

Rakino Ratepayers Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Sunday 08-January-2017 at 15:00
Rakino Community Hall

Present:

Steve McCrone (SMcC) -
Chair
John Denton (JD)

Rob Everall (RE)
Susan Plummer (SP)
Stephen Thomas (ST)
Adrian Townsend (AT)

Apologies:

Barry Bridgwater (BB)

Peter Watson (PW)
(attended last few minutes only)

Absent:

1. Welcome / Apologies / confirm Quorum

Apologies received from PW and BB.
Quorum was confirmed.

2. Past Minutes

- a) Minutes from previous Committee Meeting (**08-Dec-2016**) were circulated prior to this meeting for information and were proposed for acceptance as a true record.

Prop./ Seconded	Outcome	Action	Person responsible	Carried forward/ resolved
SMcC / RE	Agreed unanimously	Post minutes to RRA website via Administrator	RE	

3. Committee Administration

Pending final adoption of Treasurer responsibilities by BB from Laura Sunderland.

4. Finances and Correspondence

- a) **Report on Payments received / to be made** – RE reported receipt of one new member subscription (Bruce Neville/Sue Peters).
No new payments to be made.

- b) **2016-7 Membership** – RE reported that membership had increased by one since the last meeting (now 71 paid up members).

c) Correspondence IN / OUT

SMcC reported having received a letter from Auckland Council (Hazel Durkin) regarding illegal dumping of waste at the rubbish holding area in in Home Bay, which has been sent to all ratepayers. The content was duly noted and ongoing action will be taken to try and see this message supported and reinforced through the community.

There was no Fire Officer Report (reported in December); it was agreed that the equipment familiarisation training convened over the holiday period by Hank and Bev had been extremely well run and well attended, with a substantial number of those attending indicating that they wished to attend the full classroom session, as previously run by Rory, but preferably during

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the winter period.

This will need to be discussed with Rory / Rural Fire Brigade to be scheduled (Hank and Bev)

SMcC agreed to write to Hank and Bev to thank them for their time and efforts on behalf of the community, and to offer assistance in convening future community fire training.

It was also agreed that RRA would support the provision of fuel for the fire pumps, rather than see Hank and Bev out of pocket personally, as appears to be the case. To prime this, ST very kindly offered to donate and deliver a spare 20-litre fuel container filled with 91 RON fuel.

RE reported on email from Kevin Wragge, who has received a \$5k grant towards consultancy costs to prepare an environmental blue print and has asked RRA to consider its own contribution on an initial and ongoing basis. After discussion, it was agreed that alternatives should be considered and costed. ST proposed to liaise with Hannah Scott (who is very well connected on the Council in this subject area) as she had indicated that there may be another way to approach this overall objective and at a lower cost than has been quoted. ST will also liaise with Kevin Wragge.

ST was asked to confirm what expenses ST was owed for organising clearance of the AT land, but he generously declined any recompense.

Gulf Islands Trust Forum – RE reported that Kevin Wragge had tabled the question about future Rakino participation in this forum. It was agreed that this would be valuable for the Rakino community. ST advised that the next meeting would be in June and it was agreed that the RRA Committee would resolve future attendance and representation in this forum.

Action:

- **Generic message about waste dumping to be considered – RE / Newsletter**
- **SMcC to write to Hank and Bev Postmaa - organise Fire Training for 2017 (HP with RRA support as requested)**
- **ST to liaise with Hannah Scott and Kevin Wragge**
- **Committee to resolve representation in the Gulf Islands Trust Forum**

5. Update on Transport

SMcC reported on having received no response from Belaire Ferries regarding the policy over unaccompanied baggage not being carried (with a focus on food and provisions).

It is understood that this protocol relates to vessel insurance policies.

Action: SMcC to follow up with Adam Tallentire of Belaire Ferries

6. Events

JD reported that the annual Fun Run and Games on 31-Dec were well attended and that the event had been filmed by an author team creating a documentary on the Gulf Islands.

Thanks to JD for his usual support for this event.

AT also offered that future Fun Runs could incorporate a hill climb loop across his property on the new driveway as an option.

It was agreed that RRA should support Colin Maclaren over future production of winner/participant certificates, as supply was short this year.

Action: SMcC to liaise with Colin Maclaren

SP reported on successful Dragon Boats races on 07-Jan, also very well attended after a break the year previously with effective volunteer support. Special thanks to SP for her efforts and to Lez, as well as John Beasley for acting as effervescent MC.

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Photos of the event were requested to be submitted for the newsletter (and website).
The event plan will be reviewed (post-event), refined as necessary and placed into the RRA Drop Box for future reference.

Action: ALL – photos

SP to review Event Plan for any improvements to the ‘master’ event template

It was suggested that it merited procuring some standardised re-usable roadside signage made up for promoting any future events (e.g. simple sign board on a stake with RRA logo), and that a Blackboard be acquired by RRA to affix to the Community Hall for general messages.

Action: RE to procure

7. Bokashi Bins

RE reported that all bins held in stock had been sold (5 sets) and there were additional orders.

There are 49 households using them with an additional 4 orders to be fulfilled.

This means that all bins held for ‘swap’ stock have been sold.

RE reported holding \$110 cash for bin/Zing sales, to be banked.

After discussion, it was agreed that there appeared to be no requirement to establish the swap stock facility as originally proposed, as no compost has been finding its way back to the nursery; that this will negate the need for a dedicated structure on the AKL Transport land parcel to serve as a swap station. (See also below). If we do not proceed, then it is assumed that grant funds awarded for that structure would be forfeited and not eligible for reallocation to other activities within the project.

The closing date for drawing down on the existing grant funds is 31-March-2017 (extended); it was agreed that RE should arrange to purchase all the remaining Bokashi bin stock allocated under the original approval with immediate effect, for ongoing resale to the Rakino community.

Action: RE to procure additional bins stocks and resolve overall grant claim by 31-March

8. Work in Progress & New Business

- The rolling W.I.P. summary was reviewed and action statuses updated – see final page of these minutes. Specific items requiring more detail are below.
- The AKL Transport land lease was discussed in more detail (see Bokashi above).
It was agreed by majority that there was merit in pursuing resolution of the lease of the land from AKL Transport regardless, as the money had already been spent, and the land area had definite value, once tamed and tidied up, as a community area for a playing field or general community use for staging events and so on, given its central location.
However, it was agreed that this had been a distraction to date, and that the real future focus should be solely upon resolving the Community Hall (see below).

Action: RE to liaise with AKL Transport lawyers and Fee Langstone (RRA solicitors).

Legal costs to be reconciled and any surplus reclaimed.

9. Initiatives to Increase Membership

Events were discussed as part of the overall drive to increase RRA membership.

JD tabled a revival of the ‘Snapper Shield’ competition and a kids fishing competition day (e.g. to run from 07:00 to 15:00 with prize giving at 16:00 followed by a BBQ).

SMcC said it would be good to see prizes for the longest fish photographed (rather than the heaviest) as this meant that fish could be caught, measured/photographed and then released.

It was agreed that a sub-committee should be convened with keen community volunteer organisers, with a target competition date being the Easter weekend, 14-17 April.

(As a general principal, it was agreed that all initiatives and events should be driven by a sub-committee to ensure we co-opt support and involvement from the wider community and not just rely on Committee members to drive things).

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JD advised that he would speak with Peter Fahey about the costs of organising a plane and a photographer to take a group photo of the event at Easter but also to consider taking aerial photos of island properties and selling images, or maybe a DVD, to owners to raise funds for RRA, although there would be costs incurred as well.

Additionally, AT, JD and SP agreed to investigate the costs of drone photography and report back.

Action: SP agreed to approach potential volunteers to drum up interest and support

JD to seek quote from Peter Fahey.

AT to get quotes for drone photography as an alternative.

To mark the 50th Anniversary of RRA this year, an event to be held at the wharf was proposed for Labour Day, with a BBQ and drinks and perhaps some music/entertainment.

Action: For further discussion by the Committee in Q1 2017 and a sub-committee to be formed.

10. Wireless Broadband

RE reported that the cross-island survey for signal strength by Wireless Nation had been completed and feedback was anticipated and pending. RE had elected to proceed and purchase a Router for his house and subscribe to the service/data package (which is already in use by two other 'permanents' on the island); he reported good overall coverage at just two weeks in, although an optional aerial was probably a good idea to alleviate signal fluctuation.

Indications from Wireless nation were that it would not be cost-effective to progress a community scheme, based on high set-up costs in hardware and low numbers of subscribers.

Action: RE to seek formal feedback and recommendations from Wireless Nation and circulate.

11. Community Hall

It was agreed that saving the Hall should be the foremost priority of the RRA and that lack of progress to date needed to be arrested and the situation resolved, in spite of mitigating factors like land title currently being progressed by the Council.

It represents a major opportunity for RRA to contribute to the community and to catalyse interest in – and input to - the Association as well, with a collaborative community project to unite and focus energies and community spirit.

A key issue is that we lack sufficient engineering expertise to know what best to do, in terms of whether the real threat is from waves and storm surge or from overall heightened sea levels, and this has implications for whether work should focus only on the building (elevate it and / or move it) and additionally on improved sea wall defences to the south of the site.

The options and opinions about what could/should be done were aired, some in combination:

- ❖ Divide the wing from the main building, raise and brace the existing structure, modernise and add a deck and vehicle turning area in front and relocate the amputated wing elsewhere on the island as a second facility (although there are few sites available for it).
- ❖ Raise the overall structure 'as is' in situ and make it safe, perhaps in combination with a ground level block wall perimeter to protect the foundation piles
- ❖ Relocate the structure back further from the water
- ❖ One of the above with a new sea wall barrier to provide a more physical form of protection from storm waves

PW had previously undertaken to liaise with the Council's Ian Maxwell, and PW was able to join the meeting briefly at this stage to confirm that he was still awaiting contact and an initial meeting.

Action > Next Steps:

- (a) PW (with support as requested) to convene a conversation with Ian Maxwell to sound out the options available and potential appetite of the Council to engage in a project
- (b) Consult with specialist engineers to evaluate actions/resources and likely levels of cost

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- (c) Distil options into recommendations and walk these back to the community for consideration and agreement by majority
- (d) Go back to Council with preferred options and align with available funding to identify key gaps
- (e) Resolve the solution and funding needed
- (f) Implement the solution

12. Newsletter – Scheduled for 15-March-2017

Committee to submit items to SMcC for inclusion.

SMcC to prepare and circulate a draft for comment and approval. Content to include a post-Xmas review of events, plus an invitation to join RRA.

Action: SMcC and Committee

13. Any Other Business

SP was concerned that Woody Bay beach was being spoiled by boaties, especially at high tide, when beach parties and dinghies monopolised available space. AT was also concerned about the rubbish generated.

14. Next Meeting Dates

Thursday 16-February-2017 – Alaska premises, Ireland Street, Freemans Bay.

Thursday 16-March-2017 – Alaska premises, Ireland Street, Freemans Bay.

Meetings will default to the third Thursday each month, unless by prior change, starting promptly at 6:00 pm – please diarise.

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Work in progress

Welcome Pack for newcomers – Additional input on fire and safety awareness to be incorporated by AT. Completion of material, finalisation of format, deployment and availability of proposed booklet to be determined – agreed that it should be available to the whole community.	Committee
Development of strategic plan (inc. items raised in the AGM) and key strategic threads (e.g. Environmental; weed eradication; etc.) and major focal areas from Survey. Mark Lockhart to be invited to the <u>February</u> Committee meeting.	Committee RE
Investigate potential for minutes of future Committee Meetings to be taken by a non-Committee member (with member of ST's staff a possibility). Agreed to see how things go under current arrangements with RE acting Secretary.	Committee RE
Review of Rakino Budget data sourced by PW from AKL Council – pending PW attendance for discussion (and will include feedback regarding the Hall from Ian Maxwell)	Committee
Determine initiatives to increase membership – to be brainstormed (50/100, etc.)	Committee
Investigate grant options for seating at viewpoints (carried forward) plus replacement of Sandy Bay seating (raised at AGM) – carried forward to 2017 with project ownership to be allocated.	Committee
STANDING ITEM: generate copy for potential inclusion in the Rakino News.	Committee
Consider future island social events 2017 – see Minutes for Easter 2017 proposals	Committee
Resolve Rakino community participation in Gulf Islands Trust Forum	Committee > Sub-Committee
Consider 50 th Anniversary celebration of RRA – sub-committee to be formed, to consider an event on Labour Day weekend 2017.	Committee > Sub-Committee
Progress discussions regarding Community Hall options. Input from PW pending, then formation of sub-committee to pursue action plan..	Committee > Sub-Committee PW
Fire Fighter List – Hank Postmaa to set up text alert list from list of trained firefighter islanders. Carried forward to check on status.	HP
Fire Training – Winter 2017 - Hank and Bev to liaise with Rory and advise of any support they need from RRA.	HP & BP
Liaise with Colin Maclaren regarding support for Fun Run certificates for 2018 (generic format).	JD
Seek quote from Peter Fahey for Easter aerial photography.	JD
Action recommendations of the Financial Reviewer for 2015-6 accounts. Effective from January 2017 – carried forward.	JD / BB
Complete handover of the Treasurer role from LS to BB, inc. set up of on-line Bank account access and removal of LS as an authorised User (now inactive).	JD / BB / RE
DOC signage for West Bay / Askew Avenue (c/o DOC) to be delivered Jan 2017. RRA to oversee installation of the signs on site in Askew Avenue and West Bay.	RE

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Follow up on progress with RBI for improvements to internet. Report from Wireless Nation to be fed back to Committee.	RE
Liaise with Auckland Harbour Master regarding moorings (carried forward and ongoing as properties change hands).	RE
Procure reusable roadside signage to promote future social and community events. Procure blackboard to be used at Community Hall	RE
Purchase additional Bokashi Bin stock (up to maximum under grant). Finalise Grant reporting by 31-March-2017.	RE
Liaise with AKL TRANSPORT lawyers and Fee Langstone to resolve and secure lease for just the ground area (RE) Resolve financial position over legal account (RE) Ground to be re-cleared of vegetation (slasher and working bees) to make it usable for community activities.	RE ST / ALL
Write to Hank and Bev Postmaa with 'thank you' for Fire Training, etc.	SMcC
Liaise with Belaire Ferries regarding unaccompanied luggage policy	SMcC
Newsletter content (ongoing) – next issue: March 2017 To include: review of Christmas/New Year and photos; illegal dumping in Home Bay (Council letter); 2017 Events; Bokashi update on stocks	SMcC + Committee
Complete post-event review of Dragon Boat Event Plan for any improvements and post to Drop Box.	SP
Approach potential volunteer organisers for Fishing Competition event.	SP
Draft outline 'way we do things round here' code for Rakino – carried forward	ST & AT
Seek quotes for drone aerial photography.	AT

Committee members are reminded to review and print your own copies of all materials circulated prior to the meeting, forwarding amendments / corrections where necessary in advance to the Secretary, in order to optimize the discussion time available in meetings.