

# Warkworth Area Liaison Group 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## Minutes of our meeting held 7.30 pm at the basement of RSA Warkworth. Draft 5-12-2024

**Meeting opened 7.30pm**

**Chairperson Peter Sinton**

Notes prepared by Roger Williams. Attendees approx. 16 people

**Apologies** Brendan Chaffe, David Stott, Murray Chapman, Hueline Massey, MauriePurdie, Colin Smith.

Peter Sinton welcomed everybody to the meeting

1. Greg Sayers clarified proposed changes with Auckland Council.
2. Panuku property under more direct control of AC and to be working with Auckland property division
3. Auckland Unlimited, Zoo, Concerts and development marketing direct control to be from Auckland Council.
4. Greg wants closer consulting and cooperation with Local Boards re restructuring.
5. Auckland Transport – AC wants greater control but this requires a law change. (may take 12 months). He is working with Simeon Brown re efficiency and management. Wants CEO AT to focus on service and delivery via a Regional Transport Committee with advisory boards Local Transport Plan and Local public Transport Plan via advisory boards. Local Boards to be having a say with parking, speed, pedestrians, cycleways and footpaths.
6. Greg is committed to Unsealed Roads Improvements and hopes to increase on recent advances.
7. Tim Holgate updated us with the sealing of Jones Road (was well overdue).
8. Footbridge In Kowhai Park beams being installed. Need to advance rather than lose the money even if not everyone was in favour. Meeting next week to resolve landscape issues to complete project.
9. Deputation and community issues are being heard on a regular basis by RLB
10. Roger Williams advised that Watercare made a huge change in attitude to local communities and their expertise. They now have a local project manager Rob Burchell who is listening and responding to the issues. We are hopeful that the Watercare Board will approve a microtunnel option at their meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December. Use of a microtunnel machine may also reduce traffic problems in Queen Street and old SH1. Construction will still be at least 12 months away. Roger acknowledged developer engineers that had assisted with our case to achieve a better solution.
11. Watercare need to clarify moratorium on new connections be they new developments or infill.
12. There seems to be no reason why Walkway improvements adjacent to the weir cannot go ahead.
13. Roger advised that he made a brief submission on the Shoreline Adaption Plans for WALG. It is a small step by AC but is being well handled. Scope is limited to council properties and

assets at this stage. It does not cover Tsunami, Volcanic or Earthquake effects and does not cover DOC land but it is still a big step forward to managing risk.

14. Hill Street Intersection seems to have hit a roadblock with Simone Brown due to reduced traffic numbers. Roger has provided new traffic numbers which show a reduction of 26% presumably because of the motorway, higher petrol prices, and the weak economy. Plan Changes already consented will increase cars and traffic to congestion greater than before within 5 years. Watercare construction likely to precede roading construction
15. Hugh Briggs spoke to Warkworth South application. He acknowledged that the WALG submission was not combined with One Mahurangi (due to a conflict of interest by the latter) but they both resolved to work more closely together. Meeting January
16. Murray Chapman sent a reminder that the Santa Parade will be 7<sup>th</sup> December 2pm and Carols in Park 6pm same day so make a day if it.
17. Roger Williams mentioned the need for a local interest group to flesh out Warkworth Centre Plan as soon as Watercare decision made. Interest group needs to be up and running in 3 months. Meeting WALG and One Mahurangi to hold preliminary meeting in January. Subsequent meetings to include business owners, property owners and residents to get private and public funding and action.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm approx.

Next WALG meeting Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm but location dependent on venue becoming available. A notice will be issued.

Roger Williams, acting minutes secretary