

Minutes of the Members Meeting of the Meadowbank St Johns Resident's Association.

Held at St Chads Church, Meadowbank, 9th May 2017 at 7.30pm.

Apologies: Amanda Nicholas, Kevin Kevany

Minutes from Previous Meeting: Approved. Moved: Barry **Seconded:** Lynda

Chair Tim welcomed Auckland Councillor Desley Simpson, seven Orakei Local Board Members, Brian Hood the General Manager of the Outdoor Boating Club, Ross Roberts & Kate Thompson from Bike Eastern Suburbs and 25 members.

Matters Arising from Previous Matters

Murdoch Dryden is unable to attend tonight's meeting so we will put him off to the July meeting. Aaron Smail of Summerset (development of the retirement village at Parsons Paddock on St Johns Rd) will be present at the 6th June meeting.

Waiaatarua Reserve

Carmel Claridge from the Orakei Local Board updated us on Waiaatarua Reserve, where there are concerns with the water quality and overall environmental management of the reserve.

- The Waiaatarua Reserve is 40 hectares, the wetlands in the middle is 22 hectares and it is one of Auckland's largest restored wetlands.
- Dog poo is becoming a serious concern as the number of dog users using the reserve increases.
- The wetland was created 10,000 years ago by an explosion from Mt Wellington.
- At one stage, it was known as St Johns Lake or Leg O Mutton Lake.
- A tunnel was dug in the 1900's to allow the lake to drain into the sea and prevent the lake from flooding.
- In 1924 the lake was drained and it was realised it couldn't be used as playing fields.
- In the 1970's it was an area for ecological restoration.
- In 2004 it was opened as a unique urban wetlands.
- Its principal function was seen to be a filter for water flowing through it to the Orakei Basin.
- Boardwalks and walking tracks have been built.
- There are trappers who keep the pests under control, however it appears the rabbit population is on the increase and it could be time to look at getting a rabbit control programme underway.

- The sediment traps were cleaned in October 2016, after not having been cleaned for several years and this will now be done on a yearly basis. The silt is taken to Redvale landfill to be disposed of.
- The Orakei Local Board will now have a maintenance review every month and one of the questions they need to ask is; how much is being removed from the silt traps.
- The Residents Association needs to present a strong lobby to have a monitoring plan put in place to ensure the Management Plan is being followed.
- It was suggested we might look at an Environmental subcommittee to look at what we might be able to do.

GI to Tamaki Pathway

- Auckland Transport submissions for Stage 4 of the GI to Tamaki Pathway will open late June/Early July.
- Stage 3 will include a widened and enhanced boardwalk across the Orakei Basin.

Brian Hood, General Manager of the Outdoor Boating Club (OBC) spoke to a very clear PowerPoint presentation regarding the history of OBC and their preferred option for Stage 4 of the Pathway.

- OBC is built on reclaimed land in two freehold titles, both of which are owned by OBC. This contrast with the widely held view that some of the land is owned by Council.
- There are 217 marina berths, 263 hardstands & 15 boat ramps.
- They provide accessible boating facilities to families and are active in Hauraki Gulf environmental initiatives.
- Amongst these are support for mussel bed restoration projects. The mussel beds help to nourish the gulf.
- OBC also supports several local community charities.
- All of these activities are funded from revenue from boat storage and any reduction of their available land would threaten the viability of OBC.
- OBC have had workshops with Auckland Transport and the Council regarding the route for Stage 4.
- The OBC's referred route is along Ngapipi Road foreshore avoiding Tamaki drive/Ngapipi intersection.

Ross Roberts & Kate Thompson from Bike Eastern Suburbs also presented on the GI to Tamaki Pathway.

- The clear majority of members see this facility as a community facility first, tourism second.
- Direct links are a priority
- They don't want a dangerous route.

- It is important that whatever decision is made, it is buildable & achievable.

We encourage everyone to make a submission to Auckland Transport when the submission period for Stage 4 opens in late June/early July.

Orakei Local Board Update

- Some very positive news around bus routes. Richard Roxburgh's proposal has been accepted.
- OLB have passed a resolution to put \$2million towards a link from Gowing Drive to Stage 2 of the GI to Tamaki Pathway.

Transport Sub-committee update

- Noel O'Sullivan gave us an update on the issues currently sitting with the transport subcommittee. A clear majority of these have had or are having some progress made on them.

Future Events

- Our AGM will be held on the 26th June. Apart from the usual AGM business, members will be asked to vote on the proposed Rule Changes (only financial members are entitled to vote) and our guest speaker will be Simon O'Connor, MP for Tamaki.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Next Meeting will be at St Chads, 7.30pm on Tuesday June 6th 2017