

Rakino Ratepayers Association

Minutes of Wednesday 18th August 2021

Location: via Zoom

Present:

Stephen Thomas (ST)

Chris Clews (CC)

David Mahon (DM)

Natasha Holland (NH)

Elisabeth Easter (EE)

Rod Inglis (RI)

Welcome

Chris chaired the meeting starting with a brief outline of what we needed to cover tonight in order to keep the momentum moving with the Fire Resilience Plan and Hall options.

1. Fire Resilience Plan (sub group)

CC emailed the Committee the draft minutes from the recent meeting that the Fire Resilience Plan team had on the 28th July. The group has been put together taking a cross section of residents some of whom voiced an interest in being a part of this group at the FENZ meetings that were held earlier this year. The aim is to create a living document that can be continuously updated to ensure its relevant and applicable to the Island in case of an emergency, whether its Fire, Storm, water shortage etc. The group consists of David Parker, Clare Gannon, John Beasley, Tash Holland, Chris Clews, Jo Luijpers and Jude McLachlan.

We need to build a case for the Resilience Plan that justifies why we need the equipment we do on the island and the benefits of having Fire Lords, pumps, hoses etc.

The first task is to create a Questionnaire to take around to the community to explain what we are doing, why its important to gather info, the benefits of having a central database and to seek permission to hold this info. The RRA will hold this database and will not share any details. The group has been broken into Street areas and a deadline of Labour Weekend has been set for talking to neighbours and getting info.

A date still needs to be set for bringing the Fire Service out to Rakino so they can see how the Island works and they can do a recky and give advice on ways we can help prevent fires. We had initially discussed it would be good to do this in summer when the Island is busy and we are at highest risk of fires. FENZ are happy to assist the Community in Fire Reduction and Education but cannot support any additional equipment to untrained and unqualified members of the public for Fire Response. They have said they do not condone us fighting fires. They have agreed that they will not take any equipment away from us at this stage.

We are still keen to move forward with moving the Fire Shed to the middle of the Island where the water tank currently is and it was suggested we could share this idea with FENZ when they come to the Island.

Plan is to work out a draft Resilience Plan before going out to the Community for review.

The final minutes from the 28th July and the minutes from the next meeting will be added to the RRA Website after the next meeting on 25th August.

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2. Community Hall

CC sent to the Committee a new New Build option for the Hall including estimated costings. The Committee all agreed that presenting 2 options to the Community and Council is a good idea. We had originally presented a new build option to the Community earlier this year and there was a mixture of feedback, around keeping current Hall versus New Build, hence the idea of presenting 2 options. The main driver behind the Hall is the maintenance costs involved, Council have a real problem with it.

We do need to ensure that we are comparing apples with apples with the costings so Steve and Chris will fine tune their costings and combined them onto the same spreadsheet to make it easier to compare. It was suggested we scale back the Heritage build to the lower option of the 3 so the pricing is more comparable when presenting to the Community/Council.

We will then integrate both options into a document and send out to the Community for feedback and voting. It was discussed that we present both options to the Council also, with the explanation on how the Community votes come out. It would be good to get a mandate from the island. We will put together a short survey of questions (yet to be created/discussed in detail) so we can see how the Community feel about the options. In the presentation to the Community we should focus on the pros and cons of both options and the fact that both options still allow for locals to help out with dismantle, fitout, decks, labour.

When presenting to Council we need to express the importance of the "Wharf Building", it acts as a shelter for waiting for the ferry, its an evacuation location in case of an emergency and how important having a shared space is to the community.

Subscriptions

NH advised that we have had 30 people pay subs since the email was sent out on 1st July. NH will send a reminder in a couple of months.

Moorings

Nothing more has happened on Moorings. It was suggested that individuals contact the Harbour Master should they have concern about lack of movement on the list.

Old Cars

RI brought up if there was any rules/policy around getting rid of old cars on the Island. Car spaces are hard to find and some cars haven't moved in years. ST will talk to Tom to see if they are still able to get cars removed by the rubbish barge at a cost. If this is the case we could then let the Community know and we could potentially get rid of some old cars.