

Snells Beach Ratepayers and Residents Association – SBRRA

Minutes of public meeting – Monday 6th March 2023

Betty Paxton Room Mahurangi East Community Centre 7.30pm

Present: Peter Beekman (chair), Eileen O’Loan (sec), Maurie Hooper (treas) Andrew Burt (committee), Diane Taylor (committee), Cr Greg Sayers, Tim Holdgate (RLB), Ivan Wagstaff(RLB) + 31 attendees

Apologies: Anouska Brown, Kate Hawken, Peter Caccia-Birch, Lorraine Martin, Michelle Carmichael, Alan & Jan France, Gary Heaven, Shelley Trotter, Julie Briggs, Ian Taylor, Richard Swain

Previous minutes – 7th Nov 2022. Confirmed John Norman. June Turner

Matters arising:

Shorebird information panels: Diane Taylor

- Diane has completed a feasibility study – this is now with the committee for discussion and acceptance.
- The suggestion is to work with Megan Young AC Biodiversity – to trial one panel at the northern end.
- More information at the May meeting
- **Question** from the floor: Concern voiced that the signs in place now are fading. **A:** Ours will be professionally printed to permanent standards so should not be a problem. The faded signs are not permanent, and not part of the SBRRA project

SB shopping centre/supermarkets: Peter Beekman

- Lots of rumours
- Peter was able to confirm that the Fresh Choice option to build in the old supermarket space has been withdrawn from the RLB consent process and won’t proceed, in the immediate future.
- Peter talked informally with a Foodstuffs contact re the New World option in the Warehouse space. It seems their property division has been severely impacted by the recent weather events. New building fit outs etc have been delayed. No time frames available. No confirmation they will even proceed
- New notice displayed in the Warehouse – Closing date has been extended. Now 10th May 2023.. New store opening in WW 25th May 2023
- **Q** from the floor: Our shopping centre is looking so drab and dreary. How can we spruce it up – new seating, planting etc. **A:** The landlord does have plans for the future, but probably not willing to invest at this time. He is managing other developments. As a community – there is no much we can do as it is a private development.

Mahurangi Heights subdivision: Andrew Burt

- Good news – All titles have now been issued and the building of the new homes has started. A great relief to the new residents

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Disc Golf:

- SBRRA hasn't heard of any progress with this. Last we heard – the promoters were working toward making a submission to RLB for consent.
- Committee will follow up for next meeting

AC report: Cr Greg Sayers

- Acknowledged the strong community support during the recent weather events. And acknowledged the role RLB played in supporting the local emergency response.
- The event did highlight some gaps in AC emergency management.
- There will be an enquiry into the AC response
- All the CCOs(Council controlled organisations) – are scrambling to manage all the remedial work needing to be done.
- Even your elected members are having difficulty in logging jobs to be done.
- **Mahurangi East Road:** This road is still slipping. A full engineering analysis must be done and work to repair will have to wait until the slipping has stopped. Downers are trying to open all the affected roads in city. Comment from Ivan Wagstaff (RLB) that the first priority is to reopen access to the isolated communities, then the major road repair is next. There are hundreds of roads needing repair across the city.
- Comment from the floor that our road is a major road – if it slips entirely – the whole peninsula is isolated. This was acknowledged by Greg and Ivan. The population of SB population was 3,900 (Jun 22) + Algies, Martins and Scotts Landing. A large population to be stranded – no supermarket or Secondary school.
- Greg noted that there is a problem in finding online what repairs are needed and a timeline for completion. Suggested that SBRRA formally ask AC to create this resource on the website – email formal letter to Greg and RLB
- **The AC budget:** The previous planned budget was to have an emphasis on savings. This is what our mayor campaigned on. **BUT now** after the storms more money must be found to pay for the repairs to infrastructure etc. AC needs your feedback on the proposed budget document. Please have your say.
<https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/hub-page/annual-budget-2023-2024>
- **Hill Street:** After a directive from Mayor Brown – there has been a meeting with AT , Greg, RLB members, and other knowledgeable locals. This time AT has listened and will return for another meeting in 3 weeks time having modelled the local suggestions to **Fix Hill Street**. Hopefully the design can be finalised then. Timeframe is still to be completed by the motorway opening. Please see the 1st March WALG minutes sent out 7/3/23

RLB report: Our guest speakers. See below

Any other business

Beachfront walkway repair and beachfront erosion

- Repair job is logged. Reference Numbers 210665 / 3101517548 : for damage to our beach side walkway and sea wall.
- General erosion noted all along the beachfront.

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SBRA committee: Kate Hawken has resigned from the committee. New committee members will be needed for 2023-2024yr. Please consider standing for election...AGM 01 May 2023. Please contact Peter - chairman chairsbrr@gmail.com or Eileen - sec. 12sbrr@gmail.com

Community Roundup: : Updates received from: **Snells Shoreline Conservation Society, Mahurangi Trail Society, Neighbourhood Support, Local Community Response Group.** Dave Parker also gave an update on the Warkworth 170 yr. celebration events. Please see all the details at the bottom of the minutes.

Comments from the floor:

- **Comment made that our grass reserves seem to be overgrown now.** Peter replied that this could be because of all the rain and the ground water tables are waterlogged so the machinery can't be used. Another comment was that the reserves beside their home are usually well cared for.
- **Bayside café:** Any information if it will open again? Rumours only. Nothing able to be confirmed
- **Community Garden:** this still under consultation with RLB. Somewhere on Goodhall Reserve. Are you interested in helping with this project. See Fleur Coleman @ Mahurangi East Library.
- **Member Stan Armiger** proudly announced he had caught a rat in his new trap. He encouraged others to become part of this initiative. See the community roundup notes from SSCC group. If anyone is interested in having a free trap, please email us at snellsshorelinepestfree@gmail.com

Correspondence: Forwarding emails from WALG, Mahurangi Trail Society, RLB newsletters, AC notices,

Financial report: 3 March 2023

Opening General funds	\$4,713.70
Opening Camera funds	\$ 664.11
Opening Balance	\$5,377.81 balance as of 4/11/2022
<i>Income</i>	<i>\$70.00 subscriptions</i>
<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>\$nil</i>
Closing balance	\$5,447.81 [General = \$4,783.70 + Camera = \$664.11]

Financial statement approved: Diane Taylor, **seconded** John Norman

Guest speakers: RLB elected members. **Tim Holdgate & Ivan Wagstaff.** Apologies received from **Michelle Carmichael**

- Please refer to WALG minutes for 1st Feb 2023 for a background introduction to our local representatives
- Tim and Ivan gave a joint presentation – mostly on the 23/24 budget and its impact on our community
- This is a significant issue for the RLB to work through. The proposal is that there will be an operating funding reduction of \$920,755 for Rodney.
- Community feedback is sought to help decide where the cuts will be from the operational budget.

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- A RLB drop-in session arranged for this coming **Friday 10th March 11am – 1pm @ Warkworth Library**. We are encouraged to attend and talk personally with Greg and RLB members and give suggestions as to how find the \$921,000 in savings
- Comment from Ivan – He asks the community to remember that there are many homes in Rodney that have been red stickered. Housing these families is a priority. Can you help?
- Questions from the floor:
 - Jacquie from SSCC – Any withdrawal of funding will have an extensive impact on the biodiversity projects in the area. The SB foreshore, local SB pest control. **Answer** from Ivan – Restore Rodney East is the main channel for local funding for environmental projects. Please provide feedback on this . The RLB does value the local community groups.
 - Has the RLB prioritised the cuts? – Awaiting community feedback before decisions. But it seems 50% of our discretionary operational budget will have to be cut
 - What about using the Targeted Transport Rate – By law, this can only be used for transport improvements in our area.

Actions for secretary:

- Send out Budget information and links
- Send out AC contact information

Community Roundup – 6 March 2023

- **Highfield Garden Reserve and Donkey Society Inc**
Planning well underway for the return of the Donkey Day Saturday 01 April 11-2pm. A family fun day with donkey rides and games. BBQ supplied by Auckland Council. Put this date in your dairies now.
- **SSCC – Snells Shoreline Conservation Community**
Pest Free Snells - Backyard trapping
At the last meeting it was suggested we make contact with the Street Co-ordinators in Snells Beach. I am pleased to inform the meeting that this meeting took place and as a result we have had a number of requests for traps. The programme is growing and we still have lots of traps to give away for free. We recently sent out a blog showing our success (available on our website <https://www.snellsconservation.org/>.) If anyone is interested in having a free trap, please email us at snellsshorelinepestfree@gmail.com
Community working bees: On the **second Sunday of each month SSCC** are organising conservation activities along the shoreline at Snells Beach. This year we will start looking after and planting areas designated as *wetland* and *general* along the edge of the stream at the northern end of Snells Beach. There is also lots of work to be done removing invasive and other weeds from the sand dune roosting area. Please meet at 9am outside Bayside Cafe - just turn up. Wear sturdy closed-in shoes, and bring water, snacks, hat and appropriate clothing for the weather. Please bring along weeding tools, such as garden forks, spades, wheelbarrows, etc.
Sunday 12th 9am outside the Bayside café

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- **Mahurangi Trail Society.** www.mahurangi.org.nz

Gary Heaven has had discussions with Watercare's operational manager, who will hurry up Downer to complete the remediation needed to re-open the Te Whau walkway. Gary is hopeful of walkway opening again very soon for the community to enjoy.

The society is planning to initiate regular working bees on developing the local cycleways to Warkworth. They would welcome new members and helpers.

- **Neighbourhood Support**

Jenny Bartlett recently took up the reins of Neighbourhood Support Snells Contact from Kay Flower. The first meeting was sandwiched in between the 2 recent weather events, so was a useful time to debrief about the storm, and highlight the benefits of neighbourhood connections.

This meeting and the Beachfront Clean-up after the cyclone prompted more people to become a Street Contact, or share their details, but there are gaps for a contact person in these streets. **Brampton, Bridgette View, Cornel Circle, Foster Cres, Dawson, Dalton, Washington, Virginia, Piccadilly, Heron Lane, Hamilton, Kahurangi, Ngatira, Rangimaarie, Woodlands Ave and Cres.**

There is an overlap of this role with the Community Resilience Group and collating offers of help and resources. Luckily, we live in a close and generous community- but we dread becoming isolated on our peninsula!

- **Mahurangi East Local Community Response Group**

The CRG's activity recently was largely centred on Cyclone Gabrielle and it's impacts.

This included ensuring the community centre was prepared to be opened as an evacuation if necessary, preparing supplies, and testing equipment (generators, radios etc).

On the 14th of February, the day of the power outage, we had the police station manned and maintained radio contact with Auckland emergency management from 7:45 am through to when power was restored just after 6 pm

From the 15th to the 22nd we assisted Scott's landing with the loan of two generators.

A review of the response is underway.

- Our other current focus is recruitment. If people are interested, they can email me or phone me. **Troje Botica Chair, Mahurangi East**

CRG j.sandos142@gmail.com or call me on 021 084 33991

- **Heritage Mahurangi Inc.**

Heritage Mahurangi Inc are delighted to present a year long event that will celebrate Warkworth's 170th Anniversary since it's founding in 1853. No less than thirty-five organisations have indicated that they wish to participate in an array of activity that will give the public an opportunity to participate. There is still an opportunity for any other community organisations to join the celebration. The culmination of the year long event will be a **Heritage Festival between 11th and 19th November** when there will be re-enactments, concerts, displays and representation from some of our Sister-Town countries.

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A Calendar of Events is scheduled to keep you up to date and can be accessed through our website www.heritagemahurangi.co.nz

This is a list of those local groups who will celebrate 'Events of Significance' during 2023 – dates are still to be confirmed for some of these events

CELEBRATING 170 YEARS. WARKWORTH.

- **KNOWN HISTORIC EVENTS.....**
- **170yrs Founding of Warkworth Township - 1853**
- **- 165yrs Anniversary Meiklejohn Settlement -1858**
- **- 160yrs Anglican Church Commemoration and Founders**
- **Graveside Memorial -1863**
- **- 160yrs Presbyterian Church Commemoration - 1863**
- **- 160yrs Formal Districtwide Education - 1863**
- **- 160yrs Bohemian Settlers arrive in Puhoi - 1863**
- **- 150yrs Morrison & Kowhai Glen Orchards - 1873**
- **- 145yrs Founding of Wilson Cement Works - 1878**
- **- 140yrs Founding of Warkworth Brass Band - 1883**
- **- 115yrs 'Jane Gifford' scow build - 1908**
- **- 100yrs Founding Bowls Warkworth - 1923**
- **- 100yrs Founding of Warkworth Rugby Club - 1923**
- **- 51yrs Kowhai Festival- 1970**
- **- 50yrs Founding of Warkworth Theatre Group - 1973**
- **- 40yrs Founding of Kowhai Singers - 1984**
- **- Lions 202K District Convention Warkworth 27 th to 29 th**
- **Oct**
- **- Dedication of New Presbyterian Church & Centre TBC**
- **- Opening of Puhoi to Warkworth Motorway Project TBC**

CONTACTS Dave Parker - Chairman. E: dhparker@xtra.co.nz M: 027 484 9935
Sara Napier - Secretary. E: sara14@xtra.co.nz M: 022 069 7937

Next Meeting – Monday 1st May AGM.

7.00pm Betty Paxton Room Mahurangi East Community Centre

(NB the early start time to accommodate the AGM)

Guest speaker: Troje Botica Chairman of the Mahurangi East Community Response Group

New members welcome \$10.00 pa per household

Meeting closed 8.55pm

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