



# Norsewood Community Plan

2024-2025





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## Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of the Norsewood Community Plan is to outline the aspirations of people who have a connection to Norsewood - because they live there, own a property there, or visit often.

The Community Plan is designed to encourage community-led development, enhance collaboration between different groups and identify the community's priorities to inform Council's decision-making processes. The projects identified are reflective of the community's aspirations and do not necessarily have Council funding.

### The Norsewood Community Plan:

- ▶ Has been developed based on feedback and ideas from people with a connection to Norsewood;
- ▶ Outlines the profile and assets of the Norsewood community;
- ▶ Identifies priority areas and associated projects/actions;
- ▶ Supports a community-led approach for local projects; and
- ▶ Connects community aspirations to council's long term planning processes.



# Community Outcomes

The Norsewood Community Plan supports the wider Tararua District vision and Community Outcomes. Tararua District Council has identified the following Community Outcomes:



**Social well-being outcome:**  
To enable our people to achieve the goals that are important to them.



**Economic well-being outcome:**  
A vibrant economy that enables a range of opportunities for our people.



**Cultural well-being outcome:**  
Our people respect the beliefs, values, histories, and languages of our communities



**Environmental well-being outcome:**  
Our natural environment is healthy, resilient and cared for.

Vision for the Tararua District

*Mā te whenua, mā te waiora tātou e ora ai hei hapori ngangahau hei hapori honohono hoki.*

Vibrant, connected communities where our land and waters are nurtured and our people flourish.



# About the Norsewood Community



## Overview

Norsewood is a small rural settlement located in the northern end of the Tararua District, about 20 kilometres northeast of Dannevirke. Norsewood has a population of approximately 140 permanent residents, making for a strong local community.

Norsewood has a huge number of assets, including (but not limited to) superette and gas station, café, health centre, local history museum and local artist gallery, BnB and live music venue, auto repair shop and WOF agent, wetland park, renowned woolen clothing manufacturer and store and accommodation at the local tavern.

There are also a number of active community groups, such as:

- ▶ Norsewood Promotions Committee
- ▶ Norsewood & Districts School Support Group
- ▶ Norsewood Civil Defence Group
- ▶ Norsewood & Districts R.S.A
- ▶ Norsewood Pottery Club
- ▶ Norsewood Craft Group
- ▶ Norsewood Small-bore Rifle Club
- ▶ Norsewood Golf Club
- ▶ Norsewood Young Farmers Club
- ▶ Norsewood Lions
- ▶ Norsewood Volunteer Fire Brigade
- ▶ Norsewood Viking Festival Committee
- ▶ Norsewood Information Centre
- ▶ Norsewood Country Festival Committee
- ▶ Norsewood Pioneer Museum



A key feature of Norsewood is the way the community retains and celebrates the unique Scandinavian heritage – streets carry the original names and Scandinavian folk dancing is still taught at the local school. There are multiple heritage attractions and large-scale annual events that draws crowds from across New Zealand, including the “Viking Festival” and “Norway Day” celebrations.



## District History

### Our District

Tararua is our place, our being, our people, our whenua. It is our land, mountains, rivers and sea; rohe, maunga, awa and mātai. It is a land of ranges of untouched coastline, bush-cloaked ranges and sparkling fish-filled rivers.

The district's northwest boundary runs along the top of the Ruahine Range; its south-east boundary is the Pacific Ocean. The catchment of the Manawatū River generally defines the north and south extremities. The river catchment is also the reason the majority of the district is in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region. The Ākitio, Wainui and Owāhanga rivers flow from their headwaters in the Puketoi Range out to the Pacific Ocean. The Waihi River, a tributary of the Ākitio River, drops down the spectacular Waihi Falls.

### Our Whenua

On one of his many journeys, Whatonga was said to be paddling inland on one of many rivers in the district. Intrigued by the towering ranges, he chose to climb the tallest one, which is today known as Te Āpiti, or the Manawatū Gorge.

Upon reaching the top, a vast vista of natural beauty greeted him, which stretched unendingly in all directions.

Legend says that the forest was so vast and intricate that the only way to navigate it was with the guidance of someone familiar to the land (whenua). Those who ventured in without this knowledge risked becoming hopelessly lost. The forest was so thick that, even on the sunniest days its canopy obscured the sky.

Yet for all its challenges, the forest was a treasure trove, teeming with food sources, offering shelter, and signifying natural beauty at every turn. In honour of this stunning scenery, Whatonga bestowed the name 'Te Tapere Nui o Whatonga'. Remnants of this forest can be seen at Pūkaha, which continue to grace the whenua of the Tararua district to this day.

Today, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki nui-a-Rua and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua share the whenua with all other residing communities, including descendants of early Scandinavian settlers who saw the bush as a resource to be harvested. Through the late 1800's, these settlers worked hard to clear the land, transforming our district into a sturdy and thriving agricultural hub. Roads were forged through the ranges to the Manawatū

district, and northward to Hawke's Bay.

The towns of Dannevirke, Woodville, Pahiatua and Eketāhuna, the coastal settlements of Ākitio and Herbertville, and the rural settlements of Norsewood, Pongaroa and Ormondville all have their roots in this Scandinavian settlement that is called home by approximately 20,000 residents, including iwi, Māori and non-Māori. The settlements are set within what is now referred to as the Tararua District, bordered to the east by the Pacific Ocean and to the west by the rugged Tararua and Ruahine Ranges.

Tararua district is steeped in history, a history of beautiful lands, abundant forests and flowing rivers. As our whenua has cared for our people, it is our role to care for our whenua.

### Iwi

Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki nui-a-Rua, who represent their many hapū with their own whenua and awa tributaries, have both signed deeds of settlement with the New Zealand Government and have partnership agreements with Tararua District Council. These memoranda of partnership recognise the relationship

and responsibility of Council to support iwi aspirations and hopes for the future of their whānau. While the Council has obligations to all Māori, it has a further responsibility to act in good faith and in a manner of mutual respect with its iwi partners. This includes acknowledging and respecting iwi priorities, their traditions, particularly ancestral land, water, sites, wāhi tapu, valued flora and fauna as well as other taonga.

To give effect to the relationships, all necessary information must be shared for iwi and Māori to make informed contributions to Council decision-making. This will not only allow for open and transparent engagement, but the foundation to build enduring trust and opportunity, for Council to iwi and iwi to Council.

Together with Council, Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki nui-a-Rua share a vision for a prosperous and healthy district that supports its people and their cultural values. These are the principles of kotahitanga and kaitiakitanga, where sustainability, care for the environment and appropriate management of natural and physical resources is achieved through working together.



## Local History

Emigration from Great Britain had greatly decreased after 1850 and it seemed possible that New Zealand could absorb more labour than England would readily supply. In the late 1800s in many regions of Norway farm-able land became scarce and the tenant farmers on their meagre holdings faced real hardship. Starvation was a constant threat.

This, combined with the high cost of a ticket to America forced many Norwegians to consider alternative emigration options. Enter Julius Vogel's overly optimistic Immigration and Public Works Scheme which assisted migration to New Zealand with the view of quick land clearance and the building of light railways and roading networks. The New Zealand Government's agent sent to Norway sought out the tenant farmers who were well-used to clearing heavily forested land – men and women accustomed to hardship and frugal living.

The SS Hovding, a three-masted, full-rigged barque made two voyages to New Zealand carrying emigrants, the first of which left Christiania (modern day Oslo) on 30 May 1872 carrying some

483 passengers and arriving in Napier on 15 September. The second 108-day voyage brought 369 Norwegian men, women and children who would become the first inhabitants of Norsewood.

The plan for the Southern Hawke's Bay immigrants was to have three settlements, two comprised of Norwegians and one of Swedish, and each to be 5,000 acres in size. Quarter acre sections were set aside for churches, schools and other public purposes. Each immigrant family would be allotted a 20 acre section, the cost of forty pounds to be paid off over three years.

Upon arrival, they were housed at the Immigration Barracks near where the Napier Hospital now stands. The Government provided transport from Napier at two pounds per adult. The women and children initially remained in Napier for about 2 weeks while the men made their way almost four day long journey on foot to what would later become Norsewood, to be shown their allocated sections. Some of the men were employed to work on building the road between Wellington and Napier while others worked as loggers, clearing what later became known as Seventy Mile Bush. This dense forest stretched

from what is now known as the town Eketāhuna to Norsewood. It was perilous work and many were killed or badly injured while carrying out the arduous work, often with basic tools and bullock-pulled wagons. The women and children followed, disheartened to find that the promised farmland was still dense bush which had to be cleared to make way for basic accommodation in the form of tents and wooden huts. The men worked on clearing their land on the days when they weren't working on the road. Fire, the main source of heat and cooking, ravaged many panga huts and killed a large number of the new immigrants. The harsh weather with freezing temperatures, snow and long periods of rain combined with a lack of proper nutrition caused many to fall ill and die. Difficult, if any access to medically trained people resulted in women dying in childbirth and many children dying at a young age.

Local Māori, who had inhabited the area for some time before, befriended the newcomers and taught the women which plants were edible and how to make basic medicines using plants, roots and seeds.

Schooling was a challenge initially as many of the children had to travel great

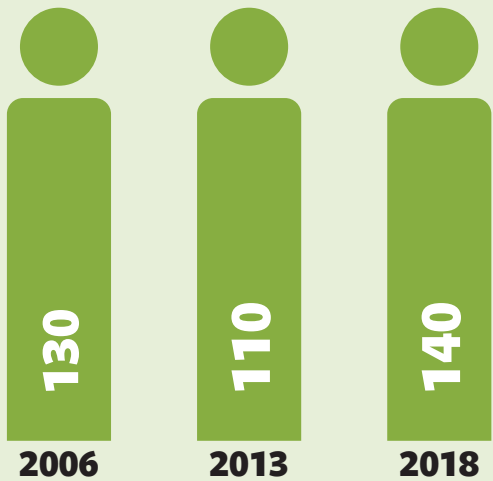
distances to get to school, some were needed on the sections to help with domestic tasks and site clearing and children were often too ill to attend school. Language was a barrier too.

The timber resulting from the clearing of the land gave rise to timber mills throughout the district and once land was cleared, farms were established. The sawmills gave rise to many enterprises - the first blacksmith's shop was opened and soon followed by a brewery. A Wesleyan Church was the first church to be built.

In 1888 a large, destructive fire stretching from the Ruahine Ranges almost to Ormondville destroyed many houses, a church, the school, accommodation house, various stores and barns. The only unscathed building was the local hotel. The fire not only destroyed homes and other buildings, but also, in what must have felt to the immigrants like the turning of the tide, cleared much of the remaining trees, enabling the settlers to at last become farmers. Such was their success that a dairy factory was built late in 1891 and in 1896 a co-operative factory - the Norsewood Co-operative Dairy Company Ltd. (the first in Southern Hawke's Bay) was established.

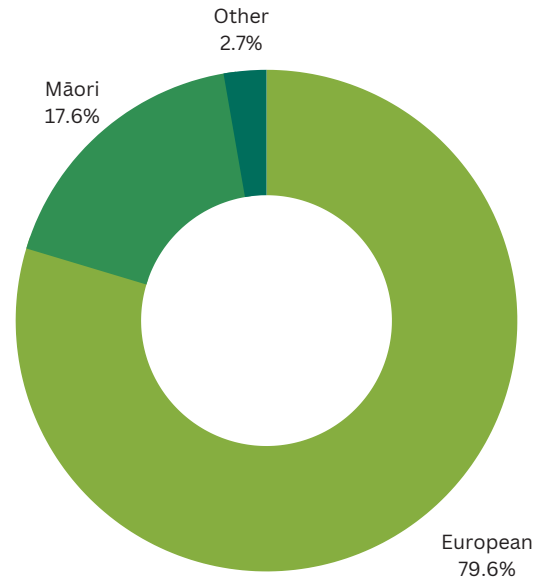
# Community Profile

This profile has been built using NZ Census data available at the time of the most recent plan update. It provides an overview of the communities composition from 2006 to now.



## Population

The resident population of Norsewood has been increasing, from 1,545 residents in 2003 to 1,611 residents in 2018. The population increased by 66 residents in five years between 2013 and 2018.

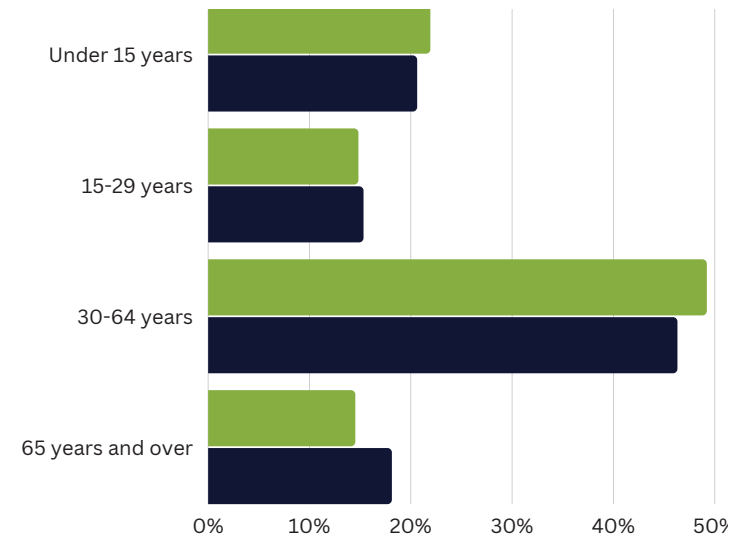
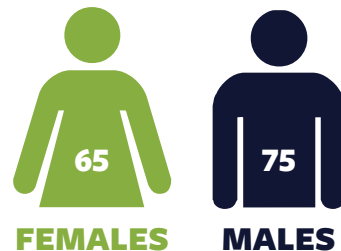


## Ethnicity composition

The ethnic composition of Norsewood is made up of 79.6% European peoples, 17.6% Māori peoples, and 2.7% other peoples.

## Gender and age profile

The majority of the population are in the age ranges of 30-64 year, with an overall higher number of males compared to females.



Source: Statistics New Zealand



## Dwellings

At the time of the 2018 Census, Norsewood had 687 total dwellings with 615 dwellings occupied, 69 unoccupied and 3 under construction.



89.5% occupation of 687 total dwellings

## Access to various telecommunications systems

Responses from the 2018 Census showed that Norsewood had 0.5% of residents with no access to telecommunications, in comparison to the Tararua District at 1.4%.



No access  
**0.5%**  
NZ 1.4%



Access to mobile phone  
**91.9%**  
NZ 84.7%



Access to telephone  
**71%**  
NZ 70.2%

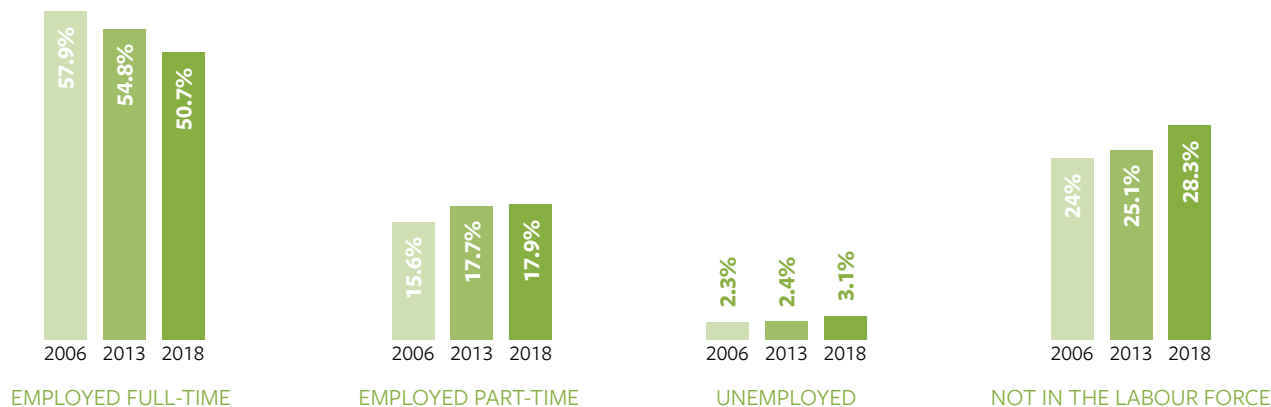


Access to internet  
**78.5%**  
NZ 76.3%

*The data presented here is not an accurate reflection of the current level of access as the Ormondville cell tower was damaged in a fire in 2022.*

## Work and labour force

Between 2006 to 2018, there was a 7.2% decrease in full-time employment; 0.8% increase in employment; 2.3% increase in part-time employment and a 4.3% increase of those not in the labour force.



*Not in the labour force: any person in the working-age population who is neither employed nor unemployed. For example, this residual category includes people who are retired, have personal or family responsibilities such as unpaid housework and childcare, attend educational institutions, are permanently unable to work due to physical or mental disabilities, were temporarily unavailable for work in the survey reference week or are not actively seeking work.*

Source: Statistics New Zealand

# Stock-take of Community Assets

Norsewood community has a huge number of assets, including (but not limited to) superette and community-owned GAS station, café, health centre, local history museum and local artist gallery, wedding and live music venue, wetland park, renowned woolen clothing manufacturer and store and accommodation at the local tavern.

## Key

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 NZ Natural Clothing                     | 15 Norsewood and Districts School |
| 2 Norsewear                               | 16 Cemetery                       |
| 3 The Norseman Blacksmith                 | 17 Mathews Park                   |
| 4 Wop Wops Wetlands                       | 18 Anzac Park                     |
| 5 Old Dairy Factory                       | 19 Golf Club                      |
| 6 Water Wheel Park                        | 20 O'Brien Auto Services          |
| 7 Johanna's World                         | 21 Fire Station                   |
| 8 Police Station                          | 22 Cenotaph                       |
| 9 GAS Norsewood / Superette / Post Centre | 23 Beck Memorial                  |
| 10 Crown Hotel                            | 24 Boat House                     |
| 11 Public Toilets / Health Centre         | 25 Country Kids Daycare           |
| 12 Cafe                                   | 26 Hermansen Contracting          |
| 13 Museum                                 |                                   |
| 14 Information Centre                     |                                   |





# Norsewood Community Priorities & Projects



## Community Priorities

Through community consultation, the Norsewood community has identified three priority areas for development:



### Storytelling

Capture the stories of Norsewood to be shared now and in many years to come.



### Place-making

Get involved with planning, designing and developing our places and spaces - use community assets, ideas and skills to create spaces we're proud of.



### Connection

Coordinate programmes and events that allow us to connect and be together.

## Project links to priorities

All projects will show that they align with at least one of the priorities of the community:

Links



Does not link



## Community Projects

Below is a list of the projects that Norsewood community is actively working on or working towards, and how they connect to our priorities.

The pages that follow contain summaries for each project listed. The project summaries are not definitive project plans and details may be added or changed over time.

### Project summaries include:

- ▶ what - project description;
- ▶ who - stakeholders;
- ▶ when - timelines;
- ▶ why - success indicators; and
- ▶ how - cost estimates and funding options.

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### Treasures and Heritage Capture



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### Heritage Trail



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### Tararua District Reserve Management Plan



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### Authentic Viking Long House



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### Improve connectivity

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## But wait, that's not all!

We've also included a list of future projects the community would like to see happen. These are all the projects that have been identified by our people during community brainstorming sessions and consultations.

Some of these projects are quick wins, some will take a bit of time and effort, and others are long-term projects and ambitions.

### Why are they future projects?

These projects do not yet have a lead or any resources behind them, and there are no plans that accompany them. If you think you might be able to help, check out the future projects at the end of this document.



# Nga Taonga tuku iho o Norsewood District: Norsewood Treasures and Heritage Capture



## Description

- ▶ Preserve our cultural heritage in an inclusive and equitable process for all that adheres to the three principals of Te Tiriti o Waitangi: Partnership, Participation and Protection.
- ▶ This will be achieved by creating and protecting information on a digital platform to enable current and future generations access to the legacies and traditions of our community.

## Stakeholders

### Who is **responsible** (leading):

- ▶ Norsewood School

### Who is **supporting**:

- ▶ Norsewood Pioneer Museum

### Who needs to be **consulted**:

- ▶ Norsewood and Districts School, Norsewood Pioneer Museum & Norsewood Promotions

### Who must be kept **informed**:

- ▶ Residents and people connected to Norsewood - via the District Happenings community newsletter and through the Facebook pages of Norsewood NZ and Norsewood Pioneer Museum
- ▶ Norsewood Promotions - via regular agenda item at Committee meetings

## Timeline & Status

- ▶ Status: Project Delivery
- ▶ Started 2022 - On-going

## Success Indicators

- ▶ Information has been captured / created
- ▶ Information has been stored in a space where it can be protected
- ▶ Information is published on a platform where it can be accessed by the public, e.g. DigitalNZ National Library of New Zealand (Ā-Tihi O Aotearoa)

## Anticipated Costs

- ▶ At least one mobile device that can capture image, video and audio and one external hard drive
- ▶ Preference is two iPhone that are estimated at \$2,500 each.

## Funding

- ▶ **Secured funds:** Aotearoa Gaming Trust have granted funds for this project following a successful grant application in April 2023.



# Norsewood Heritage Trail

## Description

- ▶ Design and develop a trail that travels through the township and allows locals and visitors alike to experience the stories our heritage and culture.
- ▶ This will be achieved by using static displays (or “storyboards”) with QR codes to share information already held in community repositories, as well as new information captured in the Treasures and Heritage Capture Project.

## Stakeholders

### Who is **responsible** (leading):

- ▶ Phil Grant, Norsewood Promotions

### Who is **supporting**:

- ▶ Jamie Hughes, Norsewood Promotions

### Who needs to be **consulted**:

- ▶ Council’s Planning Department (District Plan Environmental Standards for Signs)
- ▶ Manawatū River Leaders’ Accord
- ▶ Norsewood community (to ensure true and accurate)

### Who must be kept **informed**:

- ▶ Norsewood residents - via the District Happenings community newsletter
- ▶ People connected to Norsewood - via the Norsewood NZ page on Facebook
- ▶ Visitors - via signage and online/print advertising

## Timeline & Status

- ▶ Status: Planning
- ▶ Timeline: 2024-2025

## Success Indicators

- ▶ Consent - Signage meets the environmental standards of the Tararua District Council District Plan.
- ▶ Design - Storyboard content and design (and associated QR code content) have been approved by community committee.
- ▶ Implementation - Storyboards installed in planned trail.
- ▶ Operation - Trail is actively promoted, storyboards are regularly maintained and replaced when service life is over (e.g. weather-worn).

## Anticipated Costs

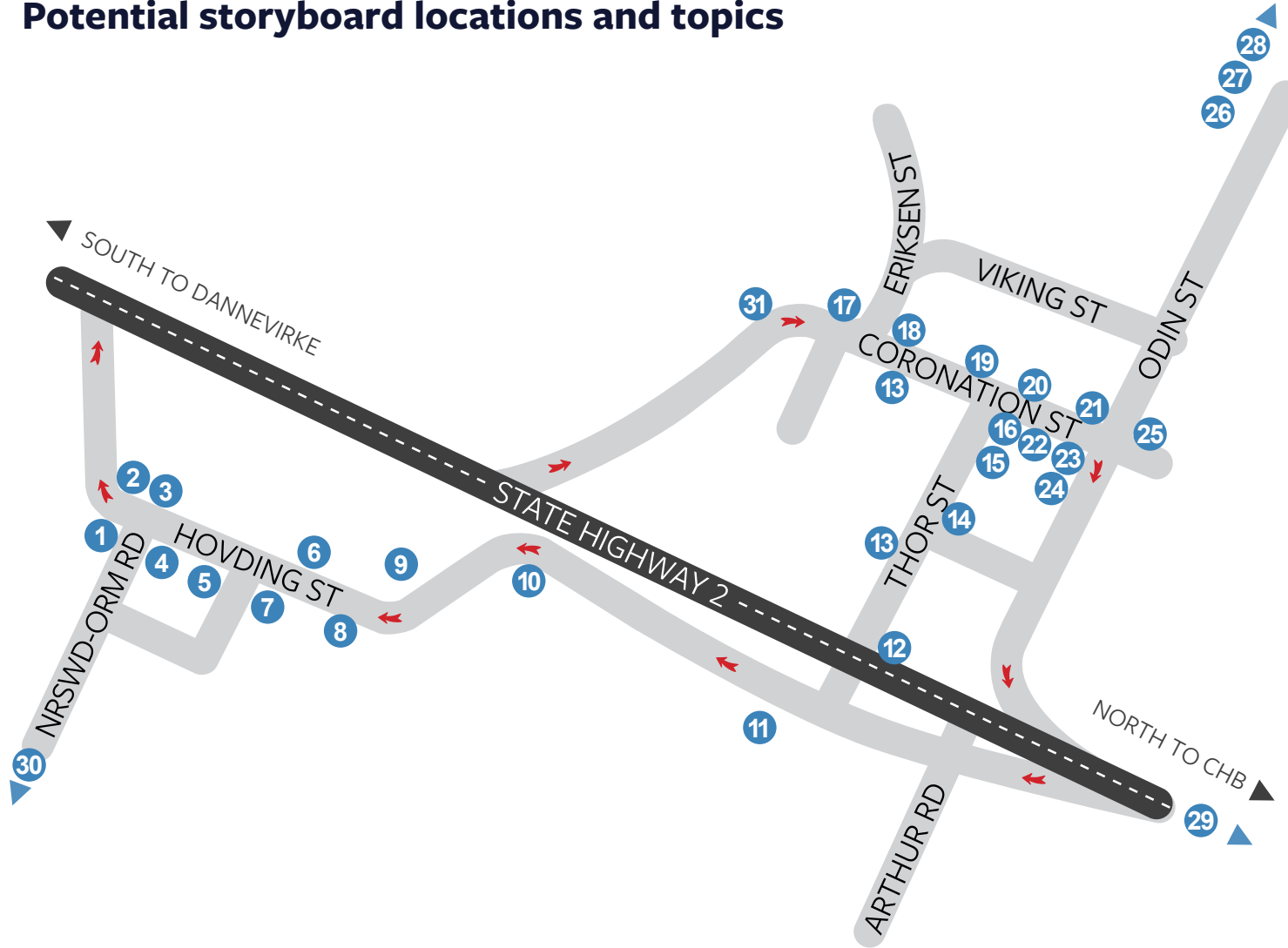
- ▶ Currently estimated at \$6,000 for basic deployment.

## Funding

- ▶ **Secured funds:** No funds have yet been secured towards this project.
- ▶ **External funding:** It is likely that full external funding will be sought for this project.



# Potential storyboard locations and topics



It is likely that this project will be delivered in stages i.e. sets of signs being developed and installed over time. Where practical, a “number 8 wire” approach will be taken to reduce project costs. There is also opportunity for this project to expand and develop over time as additional locations and topics are identified.

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>1</b> Fire Station / Old Pubs           | <b>6</b> Dairy Co-op                      | <b>11</b> Scandinavian Trestle Bridge     | <b>16</b> Museum / Garage                        |
| <b>2</b> Salvation Army Hall               | <b>7</b> NZNC Norsewear Retail Factory    | <b>12</b> The Incline from North to South | <b>17</b> Johanna’s World                        |
| <b>3</b> McCutcheons/O’Briens              | <b>8</b> Whits End / Wopwops Wetland      | <b>13</b> Norsewood School Waharoa        | <b>18</b> Anglican Church / Cheese Factory       |
| <b>4</b> Hovding Hall / Fire Brigade / CWI | <b>9</b> Waterwheel Park Playground       | <b>14</b> Domain Scandi Garden            | <b>19</b> Retail Stores History                  |
| <b>5</b> Historical Lutheran Churches      | <b>10</b> Static bench, SH2 Cut/Deviation | <b>15</b> Historic Gaol                   | <b>20</b> Norseman Blacksmith / Peter Pan Shop   |
|  |   |   | <b>21</b> Crown Hotel                            |
|  |   |   | <b>22</b> Memorial Hall / Museum / Post Office   |
|  |   |   | <b>23</b> War Memorial Cenotaph                  |
|  |   |   | <b>24</b> Blindefaring Boat                      |
|  |   |   | <b>25</b> Garages Workshops / Great Fire         |
|  |   |   | <b>26</b> Cemetery / War Graves                  |
|  |   |   | <b>27</b> Matthew Park Photo Frame for Ruahines  |
|  |   |   | <b>28</b> Manawatū River Trail                   |
|  |   |   | <b>29</b> ANZAC Park Native Reserve              |
|  |   |   | <b>30</b> Ormondville Railway Station / Viaducts |
|  |   |   | <b>31</b> Boar War Memorial                      |





## Get involved in development of the Tararua District Reserve Management Plan



### Description

- ▶ The purpose of the project is to ensure the aspirations and wishes of the community are reflected as much as possible within the Tararua District Reserve Management Plan.
- ▶ This will be achieved by sharing community aspirations with the Tararua District Council, and by making a submission to the public consultation process for the Plan.

### Stakeholders

#### Who is **responsible** (leading):

- ▶ Norsewood Promotions

#### Who is **supporting**:

- ▶ Tararua District Council - providing access to consultation resources when they become available

#### Who needs to be **consulted**:

- ▶ Local clubs and organisations using various reserves and domains for their activities

#### Who must be kept **informed**:

- ▶ Residents and ratepayers of Norsewood through the District Happenings newsletter

### Timeline & Status

- ▶ Status: Planning
- ▶ Timeline: 2024-2025

### Success Indicators

- ▶ Norsewood Promotions Committee has made a submission regarding the proposed Reserve Management Plan.
- ▶ Submission included clear indications of relevant development projects and actions that the community intends to lead and how the proposed plan will support or inhibit these, and any other feedback on the proposed Plan.

### Anticipated Costs

- ▶ No costs are anticipated for this project / activity.

### Funding

- ▶ No funding is required for this project / activity.

We need to do this project, so that we are able to do the next project.





## Build an authentic Viking Long House at Mathews Park



### Description

- ▶ Replace the Norsewood Community Hall – previously used for weddings, gatherings, school events, fundraisers education and other community based projects – as it has structural damage and has been deemed unsafe for public use.
- ▶ This will be achieved by building a community-owned facility in Mathews Park, in the style of an authentic Viking long house. Mathews Park is council-owned land and the venue of the annual Viking Festival.

### Stakeholders

#### Who is **responsible** (leading):

- ▶ Jamie Hughes, Norsewood Promotions

#### Who needs to be **consulted**:

- ▶ Tararua District Council (for consents)
- ▶ Norsewood community (for accuracy and authenticity)

#### Who must be kept **informed**:

- ▶ Norsewood residents - via the District Happenings community newsletter
- ▶ People connected to Norsewood - via the Norsewood NZ page on Facebook

### Timeline & Status

- ▶ Status: Fundraising
- ▶ Timeline: 2-5 years

### Success Indicators

- ▶ The Long House has been constructed and is fit-for-purpose.
- ▶ The Long House is well-utilised by the communities.

### Anticipated Costs

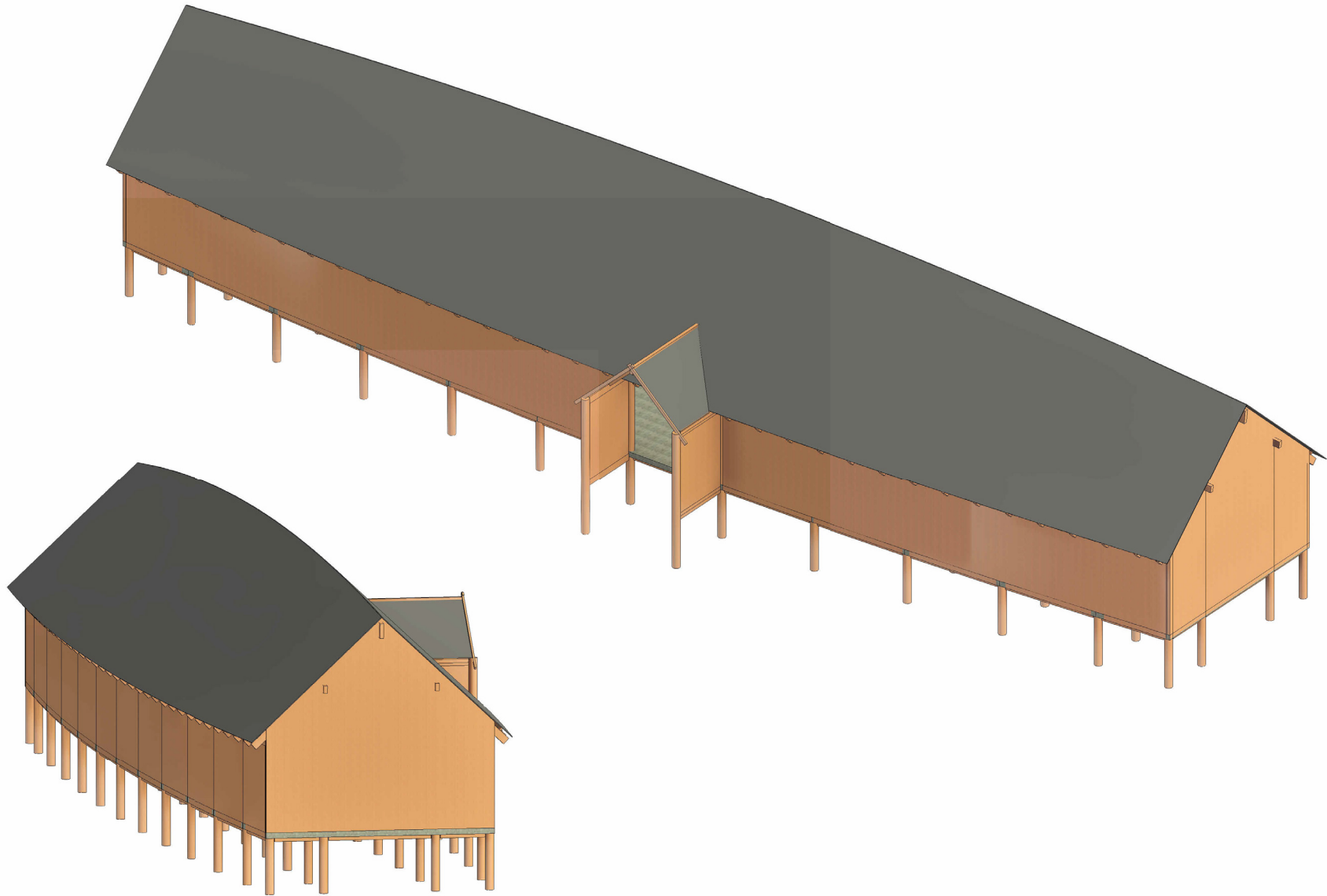
- ▶ Formal quotes are yet to be obtained.

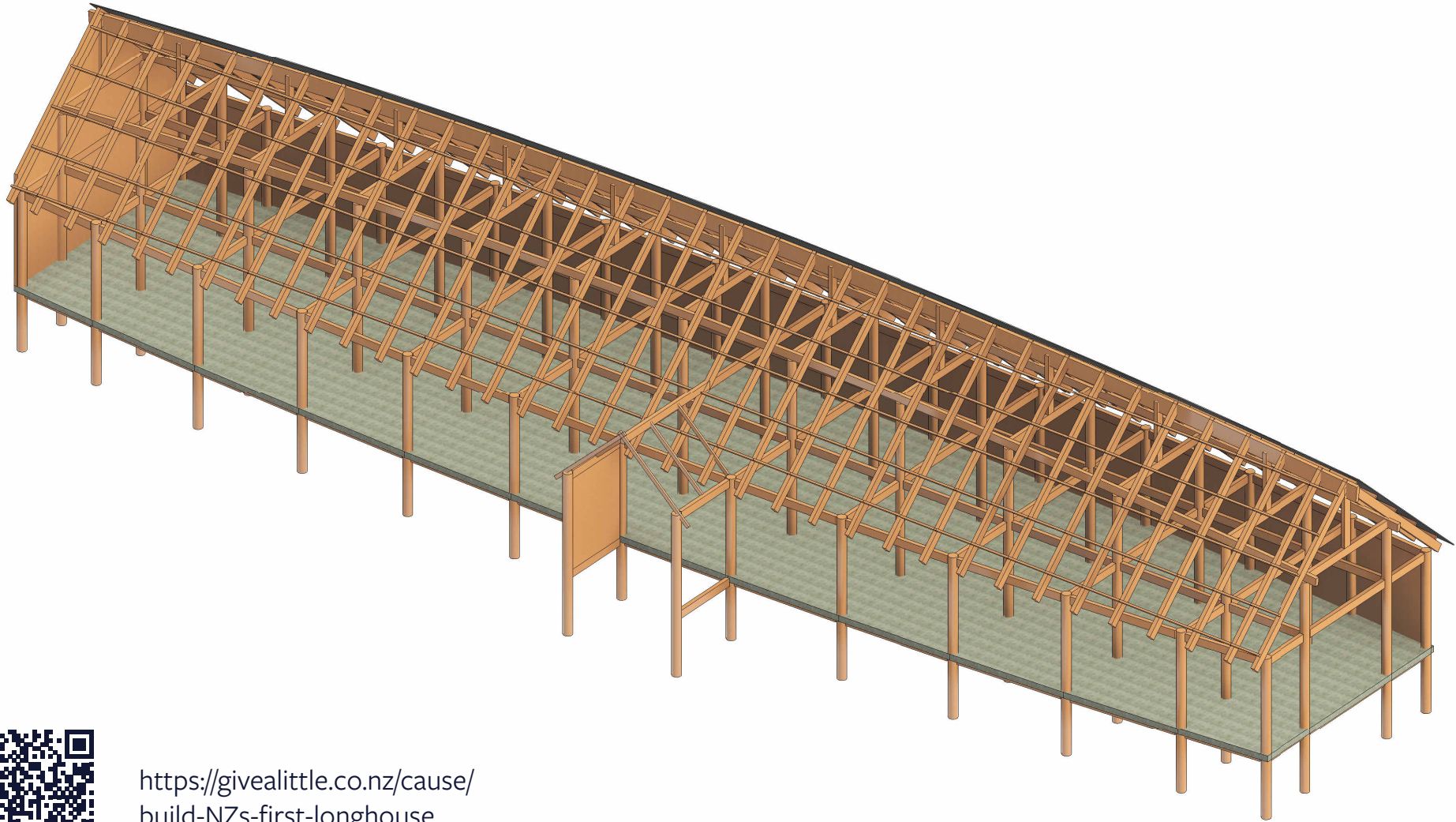
### Funding

- ▶ **Secured funds:** Project has received \$3,440 in donations through online Givealittle crowdfunding website. Funds are also being raised via the annual Viking Festival.
- ▶ **External funding:** It is likely that external funding will be sought for this project. A project budget is required for this.

## Example 3D views of Viking Long House

**These designs are copyright:**  
All 3D views have been drawn by  
Silvester/Clark Consulting Engineers.





<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/build-NZs-first-longhouse>



## Improve connectivity for mobile and internet



### Description

- ▶ In Norsewood, the purpose of the project is to reinstate connectivity for the Norsewood community following the arson attack on the cell tower in 2022.
- ▶ This will be achieved by having a Norsewood representative on the Connect Tararua group that are advocating to establish better connectivity across the Tararua District.

### Stakeholders

#### Who is **responsible** (leading):

- ▶ Phil Grant, Connect Tararua (Norsewood Representative)

#### Who is **supporting**:

- ▶ Connect Tararua (Governance Group)

#### Who needs to be **consulted**:

- ▶ Telecommunications Providers
- ▶ Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP)

#### Who must be kept **informed**:

- ▶ Norsewood Promotions - via regular committee meetings
- ▶ Norsewood residents - via the District Happenings community newsletter

### Timeline & Status

- ▶ Status: In Progress
- ▶ Timeline: To be completed in 2024

### Success Indicators

- ▶ Council consent has been granted
- ▶ Improvements has been installed
- ▶ Connectivity has improved for residents, local businesses and visitors

### Anticipated Costs

- ▶ The cost of installing a new cell tower is \$250,000 and must be installed in proximity to fibre and power.

### Funding

- ▶ **Secured funds:** No funding has currently been allocated to or secured for this project.
- ▶ **External funding:** It is anticipated that we can have this funded through the three telecommunications rentals and monthly plans.
- ▶ **Other funding to note:** Tararua District Council granted \$42,000 to the district-wide Connect Tararua project for coverage investigations.

**May 2024 Project Update:** Post the 2022 arson attack, the objective was to restore connectivity with Spark. However, the issue escalated as One and 2 degrees networks became saturated due to customer migration from Spark. Progress has been made towards establishing a shared RCG tower for all three telcos, expected to be operational in six months. Successful discussions with MPs and Spark engineers have marked significant advancement. Phil Grant, the advocate for Norsewood's Connect Tararua, has expressed satisfaction with these developments. Despite the setback in connectivity, a \$42,000 grant from TDC has facilitated extensive coverage mapping, leading to the planning of eight new towers and the anticipation of an additional tower for Norsewood.

## Recently completed community-led projects

### Norsewood Pataka Kai / Matskap / Roadside Pantry

Norsewood's new roadside pantry, also known as a Pataka Kai - or in Norwegian a "Matskap" - is up and running!

It's a place where folks can share, pick up, or swap food. You'll find it across from Cafe Norsewood by The Norseman Blacksmith. Big thanks to the hard-work of a local lady who prefers to stay unnamed for putting it all together. Swing by anytime to grab what you need or drop off extra fruits, veggies, or anything else to help out the community.

Go to the link below, or scan the QR code to check out the Pantry Facebook page where pictures are regularly posted of what's in the pantry at various times.

### Norsewood Information Board Update and Tidy Up

Once cluttered and neglected, the Norsewood Information Board now stands as a testament to local collective effort and pride.

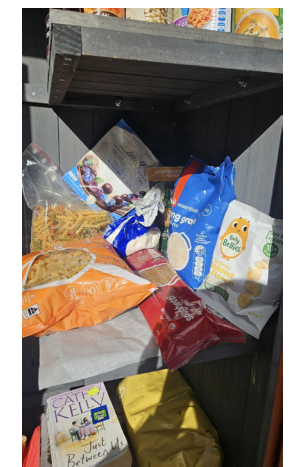
Volunteers of all ages pitched in, removing outdated flyers and organising current notices. Following some maintenance and care, the information board is now a vibrant hub of community news and events.

This project not only beautified our shared space but also strengthened our bonds, showcasing what can be achieved when everyone pitches in.



**CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!**  
**Norsewood Pataka Kai / Matskap / Roadside Pantry**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557652199645>



# Future projects identified by the Community

## Projects our community wants to see happen

These are all the projects that have been identified by our people during community brainstorming sessions and consultations.

Some of these projects are quick wins, some will take a bit of time and effort, and others are long-term projects and ambitions.

## Why are these all "future" projects?

These projects do not yet have a lead or any resources behind them, and there are no plans that accompany them. If you'd like to volunteer to lead on any of the projects or you have access to resources that may help, please contact the Norsewood Promotions Committee (contact info on back of document).

## What are the coloured marks?

To ensure we're working towards shared visions, all projects must link to at least one of the community priorities:

-  Storytelling
-  Place-making
-  Connection

 <p>Take stock of, and create a plan to, preserve our historic places and spaces</p>	 <p>Improved Maintenance of footpaths, gardens and berms</p>	 <p>Review and improve our playgrounds</p>	 <p>Replace existing streetlights with heritage style lighting over time</p>
 <p>Install BBQs at Mathews Park and ANZAC Park</p>	 <p>Town beautification - i.e. Hanging baskets</p>	 <p>Skate park or "active recreation" park</p>	 <p>Area development of Anzac Park</p>
 <p>Farmers Markets with local produce and goods</p>	 <p>Develop a list of current - and potential future - events</p>	 <p>Build the Norsewood Te Awa Community Foundation fund to \$50K</p>	 <p>Extend heritage trail with seating and lighting</p>
 <p>Improve community safety - installation of security cameras</p>	 <p>walk/cycle path from Norsewood to Ormondville (and beyond!)</p>		

**How to submit a new idea for our community plan:** If you have a new idea or project that you want to share, you can either come along to a Norsewood Promotions Committee meeting or send a proposal to our email available on the back of this document. Your proposal should share what you're wanting to do, how you plan to do it, who will be involved, what success will look like and how much you think/know it will cost.

## **WANT TO LEARN MORE OR GET INVOLVED?**

Contact Norsewood Promotions by post, phone or email:

Norsewood Promotions Inc.  
c/- Norsewood Information Centre  
Norsewood, New Zealand 4974

(06) 374 0991

[infonorsewood@xtra.co.nz](mailto:infonorsewood@xtra.co.nz)