

Warkworth Area Liaison Group 4th September 2024

Minutes of our meeting held 7.30 pm at the basement of RSA Warkworth.

Meeting opened 7.30pm

Chairperson Peter Sinton

Notes prepared by Roger Williams. Attendees approx. 20 people

Apologies Murray Chapman, Greg Sayers, Colin Smith, Bill Foster, Ann Langdon, Graham Rolf and Dave Stott

Peter Sinton welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked them for supporting the revived Warkworth Area Liaison Group.

1. Tim Holgate Rodney Local Board spoke of the RLB meeting held today. He mentioned the Forum for community groups and suggested that WALG participate. He spoke of the Snells R+R meeting and an excellent presentation by the owner of a new 4 Square which will be opening on 3rd October. It is a unique development and one of the first larger 4 Squares of its type in the country. He spoke of the Regional Protection Fund which is currently open for 10Ha properties for planting and stream protection. He advised that he was busy marketing the new 999 bus service now operating within Warkworth. Customer started light but is increasing. It is funded by the Targeted Rate and expects to bring benefits to both young and old. It should also reduce demand for parking in town. It is 2 year trial whence AT should take it over, so use it so we do not lose it. The meeting talked of unused AC space beside the library. Potential users should petition to use it eg SeniorNet.
2. Greg Sayers has been selected as chair of the Finance Committee for Auckland Council. Quite a challenge and WALG congratulates and supports him.
3. Glen Ashton spoke of the Representation hearing for RLB held on 7th September discussing either the Status Quo or the new proposal. The feeling initially was that the Status Quo was favored but the support by the RLB and WALG and others the new proposal was now favored. There were minor changes to the proposal around Kaukapakapa and Waitoki. The next review would be 6 years away when more changes will definitely occur to comply with representation ratios. There are still several steps to be taken before it is enacted. It must be remembered that this is only for the election of RLB members to make sure all parts of the community are represented. Once elected the RLB members are required to cover issues fairly throughout the RLB area
4. Roger Williams gave a presentation of the 3 active options being considered by Watercare for the wastewater pipeline in Queen St. Do you know that the rusty 150mm pipe fixed to the old bridge services the whole of the north side of the river. The new pipe will be 650mm diameter.
5. **1.** The Watercare Warkworth Wastewater pipeline proposed along Queen Street. This would be constructed in 40 metre lengths by open trench very close to the surface. Most services will need diversions. It would be very disruptive and would not be a quick project. The Norfolk Pipe roots which will spread across the full width of the road had not been considered.

6. **2.** Alternative option provided to us by Templeton (Warkworth Ridge). The route is as 1 but pipeline 3 metres lower and a new sump at LM pumpstation with a lift pump. It would still need 4mx4m pits at Kapanui and Wharf Streets and 2 or 3 containers for power, pumps and mud separation. There are risks with soil conditions (broken rock and water) but not as many as with Watercare option 1. The Norfolk Pine Tree is still problematical
7. **3.** Riverside Option E again using lift pump at LM Pumpstation. Templeton also helped prepare this option. This has a pipe bridge from the main bridge to the back of Hospice then by open cut. With some fills at low points. The pipebridge doubles as an accessible walkway and can take other services. The big advantage is no excavation in Queen Street . This option is complementary to the Warkworth Centre Plan encouraging businesses to face the river.
8. The audience was asked to comment and preferred option. All speakers supported 3 Option E the Riverside option. It was the only option giving positives to offset the negatives.
9. Roger Williams then gave an overview presentation of the Warkworth Centre Plan as it applies to Option E. The Centre Plan content has been debated for at least 7 years and is of no surprise as it turns the town towards the river. It is a lengthy document with lots of background and flowery illustrations. It is now up to WALG and the One Mahurangi Business Association to work with the landowners to pick out the key actions from the Centre Plan, enhance them and make it work for Warkworth residents and shop owners.
10. Hugh Briggs discussed the content for the 'Managing Warkworth's Growth meeting Monday 16th September 7pm in the Town Hall. This will be a discussion meeting chaired by Greg Sayers with WALG speakers. WALG is keen to explain the planning jargon and what it might look like. The action is currently driven by developers through Private Plan Changes but developers come and go so it is important that the outcome meets the needs of the people that will live here long term. We need to be complementary to, and work with One Mahurangi to achieve this.
11. We understand that a date has been set for the hearing of the Warkworth South Submissions. Hugh put in a submission for WALG.
12. The One Mahurangi AGM will be on 25th September Bridge House back bar 5.30 for 6pm start. Supporters welcome.
13. The Great Debate 12th October. A not to be missed annual event at the Town Hall.
14. Xmas celebrations this year will be a parade at 2pm on 7th December followed by Carols in the Park later in the evening

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Next meeting 2nd October 7.30pm

Roger Williams, acting minutes secretary