theme of this issue is Matariki. You'll find your invitation to Te Ara Matariki – our annual celebration when we gather at the hall for kai and entertainment and walk through Kōawa Ngaro Secret Valley (pages 4–5).

Matariki is a time for reflection and goal setting. For some, it's a time for reawakening old skills and trying out new things. So, it's great that this year, some local artists have combined to offer a Matariki Arts Trail to sit alongside Te Ara Matariki (pages 6–7).

Conservation and respect for the environment are strong themes of the Matariki celebration. These are reflected in the messages from the Community Garden and Food Forest (pages 15 and 17) and in our two feature articles.

On pages 8–9, Liv, Ellie, and Matt Johnston ('Mr J') tell us about the school's new bush walk. It's a wonderful initiative that has our tamariki learning about and actively protecting their environment.

On pages 10–11, Pat Hanley tells the story of the Marine Protection Regulation. This was a long battle that was won through a partnership between our community and Ngāti Toa. It was a great victory, and one we need to protect.

In the last issue, we mentioned the threat to the future of the Village Planning Programme and since then, the

possibility has arisen of high-rise housing in our village. Paul Fitzgerald writes about our response on page 20. There's also an appeal for information from He Ara Pukerua.

We're excited to share poems by Gill England and Gillian Candler (page 12) and hope these are just a start.

The Village Plan survey is in full swing. It's an opportunity to share what you think is important for the future of the village – very timely, given the issues we've been dealing with! Find out more on page 20.

Finally, a reminder that this is a newsletter for us all. That's why we publish it in print – too many people miss out if we don't. To find a balance that satisfies all needs, we'd be grateful for a volunteer who could set up and manage an email distribution group. If this is you, please get in touch.

The theme for the next issue is learning, in all the different ways it can happen. Do you have a story to share about your experiences of learning in Pukerua Bay?

If you would like to contribute, advertise, provide sponsorship, or support us with digital distribution, please go to page 18. You'll find our contact details there.

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa.

Let us keep close together, not wide apart.

We acknowledge mana whenua of Pukerua Bay, Ngāti Toa Rangatira. For Ngāti Toa news, see ngatitoa.iwi.nz

Matariki: Te Tau Hou Māori

Matariki: The Māori New Year

In te ao Māori, Matariki marks the start of the New Year. It is a time for celebrating people, culture, language, and spirituality. The significance of this time is reflected in the many whakataukī that relate to it. These timeless proverbs offer insight or advice that can be used to guide reflection and decision making.

This whakataukī reflects the fact that Matariki is a time for remembering the dead and celebrating new life:

Haere atu rā e koro ki te paepae o Matariki, o Rehua. Haere atu rā.

Farewell old man, go to the threshold of Matariki, of Rehua. Farewell.

In te ao Māori, planting is planned according to the portents that can be read in the Matariki star cluster.

Matariki atua ka eke mai i te rangi e roa, E whāngainga iho ki te mata o te tau e roa e.

Divine Matariki come forth from the far-off heaven,
Bestow the first fruits of the year upon us.

If you would like to learn more about Matariki, including some of the whakataukī with which it is associated, you could check out this page on Te Papa's website:

pkb.nz/s/9MA6yNr



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Our mission is for *Kōrero* to reach everyone in our community. Without the generosity (and trust!) of our advertisers and sponsors, we couldn't do it. So far, our major sponsors have been Euon Murrell (Tommy's), Pukerua Bay RSA and Community Club, and Kylie Lyne (Clark and Co.).



Matariki 2021

NAU MAI, HAERE MAI KI PUKERUA BAY

Te Ara Matariki - Celebration of Arts
NGĀ MAHI A TE RĒHIA

***KAI *CELEBRATION *ARTS *SECRET VALLEY WALK**
***Rain or shine *Gold coin koha**
SATURDAY 10TH JULY
4-8PM SCHOOL & COMMUNITY HALL

Enjoy art and light displays at Kōawa Ngaro
Make your own way to Secret Valley, Takutai Street, Pukerua Bay
Follow the event on Facebook @ Pukerua Bay Hub or email for more information – hello@pkbhub.org.nz

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Te Ara Matariki: 10 July 2021

Nau mai, hoki mai.

Pukerua Bay's Matariki celebration is back for 2021! Join us for family-friendly activities, yummy kai, and our annual starry night walk through the Kōawa Ngaro Secret Valley. Enjoy the performances at the School and Community Hall and the art and light displays that are part of the Matariki Arts Trail (see pages 6–7).

This year, we connect to the wishing star, Hiwi-i-te-rangi (Celaeno), of the Matariki cluster, who helps us to recognise our hopes, dreams, and aspirations for the coming year. Te Ara Matariki engages with our natural taiao (environment) and inspires our sense of community. As we emerge from the darkness of the bush and see the stars

of Matariki, we are encouraged to hold firm to our aspirations and seek to realise them.

Te Ara Matariki will be open from 4–8pm. Please make your own way safely to the Kōawa Ngaro Secret Valley entrance at the north end of Takutai Road. Bring a light, wrap up warmly, and wear sturdy footwear. Children must be supervised at all times. Gold coin koha entry, rain or shine.

Nā Pukerua Bay Hub

For details, go to:
fb.com/events/146173407557893
or use this QR code.

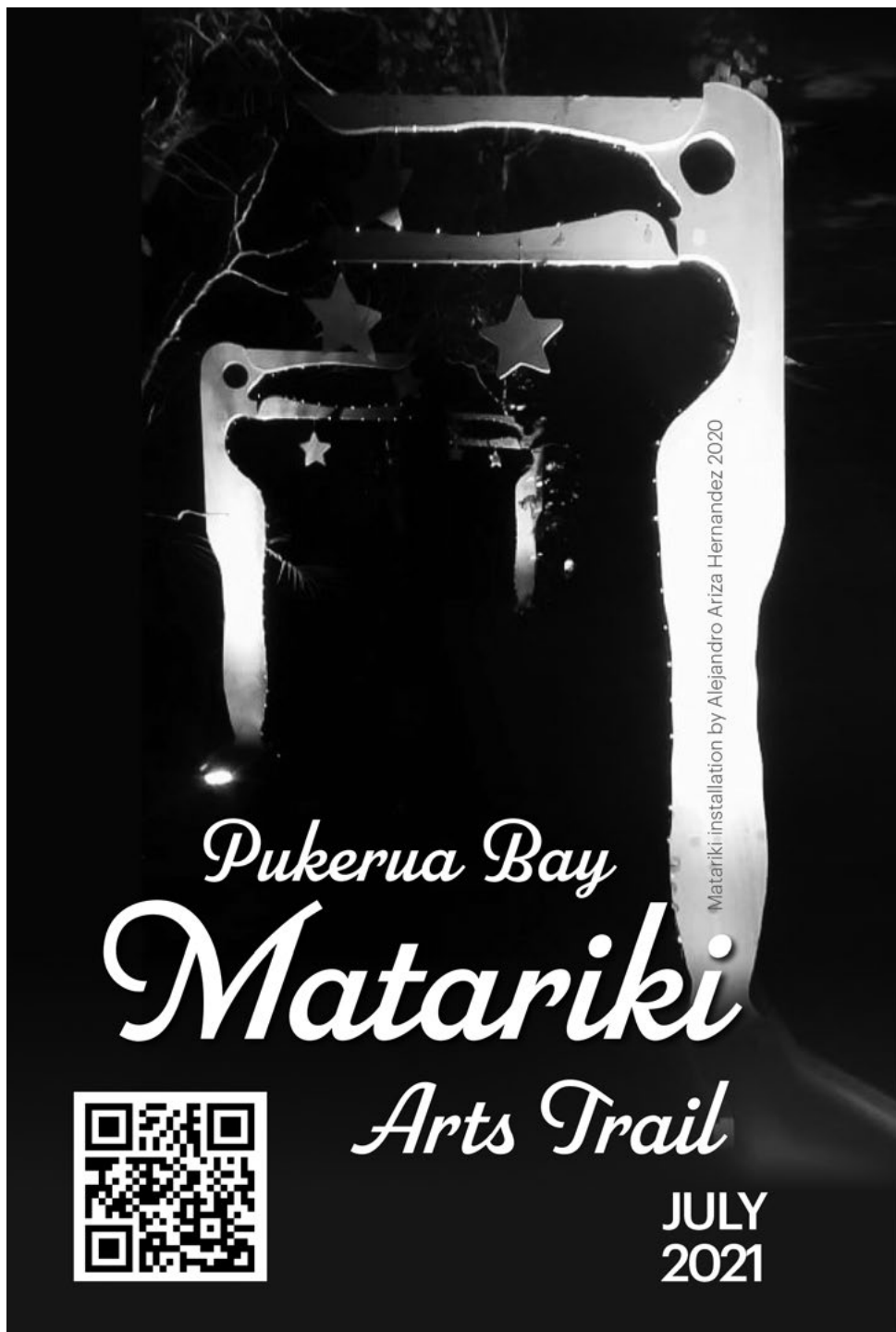


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Matariki Arts Trail: 3–11 July 2021

A group of Pukerua Bay artists have come together to celebrate Matariki through art, on and around the week of 10 July. We've planned an arts trail to take place alongside the Hub's Matariki Festival.

Our focus is on Hiwa-i-te-Rangi. This star from the Matariki cluster speaks to our hopes and desires for the future. A fitting one, given the last 18 months!

The community will have the chance to participate in making lanterns and other creative works to celebrate this special time. It will be a chance to show how much we value our community and our natural environment.



Highlights include:

1. Lottie Sterck: **paper lantern workshop**, 3 July, 2–4pm, RSA, Wairaka Road.
2. Kate Jacob: **native bird walk and gallery viewing**, 7–10 July, 6–8pm, 2 Sea Vista Drive.
3. Julian Meadow: **outdoor lightshow projection**, 10 July, from dusk till late, St. Mark's Church.
4. Rachel Campbell: **outdoor typography lightshow**, 10 July, from dusk till late, St. Mark's Church.
5. Manawa: **storytelling evening**, 11 July, 5pm, Manawa Moko Studio, Toenga Rd.
6. Alejandro Ariza Hernandez: **wooden installations**, 10 July, Kōara Ngaro Secret Valley.
7. Hub Craft Group: **yarn bombing display**, 10 July, 4–8pm, Kōara Ngaro Secret Valley.


For details, go to:

fb.com/events/838731340065965

or use the QR code on the previous page.

Nā Conor Twyford

Ti Kouka Yoga



**Friday morning Yoga classes
in Pukerua Bay**

45 min beginner class 9.10 - 9.55am
60 min gentle flow class 10.15 - 11.15am

For more information
please get in touch by email
tikoukayoga@uschmann.ch
or call/text 022 392 0877

Back to nature: learning in the Bush School

How we began

Bush School came about as a result of meetings and conversations between Nature School NZ Director Leo Smith and Rāwhiti teacher Jacqui Graham in 2020 about ways to best use a nature space that was part of Pukerua Bay School, but which was neglected and needed rejuvenating. From this, Leo ran day sessions with every class at Pukerua Bay. We sourced wet weather gear to ensure all students could access and enjoy the space whatever the weather.

We then had amazing support from the local community and our caretaker Pip, who had working bees and moved a lot of the waste that had accumulated. The result is a new learning environment that is being replanted, improved and allows our tamariki to explore, get dirty, learn about our flora and fauna, and get back to getting their hands dirty while playing.

A year on ...

We now see on Tuesday mornings Tahi venturing into the bush. Whether there's sun or rain, they explore our bush school area that's next to the zigzag path. (The whole of Tahi goes down with parent helpers.)

When they are down in the bush, students have a choice in what they do. So, they like to go on walks, build huts, play in the stream, and anything else that interests them. The reason why they go is because scientists have proved that being outside improves student learning (in a basic nutshell).

What's so great about it?

Learning outside and having a choice is a valuable part of growing up into a mature adult. Bush School helps kids develop and regulate their physical skills like balance, running, jumping, etc., which are necessary in a healthy life.

Can you help?

Each class gets its own time to go to Bush School, and helpers from our community make it happen. So if you are keen to help our Bush School or have some knowledge to pass on please contact the school:

office@pukeruabay.school.nz

Nā Liv, Ellie, and Mr J. (Matt Johnston)

Take a look!

Check out some photos of our tamariki enjoying connecting with nature. You can also view a short video on YouTube to see some of the first Bush School sessions in 2020. You can do this by using the QR code below or going to: youtube.com/watch?v=FfioQAlp3Us



Pukerua Bay Marine Protection: to have your fish and eat it, too!

The Pukerua Bay Marine Protection Regulation came into force in October 2009. This was after an effective, joint campaign involving Ngāti Toa and the Pukerua Bay Residents' Association, which began back in 1996.

Prior to the 1990s, Pukerua Bay had the most abundant marine life in the whole of New Zealand. This was largely due to the unique reef environment characterised by the long, narrow rock formations that extend from the shore out into the bay. This provides many little nooks and crannies for spawning and for the protection of shellfish and other marine organisms. It was estimated that there were over 300 species of fish and shellfish in the Bay.



Pukerua Bay was a very important source of kaimoana for Māori as they travelled between the North and South Islands. Its strategic importance was such that a number of iwi have retained tangata moana status over the area up to the present day, and this was a complicating factor when trying to obtain consent for the appropriate marine protection measures.

It was in about 1996 when Mike Meads, an environmental scientist who lived at the beach, got up at a public meeting and started listing off all the marine species that had been lost as the result of overfishing. Thirty-four crab species had been reduced to fourteen, four shrimp and prawn species reduced to two, seven anemone species reduced to three. Seahorses gone, pipefish gone, mussels gone.

Bert D'ath, who lived all his life at the beach, described how hundreds of dolphins used to regularly visit the Bay. He told how, as a young boy, he would be sent out to collect crayfish from the pots and fill a bucket with mussels for dinner.

Recognising that action was required to avoid complete devastation of the area, residents considered the provisions contained in the Fisheries Act and the Recreational Fisheries Act, but neither of these were appropriate. The only option provided was a marine reserve, which would have closed the area to all fishing. We still wanted to be able to fish, but



Photo credits: Iain MacLean

protection was needed for the seabed, which had suffered extensive damage over the years.

Through discussions with Ngāti Toa, we initially identified short-term measures or rāhui, which could restrict fishing for a period of up to two years but then had to be renewed. The first of these fishing prohibitions came into effect in 2002. They continued to be renewed until October 2009, when the Pukerua Bay Marine Protection Regulation came into effect.

This new regulation was written by a group of residents and folk from Ngāti Toa, with the assistance of Stuart Brodie, a local resident who was a lawyer specialising in fisheries law. We sat around a table at the Tennis Club to write the first draft. We then circulated it to interested parties and gained wide support, including from the Porirua,

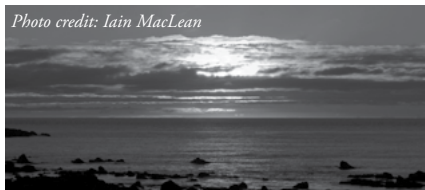
Kāpiti Coast and Greater Wellington Regional Councils; schools in Pukerua Bay, Plimmerton, and Titahi Bay; and both commercial and recreational fishing groups.

The Pukerua Bay marine environment will never be the place it once was. However, there has been a gratifying improvement in the health of the marine environment, as evidenced by the rapid increase in the variety of species and their abundance and size.

Protection is still required, and residents should remain vigilant as the success of the protection measures is reliant on people reporting anyone they believe to be fishing illegally. If you see someone poaching, please notify 0800 4 POACHER / 0800 476 224. They will be prosecuted.

Nā Pat Hanley

Photo credit: Iain MacLean



View from the Pou

*Don't yearn for happiness.
She is a crashing ball
of summer sun
that softens and dapples
even faces darkened by days.
An illusion that all is beauty
as the serene sea catches fire
catches in your throat
and groans while
below that lumpy horizon
you know the South
has hours left to dance.
Go make a rope
and pull her back
then bid her take us both
over the rim to burn
with the desire
of the young.*

Nā Gill England

To join Gillian and the rest of the beachcombers who make up the Pukerua Bay Litter Monitoring Group, email her at:
gmcdler@gmail.com

Beachcombers, Pukerua Bay

*We trawl along the shore
Our nets are tight woven bags
We comb the pebbles and rocks
Seeking*

*bright reds and oranges
anything shiny, glinting,
perfectly rounded blues,
shards of bright white.*

*We lean closer,
Poke through the tangled seaweed
Searching out*

*tightly coiled greens,
odd shapes
broken things.*

Gifts of the sea.

*Pearly fragments of iridescent shell
Catch my eye
I pick them up, examine them, return them.
They're not for today's catch of*

*Coca Cola cans
milk bottle tops
lolly sticks
discarded balls of fishing line
a left-foot jandal
a deflated balloon
shotgun wads
butts
hooks
and
disintegrating plastic bags.*

*The beach is swept clean
Until the next tide.*

Nā Gillian Candler

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- Concerned about an issue within our community?
- Want to know more about the work your council is doing?
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**SATURDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER
10am – 12pm**

Join us at the Community Garden and Food Forest (off the platform at Muri Station) for a family-friendly fun day.

Everybody is welcome.

Growing Together!

PukeruaBayCommunityGarden
@gmail.com



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Council submissions: victory and vigilance

Over the past few months, Porirua City Council has put some important matters out for public submission: the Council's Long-Term Plan (LTP) and further submissions on changes to the District Plan. The Residents' Association (PKBRA) submitted on both matters. We spoke to the submission on the LTP and will also speak to the submission on the District Plan. A number of residents also submitted on both proposals.

Our LTP submission focused mainly on the proposed removal of the Village Planning Programme (VPP). We successfully argued that the Council should honour its promise to review the programme and that a refreshed version should be co-designed with communities across the city. We will make sure we take an active part in this process.

Our District Plan submission response was prompted by Kāinga Ora's proposal to designate part of Pukerua Bay a High-Density Zone. This would allow the construction of residential buildings

of at least six storeys in height. PKBRA called a meeting at the RSA, which was well attended by residents, Northern Ward councillors, and a Council officer who could explain the proposal. Following on from this, our submission called for the Kāinga Ora proposal to be set aside for this phase of the District Plan process and dealt with as an amendment to the District Plan later in the year.



For more information:

LTP proposals: pkb.nz/s/ltp2021

District Plan submissions: pkb.nz/s/dp2021

Nā Paul FitzGerald, PKBRA Chair

Memorial plaques: can you help?

He Ara Pukerua is gathering the stories to go with the many plaques on seats and benches here in Pukerua Bay. One of the seats on the zigzag path at the end of Beach Road is in memory of **Thomas and Frances McKeown**. Do you know anything about this couple?

Please contact pukeruaheritage@gmail.com if you can help.

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- 2) Payment to Pukerua Bay Residents Association Fundraising Account: **02-0536-0134648-025** \$15 each
- 3) Make sure you put your NAME and 'CALENDAR' in the reference fields.

Thanks for your support!

DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Join us for a working bee in the garden every last Wednesday and second Saturday of the month. We meet around 10am and finish around midday.

If you want to know more, email us on PukeruaBayCommunityGarden@gmail.com or come to the RSA on Thursday evening at 7pm.

Everybody is welcome.

[@PukeruaBayCommunityGarden](https://www.facebook.com/PukeruaBayCommunityGarden)

Aroha mai, aroha atu – caring for one another

Next issue

The theme for the next issue is “teaching and learning in Pukerua Bay”. We warmly invite you to contribute:

- a black and white image for the front cover
- a poem or short story
- your memories of teaching and learning in Pukerua Bay

If you are a community group, you can also list an item in the events calendar.

The copy deadline for the next issue is **31 July**. Please email newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz by that date if you would like to make a submission, advertise, or be a sponsor.

Editorial team

Kōrero is brought to you by Kate Dreaver, Jonathan Harker, Anne Johnston, Iain MacLean, Moira Lawler, Nikky Winchester, and Mel Galletly. We thank the Pukerua Bay Residents’ Association for its support.

Kōrero comes out approximately every eight weeks. We need your support to keep it going. Please consider donating or placing paid advertising.

Advertising rates start at just \$50 for a local listing for five issues (see below); \$75 for a card-sized ad; \$150 for a half-page ad; \$200 for a full-page ad; or sponsorship of an entire issue for \$250.

Pukerua Bay Community website and directory

The Pukerua Bay community website pukeruabay.org.nz holds a plethora of useful information, including local community groups and activities. This is growing, with the intention of also creating a directory of local businesses, services, and venues for hire. This is where you can look to find a Justice of the Peace!

If you would like to be included in the directory or if you have suggestions for other content, please email:

newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz

You can download a PDF of this and past issues of *Kōrero* from the website at pkb.nz/korero or via this QR code.



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Events calendar

- 3–11 July: Matariki Arts Trail, see pages 6–7
- 10 July: Te Ara Matariki, see pages 4–5
- 11 and 18 July: Paekakariki film festival
paekakariki.nz/event/paekakariki-film-festival
- 13 July: Residents’ Association meeting, 7.30–9pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd
- 14 July: Ngā Manu winter lecture #6, 3.30–5pm
ngamanu.co.nz/upcoming-events/
- 10 August: Residents’ Association meeting, 7.30–9pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd
- 4 September: Spring Festival in the Community Garden and Food Forest

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PUKERUA BAY VILLAGE PLAN HAVE YOUR SAY!



It's time to review our Village Plan. We need to look back and celebrate what we've achieved, but we also need to look forward. What do we want our community to be like in five, ten, or twenty years? What do we want to keep, and what do we want to change?

DID YOU KNOW?

- If you live in Pukerua Bay, you're a member of the Residents' Association, as of right.
- The Association's work is guided by a Village Plan that is designed by and for residents.
- Our Village Plan sets out a vision for our community. It sets out what matters to people who live here and what we should be working towards.
- The survey asks for your ideas about new projects and your opinion about big issues, like housing and the environment.
- You can find out about Porirua's Village Planning programme, our previous plans, and this survey on our community website at pukeruabay.org.nz/village-plan

HOW TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY

You can complete the survey by:

- using this link: pkb.nz/s/pkbvp2021
- using the **QR code** on the right
- picking up a printed version from the **library**
- contacting Kate for a copy (027 609 7203 / kate@dreaver.name).

DO IT YOUR WAY

You can complete the survey as an individual or with a group. Just tell us which it is on the form.

DROP-IN SESSIONS

Some people might like a chance to talk about the survey with others, and some might like some help with completing it online. If you're not too sure about technology or don't have a computer, we can help!

Details are:

July 15: 7.30–9.00pm at the RSA
(we can sign you in)

July 17: 10.00am–12.00pm at St. Marks
(There are delicious biscuits from Greedy and Co. for the first 20 people who complete the survey!)

July 22: 2.30–4.30pm at the library

Closing date for submissions, July 31.

WE NEED YOUR IDEAS

Every voice matters!
The more ideas we have from you, the better our Village Plan can be.

