

Minutes Snells Beach Community Meeting

Hosted by: Snells Beach Ratepayers and Residents Association. SBRRA

Date: Monday 3rd March 2025 Time: 7.30pm Location: Salty Dog Inn

Welcome from David Burt – Chairman SBRRA

- Outlined new format for these community meetings. Not so formal – emphasis on the speakers and then a report of the SBRRA committee's work since last meeting.
- Gave notice that SBRRA will also be known as the SB Community Assoc. This will be reflected in the new constitution review.
- Thanked the Salty Dog for offering this venue

Guest speaker: Rob Burchell from Watercare. Programme director of WW Growth Servicing Team
See details of his presentation below. There will be an upload of the slide presentation onto our website www.snellsbeach.co.nz

AC Report: Cr Greg Sayers

- Gave an overview of the AC review of the CCOs. Their structure and accountability to AC elected members. CCOs were created as part of the Super City amalgamation.
- The five substantive CCOs – Auckland Future fund, Auckland Transport, Eke Panuku, Tataki Auckland Unlimited, Watercare
- AT – is not controlled or accountable to the Mayor, AC elected representatives or ratepayers. It has it's own board of directors, who report to the council every two months. But AC has no democratic control of the authority.
- AC is only a shareholder and can appoint the board directors and set expectations. Pseudo accountability
- Mayor Wayne Brown is challenging this structure through the CCO reform program, and is supported by the NZ Govt. To return accountability back to AC and therefore the ratepayers. The CCO report is due in a few months

AC under Mayor Wayne Brown.

- He was elected on the banner of Fix Auckland. And despite the natural weather events and high inflation and interest rates, this council is performing better than previous councils.
- The latest household rate increases were amongst the lowest in the country despite managing and maintaining a high infrastructure and asset base.
- The average residential rate increase was 5.8%
- AC is back on track to tackle its major problems
 - Infrastructure
 - Transport funding incl public transport
 - Resilience
 - Fairer funding for the local boards – more local rates spent locally
 - Good shape financials – stop wasting money
 - Continue to deliver these outcomes to Auckland ratepayers

Q from the floor: Update on a swimming pool for WW area. The PPP with Northern Arena to provide this service. Delays have happened, but hopeful of a resolution soon. **NB:** Northern Arena has promised to be a guest speaker at a future community meeting once signoff and go ahead is given

Q from the floor: Pedestrian crossings. Why so expensive and elaborate models. Once AT is returned to AC control there is hope that change for the better will happen

RLB report: Tim Holdgate

- Commented on the recent private plan change decision – would have allowed 4500 sections over 10 yrs – 20,000 population. The local infrastructure is just not ready at this time.
- The Watercare project through Elizabeth Street WW – a good outcome in the end.
- Local pedestrian crossings. Governor Grey/ Mahurangi East Rd. This is now with AT Design team and then out for public consultation. The second crossing Dalton Road/ Mahurangi East Rd is still on the list. Tim acknowledges the school and shop pedestrian safety concerns as well as the condition of Mahurangi East Road in this vicinity.
- Kowhai Park pedestrian bridge linking the bus/ transport area/ walkways and cycleways into WW township is progressing well and should be open soon.
- Kawau Island wallaby cull has started.
- Buses – RLB funding the WW loop bus as a trial.
- Hamilton Road is on the list to be chip sealed.
- The targeted rate is still being used on transport improvements

Q from the floor: In the event of an event that closes off the one road out of the peninsula – are there plans to use the paper road from Hamatana Road to Hamilton Road. **A:** A paper road doesn't mean it is a public road. Some of this paper road is on private land. Certainly, the risk is acknowledged. **SBRRRA committee** will investigate and provide an answer for next meeting.

Q from the floor: Nikau School: May we have an update. When is the lease up? What future plans for the building? **A:** It is privately owned. Another member mentioned that once a plan change has been granted – a return to the original use is quite difficult. **SBRRRA committee** to investigate and perhaps provide an answer in the future. But it is a private business so information may not be forthcoming

Q from the floor: What can we do about speeding, noisy cars in the area. **A:** Contact police if it is public safety issue. Note time, and car details etc and perhaps the cars will be captured on the Camera at Arabella. 24/7 images captured – accessed by the police if not a local that is!! Please do notify the police 111 if a current safety issue - 105 if logging the incident later. Police keep stats on the areas that need regular policing and will roster more regular patrols if the demand is there.

SBRRRA committee report:

- **Dog bylaw policy change** – submission made by SBRRRA committee in support of some of the changes
- **Shorebird sanctuary proposal** – Submission made by SBRRRA committee in favour of this change but with some further suggestions of amendments. Member Stan Armiger then presented an overview of the local petition opposing this change... Robust discussion followed. RLB will make the final decision, and all the community have a right to have their say. Stan will be attending the RLB meeting on Wednesday 19th March
- **Freedom camping concerns** – Committee has raised this issue at the RLB community groups meetings. We have asked for more enforcement (self containment/ length of stay) especially at weekends and public holidays
- **Pedestrian crossings:** Committee continues to advocate for the Dalton Road/Mahurangi East Rd crossing as a priority.
- **Community Centre:** See community roundup from Pip Stocking below
- **Flying Fox:** We are continuing to ask the Parks team for updates. Disappointed that the repair is taking so long. Still awaiting a part to arrive.
- **Skatepark:** The refurbishment is still on the 2025/2026 yr budget.
- **Community events** – SBRRRA supported the recent community events – Tractorama, Pohutukawa Picnic, Music in the Parks.
- **Community advocacy** – Committee members attend WALG, RLB community meetings and MECEN meetings

- **The work continues** on the re-registration of the Society's constitution. Will be presented for ratification at the AGM 5th May

Next Community Meeting Monday 5th May 7pm. AGM Venue still to be confirmed

Snells Beach Community Roundup

A brief roundup from some of our local community groups. Contact SBRRRA secretary if you wish to promote your community group next time

Mahurangi East Library: Pip Stocking Manager Community Place - Library

- The library will be moving back into the building as soon as we have the official go ahead and will probably take a couple of weeks to get everything set up again. We hope to be able to keep the portacom up and running as long as possible during this move back in, but will keep the community informed as soon as there is a rock solid plan.
- Regarding the community centre this has moved to our venue hire department within council. This will mean future booking for the Betty Paxon room and main hall will be different from what you have done in the past. Once I have the official communication from the venue hire team and dates when the community can start booking, I will let everyone know. I understand this is a frustrating time and people are wanting to plan ahead for the year, but there is light at the end of the tunnel, and we appreciate the patience and support from our wonderful community.
- As you can understand my team has been doing the best they can to provide what is possible for the community in this temporary space. It has been a journey for us all as you can imagine and we are all very eager and excited to get back into providing engaging programming for all in our community.
- Travel talk coming Thur 27th March – more details still to come
- If anyone has any further questions, please feel free to chat with me and I will endeavour to answer any questions to the best of my ability. **Ph 09 427 3116| Mob 027 307 4183**

Mahurangi East Community Emergency Network (MECEN)

- **NB:** Our name has changed to **Community Emergency Network (CEN)**, was (CRG)
- We have approved a revised emergency plan which is currently being formatted.
- Rodney Local Board have released their emergency plan and have asked the CEN's to actively distribute it to their communities
- A link to a pdf of the plan can be found here- <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/about-auckland-council/how-auckland-council-works/local-boards/all-local-boards/rodney-local-board/Documents/rodney-emergency-readiness-response-plan.pdf>
- Hard copies also available on the night or from libraries or CEN volunteers
- We are looking to run an exercise in conjunction with Auckland Emergency Management in the second half of the year around opening and operating a community emergency hub
- We will also be relocating our radios in the near future to ensure they are readily accessible in the case of an emergency .
- To volunteer to help with this work – contact **Troje Botica 021 0843 3991**

Guest speaker Rob Burchell from Watercare. Programme director of WW Growth Servicing Team

From my notes and refer to slide presentations below and on our website.

- Rob gave us an overview of his worldwide experience of water projects. He was on the build teams for Mangere and Waikato plants. Happy to be back in NZ
- Have we noticed?? The cones and the 50Km limit have now been removed from the Hamilton Road works entrance. This part of the project has been finished. The storage of pipes at Dawson Road Reserve is no longer needed and there is a big reduction in the heavy traffic from Hamatana Road.

Snells Beach Ratepayers and Residents Assoc. Inc./ Snells Beach Community Assoc.

<https://snellsbeach.co.nz> www.facebook.com/SnellsBeachRRA

- Watercare is planning some open days for the community before Xmas – a chance to look thru the plant before opening.
- The Snells Beach plant will be in the top 3 of wastewater plants in NZ . An advanced wastewater system.
- Stage 1 – built to manage 18,000 population. Built to cope with 4,850,00 litres or 800,000 toilet flushes
- Stage 2 – 30,000 population, probably needed after 2035. However the capacity has already been built into this initial project. So can be opened up earlier if needed.
- External Storage ponds are no longer needed – so no smells. The new technology of membranes have a life span of 20yrs and replacement is not a major project.
- The gravity line has plenty of capacity now, but the pumping line – from WW, may need expansion in the future – but this has been built into the vision.
- Watercare has been in contact with Meg from Coastal Paths – the cycleway. Have offered surplus pipes, gravel and other material that will be used in completing our cycleway projects.
- No firm date as yet, as to when our Hamatana cycleway entrance will be re-opened. However a path will be formed from the Hamatana Carpark below the bowling club to link Te Whau walkway to Hamatana Cycleway entrance.
- The Dawson Road storage area and the Te Whau wastewater pipeline are being de-commissioned. The storage ponds will also be de-commissioned – plans not finalised as yet.

New Wastewater project in Snells Beach. The Snells Beach / Algies Bay Saline Intrusion Project.

- A wastewater pipeline runs along the waterfronts of Snells & Algies.
- Investigations of this pipeline is happening now. You may see hi-vis workers on our beaches.
- Project is to replace the 48 manholes (see Slides) and ensure the pipes are in good condition by relining them.
- This technology is very common in Europe but it is the first time used in NZ

Comment from Tim Holdgate: This is the 2nd biggest project underway in Auckland (CRL 1st). A great future for WW and the oyster farmers on the WW River.

NorthEast Programme Overview

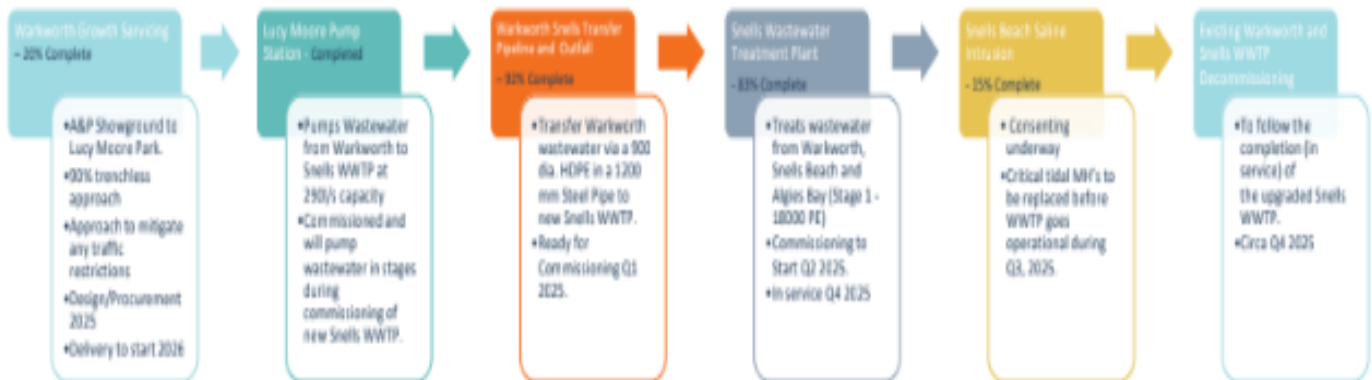
North-East programme

- Warkworth Growth Strategy
- North-East Sub-Regional Wastewater Scheme consist of
 - Warkworth to Snells Transfer Pipeline,
 - Snells WWTP upgrade
 - Snells Ocean Outfall to Martins Bay (completed)
- Snells Algies Saline Intrusion
- Ex WWTP Decommissioning

The needs addressed by this investment are:

- Decommissioning of the existing Warkworth WWTP, which will remove treated wastewater discharges from the Mahurangi River and reduce overflows in the Warkworth wastewater network.
- Enable forecast development based on the Auckland Council projection model for Warkworth and Snells-Algies for a 35-year population horizon.
- Comply with the requirement of a new long-term discharge consent granted in April 2017 to improve the quality of treated wastewater discharges to the environment.

NorthEast Programme Delivery Sequence and Status



Commissioning Sequence Overview

- The new outfall pipeline to Martins Bay will be brought into service at the start of the Snells Beach WWTP Hot Commissioning . This connection will remove existing Snells Outfall that have caused issues for the oyster farmers.
- Once the Inlet Works and outfall are commissioned, The Activated Sludge Reactor will be commissioned and brought online. This will trigger the first delivery of raw wastewater to the new Snells WWTP from Warkworth. Warkworth wastewater is required to initiate the Biological process in the Activated Sludge Reactor (ASR)
- Once the new Snells WWTP is receiving 100% of Warkworth catchment and biological system is stabilised, Snells catchment will be introduced through stages (Hamatana, Sandburst and Cornell).
- 2,100 metres of gravity network sewers and 48 manholes in the low foreshore and tidal areas of Snells Beach and Algies Bay will be relined, resealed and or replaced as part of removing chlorides in the wastewater which in turn would de-risk and improve the treatment processes at the new Snells WWTP.
- Upon Final handover, Warkworth WWTP, Lilburn WW Pump station and Snells WWTP will be decommissioned and rehabilitated.



Snells Algies Saline Intrusion



48 Manholes will be refurbished of which several are in the tidal zone, will be replaced with HDPE manholes.
2,100 m of 300mm diameter spiral wound UPVC relining inside the 60-year-old asbestos cement pipes.
Currently awaiting completion of consenting to complete design requirements

