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## SANDSPIT RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

### **Minutes of Meeting 7 Pm Monday Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at the Sandspit Yacht Club**

Present: Greg Doherty, Nancy Doherty, Warren Churches, Pam Eede, Margaret McCallum, David Astbury, Maya Foster, Beth Houlbrooke and Greg Sayers from Auckland Council.

1. Apologies: Graham Kearney, Bryan Taylor, Max Freeman.
2. Minutes of Last meeting –That these be approved Greg, 2<sup>nd</sup> Margaret.
3. Matters arising –
  - Greg mentioned he had contacted the Marina about putting a stop sign at the driveway exit. He is not sure of the status.
  - Greg said there was a letter from Sue Brodziak about the Brick Bay planting. Greg said he thought we were collaborating with her but it doesn't seem to be happening.
  - Greg Doherty proposed the Marina be allowed access to the CCTV camera.
  - Greg Doherty will contact local businesses for donations to the CCTV camera.
  - The new CCTV Camera has been Installed.
    - i. Greg Doherty moved that we form a CCTV Management Sub-Committee. He was asked what the purpose of that would be. Greg stated previously nobody was checking the camera. We now know it works and it would be a good idea to have a committee checking on it. He and David Astbury will be the committee members involved. Moved by Greg D, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pam.

**Greg Sayers and Beth Houlbrooke were present and provided updated information on various matters**

1. Greg Sayers said the new bus service is starting. Beth said we need to fill the buses and then additional services will be added. There will be a stop at Sandspit Road and Sharp Road. This will give the opportunity for taxis or Charter Boat Operators to run a shuttle up to meet the bus. If these people can prove to Auckland Transport that people are coming into Sandspit then the service will be reviewed.
2. The Local Board is looking at a Park n Ride just out of Warkworth on the Atlas site. This will free up a lot of parking in Warkworth – it will take out the all-day commuters. It will take out some of the CBD workers so they can hop on a bus at the Park n Ride and free up parking spaces in Warkworth. Warren queried if the Park n Ride is in the future, but Beth says it is being done now. This is developing the Atlas site which was held back from sale. It is going to be a community facility. Parking will be created. Auckland Transport will allow a bus stop near Hudson Road – an extra leg for the bus will go up to Wellsford. This is coming within the year. Warren asked how this will be linked to the actual showgrounds. Beth says you can walk right through – it is all walkable. There is a footpath and cross at the lights. Beth says they have someone from Auckland Transport scoping out all the possibilities. Currently they don't like the right hand turn off the highway – it isn't safe. However if they come in at the lights they can go behind the A and P buildings into the parking space. Beth says AT will be speaking to the A and P people about the parking.
3. Greg Doherty brought up at the end of Sharp Road there is a mini parking area. Beth says the stop will be on the main road. There is a good shoulder there. Beth says there is now a funded footpath on the list. This

will be an extension of the current footpath on Sandspit Road heading up to Sharp Road.

4. Greg Sayers said about the Matakana Link Road. The Auckland Transport Board of Directors approved the 4 lane. Political pressure has come on and they have relooked at it and want to take it down to 2 lanes. The original budget was \$84,000,000. It is tough terrain going through there. Now it is being pulled back to \$52,000,000 for 2 lanes. Greg Sayers, Mark Mitchell and Beth Houlbrooke will be fighting this. It will be built for 4 lanes, but will be 2 lanes. Beth says they do not want to delay the starting of the construction of this road as it needs to be finished by 2021. The problem with the 2 lanes is that where this road starts there is a lot of industrial land – bigger than the Woodcocks Road area – and there isn't going to be the roading to service the area. It could be the land owners will hold out and protest and say they won't sell the land unless it's 4 lanes. If that happens that will delay the building of the road which means it won't be completed by 2021, which is when the motorway will be completed. Greg Doherty suggested the road be 2 lanes near Matakana and 4 lanes near the Industrial area. Greg Sayers he hadn't heard that before and he would carry it forward.
5. The Sandspit Link Road starts near the Quarry and joins onto the Matakana Link Road. Greg Sayers he hadn't heard that before and he would carry it forward.
6. Greg Doherty said Hill Street might fix itself but Greg Sayers said the population by 2021 will have increased. The Matakana Link Road has been contracted to a 2 lane scenario from a four lane scenario. It is apparently going to be future proofed so it can go from 2 lanes to 4 lanes.
7. Regarding the Laurie Road Transfer Station, the Council says it will provide giant skips for people to put their rubbish in. They have not said where they will be. Beth and Greg Sayers said many people are holiday

people. They come to the area – do a big cleanup and expect to go to the Laurie Road Transfer station to dump their rubbish. This is when illegal tipping will begin if there is not enough notice and there is nowhere nearby to dump rubbish.

8. Greg Sayers said that he and Beth had an emergency meeting regarding the closure of the Laurie Road Transfer Station and the prognosis is good. Auckland Council is saying it is an old open fill dump site and even with Northland Waste operating there all the old pipes are falling to bits and it needs to be brought up to current health and safety standards with the gases that are in there. Northland Waste agrees with this and has said they will be willing to do the upgrade. They agreed they will do the work and that it could cost \$1,000,000. Auckland Council wants to scope it out. They want to get people who have done this for 20 sites for Auckland Council and get a proper report on what needs to be done. Northland Waste's lease expires at the end of this month. Auckland Council has now agreed to extend the Northland Waste lease until the middle of next year – they would like to keep it operational over the summer. Council may pay for the upgrade and want to re-tender the site with the new model which includes a community recycling centre. Northland Waste has said they will put their hat in the ring but they want it on a fair basis. They don't want Auckland Council topping up somebody with ratepayer's money. They want it done on a commercial basis. Auckland Council has said they would never do that, but Northland Waste has said that does happen. The current summary is Laurie Road Transfer Station will not be closing and will stay open until the middle of next year. It may close for 24 months for the upgrade and if Northland Waste has opened their other site there will be skips there to be transferred to the Northern Waste new area. Greg Sayers said they met the engineers today who said they will keep a bit of it open for the skip tipping, but they want the rest of it closed. Greg Sayers said he and Beth

were never told that the Laurie Road Transfer station was closing. Greg Sayers said Beth made the point with the council that the public has no idea what is happening.

9. Beth said she spoke strongly to the council about 2 things. The Local Board is not a decision maker. They do not sign commercial leases, they do community leases on plants, but they are the front for the community. Decisions like closing the tip should not be made without coming to the Local Board. Run it by them and they may tell you what a problem may be. They can avoid a lot of public relation problems – communication must be made to the public. The public want to know what is happening, when is it closing and what are the options after it closes. The council started to say it's a private operator, it's up to them to communicate with the public. Beth says everyone knows the council owns the land and it is core council business is dealing with rubbish. Even if it's operated by a private operator, people need to know what is happening, and what their options are. Beth said that driving to Silverdale is not an option. The Laurie Road Tip is not closing at the end of this month and will be carried over until at least the end of April. Greg Doherty asked will the cost increase, and Greg Sayers said most likely so. Warren asked about what will happen when the tip is being upgraded. Beth says Council will provide giant skips, but they do not know where they will be as of yet. Beth and Greg Sayers said people will be expecting to tip their rubbish at the Laurie Road site.

10. Greg Doherty said he wasn't happy with the Inorganic Rubbish Collection – that it is only once a year. Beth said all over Auckland it is only once a year and that the system is much better than it was previously. Out of the Waste Management fee each household gets one inorganic pickup per year. Greg Sayers, he hadn't heard that before and he would carry it forward.

11. Beth said the Lockaway bins for Kawau Islanders will be funded – and the Moluk Bins will be removed. If the bins aren't there people won't be dumping there. Many people do not even put their rubbish in the bins, they just drop it outside of the bins. This system works well in the parks. Beth suggested a sign reading "Boaties take your rubbish home". David said the message is getting out there. Beth said the signs do not have to be negative but could read "Enjoy our beautiful Sandspit – take your rubbish home."
12. Greg Doherty complained about the grass reserve near the boat ramp at the end of the Sandspit. It has been all cleaned up and now people are leaving their dinghies on the grass. Beth said to complain to the Parks people. Greg Doherty said maybe the Harbormaster could do something. He said where the dinghies are left further down the spit, many of the dinghies are full of water and sand.
13. Beth said at Campbell's Bay the locals took over managing the dinghies. They got permission to do this and they threw out the abandoned ones.
14. Regarding the Brick Bay Drive planting. Thanks to the actions it was discovered that some of the tree plantings were done where they were not supposed to be. Greg Doherty said he is tired of people parking on the grass and damaging it. Right now, the grass has deep tire tracks on it and the paid parking is not even near full.
15. Beth said AT and Parks have different philosophies. Parks do not want vehicles on parks. The Local Boards view is that there is a Carpark at Sandspit that is underutilized – and AT need to review their pricing. If the pricing is reasonable the carpark will get used. It is extremely convenient to park in the carpark. AT says they don't need to provide more parking because there is a carpark. The Local Board says people aren't using the carpark. Warren says it's not that easy to launch at the boatramp at the end of the spit. Warren says the people parking on the grass are not people from Sandspit.

16. Warren pointed out that the white line at the centre of the road on Brick Bay Road has been moved – which is making the drive along the road much safer.
17. Beth says as a committee we need to decide what we want done with regards to Gobi blocks, rocks or bollards, and let her know. Greg Doherty says the Ratepayers Committee will discuss it and make a decision about what we want done. We will email AT and copy Beth in and get some action.
18. Greg Doherty said after all the upheaval about the wharf the work has been done at minimal cost. The walkway has been done and there is a bench for sitting on. Greg D said there were 2 engineering reports stating the wharf was way under spec – a lot must have been spent on the reports. It was stated that the wharf couldn't handle the load and now only some boards have been replaced and the work is done. There was a huge drama where the wharf was going to be shut down and then the work was done in a few days.
19. Beth said hopefully the Council has learned they must consult with the locals before remedial work is done.
20. Beth said regarding Hill Street intersection, the Council is going to put up cameras to study the traffic flow before anything happens.
21. Warren said he has lived in Sandspit for 31 years and each year the Hill Street intersection gets worse.
22. Greg Doherty said he was referring to the part of Sandspit Road near Wylies Landscaping and the road, though it has been “fixed” many times it is still undulating.
23. Regarding Northern Waste and the Laurie Road tip – the Council has said they will do a press release in the paper to let locals know what is happening. Apparently all the employees have already been given 2 weeks' notice.

24. Greg Doherty thanked Beth and Greg Sayers for the good work they did on behalf of the Warkworth area residents regarding the imminent closure of the Laurie Road tip.
25. At the meeting re Lawrie Rd Transfer Station today, it was said there were many letters received regarding the tip and there was definitely “people power” involved.
26. Greg Sayers said that Northern Waste has bought another site. There will be quite a few hoops they need to go through and will have to get resource consent. We all agreed that we would not want to live near a tip.
27. Greg Doherty commented how in Canada many items have a deposit on them and are recyclable. There are proper Recycling Centres all over the place. He asked if the Council has workshops on Recycling. He said in Canada there is not much glass or plastic litter and homeless people pick up recyclable products and take them to the recycling depot. Greg commented that when bottles are brought over from Kawau Island and left by the Moluk bins they go to the tip. Beth said recycling is talked about but it has to be on a National level that it is implemented. Warren said in some places if you purchase something, open it up and leave the packaging with the supplier.
28. Warren asked about how did the mangroves get removed at Shelley Beach? Beth said the Council owned some structures there that needed removing so it fell upon the council to remove them and they removed some mangroves at the same time. There was a sea wall, a jetty and a shed. Warren said the mangroves at the beginning of Brick Bay Drive should be removed and the area made into a useful area for birds.
29. Greg Sayers asked if we had heard about the dredging of the Mahurangi River. Greg Doherty asked if they are pulling out the mangroves. Beth said this has been brought up many a time. Greg Sayers said they are getting rid of the silt so they are getting rid of what the mangroves like.

30. Warren said at the bottom of Brick Bay – take out the mangroves and make the area a wetland for the birds. A walkway could be put through. It would attract more birds than just having mangroves and would be more useful for the birds. Warren presented some thoughts on what could be done with the wet area at the beginning of Brick Bay Drive.. Greg Doherty said we would love to clear out the basin that is filled with mangroves and have a beach where there used to be one.
31. Beth Houlbrooke and Greg Sayers left the meeting. They were thanked for coming and thanked for their good work regarding the Lawrie Road tip. We appreciated that they were able to come to the Ratepayers meeting with good news.

### **Other Matters Arising**

1. People are recognizing the value of the CCTV camera. It is a deterrent to crime.
2. It was recommended that in the next newsletter all those who have donated to the new CCTV camera be thanked.
3. Margaret brought up about a real estate agent who wants to support the CCTV camera. He wants to pay an annual sponsorship fee – and in exchange have a sign saying supported by “xxx”. Greg thought it was a good idea – but it was said that the power pole belongs to Vector. It was said once you start doing advertising things become complicated. Many people have made large donations – so we can’t do anything for this one fellow. David said he agreed with supporting corporate sponsorship.
4. A discussion took place on the planting plan put forth by the Council. We will invite the council member – Paul Duffy from Parks - responsible for

the planting to come to our SRRA meeting. Greg Doherty will invite him to come to our October SRRA meeting to speak to the planting plan.

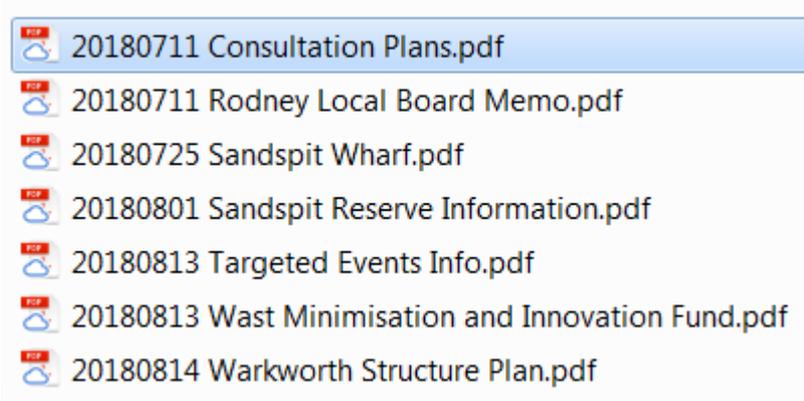
5. Paul Duffy told Margaret the chance of having gobi blocks is unlikely.
6. Warren said we need to have input on the planting plan.
7. David Astbury said we need to resolve this parking situation as a committee. He said if the paid parking lot revisited their pricing it could be that more people would use the paid parking lot.

## Correspondence

### b. General:



### c. Various Correspondence Beth Houlbrooke

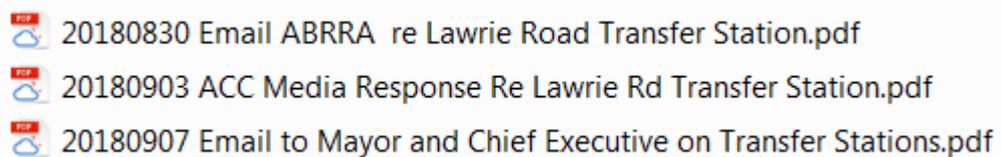


Beth said if we have information we want to email to the Council email it to [info@supportinggrowth.co.nz](mailto:info@supportinggrowth.co.nz) There are 2 routes on Sandspit Road and no money has been handed out towards this.

d. Various Items of Correspondence Re Brick Bay Drive Reserve Planting



e. Various items of Correspondence re Lawrie Rd Transfer Station



1. Greg Doherty said the AED has been replenished and we paid the bill.
2. Greg mentioned the white line on Brick Bay has been moved. Warren said they moved it over a good metre and a half. He said it is a continuous curve and is easy driving around the corner. Warren said there is a line marking designated parking at the side of the road. And there is a line for no parking.
3. Greg Doherty said the refurbishment of the toilets at Sandspit Wharf is in the future.
4. David Astbury asked when the rubbish will be moved from the Moluk Bins to the secure area. Greg asked for a reminder for him to talk to Beth to determine if it will be done before summer.
5. Lawrie Rd correspondence was discussed with Beth and Greg

Greg moved all the correspondence be received. 2<sup>nd</sup> by David

4. Treasurer's Report- Margaret McCallum

- a. Margaret Submitted Reports for July and August
- b. More Subscriptions have been received as well as Donations towards the CCTV. The CCTV camera install has been paid

Margaret moved the reports be accepted Seconded by Greg D

5. Social Media Report- Margaret McCallum

- a. No Report

6. Parks & Reserves Reports

- i. Tracks- David Astbury
  - b. Regarding tracks, David said there are piles of metal waiting to be put down and there are volunteers available but it is currently too wet to access the tracks. The same applies to the engineering work, it is too wet to access the tracks. Greg said we are looking forward to more spring weather.
  - c. Greg said he met somebody on the path and that person is going to send him some information about Forest and Bird want to close the paths with Kauri on them. David said he has kauri on his property and he personally checks his trees for kauri – dieback. Greg asked if we are pretty safe with our kauri in Sandspit. The answer was yes as people don't walk around them. There are organisms in the soil that are affecting the trees.

ii. Predators & Weeds- Warren Churches

- d. Warren said he found a weedkiller that kills agapanthas. He gets it from a company in Rotorua called Rainbow and Brown – a litre costs \$65. It kills buttercups and gorse. He uses it as a concentrate, not a mist.
- 7. Foreshore Enhancement – Graham Kearney-Warren Churches
    - a. No report
  - 8. Liaison with Sandspit Harbour Catchment Group—Bryan Taylor
    - a. No Report
  - 9. Civil Defense Report-- Max Freeman
    - a. No Report
  - 10. Social Functions/Membership Report-- Pam Eede
    - a. We are up to 90 Paid up Subscriptions
  - 11. General Business
    - 1. Bryan Taylor wrote in and confirmed that we are not getting increased speed limits in Sandspit.
    - 2. Greg Doherty mentioned about dinghies being parked on the grass near the Moluk Bins. He said the area has been tidied up and is not meant to be a dinghy storage area. Beth said to report this to Parks. Greg Doherty will report to Parks.
    - 3. Regarding the committee following up Sandspit residents and following them up to join the ratepayers – it was agreed that we will follow up in our areas that we live in. Greg will adjust the list to be in street order. The subscription for membership is currently \$25.

Meeting closed at 9pm.