Havelock North Business Association

2026 Annual General Meeting – Minutes

Date: Tuesday 6th October 2026

Time: 5:15pm – 7:15pm

Location: Village Vineyards, Te Mata road Havelock North

In attendance

Andrea Napier
Nat Berry
Anna Wood
Michelle Roberts
Jaqueline Supra
Mandy Stork
Rhys Evans
Brendon Adema
Paul Michaelsen
Duncan Brown
Aaron Mills
Wayne Mills
Callum Ross
Liv Reynolds
Naomi Thompson
Rebecca Ashcroft
Deanne
Juliet McDonald
Katy Howard
Mayor Wendy Schollum
Councillor Michael Fowler
Councillor Yvonne Lorkin
Emma McRobbie, HNBA Manager
Marie Weber, HNBA Admin
Casey Anderson, HNBA Chair
Sarah Loza, HNBA Treasurer
Jaqueline Supra, HNBA Vice Chair
Sean Burns, HNBA Board member
Caitlyn Clark, HNBA Board member
Nait Scott, HNBA Board member
Julia Paul, HNBA Board member

Emma McRobbie:

Good evening everyone, thank you for being here for the 2026 AGM of the Havelock North Business Association, **I declare this meeting open as of 5:47pm.**

We have 3 items to pass this evening, as they come up I will ask for two financial members to raise their hand to confirm, we require a first and second for all of these.

If you wish to raise an item not on the agenda please wait until the general business portion of this meeting, I will ask if anyone has anything to raise at this time.

Havelock North Business Association

2026 Annual General Meeting – Minutes

Marie, will record attendance for us and the apologises we have for this evening are:

Suzanne Moore	Jade Gosling
Kris Larner	Kaye McGarva
Liz Dixon	Simone Bosch
Claire Jarman	Penny Gibson
Lynne and Geoff Parker	Daniel Nightingale
Cat Morgan	Angela Hunt
Mike Hill	Colin and Katherine Hutchison

Motion: That the minutes of the 2025 AGM, as circulated, be accepted as a true and correct record**. Carried.**

Can I please have two financial members raise their hand to confirm this,

Julia Paul and Casey Anderson

Thank you

Next, I welcome up Casey Anderson for our chairperson remarks on our annual activity from the previous financial year.

Casey Anderson:

Tēnā koutou katoa

Kia ora and good evening everyone.

Thank you all for joining us this evening at the 2026 AGM, and welcome to the Havelock North Business Association's AGM.

For those I haven't met before, my name is Casey Anderson, and it's my privilege to be current and outgoing Chair of the Havelock North Business Association.

Tonight is a chance to reflect on the year that has been, acknowledge the work that has gone into supporting our business community, and look ahead to what we have planned for the coming year.

In reflection on 2025/2026 it has been another busy year for Havelock North and for HNBA.

Our focus continues to be on supporting our members, promoting Havelock North as a destination, and contributing to a village that is vibrant, modern and continually evolving.

Over the past year, we have continued to deliver a mix of marketing, campaigns, events, member activities and vibrancy initiatives designed to bring people into the Village and encourage them to shop, eat, stay and spend time here.

Some of the things that stand out to me

Blended Art and Wine: Event really created vibrancy.

Art Uncorked: Raised $4,500 for arts and vibrancy.

Fotofest: Received overwhelmingly positive feedback.

Reels and Short Form Content.

Collaborative promotions.

Connecting with James Wattie.

Village Activations: Delivered successful seasonal community engagement initiatives, including Valentines and Santa Mail.

Member Events: Hosted several member events which are a great platform to discuss ideas and feedback openly.

Retail Growth: A special mention to the Quest opening on Joll Road with new and existing retailers opened up there.

One of the things I think is particularly important to recognise is the collaboration that sits behind much of what HNBA delivers.

The Association can't create a vibrant Village on its own. The success of our campaigns and initiatives is stronger when businesses get involved, share their ideas and look for opportunities to work together.

We'd really encourage our members to continue engaging with HNBA, sharing your ideas and letting us know what you would like to see from the Association. If there's an opportunity for businesses to work together, we want to help make that happen.

I'd also like to acknowledge the HNBA Board very forward thinking and community driven, Emma and Marie for the work that happens throughout the year to keep things moving. A lot of the work that goes into campaigns, events, communications and member support happens behind the scenes, and it is a significant programme to create and deliver.

Looking ahead to 2026/27

Our new Annual Plan builds on what we know works, while giving us room to trial new ideas and respond to opportunities as they come up.

At the heart of the plan are the same three priorities that continue to guide HNBA:

A strong and well-supported business association,

promoting Havelock North,

and maintaining a vibrant, modern and evolving Village.

For our members, that means continuing to create opportunities to connect, share ideas and access business development opportunities.

We'll continue with our quarterly member gatherings, as well as working with organisations such as the Chamber of Commerce, HB Business Hub and Hawke's Bay Tourism to provide business development and workshop opportunities.

Collaboration

We're maintaining a flexible fund to support collaborative initiatives involving five or more businesses. This gives us the ability to support member-led ideas as well as some of our returning campaigns.

That could include collaborative retail promotions, the Professional Services Guide, Gift Local, our Christmas activations, retirement village pop-ups and other opportunities that come up during the year.

We want to make it easier for businesses to work together and create opportunities that benefit more than just one business.

Marketing and promotion

Our marketing programme will continue to have a strong digital focus.

We'll maintain our social media programme, with approximately six short-form reels each quarter across our three social channels.

This year, we're also looking to make greater use of user-generated content and local content creators, helping us showcase more authentic experiences of Havelock North and extend the reach of our campaigns.

We'll also continue our "Shit You Should Know" series, which gives local professionals an opportunity to share useful information and showcase the expertise we have within our own business community.

BLENDED

We're also looking forward to bringing BLENDED: Art & Wine back for its third year.

BLENDED has become one of our signature events, bringing together art, wine, food, music and hospitality to create something a little different in the Village.

For its third year, we're excited to tweak the format a little and try some new ideas, with the aim of making the event accessible and appealing to a wider audience and continuing to grow its reach.

We're currently working through the location for this year's event and hope to have that locked in over the coming weeks. We're very excited about the location we're exploring and, if it all comes together, we think it will be a really cool setting for this year's event.

We'll share more details once everything is confirmed, but we're looking forward to taking what we've learned from the first two years, putting a slightly different spin on it, and seeing how we can continue to grow BLENDED.

Overall, the year ahead is about continuing to build on what HNBA does well, while being prepared to try new things. We don't want to simply repeat the same programme every year. Our aim is to continue listening to our members, looking at what is working, trying new ideas and adapting as the Village and our business community evolve.

I think Havelock North has a really strong foundation. We have an incredibly diverse range of businesses, a strong hospitality offering, great local producers and a Village that people genuinely enjoy spending time in.

Our role as an Association is to help bring all of that together, promote it, and create opportunities for our businesses to benefit from being part of the Havelock North business community.

I'd like to thank our members for their continued support and for the ideas, feedback and involvement you bring to HNBA.

Thank you also to our Board for the time and commitment they give throughout the year, and to Hastings District Council, our partners and the wider community for their ongoing support.

And finally, if you have an idea for HNBA, please bring it to us. Some of our best initiatives have come from businesses putting an idea on the table and asking, "Could we do this?"

We want to continue working collaboratively with our members to make Havelock North a great place to shop, eat, stay, play, live and love.

Thank you for your support and guidance. This was an opportunity for me to experience governance and understand where the market sat. I recommend everyone have a crack at it, because it gives a lot. If you have an idea, please bring it to us; some of our best ideas come from people sticking their hand up.

And from here, I'll hand over to Mayor Wendy Schollum to say a few words.

Her Worship, Mayor Wendy Schollum:

Thanked Casey for his fantastic job as Chair (recalling how she "twisted his arm" to take the role). Extended deep gratitude to the Board for donating a massive amount of volunteer time as a gift to the wider community.

Welcomed Deputy Mayor Michael and Yvonne for stepping up to take seats on the Business Association (BA), and acknowledged Damon Harvey as a true champion for Havelock North and Hastings.

Thanked Emma and Marie for the huge amount of work they do behind the scenes.

Highlighted that relationships are vital, particularly between the BA, the council, and local business owners to identify where council can help and where they need to "get out of the way."

Praised former Chief Executive Nigel Bickle for understanding relationships, building amazing teams, and mentoring Bruce Allan. Confirmed that Bruce has stepped up, is doing an amazing job, is just as available as Nigel was, and encouraged everyone to keep in touch with him.

Acknowledged that business conditions are currently mixed—some are doing well, while others are really suffering.

Noted that economist Brad Olsen recently delivered news showing positive signs that things are moving in the right direction. Confidence is boosted by:

- Resilience in the horticulture sector, which flows directly into the local economy.
- An uptick in building consents.
- Investments like the Quest Hotel, which will benefit the wider community with its restaurant-free business model.
- The sale of the old New World site, which council is watching with great interest.

Acknowledged a change in village foot traffic and significant housing growth in Havelock North, which adds pressure to the area.

Addressed safety concerns regarding visible homelessness. While a survey at the start of last year showed 91% of respondents felt safe or very safe, council understands retailers see a different reality on the ground.

Highlighted active measures, including regular City Assist presence in the village, overnight patrols, increased CCTV, and close communication with the Police.

Urged businesses to call City Assist anytime for help, but to call the Police for serious offending. Emphasised that reporting incidents - even after the fact - is critical because it helps police and council paint a picture of crime patterns.

Discussed how Havelock North can continue to grow well. Thanked those who participated in reviewing the framework, noting that while the current plan dates back to 2008, it proves long-term planning works.

Emphasised the need to protect the compact, walkable nature of the village, especially as growth puts pressure on parking.

The draft framework is expected to go to Council in December. If adopted, it will open for public consultation at the start of next year, with further input fed back into the BA.

Council is working on its 10-year plan (LTP). Following the recent QV valuations, council will conduct a full rating review and strongly encourages local business voices to participate.

To address affordability, council reviewed its own spending and reduced day-to-day costs by $10.2 million in the Annual Plan through staffing and operational efficiencies.

External debt is $79 million lower than projected (a major win given Cyclone Gabrielle recovery pressures). This includes:

o $55 million in compounding debt reductions.

o $16 million in capital underspends from projects coming under budget or being redesigned, reducing the need to borrow.

Council is closely reviewing its facilities and assets and will require extensive community input moving forward.

Concluded by noting that three elected council members were present at the meeting simply because they love talking to the business community and are there to connect. Relationships are so important.

Emma McRobbie:

Now moving on to our 2026 Financial reporting.

Annually, the Association has an independent financial review carried out by Bay Audit. This year, we changed accounting providers, moving from BM Accounting to Summit Accounting. While it's a new name, we're pleased to have the same great team continuing to look after our accounts and financial reporting. They have prepared the annual financial report being presented this evening.

A copy of this report was circulated yesterday. Following this meeting it will be circulated with AGM minutes to all members.

I now welcome up our treasurer Sarah Loza to summarise this report.

Sarah Loza:

Economic Environment

The past year has continued to be a difficult one for our members, with the challenging economic climate placing ongoing pressure on businesses. We remain committed to supporting our members, and have continued to focus our resources on initiatives that drive foot traffic and vibrancy in the village. As always, the challenge is allocating our budget efficiently, fairly and effectively to support all members.

Financial Performance

Looking at the financial results for the year:

Total Income: $188,826 (down from $196,557 in 2025)

Total Expenses: $205,382 (down from $215,691)

Net Profit (after tax): -$16,556, an improvement on last year's $19,000 deficit.

Both revenue and expenditure were lower than FYE25, resulting in a modest improvement in the overall result.

Profitability Notes

HDC Levy Funding remains the primary income source, at over 85% of total revenue. We're also grateful for the additional $15,000 event support funding.

Membership subscriptions ($8,455, down slightly on 2025) were the next largest contributor.

Other income came from Blended ticket sales ($7,495), which was down from $13,777 in 2025, the CBD Art and Vibrancy programme (Art Uncorked) ($3,696), and interest income of around $4,000.

Consistent with prior years, the Board has resolved that when term deposits (our cash reserves) mature, the interest accrued is transferred into the operating budget so that it can be used to benefit members.

Staff costs remain the largest expense, broadly in line with 2025 at approximately 52% of total costs (management, administration, social media and reels creation).

Public event outgoings of $33,599 were down from $45,000 the previous year and member networking costs also reduced to $6,820 (from ~$9,700). This was partly offset by increased investment in CBD art and vibrancy initiatives ($15,834), together with ongoing domestic tourism and local marketing activity.

It is important to highlight that the Association's objective is not to generate profit, but to ensure the annual budget is effectively spent – money in, money out – for the direct benefit of current members.

Financial Position

At 30 June 2026, net assets stood at $120,242, with cash and term deposits of $108,368 (including $86,987 in term deposits) and modest current liabilities of $3,782. Although cash reduced as operating activities were funded, the Association retains meaningful reserves, supporting long-term sustainability and continued investment in initiatives. The Committee will continue to manage

expenditure carefully while delivering value for members and promoting a vibrant, connected Havelock North village.

Summary

On behalf of the Board, I wish to extend sincere thanks to:

Our Manager, Emma, for her tireless work, creativity, and dedication in driving events, campaigns, and day-to-day vibrancy.

Marie, for her support with events and expertise in creating engaging social media reels and strengthening our online presence.

The Hastings District Council, whose funding, advocacy, and partnership have again been invaluable in delivering events and initiatives.

Finally, a huge thank you to our outgoing members, Julia and Casey. Casey has been an outstanding Chair for the last three years, levelheaded and committed, and Julia has been a strong member advocate, not just for retail but for the Association as a whole, particularly around equity of funding and resource.

Emma –

Motion: That the 2026 financial report be adopted as a true and correct record. **Carried.**

Can I please have two financial members raise their hand to confirm this.

Nait Scott and Caitlyn Clark raise hands

And a second, Thank you

Next, we move to the election of board members,

There is a total of 3 board seats available and with only 3 nominations there is no call for a vote this evening. The board will vote on our office holder roles at the first board meeting following this AGM.

Firstly, I want to take a moment to thank our departing Board members. About Mid-year, we said goodbye to Sophie Shield-Barrett, who stepped away after two terms due to a change in her work commitments. A big thank you to Sophie for her time and contribution to the Association.

And tonight, we farewell Casey Anderson and Julia Paul, who both joined the Board in 2021. I wont spend to much time as we have heard many time tonight how appreciated their service has been but

Casey has served as our Chair for the past three terms and has led the Association through some challenging periods. His level-headed approach and willingness to work through issues thoughtfully have been a real strength for the Board.

Julia has also been incredibly supportive during her time on the Board, bringing a great perspective, fresh concepts and a willingness to get involved and help wherever needed.

So, let's please put our hands together for Casey and Julia.

I also want to acknowledge tonight all of our Board members for the time and support you've given the Association over this past year. I won't call everyone up individually, but we do have a lovely bottle of wine from right here at Village Vineyards as a small thank you for your contribution. Please come collect before you leave tonight.

And without further ado,

The board nominations are: For Re-standing:

Sara Loza

Jacqueline Supra

Nait Scott

Havelock North Business Association

2026 Annual General Meeting – Minutes

Caitlyn Clark,

And Sean Burns,

We also have three new board nominations,

Naomi Thompson, from Ben and Jerrys

Lynne Parker, from Index Optical

Sharelle Creswell from the Havelock North Holiday park

Are any challenges to these nominations?

No

Can I please have a show of hands of all those in support of these nominations being accepted?

Majority raise hands

Motion: That the Board nominations be accepted by a majority show of hands. **Carried.**

Can I please have two financial members raise their hand to confirm this.

And a second, Thank you

Julia Paul and Sean Burns confirm

Finally, we move on to general business.

There were no items raised in advance this evening

Are there items that anyone in attendance wishes to raise themselves or by proxy? Please raise your hand,

No. Moving on. Before we wrap up tonight,

I'd also like to acknowledge our Hastings District Council representatives, Yvonne Lorkin and Michael Fowler.

As our new Council representatives, it's been great getting to know you both over the past almost year and having you join us around the Board table to represent Council.

Thank you for taking the time to understand the work we do and the needs of our local business community. We look forward to continuing to work alongside you in the year ahead.

Thank you, everyone, for your attendance tonight. Your support of the Association is very much appreciated.

I now declare this Annual General Meeting closed at 6:24pm