



Minutes meeting 27 Jan '26 held at Richmond Club

Present

Murray James (chair), Liesbeth van Bruchem, Ewout van Bruchem, Rachel Crawford, David Duffy, Jenna Kelly, Kate Palmer, Ross Skinner, Roseanne Taylor, Helen Macdonald, Catherine Willart, Eric Rouselle, Hayley Guglietta.

Apologies

Craig Given, Nick Hughes

Murray welcomed everyone to this first meeting of 2026.

He explained that it is an informal meeting where we would like to brainstorm ideas for WAR to work on this year and what we would like our organisation to be and what the year will bring us.

Rachel had a few important 'save the dates'.

The first one is on the 18th of Feb:

We invite you to attend a community event that celebrates community storytelling.

This is more than just a screening—it's a moment to honour the connections we've made and to reveal the many ways our communities make meaning through film.

Event Details:

- **Date:** Wednesday, 18 February
- **Time:** 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM (Doors open at 5:00 PM)
- **Location:** Rehua 108 (Community Engagement Hub), University of Canterbury
- **Tickets:** \$5 (for food provided)

The evening will feature around ten short films, including the **We Are Richmond Project** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Fert6lino> and stories from our **Stories for Impact** workshops. It will also include a panel conversation with the storytellers involved.

We would be honoured to have you in the audience to celebrate these #LearningwithStories achievements together. Thank you for being the heart of these narratives and for the impact you continue to make across our city.

The second one is on the 22nd of February, at Petrie Park, from 12 till 2pm and includes a working bee/planting session, plus BBQ. Let Rachel know if you can lend a hand.

Here's the Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/share/17osMfkNLV/>

The following ideas/focus points were mentioned:

- Connecting WAR projects like the Swanns Road parklet and the Medway parklet to Riverlution, the City to Sea pathway and other parts of the greenspine, and create an off trail from Stanmore Road to Banks Ave, because the Richmond part is an amazing asset
- Storytelling; focus on people's stories about Richmond
- Richmond Village
- Beautify the little garden near the Laundromat on Stanmore road
- Engage with and enhance our connections with council
- Find out what the different boxes are so that we can send our snap send solve to the correct organisations
- Have more artwork/murals
- Engage with and support youth in our neighbourhood
- Focus on meeting your neighbours and encourage people to engage
- Strengthen connections with government departments for people that are struggling
- Do more rubbish pick up events where the community gets involved
- Support Delta



- Connect with local businesses for work opportunities
- Advocate for more rubbish bins at bus stops along Stanmore Road especially
- Write a future strategy document by looking at what we have achieved

It was lovely to hear people talk fondly of living and working in Richmond.

Some people have lived in the neighbourhood for a very long time and have seen lots of changes.

We are all grateful for all the amenities close by, the shops, the supermarket, doctors, bus stops and of course the amazing Richmond Community Garden with everything that is happening there.

The hub, the garden and the Riverlution café have created jobs for people and more and more activities and events are happening, like for example: crafters on Tuesday's from 12 noon and yoga on Sunday's.

We discussed the state of the carpark at the Richmond Village and Ross kindly offered to continue what David started by putting together who owns what bit, because there are all different landlords. Rachel and Liesbeth then talk to the occupants of the shops, who are welcome to come to our meetings too by the way.

It was mentioned that it would be great to even have more connections with social workers, WINZ, mental health organisations in some sort of a hub where access is accessible for people that are struggling to fill in forms for example.

Education is key.

Rachel facilitates RCAN (Richmond Community Action Network) meetings where all these organisations can come together. Through a lack of funding, those organisations are spread thin, but they receive the minutes and have good connections with Delta.

David distributed a document he prepared regarding what WAR has achieved, so we can look at a strategy for the future.

Also to pinpoint where we channel our resources.

Everyone is welcome to add to this document.

We then also discussed the Te Oraka Pool project which is on hold at the moment, because the drains need to be inspected.

And we talked about 10 Shirley Road and the build that is planned for that site. We will discuss this further in next month's meeting.

The next meeting will be at Avebury House on Tuesday the 24th of February, from 7pm.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Meeting closed at 9.15pm