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SANDSPIT RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION














Minutes of the Meeting 7 Pm Tuesday Feb 2nd, 2021 at the Sandspit Yacht Club
Present: Greg Doherty, Nancy Doherty, Margaret McCallum, David Astbury,
Warren Churches, Peter Deane, Steve Channing-Pearce, Beth Houlbrooke.

1. Apologies - Tim Holdgate, Greg Sayers.
2. Minutes of Last meeting --Attached. Approved Greg Doherty, 2nd Margaret McCallum.
3. Matters arising
 - a. Dangerous Corners, Bus Shelter, Ambulance Support and Fire Awareness Signs-- Pete to report. Peter met with Mark Love about the 2 dangerous corners at Green Point and Lees Boatyard. He said Auckland Transport is not going to do anything. He has a budget of \$35,000 and these are low on his list of priorities. Mark will check the records for accidents. There are low traffic numbers. At one corner one out of three are holding their phones. People are lazy and driving all over the place. Peter wanted a runoff slip on the inside, and that will not be done. Mark thinks the centerline could be shifted slightly, which won't do much at all. Peter said that Mark's attitude is "it ain't broke". It was suggested we limestone the inner corner. Mark said regarding the Bus Shelter he will find the right person to talk to. Greg said we need to check out a Speed Activated sign as they have at the entrance to Snells Beach. Beth thinks the signs cost about \$10,000. Pete will go back to Mark suggesting this. Margaret suggested we have a Dangerous Corner Sign at the entrance to each corner.

Regarding Fire Awareness Signs on Sandspit Road, Pete has this on this list of Jobs to Do.

- b. Trevor Horner's bench was repaired by the Council. Greg has the plaque that was on the bench. He will clean it up and mount it on the bench.
- c. Matakana Trail Trust Pledge to go out in next e-News.
- d. Matakana Trail Trust meeting in December postponed.
- e. Fire Booklets so far, we have not got enough for the whole community. Nancy will contact Richard about more books.

4. Correspondence

-  20201216 Sandspit Rd Sharp and Mahurangi
-  20201217 Auckland Transport Media Release Matakan Link Rd
-  20210105 Draft LTP pre-engagement flyer_Final
-  20210113 Parking and Rubbish Sandspit
-  20210115 Sandspit Carparking and Rubbish Response
-  20210118 FOAM Letter of Support
-  20210119 Sandsp[it Wharf Renewal and others
-  20210122 Letter re parking C Rowe
-  20210126 Restore Rodney East - January 2021
-  20210126 Restore Rodney East map
-  20210126 Restore Rodney East
-  20210128 Memo - update on Sandspit waste station Jan 2021
-  20210128 Rodney East Project and Survey

Greg moved the correspondence be received. Margaret 2nd.

5. Treasurer's Report- Margaret McCallum moved by Margaret, 2nd by Warren.
6. Social Media Report- Margaret McCallum Margaret put a greeting on Facebook and acknowledged about the male dotterel being killed by a cat.
7. Landcare Volunteer groups

- i. Walking Tracks Maintenance - David said the weeds are about to be sprayed. Greg asked if there was a plan for the path below the Morrison's. David said it is about to be metaled. This will probably be about March.
- ii. Predators and Trapping – Stephen said since Christmas 22 Rabbits have been taken out. He is now live trapping the rabbits. He is looking for people who want to eat rabbit so he can give them away.

Stephen said the live traps cost about \$25 each. He is catching rabbits live at the Holiday Park. He uses carrots to catch them, and stuff from the vegie garden. He is using 6 traps which is enough as they have to be checked daily.
- iii. Weed Management. Pete has approached a fellow who has large noxious weeds and asked him if he requires assistance. The person said he would do it, but Pete will keep an eye on it.
- iv. Mangrove Control
 - Jan 24th. A stalwart band of volunteers removed 150mm in size and seed pods from Green point. A delicious morning tea was provided after at the home of Mike and Ann Smith. Thanks to all who gave their time and energy.
- v. Walking and Cycleway Development
 - Nothing to report over the Christmas Break. Chris Charles emailed Greg and asked if he should get the engineer involved regarding Creek Street. Greg said yes. Greg said they need to visit Mr. Neville Stevenson on 16 Creek Street. One of the neighbours at the bottom have been approached. They have approached Mr. Addis – the Mahurangi Matters Editor.

They will take Chris Charles along with them as he's a Council Representative.

8. **Civil Defense** - Jan has resigned from the Civil Defense position. Nancy said if someone wanted to be the Secretary, she would be the Civil Defense person.

9. **Communication and Media**- Stephen Chaning-Pierce. Steve says he has some ideas for a newsletter. He said if anyone has an idea of what the newsletter topics could be email him. Nancy said the morning glory plant between Kanuka Road and Lees Boat Yard on both sides of the road is extremely prolific.

10. **Social Functions/Membership** Margaret McCallum.

Our AGM will be the 2nd Wednesday in May providing the room is available for us to use.

11. General Business

- 1) Greg asked if the Xero trial has been completed. Stephen said yes. They just must figure out how they will invoice people.
- 2) Greg said there are 3 more meetings in this term.
- 3) It has been said that the slip road on Sandspit Road, near Sharp Road and Mahurangi East Road will stay as is.
- 4) The Matakana Link Road is progressing well.
- 5) Greg and Nancy said the macracarpa bench on the Sandspit, located just before the carpark is about to 'self-destruct'. Nancy will phone the Council about it.
- 6) Beth spoke about the LTP (Long Term Plan) Pre-Engagement Bar, so people will understand about the importance of making submissions on the Ten-Year Plan. The Local Board is asking for support on their Advocacy.

These are things which are outside of their control, they don't hold the purse strings or the decision making, but they think they are really important. They are limited to 3 Advocacy Points. These are Safe and Well-Maintained Roads, improvements to unsealed roads, and Sports Provision. When the consultation comes out which will be about 22nd of February to the 22nd of March, people will at least say that they support the Local Board Advocacy Points as in the past people have only said they do not support the LB Advocacy Points. They will type in No, just fix the roads. Beth said we can encourage people to make a submission and the SRRA could make a submission. A question which Beth would like answered is What should Council be investing in over the next 10 years? Beth hopes the SRRA will circulate this in their next e-news.

- 7) Local Board Funded Initiatives. Beth said it would be good if the SRRA can support the Local Board in their funded initiatives and encourage the community to do the same.
- 8) Parking and Rubbish. Greg says now is the time where the SRRA can reclaim part of the Sandspit as a Reserve and picnic site, as a visual buffer. When you look at the site around the house, there are 6 Pohutakawas where the Waste Management people want to put their pickup facility. Beth says nothing would be cut. David said the Council said that a temporary measure would be to put the rubbish bins under the trees. The original plan was to put them in the parking area which would add to the security. This was opposed by the Iwi, but they oppose new structures on the Spit. David says he is opposed because a temporary measure will end up being long term. The

Pohutakawas are a beautiful area, and it is unfortunate to put rubbish under them.

- 9) The area around the house is visually attractive with the trees.
- 10) It was decided that Greg and David will meet with the Iwi and discuss the situation. Greg says the road that runs along the beach in front of the house does not need to be used. It could be closed, and picnic benches could be put there. Greg says that if rubbish is put in the yard area, the same thing will happen as happened to the Moluk bins. The rubbish dumping will get abused. Steve said he had a discussion with a Sandspit/Kawau Resident. He said there are three types of disposal. Rubbish, Recycling and Hard (Fridges, Beds, TVs etc.) There are 70 permanent residents, and 350 in total. Permanent residents are older and struggle with the weight of the rubbish. He said if the recycling area could be closer to the ferry, people would recycle more. Then there wouldn't be so much rubbish. So, if the recycling bins were closer to the ferry and the rubbish further away it would be easier to dump rubbish than it is currently. David said that thinking like a Kawau Islander – they have to generate some rubbish. They are not going to take their rubbish to the Lawry Road facility. A question was asked – Why can't they use the orange rubbish bins like we do? Greg said he agrees with David in that he'd like the area to be a picnic area, and to add to the aesthetic beauty of the Sandspit. David said that if the rubbish goes inside that fenced area, it will never go. Nobody is going to sit at a picnic table under the Pohutakawas if the rubbish is 20 metres away. Beth said

the Council had to withdraw the Consent Application to put the rubbish in the parking lot as it will cost too much to fight the Application. The Council will not remove the House as, if they do, they will never be able to put anything there. Beth said the rubbish will go under the trees. David queried that the Iwi is okay for the rubbish to go in the yard, but not to go in the parking lot.

- 11) We do not want rubbish being dumped on the reserve. The problem needs to be solved with the Moluk Bins. Beth said the Ngati Manahiri are okay with the rubbish being dumped in the yard, but not being dumped in the carpark – because of the potential leakage problem. Beth said she will get more info from Ngati Manahiri about what they are objecting about.
- 12) David says leave the Moluk Bins where they are until we get a solution. Greg says install a camera at the Moluk Bins.
- 13) Beth said if they didn't have the Moluk Bins how would the Kawau Island rubbish get collected. Would it be through a completely private collection that is made with a waste company. There would still need to be somewhere for the rubbish to be picked up.
- 14) **Motion** Greg moved a motion that the SRRRA opposes any siting of a waste facility on the fenced house site. David seconded.
- 15) Greg says green bins come over on a boat and get picked up and taken back to the Island. He said Camp Benson brings a trolley full of rubbish on the ferry.
- 16) Kawau Island residents are not charged for rubbish in their rates. Consultation is being looked at for a period of 5

years. It could be that they may have a waste charge in their rates.

- 17) Beth said what is wanted is to have the illegal dumping gone and to get the rubbish disposal sorted out.
- 18) She said what is wanted is to not have rubbish on the reserve.
- 19) The contract will be with Mahurangi Waste busters, not with Northern Waste.
- 20) Greg said he read in the minutes of a Kirra meeting that it was said that if the house is removed, there can be more carparks. We do not want more carparks. The Spit is the Jewel of Sandspit, and it should be a park for people to enjoy.
- 21) Greg said if rubbish is in the fenced yard it will get abused.
- 22) Steven said he had a discussion with somebody from Kawau who travels 3 times a week. The person said there are 3 kinds of disposal. Rubbish, recycling and hard items.
- 23) Beth said someone wrote her an email from Kawau Ratepayers. The person said from every \$1000 paid in rates \$320 goes to transport networks, \$80 goes into the supply of safe drinking water, \$320 goes into parks, libraries, pools, community halls, recreation, and events to support communities. And the remaining \$280 goes into town Centres, arts, natural environment, environmental management.
- 24) The SRRA will object to the current situation with the rubbish and say to move to the long-term solution.

- 25) The Ngati Manihiri are objecting to the close proximity to the sea of the proposed rubbish bins in the parking lot.
- 26) Beth said she has been advocating on behalf of Kirra for a long time.
- 27) Beth said in the future there needs to be a shuttle that runs down to the ferry. And maybe in the future the ferry needs to become part of the transport network. Beth said the Political Reference Group will be having their first meeting in March. They are looking at parking at Sandspit and the infrastructure and looking at the future with regards to recreation.
- 28) David said we have the facility of the carpark which Auckland Transport relinquished its management of it. Auckland Council needs to get Legal Title to it as some land has been reclaimed. In the interim Auckland Council might be looking at a License to Occupy, and it could be the Local Board holds the License for the management of the Carpark. Once a group has a Lease, they can charge for the Carpark, but they are then responsible for it. Greg said the management of the Carpark is very important. Greg says Kawau Islanders do not expect the carpark to be free. He advocates stacked parking for family groups that are going to Kawau. Or how about a couple of coordinated runs from Snells Beach or Auckland to the Ferry.
- 29) Greg said we cannot solve the carparking in Sandspit. There will always be more people wanting to come here than there is availability of carparks.
- 30) Greg said Chris Rowe asked if the SRRRA could do something about people parking on Brick Bay Drive. Greg

replied and said that we cannot do anything if it is legal to park at the side of the road.

- 31) Greg said people are violating the parking signs, parking all day in the 60 minutes zone.
- 32) Beth will follow up with AT about a spur line coming down to Sandspit coming for the morning ferry and the evening ferry. Beth said they will not detour the bus as the longer it takes, the fewer people will use it. However, if it is only detoured for the morning and evening ferry that could be acceptable.
- 33) David asked will there be a meeting regarding the letter to send to Beth. David will put together a letter with photos to send to Beth and send it to us.
- 34) Regarding the decking on the wharf Greg says Karin Turnage is in charge of the project now. He told her the decking is near the end of its life and needs work on it. Karin said some of the beams need replacing so it will be a few months before the project can be completed. The wharf is an asset to the community.
- 35) Restore Rodney East. Greg says for the future we need to make a connectivity for the birds. Beth says there are so many pest controls groups who are all working away doing their own thing. Beth says its exciting to have so many people working on eradicating pests. She says there is quite a list of people.
- 36) There is a survey. Peter, Greg and Steven will fill in the survey and send it in.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm. Next Meeting Tuesday March 2nd