

## **Snells Beach Ratepayers and Residents Association – SBRRA**

### **Minutes of meeting – Monday 06 May 2019**

#### **Betty Paxton Room Mahurangi East Community Centre 7.50pm**

**Present:** Over 30 people present incl: Greg Sayers AC Rodney councillor, Beth Houlbrooke RLB chair, Trish Allen (Mahurangi Wastebusters)

**Apologies:** Sgt Mark Stallworthy, Bev & Phil Rowe, Peter Caccia-Birch, Gary Heaven, John Duffy, Roger Turner, Neil & Barbara Carpenter, Hamish & Caron Grey, Erris Scott, Alison Coates, Mark Dobson

**Previous minutes** – 04 March 2019. Confirmed Robyn Duffy. Seconded Alex Weir.

#### **Matters arising:**

- **Transfer station.** Mark Dinniss gave an overview of this. SBRRA made a submission in support of Northland Waste and their building of a new facility @ 183 Sandspit Road – behind Wyatt Landscape. Question from the floor - Will there will be a right hand turning island into this slip road. Mark thought yes from memory – tbc at next meeting.
- **Security camera.** The pole has been installed and the cameras purchased. Installation of these cameras is imminent. Mark acknowledged the generous donations and support from local businesses.
- **Sunrise boulevard public toilets rebuild.** Old toilets have been removed. New toilets now on site. Pictures shown of this process. 1 further week needed to complete necessary work. An opening ceremony is being considered. Mark thanked Beth and the RLB for the funding of this project. Question from the floor – will the footpaths be re-instated. Reply from Beth – Yes.
- **Sunrise Boulevard** – basketball court. The sound deadening surface is coming. This is the reason for the scaffolding. Not aware of timeframe for completion.
- **Roading-** Matakana Link Road. It seems it will be built for 4 lanes but only painted out for 2 lanes. Greg Sayers to be part of group, meeting AT this week to discuss this. The Sandspit Link road will be the next priority to push for in the next budget.
- **Roading** – Hill Street. It seems no action until motorway opens. Greg mentioned that there must be plans approved and ready to action once this has happened.
- **Exercise equipment on SB waterfront** – Leigh Sheehan and SBRRA committee still working on this proposal. Not ready to go to the council just yet.
- **Boathouse Bay esplanade walkway:** Mark Dinniss has finally received a reply to his many emails, from Nicola Broadbent Auckland Council Team Leader – North West Resource Consenting. It seems the Parks Dept. has required the bridge and walkway construction to be removed –apparently to safeguard the dunes. General discussion from the floor.
  1. Survey the boundaries. Historically there should be a 20 metre esplanade reserve.
  2. Need more planting of large trees to provide safe roosting for the native birds.

3. Concern re the Morrison Stream water quality and the bank erosion at the mouth.
4. No high tide zone remains for shore birds to roost.
5. Retain historical easy access to connect Snells Beach to Brick Bay & Sandspit. Not easy to cross stream at higher tides
6. Suggestion from Beth to ask RLB to support the continuation of connectivity access as designated in the Greenways plan.

**Motion:** That the SBRRA committee continue to pursue this, and write to the RLB asking for support. Connectivity is an important part of the board's vision & local plans. Ease of access to Sandspit/ Brick Bay should be retained in alignment with this vision. Moved Mark Dinniss. Seconded June Turner. Carried.

**Correspondence: see attached list.** Special mention of correspondence from Robyn Duffy that has led to the repainting of the historic plaque under the oak tree on Ariki Reserve – commemorating James Snell.

Also from Beth re the chance to have your say on the new dog bylaws.

**Financial Report:** Ian Taylor presented the monthly financial report from 31 March 2019. **See attached.** Point to note that the walkways money of \$3000 that the SBRRA are safeguarding will soon be spent. Ian Taylor moved that this report be accepted. Seconded John Norman. Carried

**Walkways report and presentation:** June Turner presented the report on behalf of Gary Heaven, chairman of the Walkways Group. **See attached.**

- **Puhinui Trail (Walkway/cycleway - Snells Beach to Warkworth).** The Hamatana to Grange Street section now underway. Pictures shown. Huge leap forward in this project. Completion of the boardwalk/bridge and trail earthworks by end of May. Metalling of the track to be done this week and then left to settle over winter. Acknowledgement of Trevor Bridge for his commitment to this project. Volunteers always welcomed. Wide range of tasks needing help – contact June Turner. [rjturner@maxnet.co.nz](mailto:rjturner@maxnet.co.nz) 094256195. Special acknowledgment of Penny and Ray Barrott's donation of money to cover 16hrs of digger hire for this project. It seems there are many ways to support the project. "Great to see such support within our community" was the comment from the chair.
- **The Te Whau walkway update. 2 Community planting days** have been arranged this planting season. Volunteers are needed for these events. BBQ and drinks provided. Please spread the word. **Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> June & July 20<sup>th</sup>.** Meet at the Cornel Circle end of the walkway. 10am -12pm. Bring gloves and wear suitable footwear. Spades provided by the Council.  
More information – June Turner [rjturner@maxnet.co.nz](mailto:rjturner@maxnet.co.nz) 09425 6195

**Police station report:** Lesley Leversha reported that the Snells Beach police station is now operating again. It is staffed by volunteers. It gets lots of lost and found handed in, and is also the "home" of our civil defence and neighbourhood support. Promotion of a "Helping you cope during a power outage" pamphlet. Copies at the station .

**Auckland Council report - Greg Sayers.** He acknowledged Beth's support and welcomed the new SBRRRA committee. Election year this year for Auckland Council. Recent survey found 80% of responses didn't trust Council. He wants Rodney to get a fair deal from Council. \$36 million comes from Rodney rural rates – but the rural sector doesn't get a full return. In urban rates we are getting more back than paid. Rodney is a huge area. 2 major projects for Rodney. Kumeu roading with AT, and in Warkworth – the new sewage plant. But still there is no comparison in returns to the rest of Auckland. Hill Street – the future plans must be ready for action and implementation from the opening day of the motorway. Matakana Link Road – he will be part of delegation to Auckland Transport (AT) this week to advocate for the full 4 lanes from day 1. Sandspit Link Road – a high priority to get into the next budget. He voiced concern with the wastage and overspending by Council and in his opinion there is not a will to make change. In his opinion central government should pay for the Central Rail tunnel link as it is a major infrastructure, (with a huge cost blowout). He voiced concern that so many volunteer groups are vanishing – bureaucracy and Health & Safety obligations are having major impact. Volunteer groups were always strong in Rodney and must be supported and kept strong. This year's mayoralty race - 2 contenders so far. He will be listening for rates value and returns to Rodney area. He received thanks from the floor for his support of our local Rodney area

**RLB report – Beth Houlbrooke:** She gave summary of recent local board initiatives. The renewal of local amenities facilities eg: fire station, skate park, plus new leases to bowling club, tennis club, and soon Community Trust (Fire Station and helipad). RLB now in year 2 of the 3yr plan and are drafting up budgets for future work. Local Snells Beach amenities earmarked include an upgrade of the skate park and the refurbishment of the shopping centre toilets within the next 2-3 years. The biggest RLB priorities at present are

- Huapai sports facility – a \$20 million project
- Standard of road maintenance across Rodney
- Art Centres/community centres. We need more equity with the rest of Auckland.

There has been a review of the freedom camping and dog bylaws. Not able to report findings as yet. Beth also voiced concern re the important role of volunteers in Rodney. Eg: Ecological and environmental groups. We have a large and valuable water boundary to safeguard and monitor.

**Question for comment and clarification: Use of targeted rate money. Is it being used for what ratepayers understood it was targeted for?**

**Response:** It has enabled RLB to bring forward \$46 million of transport investments that were not budgeted for, over the next ten years. Road sealing – RLB strongly advocated for a huge increase in spending budget for local Rodney roads. Original proposal contained \$13.5 million over ten years to boost road sealing, in the hope that council would match fund, the remainder towards investment in public transport, park n rides, and footpaths. RLB stayed staunch and in the end AC has now budgeted \$121 million for local road sealing for Auckland over 10 years (the bulk of which is in Rodney), partly funded by the regional fuel tax, but gave no additional funding for other transport items. So RLB made the decision to put the targeted rate towards those. Direct control is now with the board. 3 new Rodney bus services have started. Construction soon of a park-n-ride facility at the Warkworth Atlas site (near the showgrounds) for 80-120 carparks. The current tenant will be vacating the site by

30 Sept and the buildings will be down soon after. This facility should relieve the parking problems around Warkworth, for local workers, commuters and local visitors.

These decisions are able to be reviewed at the upcoming local election and the next local board plan review. Our expectation is that clear costings will be given.

**Guest Speaker: Trish Allen – Mahurangi Wastebusters.**

### **How to minimise and manage your waste**

After a quick personal history of her interest in waste reduction Trish went on to give us some tips to help us reduce personal waste in our homes. We were encouraged to think of a cyclical process instead of a linear one. She showed many examples to illustrate the points below.

- Avoid plastic – aim to have a glad wrap free kitchen. Use glass jars instead of plastic.
- Reduce – Only buy what you need. Use the freezer. Support the local op-shops
- Re-use – so many options now for reusable coffee cups, drink bottles, shopping bags
- Re-cycle – Please wash your re-cycle items before putting in the bins. Leave the lids on the bottles and jars. All PLA plastic is to go to landfill as it is unable to be recycled. Auckland Council accepting #1-6 in the recycle bins. Guides on Auckland Council website and on the lid of your re-cycle bin
- Compost – Worm farms, compost, Bokashi. Many free courses offered by Council. [www.compostcollective.org.nz](http://www.compostcollective.org.nz)
- Re-cover, buy second-hand, rehome, repair, homemade, share surplus. 2 successful repair cafés have been held at Matakana Hall recently <https://repaircafeauckland.com/>

Other helpful resources. [www.therubbishtrip.co.nz](http://www.therubbishtrip.co.nz) [www.rubbishfree.co.nz](http://www.rubbishfree.co.nz)

**Meeting closed 9.17pm**

## **Next Meeting – Monday 01 July 2019**

### **Membership renewal now due \$10.00 per household**

If you wish to use online banking please pay into ASB a/c: 12 3105 0018171 00 and record part of your surname and street name in the reference fields.

### **SBRRRA contacts**

**Chairman: Mark Dinniss.** [chairsbrr@gmail.com](mailto:chairsbrr@gmail.com). 0274 344 674

**Secretary: Eileen O'Loan** [12sbrr@gmail.com](mailto:12sbrr@gmail.com) 021 255 9176

**Treasurer: Steve Popham** [treasurersbrr@gmail.com](mailto:treasurersbrr@gmail.com)

<https://snellsbeach.co.nz/>

## Attachments x3

1. Correspondence
2. Financial report
3. Walkways report

### Correspondence March, April, May 2019:-

- Ray Barrott offering to pay for 16 Hours of Bob Waata's digger to assist with our walkway .
- From Leigh Sheehan fitness equipment Leigh Sheehan leigh@ecmsigns.co.nz
- Robyn Duffy / repainting James Snells plaque. With Mike Feather, Richard Bland and Beth Houlbrooke
- Robyn Duffy waste bins moved to be safer for children Snells Beach Rd
- Sandra May AKL council New loo.
- Nicola Broadbent AKL Council re Boat House Bay SLC66533 resource consent footbridge and extended walkway Northern End of beach front.  
RE: FW: enquiry re Boathouse Bay SLC66533  
Hi Mark,  
Apologies for the delay in response however it did take some time for me to ascertain from our Parks department what was occurring with the walkway along the esplanade reserve in front of the development. It is my understanding that the Parks department have requested the removal of the public path which was to run along the back of the foredune. This request was made in relation to protecting the dune and dune planting and limiting pedestrian paths through the dune area. Regards, Nicola Broadbent  
Team Leader – North West Resource Consenting Phone: 09 427 3216 Auckland Council, Level 1, Pacific Building, 50 Centreway Road, Orewa
- Beth Houlbrooke RLB Chair/ Judy Waugh  
The Rodney Local Board invitation acknowledging the contribution of volunteer groups = event Tuesday 14 May 2pm – 4pm
- Beth Houlbrooke RLB Chair Chorus event a Salty Dog
- Beth Houlbrooke RLB Chair Have your say on Dogs( on beach)
- Electrix camera pole various
- Beth Houlbrooke RLB Chair contact details need revising
- Debbie Klein AKL Council Our Auckland story: Snells Beach Godwits.
- Federation of Ratepayers Associations of New Zealand : Inaugural meeting -from 1p.m Saturday the 23rd of March 2019 in Auckland at the Massey Birdwood Hall
- Warwick Sickling flying fox back in action

### FINANCIAL REPORT

At 31 March 2019 our bank balance was \$ 8975. The net real SBRRRA cash was \$ 2748.

Since then subscriptions and camera donations have been paid in.

The Electrix bill of \$ 3847 for the camera pole was paid out.

The bank balance is now \$ 8108 and contains \$ 3000 walkways and \$ 2360 camera funds. The net real SBRRRA cash is \$ 2748.

## **Walkways Report**

### **Report to the SBRRRA from SB Walkways Group**

#### **May 2019**

Our focus for the past year has been on two work streams on two sections of the proposed route, Hamatana to Grange and Duck Creek to Warkworth.

Our successes to date have been;

Obtaining all Land Owner approvals in writing.

Obtaining Land Use Approval for the Grange Street to Hamatana road section.

Obtaining a Rodney Local Board grant for a community led small project build for the Hamatana to Grange marginal strip section of the trail.

Obtaining resource consent for a boardwalk on the Marginal Strip.

Construction has commenced on Hamatana to Grange section with the completion of the boardwalk and trail earthworks between the causeway and Grange Street. We took an opportunity to engage a digger and take advantage of a rare good weather window.

Working with Auckland Council has proven to continue to be challenging. For example, we did a letter drop to Grange Street residents only to have the Auckland Council project manager initiate a separate letter drop on our behalf and without our prior knowledge.

Our priority now is to get grass cover and gravel onto the exposed earth prior to our agreed end of construction end of May.

After presenting our progress to the Rodney Local Board earlier this year, the board allocated a budget for Auckland Council to engage consultants on our behalf to progress resource consents on the Duck Creek to Warkworth section.

We have assisted the Warkworth Lions Charitable Trust to apply for a grant to look at options to provide public access to the Daldy and Combes Lime Kilns near Warkworth.

It is clear to us that as the trail progresses our financial commitments will quickly exceed the capabilities of SBRRRA to support us. We are working on establishing ourselves as a separate entity with strong affiliations to Snells Beach Ratepayers and Residents along with Mahurangi River Restoration Trust and Matakana Coast Trails Trust.

Gary Heaven

Chair SBRRRA Walkways Group

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