

KUAOTUNU RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD AT LUKE'S KITCHEN

22 August 2019

Meeting Opened: 6:00 pm

Present: Brent Page, Carrie Parker, Kathy Speirs (via Skype), Luke Riley, Bruce Pilkington, Chris Lidgard, Carolyn Gibbs, Kate Nielsen (part of meeting), Alastair Brickell

Public Input:

Bill Muir spoke on two issues:

1. Speed Zoning Near Bluff Road Intersection

He is applying for a subdivision consent and is having problems with LTNZ who require a common drive shared by him and four other landowners opposite Hilldale Crescent to be relocated and redesigned. It is apparently non-compliant with LTNZ standards despite having been constructed to Transit NZ standards back in the 1970's.

Having the current speed zone of 70km/hour reduced to 50km/hour would assist in getting approval from LTNZ for the proposed changes. He asked if KRRRA would be in favour of such a change. Brent responded that the community has indicated its desire for a lower speed zone along this section of state highway continuing eastwards along to the current 50km zone. He would therefore be happy to write a letter of support for the requested reduction in speed zoning.

2. TCDC Rubbish Contract

Bill noted that the NZ Herald on August 3 had big article on alleged problems and questionable dealings between Smart Environmental and TCDC. Council has been silent on this important issue and he thought this was unsatisfactory. Was KRRRA concerned about this? Brent replied that he thought that this was probably a consequence of the issue currently being before the Auditor General.

Apologies: None, apart from Kate going to arrive late.

Apologies approved. Moved: Carol Seconded: Carrie

Minutes:

Minutes of 16 May meeting were approved. Moved: Carrie Seconded: Carol

Matters Arising:

1. Traffic Calming – Carol has produced a photo montage of suggestions.

2. Riparian Planting – Mark Simpson feels that they are planting where they can around the wetland but Garrick Simpson needs to be involved for the land he leases from the Heron trust. Luke reported that WRC has plants we can use and Carrie enquired if we could fence and plant along the existing paper road.

3. Waitaia Community Meeting – Steve Brown Douglas has been contacted by Brent for information but he has yet to receive a response.

4. Half-Pipe – Luke attended the meeting on this with Brent. It might be possible that we could try to obtain the old Whitianga half-pipe when they get their new one. Being somewhat portable there should not be as much of a problem to find a site for it on the Domain Reserve.

Correspondence (including emails) :

Inwards:

- Steve Brown-Douglas re impact of logging on Waitaia Rd
- Mara Botanical Ltd requesting change to website listing
- NZTA re SH25 footpath work
- Peace Bianchi re location of half-pipe
- TCDC re Combined Mercury Bay Chairmans meeting
- Isabel Gilbert Palmer re inviting Vic McLean to sit on KRRRA Committee
- Mercury Bay Informer re update on the half-pipe

Outwards:

- Steve Brown-Douglas re impact of logging on Waitaia Rd
- Mara Botanical Ltd confirming change to website listing
- NZTA re SH25 footpath work
- Peace Bianchi re location of half-pipe
- Isabel Gilbert Palmer re inviting Vic McLean to sit on KRRRA Committee
- Mercury Bay Informer re update on the half-pipe

No major issues from correspondence this month.

Approved: Alastair Seconded: Brent

Treasurer's Report:

Bank balance is \$12,595.37 of which \$6543.30 is held in trust for the half-pipe.

1. Kathy reported that all committee members are now financial!

2. We currently have 155 financial members, somewhat down from last month as some renewals are yet to come in.

3. Kathy requested approval for \$200-300 to spend on making the website more user friendly.

She was authorised to spend up to \$300 on this.

Moved: Brent Approved: Unanimously

4. Approximately 60-70% of our members are permanent residents. We will have better address information for our members once the upcoming civil defence questionnaire has been sent out.

5. The email newsletter is currently sent out to 380 addresses.

Report accepted. Moved: Kathy Seconded: Brent

General Business:

1. CP Update – The new version is a much improved and slimmed down from the original. Committee members should advise Carrie of any suggested changes. Kathy suggested our October 27 public meeting might be a good chance to update the community on progress.

We should probably get our plan ready before the wider TCDC one is finished so it can hopefully influence some of their input and establish the format that works for us. Carrie suggested that she and Brent attend the next CB meeting on August 28 to explain our progress and expectations.

Carrie will rewrite the introductory section to clarify that this is our unique plan for our area.

2. MB North R&R Chairs Meeting – This was attended by Brent with the minutes now in the correspondence file. The main concern was subdivision creep which all chairs felt was being poorly managed. Possible future subdivisions at Opito and Otama will mean much increased traffic through Kuaotunu CBD.

Chris Severne from Opito brought up the desire for some sort of Dark Sky designation for at least his part of the Kuaotunu Peninsula. The others all agreed that this was something worth pursuing, with the possible exception of the Matarangi representative. This issue needed to be reinforced in our community plan.

3. Coastal Plan Meeting – This was attended by Luke who thought it was not as useful as he had expected. It was looking very long term and probably not too relevant for us on the erosion issue. It should not be our highest priority at this stage but worth keeping an eye on.

4. NZTA Footpath Progress – This had been delayed due to problems reaching solid bedrock. However NZTA had submitted revised plans to WRC and it was expected that they would be onsite in a month to complete the work.

5. LTP Capex Priorities – The LTP would be adopted at the end of June 2021 but we needed to be thinking about this now. Possible items could be funding for the shared zoning in the CBD and footpaths. Kathy suggested that we could present our suggestions to our public meeting in October for community approval.

6. Ngati Tamatera Invite – Isabel had suggested that Vic McLean should come to sit on our committee meetings. After some discussion Brent commented that he had regular coffee meetings with Vic and he (Vic) seemed to consider that he didn't need to come to the meetings and would be happy with updates from Brent. Brent will reply to Isabel.

7. Newsletter – General agreement that this was an excellent effort by Kathy, especially given her absence and she will forward the committee the final version by Saturday with public distribution taking

place on Sunday.

8. Village Design Ideas – Carol showed some preliminary ideas for steel cutout figures (Corten steel) that might be useful as traffic calming devices at each end of the CBD. She will also investigate other designs. We would have to check just where these could be sited so as to not interfere with traffic movements and safety or be a distraction for drivers. 3D-effect painted speedbumps were a possibility if full speedbumps were not permitted. Luke would like some murals for his shop-facing wall and had already received a couple of suggestions but would like more.

Brent suggested that we should present our ideas for the shared zone to TCDC so they will not have to spend too much time on this and we can be seen as proactive and helping them.

9. Community Response Plan – Carol noted that the proposed questionnaire that TCDC had was going to send out soon under the Civil Defence umbrella. Carrie suggested that we needed to add an additional category of residents - those renting dwellings – to the mailout.

10. Dark Sky Status – Alastair advised that he has been taking readings for some years with a special Dark Sky Meter and this confirms that currently the Kuaotunu Peninsula has extremely dark skies. They are in the same league of the skies at major astronomical observatories overseas and thus are a treasure to preserve.

The main international body certifying dark sky status is the International Dark Sky Association based in Tuscon, Arizona of which he is a member. There are six levels of protection they award and he felt that we should consider applying for the best, that of a Dark Sky Sanctuary. Great Barrier Island has this status and Stewart Island and Pitcairn Island were awarded this level of protection in 2019. The Lake Tekapo area is a Dark Sky Reserve, the largest in the world.

Application for a particular category would eventually require controls on street lighting and illumination of advertising signs. The best LED lights to use were the flat full cutoff ones to avoid upward light spill and amber coloured LEDs were much preferable to the commonly used bluish or “cool white” ones that LTNZ unfortunately preferred to install countrywide.

Bruce commented that the motor camp was required to have a certain level of lighting for health and safety reasons. Alastair noted that the Tekapo campground operated within the Mackenzie Dark Sky Reserve so there would probably be a way these concerns could be addressed. He will be attending the latest Starlight Conference in Tekapo in October where ways communities could be awarded a protective status would be discussed and will report to the committee on his return.

Alastair will provide Carrie with updated text on this topic for the community plan.

11. Fibre Network – Luke commented that workers had left sites in a mess after work had been completed elsewhere on the peninsula. We needed to keep an eye on work here to ensure this did not happen to us.

12. Rings Beach Membership – Kathy commented to Craig that we do not have many members at Rings Beach. He thought that the community there was a bit different to surrounding areas and there were lots of absentee landowners. He will spread the word about KRRA.

Action Summary:

WHO	WHAT	DONE?
Brent	- to write letter supporting 50km/hr zoning for Bill - to attend next CB meeting	

	- to reply to Isabel re Vic.	
Carrie	- to attend next CB meeting - rewrite CP introduction	
Alastair	- to send Carrie text re dark skies	

Meeting Closed: 7:50 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday 19 September 2019, 6pm

Signed: Alastair Brickell, 23 August, 2019